

Saint Mary's Beacon.

LEONARDTOWN, MD.

THURSDAY MORNING, March 16, 1905.

Senator Rayner Takes his Seat.

Senator Isidor Rayner, who succeeded Louis E. McComas, took his seat in the United States Senate on Monday, 6th. During the extra session of the Senate, Senator Rayner, and wife will take up their residence in apartments at the Willard, Washington.

Custer's Sole Survivor Sentenced.

After having survived the great massacre of Gen. Custer's troopers, being the last living member of the command which was annihilated by the Indians under command of Sitting Bull, Wm. H. McGee was sentenced to 7 years and 10 months in the penitentiary in New York on Friday for the murder of Frank Mitchell, whom he killed by stabbing with a knife. McGee is a veteran Indian fighter and had also served as a scout with Gen. Miles. He bears numerous bullet and knife wounds upon his body which he received while in service. His past war record saved him from a much heavier punishment.

According to what he claimed to be well coined and digested figures presented by the Rev. O. R. Jenks, in a sermon recently in the Advent Christian church at Chicago, "60,000 drunkards die in our country every year. Since the first grave was dug over 17,000,000 have perished through strong drink. This means that more than 400 nations like ours, or seventeen worlds like the one we inhabit, have been damned by rum. There are 400,000 teachers employed in the public schools of the United States, and they are paid about \$165,000,000. There are 1,200,000 barkeepers and saloonkeepers, and the whole people pay them more than \$1,000,000,000 a year."—Exchange.

Emperor William of Germany, has made the novel proposition to President Roosevelt of an exchange of college professors of the two countries. His idea is the adoption of a workable plan by which American professors may be relieved from their regular duties for a period of six months, more or less, and spend the time in giving a number of lectures in each of the prominent universities of Germany. German professors to be given similar time for lectures in American universities. Ambassador Tower, now on his way home, will present the president an outline of the scheme. It is the Emperor's belief that great benefits will be derived by students of one country from hearing a discussion of the literature, language, economic and social affairs of the other by a professor of that country.

"It is the end"—that is the simple heading which the Oregonian places over its editorial leader which comments upon the evidence of Judge Tanner against Senator John H. Mitchell, of Oregon, charged with fraudulently receiving money for his public services. Yes, it is the end. Only a few weeks ago this aged Senator, hoary of head and white of beard, on the floor of the Senate, solemnly denied with sobs and tears that he was guilty of the charges against him. Today it is quite clear that John H. Mitchell is not only a consummate actor, but that at length his downfall is at hand. His career is without parallel in American politics. For 40 years he has been the master of the Republican party in Oregon. Revolts innumerable against his domination have been attempted, but they have always failed.—San Francisco Argonaut.

A Stunning Blow to Russia.

Russia announces her army will be reorganized, fresh forces sent to the Far East, Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky will be ordered on to try conclusions with Admiral Togo and the war will be fought to the bitter end.

While this is the official attitude, nothing but peace talk is heard in St. Petersburg, it being stated mobilization on a large scale will be impossible.

The Japanese estimate they took 40,000 Russian prisoners, including Major-General Nakhimoff; there were 26,500 Russian corpses on the field, and the other casualties to Kuropatkin's army numbered 60,000.

General Kuropatkin reports: "From February 23 to March 11, inclusive, 1,190 officers and 46,391 men are missing from roll call."

The Japanese Legation at Washington received a message from Tokio stating: "Our total casualties since February 23 to the morning of March 12 were 41,222."

General Oyama has captured a Russian column at the Pu river. Pursuit of Kuropatkin by Oyama

continues, and in Tokio another big battle is expected to take place at Tai pass.

General Oku, who entered Mukden Saturday afternoon, reports his Japanese army had 800 men wounded.

General Kuropatkin's resignation will be accepted, and possibly General Grodekoff will succeed him, although much difficulty is being found in filling this coming vacancy.

In London it is reported French and German bankers have issued an ultimatum to Russia that she must make peace either with Japan or at home before she can expect further financial assistance.

Because of the Japanese demand that it carry military stores the Chinese railroad service between Koupaniec, Yinkow and Simianin has been suspended.

Russian peasants have burned several more sugar refineries, one belonging to Grand Duke Michael.

(Correspondence of the Beacon.)

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, D. C., March 13, 1905.

Another Congress has just passed into history, and if it has not, it ought to have left a bad taste in the mouths of the people for the very good reason that it has done nothing in their interest. The last session of the Fifty-eighth Congress did practically nothing except pass the great supply bills and go home. It refused absolutely to pass anything in the nature of remedial legislation in the interest of the people, though it had ample opportunity to do so.

As predicted in these letters last Fall, it went squarely back on its promise to give Statehood to the Territories of Oklahoma, Indian Territory, New Mexico and Arizona. If the people of those Territories can stand for such dillydallying as that, with their dearest rights and privileges, then the millennium must have been dragged in by the ears in the Southwest long before its time. If they do not take occasion to resent it at the very first opportunity they get, then human nature has changed a whole lot down in that section of our common country. When the Democrats get control of the Congress of the United States, the people of those Territories will get Statehood, and not before. The trust interests in the Senate, guarded by the paid attorneys of these trusts whom they have placed there, will forever stand as a bar to Statehood long past due to the sturdy, honest people of the great Southwest. When we get Senatorial elections by direct vote of the people we will be able to control the Senate in the interest of the people, not before. That not only is my humble opinion from years of observation here in the national capital, but it is the opinion of nearly every observing man who has taken the pains to ascertain conditions that now exist here.

There were many interesting things that occurred in this last session of the Fifty-eighth Congress. Among them was the impeachment of Judge Charles Swayne, of the Northern District of the State of Florida, by the House of Representatives, sitting as a Grand Jury, and the failure of the Senate to convict him on the testimony. It was purely a political trial on the part of the Senate. Swayne is a Republican, and although the testimony was sufficient to convict almost any man, he was turned loose to again perpetrate outrages on a helpless people. It was understood that if acquitted he would resign his position, but so far there is no evidence that any such understanding was had.

Another important and interesting feature of the last session of the late Congress was the opportunity to enact some of the most important legislation that has challenged the attention of our lawmakers in the past twenty years, a piece of legislation that would have been far-reaching in its benefits to the real people of the country, the farmer and the country and small merchant. That was the so-called railroad rate and anti-rebate bill. A bill to regulate railroad rates, prevent rebates to shippers and discriminations of all kinds, also giving to the Interstate Commerce Commission the right to take this matter in charge, hear testimony and make rates—in fact, the most comprehensive and complete measure of the kind ever introduced at the last session by Hon. William Randolph Hearst, of New York, and thereby hangs a tale.

CHAS. A. EDWARDS.

If the roofs leak in the farm buildings, slake some lime in a close box. When done, sieve it. To every six quarts of this lime add one gallon of water, and one quart of rock salt. Boil and skim clean. To every five gallons of this, add slowly three-quarters of a pound of potash and four quarts of fine sand. Apply with a paint of whitewash brush. This paint wash looks as good as oil paint and is durable as slate; besides, it's fireproof, lasts long, costs a trifle.

The President continues to assure his callers that he purposes to present strong arguments in favor of some revision of the existing tariff schedules in his message to Congress, next autumn. The Senate committee on Finance has already made provision whereby it can hold hearings during the summer months and thus be in a position to deal with the subject intelligently, when Congress meets. The House, however, remains under the complete domination of Speaker Cannon

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington D. C. March 11, 1905.

Now that Congress has adjourned the "little deals," whereby junkets were arranged for in the rush incident to the closing hours of the Congress are coming to light. Quartermaster General Humphrey has already left for Porto Rico and other Carrizosa points on the army transport, Samner. General Humphrey takes with him a number of members of Congress, their wives and their sons and their selected and their

sons. The men selected for this junket are members of the House committee on Rivers and Harbors, and of course, the Government pays the freight. They will visit Porto Rico, Santo Domingo and Cuba and other points which may be determined on from time to time as the junket progresses.

Another junket one of monster proportions, is being arranged for. It will be a personally conducted excursion under the supervision of the Secretary of War and the Speaker of the House, and will compass the world. About fourteen members of the House, in addition to the Speaker, expect to take the trip and a like number of Senators. They will sail from San Francisco about the first of July on a Pacific Mail steamer and will stop at Hawaii, and Guam and finally land at Manila. There they will become the guests of the Philippine Government which will employ small transports and conduct the party about the archipelago. The members of Congress who are to be of the party are insisting that the junket be arranged to return by way of the Suez canal and the Mediterranean but Secretary Taft has thus far opposed this plan on the ground that he would hardly have the nerve to take so round about a way home at Government expense.

It is probable that other junkets have been provided for, but if so the appropriations for them have yet to be detected. It is not, perhaps, fair to call the summer meetings of the Senate committee on Interstate Commerce a junket, although it is announced that if the committee finds Washington "too warm for comfort" it will repair to some pretty sea-side resort to finish its work, at Government expense of course.

The sudden death of Senator William B. Eate, of Tennessee, as the result of a cold contracted on inauguration day, has afforded one more warning against holding the presidential inauguration at so inclement a season. Senator Eate became chilled on the inaugural stand, there being a fierce North wind blowing across the front of the Capitol, pneumonia followed and although he attended the session of the Senate on Monday, on Thursday he breathed his last. Democrats in Washington were much pleased at the courtesy shown the late Senator from Tennessee, by the President, who, with his cabinet, attended the funeral services of the old Confederate General and southern statesman. The President is very busy these days, a host of callers coming to the White House each day, but he broke all engagements to show honor to the deceased Senator from Tennessee.

The Senate is still debating the San Domingo treaty, but will probably conclude the argument next week. In fact it is freely predicted that it will be impossible to hold a quorum in Washington after March 17. It is probable that the protocol will be ratified after having been very materially amended. It would be impossible to ratify it with Republican votes alone and in order to secure a sufficient number of Democratic votes it will be necessary to materially modify the convention. The treaty has been reported from the committee on Foreign Relations after being radically revised. All reference to the Monroe Doctrine has been stricken out, more explicit provision for the adjudication of claims against Santo Domingo has been made, it has been made evident that the United States is taking the proposed course only because Santo Domingo has requested it and not to insure the payment of foreign creditors. In fact, the changes already made are such as to lead some Democrats to believe that they can, with propriety, support the agreement without establishing a dangerous precedent or extending, beyond the dictates of caution and common sense, the Monroe Doctrine.

The President continues to assure his callers that he purposes to present strong arguments in favor of some revision of the existing tariff schedules in his message to Congress, next autumn. The Senate committee on Finance has already made provision whereby it can hold hearings during the summer months and thus be in a position to deal with the subject intelligently, when Congress meets. The House, however, remains under the complete domination of Speaker Cannon

and has made no provision for tariff work during the recess while leading members of the lower chamber assert that the speaker will "allow no tariff tinkering" next winter. There are a good many Republican members of the House who fear that if the Speaker adheres to this position all new tariff bills will mean a Democratic majority in the following House, but it seems incredible that the Speaker can continue to resist the insistence of the President and the conviction of a large majority of the American people much longer.

Criticism of the report on the Beef Trust, made to Congress by Commissioner of Corporations Garfield, has brought out the fact that the sensational portion of the report was suppressed, it being claimed that for the Government to have made public these portions would have hampered the efforts of Justice in his criminal prosecutions of the "big packers." Of course if the criminal prosecutions fail, the public will expect the entire report in order that it may judge of the strength of the federal case.

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