SOME POLITICAL TALKS.

WILLIAM H. WEBB ON BLAINE'S STRENGTH.

THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE WHITE HOUSE—ENDOWED WITH THE QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP.

William H. Webb was one of the founders of the Union League Club, of which he is still a prominent member, and he has always taken an active and patriotic interest in public affairs, although he has never been a politician and has always resisted all solicitations to take office. Mr. Webb is a member of the Council of Reform—in this as in other ways showing his desire to better the condition of municipal government. He was found by a reporter of THE TRIBUNE yesterday at Tarrytown looking after the construction of a private road through his estate.

"I have been out of business fifteen years," he said, and in the city got tired of being called on so often to attend to public business and other people's business, and so settled myself here. You want to know what I think of Mr. Blaine and his chances of being elected President? Well, sit down on this rock—there's a pleasant prospect hereabouts—and I'll tell you. I was in the habit of going to Washington a good deal twelve or thirteen years ago, and there saw much of Mr. Blaine. I formed then a very high opinion of his ability, statesmanship and patriotism. I have since watched his course closely and have found no cause to change my opinion. I am warmly in favor of Mr. Blaine, and always have favored him since he was first put forward for the Presidency. He has the qualities of leadership—he has in an eminent degree, in my judgment, the qualities that would enable him to make a good President, strong, upright, far-seeing and efficient. I believe he will give us a live administration with nothing weak or stagnant about it. I believe he will give us a foreign policy which will largely increase the foreign trade of this country, and especially the trade with the South American States. We ought to get nearly all of that trade, and if Blaine is elected President I believe all will be done that a wise and powerful Administration can to secure it, and to obtain for us a dominant influence with those States.

"It was not through the politicians that Mr. Blaine got the nomination; it was because the popular demand for him was so strong that it could not be resisted by the politicians. The great rank and file of the Republican party wanted him and they will elect him by a large majority. Certainly, I believe that he will carry New-York, and I believe the business men of New-York will wheel into line in his favor, as will also the Union League Club. There is a growing sentiment there in his favor. Arthur was the first choice in the main because he was a New-Yorker. Blaine is known to be strongly in favor of protection; so are most of the working men; and on that account he will get a large share of their support, and will even, I believe, capture many Democratic votes, certainly more than Arthur could.

"These slanders on his character? Well, I don't think they will hurt him. He has disposed of them quite as successfully as did Senator Edmunds, than whom there is nobody for whom I have higher respect. But he is most valuable in the Senate. I would rather have him there than Blaine. Blaine's right place is in the White House. Every good Republican ought to vote for him; those who bolt and boast of their bolting are practically voting for the Democratic candidate. But despite them and *The Times* he will be elected and give us an Administration that the country will be proud of."

EX-SENATOR PLATT'S OBSERVATIONS.

THE PARTY UNITED EVERYWHERE AND SUCCESS ASSURED.

Ex-Senator T. C. Platt, who was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, went afterward for a short visit to Iowa City, and returned home yesterday. To a *Tribune* reporter last evening he said:

"I found on my arrival here a large accumulation of letters from all over the State, from Republican friends, and a large percentage from the rural districts. There was only one expression running through them, which was that the party is united, that the canvass will be enthusiastic and the results will be satisfactory. I have no doubt that in every agricultural district in the State Blaine will poll a larger vote than any other man that could have been nominated. Here in New-York City I find a growing sentiment among business men, which seems also to be prevalent throughout the country, that the election of Blaine and another season of good crops combined will do more to restore confidence and bring about reaction in business affairs than any other two agencies. They are beginning to understand that Blaine's election will boom business and commerce to such an extent that next year will be one of the best for money-making for a decade or more.

"On the other hand, the election of a Democratic President and the consequent change of Administration would have the contrary effect of depressing trade and still further destroying confidence. In connection with this it is worthy of notice that the two men who are now pressed in New-York by the Democrats for the Presidency are mere novices in public affairs or statecraft and three years ago were wholly unknown. Cleveland had been Sheriff of Erie County. He was taken up as candidate for Mayor after three other men had declined. He was elected by fortuitous circumstances. Then he was pushed forward as candidate for Governor by Western politicians who made the strong points for him that he was unknown and available. He was elected Governor, not on his own merits, but because circumstances forced him into the place. It would be difficult to say what he has done that would recommend him to any thinking man as a candidate for President. What is true to Cleveland is true to a much greater extent of Flower, who has never demonstrated any statesmanship beyond a term in Congress, which he succeeded in securing against William W. Astor. To think of two such men being the leading candidates of a great party for its Presidential nomination is ridiculous."

INDEPENDENT INCONSISTENCY.

THE REV. DR. ARMITAGE SAYS THE BOLTERS ARE IN HONOR BOUND TO SUPPORT THE TICKET.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Armitage, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, yesterday expressed himself strongly in favor of the Republican Presidential ticket.

"I do not understand," said he, "how those Independents who were delegates to the convention can withhold their support of the ticket. Had they announced in the convention that they were dissatisfied with the nomination, and withdrawn; had they announced their purpose then to nominate an opposition ticket, their action would be consistent. But the nomination of Mr. Blaine was made unanimous. The platform of the convention was assented to. No opposition was made to the nomination of General Logan, and his nomination was made unanimous. Now, I regard these gentlemen who are objecting as honorable men. They were elected by the people of their respective districts to represent them at the convention. They gave no dissenting voices in the unanimous vote. They did not ask to have placed on record their objections to the ticket. It seems to me they are bound as honorable men to support that ticket. I do not see how they can do anything else.

"Mr. Blaine's nomination was such a development of the real wish of the people of the Republican party as, it seems to me, has rarely taken place in the convention of any party. When Mr. Beecher, who is a good and earnest Republican, says he intends to stand by the Republican flag and not by Mr. Blaine, I say I don't understand how he can do it. I wish he would tell me—not that I want to vote against Mr. Blaine, however.

"I am a pretty good Republican. I never bolted the ticket but once, and then I voted for Mr. Greeley. I was an Edmunds man. I think I would rather have voted for him, but I am very well pleased with the ticket as it is, and I am quite satisfied that it can be elected. I don't like to see so many good Republicans as these seem to be hesitating, as if they did not know what course to take. I would like to give them such a plain, good and kindly talk as Horace Greeley used to. THE TRIBUNE has done a great deal to nominate Mr. Blaine, and its conduct has been all through the canvass fair and manly. I hope it will not be hasty now. The Independents should remember that in voting for a candidate who is opposed to Mr. Blaine they are putting themselves outside of the party. They ought to remember they are in honor bound to support the ticket."

A TALK WITH JOHN W. FOSTER.

John W. Foster, Minister to Spain, who has been in this country for several weeks, in conference with the State Department, will sail to-day on his return to his post. Mr. Foster is an Indianan. When asked by a TRIBUNE reporter, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening, for his opinion of the political situation, he replied:

"I can only speak specifically for Indiana. In a general way, I am confident of the success of the Republican party. Indiana has been a Blaine State for years. The Indiana delegates to the Convention of 1880 were favorable to Mr. Blaine's nomination. The strong Republican sentiment of the State in the recent contest was favorable to Mr. Blaine, so that the ticket ought to be and is a strong one for Indiana. Mr. Blaine has the enthusiastic support of the working members of the party in the State."

"What is your impression as to the Democratic nominees?"

"What I have learned at Washington inclines me to the belief that the ticket will be Cleveland and McDonald. But news at Washington is largely colored by the particular clique of politicians with whom one comes in contact. The Indiana Democrats think McDonald may secure the first place on the ticket. If he would consent to take the second place his nomination would greatly strengthen the Democratic ticket in Indiana, where he is highly regarded for his personal character and political consistency."

"Has your mission to this country been accomplished?"

"In a measure. I was called home to consult with the State Department about the commercial relations between the United States and Cuba. I shall return with instructions to make a strong effort with the Spanish Government to put our relations with Cuba on a better footing. Whether that will be done by a new reciprocity treaty or by the improvement of commerce on the present basis of intercourse is a matter to be determined by events."

"What about the purchase of Cuba?"

"It can be said once for all that Spain will not consider the subject of selling Cuba for any price whatever. All stories of that kind are without the slightest foundation of fact. Nor has the present Administration, so far as I know, ever considered the question of the purchase of Cuba. My own view about the matter is that we should seek intimate trade and commerce with Cuba, but not the political responsibility of its government."

A FREE-TRADER AGAINST BLAINE.

Edward Atkinson, of Boston, the free-trade advocate, was seen by a TRIBUNE reporter on Thursday evening at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. In answer to inquiries he said:

"I have no time either for politics or the tariff discussion. Free trade is coming fast enough. In Massachusetts we are engaged in organizing the Independent movement."

"What will be the extent of it?"

"We shall control the State by the balance of power."

"What will be the course of the movement as regard candidates?"

"We shall, of course, oppose Mr. Blaine. Whether we nominate another candidate will depend upon whom the Democrats select. If they are wise, there will be no need of a third candidate. The Independent movement is growing and will spread all over the country."

SHARP WORDS FOR THE REFORMERS.

Ex-Governor and ex-Congressman J. M. Ashley, of Ohio, was in the throng in Broadway Thursday morning, when a TRIBUNE reporter drew him out on the steps of *The Evening Post* Building to inquire:

"Well, what do you think of it?"

"Blaine is a good man, and a strong one, too. I served with him in Congress and know him well. He is a straight-out, square man. If I was a Republican I would take off my coat and go in to do all I could for him. It is the Independents that may make trouble. If I was in Blaine's place I would do as Butler does in Massachusetts—show 'em up. I would hunt up every mean and dirty thing they ever did and every scandalous letter they ever wrote and publish them to the world. Every man who signed his name to the call against me should receive special attention."

"You don't seem to think much of reformers?"

"Oh, I know them well. Why, look at them at Chicago—ready to strike hands with every vagabond in the convention—ready to do anything and everything, only so that might win the day. When anybody else secures a majority of a convention they call it the machine. When they get a majority by despicable trading and scheming, they call it a triumph of the best element of their party.

THE TRIBUNE FRESH AIR FUND.

THE SAVINGS FOR A YEAR.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: We are very glad to send you a little money for the Fresh Air Fund. We have each saved one cent every day for a year for that purpose, and we hope the amount, $10 95, will help to make some other little children as happy as we have been in saving it.

AGNES, HENRIETTA AND ELEANOR WILLIAMS.

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 12, 1884.

THE WAY TWO CHILDREN HELP.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Inclosed please find P. O. order of $3, the savings in pennies of my two little girls, ages four and six. It is but a small offering, but hope it will do some little good. Very respectfully,

MRS. GRAHAM MACFARLANE.

Charleston, W. Va., June 10, 1884.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Previously acknowledged	$2,812 59
Part of the proceeds from the fair of the Hiawatha Club, April 22, 1884	300 00
Proceeds of a fair held by four little girls, Edith and Elsie Lefferts, Jennie Faile and Sadie Crane	105 00
German Evangelical Sunday-school, Brooklyn, N. Y.	25 00
Insurance Clerk	25 00
William Barclay Parsons	20 00
By mail to THE TRIBUNE'S uptown office	20 00
Donated at a Union Service in the Congregational Church, Woodbury, N. J., June 8	15 72
One cent saved each day by Agnes, Henrietta and Eleanor Williams	10 95
Children's Sewing Circle of the Prospect Hill Reformed Church, Eighty-fifth-st., through O. H. Walser	10 00
Mrs. S. I.	10 00
Agnes	5 00
Edward W. Beach, Brick Church, N. J.	3 00
Savings of two little girls, through Mrs. Graham Macfarlane, for Alice and Helen, Charleston, W. Va.	3 00
Julian Ingersoll and Phillip Chamberlain	2 00
H. B.	2 00
Earnings of three little girls, Anna L. Waugh, Eva Mozer and Mary Garber, Greenville, Penn.	1 00
Total, June 13, 1884	$3,370 26

THE PORK SCANDAL INCREASING.

WHEAT STRONGER—DULNESS IN THE MARKETS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CHICAGO, June 13.—The latest scandal around the provision pit is increasing in proportions, as the scandals in this crowd usually do when they leak out. It is now believed that the same objection which was made and sustained against the 4,000 barrels of pork made by the Fowlers and recently tendered on contracts will be made to every barrel of pork manufactured by this concern. As the Fowlers have been sellers of pork and have been making it industriously both at their Kansas City and Chicago houses, it is thought by those who are well informed that they must have 20,000, perhaps 30,000, barrels of stuff all made in this way with the flanks improperly cut and more or less "doctored." All of this pork is likely to be pronounced "irregular" by the Board of Trade. The practical removal of this brand from the market by the action of the Inspection Committee has had a good deal to do with the recent advance in pork during the past two or three days.

"Stronger," said one trader on the edge of the wheat pit to another, who was edging his way into it.

"Yes," was the reply, "and it looks as if it was going a good deal higher, too."

July wheat at that moment was selling at 88⅛ cents, ¾ above the opening. Corn was ½ cent higher and going at 55¾ for July. The cables were higher, and the feeling about the grain pits was almost unanimous that the selling had been overdone. July pork was steady at $19 85, July lard uncertain at $8 12½.

"Not much business doing in the provision pit, is there?" was asked of a scalper.

"No," was the answer, "nor in any other pit. The crowds are dull. Roach has been 'bulling' wheat this morning, but the market shows no elasticity."

The grain receipts for the past twenty-four hours were wheat 70 cars, corn 293 cars, oats 162 cars. The regular close at 2 o'clock was 88⅛ cents for July wheat, 56 for July corn, $19 70 for July pork, and $8 12½ for lard.

SOME MORE INFORMATION ABOUT IT.

To the Editor of The New-York Evening Post.

SIR: Please count me with those who oppose the "magnetic-energetic-tattooed-statesman."

CHARLES W. HASSLER.

Englewood, N. J., June 9.

[Mr. Hassler has twice been the nominee of the Republican party in Bergen County for State Senator, and his energetic canvasses are well remembered there.—Ed. Evening Post.]

[Mr. Hassler was twice defeated in the county by 600 majority; and twice failed in business, and was arrested by dissatisfied creditors.]

BLAINE AND GARFIELD.

John Euhn in The Nashville American (Dem.)

Mr. Blaine is a true representative of modern America. His position on every question which has agitated the public mind of America during the last quarter of a century is well known and understood. There will be no necessity in telling the people who Blaine is or what he thinks on any question. Whatever may be thought of his nomination, it is sure and certain that he was the almost unanimous choice of his party in all those States which furnish Republican electors, and the opposition to him from New-York and Massachusetts seems to come from Democratic districts of those States exclusively. The slanderous reports, throwing a cloud over his fame and reputation, have been long ago discounted. In the face of them and after a thorough investigation of the charges the Legislature of his own State elected him unanimously, Republicans and Democrats all joining, to the United States Senate, and subsequently Mr. Garfield called him to the Premiership in his Cabinet. It is idle, considering these two highly significant verdicts, to attempt a refutation of the slanderous reports. The opinion of those who, when Guiteau's shot buried Garfield into Blaine's arms, thought that the direction of that fall indicated the succession, found its climax in Chicago, where, say what you will, the large majority of Republicans of the country spoke out the name of James G. Blaine in unmistakable sounds.

A HEARTLESS STORY.

From The Philadelphia Press.

"In Washington they offer a queer explanation of Carl Schurz's opposition to John A. Logan. It seems that both Schurz and Logan were members of a select stag party at the house of a prominent Senator one evening, and that during the informal entertainment provided, somebody knowing Schurz's accomplishments as a pianist, asked him to favor the company with some music. Schurz, who is never backward in contributing to the enjoyment of others, complied, and seating himself at the piano, wandered off into the intricate movement of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. He had lost himself in the weird, delicious harmonies of the work, and was revelling in sympathetic communion with the spirit of the great master, when, an interlude occurring, Logan broke in: 'Say, Schurz, suppose you quit practicing and play something. How does 'Grandfather's Clock' strike you?' From that day to this Schurz has followed Logan with all the vengeful tenacity of a man whose heart feels the weight of a great wrong."

WHY MR. BLAINE IS POPULAR.

From The New-York Sun (Dem.)

The people like Blaine partly because he is a hearty, cordial, unaffected, agreeable man. Nobody can be in his society for half an hour without being entertained and impressed. He is vivid, genial, and unaffected. The inner soul of Blaine is his intense Americanism. He is American through and through, bone fibre, and finger nails. He always flies the American flag, and the American eagle perches on his shoulder. To the hereditary antagonist, foe, and rival of the United States, to England, his flag is never lowered, not even in ceremony.

BLAINE OF MAINE.

Blaine and Logan!
Sound the slogan,
Let it ring from shore to shore;
Battle greets us,
Vict'ry meets us
Marching to the White House!

Bear our standard
In the vanguard,
Hear our war cry,
Shout it loud!
Shout it proudly!
Echo sounds the glad refrain.

Let us rally,
Forward sally,
Think not that we fight in vain:
Soon will rapture
Mark the capture
Of the foe by Blaine of Maine.

W. B. BENJAMIN.

THE PATENT RIGHTS TREATY

REJECTED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE.

SOME OF THE OBJECTIONS RAISED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs has decided to report adversely upon the treaty for the protection of industrial property which was submitted to its consideration some time ago. The treaty in full, and some of the correspondence which had passed between the State Department, its agent in Europe and the French Minister at Washington were published in THE TRIBUNE of April 25. Last week the representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Spain, France, Guatemala, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Salvador, Servia and Switzerland formally signed the treaty at Paris. England, it was stated in the cable dispatches, was expected to join the union shortly. In the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs the opinion of the Commissioner of Patents, who opposed the Treaty, prevailed. He objected to it on the ground that it was evidently drawn by men not conversant with the patent system of this country. The American system is the most liberal in the world, and he doubted whether the treaty would have given to citizens of other nations any valuable privileges with regard to patents in this country which they did not already possess by virtue of the present laws in the United States. The European system, upon which the treaty is based, he considered as at variance with that obtaining in this country. In many European countries, for instance, no examination is made as to novelty, and no means are provided for determining priority. Both points form the distinctive features of the American system. Practically applied, therefore, a citizen of the United States would under the provisions of the treaty have had to await the slow process of examination into novelty, and, in case of conflict, the long delay of interference, while nothing would have debarred the Belgian, Brazilian or Spanish from the exclusive rights afforded by a patent. The Commissioner considered the ratification of the treaty disastrous, and following his judgment the committee decided to report adversely upon it.

Yesterday the Senate in executive session ratified the treaty for the protection of trade-marks between the United States and Denmark, and also the action of the Paris Convention of March last for the protection of the submarine cables.

IMPROVING THE POSTAL SERVICE.

THE HOUSE AGREES TO SOME OF THE INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY THE SENATE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The House to-day, by a vote of 115 to 52, overruled the recommendation of the Democratic conferees on the Post Office appropriation bill, and agreed to the Senate amendment increasing from $3,600,000 to $4,000,000 the appropriation for the free delivery service. Mr. Townshend, of Illinois, who had charge of the conference report, fought stubbornly and besought the House to stand by the committee in its parsimonious action. He received the assistance of Mr. Holman and several other Democratic "economists" of the same type, but Mr. Horr, who led the opposition, was supported by Messrs. Potter and Cox, of New-York, both of whom made effective speeches, and by several other Democrats. The Republicans voted solidly to accept the Senate amendment, and forty or fifty Democrats voted with them. Mr. Horr made a forcible and cogent argument in favor of agreeing to the Senate amendments, which add $1,000,000 to the item for railway transportation and strike out the clauses in the original bill which reduce by 5 per cent the compensation to railways for carrying the mails, and provide that no landgrant railroad shall receive more than 50 per cent of the compensation paid to other railroads for like services. The amendments were resisted by the Democrats under the lead of Townshend and Holman, and Mr. Horr's motion to concur was rejected.

No action was taken to-day on the Senate amendments which appropriate $185,000 for special fast mail service, and increase from $4,000,000 to $4,300,000 the appropriation for the pay of railway post office clerks. Those amendments will be considered to-morrow.

MR. SPRINGER'S COMMITTEE.

TESTIMONY OF RICHARD T. MERRICK—A LETTER FROM EX-SENATOR SPENCER.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—Richard T. Merrick of the Government counsel in the Star Route prosecutions testified before Mr. Springer's Committee to-day. He said the condition of the public mind was such that the mere mention of a man's name was sufficient to make him an object of suspicion. The Dorsey case was selected for trial because the evidence was sufficient. The value of Walsh's testimony was that it showed Brady's connection with the case. Walsh would not agree to testify in the Dorsey-Brady case until Merrick promised that he should be treated fairly, and he asserted that Colonel Bliss had influenced the Grand Jury in behalf of Kellogg. After the witness had told how the jury convicted Miner and Rerdell, and disagreed as to Dorsey and Brady, he added that the jury was a remarkably intelligent one. "They had more brains than virtue," said Mr. Van Alstyne. "You can draw you own conclusion" replied the witness. The second jury was the worst the witness ever saw. He said the object in having Rerdell testify was to affect this jury, and to obtain the fact contained in certain letters from Dorsey to Mr. Bosler, one of which was said to have been written by Rerdill and signed by Dorsey. Bosler was subpœnaed, but relieved at the request of a person whom the witness refused to name.

Mr. Merrick testified that he was not allowed to look at Mr. Bosler's books because they contained an account of political assessments. Colonel Bliss, he said, was allowed to look at them. The witness said that he received $37,000 or $38,000 for his services which ended in March of this year. He was not allowed anything for expenses.

Mr. Springer to-day received a letter from ex-Senator Spencer in which the latter wrote: "I see by the papers that S. W. Dorsey has written you a letter in which, among other things, he says that I demanded that he should pay $12,000 to Mr. Elkins, and that for it I would see that he was granted immunity in the Star Route trials. I pronounce this statement of Mr. Dorsey's absolutely false in every particular. I never made such a demand of him, and never had such a conversation with him or any other person on the subject. My testimony can be had at any time you desire."

NO INTEREST IN THE HEWITT TARIFF BILL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The Ways and Means Committee considered the Hewitt tariff bill today, but took no action. Chairman Morrison thinks that the "administrative sections" of the bill will be reported to the House next week if a quorum of the committee can be obtained to authorize such action. The Democratic members of the committee have lost interests in its proceedings since the defeat of the Morrison bill, and they seem to care little or nothing about removing the difficulties in the way of a more thorough and efficient administration of the present tariff laws. The vacancy in the Ways and Means Committee, caused by the retirement of Major McKinley, has not yet been filled, owing, it is said, to the Speaker hesitating to choose between Mr. Reed, of Maine, and General Browne, of Indiana, either of whom is admirably qualified for the place.

REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN-BUILT SHIPS.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The House Committee on Commerce to-day agreed to report favorably the bill introduced by Representative Adams, of New-York, to authorize the registration of certain steamships as vessels of the United States. The bill provides that all vessels owned or hereafter owned by the American Express Steamship Company shall be entitled to registry as vessels of the United States, whether built in this country or elsewhere, upon compliance with the registration laws. It is provided, however, that no vessel of foreign construction built or purchased by the company shall be entitled to registry unless it has a speed of at least eighteen knots an hour, 7,000 nominal horse-power, and costs $1,250,000 or more; nor until it has been inspected by a United States naval officer and certified to as being a first-class steamship for passenger traffic between the United States and Great Britain. No vessel is to be registered under this act until the company shall have applied for the registry of at least five vessels having the qualifications heretofore mentioned. It is further provided that the United States shall have the right at any time to purchase any of the vessels of the company at cost or at a fair valuation to be determined by arbitration.

A favorable report was also directed on the bill of Representative Hewitt, of New-York, to require the testing of chains and anchors before they are sold or transferred for the use of any vessel. An adverse report was directed on the bill introduced by Representative Ray, of New-York, to regulate and fix the tax on hops, the weight of hop baling and a standard weight of bales of hops.

DELAY IN FILLING A VACANCY.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The vacancy which has existed in the office of Solicitor of the Treasury since the death of Judge Raynor on March 5 has seriously affected the business of that office. The law provides that the bonds of disbursing clerks, collectors of internal revenue, etc., shall be approved by the Solicitor before these officers can enter on the discharge of their official duties. At present there are several cases of this class pending in the Solicitor's office, including five collectors of internal revenue and the disbursing clerk of the Post-office Department appointed to succeed Colonel Burnside. It is understood that the President finds considerable difficulty in filling this office, owing to the fact that the appointment would only last a few months.

VISITS TO CHINESE OFFICIALS.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—Rear Admiral John Lee Davis, commanding the Asiatic Squadron, reports to the Navy Department under date of Hong Kong, May 6, that the Enterprise arrived at Canton on April 17, with John Russell Young, the United States Minister to China, on board. The next day Mr. Young and Admiral Davis called upon Viceroy Chang, and were cordially received and entertained. The following day the visit was returned on board the Enterprise. During his visit the crew was exercised and a torpedo exploded. The Enterprise arrived at Hong Kong on May 1, and the Trenton, with the Corean Embassy on board, arrived the same day. The Minister, Min Yong Ik, was profuse in his compliments to the captain and officers of the Trenton for their kindness to him. The Trenton was to leave for Corea, via Nagasaki, about May 10, and to report at Chefoo on June 10 for duty. After the ceremonies attending the landing of the Corean Embassy, the Juniata was to proceed to Shanghai, and the Alert was to be sent to Corea. The Corean Government again gave its consent for the vessels of the squadron to survey on that coast, requesting to be supplied with copies of the charts made. The Alert will continue the work begun by the Juniata.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—Medical Director John M. Brown, in charge of the Naval Museum of Hygiene, and Surgeon J. R. Tryon, of the Naval Examining Board, have been ordered to attend the International Health Exhibition at London, the International Medical Congress at Copenhagen in August, and the International Sanitary Congress at The Hague. Surgeon J. S. Knight has been ordered before the Retiring Board for examination for retirement; Lieutenant D. G. McRitchie has been detached from the Speedwell and placed on the retired list.

The Pinta arrived at San Diego yesterday. The Alliance passed the Capes this morning bound for New-York. The Tallapoosa arrived at Boston from Portsmouth.

THE ELECTORAL COUNT BILL.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—In the House to-day Mr. Pryor, of Alabama, concluded his speech on the Electoral Count bill. He argued that, under the Constitution, the House and Senate in joint convention had ample jurisdiction to determine any question involved in the counting of the votes for President. The speech attracted much attention.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Friday, June 13, 1884.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF ALABAMA CLAIMS.—The Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims to-day appointed H. Conquest Clark a Special Commissioner to take testimony in London, Liverpool and Antwerp in cases now pending in that Court. He will sail from New-York on July 5.

THE COLLECTION OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE STATISTICS.—The House Committee on the Judiciary to-day instructed Representative Poland to report favorably a bill directing the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department to collect statistics relating to marriage and divorce in the several States, Territories, and the District of Columbia. Representative Broadhead was authorized to report a bill to prohibit the processes issuing out of United States Courts from being executed by State officials.

PROPOSED GRANT TO CALIFORNIA.—The House Public Lands Committee to-day agreed to report favorably Representative Henley's bill requiring the General Government to pay to the State of California for school purposes 5 per cent of the net proceeds of all public lands sold within her boundaries since the State's admission. The total amount of the proposed payment is estimated at $1,000,000.

A DISHONEST MAIL CARRIER.—A telegram received at the Post Office Department from the postmaster at Wilmington States that the facts point strongly to the conclusion that the mail carrier on the Magnolia route, who reported that he had been robbed by highwaymen on Monday last, stole the mail himself and concocted the story to avert suspicion.

THE SENATE WITHOUT A QUORUM.—In the Senate today Mr. Brown, of Georgia, asked unanimous consent to take up the bill to pay the State of Georgia $35,555 for certain moneys expended in 1777. After some debate Mr. Ingalls moved to recommit the bill. It was then discovered that a quorum was not present and the Senate adjourned.

MODEL OF THE BARTHOLDI STATUE.—On motion of Mr. Hewitt, of New-York, a concurrent resolution was adopted by the House to-day authorizing the temporary exhibition in the capital of a model of the pedestal of the Bartholdi statue.

EXPORTS OF BREADSTUFFS.—The value of the exports of domestic breadstuffs during May was $11,902,0444 as against $111,686,551 in May, 1883. The value of the exports for the eleven months ended May 31 was $144,952,162 as against $191,425,554 for the corresponding period in 1882-'83.

DIVIDEND DECLARED.—The Controller of the Currency has declared a dividend of 20 per cent in favor of the creditors of the First National Bank, of Monmouth, Ill., on proved claims amounting to $191,000.

THE PONCA AND MODOC INDIANS.—Inspector Benedict of the Interior Department reports that the Ponca Indians are well pleased with their new home in the Indian Territory. The Modocs are also said to be in a flourishing condition.

PROPOSITION TO ABOLISH THE COAST SURVEY BUREAU.—The sub-committee of the House Appropriations Committee, which has the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill in charge, has under consideration a proposition to abolish the coast and geodetic survey as a separate service, and to transfer the hydrographic work of the survey to the control of the Navy Department, and consolidate the geodetic work with the geological survey under the control of the Interior Department.

THE CONSULAR AND PENSION BILLS.—In the House today the Senate amendments to the Consular and Pension bills were non-concurred in.

A CAUCUS ON THE MEXICAN PENSION BILL.—A caucus of Republican Senators was held this morning upon the Mexican Pension bill, at which barely a quorum was present. After a discussion of an hour's duration, the subject was referred to a caucus committee to formulate a course of action.

COLOR IN THE SIGNAL SERVICE.

REJECTION OF A NEGRO APPLICANT.

GENERAL HAZEN'S VIEWS NOT APPROVED BY SECRETARY LINCOLN.

About the middle of April, W. Hallett Greene, colored, was a member of the senior class of the College of the City of New-York, about to graduate. He is a pleasant and intelligent looking young man, about the average height, neatly dressed, and easy in conversation. Looking about for an occupation, he addressed a letter according to a printed form, to General Hazen, Chief of the Signal Corps, U. S. A. requesting enlistment in the service. As he was only nineteen years of age he forwarded the attested consent of his parents to his enlistment. In return he received certain printed documents in the nature of Civil Service examination papers; and, having answered the questions and solved the problems, and made oath as to individuality, he returned the papers to Washington. As he had not been informed of rejection for deficiency, physical or mental, he thought his acceptance sure until he received a communication from General Hazen, under date of May 8, saying:

SIR: I have taken time to very carefully consider your application for enlistment. The legislation so far enacted by Congress provides for the enlistment of men of color only in two regiments of infantry and two of cavalry. Bills have at various times been proposed in Congress to do away with this distinction in the regiments and corps of the Army, and to make mixed enlistments for them in accordance with the plan followed in the Navy, but these bills have not passed, and I regard this as an expression of the public policy of the National Legislature, which I am not at liberty to violate, and, having come to this conclusion, I feel obliged to dismiss the case without further action.

Your obedient servant,
W. B. HAZEN.

Brigadier and Brevet-Major General,
Chief Signal Officer, U. S. A.

The student appealed to the President of his college, and, taking the letter to General Alexander S. Webb, handed it over with the remark, "Mr. President, see how they serve me." In his official capacity as president of the college, General Webb immediately referred the letter from the Chief of the Signal Corps to the Secretary of War, with indorsement as follows:

This young man is the first colored student who has ever passed beyond the sophomore class of this college. He is the first colored graduate and is, by election, the secretary of his class composed of some of the finest young men of this city. I think I can recall the enlistment of colored cadets, and judge, therefore, that General Hazen is in error in his interpretation of the action of Members of Congress in regard to private soldiers enlisted in the colored regiments. The young man appeals to me to protect him against such a decision by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army.

ALEXANDER S. WEBB, LL. D.,
President,
The College of the City of New-York.

On June 4 Secretary Lincoln replied:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your reference of a copy of a letter addressed by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army to William Hallett Greene, who had applied to be enlisted in the Signal Corps—the Chief Signal Officer having denied his application on account of his being a colored man. I beg to advise you that I have referred your indorsement to the Chief Signal Officer with an indorsement, a copy of which is inclosed. If Mr. Greene will again apply to the Chief Signal Officer in compliance with the regulations as to the enlisting of men for duty in the Signal Corps of the Army the action of the Chief Signal Officer will be in accordance with the instructions inclosed.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your obedient servant,
ROBERT T. LINCOLN,
Secretary of War.

The "indorsement" of the Secretary of War was forwarded to General Hazen on June 4, and reads:

Respectfully referred to the Chief Signal Officer.

The Secretary of War cannot concur in the views of the Chief Signal Officer as to what is the public policy of Congress in relation to persons of color being enlisted or otherwise employed in the public service.

Just after the close of the war of the Rebellion in reorganization of the Army Congress declared affirmatively that all the enlisted men of a specified number of regiments of cavalry and infantry should be colored. Since that time no legislation has been necessary. Colored men have been Senators and Representatives in Congress, and have occupied many high official stations of an executive character under the National Government. No distinction is thought of in admitting or instructing them as cadets at the Military Academy, or in making them officers of the Army after they have graduated. No distinction is made in appointing them as clerks in this Department or in other Departments, and none should be made in admitting them to the Signal Corps in any capacity which they are qualified to fill. General Webb has been advised of these views and action should be taken accordingly.

ROBERT T. LINCOLN,
Secretary of War.

General Webb said last evening:

In every respect young Greene was fitted and worthy the place he sought. In his class he was respected and could hardly have been elected secretary had it not been recognized that he was manly, truthful and straightforward. This is not the time to make any such distinctions as here attempted, and I think that Secretary Lincoln decidedly took a proper view of the matter, and did credit to the Administration by the promptness with which he met and settled the question. Men are apt to take different views of matters; in this case the difference was an important one, and its settlement will do much good.

The young man has renewed his application.

ALL DUE TO CIGARETTES.

YOUNG LINCOLN'S ABSENCE EXPLAINED.

WHAT HIS FATHER SAYS—MISS MONTFORT NOT CAST DOWN—RETURN OF MISS HALL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

GLEN COVE, L. I., June 13.—Miss Ida Z. Montfort, the beauty of this charming little town, is still disconsolate. Her recreant swain, Elwood D. Lincoln, who was to become her husband on Wednesday afternoon, is still beyond the reach of her charms, and the long, maple-bordered lanes, reaching out on every side of the village, where Ida and Elwood not long ago wandered in the sweet carelessness of young love, look forlorn and even sad at their loss. Ida is disconsolate; but that is all. When she first recovered from the shock of being forsaken, she—so to speak—went on eating bread and butter. She has been in delicate health for some time, but to-day her disappointment seems to have acted like a tonic, for she was plucking daisies when a TRIBUNE reporter saw her, and on her cheeks was the full rich color characteristic of healthy country girls. Elwood, had he seen her to-day, would have regretted his sudden departure.

But there is a sad explanation of Elwood's exit from the presence of his bride, and it is an explanation that leaves no stain on his honor. He is pronounced to be suffering from mental derangement by his father, Mr. Lincoln, the proprietor of *The Glen Cove Gazette*. About two years ago Elwood went to Denver, Col., where he was employed for a short time to his complete satisfaction. While there he contracted the habit of smoking cigarettes and became so much addicted to it that he could not break himself of it. At frequent intervals within the past fifteen months he has acted strangely, and on two occasions the elder Mr. Lincoln became so alarmed at his son's condition that he resolved to send him to a reformatory. In the early part of 1883 Mr. Lincoln informed the Rev. Dr. Williamson and Mr. Montfort, the father of the young man's sweetheart, about his son's condition and they expressed their deepest sympathy. Within the last six months Elwood became convinced that every person in the little town was interesting himself in his affairs, and he told his father that he must seek a new place to make his livelihood. On May 22 he went to Washington and obtained a position as a compositor in the Government Printing Office, but so erratic had he become that he left Washington after two days' work and returned here. He brought with him a delusion that he had been commissioned by Perry Belmont to buy his father's newspaper, and also an opposition sheet called *The Echo*, for the purpose of consolidating the two into an independent newspaper. He had hardly broached this topic to his father when he remembered that he had left his overcoat and umbrella in Washington, and he took the next train to that city to get them.

It was at this time that he sent out invitations to his wedding, inviting persons with whom he was only slightly acquainted and neglecting his nearest friends. Upon his return from Washington he appeared cheerful, and then told his father for the first time that he intended to marry Miss Montfort. He also told him that he had a large amount of money in checks, with which he intended to buy *The Echo*. On last Monday morning he left his father's printing-office hurriedly, saying he was going to New-York to make the final arrangements for the purchase. He returned that night, after calling on an entire stranger in New-York and demanding $500, and offering his name as the only security. On Tuesday morning he again left Glen Cove with not over $10 in his purse, and since then he has not been heard from. Mr. Lincoln offered a