

# Nations

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

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## Franklin and Nashville

By JOHN McELROY.

### CHAPTER IV.

The enemy was found strongly posted in a cedar thicket on a bluff commanding the ford, and after a consultation with Gen. Stoneman it was decided to resort to the tactics of the previous day, when the enemy was again driven into confusion, and the pursuit only ended when all semblance of organization was lost. The enemy's casualties were 18 killed and 84 prisoners, among whom was Col. Richard Morgan, commanding the brigade. They also lost 14 wagons and four ambulances, containing all their ammunition, subsistence and wounded.

#### Striking at the Salt Works.

Gen. Stoneman followed up this success vigorously. During the afternoon and night of Dec. 13 he pushed Burbridge on to Bristol, at the Tennessee and Virginia line, in the hope of finding Vaughn and capturing his brigade. This was part of the Confederate invading

him. The 12th Ohio Cav. went in pursuit, capturing some of the enemy's caissons and wagons, but found that he was blocking the road so as to make progress too slow to hope for success.

#### The Capture of Saltville.

The important salt works at Saltville had been the object of numerous daring raids, much hardship and loss of life. As soon as the Union army occupied East Tennessee movements against Saltville began, and were continued from time to time thru the latter part of 1863 and the whole of 1864.

Stoneman moved up promptly to attack Saltville, and formed his line immediately in front of the fortifications. He himself was with Gillem's command about 1,500 yards from Fort Breckinridge. In the evening of the 26th he sent Col. Stacy with the 13th Tenn. Cav. to go down to the left and make a dash into the town, doing all the shooting and burning and making all the noise possible. Col. Stacy per-

formed his work admirably. Leaving a part of his regiment to set fire to the buildings, he, with the rest, dashed up the steep hill against Fort Breckinridge and actually rode over the works, capturing two guns, two commissioned officers and several privates. This was the signal for a general stampede of the enemy from their works, and by 11 o'clock at night they had all left, with Saltville in flames. The next day was spent in destroying buildings, kettles, masonry, machinery, pumps, wells, stores and material and supplies of all kinds. The work was done thoroughly and completely, and Saltville was a melancholy sight when the Yankees deliber-



GEN. GEORGE STONEMAN.

ated. The swift, successful aggression, the hundreds of miles away from the absorbing center of operations, had a most powerful effect upon it. Breckinridge's advance had inspired hopes in Richmond that he might recover East Tennessee and eastern Kentucky, gathering up many conscripts to recruit the Confederate army and also greatly aid Hood in the detraction from Gen. Thomas of forces that he very much needed. In fact, Hood had planned to move to Richmond, Ky., where he hoped to be joined by Breckinridge with all the men that could be gathered up in that region. Here he would assume a highly menacing attitude, threatening the States beyond the Ohio River and be in a position to make a swift march to Lee to aid him against Grant.

This program was completely shattered by the way in which Breckinridge was not only driven out of Tennessee, but pushed back far into Virginia, with a loss of the vastly important salt works, shops and stores. Breckinridge's defeat also opened to Stoneman and the Union forces all northwestern North Carolina and southwestern Virginia, where infinite havoc could be done in cutting off the supplies to Lee's army.

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#### Strong Pressure for Action.

Very probably there will be nothing in the President's message for action is becoming so strong that some fine day, before very long, the Senate will allow a vote on the Lorimer contest. It is not so certain that the President's message will be passed and the Senate Finance Committee is considering with favor.

#### Nobody Wants an Extra Session.

A plain matter of fact there is practically nobody in the official circle who wants an extra session. It would be no gathering of a few days or a few weeks, but in all probability, one of the most important of the session that President Taft called met the middle of March and was still early in session when the extra session was called. Then the House and the Senate were of the same political party. It would take longer to frame revision bills than it would to frame appropriation bills. The extra session is dominated by different political parties.

#### What the Confederates Lost.

"Rebellion has lost by the expedition all the railroad bridges this side of New River, 13 railroad trains and extra cars without engines; all the depots of supplies in southwestern Virginia and railroad depots; all the foundries, mills, factories, storerooms, wagon and ambulance trains, turpentine bridges, etc., that we could find; the towns of Elizabethton, Waverly, Wytheville and Saltville; 25,000 rounds of ammunition and a proportionate amount of ammunition for small arms; 2,000 new pack saddles and a large amount of artillery and



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force, numbering about 1,200 men, which had been stationed at Bristol. The force was so rapid that crossing had to be destroyed in order to use their horses on the guns to get them forward faster. Stoneman himself went on to Bristol as rapidly as possible, followed by Gillem's command. It was found that Vaughn was not at Bristol, but the place was captured by Burbridge and a large quantity of stores destroyed, together with shops and other warlike materials. Seventeen commissioned officers and 260 enlisted men were captured and sent to Knoxville. Burbridge was next pushed on to Abingdon to strike the railroad and reach Saltville and Wytheville, where the Confederates had extensive and exceedingly necessary lead and salt works. Vaughn managed to escape attack by moving on a different road, and Gillem reinforced by the 11th Ky. and 11th Mich. was sent out to overtake him if possible. Gillem struck Vaughn at Marion early on the morning of the 16th, and after a routed and pursued him to Wytheville, where his men from every position they attempted to hold and changing them every time they made a stand. Gillem took from Vaughn all his artillery and trains and 365 prisoners, and when last heard from Vaughn had but 200 men with him.

After pursuing the enemy for 13 miles Gillem, when within one mile of Wytheville, halted to close up his command. It having been reported that a force of 700 or 800 Confederate infantry had been sent from Lynchburg to Wytheville. Reinforced by Col. Brown's Brigade of Burbridge's command, Gillem moved on to Saltville, where he found the town without encountering a shot or seeing a Confederate soldier. The 11th Ky. was sent to break up the railroad track in the direction of Lynchburg, and the immense quantity of stores collected at Wytheville were destroyed. Among the buildings used as storehouses for these supplies was a church, which afforded no better protection to them, however, than a building less sacred in character.

Burbridge's brigade was sent out from Burbridge's command to move as rapidly as his horses could go to the great lead mines near Wytheville and destroy them completely. This was done, and Gillem was doing the same at Wytheville with all its badly needed stores, burning besides several important railroad bridges over the creeks on either side of the town.

Then the whole of Stoneman's force pushed on to Saltville. The brigades of Cols. Gilmer, Cosby and Witches, with what was left of Morgan's command, had been assembled at this place with Forrest in Middle Tennessee. The enemy were in strong fortifications, and all the Home Guards in that neighborhood had been gathered to help them defend the town. Stoneman found they were too strong to attack, and moved toward Marion, where Breckinridge was posted on the hills. 2,200 strong, the Confederates came out of their works to follow him. Burbridge awaited attack in a strong position. It was soon evident that Breckinridge had sent out a heavy force of infantry to assist the others, and a severe battle followed. Stoneman ordered a force to the left and right to cut off Breckinridge, who saw that he was overwhelmed, and as night fell began to move out of the trap that Stoneman was closing around

atly retreated, Gen. Burbridge going back across the mountains to the Big Sandy River and Gen. Gillem returning to East Tennessee. Gen. Stoneman, in his report of the expedition, says:

"Rebellion has lost by the expedition all the railroad bridges this side of New River, 13 railroad trains and extra cars without engines; all the depots of supplies in southwestern Virginia and railroad depots; all the foundries, mills, factories, storerooms, wagon and ambulance trains, turpentine bridges, etc., that we could find; the towns of Elizabethton, Waverly, Wytheville and Saltville; 25,000 rounds of ammunition and a proportionate amount of ammunition for small arms; 2,000 new pack saddles and a large amount of artillery and

## THE SNOW-ENSHROUDED CAPITOL.

Senate and House feverishly active in turning off work—Nobody Wants an Extra Session—Strong Political Reasons Against It. Democrats Fear a Tariff Discussion Before They Are Ready For It.

Look away to the big building on the hill, its high dome enshrouded in this week in swirling snows. Cold and chill are outside, but within there is action that captivates the attention. The atmosphere of the north end, where the Senate congregates, is vibrant. The atmosphere at the south end, where the House congregates, is by all means it is a great week under this snow enshrouded dome.

Probably it will be a bigger affair under the dome next week and a bigger week still the week after that. Governmental affairs are now attuned to a crescendo, which will reach its climax in one long, screaming swirl, along about March 4. The activity is infectious. The influence of example is demonstrated. So many others are doing something that so tremendously in earnest about it that the idlers and loafers of legislation are really searching to see if there be anything upon which they can concentrate effort.

Perhaps the night session is coming, when the lights will stream from the windows of the Capitol building. That is always a possibility when Congress is in session. The session is all close of the short session, when it is no longer feasible to haggle and play and dally in the transaction of the people's business.

#### A Feverish Impulse.

With the feverish impulse of stern necessity to achieve, Senate and House are really turning off work. Some of it may figure in history, for some of the measures under consideration rise high in importance above the volume of Congressional routine. The hundred and odd Congressional committees are busy as bees, and the quiet of secluded rooms. Much of what remains to be done is in the open of Senate and House procedure, and that gives zest to the session from the standpoint of the onlooker.

So stern have conditions become that the sterner orator is being sneezed at. The serious men of business are holding the floors, their business being at the discordant forces, they are urging united action, and they are telling the factious and the recalcitrants that they must get on with the work. There has been nothing like it before in a decade or in two decades. One must hark back to the middle of the last Cleveland Administration to find a parallel. And even then there were hardly as many causes of ferment and excitement as there are now. The attitude of men under the big dome.

There is a strange legislative muddle at Washington, the most conspicuous feature of which is the apparently is a prospect of an extra session of Congress. There have been so many assertions about an extra session that it is almost impossible to say that it is now as good as inevitable. The Senate has been dilly-dallying, adjourning on an occasional day, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and doing no work on Saturdays, and virtually refusing to make any progress.

In many years there has not been such a general clamor for an extra session. The Senate insurgents are now as good as allied with the Democratic majority on most of the urgent matters. The President's message and ultimatum upon their Republican brethren and outwardly there seems to be as fine quarrel brewing as Washington has seen in a decade.

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The President does not want an extra session, although it is true that one of his predecessors has allowed the talk about it to proceed without discouragement. Nothing brings a reiteration of Congress to time like the information that unless certain business is disposed of there will be a call to re-open in Washington during the Spring and Summer. There will be a vast amount of work to be done in the Cabinet a few days ago that he could not think of an extra session.

"Shall we tell the newspaper men that one of the portfolio holders inquired."

"No," the President replied.

He has other plans for the coming Summer. There will be a vast amount of political maneuvering preliminary to the numerous bills of State and Dis-

trict conventions of the following Winter to choose delegates to the next National Convention. The President has large work ahead in attempting to compose factional differences. Presumably he will want to considerable visiting among the people during the next eight or ten months. It will be about his last opportunity before the next Presidential campaign. As the occupant of the White House he will be unable to make any extended trips while he is a candidate for reelection.

#### The Democrats Not Ready.

The Democrats are not ready for an extra session of Congress. While nominally they assent to such proposals, in reality they want the Summer and Autumn for preparation for the next Speaker, Mr. Clark, intends that the Democratic tariff legislation shall be based on the most thorough examination and investigation of tariff schedules ever made. He and his lieutenants are very anxious to make no mistakes. While he stated in House that a major portion of the session and two schedules could be made up within a few days, he really hopes for a few months.

Nearly all the Senators and Representatives give time for extra sessions of Congress grudgingly. An extra session means a lot of extra expense for traveling. Washington is a good deal of a long way from home for six months in a year, but continuous residence at Washington for a year, which is what an extra session of Congress, followed by a long regular session would virtually mean, is a more serious matter.

The Democrats, without an extra session, would have their tariff revision extended right into a Presidential campaign. The precedents show that such a status generally forbodes defeat. There is always great criticism of any tariff bill and a year and a half is supposed to be necessary to enable the people to understand what it means. But for other considerations the Democrats might prefer to have the tariff out of the way at an extra session some fifteen months before the voting for the next President.

However, the Democrats do not anticipate a very extensive revision in the next Congress. Whatever is done must be with the sanction of a Republican Senator or a Republican President. Consequently the Republican party can not escape responsibility for any tariff law between now and the 4th of March. There is some talk to doubt whether the Democrats will go a great deal farther in their revision during the next Congress than the Republican Senate will be inclined to recommend. The free foodstuffs policy, emphasized in the Canadian reciprocity agreement, will probably be extended to all countries, and probably the duties on cotton and woolen goods and probably on sugar be reduced.

Consequently, in spite of all the clamor about an extra session, the political forces at Washington are substantially opposed to it. The President knows, as does all Congress, that an extra session will not ratify the Canadian agreement, the Democrats could not afford to ignore tariff revision generally. Once Congress convenes the President has no power to restrict the topics of consideration.

#### Democratic Plans.

It is the Democratic plan next December to proceed expeditiously. The usual delays in organizing a new House will be avoided because the Senate has already been chosen and the committees will be chosen during the Summer and Autumn. They will have their tariff bills ready and it might happen that the tariff bill enacted and passed on to the Senate before the holidays.

A new standard for judging short sessions of Congress has been advanced by the one now in progress. In about six weeks of active work it has made a record more or less unique in modern times. Most of the late Autumn forecasts of its activities have gone away.

It has not been a session of much legislative achievement. It can be said, however, that it has apparently say with assurance that it will not be. That accords in good part with the expectations of the veterans. But it promises to be a forerunner of several enactments that may be looked for in the next two years. Nearly everybody predicted that the time would be given to the appropriation bills. As a matter of fact, the essential measures have caused very little agitation in either of the law making bodies. It is years since such bills have been disposed of with so little discussion and contention out of the ordinary.

Subjects that President Taft originally intended to press for enactment have only been mentioned now and then in the proceedings. His rather extensive plans for Panama Canal legislation, affecting tolls and the future administration of the waterway, have been forgotten by the average legislator. There is one exception in the matter of fortifications, which has become a question of keen controversy before the whole country. When the President was formulating these things in his mind at Beverly last Autumn, it was supposed fortification would be acquiesced in readily by Congress and the people.

#### Conservation Legislation.

There has been some advance in preparations for conservation legislation, but it has been entirely within the various committees of Senate and House. It is being decided to do some in that direction it must apparently be an incident of the last days of the session. There has been a little additional legislation. The Conservation and Reclamation bills have been passed in that direction it must apparently be an incident of the last days of the session. There has been a little additional legislation. The Conservation and Reclamation bills have been passed in that direction it must apparently be an incident of the last days of the session.

Congressmen have adjusted their budgets to a larger scale of Federal expenditures. Economy sounds well to the public as a general term, but there is not the lively interest in it that there used to be. People have become accustomed to more lavish expenditures for the Federal service. With such an attitude prevailing, it is reasonable to expect that the next session will be a well-nigh impossible task to cut appropriations below the billion dollar annual mark. The Dem-



Protection Looks Good.

ocratic Congress may reduce it some, but probably not enough to arouse great popular approval.

It is already assured that the short and last session of the 61st Congress will have character in history as a tariff climax. The tariff has been projected into the procedure, far beyond expectations. However much or little may actually be accomplished in actual legislation, tariff is and has been dominant in the Washington situation. The Democratic preparations for revision next year helped to make it so. The tariff revision is a major part of the talk, due in no small part to the powerful demonstrations of business men the country over, emphasized the tariff idea from a Washington standpoint. Finally the completion of the Canadian reciprocity agreement, through President Taft's insistence, has made the tariff a major part of the session. An extra session during the next four weeks will be of a preliminary character in comparison with the work of the next Congress. It will be a major portion of lower rates of duty are bound to be the big topics of Washington interest right up to the last hour of the session.

#### Lining Up of the Parties.

Unexpected as this development was until early January, at least, it has been no more so than the lining up on other questions. The resolution for popular election of Senators has become a major part of the session in the Senate. It was hardly thought of in December. The resolution probably can not pass the Senate this Winter, but it is a very much in earnest. The vigorous Senate debate on the question is preliminary to the early submission of a proposed amendment to the Constitution. The debate is crystallizing the sentiment of Senators and Representatives as no other Senate debate on that subject has done, and consequently marks a major step in the session.

One might cite other instances, less notable, of attention to matters of large legislation and to governmental principles in a policy in which the session of Congress has been absorbed, probably because these are matters of first concern to the voters. Congressional procedure is a matter of first concern to the voters. Congressional procedure is a matter of first concern to the voters. Congressional procedure is a matter of first concern to the voters.

## NEW MEN IN THE SENATE.

### New Republicans and New Democrats—The Senate Leadership. An Extra Session?

This has been a notable Senate session for the influx of new men. There have been new Democrats and new Republicans. With the closeness of voting there the men have been a matter of careful consideration. They have been a factor of interest there along with that most interesting subject—the Senate leadership. The inauguration of a young Democrat, Clarence Watson, a millionaire, of Fairmont, W. Va., entered and took the official oath to succeed Davis Elkins, a young Republican and multi-millionaire, who succeeded his father upon the latter's death recently, to serve for a few days on gubernatorial appointment from the tumultuous West Virginia Legislature could act.

The very day that young Watson came into the Senate and put on his toga he had it in his power to defeat that momentous measure—the ocean mail subvention bill. It got thru the Senate by a tie vote, which was broken by the Vice President. Young Watson voted on some of the earlier amendments, and then went away to attend to matters incident to his Senatorial appointment. While he was absent the vote was taken. Democrats were voting against the mail subvention, and presumably, if young Watson had been there, he, too, would have voted in opposition.

A new Republican, Asle J. Gronna, has taken his seat from North Dakota, and displaced a Democrat, William E. Purcell, of Wapneton, who has been a Senator for a season and a half on

the appointment of a Democratic Governor. Gronna is an insurgent, which strengthens the aggressive insurgent band in the upper legislative branch. By so much the regular Republicans are troubled in these ticklish days, when it is so difficult to get measures thru and when the Administration is often sorely distressed.

But the regular Republicans have had a little consolation in the inability of the Iowa Legislature to fill another vacancy. Senator "Lafe" Young, editor and orator, has returned to Washington a rank regular in the seat of the late lamented Jonathan Dolliver, who was a vigorous insurgent. There have been new Senators from the South—George Frankland, from Louisiana, and from Virginia. They are Terrell, Thornton and Swanson, respectively, and all except Thornton are serving on gubernatorial appointments. It is no easy matter to keep up with the names on the Senate roster or to familiarize one's self with the Senate roll call. In the past few years the Senate has been difficult in that regard. The old-timers will have to get acquainted anew in the Senate. It will not be the same legislative body.

#### Growth of Senator Borah.

Men around the Capitol are asking one another whether the mantle of Senate leadership is not gradually descending upon a Far Western Republican. New attention has been fixed upon the matter by the recent triumph of Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, in getting his much-opposed resolution for popular election of Senators voted up as the Senate's unanimous business. That achievement, won against the protest and maneuvers of several older Senators, including Mr. Hale, of Maine, would by no means betoken leadership. But it has been a growing steady in the estimation of the Senate. He has not forced himself unduly into Senate procedure, as Senator Cummins, of Iowa, has done. His quietness and leadership, has gone. However, when Senator Borah has had a subject he has presented his views with untiring energy and force. He has hardly taken the floor for a speech without enhancing his reputation.

Apparently, no uncompromising regular can be the accepted Republican leader at that end of the Capitol during the tumultuous times ahead for the next two years. Neither can any uncompromising insurgent. The Senate of Borah has not allied himself in any hard and fast manner with either faction. He has often voted with the regulars, but is known to entertain advanced views. Of late it has seemed that he was sliding more with the insurgents.

It would be a young man to exercise Senate leadership, for he is hardly 46 years old. Ever since he came to the Senate in 1907 he has demonstrated the possession of a good, steady head, has an agreeable personality and is a close student. He is not the most profound lawyer in the Senate, where Root and Bailey have acknowledged legal abilities, but he has shown to them that he is able to hold his own in legal discussions and controversies.

#### The Senate Leadership.

Of course, no Senator will become a leader of his party over night, or in any brief period of time. It will be a gradual process, accompanied by much contention, during which the winner will slowly establish his sway. Personality, as well as ability, counts in such a contest. Older Senators will yield grudgingly, if a young man forces his way to recognition. He will at best have rivalry, for a senior Senator will be Chairman of the caucus and possess authority that issues from big Committee Chairmanships. The rise of a leader, however, promises to be a most interesting process in the government of the Senate for the next few years.

The Senate continues to be the chief forum of Congressional interest, and events of political importance may be expected there before the session. The insurgent band, with which Senator Borah co-operated in getting his popular elections resolution fixed as unanimous, is plotting and scheming more actively than at any previous time in this Sixty-first Congress. No one knows just how highly to appraise the efforts of the insurgent band, the regular Republicans and the Administration.

If there is anything at all in extra session talk, it is in the insurgent assertions that they propose to force one, whether the President and the Democrats and the regular Republicans like it or not. They say privately that they purpose to talk some appropriate

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