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## THE PERUVIAN COMPANY.

J. R. SHIPHERD'S STORY CONTINUED.

HE RELATES HOW HE GOT INTO THE CASE AND HOW THE COMPANY WAS FORMED—THE TITLE APPROVED BY MR. BOUTWELL—A SENATOR TAKES AND RETURNS A RETAINER.

The examination of Jacob R. Shipherd before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs was continued yesterday, the witness stating how he came to be connected with the Peruvian Company, and how the company was chartered under a law of Georgia. He said that ex-Secretary Boutwell approved the title of the company, and also approved the plan of getting the matter to the attention of the Secretary of State by the intervention of a Senator who is a personal friend of Mr. Blaine. He said further that this Senator accepted a retainer for services, but returned it when it appeared probable that the affairs of the company would come before Congress for action. Mr. Shipherd also stated that Collector Robertson received a retainer as counsel for legal service only.

### SHIPHERD'S STORY ABOUT ALL TOLD.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Mr. Shipherd's testimony to-day undoubtedly ended such disclosures as it is in his power to make regarding the connection of any United States Minister or officer of the State Department with the Peruvian Company, and, apparently, of any officer of the Government. The sum of these is seen to be very small. Mr. Shipherd stated positively that no offer of stock was made to any officer, "diplomatic or otherwise," except that to General Hurlbut, and that no intimation was made to him by any officer of a desire for any interest in the company. He wrote to General Kilpatrick on the subject, simply a letter of information, making no proposition, and received no response. He had an interview with General Adams, the Minister to Bolivia, but that was simply in regard to the possibility of an agreement between the Government of Bolivia and the Peruvian Company for a lease of the nitrate beds in the former country, and had no connection with the attempts to enforce the company's claim against Peru. No proposition was made on either side for an interest in the company. The witness said that no officers of the United States, broadening that term so as to include members of Congress, had any interest in the company, except one, who could not possibly come into official contact with the company—Collector Robertson, of New-York—and he received a retainer for purely legal services.

The impression left by Mr. Shipherd's testimony was that the only persons holding positions in which they might possibly have been called upon to act upon the pretensions of the Peruvian Company, and who either had, or were promised, stock, or became connected with the company, were Minister Hurlbut and Senator Blair. If this should prove to be true, the stories that have been current in Washington to the effect that a number of Congressmen received stock and returned it only when an investigation was seen to be impending, will fall to the ground, where the charges against Mr. Blaine were long ago, and it will appear that this whole Peruvian Company scandal is the most farcical affair of its kind that has been seen in Washington in recent years.

The real animus of it was a desire to injure Mr. Blaine. It has long been evident that it would not do that. If it should now appear that the whole scandal is to dwindle down into the failure of the Minister to Peru to resent an attempt to bribe him with a block of moonshine stock, the discomfiture of Mr. Blaine's enemies will be complete. It is evident, however, that those newspapers which have been pursuing Mr. Blaine propose to get what aid they can, even from Mr. Shipherd's testimony of yesterday. The tenor of this was that he told Mr. Blaine that he could not ask from the United States Government at that time anything more than a notification to the South American Governments that in the war settlements the fact that there were five claims of American citizens pending against Peru, which might be affected by those settlements, ought not to be overlooked. This is a fair statement of the request Mr. Shipherd made, though not his exact words, which, like all his language, must not, probably, be taken too literally. Shipherd had a right as a citizen to make the request, and the Secretary of State would not have had the right to refuse to comply with it. It is charged that Mr. Blaine did what Shipherd wanted him to do. Probably if Mr. Blaine thinks it worth while to go before the committee when he returns to Washington, he will admit that he did do what Mr. Shipherd wanted him to do, so far as it was proper. He will probably also admit that if he were a Government employe selling postage stamps and Mr. Shipherd offered him three cents for one, it would be his duty to sell it to him. If an American citizen chooses to buy a claim for $900,000,000 against a country where, as one of the minor officials of the State Department said at the time Shipherd began to assume National proportions, "the people haven't any breeches," and calls upon the State Department for its good offices with the Government of that country, the State Department cannot refuse them unless for some good reason. It will not, under ordinary circumstances, do more than ask a hearing for him, and that was all that was done in this instance. This is the extent to which Mr. Blaine did what Mr. Shipherd wanted him to do, in his letter of August 4, 1881.

It should be premised that Cochet's claim is the one which the Peruvian Company owns. Mr. Shipherd confirmed to-day the statement often made that the Peruvian Company does not assert any interest in the Landreau claim, but claims to have a prior lien which will wipe out the Landreau claim. Of the Cochet claim Mr. Blaine wrote to Minister Hurlbut as follows:

The two claims for which special consideration and active intervention have been asked—are those known as the Cochet and the Landreau claim. In reference to the Cochet claim there has been no information laid before the Department of a sufficiently definite character to warrant a specific instruction, and in the absence of the requisite data here you will be left to take such steps as may seem expedient on investigating the origin and character of the claim. The primal point at issue is whether any American citizen or association of citizens has acquired any interest in the claim, in a manner entitling him or them to the good offices of this Government in making any representation to Peru. As the American holders of the claim or their attorneys will be on the ground you will no doubt be placed in possession of all the facts; but you will take no steps committing your Government to the use of its good offices without first reporting in full to the Department for well considered and definite instruction.

With regard to the Landreau claim the Secretary then proceeded to reassert the conclusions reached by his predecessor on three occasions. Perhaps before this phase of the subject is dismissed Mr. Shipherd's effort to cast a slur on Mr. Blaine, by declaring that he treated lightly an attempt to bribe a United States Minister, should be contrasted with these facts. When Mr. Blaine heard rumors that the Credit Industriel was trying to use the American Legation at Lima in its negotiations, he telegraphed to Minister Hurlbut: "Influence of your position must not be used in aid of Credit Industriel or any other financial or speculating association," and in the letter of November 19, 1881, in which this telegram was explained, he said:

I presume you will be asked by the agents or officers of the Peruvian Company of New-York to lend your influence as United States Minister to promote its interests. It would, of course, present to you the claim of an American organization, composed of reputable citizens, and entitled to your good offices where they may with propriety be extended. But you will specially avoid any advocacy of the claims of that or any other company or individual in the pursuit of personal ends or business enterprises. To a Minister of your experience I need not point you to the proper distinction between diplomatic good offices and personal advocacy.

Likewise that when Minister Hurlbut wrote Mr. Blaine that he had carried on a negotiation to become a trustee of a valuable railroad, in order to turn it over to an American company, Mr. Blaine at once wrote to him, saying: "I have heard of this negotiation with astonishment and regret"; declaring that it showed "an utter disregard of every rule of prudence and propriety that should govern the conduct of a representative of the country," and demanding that it be broken off at once. Likewise that, when Minister Hurlbut finally reported to Mr. Blaine Shipherd's $250,000 offer, the Secretary dismissed Mr. Shipherd in disgrace and threatened him with prosecution.

It is difficult to see how any fair-minded person can note these documentary evidences of Mr. Blaine's course and still believe that he showed any improper favors to the Peruvian Company, or the still more incredible story that he was told by Shipherd in July of the offer to Hurlbut and did not rebuke it until Hurlbut himself reported it in November.

Mr. Shipherd gave an interesting statement of the incorporation of the Peruvian Company and sent a broad smile around the room by telling the committee how the unnamed Senator, whom he still solemnly declined to name, started on one occasion from his home in "Plymouth, N. H." There is only one member of the Senate who lives at Plymouth, New-Hampshire, and the committee seemed to think Mr. Shipherd might as well give the name, but he was still unwilling to do so.

The witness continues to-morrow, but to-day's testimony apparently exhausted his sensations and confirmed the impression with which some at least of the committee began the inquiry, that they are investigating a highly organized mare's nest.

### THE PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The Committee on Foreign Affairs resumed this morning the examination of Mr. Shipherd. Mr. Shipherd identified a letter, written by himself to the President, under date of April 28, 1881, as follows:

I have clients whose commercial interests in Peru are in the aggregate some hundreds of millions of dollars—so much larger than any total of Chilian war claims yet mentioned as to entitle my clients to respectful consideration in the discussion of any plans affecting the future of the prostrate Republic. In a few days I expect to be ready to submit to the President the facts in detail; meanwhile I hear that new appointments of Ministers to Santiago and Lima are likely to be made, and hence this anticipatory note, the sole purpose of which is to request that, if such new appointments are under consideration, a decision may be reserved until the facts I refer to shall have been laid before the President.

My clients have no desire to submit nominations, or in any way to influence nominations as such; they only desire that the President may have an opportunity to select men—if new men are to go out—who in his judgment, and in that of his constitutional advisers, shall be well fitted for the special and responsible diplomatic representations which may be unavoidable in the premises. An assurance that such reservation will be made would oblige us.

The chairman then inquired whether the missing letter, dated May 21, 1881, had been found.

Mr. Shipherd replied that it had not, but that he had written to his son to prepare an additional copy which he thought he could verify without going to New-York.

The chairman stated that the members of the committee might examine the witness upon the testimony given by him yesterday.

Mr. Kasson, referring to the relation of Shipherd's interview with Mr. Hurlbut, said: Waiving the point whether your opinion is competent evidence, have you any personal knowledge of any instance in which Mr. Hurlbut's official action has been purchased?

The witness—The statement which I made yesterday was not offered in evidence—was not offered as an opinion. It was offered to disclose to the committee the motive which led to the writing of that letter to General Hurlbut, in order that the committee might for itself judge whether that motive tended in any way to explain the real intent and meaning of that letter. The impression on my own mind was given me by facts within my personal knowledge—pressed upon my personal attention many years ago. These facts I hope to be able to submit to the committee to-morrow morning in the form of a printed sheet, which was widely circulated and brought to my knowledge at the time of its circulation, at the date to which I referred yesterday. I now call the attention of the committee to the decision of the United States Supreme Court, which may be found in 102 United States Reports, page 322, in the case of Clark against the United States, in which I understand that the United States Supreme Court judicially determined that General Hurlbut, when in military command in New-Orleans, deliberately accepted an infamous bribe. I say all this in self-defence, and because I was compelled to take notice of facts notorious and published, and with the origination or publication of which I have never had anything to do.

Mr. Kasson—I ask if at any time in the course of your entire correspondence or connection with Mr. Hurlbut, while Minister, he intimated to you, directly or indirectly, his desire for an interest in any claim which you represent?

Witness—No, sir; I think I stated yesterday (but if if not, I desire to do so to-day) that nothing ever passed between General Hurlbut and myself touching any private interest, present, contigent, or in any form which might be reserved for himself, except as contained in the letter I wrote and for which he has no responsibility.

SHIPHERD SHOULDERS ALL RESPONSIBILITY.

Mr. Kasson—He never made answer, directly or indirectly.

Witness—No. I would be glad to say emphatically that General Hurlbut could not prevent my making him a proposition, infamous or otherwise, and for all that may have passed between himself and me, which the committee may find improper, I alone am responsible—and it is all found in that letter.

Mr. Kasson—Did you at any period, during this correspondence or negotiation with an officer of the United States Government, either a diplomatic officer abroad or an officer of any department of the Government at Washington, make any proposition to interest such officer in the claim, directly or indirectly, other than that preposed to Mr. Hurlburt.

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Kasson—Did any such officer ever intimate to you his desire to be interested in any way in the claim which you represent?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Kasson—Turning now to the claim itself, state all the old claims which you regard as included within the claim of the Peruvian Company

The witness replied at some length that the only claim to which the Peruvian Company asserted a title was the claim of Alexander Cochet as the original discoverer of the guano. Individuals who were large stockholders in the Peruvian Company represented themselves to him as being also part owners of the claim known as the Landreau claim, and they had requested him to keep a general lookout in behalf of the Landreau claim.

Mr. Kasson—Do you know what company or individuals represented the Landreau claim?

Witness—I suppose I do.

Mr. Kasson—State it.

Witness—I cannot without violating private confidence.

The witness then stated that as far as he knew there was no counter claimant for the Cochet claim. The Peruvian Company was incorporated under the laws of the State of Georgia, and the stock of the company was held in the United States.

Mr. Kasson—Has any money been paid in on the stock?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Kasson—How much?

Witness—I decline to state, because it is merely a private matter.

Mr. Kasson—Were the original claimants paid in the stock of the new company?

Witness—I decline to state.

Mr. Kasson—Has there been a resident representative of the company in Peru?

Witness—I decline to state.

Mr. Kasson—Has the Government of Peru admitted the validity of the claims of the Peruvian Company?

Witness—No response to the correspondence published has been received.

Mr. Kasson—Have they responded in any other way to the ratification of the claims of this company?

Witness—Not officially.

The witness, in further answer to Mr. Kasson, stated that all the stock of the company was held in the United States; but he declined to state how much money had been paid on the capital stock, or how much per share, as that was purely a private matter. He also declined to state from what parties the claim was purchased. He stated, however, that these parties had not reserved any lien on the company for the purchase-money, and that there was no incumbrance on its stock and property. He declined to state whether the original claimants were paid any part of the purchase-money in stock of the new company. No agent of the company had taken possession of any property in Peru claimed as belonging to the company. He declined to state whether there had been a resident representative of the company in Peru since the organization of the company. He stated that the Peruvian Government had been formally informed by the company of its ownership of the Cochet claim and that no response had been received. There had been no correspondence, official or semi-official, received by the Peruvian Company from the Peruvian Government. Whatever advices had been received in the premises had come from the private correspondents, agents and representatives of the company.

Mr. Kasson explained that the object of his inquiries was to show whether or not this was a valid claim and whether the company was an organization for the promotion of a legitimate undertaking. It had been alleged that the fact of its not being recognized by the Peruvian Government had led the company to apply for the protection of its own Government. He, therefore, invited the witness to state fully whatever related to the valid character of the undertaking and to the legal right of the company to ask the aid of the United States Government.

HOW SHIPHERD GOT INTO THE CASE.

The witness, premising that the question was too broad to be covered in an extempore manner at this time, proceeded with the following narrative: This claim was brought to my attention as a practising

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## AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

### GOSSIP ABOUT THE CABINET.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—A Washington dispatch sent to THE TRIBUNE last night did injustice to Senator Teller, in stating that he was a Grant delegate to Chicago. It was not as bad as that. He was a Grant man, and was in Chicago during the Convention, but he was not a delegate and does not wear a medal.

General Grant has been here barely twenty-four hours. Rumor has it that he is urging the nomination of General Beale instead of Mr. Chandler for Secretary of the Navy, and that he has effected a postponement of the nomination of Mr. Teller as Secretary of the Interior until measures can be taken to secure the appointment of ex-Senator Chaffee to fill the vacancy in the Senate. No other name for the Interior Department has been heard except that of General Mahone, who says he will not have the place unless he is conscripted to it.

### THE CHINESE BILL IN THE HOUSE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The debate on the Chinese bill continued in the House to-day. Mr. Washburn, of Minnesota, who never addresses the House except when he has something to say, made an excellent speech, taking the ground that the Government ought not willingly to do anything, or allow anything to be done, the effect of which would be to degrade labor or lead to its degradation. This speech gave much comfort to the friends of the bill.

Mr. McLane, of Maryland, who was appointed United States Minister to China, by President Pierce, nearly thirty years ago, made a strong speech advocating certain modifications of the bill, in the same direction as those proposed by Mr. Kasson, an outline of which has already been published in THE TRIBUNE. In a finished and statesmanlike speech, which engaged the close attention of the House this afternoon, Mr. Kasson advocated his amendments to the bill. In course of his speech he was several times interrupted by applause. Several other speeches were made on both sides, but no vote was reached. It is probable that a final vote will be taken on the bill, and on some amendments to it, to-morrow.

From conversations with members of both parties to-day, the opinion is expressed that some of the amendments will be adopted, and that the bill will be sent back to the Senate with the period of suspension reduced from twenty to fifteen or ten years.

### LITTLE PROBABILITY OF A VETO.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—"Do you credit the reports that the President is disposed to veto the pending Chinese bill?" inquired a TRIBUNE correspondent of Senator Jones, of Nevada, to-day.

"No, I do not," replied the Senator; "some of our people are apprehending a veto, but I am not. My confidence does not spring from anything the President has said to me about this particular measure, but from my knowledge of the opinions he entertains concerning the exercise of the veto power. The veto power, as I understand it, may properly be exercised when, in the opinion of the President, the legislative branch of the Government undertakes to to encroach upon the functions of the Executive branch, when a measure is unconstitutional or is in violation of the terms of a treaty, or when there is evidence that it was passed in haste and without due consideration. The anti-Chinese legislation is purely a question of policy. The questions involved have been discussed for ten years, and the last Congress passed an anti-Chinese immigration bill, you remember, through both Houses, by large majorities. If the President thinks that the term of twenty years in the restrictive clause of the pending measure strains the treaty, he might find in that provision the possible ground for a veto, but for the fact that the representatives of the people have had the same question before them and, with their eyes open and after full discussion of that very feature, have decided by a good majority that it was within the scope of the treaty."

"Then, you remember," continued the Senator, "that when the former Chinese bill was passed the press of the East made a great hue and cry about it, and public sentiment (of a section at least) demanded and approved of the veto. That was because of the violation of a treaty then existing. Now, we have a new treaty, and the present bill has almost everywhere been received with acquiescence. There is no manifestation of adverse public sentiment to justify a veto. No, I do not think the President will veto the Chinese bill."

### THE EXPENSES OF GARFIELD'S ILLNESS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—There seems to be an impression respecting the unadjusted accounts of the expenses of the illness of the late President, leading to the expectation that their audit by the committee and the ordering of their payment by the House will necessarily involve a discussion of the items of the expenses incurred by ex-Sergeant-at-Arms Thompson. This is a mistake. All of Mr. Thompson's bills have been paid, under the authority of a resolution unanimously adopted by the House on February 4. Among the vouchers to his accounts were the bills for wines and other liquors, lunches, etc., respecting which so much has recently been said. The accounts which remain unadjusted are bills for the services of surgeons and attendance, medicines and surgical supplies, ice-cooling apparatus, carriage hire, undertaker's bill, etc. Besides the amount recommended by a majority of the committee for the surgeons, nurses, etc., the items aggregate about $7,000, and while in the opinion of several members of the committee some of the charges are extravagant, there is nothing in the items to excite criticism.

It is understood that Mr. Blackburn, who is a member of the committee, strongly objects to the allowances recommended for some of the surgeons, and will criticise them severely.

### THE CASE OF CADET WHITTAKER.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—A general order was issued from the Adjutant-General's office to-day giving the findings of the court-martial in the case of Cadet Johnson C. Whittaker. The court-martial found Whittaker guilty on both charges against him, namely: "Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" and "false swearing, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." The sentence is that he "be dishonorably dismissed from the military service of the United States, and to pay a fine of $1, and to be thereafter confined at hard labor for one year in such penitentiary as the reviewing authority may direct." The order concludes as follows:

The proceedings of the general court-martial in the foregoing case of Cadet Johnson C. Whittaker, United States Military Academy, having been submitted to the President, the following are his orders: "Executive Mansion, March 21, 1882. In the foregoing case of Cadet Johnson C. Whittaker, it appearing that on the trial the court-martial, notwithstanding the objection of the accused, admitted in evidence to be used by experts in handwriting as standards of comparison with the note of warning, which is the subject of the second specification of the first charge, and of the third specification of the second charge, a number of papers testified to be in the handwriting of the accused, which papers were not in evidence for any other purpose than to be used as standards, and were so used by the experts, and that a large amount of testimony in support of the above mentioned two specifications by such experts, based on their comparison of these standards with the note of warning, was introduced on the part of the prosecution, and the Attorney-General being of the opinion (concurring therein with the Judge-Advocate-General of the Army) that the above mentioned papers were improperly admitted in evidence, and that there is in that respect error in the proceedings of the court in relation to a material issue, the foregoing proceedings and sentence are disapproved, and it is ordered that Cadet Whittaker be released from arrest. CHESTER A. ARTHUR."

The general court-martial convened by special orders No. 278, December 31, 1880, from this office, is hereby dissolved.

Cadet Whittaker yesterday conversed with a TRIBUNE reporter concerning the President's order releasing him from arrest.

"Are you still a cadet?" asked the reporter.

"Certainly, and shall be unless the recommendations of the Academic Board that I be dismissed because of deficiency in studies is approved by the President."

"But if the President approves the recommendations?"

"In that case I shall apply for a commission in the Regular Army."

"Without completing your course of study?"

"There is no rule against it. By an Army regulation a cadet who has been dropped from his class may apply for the commission as second lieutenant after his class has been graduated, and if he has sufficient political influence he may obtain it, as any other civilian would."

"Knowing the feeling at West Point against you would you return there as a student?"

"In a minute. I left home in 1876 to become an officer in the regular Army, and I intend to be one yet, somehow."

"What treatment would you expect to receive there now?"

"The same as ever I did. I should be let severely alone."

"What have you been doing in New-York since the trial?"

"Studying most of the time. I have paid considerable attention to the studies of the last year at West Point, especially to tactics. Law, which is one of the studies there, I already know something about, from the long trial through which I passed. I shall expect to-morrow to recive official notice from Washington either to report at West Point to join the second class, or that I am dismissed from the Academy. In any case, I fully expect eventually to become an officer in the Army."

### COLLECTOR VAN HORN'S RECORD.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The following is the record which Burt Van Horn, whom the President superseded on Monday, has made as Collector of Internal Revenue for the XXVIIIth District of New-York. It will be seen that Commissioner Raum reports that Mr. Van Horn has been in all respects an unexceptionable official, capable, faithful and efficient. In view of the facts set forth in these reports and certificates, the inference is unavoidable that he was removed not because there was any fault to be found with his service, but solely because he is an earnest Garfield Republican, and as such has incurred the hostility of leading New-York Stalwarts who have the ear of the President. The following are copies of Commissioner Raum's official letters:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, March 7, 1881.

*Hon.* WILLIAM WINDOM, *Secretary of the Treasury.*

SIR: In reply to your inquiry of this date, I have the honor to submit the following official record of Hon. Burt Van Horn as Collector of Internal Revenue for the 28th District of New-York.

Mr. Van Horn entered on duty as Collector of the above-named district on the 1st of August, 1877. The office and district were not then in a satisfactory condition. The records were not complete and the affairs of the office were conducted in a manner which required prompt attention. The office was then rated number three, or fifth class.

The efficiency and executive ability of Collector Van Horn and his subordinates within a few months brought the district up to first class or number one, where he has, by diligent and faithful service, maintained it to the present time. It is proper to state that the result of Mr. Van Horn's administration of the affairs of the district has been a large increase in the revenue.

I think it due to Mr. Van Horn to state that there are no official reasons, to my knowledge, why he should be retired. Very respectfully,

(Signed) GREEN B. RAUM, Commissioner.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, May 27, 1881.

BURT VAN HORN, *esq., Collector Twenty-eighth District, Rochester, N. Y.*

SIR: I am in receipt of a report of the condition of your office, made by Revenue Agent Hale, dated May 18, 1881.

I am gratified to be able to state not only that your office maintains the highest rank, but that the Revenue agent reports that its present condition and the manner of conducting its business do not admit of criticism in any respect. No higher encomium than this could be passed upon any office; and coming from so experienced an officer as Mr. Hale, is doubly valuable.

Accept my congratulations on the condition of your office as reported by Revenue Agent Hale. Respectfully, (Signed) GREEN B. RAUM, Commissioner.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, Nov. 7, 1881.

BURT VAN HORN, *esq., Collector Twenty-eighth District, Rochester, N. Y.*

SIR: Your office was found, on the recent examination of Revenue Agent Wheeler, in its usual excellent condition. Your grade remains number one or first class. Respectfully,

(Signed) GREEN B. RAUM, Commissioner.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, March 6, 1881.

BURT VAN HORN, *esq., Collector Twenty-eighth District, Rochester, N. Y.*

SIR: I have received from Revenue Agent Marvin a very satisfactory report of the condition of your office upon his examination of the 23d ultimo. Your grade is number one or first class. Respectfully, (Signed) GREEN B. RAUM, Commissioner.

### THE CARE OF IMMIGRANTS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—A meeting of New-York Representatives was held this evening to take into consideration the several bills which have been offered in the House to relieve the City and State of New-York of the onerous burden of the reception and care of immigrants arriving at the port of New-York. A committee of five members was appointed to draft a new bill to be referred to the House Committee on Commerce, and to take the place of the bill recently reported by Representative Richardson, of New-York, from that committee.

The members of the committee appointed to-night are Messrs. McCook, Hewitt, Cox, VanVoorhis and Waldo Hutchins. It is understood that they will use as the basis of the bill they are to present the one recently offered by Mr. VanVoorhis in the House, the provisions of which have already been described in THE TRIBUNE.

### THE OLD NEW-YORK POST OFFICE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—A meeting of the House Committee on Public Buildings will be held on Friday to hear arguments by Mr. Sullivan, attorney of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Conant, in regard to the disposition to be made of the old Post Office site in New-York. About six weeks ago the committee requested the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish a report showing what buildings are hired and occupied by the Government for public offices in New-York City, and the amount of the yearly rental paid therefor. This information the committee deemed necessary before considering the question as to whether the Nassau-st. property should be sold or retained by the Government. No reply has yet been received from Secretary Folger in regard to the matter.

### THE PROTOCOL AUTHENTICATED.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Senor Martinez, the Chilian Minister to the United States, to-day received official dispatches from his Government. The dispatches confirm the authenticity of the text of the protocol agreed upon between the Chilian Government and Mr. Trescot as already published. In regard to the conditions set forth in the protocol Senor Martinez says that in his opinion they represent the extreme limit of concession which Chili will grant to Peru.

### WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, March 22, 1882.

The President has recognized Takahashi Shinkichi as Consul of Japan at the port of New-York.

Senor Elmore, the Peruvian Minister to the United States, had an interview with the President to-day, at which Secretary Frelinghuysen was present.

All the papers received by the President bearing on the case of Sergeant Mason have been referred to the Secretary of War, who has placed them in the hands of Judge-Advocate-General Swaim for report.

At the close of business to-day United States bonds had been redeemed at the Treasury as follows: Under the 105th call, $19,679,950; under the 106th call, $18,300,650; under the 107th call, $14,896,500.

In the redemption of called extended five per cent bonds, the Secretary of the Treasury has decided to adhere to the practice of the Department under former Administrations and take up the highest numbers first.

At a late hour to-night Representative Black's physicians report continued improvement in their patient's condition since last night. No material change has occurred in Representative Allen's condition since last night.

The Secretary of War has issued instructions for the transportation of 100 hospital tents from Philadelphia to Vicksburg, Miss., for the use of sufferers by the recent floods. These tents will each give shelter to from 25 to 30 persons.

The House Committee on Education and Labor to-day agreed to report to the House adversely Representative Dezendorf's bill to reimburse the College of William and Mary in the sum of $65,000 for property destroyed during the late war.

The President has approved the joint resolution granting the use of tents, etc., for the soldiers' reunion at Grand Island, Neb., in August, 1882, and for the Grand Army of the Republic encampment at Gettysburg, Penn., in July, 1882.

The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom the nomination of Pay-Director Watmough as Paymaster-General of the Navy was recently recommitted, to-day decided to adhere to former adverse action upon it, and it will be reported back to the Senate adversely.

The Secretary of War has issued the following order: "Hereafter all officers are required to prepay the cost of telegrams sent by them on public business, except when sent in pursuance of special instructions, or in answer to a telegram from superior authority."

Several Western Senators visited the President to-day to urge the promotion of General Crook to be major-general. The President said he appreciated General Crook's ability and services, and it would be a personal gratification to him to make the appointment; but he could not overlook the fact that there were others above him on the list. Generals Terry and Pope are applicants for this promotion.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular to the effect that, as the supply of locks is exhausted, "seal holders" will, until otherwise ordered, be furnished for fastening cars and vessels employed in the transportation of merchandise without appraisement, under the provisions of the act of June 10, 1880. The "seal holders" are consecutively numbered, and are made to carry the Customs seals now used.

### *ATTACKED WHEN ALMOST HOME.*

HOW A ROSLYN MERCHANT WAS ROBBED.

WILLIAM M. VALENTINE KNOCKED DOWN AND PROBABLY FATALLY BEATEN—THE ROBBERS ONLY PARTLY SUCCESSFUL.

William M. Valentine, one of the oldest, wealthiest and most respected merchants of Roslyn, L. I., started from his store, which is on the main street of the village, on Tuesday night at 9:10 o'clock to go to his home. His favorite method of reaching home was to row across what is called the grist mill pond, which lies directly behind his store. The landing place on the other side of the pond is at the foot of a little hill upon his own grounds and within twenty yards of his house. On the night mentioned he did not reach home at the usual hour, and his wife grew restless waiting for him. She placed lights in the window to attract his attention, but still he did not come. Dreading lest something should have happened to him, she ran to a neighbor, Justice Losee, and told him of her fears for her husband.

The Justice immediately started to the boat landing, and at the brow of the hill, within a few yards of the landing, and within twenty rods of his home, he discovered the inanimate form of Mr. Valentine, lying wounded and bleeding under a large evergreen bush. Assistance was speedily summoned, and the wounded man was conveyed to his house. The druggist of the village, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Valentine's family physician, Dr. Bogart, were sent for, and quickly responded to the call. Mr. Valentine's skull was found fractured, with a cut in it three inches long and an inch and a quarter wide. Mr. Valentine continued unconscious all day yesterday and was unable to give an account of the assault upon him. When he left the store, he had in his possession between $300 and $400. Twelve dollars had been taken from him, which was in an outside pocket. The remainder was in an inside breast pocket, and, together with his watch, was untouched.

A careful search was made at the scene of the robbery, and the footprints of two men were found, the tracks showing plainly in the soft mud, leading in an easterly direction across a ploughed field. Some of the tracks were made by rubber boots. A large stud stick, covered with blood, was found close to the evergreen bush. There was a pool of blood where Mr. Valentine was discovered. The boat was found tied to the moorings at the foot of the hill, showing that Mr. Valentine had landed and was proceeding to the house when attacked. Sheriff Wright, of Queens County, with the assistance of a New-York detective, endeavored to find a clew to the robbers. Edward Alberson, a negro, was arrested yesterday, and held. He is a wandering vagabond, wears rubber boots, and his foot is said to fit one of the tracks exactly. Joseph Bennett, a boy of nineteen, who has a bad reputation, was also arrested, but was subsequently released. The officers think that they will succeed in finding the guilty persons.

Dr. Hoag, of Manhassett, and Dr. Hendrickson, of Jamaica, who were summoned to attend the wounded man, state that there is little or no hope of his recovery. He is seventy-three years old. His wife and one son constitute his family. He has many relatives in the neighborhood. It is thought that the highwaymen were frightened away by the lights Mrs. Valentine placed in the window before they had succeeded in rifling the body of their victim and thus failed to secure the large amount of money, which Mr. Valentine had with him. Mr. Valentine is estimated to be worth $80,000. He was born in Roslyn. It has been his habit for some time to row across the pond from the store to his home, often carrying large sums of money. It is to this well-known habit that the assault upon him is attributed. At a meeting held by his neighbors it was decided to offer a reward for the arrest and conviction of Mr. Valentine's assailants. The weapon with which the crime was committed is a short stick from a market wagon.

### *REGULATING PILOTAGE AT BOSTON.*

BOSTON, March 22.—A bill was reported to the Legislature to-day to amend the statutes relative to pilots and pilotage. It provides that no sailing vessel of less than 200 tons burden declining the services of a pilot shall be compelled to pay any pilotage fees. No sailing vessel of 200 tons or more declining the service of a pilot shall be compelled to pay any outward pilotage. Sailing vessels of more than 200 tons arriving from a foreign port shall, when declining a pilot for inward service, be liable to pay 50 per cent only of the fees now established. Sailing vessels of 350 tons burden and upward arriving from a foreign port, not having taken a steam tug before the services of a pilot are offered, shall pay 75 per cent of the fees, and if they take a tug and pilot services are offered afterward shall pay 50 per cent of the fees.

### *ATTACHMENT AGAINST THE PACIFIC.*

BOSTON, March 22.—In regard to the attachment granted in New-York against the Pacific National Bank, of this city, which resumed business on Saturday, the officers of the bank say that the demand certificate upon which the attachment was obtained is one of the certificates which the bank refuses to pay by advice of counsel and with the approval of the Controller of the Currency. The same is true of the $25,000 in certificates upon which attachments were obtained in New-York after the bank had suspended.

### *FORGING HIS FATHER'S NAME.*

Henry F. Graham, age eighteen, of No. 68 South Third-st., Brooklyn, was arrested yesterday upon complaint of his stepfather, James H. Read, who charges him with forging his signature to a check upon the Williamsburg Savings Bank for the sum of $500. The check was drawn on March 15.

### *FRAGMENTS OF WESTERN NEWS.*

A PROTEST FROM COLLEGE STUDENTS.

DETROIT, March 22.—The senior class of Hillsdale College has presented a memorial to the faculty protesting against the admission of the son of President Durgin, who was admitted at the opening of the term last week, contrary to the regulations.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

EMMETTSBURG, Iowa, March 22.—Charles Cornelian and Frederick Miller came here from Scotland last year and bought a farm on Jack Creek from the Scottish-American Land Company. In a quarrel yesterday Cornelian killed Miller and then shot himself. He died instantly.

### *TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.*

ILLNESS OF A PROMINENT LAWYER.

THOMASTON, Me., March 22.—A. P. Gould, a prominent lawyer, was taken seriously ill to-day with symptoms of apoplexy.

A NEW MAYOR OF PORTLAND.

PORTLAND, Me., March 22.—The City Council met at 10 o'clock this morning and elected Charles F. Libby, Republican, to be Mayor.

PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRATS.

HARRISBURG, Penn., March 22.—The Democratic State Central Committee to-day decided to hold the State Convention in this city on June 28.

ESCAPE OF SIX PRISONERS.

GALVESTON, Tex., March 22.—A dispatch to *The News* from San Antonio says that six prisoners in the Bandera jail last night picked the lock and escaped.

INDICTED FOR KILLING A PRIEST.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., March 22.—Daniel McMillen, who shot and killed Father McCarty at Greenfield in December, was indicted for manslaughter at Greenfield to-day.

THE SPRAGUE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 22.—The Supreme Court to-day approved the proposed terms of sale and form of deed of the Sprague estates, and ordered the trustee to sell the property on May 4.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 22.—At St. Helena this morning William Gans shot and killed J. C. Weinberger and immediately committed suicide. Gans decoyed Weinberger from San Francisco on a plea of business.

DICTATING TO THEIR EMPLOYERS.

TROY, March 22.—It is reported that the moulders at their meeting to-day ordered a strike until the manufacturers recognize the Union's right to appoint committees to visit the foundries and equalize the prices paid for work.

A YOUTHFUL PEDESTRIAN.

PHILADELPHIA, March 22.—A letter has been received by a society which states that a child, age eight, has been engaged to run two miles against time at a walking match in Easton, Penn. The citizens are opposed to the exhibition and want the authorities to stop it.

JAMES B. CHRISTMAS ACQUITTED.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The case of James B. Christmas, indicted for the murder of William G. Whitney on January 25, was called in the Criminal Court, before Judge Wylie, to-day. The jury, by direction of the Court, rendered a verdict of acquittal on the ground of self-defence.

A DOCTOR SUING A DOCTOR.

BOSTON, March 22.—Dr. William C. Cutler, of Chelsea, has begun a suit for malicious libel against Dr. Henry Martin, of Boston Highlands, placing the damages at $25,000. The charge is based on published documents declared to be injurious to the business and character of Dr. Cutler.

SMALLPOX DISAPPEARING.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM, Penn., March 22.—No new cases of smallpox have been reported in forty-eight hours. Five deaths have occurred since yesterday. A majority of those yet afflicted has the disease in a mild form, and the number of deaths is not likely to prove as extensive as was at first anticipated.

## ACCIDENT OR SUICIDE?

DEATH OF PHILIP S. VAN RENSSELAER.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS ROOM IN THE HOTEL BRUNSWICK—SOME EVIDENCES OF SUICIDE, BUT THE IDEA SCOUTED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE DEAD MAN.

The sound of a pistol shot was heard in the Hotel Brunswick about 2 o'clock yesterday morning, while nearly every one in the building was asleep. Patrick F. Rooney, the night watchman, who was in the lower part of the building, thought that the sound had been made by the sudden slamming of a door or by the fall of some heavy body. About four hours later the watchman, while on the top floor of the hotel, noticed a light shining through the transom over the door of room No. 227. Thinking that the room was unoccupied, and that the gas had been left