TAFT'S IRKSOME TASK

Inside History of the Peace Commission's Trials.

GETTING THEM TOGETHER

Liberals and Moderates All Corrupt and Vain.

OPEN ELECTION RASCALITY

Moderates Confessedly Registered 100,000 More Voters Than Were on the Island.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

HAVANA, Cuba, October 22.—The departure of the Taft mission closed another chapter in the history of Cuba. Thousands lined the water-front from Machina wharf to the Punta and far along the beautiful Malecon to wave farewell to the peace commissioners and watch the mighty battleships with their distinguished cargo start northward and disappear below the horizon.

It was an impressive and splendid picture as the Louisiana passed the captain of the port's wharf steaming at half speed. Every man was at his post, the captain, the executive officers on the bridge, the marine guard was at attention on the quarter deck, and Secretary Taft and Secretary Bacon stood with their heads uncovered as the band struck up the Cuban national air. As the last notes of the hymn died away the Cuban flag was hoisted at the main and the guns of the Louisiana in thunderous tones spoke their farewell salute of twenty-one guns. The great ship was escorted as far as the Morro by half a dozen tugs, whose passengers cheered themselves hoarse and kept the two secretaries waving their hats in response.

As the three men-of-war grew smaller and smaller across the sea the crowd on the Malecon noted their increase in speed, and soon they passed from view headed northward.

As quickly as they had gathered the crowds dispersed, and again Havana fell to smoking and chatting as though no peace commission had ever come to its shores and no revolution ever threatened its gates. The American who waved a farewell to the mission that afternoon and who did not feel moved at this combination of war and diplomacy in the interest of peace was not in evidence. The Cubans on shore did not cheer when their hymn was played; they did not even doff their hats. None of them showed real regard for the commissioners, whose patience and kindness have won them as children are won. But with the Cubans, out of sight is out of mind, and the departure of the warships this afternoon was to them but a passing show, a pleasing spectacle with which to while their time away. The significance of it all, its seriousness or its humor, so far as one could judge from appearances, was entirely lost upon Havana.

Within an hour after landing on September 19, Secretary Taft had made plain to Palma the sole purpose of the President in sending him to assist the government of Cuba in effecting a peaceable arrangement with its enemies, prevent further hostilities and save Cuba's fate before the world by continuing its government without American intervention. To this end, Secretary Taft informed Mr. Palma, when he called on him to pay his respects, that the proposed to confer with the president of the liberal party, Alfredo Zayas, and with other liberal and rebel chiefs representing the opposition. Palma readily assented to this.

From the outset Secretary Taft took the ground that he must accept the situation as he found it. The United States had taken no part in the creation of the condition of affairs which confronted the mission on its arrival, nor had it up to that time intervened. And what did Secretary Taft find? The Palma government had obtained its re-election last December by the grossest kind of political frauds, and the moderate party, although in power, represented a decreasing minority of the Cuban people. The liberals, who had assisted in the framing of an electoral law which would enable them to run the election as they pleased, had received a dose of their own medicine, lost control of the election machinery and were the victims of the political fraud with which they had planned to snow under the moderates.

The enormous prosperity in Cuba in the last year had filled the money bags of the treasury and whetted the desire of the "outs" for office. Thinking to cloak their sordid motives under the disguise of "righteous indignation" the liberals endeavored to obtain redress in the courts, but the judiciary was controlled by the executive, and the "outs" knocked in vain at the doors of these supposed bulwarks of a nation's liberty.

Here and there a liberal who had been cheated out of his election, or had caught the revolutionary fever from another province, gathered about him a small following and started a revolution against the government. Three of these outbreaks were put down and their leaders thrown into jail by the man whose ambition it was to make himself the Diaz of Cuba, Freye Andrade, at that time, secretary of government. But the thirst for office still rankled in the breast of the "outs," and finally, convinced that the courts would not help them, the leading spirits of the opposition determined the overthrow by force of the Palma government, and about the middle of August the revolution began in Pinar del Rio. At first the Palma government attempted to belittle it, but the fever spread to the various provinces, and soon, with the exception of Matanzas, every province in the island was the scene of a separate revolution, the common bond being hostility to the men in office; the common goal, the wresting of offices by fair means or foul from the moderates.

The liberals demanded new elections all around, and the reinstatement of the various alcaldes and other municipal officers removed by Andrade.

The Palma government, representing the moderate party, at first informed Secretary Taft that such a thing as new elections was out of the question, but intimated that they might be willing to discuss the expediency of passing a municipal autonomy law, of which the liberals were also desirous. Thus the opposing factions lined up with bulldog tenacity and assured Secretary Taft that their respective decisions were "irrevocable." This word, by the way, has become a favorite one in Cuba, but in the Cuban dictionary the definition of an irrevocable decision is "a decision fixed one moment, but which can and probably will be changed the next." In their position the liberals had the sympathy of the majority of the Cubans, who favored any party that promised a change, in the hope that they might profit by the change. Havana, itself, was a hotbed of liberal sympathizers, and in the cafes one could hear men openly denouncing the Palma government and expressing sympathy with the revolution. But the business men, the stable element in this island, a few of whom are Cubans, but most of whom are foreigners, denounced the revolutionists as an armed rabble, and the moderates as a gang of skillful thieves. They sided with the latter because they reasoned that the moderates stole from the government and fattened off of the offices which they held, while the revolutionists pillaged the country and constituted the greater menace.

As president of the liberal party, Zayas was naturally the first man of the opposition with whom the commissioners conferred. Zayas is an astute, clever, conscientious lawyer. He made out a strong case from a legal standpoint against the moderates, accusing them of deliberately stealing the elections of last December. He submitted proof that Andrade had dismissed forty out of eighty municipal officers, and thereby obtained control of almost all of the election machinery of the island. He showed that in their enthusiasm, the moderates, under the generalship of Andrade, had registered almost 100,000 more voters than there are in the island, and explained that the liberal candidate, convinced of the intentions of the moderates to win the elections at any cost, withdrew from the race in most instances, and the majority of the liberals declined to vote. Zayas paid a tribute to the political preparedness of Andrade, in showing that this would-be Diaz, to make the victory of the moderates doubly sure, had used the rural guard to keep liberals from the polls, and had himself been in command of a force of swift automobiles in Havana on election day, which dashed from ballot box to ballot box with bands of street sweepers and other repeaters. The result was an overwhelming victory for the moderates. "A clean sweep," said Mr. Zayas, dropping into the American vernacular. When this brief of the liberals was submitted to Secretary Taft, several days after his arrival, Havana was at the mercy of the revolutionists.

A division of the so-called "constitutional army" was within a mile of the residence of Mr. Morgan, the American minister, Quinta Hidalgo in Marianao, nine miles from Havana, where the commission had taken up their residence and had begun the conferences. There was no time to undertake such an investigation as a congressional committee would resort to under similar circumstances. Furthermore, there was some question as to whether the envoys had the right to direct such an investigation. They had come here not as arbitrators, but as mediators. They were sure in their own minds that the elections had been stolen. The reports of Minister Morgan to the State Department months before had shown this very clearly. The brief of Mr. Zayas contained charges that were backed up by evidence. Able and honest-minded Cubans, of which distressingly small minority Gen. Menocal, president of the veterans, is a representative, assured Secretary Taft that there was no doubt about the truth of the charges against the Palma government in regard to the election frauds. Americans who had no sympathy with the rebels also came forward to testify to the same effect.

But Secretary Taft is a lawyer and accustomed to investigating things very thoroughly before passing judgment. Moreover, as he and Mr. Bacon were here as peace mediators, they were not prepared to compel the moderates to consent to a new election. At this juncture, to their amazement and greatly to their relief, their course was simplified by the confession on the part of President Palma's associates and even by members of his cabinet that the elections were irregular and that the burden of the charges of Zayas on this score was true.

It was a member of President Palma's cabinet who took pains to give Secretary Taft a detailed explanation of how necessary it was to use the rural guard, and the other means which Andrade resorted to, that the moderate party might be continued in power. The election of the liberals, this cabinet minister explained, would have put an end to the prosperity of Cuba. Would have placed many negroes in office; driven foreign capital away from the island and delivered a blow at the prosperity of the people and the stability of the government from which it would have taken years to recover.

"But what about the registration of nearly 100,000 more names than there are voters in the island," asked the Secretary.

With a shrug of the shoulders and a smile as if he regarded this as the most amusing phase of the whole deal, the Secretary's informant replied, "The registration board became so enthusiastic that they did not take their work seriously. They registered those 100,000 men merely for fun."

Before suggesting a compromise, it was necessary to determine whether Senor Zayas represented the rebel chiefs. Zayas was a lawyer and president of the liberal party, but Secretary Taft wished to be sure that as such Zayas represented not only his party but the "constitutional army" as well. This was the object of the night conference in Marianao, when the various rebel chiefs were summoned before the commissioners.

Thus the final agreement was reached after a series of heart-breaking delays and necessary but irksome coddling of the childish "honor" of the men on both sides who had confessed naively to more different sorts of political rascality than it is often the misfortune of an American official to see uncovered.

VALLEY OF VIRGINIA

LATE HAPPENINGS IN THE WINCHESTER SECTION.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

WINCHESTER, Va., October 22, 1906.

A party of Union veterans from New Haven and Torrington, Conn., traveling in a private car, arrived in Winchester Friday evening from Gettysburg, Pa. The party, headed by Gen. O. R. Flyer, visited Gettysburg, Antietam, Harpers Ferry and Charleston. The visitors proceeded to Washington today and will leave for home this evening.

The funeral of Clark Henry Rhyan of Winchester occurred last Thursday afternoon. When the funeral party reached Mount Hebron cemetery, the place of interment, it was ascertained that Supt. Hamilton and his assistants had encountered a bed of solid limestone a few inches below the surface and that the grave could not be completed in less than a day. The remains were kept at the cemetery chapel over night and in the morning were lowered into the grave of solid limestone.

Rain interfered with the success of the thirty-seventh annual exhibition of the Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Society on the Winchester fair grounds from Tuesday to Friday of last week. The race track was exceedingly heavy and all races were declared off.

New Steel or Concrete Bridge.

The Berryville and Winchester Turnpike Company has opened bids for the construction of a costly steel or concrete bridge across Occoquan creek, which crosses the turnpike five miles east of this city and the same distance west of Berryville. An engineer has been engaged to make an investigation of the site and report to the company. It is the purpose of the board of directors to have the bridge completed and opened in time to make travel more convenient for the Glidden and other automobile tourists who will come by way of Washington through the Shenandoah valley to the Jamestown exposition next summer.

Dr. Daniel Janney, a physician of this section while under treatment for general debility, recently took an overdose of medicine by mistake and although he recovered from the effects of the medicine, it left him so exhausted that he died about midnight Sunday a week ago. Interment was in Mount Hebron cemetery, Winchester.

In the corporation court of Winchester last week Wesley Markell was adjudged guilty of housebreaking and sentenced to nine months in the city jail. Ernest Magalis pleaded guilty and received a similar sentence.

Announcement is made that Rev. James B. O'Reilly, formerly pastor of the Church of the Sacred Heart of Winchester and for the past fifteen years pastor of the church of the same name in Richmond, has been appointed by Bishop Van de Vyver of the diocese of Virginia, pastor of the new Sacred Heart Cathedral in Richmond.

James Hay of Madison is a candidate for re-election and he is now on a tour of the seventh district. His opponent, Dr. Fred Beecher of Albemarle county, is also active just now, and is making a thorough canvas of the district. He was nominated by the republicans.

SINFUL AMERICAN PRIDE.

Scotch Paper Preaches About Race Hatred.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

GLASGOW, October 22.—The Glasgow Herald, perhaps the most influential paper in Scotland, says of the recent race riots in the southern parts of the United States:

"The news from Georgia reads like a story of Russian barbarities. If we substitute Atlanta for Odessa and murdered negroes for tortured Jews we can draw no distinction between the tales of cruelty and horror except that the shame attaching to the misdeeds of an ignorant populace and an inflamed soldiery deepens into infamy when the actors in such outbursts of savagery are men usually described as intelligent, educated and normally humane. One can forgive a Russian bureaucrat, recalling the indignation that swept over the United States when the tragedy of Kishineff was related, looking on this picture and on this and exclaiming, "Physician, heal thyself!" Or a Cuban, jealous of recent events, inviting President Roosevelt to set his own house in order before venturing to dictate to an alien menage. Unless we are to suppose that the ancient feud between north and south regarding the negro is accountable for gross exaggeration, it is difficult to conceive of anything more rebukeful of American pride in America's civilization and enlightenment than the stories told of the outrages inflicted upon people whose chief vice appears to be that they have black skins and prognathous jaws."

HAS A PATHETIC SIDE

Conflict With the Renegade Ute Indians.

SEEKING A PLACE TO LIVE

Want to Get Away From the White Man.

UINTAH RESERVATION CUT UP

Rush of Settlers Surrounded the Reds—Declared They Would Not Endure. It.

The conflict between the renegade Ute Indians and the white settlers in northeastern Wyoming which the dispatches have recorded in the past few days has a pathetic as well as a tragic side. The Indians are seeking for a home better suited to their savage wants than the one allotted to them in Utah, and they are frank in admitting that one of their principal objections to the present place of abode is the propinquity of the white man. Their unattractive reservation comes to them as a direct result of their own misdeeds in connection with the Meeker massacre in Colorado in 1878, but they do not consider that fact in their estimate of the present situation. Forgetting their own errors, they rail against fate, the government and especially against the aggressive white settlers as responsible for all their woes. "Let us get away from the whites" is the burden of their complaint, and some of the leaders told Indian Inspector McLaughlin upon his recent visit to them that they would rather die than go back.

Have Gone 500 Miles.

There are between two and three hundred of the wandering party. They have traveled more than five hundred miles across country, and would go on indefinitely if not interfered with. They left the Uintah reservation, in Utah, where they have been located since the Meeker affair, early last summer and have gradually found their way to the extreme northeastern corner of Wyoming. When they left their homes they gave it out that they were going to visit the Sioux, and let it be understood that in case they found a more desirable home they would not return.

With more forethought than is generally shown by saveages, they drove with them seventy-five head of beef cattle to be used for meat when accasion required, and Mr. McLaughlin states that when he visited their camp about two weeks ago they had reduced the number to eight, showing that even if it be true, as reported, that they have been killing the settlers' stock they at least have no need to do so. They carried with them not only their cattle, but also their ponies, their squaws and whatever other "property" they were possessed of, showing their good faith when they promised not to return. The procession must have been an imposing one, for some of the Indians are well to do in the matter of horse flesh. Mr. McLaughlin says there were six or seven hundred ponies in the straggling column, to say nothing of dogs and other domestic animals that usually accompany an Indian band on the march.

The bucks were all well armed, but the officials of the Indian office are inclined to accept with a grain of allowance the report that they have been committing depredations on the white settlers.

The official reports are to the effect that settlements have been avoided as much as possible, and it is stated to be a fact that when ranchers have warned them away from their premises they have given them a wide berth. The leaders have, indeed, tried to make it plain that they were especially anxious to avoid trouble with the whites so as to secure immunity from interference by the authorities, if for no better reason. It would appear, however, that in this they have not been successful, and with Uncle Sam's soldiers already on the march in pursuit the very least punishment they can expect is a summary return to their Utah homes.

Camp on the North Platte.

The first stop made by the wanderers after leaving Utah was on the banks of the North Platte river in Central Wyoming. There they spent most of the summer and a part of the fall, moving on only when they learned that the Indian bureau had dispatched an inspector to the camp in the hope of prevailing on them to return to Utah. Their first camp was well located, as it was in a good game region and near plenty of fuel and water. There were not many whites in the immediate vicinity, but it was on the winter ranges, and the cattle and sheep owners made complaint that if they were allowed to remain the range would be rendered worthless before the white man's stock could be driven down from the summer feeding grounds in the mountains. The national government took immediate cognizance of the situation, recognized its serious aspect and was anxious to act, but it found itself confronted by a difficulty which was new in dealing with Indians.

No Longer Wards but Citizens.

They were no longer wards; they were citizens. In granting them land in severalty Congress had removed them from the position of children under care and had conferred upon them the prerogative of freemen. The great Supreme Court of the United States said so, and there was no way of getting around it. Hence, so long as the state authorities could deal with the situation the national government could not legitimately use force to secure the return of the recalcitrants. Nothing was left but to try suasion, and the Indians, knowing the powers of Inspector McLaughlin in that respect, ran away from him. True, he succeeded in heading them off and in getting a few to go back, but the main force remained, still determined to find a new home and declaring that under no circumstances would they return. They told the inspector that many years ago they had been told by the old Sioux chief, Red Cloud, that they could find a home in northern Wyoming where they would be removed far from the whites, where there was an abundance of game, and where they would be allowed to live their own manner of life unmolested. They added that what they had observed of the northern country and the large bands of antelope they had found on their march convinced them of the truth of this report, and that they were determined to further test its accuracy even to the extent of defying all authority. He left them where he found them, and it would appear that since his departure the cowboys have taken them in hand, with the inevitable consequence that Uncle Sam must step in to prevent further trouble, the constitutional point of "emergency" having been reached.

The Massacres of 1878.

The present hegira is the natural sequence of a long line of incidents extending back to the Meeker massacre and the Thornburg battle in 1878. Those events occurred in Colorado and led to the banishment of the tribe from that state. To this fate they have never been reconciled, and on more occasions than one have they threatened to make trouble. The climax came when, a year ago, the government located the Indians on land in severalty and threw the remaining portion of their Utah reservation open to settlement by the whites. Never satisfied with the location, some of them became highly incensed when they were made aware of the fact that they were to be compelled to share the reserve with the whites, and so intense was the feeling that some of them came to Washington before the opening and made known their grievances to the President and other officials of the government.

This delegation consisted of nine members, and they made bitter complaint, not only of the course of the government in opening their reservation to settlement, but of the treatment they had received in other respects. They reverted more than once to their removal from their Colorado reservation, where they said there were much game and many fine streams full of fish, together with forests and many other attractive features, to a comparatively barren and unattractive region, where there was no game and little of anything else to make life worth living to an Indian. They also recalled the promise made to them that when they were persuaded to move they should have a permanent right to return to the old Colorado reservation, and avowed that when they had made an effort to take advantage of this promise they had found themselves the hunted as well as the hunters, and had been ruthlessly driven out.

Aversion to the Whites.

The Washington delegation manifested especial aversion to the prospect of having white people for neighbors. "We want to live by ourselves," said Chief Appa, the principal spokesman for the braves, to President Roosevelt; "we want to be left alone; we fear the presence of the white man; his association with us means death, and we would protect our people from him. Send us away to some dense forest—hide us in some remote wilderness, but do not compel us to live with white men as neighbors." He complained that such association would inevitably result in the extinction of the Indians, and also pointed out the scarcity of game and the inadequacy of the Uintah region to support a large population, adding that the Indians wanted a place to hunt and fish and raise live stock rather than to farm on irrigated land.

Like representations were made to the Secretary of the Interior and the commissioner of Indian affairs; but Congress having issued its decree, none of these officials could do or say anything to relieve the situation. Consequently the Indians wrapped their blankets about them and returned to the reservation, taciturn and evidently much dissatisfied.

Soon after this visit the Uintah country was cut up into small farms. There was a rush of settlers from white man's land, and the Indian found himself encountering the hated paleface at every turn. All the members of the tribe were displeased, and some were openly defiant. The most daring declared they would not endure the situation, and it was this antipathy to the proximity of the white man that led to the departure of the 300 who are now giving so much trouble.

What the military authorities will do with the malcontents when they are overtaken remains to be seen, but it is not probable that they will be permitted to go entirely unpunished. The Indian authorities would not be satisfied with such a course, because they realize that it would lead to more of such trouble in the future. They will, therefore, insist that at least the leaders be punished.

AWAITING TRIAL.

Arthur Pongee Charged With Shooting Joseph Dent.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

SEAT PLEASANT, Md., October 22, 1906.

Arthur Pongee, colored, twenty-two years of age, is in the lockup at Hyattsville awaiting the result of the injuries of Joseph Dent, whom he shot in the head Saturday evening on the farm of Messrs. J. B. and Thomas Berry, near this place. Inquiry at the Emergency Hospital, where Pongee took the injured man immediately after the shooting, discloses the information that Dent is improving, although the physicians state that the ball is still lodged in his brain and the injured man has only a slight chance of recovery. An operation yesterday resulted in the removal of pieces of bone and lead near the brain at the back of the right ear, indicating that the shot was fired from the rear.

Deputy Sheriff R. H. Vincent, accompanied by a Star reporter, visited the scene of the shooting yesterday afternoon and learned from Anna Ward, a colored domestic in the employ of the Messrs. Berry, that she, Arthur Pongee and Charles Dent, brother of the injured man, were in the quarters in rear of the domicile a little after 8 o'clock, when Dent appeared at the door. He was under the influence of liquor. He and Pongee said something about unloading some wheat, and both left the cottage together. They were not quarreling. About five minutes after they left Anna heard a shot, but paid no particular attention to it, and when she did go out she learned that Pongee had shot Dent and that Dent had been taken to a doctor. She stated to Officer Vincent that she did not see any pistol until after the shooting had occurred, when she found one lying on the table in the quarters. She could not explain how the pistol came to be there, as she was positive neither of the men came back to the cottage after the shot was fired. She at first told the officer that she knew nothing about the pistol, but later, under threat of being arrested, she acknowledged that she had thrown the pistol in the bushes, and took Officer Vincent to where it was hidden.

The pistol is a .32-caliber and there was one empty shell in it. Officer Vincent is of the opinion that it is a new shell and believes that it was put in the pistol during Saturday, although Pongee does not know anything about it, his claim being that the shooting was purely accidental.

When arrested Saturday evening Pongee said the shooting occurred inside of the quarters, and when interviewed last night in jail in Hyattsville he declared that Dent was in the yard and he was standing in the doorway when the shot was fired. These statements do not agree with each other and both are at variance with the statement made by the Ward woman, who states positively that the men were both fifteen or twenty feet from the quarters when the shot was fired. Pongee could not tell what he did with the pistol after the shooting and was surprised to learn that Anna Ward had hidden it in the bushes. The woman declares she was afraid that Pongee would return and do her harm, hence she threw the gun away.

Both Mr. Thomas and Mr. James B. Berry declared yesterday that the boys appeared to be on the best of terms, and both felt satisfied that the shooting was an accident. All of the parties concerned state that the pistol had been lying around the quarters for several months and that frequently it would be picked up and playfully pointed and snapped at people.

Officer Vincent is not at all satisfied that the shooting was accidental. He believes Anna Ward knows much more about the affair than she is willing to tell. She states that when Dent came to the quarters the door was barred, a sofa being placed in front of it. Pongee declares that when Dent appeared at the door he made use of some expression about "being a man," and that he picked the pistol off the mantelpiece and playfully pointed it at him and it was discharged.

Dent fell to the ground exclaiming: "Arthur, have you shot me?" Seeing that he had shot the boy, Pongee hastily hitched up a road cart and drove Dent to Dr. Savage's office in Benning, and Dr. Savage told him to take the man at once to the hospital. Dent was conscious all the while, according to Pongee. Pongee was told by the hospital authorities to go to the ninth street precinct and tell of the shooting, but claims that he could not find the place, and when he reached 15th and H streets northeast he was arrested and the next morning he was turned over to Deputy Sheriff Rufus H. Vincent, who brought him to Hyattsville and locked him up.

PRICE ON CZAR'S HEAD.

Poster Offers Sum of $25,000 for His Murder.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

GENEVA, October 22.—Thousands of pamphlets have been secretly printed in Zurich and Geneva offering $25,000 for the life of the czar, and half that sum for that of his son. The pamphlets have been smuggled across the frontiers into Russia.

The notice, which does not state how or by whom the money will be paid, ends as follows: "Rest assured that the sum mentioned above will be paid to you, or, if you die in doing the glorious and heroic work, to your relations within three days of the accomplished act. Free us from czardom and slavery and Russia will bless you."

GERMAN SHIP CANAL.

Construction Begun Between Berlin and Stettin.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

BERLIN, October 22.—The construction of the ship canal between Berlin and Stettin has already been commenced.

The German government has granted $11,000,000 for the making of the canal, which is part of the scheme for the construction of several new waterways which will be of considerable strategic, commercial and political importance.

One of the main objects of the system of canals is to find the means for transporting troops and war material independently of railway and roads.

The Lonely Life

The Tragic Confession of a Spinster, Who Realizes That No Fame or Wealth Can Compensate for the Solitude of Her Life.

In this article the author, whose name for obvious reasons we are not at liberty to disclose, drops for once the mask which she in common with other "Bachelor Maids," is accustomed to turn to the world.

Though no longer young, she frankly says she longs for the companionship of a husband and the care of children. The circumstances which have kept from her the happiness which these blessings bring are stated with the same directness which characterizes the whole article. It is the life-story of a "successful" woman, a drama of real life in which the last act is a tragedy.

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A NEW ERA IN CHINA

IMPERIAL EDICT LOOKING TO A CONSTITUTION.

The United States minister to China has sent the Department of State a translation of a Chinese imperial edict issued on the 1st of September looking to the establishment of a constitutional government for that empire. The edict is as follows:

"We have received from her imperial majesty, Tzu Hsi, etc., etc., empress dowager, the following decree:

"From the founding of our dynasty to the present time the wise measures adopted by the holy monarchs who have succeeded one another upon the throne have always without exception been taken with due regard to the exigencies of the times and have been embodied in the statutes of the empire.

"At present all nations are in free communication with each other, and in their methods of government and their laws are influenced one by another. Our political institutions, however, remain as of old, a condition of affairs which threatens danger and disaster, day by day becoming more imminent. Unless we broaden our knowledge by a more comprehensive stuly of the institutions of other lands, and improve our laws accordingly, we shall fail to keep the path of progress marked out by our imperial ancestors, and there will be no hope of securing that just administration which the welfare of ministers and people alike demands.

Tour of Foreign Countries.

"Some time ago, therefore, we appointed certain ministers to visit foreign counties to inquire into their methods of government, and Duke Tsai-tse and his associates have now returned and made their reports. All are agreed that the lack of prosperity in the state is due to the separation between the officials and the people and the lack of co-operation between the capital and the provinces. The officials are ignorant of the needs of the people, and the people do not understand what is necessary to the safety of the state. The wealth and strength of other countries are due to their practice of constitutional government, in which public questions are determined by consultation with the people. The ruler and his people are as one body animated by one spirit, as a result of which comprehensive consideration is given to the general welfare and the limits of authority are clearly defined. Even in securing and appropriating funds for public use, as well as in all political measures, there is nothing which is not made the public concern of the people. Moreover these nations all learn one from another, and are constantly improving their methods so as to attain to the highest degree of prosperity. The success of government and the concord of the people have their origin here.

"Under these circumstances we can but consider the form of government best suited to the needs of the times, and adopt a constitutional polity in which the supreme authority shall be vested in the crown, but all questions of government shall be considered by a popular assembly.

Foundation of Perpetuity.

"These are the foundation principles upon which the perpetuity of the state is to rest. As yet, however, the constitution is not prepared, and the people, too, are not properly equipped with the necessary knowledge. If we adopt hasty measures and simply issue specious and pretentious documents, how can we secure the confidence of the people?

"If, therefore, we would get rid of accumulated evils and fix responsibility, we must first of all begin with the official organization. The first thing imperatively necessary is that the regulations relating to official functions be taken up and considered, one by one, and successfully amended, and that the various classes of laws likewise be carefully arranged.

"We must extend education, put the finances in order, improve the military system, establish a police organization throughout the empire, cause the gentry and people to thoroughly understand political affairs, and thus by such preparation lay the foundations of constitutional government.

"Let the ministers and officials in the capital and the provinces give thorough attention to these matters, and exert themselves to secure success.

Constitutional Government.

"In a few years, when the system shall have been roughly outlined, we can, after due consideration of the circumstances, collate and compare the methods of other nations and adopt a satisfactory form of constitutional government, as well as fix a date for putting it into operation. That date will depend upon the rate of progress being made, and will be proclaimed accordingly to the empire.

"Let all the tartar generals, viceroys and governors of the provinces instruct the literary classes and the common people to rouse themselves to earnest efforts in behalf of education, in the hope that every one may come to understand the real meaning of patriotism and comprehend those principles by which the nation is to be united for the promotion of civilization; that private interests are not to be pursued to the injury of the public welfare; that petty jealousies must not be allowed to defeat national policies, and that respect for authority is the preservative of peace.

"Thus we may hope that the people will accummulate the stores of wisdom needed for the establishment of a constitutional form of government.

"Let this be published abroad for the information of all.

"Respect this."

SET FOR NEXT WEEK.

Trial of John Popkins, Accused of Assault to Kill.

When the case of John Popkins, charged with an assault to kill his niece, Jessie Popkins, was reached in Criminal Court No. 1, today the prisoner announced his intention to withdraw his plea and plead guilty. In explanation of the offense, with a view to mitigate the sentence of the court, counsel for Popkins stated that at the time of the occurrence Popkins was too drunk to form an intent.

Justice Stafford, interrupting, told counsel that if he claimed the prisoner was so affected by the liquor that he had been drinking as to be unable to form an intent, a trial should be held, since the intent was of the very essence of the charge in an indictment for an assault to kill.

The court then set the case for trial Wednesday, October 31.

PREPARING HIS ESTIMATES.

Secretary Taft is Considering Needs of the Military Service.

Secretary Taft was busily occupied yesterday and today in the preparation of the estimates of appropriations required for the support of the entire military establishment, including the War Department, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908. Gen. Mackenzie, chief of engineers, today submitted to the Secretary the estimates for river and harbor works throughout the country. Other bureau chiefs have submitted estimates for the support of their respective departments. Secretary Taft desires to have all these estimates ready for submission to the Secretary of the Treasury before his departure from this city the latter part of this week on a limited tour of speechmaking.

Secretary Bonaparte, who is now in Baltimore, has arranged to meet the chiefs of several naval bureaus at the Navy Department tomorrow for the consideration of estimates for the various branches of the naval establishment, including the important item of estimates for new warships.

Under the law the annual estimates for all the executive departments of the government must be submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury to the Speaker of the House of Representative on or before the opening day of each regular session of Congress.

FUNERAL OF SENOR MUNOZ.

Services Next Wednesday Morning at St. Matthew's Church.

Dr. Ramon Bengoechea presented his credentials at the State Department today and was received as charge d'affaires for Guatemala to succeed Senor Don Jorge Munoz, the Guatemalan minister, who died in this city on Saturday.

Arrangements have been made for the funeral of Senor Munoz. The services will be held at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning in St. Matthew's Church, and will be conducted by Father Thomas Lee. It will be a diplomatic funeral, and, if precedent be followed, President Roosevelt and Secretary Root will both attend. The State Department has issued invitations to all the members of the diplomatic corps and prominent government officials. The Guatemalan government has requested that the minister's body be sent to New York, from where it will be sent by steamer to Guatemala. Military escort will be furnished by the United States to accompany the body from the church to the railway station in this city.

No definite date has been set for the shipment of the remains. Dr. Bengoechea stated this afternoon that they will be placed in a vault until definite advices have been received from his home government. The pallbearers will be chosen tomorrow.

Grand Larceny the Charge.

Grand larceny was the charge placed in the Police Court this morning against Milo Licarin and George Staine, Italians, who were arrested by Policeman Oriani of the fourth precinct. Trial of the case was continued until tomorrow, in order to have an interpreter on the stand. It is alleged that the men took a watch and about $50 in money from Vincenzo Armocida of 607 Four-and-a-half street southwest.

The two defendants, it is stated, called at the Four-and-a-half street house last week and left a trunk and a valise. The following morning the trunk and valise were missing. So were Armocida's money and watch. Policeman Oriani located the owners of the trunk and valise at a lodging house at 1363 C street southwest. They admitted taking the trunk and valise from the house at night, but denied taking anything else. Their arrest followed.

RURAL MAIL CARRIERS

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL CORRECTS AN IMPRESSION.

According to recently published statements an impression prevails in South Carolina and other states that the policy of the Post Office Department has been changed and that rural carriers who, it is stated, were formerly permitted to deliver newspapers free of charge for thirty days—thus enabling country newspapers to obtain new subscribers—are now restricted to three days' delivery, greatly to the injury of the country press.

Postmaster General Cortelyou says this is a mistake. It is not now and never has been the policy of the department, he says, to permit newspapers or any other second-class matter, except county newspapers in the county of publication, to pass through the mails and be delivered by rural carriers free of postage. Sample copies of newspapers, plainly marked as such, are allowed to be sent through the mails at the pound rate, but not to the same person more than three times in a year.

The erroneous impression probably originated in the fact that in the early days of rural delivery, when the pay of carriers was much less than now, the department permitted rural carriers to act as agents for newspaper and other publishers and to sell newspapers and other publications on their own account. The newspapers they delivered in this way did not pass through the mails. This practice was not changed by any ruling of the department, but by law. By the act of Congress making appropriation for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1904, it was provided "that on and after said date rural carriers shall not solicit business or receive orders of any kind for any persons, firm or corporation," and instructions were, therefore, issued prohibiting rural carriers from soliciting or receiving subscriptions to newspapers or other periodicals and from acting as agents for any publishing company, and permitting them to deliver newspapers to patrons of their routes only when such newspapers were individually addressed and the required postage was prepaid.

The act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905, and for other purposes, provided:

For pay of letter carriers and clerks in charge of substations of rural free delivery service, $20,180,000; provided that not exceeding $12,500 of the amount hereby appropriated may be used for compensation of clerks in charge of substations. On and after July 1, 1904, letter carriers of the rural free delivery service shall receive a salary not exceeding $720 per annum, and no other or further allowance or salary shall be made to said carriers; and on and after said date said carriers shall not solicit business or receive orders of any kind for any person, firm or corporation, and shall not, during their hours of employment, carry any merchandise for hire; provided that said carriers may carry merchandise for hire for and upon the request of patrons residing upon their respective routes whenever the same shall not interfere with the proper discharge of their official duties and under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe.

Catarrh of the Stomach.

A Pleasant, Simple, But Safe and Effectual Cure for It.

COSTS NOTHING TO TRY.

Catarrh of the stomach has long been considered the next thing to incurable. The usual symptoms are a full or bloating sensation after eating, accompanied sometimes with sour or watery risings, a formation of gases, causing pressure on the heart and lungs and difficult breathing, headaches, fickle appetite, nervousness and a general played-out, languid feeling.

There is often a foul taste in the mouth, coated tongue, and if the interior of the stomach could be seen it would show a slimy, inflamed condition.

The cure for this common and obstinate trouble is found in a treatment which causes the food to be readily, thoroughly digested before it has time to ferment and irritate the delicate mucous surfaces of the stomach. To secure a prompt and healthy digestion is the one necessary thing to do, and when normal digestion is secured the catarrhal condition will have disappeared.

According to Dr. Harlanson, the safest and best treatment is to use after each meal a tablet, composed of Diastase, Aseptic Pepsin, a little Nux, Golden Seal and fruit acids. These tablets can now be found at all drug stores under the name of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, and not being a patent medicine, can be used with perfect safety and assurance that healthy appetite and thorough digestion will follow their regular use after meals.

Mr. R. S. Workman, Chicago, Ills., writes: "Catarrh is a local condition resulting from a neglected cold in the head, whereby the lining membrane of the nose becomes inflamed and the poisonous discharge therefrom, passing backward into the throat, reaches the stomach, thus producing catarrh of the stomach. Medical authorities prescribed for me for three years for catarrh of stomach without cure, but today I am the happiest of men after using only one box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. I cannot find appropriate words to express my good feeling. I have found flesh, appetite and sound rest from their use."

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets is the safest preparation as well as the simplest and most convenient remedy for any form of indigestion, Catarrh of stomach, biliousness, sour stomach, heartburn and bloating after meals.

Send your name and address today for a free trial package and see for yourself. Address F. A. Stuart Co., 86 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich.