OFFICESEEKERSGETTHERE

A NEW SCHEME TO CIRCUMVENT THE RULES ON CABINET DAY.

Gen. Woodford and Congressman Wilson Have Rival Candidates for Internal Revenue Collector of Brooklyn—Robert J. Wright Wishes to Succeed Collector Kilbreth of New York.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—President McKinley's political bargain counter is being rapidly depleted and the struggle for the few remaining gifts at his disposal is becoming desperate. Although to-day was Cabinet day, and under the rules the President's office was only open to Senators and Representatives from 10 to 11 o'clock, more than a hundred persons crowded in upon the President and insisted upon presenting their personal claims. The cunning officeseekers know how to circumvent the rules and regulations relative to official callers, and to-day their newly devised scheme worked like a charm. Several of the regulars, whose faces are familiar to the White House employees because of their frequent appearance at the President's door, induced friendly Congressmen to convey them into the sacred precincts, and thus they reached the President, in spite of the frown upon the colored doorkeeper's face and the look of dismay that spread over the countenance of Secretary Porter as the veteran place hunter marched triumphantly across the room under the protecting wing of a Senator or Representative.

Senator Pritchard of North Carolina seems to be an easy mark for the "unattached brigade." Being the only Republican Senator from the South, he is importuned by the Republicans not only from his own State, but by those from South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama. They hang around the White House daily until Mr. Pritchard appears, and then they pounce down upon him and prevail upon him to conduct them to the President, claiming that they are political outcasts, and thus work upon his sympathies. Certain Senators and Representatives have carried this style of imposition upon the President so far that personal introduction to the President by Congressmen are of but little practical value, except in rare instances.

Among the earliest callers upon the President this morning was Gen. Stewart L. Woodford of Brooklyn, accompanied by T. H. Roberts, Chairman of the Kings County Republican Committee. The President had not entered his office when the Brooklyn leader made his appearance. He was invited to take a seat in the ante-room, which at that early hour was rapidly filling up with visitors. In a few minutes Representative Francis C. Wilson of Brooklyn joined the throng in the waiting room. There was not a sign of recognition exchanged between Gen. Woodford and Mr. Wilson, although both of them were seeking to advise the President relative to the selection of a Collector of Internal Revenue for the Brooklyn district. Gen. Woodford's friends insist that it was the opposition of Representative Wilson which kept the General out of McKinley's Cabinet, for it is said that Mr. Wilson reminded Mr. McKinley after he reached Washington that Gen. Woodford, while District Attorney under a previous Republican Administration, had been censured by the late Judge Blatchford for inattention to his official duties. Under these circumstances it is easily understood that Gen. Woodford has a candidate for the Collectorship, while Representative Wilson is urging another man. Gen. Woodford is pressing the claims of Francis M. Craft, and Mr. Wilson recommends the appointment of F. R. Moore. Representative Fischer of Brooklyn also has a candidate who has the indorsement of the regular organization, including Senator Platt. Mr. Fischer's candidate is Robert Sharkey. The term of the Democratic incumbent has expired, and the President is being urged to fill the vacancy without further delay.

After seeing the President, Gen. Woodford declined to discuss the object of his visit and laughingly replied to an inquiry on the subject that he is going to Japan next month at his own expense. It has been rumored that Gen. Woodford desires to be appointed Minister to Japan. That post is supposed to be at the disposal of Col. Buck of Georgia, and his appointment is being withheld until he can assist the Administration in straightening out some of the political tangles in the Cracker State.

Representative Wilson was more communicative. He says the President informed him that he will not dispose of the Brooklyn Collectorship for several weeks to come. He added that if he was disposed to make a guess he would venture the prediction that the President is not going to discriminate between the various factions in New York in making Federal appointments. It is the desire of the President to recognize all factions as far as he can, but his principal aim is to unite the Republican party, and have the various State delegations agree upon the best men for the places to be filled.

Representative Fischer's candidate, Robert A. Sharkey, has won the contest and will receive the appointment.

Following the Brooklyn delegation came Senator Burrows of Michigan with ex-Senator Thomas W. Palmer, the jolly President of the World's Fair and ex-Minister to Spain under the Harrison Administration. As usual, Mr. Palmer was bubbling over with good humor, and his visit, which was of a purely personal character, was an agreeable change from the solemn calls of the office seekers. Then Senator Foraker, with several Ohio constituents who desire Post Office appointments, bluffed Secretary Porter into a belief that he was the President. The Senator said he was particularly interested in having an old personal friend, W. M. Horr of Ohio, provided with a Postmastership.

Senator Elkins, with several West Virginia friends, had a few words with the President in behalf of N. B. Scott, who wants to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Senator Elkins took occasion to tell the President that the town of Huntington, in West Virginia, just across the Ohio River, at a recent election went Republican. This, he said, was an additional reason why the State of West Virginia should have the Internal Revenue Commissionership. As he was leaving the White House Senator Elkins said it was all fixed that Scott shall be appointed. On the stairs he met Secretary Bliss and held him up long enough to have a brief but confidential chat.

Col. Buck of Georgia, the coming Minister to Japan, who is considered the political dictator among Republicans in that State, was freely admitted to have a few words with the President and present B. E. Peterson and W. L. Massey, aspirants for office. As the time was drawing near for the meeting of the Cabinet, Col. Buck was requested to come to the White House to-morrow evening to discuss the political situation in Georgia. It is expected that several appointments will be decided upon at that time, for there are two vacancies in the judicial branch of the service.

Ex-Representative Cheatham of North Carolina, who wants to be appointed Register of the Treasury, called to introduce three of his colored brethern and indorsers, James H. Young, R. A. Lane, and Nathan Ruffin. The North Carolina delegation was the last admitted, for it was then 11 o'clock, and the members of the Cabinet were awaiting the President in the Cabinet room. As the tarheel visitors were admitted a vigorous protest went up from two colored men, who have been at the White House every day during the present week, but up to date they have not been able to get a private talk with the President. One is Erastus Cisco and the other is George Washington Willis. They claim to be constituents of the President and voters in his Congress district. They were formerly employed in the Washington Navy Yard, but recently were dismissed. They feel that if they can get a word with the President they will be instantly restored to duty.

"How does dey git in?" exclaimed Erastus Cisco, addressing Arthur Simmons, the colored doorkeeper, as the North Carolina party passed into Secretary Porter's room. Erastus was indignant, for he felt that he was discriminated against, and he was mad enough to fight his dusky brother Simmons. He was finally told that Mr. Cheatham is an ex-member of Congress and therefore entitled to admission on Cabinet day.

Later in the day Erastus was singled out for a mark of distinction from the President. It was during the public reception in the East Room after Cabinet meeting. There were about 500 men, women, and children present to pay their respects to the President. There was the old veteran, covered with G. A. R. badges; the old lady with her "God bless you, Mr. President," and the enthusiastic woman who announced loud enough to be heard all over the room: "I could not vote for you, but I went to the convention and shouted for you." Then there was the "giddy girl," who was so confused that she attempted to shake hands with handsome Lieut. Gilmore of the army, instead of the President. In this mixed assemblage was Erastus. As he took the President's hand the President said: "Glad to see you, Erastus. Just wait outside the door." Erastus was so excited he bumped into several of the policemen, and finally turned around and walked back into the East Room and stood close behind the President. Immediately the police ordered him to move on, and they were about to shove him through the door when the President quickly turned and said:

"I wish to see that man. Let him wait for me in the corridor."

After the reception was over Erastus had a satisfactory interview with the President, and he was the envy of a number of less fortunate colored brethren.

After the Cabinet meeting the President saw a few callers by special appointment. Conspicuous among them was Robert J. Wright, who wishes to succeed Mr. Kilbreth as Collector of the Port of New York. Mr. Wright met Secretary Bliss by appointment, and by him was presented to the President. Accompanying Mr. Wright was Henry C. Robinson of New York city, well known in business circles. He says Mr. Wright is indorsed by many of the leading bankers and commercial men of New York, and adds that his appointment will be acceptable to all factions. Before making such an important appointment the President will consult Senator Platt, who takes an interest in the appointment. Col. Kilbreth's time does not expire until Oct. 23, and there is no demand for his removal. The subject of the New York appointments will not be taken up for some time.

Representative White, the only colored member of the present Congress, called by special appointment this afternoon and had a long talk with the President relative to certain political matters in North Carolina. Mr. White has been more modest than some of his North Carolina colleagues, who are daily visitors at the White House, and it is said that he will be consulted about appointments in his district in recognition of the able speech he made in support of the Tariff bill in the House last Wednesday.

Adjt.-Gen. Ruggles had a long consultation with the President relative to the army promotions to follow the retirement of Major-Gen. Ruger. Senator Spooner and Senator Proctor also had appointments to talk with the President after the Cabinet meeting.

SECRETARY GAGE CALLS A HALT.

He Will No Longer Allow Office Seekers to Interfere with the Public Business.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Secretary Gage has struck against the importunities of office seekers. For the short period he has been in office little opportunity has been given him to attend to office business. His room has been crowded early and late with people who want offices and those who have friends who are candidates. This morning the Secretary had no opportunity to look into the affairs of the department before going to the Cabinet meeting. This afternoon he took the bit in his teeth and issued this order:

"Hereafter the Secretary will receive visitors only between the hours of 10 and 1 o'clock on days other than Cabinet days. On Cabinet days visitors will be received from 9 until 10:30. No visitors will be received at other hours except on urgent official business."

Another former employee of the Treasury Department, discharged under the last Administration, was reinstated to-day by Secretary Gage. He is D. W. Harrington of New York, who was dismissed from the service after serving twenty-eight years. Mr. Harrington gets his old place of Chief of the Accounts Division, and the incumbent, F. D. McDowell, who succeeded him, is transferred to the architect's office as an assistant chief of division. The reinstatement of Mr. Harrington is in conformity with the policy of Secretary Gage with reference to veterans of the late war who were dropped from the rolls of the Treasury Department.

SENATORS WANT THIS PLACE.

Effort to Remove the Office of Supervising Architect from the Classified Service.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—An effort to remove the office of Supervising Architect of the Treasury from the classified service was begun to-day by Senators Platt of New York, Proctor of Vermont, and Quay and Penrose of Pennsylvania. They had a conference on the subject with Secretary GAGE. The Senators represented that the place is one of too much importance to be subject to the civil service rules, particularly as the duties involve the expenditure of several million dollars annually. All the Senators have candidates for a successor to Supervising Architect Aiken.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

Secretary Gage to Make Rules to Carry Out Part of the Retroactive Section.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Treasury Department thought it would strike a snag in attempting to carry out part of the retroactive feature of the new Tariff bill. Under the last clause of the retroactive section it is made the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to prescribe and enforce suitable regulations to carry out the provisions of the entire section, including the retention in bonded warehouses, or any other place where imported goods are deposited, of samples of such goods until required for evidence on any trial. Chairman Dingley had a talk with Secretary Gage about the matter this morning, and that they had found a way out of the difficulty was shown by the following statement given out later in the day:

"Of course, this provision is not yet a law, but, unless action is taken to retain samples, it will be difficult for the department, in cases where it is necessary to have samples of the goods to determine the rate of duty, to successfully maintain its position that the importation was subject to the rates applicable under the so-called Dingley bill. Section 349 of the Revised Statutes provides that 'the Secretary of the Treasury shall direct the superintendence of the collection of the duties on imports and tonnage as he shall judge best.' If a regulation is issued providing for the retention of samples upon imports on and after April 1, the regulation must be made under this statute, for obviously no action can be taken by the Treasury Department under the bill which passed the House until it has also passed the Senate and received the approval of the President."

Secretary Gage decided this afternoon to draft regulations at once, requiring the retention of samples, and they may be promulgated to-morrow. The sample clause applies only to duties assessed ad valorem, and the department is confronted by complications and embarrassments in attempting to carry it out. For instance, furniture is assessed ad valorem by the Dingley bill, and though way to retain a sample of a piece of furniture is by keeping the whole thing. This may interfere in some cases with the carrying out of contracts calling for the delivery of goods at specified times.

HIGH EXPLOSIVES IN MODERN GUNS.

Experiments to Be Made with a Shell Carrying 300 Pounds of Gun Cotton.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Experiments are soon to be made at the Indian Head proving station to determine to what extent high explosives in non-armor piercing shells can be fired from modern rifles. Some weeks ago the navy experimented with a shell carrying 200 pounds of gun cotton, fired from a specially constructed twelve-inch gun, but the results came near proving disastrous to the piece on account of the thinness of the walls of the shell. They were then not over a quarter of an inch thick, and the shock to the projectile, by the tremendous momentum given by the powder charge, caused one of them to collapse in the rifle and a terrible explosion was narrowly averted. Two or three other shells were fired at heavy armor with some success, but the work was altogether too dangerous and uncertain to be repeated, and the tests were abandoned until improvements were made in the method of constructing the projectile. Capt. Sampson is having projectiles made with double the wall thickness, and when ready for testing they will be capable of carrying, he says, 300 pounds of gun cotton any distance, without danger of premature explosion or injury to the gun.

The forthcoming trials will be most complete, and are to be conducted out of an appropriation of $50,000 made by the last Congress to settle the question whether gun cotton can be fired in projectiles from navy guns. The ordnance men are of the opinion that if such a shell is constructed aerial torpedoes will supplant automobile torpedoes in effectiveness, and that the torpedo boat will no longer be needed. The trials will be conducted in secret and witnessed only by the officers of the Ordnance Bureau. No foreign naval or army attaches will be permitted to be present, as the trials are regarded as of so much consequence that it is not proposed to let the failure or success get abroad.

WARSHIP FOR HONOLULU.

The Philadelphia, Admiral Beardslee's Flagship, Ordered to Hawaii.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The flagship Philadelphia will leave San Diego, Cal., in a few days for Honolulu. Secretary Long says there is no extraordinary occasion which requires the Philadelphia's presence in Hawaii, but the importance of the post warrants a visit from time to time by a first-class vessel with an officer of high rank, and Admiral Beardslee has therefore been directed to go there. He will relieve the Marion, which arrived there March 19, and either send that vessel home or on such a cruise as he may deem advisable. It has been at least eighteen months since the Philadelphia or any large American national vessel has spent any time at the islands, although such ships as the Adams, Marion and Alert have been almost continuously present for several years. The instructions to Admiral Beardslee were mailed last week while his ship was at sea returning from Central America, and in them full discretion was given him as to his movements and as to his orders to the other ships of his squadron. It is intended at the Navy Department that the battle ship Oregon, now on her way to Puget Sound to be docked for the first time since she was built, will go out to Hawaii for a practice cruise next month to relieve the Philadelphia.

REPUBLICANS TO HUSTLE.

BARELY TIME TO PREPARE FOR ELECTION IN JERSEY CITY.

Leaders Disconcerted by the Decision of the Supreme Court Declaring That the New Election Law Is Unconstitutional—Will Mayor Wanser Attempt to Hold Over?

Jersey City Republicans are all at sea. The decision of the New Jersey Supreme Court declaring the law abolishing spring elections unconstitutional has disconcerted them sadly. They have held no primaries nor made any nominations, and, under the law, they have barely time to do either now. Certificates of nomination must be filed with the City Clerk on Monday next before 4 o'clock, or the candidates will not be entitled to official ballots, and consequently cannot be voted for on election day.

The Republican leaders held several conferences yesterday. Some of the hot-headed partisans urged that the election be allowed to go by default, and that the present city officials retain their offices by force until the Court of Errors passes upon the decision of the Supreme Court.

The Republican Campaign Committee held a meeting last night in the Union League Club house and decided to hold primaries to-night and a convention to nominate candidates at 9 A. M. on Monday. Mayor Wanser will not accept a renomination. A number of citizens met yesterday afternoon and nominated Judge James S. Erwin for Mayor. Judge Erwin will decide to-day whether he will accept or not.

It was reported last night that Mayor Wanser will retain his office until the Court of Errors and Appeals reviews the decision of the Supreme Court. The Democratic leaders say that if the Mayor attempts anything of that kind he will find himself in trouble. Charles L. Corbin, who argued the case before the Supreme Court for the Republicans, said yesterday:

"It is doubtful whether the case could be reviewed by the Court of Errors and Appeals after election. The mandamus asked for was that the City Clerk should print the ballots before April 13, and the Court could not in June either order or prevent such printing in April. It would be like reviewing the death sentence after the man had been hanged. The opinion rendered by the Supreme Court binds the present office holders."

The Democrats are fully prepared for the coming election, having made all their nominations in the belief that the law would be declared unconstitutional.

In Newark, also, the calculations of the Republican politicians have been upset by the decision of the Supreme Court. The Democrats nominated a full ticket last night. The City Clerk said yesterday that there was not time to prepare for an election on April 13, and that the registration could not be completed in the many new districts recently made by the Common Council.

It is asserted that, in the event of no election being held, Mayor Seymour may appoint two Democrats as Street and Water Commissioners to succeed Van Duyne and Burkhardt, Republicans. The Republican County Committee appointed a committee of five last night to confer with a similar committee from the Democratic County Committee with a view to getting out of the dilemma.

ORDERED TO THE ARMY SCHOOL.

Sixteen Married and Twenty-five Single Officers Are Directed to Report There.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Col. Hawkins, commander of the Leavenworth Army School, has reported to the War Department that the accommodations at that post are sufficient for sixteen married officers and twenty-four single men. Accordingly the authorities will order that number of married and single officers to report for instructions as the next class. The officers selected are as follows:

Cavalry—First Lieut. George W. Goode of the First Regiment, Second Lieut. M. G. Smith of the Second, Second Lieut. L. G. Andrews of the Third, Second Lieut. S. M. Rutherford of the Fourth, Second Lieut. J. R. Cusack of the Fifth, Second Lieut. C. C. Barnhart of the Sixth, Second Lieut. T. M. Corcoran of the Seventh, First Lieut. W. F. Flynn of the Eighth, Second Lieut. E. F. Hartwick of the Ninth, and Second Lieut. F. E. Barton of the Tenth.

Infantry—Second Lieut. A. H. Martan of the First Regiment, Second Lieut. J. T. Moore of the Third, Second Lieut. William Brooke of the Fourth, First Lieut. W. F. Martin of the Fifth, First Lieut. E. F. Taggart of the Sixth, First Lieut. J. S. Griard of the Seventh, Second Lieut. F. L. Knudson of the Eighth, Second Lieut. T. W. Darrah of the Ninth, First Lieut. R. L. Bullard of the Tenth, First Lieut. C. P. Russ of the Eleventh, First Lieut. C. C. Ballou of the Twelfth, Second Lieut. J. H. Parker of the Thirteenth, Second Lieut. H. T. Dorsey of the Fourteenth, First Lieut. S. E. Smiley of the Fifteenth, Second Lieuts. G. G. Palmer and L. S. Sorley of the Sixteenth, Second Lieut. D. M. Michie of the Seventeenth, Second Lieut. J. G. Ord of the Eighteenth, Second Lieut. James Ronayne of the Nineteenth, Second Lieuts. G. H. Estes, W. H. H. Chapman, A. D. Niskern, U. G. Worthington, and M. F. Smith of the Twentieth; Second Lieut. F. H. Lawton of the Twenty-first, Second Lieut. Harry Clement of the Twenty-second, Second Lieut. H. G. Cole of the Twenty-third, and Second Lieut. G. H. McMaster of the Twenty-fourth.

GEN. RUGER'S RETIREMENT.

Gen. Wheaton is Promoted Over Gen. Brooke, but Will Retire on May 8.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The army changes resulting from Major-Gen. Ruger's retirement today have been arranged, and, according to the slate, Gen. Wheaton, who is to-day promoted past Gen. Brooke, who ranks him, will make another vacancy by retiring May 8, when Gen. Brooke will receive his deferred promotion to Major-General. The conditions are similar in all respects to those of about two years ago, when Gen. McCook, commanding, was ordered to retire does now, the Department of the Columbia, was promoted to Major-General in November, 1894, over Gen. Wesley Merritt, who ranked him, and then retired the following April, when Gen. Merritt was promoted to reach the maximum rank. Gen. McCook at that time, retained his headquarters at Denver, although entitled to move to Chicago, and Gen. Wheaton, for his short stay on the active list, will pursue the same course. Gen. Brooke will relieve Gen. Merritt at Chicago and Gen. Merritt will retire his right, after his promotion in May. Gen. Merritt goes to New York to command the most important geographical division of the United States.

Gen. Wheaton has been eligible for retirement at his request, under the sixty-two years of age law, since May, 1895, or, under the forty-year service law, since March 3 of the same year, but he has preferred to hold on until now to reach the highest grade.

Gen. Ruger left his headquarters on Governor's Island yesterday afternoon. He will probably live in this city. Major-Gen. Wesley Merritt, who will succeed to the command of the Department of the East, is expected to arrive here next week.

Failed to Get His Two Sons Into Government Schools.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Hon. Thomas B. Catron, former delegate in Congress from the Territory of New Mexico, has worked manfully to get his two sons into the Government schools, but has failed. Last summer Mr. Catron had two vacancies, one at West Point and one at Annapolis, and to make certain, as he thought, to get at least one boy in, he appointed each alternate of the other. Both went up at Annapolis and failed, and one afterward failed at West Point.

At the recent examination Mr. Catron's second boy failed, and the alternate, who was designated in case both sons failed at West Point and Annapolis, met the requirements. A number of years ago a Maryland Congressman designated his two boys, one to West Point and the other to Annapolis, and was defeated for renomination by his constituents.

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NO CHANCE FOR ROOSEVELT.

The Assistant Secretaryship of the Navy Has Not Been and Will Not Be Offered Him.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Assistant Secretaryship of the Navy has not been offered to Theodore Roosevelt, notwithstanding the widespread report to that effect. Moreover, the place will not be offered to him. It is not within his reach, and his appointment can no longer be considered as a possibility. Mr. Henry W. Raymond of Germantown, Pa., has been asked to come to Washington to-morrow for a conference with Secretary Long, and it is quite probable that the result will be his appointment to succeed Assistant Secretary McAdoo. Mr. Raymond is the son of the late Henry J. Raymond, and was the efficient and popular private secretary to Gen. Benjamin F. Tracy, Secretary of the Navy during the Harrison Administration.

Senator Platt of New York has united with the Pennsylvania Senators in urging Mr. Raymond's appointment, and he has many other influential men among his indorsers. The report that the place would be offered to Mr. Roosevelt, in spite of Senator Platt's protest, evidently grew out of the chance remark of a New York Republican at the White House this morning, to the effect that Col. Grant's declination of the Assistant Secretaryship of War made Mr. Roosevelt's pathway to the navy berth easy. But it did not. President McKinley has no intention of antagonizing Senator Platt and the members of the Republican organization in New York so sharply as Mr. Roosevelt's appointment would do. The President and Mr. Platt have had a full and frank conference about party matters in New York State, and the President has given the assurance that the Senator shall be consulted on the subject of Federal appointments in the Empire State. Mr. Platt has not only not recommended Mr. Roosevelt's appointment, but he has protested against it, and the President and Secretary Long have no idea of ignoring that protest. Mr. Roosevelt's appointment, moreover, would make it necessary to revoke the decision of the President to appoint Col. Archie Baxter Third Assistant Secretary of State, as a member of the Cabinet and two assistant Cabinet offices, in addition to two first-class foreign missions, could not well be given to New York. Col. Grant's declination is, of course, regarded as final, and well-informed Republicans here are inclined to believe that another place will not be offered him.

TROUBLES OF A CONGRESSMAN.

Confusion as to the Identity of Gen. G. Spalding and Gen. O. L. Spaulding of Michigan.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—There is one man in Washington who is not altogether happy over the appointment of Gen. Oliver L. Spaulding of St. Johns, Mich., to his old place of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, although he recommended it. This somewhat unhappy person is Gen. George Spalding of Monroe, Mich., a member of the present House of Representatives. Ever since the 4th of March the glad hand has been given Gen. Spalding twenty times a day by those who were eager to congratulate him on his coming appointment, in order that they might at the same time register an application for a job, and he has been compelled to hire an extra clerk to reply to letters from friends all over the country. It required some ingenuity to accept the congratulations and at the same time explain that they were not deserved, and now that Gen. O. L. Spaulding of Michigan has actually been appointed, Gen. George Spalding of Michigan is being punished worse than ever and has advertised for another clerk to assist him in his correspondence. The Congressman had the same trouble last summer. Gen. O. L. Spaulding was a delegate to the National Convention and the friends of the various Presidential candidates almost nagged the life out of Gen. George Spalding, under the mistaken notion that he was the man they were after. Gen. O. L. Spaulding will assume the duties of his new office in a day or two and Gen. George Spalding will go to Michigan to avoid being mistaken for the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. Nothing known yet, however, as to the state of mind in which the new Assistant Secretary of the Treasury finds himself in being mistaken for a Congressman. He undoubtedly has his troubles, also.

STATE DEPARTMENT CIPHER CODE

It Is Not Used in Telegraphic Correspondence with Gen. Lee at Havana.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—A report in circulation that Spanish officials have discovered the key to the State Department cipher code, enabling them to become familiar with all telegraphic messages between Consul-General Lee and the department, is divested of any importance by the well-known fact that Gen Lee's telegraphic correspondence with the State Department is sent in plain English, and there is no occasion to use the code. Some time ago a resort to secret messages was necessary in a few instances, but, as is well known, to those familiar with codes, it is utterly impossible for any one having deciphered a portion of one message to apply that information to another of later date. The State Department cipher is used to save tolls to such distant points as Pekin, China, or Lima, Peru, and for important despatches to diplomatic officers abroad, but the character of its numerous communications with its representative in Havana makes the use of the code almost wholly superfluous.

"Stag" Party at the White House.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The President entertained a "stag" party to-night at the White House. Those present were the Vice-President, the Speaker of the House, the Attorney-General, Senators Burrows, Gear, and Mills, former members of the Committee on Ways and Means; Representatives Dingley, Payne, Dalzell, Hopkins, Grosvenor, Russell (Conn.), Dolliver, Steele, Johnson (N. D.), Evans, Tawney, Bailey, McMillin, Wheeler (Ala.), McLaurin, Robertson (La.), and Swanson, present members of the Committee on Ways and Means; the Hon. Mr. Cannon, the Hon. Mr. Henderson, and the Hon. William A. Russell of Massachusetts.

88 Fourth-Class Postmasters Appointed.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General to-day made the first appointments of fourth-class Postmasters. His predecessor, Mr. Maxwell, did not appoint any one for the last month, which left Mr. Bristow about 2,500 places to fill, caused by deaths and resignations. 40-day thirty-eight were appointed, and out of this number four were removed.

Naval Orders.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—In the naval orders to-day Rear Admiral Francis M. Ramsay was ordered from the Bureau of Navigation as chief of the retired list, April 5; Lieutenant Commander W. J. Barnette, to the Coast Survey; Passed Assistant Paymaster F. T. Arms from League Island, April 15, to be ready for sea duty; Lieut. G. T. Emmons from the Michigan, on leave, and Assistant Surgeon D. H. Morgan from the New York Naval Laboratory, April 6, to the Naval Academy.

PATRONAGE FOR BELDEN?

HE WON'T BE HAPPY TILL HE GETS IT—HASN'T GOT IT YET.

Thinks President McKinley Will Yet Convince Senator Platt That the Congressman Ought to Have the Say, in Onondaga and Madison, if He Did Run on a Free-Silver Platform.

Republicans all over the State have been eager to learn if Representative James J. Belden of Syracuse is to control the Federal patronage of his Congress district, which is made up of the counties of Onondaga and Madison. Republicans in Syracuse, like Francis Hendricks and ex-Senator Frank Hiscock, who have been factionally opposed to Mr. Belden, have been especially interested. Mr. Hiscock has made one or two visits to Washington and Mr. Hendricks stopped in Washington the other day on his way from a tour in the South. The Republicans who have been opposed to Mr. Belden in his Congress district say that they do not believe Mr. Belden is entitled to recognition at the hands of a Republican President, on the ground that he ran for Congress last fall against Theodore L. Poole on the Bryan free-silver platform. Major Poole was the candidate of the regular Republican organization for re-election. Mr. Belden defeated him by 5,370 plurality. McKinley carried the Congress district by 15,345 plurality.

Representative Belden's friends say that he ran as an independent Republican. The Hendricks-Hiscock people say that he was the avowed candidate of the Bryan free-silver people, and that his chief worker was Mayor McGuire of Syracuse, one of the stoutest of Bryan advocates at the Buffalo Democratic State Convention, which indorsed the Chicago National platform.

President McKinley and Senator Platt, it was learned last night, have talked over the question whether the Federal patronage of the Congress district should be handed over to Representative Belden, and President McKinley has not reached a decision. The rule of Republican national administrations is to hand the Federal patronage over to the Congressmen, and Mr. Belden's campaign against Major Poole has developed a problem which President McKinley will not solve for some little time.

Representative Belden arrived from Washington last night and was at the Hotel Manhattan. He said he would remain in New York until Monday.

"I have attended all of the caucuses of the New York delegation in Congress," he said. "The boys have all been very kind to me, from Mr. Odell down. I signed to-day the petition of Major Poole to be Deputy Commissioner of Pensions. I did this at the request of Representative Southwick of Albany, and I was very glad to do it. Senator Platt has also been very kind and courteous to me, and I am inclined to think that eventually President McKinley will convince Senator Platt that I ought to have the Federal patronage of my district. No decision has been reached concerning the matter, but I am inclined to expect a favorable one pretty soon."

Representative Belden then said that he was as good a Republican as any in the State, and that his factional adversaries in Onondaga and Madison counties were well aware of that fact, and that during his career in Congress he had always voted for Republican measures. Some of his factional adversaries in his Congress district had tried to crowd him into the earth, and, although he was a peaceable man, those opposed to him had gone too far, and it was necessary to teach them a lesson.

The Federal patronage of Onondaga and Madison counties is important. The Post Offices, an internal revenue collectorship, and a number of other Federal offices are included.

BRITISH SUBJECT'S COMPLAINT.

He Didn't Like the Treatment He Received in the Jail in Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The District Commissioners to-day sent a letter to Mr. Calderon Carlisle, attorney for the British Embassy, in regard to the complaints of Frank Walson or Weston, who is confined in the District jail. Walson sent a letter to the British Ambassador, in which he said he had been singled out for unjust treatment at the jail because he was an English subject. He complained that he had been shackled and chained by the leg, which treatment was unusual, and that he was kept in this condition for several days. In accordance with the policy of England the claims of Walson were considered, the matter being turned over to Mr. Carlisle, attorney for the embassy.

Mr. Carlisle wrote to the Commissioners, and they had the statements of Walson investigated. They informed Mr. Carlisle to-day that Walson had been convicted in connection with one Brady, not an English subject, for a case of aggravated assault. The two had received a workhouse and jail sentence amounting to one year. At the expiration of their workhouse sentence they were sent to jail, and, as is usual in such cases, they were both shackled for a while. They were sentenced for the same terms, were shackled, and were released at the same time, and in all other respects their treatment was precisely similar. The Commissioners added that there is no distinction in the treatment of prisoners at the jail on account either of race or color.

Gorman's Brother-in-Law Reduced to a Clerkship.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Stephen Gambrill, brother-in-law of Senator Gorman and chief of the Division of Requisitions and Accounts of the War Department, was to-day reduced to a small clerkship in that division, and Charles B. Tanner, an old soldier, who formerly held the office, but had been removed several years ago, was reappointed.

R. J. Whitton, formerly Assistant Secretary Doe's private secretary and recently chief of the War Department Supply Division, was promoted to-day, and Martin R. Thorp, who had formerly held the place but had been reduced to a clerkship, was promoted to the vacancy.

Organizing a Royal Arcanum Outing Club.

A meeting of the delegates of the various councils of the Royal Arcanum for the purpose of forming the Royal Arcanum Outing Club was held last night at 153 Pierrepont street, Brooklyn. The meeting, which was the third held for the purpose, resulted in the incorporation of the club, and the articles were signed by fifty of the delegates present. The object of the club, Temporary Secretary Teale stated, was for the purpose of organizing sports, to build a club house this summer along the Bay Ridge shore, and later on to establish a city club house. The initiation fee will be $10, each member to receive a bond, which will be repaid exactly one year from the date. The privilege it was decided to limit to the first 400 members only. A letter was afterward read from Grand Regent James A. Riordon, in which he approved of the undertaking. William A. Arnold was elected temporary Treasurer, and a committee of five was appointed to select a site for both club houses. The following were elected as the Board of Trustees: Foster L. Backus, Dr. W. A. Griffiths, Arthur C. S. Solmon, John A. Quintard, E. L. Hayner, L. J. Cunningham, John H. Magill, Evan Griffiths, William Green, and John A. Healey. It was decided by the delegates present that if the committee could not secure the site at the foot of Seventieth street, Bay Ridge, a lease of the Atlantic Yacht Club house at the foot of Forty-sixth street should be taken as soon as the latter vacates the place. The election of officers of the club will take place on Saturday evening, April 17.

For Cross-Country Honors.

After a lapse of several years long-distance athletes will have another opportunity this afternoon to try for premier honors across country. The race will take place over the regulation steeplechase course at Morris Park, but in a few instances the fence will be modified so as to preclude the possibility of any serious accident. The event has a double significance, as both team and individual honors hinge on the result.

When the Knickerbocker A. C. applied for permission to hold the individual championship, devotees of cross-country running began to take strong gallops, and the climax of enthusiasm was reached when the New York A. C. came out with an announcement to hold the team championship. As the two contests should really be embodied in the one event, the Knickerbockers cancelled their fixture and the most prominent athletic clubs decided to concentrate their energies on supporting the event scheduled by the N. Y. A. C.

The result of such healthy emulation has been an entry of eight representative teams, and the chances are that seventy or eighty runners will face the starter this afternoon. The promoting club has a formidable team and will make a bold bid for the honors. The other contending clubs have also organized strong teams, and it should be a race from start to finish.

Long Island Trap Shooting.

Five members of the Crescens Gun Club of Brooklyn took part in the regular monthly live bird shoot of the organization, which was held at Dexter Park on Thursday, resulting in a victory for E. H. Latimer, a new member of the club, with the only clean score. Summary:

Regular monthly club shoot at seven live birds, for yearly prize and monthly cash prize, 28 yards rise. E. H. Latimer, 7; James Dykeman, 6; Lewis C. Hopkins, 5; Walter Gilman, 5, withdrew on sixth round; George Livingston, 5, withdrew on sixth round.

Henry J. Bookman carried off the honors on Thursday afternoon in the regular monthly live bird shoot of the Evergreen Rod and Gun Club, which was held at Cypress Hills. The scores:

Regular monthly club shoot, seven live birds per man, all 28 yards rise, for a diamond badge. Henry J. Bookman, 7; George Weidner, 6; Joseph Ranzer, 5; Henry Winkel, 5; Adam Beyer, 4; Stephen Atkinson, 4; Archibald Andrews,