WASHINGTON NEWS

Gen. Booth, the great Salvation Army leader, and his son-in-law, Booth-Tucker, were the guests of the President at lunch, while here, and the President had several members of the Cabinet to meet them.

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Old Chief Joseph, once the most powerful Chief of the Nez Perces Indians, has been in Washington in war bonnet and scalp shirt, accompanied by several other braves, all seeking to be sent back to the Walla Walla Valley, from which they were taken by Gen. Miles in 1877. Their plea was "no Bueno," for they will never be sent back to terrorize the citizens left after the battles of Wounded Knee and Cripple Creek. The Nez Perces are now on the Colville Reservation.

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Dr. Herman Mynter, who performed the chief operation on President McKinley, died last week at his home in Buffalo. He was a native of Denmark, and noted for his skill in surgery, as well as for his bluntness with patients.

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It is said at the offices of the Civil Service Commission that men clerks are much preferred to women in the Departments. The reasons given are that men are easier to control in an office than women; also, it is much easier to say to a male clerk when work is pressing, "Come back after dinner," than it is to ask the women clerks "to please return after dinner and help us out." The men always come, the women only sometimes. Then, too, if a man has the backache he is told that must not mar his record for work for that day. If a woman complains of the same ill, she must be sympathized with, and perhaps sent home. On the whole, they say at the Commission, men are much better in Government offices than women.

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It is not generally known that to a bar sinister on the escutcheon of a noble House we owe our great Smithsonian Institution, but it is true. James Smithson was the illegitimate son of the third Duke of Northumberland. He came into great wealth, but it gave him no pleasure, for he knew that a stain lay on every dollar of it. To revenge himself on England, the greatest foe of the United States, and to avenge the stain of his birth, he gave the greater part of his estate to found the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. He seems to have left England very much to herself in his maturer years, and died at last and was buried in Genoa, Italy. The grave is in a lonely little tumbledown cemetery, which is about to be removed, and if this is done, the dust of the great Smithson must be removed too, and as there is now no one living to care what becomes of his bones, it is proposed to bring his body here to repose under the shadow of the great building which his munificent benefactions founded. It is eminently proper that this thing should be done.

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It begins to look as though the German Emperor, who rates himself as among the "Anointed" and mighty little lower than the angels, had been betrayed for 20 cases of wine, for which Embassador Von Holleben is held responsible. It is an ugly piece of business all around, but it would probably have caused but little stir if Germany had not had her nose pulled in the Venezuelan matter.

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How does this strike you for a grave subject: One of the unsuccessful candidates for Congress in the last election was Mr. George C. R. Wagoner, of St. Louis, by calling an undertaker. He has instituted a contest against Representative Butler of the short term from that district ending March 4. Last week Mr. Wagoner's testimony arrived in six large boxes. As these boxes were not easily carried, Mr. Wagoner had them equipped with regulation coffin handles. With that fashion of attachment they were lifted from the House of Representatives mail wagon and borne to the room of the Elections Committee, where the contest is to be considered.

By the time Congress gets through with wrestling with the contest, most of the members of the committee will probably be ready to occupy the boxes.

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Senator Carmack, of Mississippi, certainly does hate the Army. The way he lambasted our poor boys who served in the Philippines, in a speech in the Senate the other day, was a sin. He called our brave soldier lads common murderers, said there was a system of torture among our troops, and that the four courts-martial which have been held were "travesties on justice." Senator Carmack is young, oh, very, very young, for his years, and he has been called an orator so often that he believes it, and likes to set his mouth going, and seems to go off and leave it, for surely there is little evidence of brains to back up the wild utterances with which he often deluges the country.

* * *

Government employees are a favored class of people. They get 30 days vacation with pay, and are allowed under the law 30 days' "sick leave." That is, if they are so ill as to need a physician, they are allowed a day for every visit the physician is obliged to visit them up to the 30 days' limit. If they remain ill after that, they can in extreme cases have another 30 days, but no pay. The Departments have been very lax in the matter of sick leave, however, and it is said in some of the Departments the clerks take their sick leave a few days at a time, without being at all ill, but use up the whole 30 days, which is, of course, a straight steal. In some Departments a physician's certificate of illness has been demanded, but it amounts to nothing, as obliging family physicians are perfectly willing to certify that So-and-so was unfit for duty on the days devoted to sick leave. It is said that in the Treasury Department it has been found that the clerks nearly all use up the sick leave, so that they are absent from duty at least one-sixth of the year. It is rumored now that a rigid investigation is to be made of every sick-leave absence, and those who are playing sneak will be notified that they can go on being sick indefinitely, but that it will not be at the expense of the Government.

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A report of the rejection of immigrants on the Canadian border during January has been received by Commissioner-General Sargent. The total number rejected was 434, an evidence of the alertness of the immigration officials. Of these, 155 were without certificates, 130 had trachoma, 110 were considered likely to become public charges, 35 were rejected on account of contract labor laws, one assisted immigrant, one afflicted with tuberculosis, one insane, and one had favus. Great vigilance is necessary in the Canadian border to keep undesirable foreigners out of the country, the great extent of the border making it easier to gain entrance surreptitiously than at the sea ports

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Col. Frank N. Wicker, the man whose report to the Secretary of the Treasury resulted in the purchase of Alaska, is dead at New Orleans. He was a Lieutenant in the 28th N. Y., and served gallantly through the civil war. After the war Col. Wicker was appointed to command the Alaska expedition, and was asked to report as to the advisability of purchasing that territory. He submitted his report in 1866, and Alaska was bought the following year. Col. Wicker was later appointed Collector of the Port of Key West, serving there 12 years. He then was made Appraiser at New Orleans, which post he held at his death.

* * *

Comrade Alexander Carpenter, who served in the 14th Wis., through the war, and who has been living for many years in Iowa, has bought a large farm near Trevilian's Station, Va., the scene of Sheridan's great cavalry fight in June, 1864. Comrade Carpenter visited Washington recently in company with his wife, a very bright, helpful woman. He was very successful in farming in Iowa, and no doubt will make his Virginia farm an object lesson to his neighbors.

* * *

William J. Bryan has been in Washington for several days, and the gold ball on the Treasury Building still drops. Mr. Bryan can now walk the streets of Washington or loaf about the Capitol as unnoticed as any ordinary citizen. He addressed the Georgetown University Law School Saturday evening on the "Value of An Ideal." His ideal is still made of silver. He confessed as much.

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The University of Pennsylvania has conferred on Gen. Leonard Wood the degree of LL. D., or "Doctor of Laws."

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And now it's sheepskin that is no good. For many years we have been hearing that the paper used in printing our books and newspapers was no good at all, and that in a few years it would crumble into dust. The ink also is very bad, and fades with time till, if the paper does hold out, the ink upon it will be illegible. Now the story comes from the Government Printing Office that the sheepskin used in binding the Government publications is a delusion, and scarcely pays for binding, as it has soon to be renewed. Surely the tanning is no longer what it was when the greatest General of the age worked at his little tannery in St. Louis. It is now recommended that good, strong cloth makes a more lasting binding than leather.

* * *

"The American Academy in Rome" is the title of a company of millionaires who, while living in the District of Columbia, desire to institute and promote the study and practice of the fine arts and to aid and stimulate the education and training of architects, painters, sculptors and other artists, by enabling such citizens of the United States as shall be selected by competition from among those who have passed with honor through leading technical schools or have been equally well qualified by private instruction or study to develop their powers and complete their training under the most favorable conditions of direction and surroundings. The new corporation is to send a report annually to Congress.

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Capt. Charles D. Sigsbee, formerly Commander of the Maine, which five years ago was blown up in Havana harbor, is now to do shore duty and has been assigned to the League Island Navy Yard as Chief of the Office of Naval Intelligence.

* * *

Comrade Geo. W. Butterfield, who went out in the 22d Mich., but served the most of the time in the Signal Corps, accompanying Sherman on the march to the sea, and through the Carolinas, where he was attached to Gen. Slocum's headquarters, was in the city last week to attend a meeting of the officers of the National Letter Carriers' Association, of which he is Treasurer. He resides at Bay City, Mich., is in good health, and an active G. A. R. man.

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The death of Mr. Abram S. Hewitt, in New York, recalls the fact that while a member of Congress, years ago, and long before the present magnificent Library of Congress was constructed, recognizing the fact that a new Library would soon be a necessity, he suggested the raising of the roof of the Capitol, and the addition of another story, to accommodate the Library. Mr. Hewitt always insisted that the Capitol had a "squat" appearance, and that the dome was much too high for the rest of the building, and the addition of another story became a mania with him. He even went so far as to have plans drawn at his own expense, showing how it could be done and improve the appearance of the building. Of course his plans all came to naught. It is not at all probable that the National Capitol will ever be patched up to make it modern, as the National Executive Mansion has been.

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Mr. Daniel V. Colclazier, who celebrated his 88th birthday anniversary on Feb. 15, is the sole survivor of President Lincoln's bodyguard and enjoys the distinction of having been born Feb. 15, 1815, the day that the news of the declaration of of peace between Great Britain and the United States reached this country at the close of the war of 1812. Mr. Colclazier lives in Washington with his son, Henry C. Colclazier. At his recent birthday celebration he entertained many of his children and grandchildren with reminiscences of Washington during the days of the civil war, when he was so intimately associated with President Lincoln.

* * *

Gen. Miles entertained at luncheon at his home in Washington last Saturday Chief Joseph, of the Nez Perces, and two Chiefs who accompanied him. The old fellows were decked in war paint and feathers, buckskin and blankets, and were picturesquely dignified. The host and guests bear the relation of conqueror and conquered, for it was to Gen. Miles that the Nez Perces surrendered in 1877. The General wore an immense bearskin overcoat the day of the surrender, and has ever since been known by the Nez Perces as Chief Great Bear Coat."

* * *

One of the saddest of all the sad things that President Roosevelt has had to do since he came into his high office was to peremptorily refuse Mrs. Bird a pardon for her husband, who is sentenced to hang in Sitka, Alaska, next week, for an atrocious, premeditated, cold-blooded murder. He deserted this little woman and her five children, leaving them in destitution in New Orleans, and went off with another woman, for whose sake he is said to have murdered his partner. Then the woman forsook the brute. Now the wronged wife has taken up the cause of this miserable wretch who is the father of her children, and has been besieging the President for a pardon for Bird. The President has looked into the matter very carefully, and declares that hanging is too good for Bird. The poor wife and the oldest daughter, a pretty child of most engaging manners, are crying their eyes out and their hearts are breaking over the disgrace of it all.

* * *

Women are strange creatures. The woman for whom Bird became an outcast, a villain and a fiend forsook him in his hour of trouble and "peached" on him. While the woman whom he wronged irreparably, and the mother of his children, on whose name he has placed an ineffaceable stain, has mortgaged all her future years in a vain effort to stay the hand of justice.

* * *

Signor Zelaya, President of Nicaragua, has presented to President Roosevelt a magnificent harpy eagle, superbly mounted and stuffed. The President has placed it in the museum in the State Dining Room.

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The new two-cent postage stamp in trying to be comprehensive, succeeds in being a failure as a work of art. The costly thing will be withdrawn and a new design made.

The War College.

On the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Washington Barracks as a Military Post of the United States Army the cornerstone of the Army War College, typical of the progress of military knowledge during a century, was laid there at 12:45 o'clock Saturday, Feb. 21, with impressive military and Masonic ceremonies, in the presence of the President, members of his Cabinet, and a distinguished assemblage representative of the Diplomatic Corps, Congress, the Judiciary, and the Army and Navy. Made memorable by addresses by President Roosevelt, Secretary of War Root, and Gen. Young, in which was urged the pressing necessity for the United States to take its proper place among the world powers, the event was one of the most notable and interesting in the history of the National Government and Washington.

The huge granite block was placed in position by the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of the District of Columbia, the historical gavel with which George Washington in 1793 laid the cornerstone of the Capitol being used by Grand Master George H. Walker in the solemn Masonic ritual with which the ceremonies were conducted.

LINCOLN IN THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

Some Reminiscences of the Pioneer Days of Illinois.

Mr. L. B. White, of Chicago, was in Washington last week, having recently spent a few days in Galena, Ill.

"An old settler there," he says, "told me several interesting things about the Black Hawk War and the part which Abraham Lincoln played in it. The story, he said, had been told him by his father, who also fought against Black Hawk. Lincoln didn't actually do any fighting in the war, and Galena was about as far away from home as he got, this man said, but he gave abundant proof that he was ready and willing to fight. Then he told me that Lincoln reached Galena in command of a company of volunteer troops, but the enlistment expired and the company disbanded. Lincoln thereupon reenlisted as a private in another command, and served until Black Hawk and his braves, footsore and weary, had been driven far into the north of Michigan, as Wisconsin was then called.

"Those old volunteers must have been a funny looking lot of soldiers," declared Mr. White. "No two of them had uniforms alike, and no more discipline than a flock of geese. When an officer gave an order they obeyed it if they felt like doing so; if not, they laughed at the officer. Once, however, they obeyed when they didn't want to. Gen. "Zack" Taylor, afterward President of the United States, was in command of a body of troops and ordered them to cross the Mississippi River on flatboats. The volunteers declined to do so, insisting that as they had only enlisted for the defense of the State, they could not be made to cross its borders. Gen. Taylor didn't waste any words. He pointed to several regiments of Regulars drawn up in the rear, and told his volunteers that if they didn't cross of their own free will the Regulars would drive them across at the point of the bayonet. The volunteers crossed."

THE PASSING OF TILLMAN.

His Low Instincts and Bullyragging Make Him Intolerable to Every One.

It seems a little odd that gentlemen who are not forced to do so will consort with men like Senator Tillman. The President stopped inviting him to the White House many moons ago, and the doors of the Cabinet and many of the Senatorial homes are shut against him, but there are clubs and political organizations that still keep his name on their invitation list. The Press Club of New York invited the South Carolina Sand-Digger to its banquet the other night, and he began riding his hobby, the "nigger" and the "ballot," and forgot he was not among the clay-eaters and sand-hillers of his native habitat. Leering like an unclean bird, and hopping about like a Moqui snake dancer, he declared that the people of the North, who were entertaining him, and whose hospitality he was most shamefully abusing, were responsible for the antipathy of the South toward the "nigger." "Nigger" is his tenderest epithet for the negro.

Then Senator Tillman went on to say:

"I have chosen to talk to you on what I regard as the most momentous question of the day—the race problem. Within three months the President of the United States has given utterance to things and done acts that have brought this question to the front. We have had utterances from the Secretary of War on it, and only two days ago we heard from Brother Smoot, of Utah, that he thinks if the nigger is good enough to dine with Teddy Roosevelt, he is good enough to dine with him and have white girls wait on the table while he's doing it. And so within a very short time we have had this question Roosevelted, Rooted, and Smooted. Now I am going to say something about it."

Then he turned his vials of vituperative wrath loose and invited hisses which came quite copiously, and which seem to be an inspiration to him. He advocated shotguns for negroes who insisted on voting, and the use of tissue ballots to nullify that vote. Really it does look as though the State of South Carolina has a right to better representation in the Senate. A negro like Booker Washington, for instance, whose pride of race and regard for the honor of his State would hold him level when among gentlemen, even if he had no self-respect.

One Good Indian.

President Roosevelt is one bundle of sentiment; some of it distinctly feminine. He is almost womanly in his attachments, and believes that friendships should count for something. He made it count in a recent appointment. Mr. Ben H. Colbert, of the Indian Territory, recently appointed a United States Marshal, is one of the friends whom the President delights to honor. He is a Chickasaw Indian.

He is a young man of pleasing manner, good education, and his excellent qualities were time and again proved in the Spanish war. And this, in fact, led to his promotion, for he was an orderly to Col. Roosevelt, who saw with his own eye the merits of the lad from the Territory.

Not only a brave soldier, but a handy man was Colbert. One day on a long and fatiguing march in Cuba the horse ridden by the future President lost a shoe. There were no blacksmith shops in that region, and the rider was distressed over the probable lameness of his horse. In this emergency Colbert announced his ability to shoe the horse, and he did it in as thorough and expeditious fashion as a professional, to the great delight of Col. Roosevelt.

When the latter was looking around for a good man to make Marshal among the Choctaws and Chickasaws he remembered his young orderly, and bestowed on him the appointment.

Printer to the King.

The Hon. W. H. Spottiswoode, of London, England, the King's official printer, and the Hon. G. M. Brown, a member of the British Parliament from Edinburg, Scotland, were in the city last week, and made an official visit to the Bureau of Engraving, the Government Printing Office, and the Capitol.

The King's printer is a little more than 40 years of age. For the past 15 years, it has been his duty to design and print all official and social stationery for the royal household. All documents signed by King Edward are written on paper designed especially for the occasion, and Mr. Spottiswoode devotes his entire time to the work.

In speaking of the printing done in this country, Mr. Spottiswoode said:

"The work done by the experts employed by the United States is of the finest quality. I do not think it can be excelled anywhere in the world, although we English feel we are not outclassed. I was surprised at the quantity and quality of the work done here and feel more than repaid for my visit."

A Trifle Confused.

(Brooklyn Life.)

The Lawyer: "And what fault have you to find with the agent you are now employing?"

The Client: "I can't make out whether he is managing my property for him or his property for me."

This Will Interest Many.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publisher, says that if any one afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their address to him, at 804-19 Winthrop Bldg., Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell or give; only tells you how he was cured after years of search for relief. Hundreds have tested it with success.

FIFTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Does anybody remember anything about Macbeth showering maledictions on "those that palter with us in a double sense; that keep the word of promise to our ear, and break it to our hope?" Well, it looks a little as though Congress might be trying to play a double game of the same character. Finding that holding eulogies on a week day kept back the business of the House, the members decided to hold the eulogy exercises on Sunday. This custom has been followed the past year, and worked very well. Nobody attended the exercises except those who had to speak, but that makes no difference to posterity. The Congressional Record, dated Sunday, shows that Congress met, many eulogies were pronounced, and that as "a token of respect, the House then adjourned," and the reports show up with the usual trimmings, "Mr. Blank addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter." Then some member of one or the other Houses of Congress will offer a resolution that "5,000 copies of the eulogies pronounced in memory of Mr. Blank Blank be printed, so many for the House and so many for the Senate and so many for the bereaved relatives," and it will be done. Posterity will have all this to show; as for the present, it will not be a year before the name of the members who have passed away are forgotten. It is the way of nature.

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All this belongs to a past age, and really it ought to be omitted entirely. The Congressional eulogy ought to have lapsed with the horrible cenotaph business, which something like 80 or 90 years ago led to the establishment of "Congressional Cemetery." At the time that this was established the ground upon which it lies was far out of the city, over in the southeast section near the Eastern Branch. No Congressmen are buried there, and it was not expected that any would be laid in the little plot of ground, but some imbecile conceived the idea that when a member of Congress died a monument to his memory should be erected in a cemetery in Washington. So they began to put them up. They look like caps to a smokestack, and are of soft stone of some kind which has darkened with age. On each is carved the name, title to fame, a few of the deeds of the man to whom the cenotaph is erected. They stand about four feet high, and are so hideous that they would make admirable scare-crows. They stand just as close together as it is possible to put them, are exactly of a size and hight, and a drearier, lonesomer spot sure never had its location in one of "God's Acres."

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There must be 200 of these crumbling cenotaphs, and the inscriptions are entirely effaced from the earlier ones. About 20 years ago it struck some member of Congress as the hight of absurdity to perpetuate the farce any further, and no new stones have been put up there since. In all probability the corner will be entirely abandoned some day, and all the frightful old stone posts will be taken for a fence somewhere.

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But there is trouble over the Sunday eulogies. Sunday is "dies non juridicus," in the law, hence business transacted on that day has no standing in a court of justice. On this particular Sunday, the Journal of Saturday was read and approved, and then Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, commonly called "Col. Pete Hepburn," who is Chairman of the Committee on Inter-State Commerce, got in between the eulogies with a conference report, which he desired, as the Congressional Record of Monday duly states, to present in order that it might be printed in the Record of that date, so that it might be laid before the members of the House on Monday morning. Col. Hepburn was recognized, got in his report, and subsided. But in the Congressional Record of Monday morning here came the conference report sandwiched in between the eulogies on the late Senator Sewell, of New Jersey, and the late Representative Joshua S. Salmon, of New Jersey. It showed that the Speaker recognized Col. Hepburn, placed the matter of accepting the Conference report before the House, and by unanimous consent it was accepted.

* * *

Monday morning Mr. Richardson (Tenn.) objected to the approval of the Sunday Journal, so long as it contained reference to mere worldly affairs. The Speaker ruled that the House had a right to legislate on Sunday if it chose to. Mr. Richardson thought not. The discussion got a little warm, but the Speaker, on Mr. Richardson's motion, finally put it to a vote, and the Members went on record against Sunday legislation by a good majority.

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When the vote was finally announced, Mr. Richardson demanded a roll call on his motion to strike out all reference to the Conference report in the permanent Record, and this also carried. Then Col. Hepburn towered up in his seat to ask "where he was at." He said he had certainly introduced his Conference report, it had been accepted, and it had been printed in the Congressional Record, and was properly before the members under the Rules of the House. Now by a vote of the House, all that concerned the Conference report was to be expunged from the Record. He was anxious to know the status of his report. Then Mr. Henderson, who was in the chair, made the following reply, which is taken from the Congressional Record:

"The Chair will answer. The Chair is ready to rule. We can not use all the day on this sort of business. The Chair admits that what has been done is proof of its having been done, as a fact. (Laughter.) The Journal has been corrected, and there is no proof that these (the Conference reports) were filed. (Laughter.) The Chair recognizes, and the gentleman, the Chair trusts, will recognize this. The Chair stated that he felt that there was perhaps a question about this, but there is no doubt of the legal right and of the exercise of it, and had no doubt at all, until the House has just spoken, that what was done was perfectly legal. Yet the sensitive feeling of every member, which feeling the Chair entertained, makes us all dislike to have a day that is set apart possibly used for another purpose. (Applause.) The Chair thinks that is the feeling of the House, and suggests that the gentleman bring in his report and this statement anew, and have it printed in sweet compliance with the decision of the House. (Laughter and applause.)"

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And so that incident ended. This is now a precedent. It never happened before in the history of Congress, it is said, that Sunday was actually called a "legislative" day. Sunday has very often been desecrated by Congress remaining all night in session, and running over into Sunday, but the Record was falsified, and the session made to appear as of Saturday. Col. Hepburn is the first Member of Congress to test the validity of a Sunday legislative day, and the House by a decisive vote declared against such practice. Thus is history made, and thus is the devil whipped around the stump some more.

* * *

At the last session of the 57th Congress about 200 bills for public buildings were passed. The estimates for these buildings were scaled down to the very bone, and it was said at the time that it would be impossible to erect any sort of a fit building for the sums specified. The raison d'etre for this scaling down is now evident. Nearly every member who got such a bill through is back with a demand for more money, as it has been impossible to any more than begin the erection of a public building out of the sum appropriated. This is a new sort of Congressional game.

* * *

An example of a "stand and deliver" bill bears the stamp of the Committee on Claims in the Senate. It asks an appropriation of $135,000 "to compensate the Old Point Comfort Improvement Company for the demolition and removal of the Hygeia Hotel property from the Government reservation at Old Point, Va." And thereby hangs a tale of "infloence." Some 35 or 40 years ago the Hygeia Hotel was projected by some very wealthy people, members of Congress and suddenly-got-rich people who wanted a place easy of access for a resort from society and official cares. The Government Reservation just outside of Fortress Monroe appealed to them because it was waterbound, and so close to the officers of the Army post that if they tired of the "resting" process, they could easily get all the society they wanted among the families at the Fort.

* * *

Pressure was brought to bear on Congress, not very great, however, for unlimited promises of free quarters in a delightful hotel, had a salutary effect, and the right was finally given a hotel company to erect a hotel upon the Government reservation. There was a proviso, however, that whenever the Government wanted to use the Reservation, the hotel people were to give it up at once, and the Government was not to be mulcted for cost of the same. These people have had this land rent free for 40 years. Now the Government wants to use the land, and has ordered the fashionable hotel torn down. Immediately the Hotel Company comes in and wants damages for the hotel which it knowingly erected under the expectation of having to raze it at any time, and under the strict proviso that the Government would not be responsible for its destruction. To pass such a bill would be a straight "steal" of $135,000.

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During the Spanish-American war, some of the kid soldiers in camp at Camp Alger made a march from that point to Thoroughfare Gap, in Virginia. The way those youthful recruits acted reminds the veterans of the days from '61 to '65. If there were hen roosts that were not raided, it was because they were walled up. If melon patches escaped them, it was because the fruit was too green to eat. Mindful of the fact that war claims are often left till too late, the citizens of Prince William and Fairfax Counties who considered themselves damaged by the passage through the Counties of these soldiers, have already brought in a bill of specific injuries as to dollars and cents. The bill is not itemized as it appears in public. The injuries run from $3 suffered by Elvira C. Finn, of Fairfax County, to $427, in which sum William H. Wrenn, of Fairfax County, considers himself damaged. Most of the claims amount to about $15 each, and there are 83 in all. The bill has passed the House.

* * *

A great many bills are being presented to Congress in its closing hours, for purely political purposes and for home consumption. Just now, the M. C. who has a lot of fool bills on hand representing the views of a lot of constituents who think that Congress can vote anything from a hencoop to a home in heaven, is firing them into the hopper by the cartload, with no earthly show of their ever being reported by the committee to which they are referred, to say nothing of their ever being called up in either body for passage. The wily politician will send a copy of the bill to his constituent, which will be proof positive that he has tried to do his duty, and the constituent will never know what small potatoes and very few in a hill his particular M. C. is.

* * *

They tell a story about one member of Congress who used to flourish around in his home town as though he owned the earth, and he succeeded in making a pretty good-sized Congressional District think so nearly the same thing that he was elected to the House. He served one term and succeeded in getting his name in the Congressional Record on a roll-call of the House, and on no other occasion. He had made such gigantic boasts about how he would comb the opposition down, and about the public buildings he intended to "order" Congress to make appropriation for in his District that his apparent inaction offended his constituents. When he went back home to ask for re-election, they chided him pretty emphatically for his "laziness." So he took some of his friends into his confidence. "The reason I didn't speak was that when I got down there I found over 370 men who were just as anxious to speak as I was, and they combined against me. Now you all know what a darned mean thing a combine is; we have been fighting them right along, you know? So I had to compromise matters with them, and we just elected a Speaker of the House and he is the whole business. After I had helped elect him, he wouldn't let me get in a word edgewise. Of course, he knew I would proceed to do up the majority, so you can understand how it all happened. Now you just send me back, and I'll show you! I know the ropes now, and they can't muzzle me again!"

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It is just a little odd that argument of this kind really has its effect. Truly we do like to be fooled. This is the harvest time of just such members of Congress; they are now making "records."

* * *

Mr. Goldfogle (N. Y.) is the author of a bill which will probably reach the President for signature. It authorizes the Secretary of War to furnish the Hebrew Union Veteran Association with condemned cannon and cannon balls for a monument to be erected by the Hebrew Union Veteran Association to the memory of soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in the war for the Union and in the recent war with Spain.

* * *

Senator Alger will try to have erected in Arlington Cemetery a monument to Charles Vernon Gridley, late Captain, United States Navy, Commander of the Flagship Olympia in the Asiatic Squadron in the battle of Manila Bay. Capt. Gridley was the first officer of the United States Navy who lost his life in the line of duty during the late war with Spain. He asks an appropriation of $5,000 for this memorial.

KNOWS NO DISTINCTION.

Rich and Poor Alike Suffer From Catarrh in This Climate.

All observant physicians have noticed the enormous increase in catarrhal diseases in recent years, and the most liberal and enlightened have cheerfully given their approval to the new internal remedy, Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, as the most successful and by far the safest remedy for catarrh yet produced.

One well-known catarrh specialist, as soon as he had made a thorough test of this preparation, discarded inhalers, washes and sprays and now depends entirely upon Stuart's Catarrh Tablets in treating catarrh, whether in the head, throat or stomach.

Dr. Risdell says, "In patients who had lost the sense of smell entirely and even where the hearing has begun to be affected from catarrh, I have had fine results after only a few weeks' use of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets. I can only explain their action on the theory that the cleansing and antiseptic properties of the tablets destroy the catarrhal germs wherever found because I have found the tablets equally valuable in catarrh of the throat and stomach as in nasal catarrh."

Dr. Estabrook says, "Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are especially useful in nasal catarrh and catarrh of the throat, clearing the membranes of mucus and speedily overcoming the hawking, coughing and expectorating."

Any sufferer from catarrh will find Stuart's Catarrh Tablets will give immediate relief and being in tablet form and pleasant to the taste, are convenient and always ready for use as they can be carried in the pocket and used at any time as they contain no poisonous drugs, but only the cleansing, antiseptic properties of Eucalyptus bark, blood root and Hydrastin.

All druggists sell the tablets at 50 cents for complete treatment.

Mr. Tawney, (Minn.) has introduced a concurrent resolution to the effect that Congress accept the invitation extended by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition to attend the dedicatory ceremonies which will be held in St. Louis, April 30 and May 1 and 2, 1903. The provisions of the resolution direct the President of the Senate to appoint seven Senators and Speaker of the House to appoint 11 Representatives to attend the dedicatory exercises. It will be a lovely trip for the fortunate 18 M. C.'s and their women kind, for, of course, Congress will not get off with paying the expenses of the Congressional contingent alone. These junketing trips would hold small interest for the statesmen under exclusion of the female contingent.

* * *

The President has approved the bill authorizing the Secretary of War to have erected upon the battlefield of Gettysburg monuments and markers to commemorate the valorous deeds of certain regiments and batteries of the United States Army. It is said that there is not at this time a single marker on the battlefield to the memory of Regular troops.

* * *

Senator-elect Reed Smoot, of Utah, is in Washington, looking over the field of his future labors. He is not at all concerned about being unseated. Senator Rawlins will present his credentials. Mr. Smoot is prepared to remain to the extra session if it is called. Mr. Smoot is 41, but looks 35. He is a banker, miner, and merchant, and he is considered to be worth about half a million or more. He is one of the 12 Apostles of the Mormon Church, but is not a polygamist. He is rather good looking, unassuming, and sociably inclined. He has been very handsomely greeted by his colleagues to be.

* * *

C. W. Fulton, of Salem, Ore., was elected to the United States Senate from that State Friday night, just 10 minutes before 12, when the life of the Legislature expired. The announcement of his election caused a wild scene of enthusiasm. He is comparatively young, a leading lawyer of Oregon, and has been repeatedly elected to the State Senate. He is an uncompromising Republican. He takes the place of Senator Simon.

THE STATEHOOD DEADLOCK.

Senator Quay's Obstructive Tactics--Will an Extra Session Be Necessary?--Passage of an Important Pension Bill.

After all, statesmen are but human, and they carry into official life the same characteristics that dominate them in the business world. When a man wants to win a point he wants to win it, and that is all there is to it. He will go to any length, stop at no expedient to gain that point.

Two examples of this determination to win are confronting Congress today. Senator Quay is determined that New Mexico, Arizona, Indian Territory, and Oklahoma shall be at this session of Congress admitted to full Statehood. He has not a majority of Republicans with him, else he would have put the issue to the touch long ago. There is a fighting chance that by the means of Democratic votes he can pass his Statehood bill, which is the House bill. Mr. Quay is either too good a Republican to put this to the test, or else he fears the majority he requires will not show up at the proper time. Hence, Mr. Quay, quietly and serenely, in his thin, squeaky, little voice, that can be scarcely heard at the Clerk's desk, each day moves that the Senate go into consideration of the Statehood bill, which is the continuing order, and each day the Senate has to do this, and then legislation is blocked for the whole day except by consent of Mr. Quay, who seems perfectly willing that matters of minor importance shall be taken up, but who declines to let any other important business come in between him and his Statehood bill.

The other example of determination is the President of the United States, who has announced his determination to call an extra session unless the Canal treaty is voted upon.

The President being the highest in authority and having the last guess, will probably win out.

Apropos of this is Senator Morgan. This very wise old gentleman does not like the treaty and has set out to talk it to death and from the record he has made in the last three weeks he is quite competent to accomplish his fell purpose. He can outtalk a phonograph, having the "perpetual" attachment not possessed by the phonograph, so that he never runs down. He sometimes pauses for an hour or so to let somebody else get in a sentence or two, then at it he goes again.

Several compromises on the Statehood bill have been suggested. One is to admit Oklahoma only, and alone, as a State. Senator Spooner advances the theory, supported by the opinion of Attorney-General Knox, that this can be done, and, later, Indian Territory can be attached and made a part of Oklahoma as a State.

The proposal of the Republicans to make one State of New Mexico and Arizona, is vigorously combatted by the Democrats and some of the Republicans—supposed to be a majority—and by all the people of the two Territories. They declare that they would rather not be admitted at all than to come in as one State. A new proposition has been made that the two come as the State of Montezuma, with a provision attached to make Arizona a separate State, when attaining a population of 100,000, if the citizens of that section so vote. This proposition does not meet with much favor, as it would be 10 years at least before another census is taken, and a test could not be made till that time.

Meantime, most of the appropriation bills are being held up in the Senate, as well as the treaties. The Statehood bill, which Senator Quay is nursing, has been attached to both the Agricultural and Post-office Appropriations bills. One or both of these bills will have to come before the Senate this week. There will come a direct test vote on the Statehood proposition. There is a conflict of opinion as to the legality of attaching the Statehood bill as a "rider" to an appropriation bill, and the general impression is that Senator Frye, President pro tem., will rule against it. Senator Quay claims that he has enough votes to overrule such a decision. If he has, his Statehood bill is passed. But has he?

In case this is true, and the Appropriation bills go to the President with the Statehood rider attached, he has emphatically declared he will veto the bill, and let the blame fall where it will.

And there you are! An extra session of Congress is imminent—both Houses—in case the Appropriation bills fail. For only the House has jurisdiction over the initiation of appropriation bills. If the appropriation bills all pass, there yet remains the treaties, and it does not look possible at this time for them to pass. It is a curious tangle, and such a condition has not existed in the Senate in many years.

If an extraordinary session is called, it means a good deal more than appears on the surface. It will be a new Senate and a new House. There will be a new Speaker and new committees in the House, and the committees of the Senate will have to be rearranged, as several of the Chairmen are retiring from that body, as well as a number of members of the committees.

In the House it is conceded that Mr. Cannon will be elected Speaker. That will leave the Appropriations Committee without a Chairman. While the precedent has long been established of advancing members to the head, if the Chairman fell by the wayside, so long as a party remained in power, it does not follow that this will be done by Mr. Cannon. Mr. Reed ignored the precedent in several instances, and there are ample reasons to believe that Mr. Cannon will do the same.

All the legislative machinery of the House, such as election of officers, etc., will have to be set up, and these raw hands at the business, for there are great changes in the personnel of the House, will tackle the legislative business.

It is true that appropriation bills will be the only bills necessary to take any action upon, but there is no way of confining the legislation of the House to the one subject, if the members choose to enter into general legislation. There is an arbitrary way, and Mr. Reed used it to good effect. He refused—or at least "failed"—to appoint the committees of the House, at the opening of the new Congress, only naming the members of those committees actually necessary to conduct the business in hand. Those members disposed to get gay and introduce bills on all sorts of subjects and to discuss every subject but the important one in hand—their bills were referred to committees which did not exist, hence could not report them, and there was no recourse, because the majority of the House being with the Speaker, refused to censure him for neglecting so important a duty as the appointment of committees.

It remains to be seen if Mr. Cannon will follow this precedent.

The business of the House is very well in hand, and far ahead of the Senate.

The conferees on the Senate bill to increase the pensions of those who have lost limbs or are totally disabled in the Military or Naval service of the United States have reached an agreement. The rates fixed by the House amendments are in general acceded to.

The measure as agreed to provides that those who have lost one hand or foot, or been totally disabled, shall receive a pension at the rate of $40 a month. Of these there were 3,363 in April, 1902. Those who have lost an arm at or above the elbow, or a leg at or above the knee, shall receive a pension of $46 a month. Of these on the same date there were 2,357 on the pension rolls.

Those who have lost an arm at the shoulder, or a leg at the hip, or where the same is in such condition as to prevent the use of an artificial limb, $55 a month. Of these there were in April, 1902, 1,724 pensioners. Those who have lost one arm and one foot, $60 a month.

The House amendment providing for an increase to $30 for those drawing pensions under the act of June 27, 1890, who need the constant attendance of another person, was stricken out. Senator Gallinger opposed this amendment from the very first. This was the Calderhead amendment. It is thought that this provision will be adopted by the next Congress, as the sentiment in its favor is very strong. The conferees' report will be accepted.

The Fowler Credit Currency bill will be talked to its death. There is no possibility of its passing.

There will be a whole send of little bills passed by the House between now and the closing, March 4, but they will never get any further than the House, and nobody expects that they will when they are put up. It is largely done to let members stand well at home. They cannot be held accountable for things that the Senate will not do.

Dred Scott Recalled.

Dred Scott and the storm that Justice Taney's decision in that famous case invoked seem far away from us today, and yet the woman who owned Dred, Mrs. C. C. Chaffee, died only last week in Springfield, Mass., at the age of 88. Over this slave the famous legal controversy was waged, which practically annulled the Missouri Compromise.

Mrs. Chaffee had received the slave by bequest from her first husband, Dr. Emerson, of St. Louis, and had practically given his his freedom after moving to Springfield. A St. Louis lawyer brought suit on the claim that Scott had been freed by being taken into a "