

REMEMBERING THE MAINE

CHOATE DEPRECATES LEAVING THE HULK WHERE IT SANK.

Have It Up, Says Sulzer, Who Has Been Unable to Get His Bill to Raise It Out of Committee—Spanish War Veterans Working for the Monument Fund.

Nobody had to be told to remember the Maine yesterday afternoon at the memorial meeting which the Spanish War veterans held at Carnegie Hall. The meeting was in commemoration of the sinking of the battleship in Havana harbor two years ago last Tuesday and was attended by some hundreds of men who fought in the war that followed. On the platform near Admiral Sigsbee and Chaplain John P. Chidwick were a dozen or so of the sailor men who lived through the wreck. Some of them are in the navy yet. Yesterday they had to face the Carnegie Hall audience and were dreadfully ill at ease about it.

The specific purpose of the meeting was the erection of an adequate monument to the men who died in the Maine. Congressman William Sulzer made a speech on his bill which is now pending in Washington for the removal of the hulk from Havana harbor. A resolution asking Congress to get to work was passed in a roar of eyes.

Joseph H. Choate was the chairman of the meeting. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles sat near him on the platform. When the audience caught sight of Gen. Sickles as he first came in a buzz went over the hall which speedily broke into a volley of handclapping and then into cheers. Later when Mr. Choate referred to "a man who left a leg at Gettysburg," the applause started up again.

Mr. Choate spoke of the destruction of the Maine as one of the great events of American history. "It made war inevitable and irresistible," he said. "Those who were killed deserve to be placed side by side with the heroes who died on the field of battle."

"I was sadly impressed," he went on, "a year ago when I saw the battered hulk in the harbor of Havana, telling in silent horror the story of the disaster of the fifteenth of February twelve years ago, and I could not help thinking that it was by no means creditable to ourselves or to our Government to leave it lying there."

He spoke of the important place which our navy holds to-day in the maintenance of the world's peace. "Two years ago," he said, "I was at the Hague in conference with representatives of all the nations of the world. I felt then and I feel now that the navy gave force to the words which we were empowered to utter in behalf of peace and arbitration."

"The Panama Canal is the latest great triumph of American diplomacy, American brains and American energy, and when it is finished the navy's work will be doubled. And when in the course of human events, in the next generation, but some time, the United States is recognized by the nations as the leader of them all, then the work of the navy will be quadrupled."

Father Chidwick, whom Mr. Choate spoke of as the man who "did such noble service in helping the injured and soothing the dying," told over again the story of the destruction of the battleship. He carried the story through from the night in the middle of January, 1898, when a despatch boat came riding out to the Atlantic fleet, sending up red and green rockets into the night, which the men took to mean that war was coming. In two hours the Maine was sent off to Havana on an errand of peace. Father Chidwick told of the quietness of the three weeks the battleship lay in the harbor, of the rumor that she had struck of a strange nature was coming from the city.

"I wanted twenty minutes of 10 o'clock on the fifteenth day of February," he said, "when I finished the office of the day, I reached over to my book and to take down a copy of 'Facts and Fakes about Cuba.' As my hand was about to grasp it a great noise rang through the ship and the turret fired fifteen minutes after the explosion, some of us went out in a small boat to see if we couldn't pick up some of the men. We found two."

Father Chidwick said that stories published four or five days later had it that most of the Maine's complement of officers were ashore at the moment of the disaster. "I don't know," he said, "and I want you to carry it wherever you go, that only four out of all our officers were absent."

Mr. Choate's speech passed over as quickly as the breeze from the heavens that he had to do on the following days. But he spoke of Jerry Shea in the hospital, who said he'd been thinking how it was that he could not see the ship. "I'm more than a man. I'm an armor piercing shell."

And of Mrs. Sigsbee, whose good sisters took such good care of her with their cakes, lemonade and something else, that he said if he got well of his burns he'd die of gold.

Admiral Sigsbee in the audience that was the president of the Maine Monument Association; an organization formed a year ago to set up a suitable memorial to the Maine. Anybody could belong to it by paying a dollar or more and in return he would get a certificate and a Maine hatband such as the sailors have. The entire organization in Washington and the branch here are ready for the dollars now. Mr. Donald McKean, Louis Klopsch, Gen. Horace Porter and others will see that the money goes to the right place.

Congressman Sulzer spoke of the trouble he has had for eight years in getting a bill before the House for the removal of the Maine from the Havana harbor. "I have never been able to get the bill reported from the Naval Affairs Committee," he said. "But I am determined that the committee shall report my bill this time and again. He said that he couldn't understand why there had been so much delay about it. If it was because the Government is afraid of having the report of the Committee of Inquiry upheld and of leaving that an internal explosion destroyed the Maine, it is an unworthy reason."

Department Commissioner Simmons presented a resolution asking Congress to act immediately. Nobody had a no for it.

Chairman Bernhard Walk of the committee in charge of the meeting arranged for music by Mrs. Etta Burgess Nobbes contralto; Frank Malone, tenor; and W. Paris Chambers, cornet. The Rev. John Wesley Hill of the Metropolitan Temple and the Rev. Samuel Schullman of Temple Beth-El offered prayers.

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HOW GEN. GRANT GOT HURT.

Man Who Shot Him 47 Years Ago Says He Wasn't in Line of Duty.

Boston, Feb. 20.—To-day in the forty-seventh anniversary of the day that Major-Gen. Frederick D. Grant was shot, during the siege of Vicksburg—the event which has been the basis of the demand by Vice-President Sherman that Gen. Grant be enrolled as a civil war veteran.

Dr. C. A. Blake of West Brookfield has come out with evidence to show that the wound received by Gen. Grant was not in the line of military duty. The man who handled the rifle which was responsible for the wound says Dr. Blake, was the late Capt. Perry, for many years a carpenter on the State farm at Bridge-water, and that a hunter and sharpshooter of note.

At the beginning of the siege of Vicksburg Perry was stationed above the regular Union force on the Mississippi River, with orders to shoot at all persons and craft attempting to pass him without permission. The boy Grant and a companion, according to the story related to Dr. Blake by Perry, were in camp with their parents and went out on excursions, which had nothing to do with military duty and which frequently placed them in jeopardy.

On the night of February 20, 1863, so Perry's story goes, the two boys were out in a canoe, and in returning to camp passed the spot where the sharpshooter lay concealed. Perry said they did not heed his warning to stop, and after firing in the air he took aim and wounded young Grant. The next day Perry was "called on the carpet," for it had been ascertained by Gen. U. S. Grant that he was the man responsible for the shooting. What threatened to be if not a court-martial at least a severe lecture turned into dismissal from headquarters when he exhibited his orders to shoot at all who passed without heeding his warning.

Perry puts Gen. Grant on record as being moved almost to tears when he found that his son had unwittingly strayed into the trap set by the Union forces for Confederate soldiers, and the outcome of the affair was that Fred got more of a reprimand than he had been originally intended for Perry.

Dr. Blake said to-day: "I haven't the least desire to detract one iota from Gen. Grant's fame, and for that reason it would be impossible, and he is one of the biggest figures in the army to-day. But the fact remains, as nearly as I can determine with accuracy, that he was a 'veteran' and that his only part in the war was that of a boy inhabiting his father's camp. Therefore the idea to honor him for wounds received in battle has every reason to believe from Perry's account that Grant was merely a member of his father's camp and that he neither bore the title nor the uniform of a Captain."

THE JEFFERSON DAY DINNER. Politicians Interested in the Results That Will Flow From It.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—There is more than local interest in the Jefferson Day dinner to be given in Washington in April at which Gov. Harmon of Ohio, Gov. Marshall of Indiana, Mayor Gaynor of New York and other Democrats whose names have been more or less conspicuously mentioned in connection with the Presidential nomination will be present.

Before any announcement was made of the plans for the dinner the Democratic national committee management was called to learn whether it was advisable. Chairman Mack and other Democratic leaders were asked to visit the programme. The speeches at the dinner will sound a keynote for 1912, it is expected.

At the present time Gov. Harmon appears to be in most favor as a Presidential possibility. Southern Democrats in Congress as a rule are more favorable to his candidacy than are to any other yet suggested. There was much Harmon talk on the occasion of the Governor's conference in Washington in December. He made a good impression. Much will depend on the State campaign in Ohio. If Gov. Harmon is re-elected this fall his chances for the nomination will be advanced almost to a certainty, say his rosters among the Southern Democrats.

WEDDING PARTY FIGHTS COPS

UPROARIOUS MEDLEY IN VARIOUS EAST SIDE KEYS.

Deserted Wife, Looking for Her Louis in Victoria Hall, Draws the Wrath of His Friends on Her Friends and the Police—She's on the Steps Yet.

The police reserves were called out twice last night and then were called upon to guard a hall in Lexington avenue, all because Mrs. Samuel Feldman of 3 Allen street wanted to find her husband, Louis, who, she said, had deserted her in 1905. Mrs. Feldman was sure Louis was in the hall, where a wedding was going on.

The bewildered police figured it out this way: A girl, Alexander, of 322 Grand street divorced her wife, Annie Gudberg.

He got the custody of their two children, Sadie, now known as the vaudeville stage name Sadie Dancy, and a boy. Just after the divorce was granted Louis Feldman left his wife and four children and Mrs. Feldman said last night that she thought that wherever the former Mrs. Gurian was there would be her Louis.

Presently Mrs. Gurian, who was taken her two children to Canada. Gurian got trace of them again only two days ago, when Sadie wrote him that she was in business and said hello. She told him that his former wife's sister was to be married last night at Victoria Hall, 661 Lexington avenue, and that the missing Gurians were going back to Toronto after the wedding. Gurian thought it a good time to get hold of his son, and Mrs. Feldman, whom he told, thought that maybe she might see Louis.

So last night Gurian, his present wife and Mrs. Feldman went to the East Fifty-first street station and saw Lieut. Dunn. Gurian showed papers and said he wanted the protection of a policeman while he went to the hall to look for his son. Dunn sent the policeman.

When they reached the place the present Mrs. Gurian started in ahead. She emerged with her nose bleeding and said two men had struck her. The policeman went inside and came back with two brothers of the former Mrs. Gurian in tow. They were Dr. Simon Gudberg of 135 Henry street and Isaac Gudberg of 17 East 111th street. Mrs. Gurian said they were drunk and assaulted her and the policeman arrested them.

The invaders had started back toward the station house when the entire wedding party poured down the stairs of the hall to the street. Everybody talked at once. The proprietor of the hall sent a telephone call to Capt. Lantry and the reserves were sent up to rescue the policeman and his prisoners. The wedding party became more and more excited. A crowd of 2,000 persons gathered.

Finally Capt. Lantry arrived and ordered the police to clear the streets. Mrs. Feldman came rushing out then and said that her husband was still inside the hall and she wanted him. Four policemen searched, but Louis Feldman could not be found. The policeman arrested them.

The wedding party followed the prisoners down to the station house and there they packed the street and began to shout. Nathan Brodsky of 72nd street, one of the party, was arrested for disorderly conduct, but his friends yelled the louder. Capt. Lantry again ordered out the reserves and had them shove the wedding party out of East Fifty-first street into Third avenue.

Two additional policemen were sent back to the hall to help the four there to guard Mrs. Feldman from harm, while she looked for Louis, who she was positive was inside in the dark.

At midnight Mrs. Feldman came out of the hall and the crowd from steps. She announced that she would remain there until Louis came out. The six policemen also took comfortable positions. A crowd stood around the messengers, waiting to happen to Louis when he appeared.

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Lackawanna Railroad

THE ROAD OF ANTHRACITE

EDITORIAL IN THE NEW YORK SUN, JANUARY 9, 1910.

A summary of the activities of the Lackawanna Railroad during the period of ten years just ended shows that while the road has transported in that time 193,787,224 passengers, with a total passenger train mileage of 45,340,908 miles, not one passenger has been killed as the result of a train accident. If this statement is accurate—and we haven't the slightest reason

FIGHT OVER PILOT CHARTS

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE MAY CONTINUE TO GET THEM OUT.

Cap. Miss McGonigle, Who Says He's an Imprejudiced Man, Said to Chairman Tawney That These Weather Bureau People "Are a Lot of Lash Lubbers."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Willis Moore, who is chief of the Weather Bureau and the vital spark of the National Geographic Society, has been making a gallant fight to induce the House Appropriations Committee to turn down the Hydrographic Office of the Navy Department and authorize the Weather Bureau to get out the Government's monthly pilot charts.

The committee, which has been bombarded with letters from weather prognosticators all over the country favoring the proposition and with petitions from marine insurance companies in New York and elsewhere against it, has been something of a quandy, but has promised to announce its decision this week.

It is believed, although no member of the committee will admit the fact, that the Hydrographic Office will continue to get out the charts, but that in order to soothe the feelings of Mr. Moore and his subordinates the charts will bear an inscription to the effect that the meteorological information they contain is supplied by the Weather Bureau.

Capt. Miss McGonigle, who made his first voyage around the Horn as a cabin boy when he was 14 years old, and who later worked his way up to the command of deep-sea freighters, called on Chairman Tawney of the Appropriations Committee at the Shoreham Hotel to-day to protest against the Weather Bureau getting out the pilot charts.

Capt. Miss McGonigle is now retired and lives in Norfolk, but he made the trip up the Potomac several days ago for the particular purpose of objecting.

"Don't you do what that man Moore wants, Mr. Tawney," said the captain. "Let sailormen get out the charts for the use of sailormen. Those Weather Bureau people are a lot of lubbers. They don't know a forepeak from a mizen hatch. They couldn't lay a sixteen foot yawl alongside of a feather bed in a dead calm. I'm an unprejudiced man, Mr. Tawney, and I can call no names; but I'd set my own papers before I'd try to navigate on a dead reckoning worked out by those weather men."

"Maybe you don't think I know what I'm talking about. I'm an unprejudiced man, Mr. Tawney, and when I came to Washington the other day I went to see the man Moore. Mr. Moore, I say, 'I wouldn't sell a coal barge down the Delaware Canal on any chart turned out by the Weather Bureau, but I'm an unprejudiced man without any opinion and I'd like to get a little information. Where in thunderation, I say, do you get your advance information about the weather?'"

Capt. McGonigle paused and pulled out a silk handkerchief.

"And what did Mr. Moore reply?" asked Mr. Tawney with considerable interest.

"He said," answered Capt. McGonigle, drawing his chair a little closer to the Congressman, "that they got most of it at a place called Mount Weather, where there was a balloon full of barometers and thermometers that they keep up about four miles in the air and pull down every now and then to look at. I didn't believe it at first, but I guess it's true. The records that we get in this way," says Moore to me, "are exceedingly valuable to mariners. An intelligent man like you will see that."

Available by special order, says I. When

GETS 1,000 LETTERS A MONTH.

BUREAU OF MANUFACTURES HAS HELPED TO SET MILLIONS WORTH OF GOODS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—One thousand letters a month from business men of this country come to the "Foreign Opportunities" department of the bureau of manufactures, which, according to its chief, has helped to sell millions of dollars worth of goods.

"We have just received a letter from manufacturers in Ohio," the chief of the bureau told the House Appropriations Committee the other day, "thanking us for enabling them to sell sixteen carloads of their products in Russia."

Herbert Smith Says Uncle Sam Employs Poor Men in the \$840 a Year Grade.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—According to Herbert Knox Smith, the Commissioner of Corporations, the Government employs such poor men in its \$840 a year grade that they are not worth promoting. Mr. Smith made this statement to the Appropriations Committee of the House. The members of the committee were surprised. They had been laboring under the impression that a lot of good men started in on that grade and pushed their way to the higher salaried posts. Mr. Smith says this isn't so in his department.

"I want men that can be promoted," he told the committee, "and I would rather have the same amount of money spent on few positions at higher salaries."

Senator Smith Being Well.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—At the Homeopathic Hospital, where Senator William Alden Smith was operated on on Friday for appendicitis, it was said that the Senator was doing well and if no unforeseen complications arise he will recover rapidly. His temperature is normal and he sleeps well, it was said.

Congressman Slightly Improved.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Congressman James Brook Perkins, who has been under treatment at the Garfield Hospital for several days, is slightly improved, according to a statement made to-night by Dr. E. B. Davis, his physician. It was said that the Congressman is doing better than critical last Friday but that he is gaining fast now and may be out in ten days or two weeks.

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POSTAL BANK BILL MAY FAIL.

In Any Event It Will Have a Close Shave in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The situation in the Senate surrounding the postal savings bank bill is still involved. It is expected that some action will be taken to-morrow by the Senate leaders in the way of compromising differences on the Republican side by which the course of this legislation may be determined. An effort was made to have a formal conference on Saturday, but it was not successful and the matter was allowed to go over until Monday. It is expected that Senator Smoot will yield to the request of the President and ask for the reconsideration of the bill. An amendment was adopted by Senator Root's amendment, directing that postal savings funds shall be invested only in Government securities, has been abandoned.

600 POUNDS OF NEW JERSEY JAG.

It Was in Three Parts and the Reductive Appetite Caused It.

Hoboken's patrol wagon rolled up to police headquarters in that city early yesterday morning with over 600 pounds of jag which Policeman Hayes said he picked up in three sections all in a row at the Lackawanna Railroad station. They had been unloaded from an incoming train like express packages marked glass. All were of the same dimensions and the floor space of the wagon was so limited that it was necessary to place them in layers. Four policemen looked each to a cell, and none of the trio awoke until several hours later.