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STILL PUSHING THE CASE

Charges Against Postoffice Officials Under Investigation.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Statement That Criminal Prosecutions Were Recommended Is Denied by President Procter—The Senate Will Probably Look Into the Matter—P. O. D. Free Delivery Scandal.

It is expected that this week there will be introduced in the Senate a proposal to call for the report of the Civil Service Commission on the Postoffice Department imbroglio involving Messrs. W. W. Hill, William A. Sullivan, Samuel Beight, August Machen and William M. Bellman.

Last week Senator Peffer offered a resolution asking that an investigation be instituted to determine the merits of the quarrel which resulted some time ago in the dismissal from the department of the first three gentlemen named. A report has gained currency since he took this action that the Civil Service Commission has completed the investigation that was begun some weeks ago.

The result, it was stated, had been to sustain the charges made by Mr. Hill at the time of his discharge, and to recommend to the Attorney General the criminal prosecution of Messrs. Machen and Bellman. Mr. Machen, however, the story ran, had brought to bear sufficient influence to cause the recommendation of criminal proceedings to be ignored. He is from Ohio, and his strength in his State, backed by Assistant Postmaster General Maxwell, his "backer," was said to be sufficient to induce Attorney General Harmon to pigeonhole the papers suggesting his indictment under the Federal statutes forbidding a government employe to engage in the collection of campaign funds.

MR. PROCTER'S STATEMENT.

A Times reporter called on President Procter to learn whether a report had been made, and if so why it had not been made public. Mr. Procter said at once that no report had been sent to the President; in fact, the case was not yet ready to report upon. Further than that he would make no statement in regard to the matter.

The fight grew out of the campaign in which Campbell was defeated in Ohio last fall. Both Hill and Machen, the leaders in it, were from Ohio. Mr. Hill was assistant superintendent of the free delivery system and Mr. Machen is the superintendent and his immediate superior in office.

In the mail that passed through Mr. Hill's hands when the contest in Ohio was at its hottest came a letter from one of the subordinates in this division of the postoffice service making a vehement protest against paying a $50 assessment to help out Mr. Campbell in Ohio. This was about the same time that Mr. Ril Baker, Congressman Layton's clerk, was collecting from the Government Printing Office employes for Mr. Campbell's benefit, as published in The Times of last summer.

Mr. Hill says positively that this letter showed plainly that Mr. Machen was engaged in levying a tribute of $50 apiece on the fifty-nine men who are employed by the free delivery system as secret service agents. They are paid the comfortable salary of $6 a day and expenses, and are directly dependent on Mr. Machen for their positions. Accordingly his will is usually law with them. Their business is mainly tracking pilferers of the mail in cities.

Mr. Hill says as soon as he got the letter implicating Machen he took it to Assistant Postmaster General Frank Jones. He received a severe rebuke for his trouble, and later was removed from office on the pretext that he was holding two positions in the service contrary to law. He was a special attorney of the Department of Justice in addition to his place in the Postoffice.

PART OF THEIR PLAN.

At the same time Clerks Sullivan and Beight were given their walking papers. It was alleged that the three had been engaged in a conspiracy to belittle the department and discredit it before the country. The attack on Machen and Bellman was a part of their plan.

At the same time that Mr. Hill took the letter to Assistant Postmaster General Jones he formulated a number of charges of corruption against Machen. They were based upon his observations for a long time previous. When he was let out of the Department he made up the same charges very carefully and completely and laid them before the Civil Service Commission.

The letter to Machen from a secret agent protesting against the payment of the $50 assessment was among the papers filed, as were affidavits from Messrs. Hill, Sullivan and Beight charging Machen and Bellman with other offenses.

Mr. Hill at the same time made a protest to the commission against his removal, as contrary to the spirit if not the letter of the civil service law. It is upon these charges that the commission was said to have reported.

The investigation by the Senate, as proposed by Mr. Peffer's resolution, will probably prove much more thorough than anything the Civil Service Commission could do. The commission has no power to compel attendance upon its investigations and cannot swear witnesses.

Accordingly, testimony before it is usually purely voluntary, and so far is weaker than evidence drawn from unwilling tongues. In addition, of course, many cases must break down for lack of witnesses who will appear only upon compulsion. This condition is the weakness of the civil service law perhaps most regretted by its friends.

It is said by disinterested persons in a position to know that an investigation by the Senate committee would probably develop evidence now unexpected by the accused in the case.

A clerk in the Civil Service Commission today informed a gentleman interested in the matter that notwithstanding Mr. Procter's denial the report has been completed and forwarded to the Attorney General with a letter advising the prosecution of Messrs. Bellman and Machen. The clerk said that he had seen the letter.

Plainly a Case of Suicide.

Coroner Hammett investigated the circumstances attending the death of Isaac Nichols, the colored musician, who swallowed a dose of rough on rats Saturday night, with suicidal intent, as told in The Times, and decided that no inquest was necessary. The case was plainly one of suicide, and he issued a certificate accordingly. The remains were taken in charge by the relatives of the deceased.

Sanitariums for Consumptives.

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 24.—The annual convention of the World's Congress of Climatology closed here Saturday. A committee was appointed to report at the next convention on the advisability of petitioning Congress to establish sanitariums in different parts of the country for experimenting in the treatment of consumption. Atlanta was chosen at the next meeting place.

Author of the Nichols Law Dead.

Martin's Ferry, Ohio, Feb. 24.—Ex-State Senator Nichols, the author of the famous Nichols law, died at his home at St. Clairsville last evening of pneumonia.

CRUEL EXECUTIONS IN CUBA

Insurgents Taken Prisoners by Spaniards Disappear Mysteriously.

Dr. Guiteras Contradicts Gen. Weyler's Statements—Letters Showing Shocking Condition of Affairs.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—Dr. John Guiteras took direct issue last night with the statement made by Gen. Weyler that since he has been "on the island not a single execution had been made."

Dr. Guiteras only Saturday scarcely credited the reports of these executions, which came from the island, but yesterday a batch of letters in cipher was received by him, and, after translating them, he said:

"I have been loath to believe the reports of the killing of prisoners in the field and in the prisons since the arrival of Gov. Weyler. These reports have been specially denied by Gen. Weyler himself. I have received today letters from Havana that confirm the report. I am now firmly convinced that prisoners are quietly disposed of by some officer in the field, and that some prisoners have been brought to the forts in Havana and Matanzas who have subsequently disappeared without their friends knowing what has become of them.

"I have in one of these letters the names of three prisoners, but cannot give them at this time, as it would disclose the source of my information. I would add that this question has been referred to me especially by friends in Cuba with an appeal that I should exert whatever influence I may have to bring about a termination of this frightful state of affairs. I can do nothing better than appeal to the American press. The section in a letter from Havana which treats of the matter is as follows:

"'It happens every day that prisoners are brought to this city. Some are sent to jail, and others to the fortifications. These last, if they belong to the lower classes, are made to disappear. A reason assigned is that there is not money enough to keep them. That is, you will understand, frightful. I am absolutely sure of what I am telling you, and you must make an effort to put a stop to it by appealing to the press of America.

"'I have heard of similar stories for some time, but I could find no responsible person to repeat them to me, and I thought them too horrible to believe, though I know the man we are dealing with, but no doubt is left in my mind. It is known that the procedure is common in the field, but is not so frequently employed in the city.'"

HORSA SOLD TO COLOMBIA.

Old Filibuster Steamship Disposed of at Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—The republic of Colombia has purchased the Danish steamship Horsa, which will be converted into a gunboat.

The vessel was sold a week ago to John McIntyre of New York, for $8,475, and he is believed to have been the Colombian government's representative. She will be sent to Elizabethport, N. J., to be changed to a war craft.

The Horsa, it is claimed, has landed no less than a dozen insurgent expeditions on the island of Cuba, and being worthless for the merchant service because of the threats of the Spanish to seize her under whatever flag she may sail, was sold at half her value.

There is a possibility of war between Colombia and Costa Rica over a boundary dispute and the steamship Neptuno is also being converted into a gunboat, having been purchased some time ago. The Horsa is a speedy craft and almost new.

TIED TO A TREE.

Abduction and Maltreatment of a Pretty Chicago Girl in Florida.

Leesburg, Fla., Feb. 24.—There is great excitement at Centre Hill, over the abduction and maltreatment of Miss Grace Darrell, a pretty Chicago girl.

Miss Darrell has regained consciousness, and says that when she went out on the veranda Thursday night some one threw a shawl over her head to muffle her cries and she was then taken away. She says there were four men concerned, and thinks she recognized their voices. Soon after being seized she freed her head and screamed, when she was knocked senseless.

When she regained consciousness she was nude and tied to a tree. Overcome by horror, she soon relapsed into the unconscious state in which she was found. While Miss Darrell thinks she knows her abductors, she has not yet mentioned the names, as she says she may be mistaken, and she does not want innocent men lynched.

FEROCIOUS NEW JERSEY DOGS.

They Have Fed on Carcasses of Old Horses.

Cape May, N. J., Feb. 24.—During the past few weeks many dogs have congregated at Poverty Beach, two miles from here, and fed upon the bones of old horses and their carcasses, which have been taken there by order of the health board. Lately the dogs have become so fierce that it has been a dangerous task to disturb them.

The members of the life-saving crews who are compelled to pass by on their watches on the beach have been compelled to go well protected with arms and clubs. Two dogs ferociously attacked a surfman Saturday night, and but for his good luck and presence of mind, he might have been killed. The two dogs which attacked him were a large and almost as wild as wolves. The authorities will take steps to have them killed.

ARBITRATION AT YALE.

Addresses Before a Religious Meeting on the International Subject.

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 24.—The Hon. Francis Wayland, dean of the Yale Law School, presided at the general religious meeting of Yale University last night. The subject of the meeting was international arbitration.

Justice Simon E. Baldwin, of the Connecticut supreme bench, and the Rev. George Alexander, D. D., of New York, were the speakers. After the need of a court of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain had been demonstrated by the speakers to be necessary, a series of resolutions to that effect were passed and will be forwarded to the President of the United States.

Germany Gets Portuguese Territory.

Lisbon, Feb. 24.—In the Chamber of Deputies yesterday Senhor Carvalho inquired as to the truth of a report that the territory of the bank of Catame River, opposite Lorenzo Marques, East Africa, had been conceded to a German named Eiffel, who had sold the concession to Germany. The government deferred its reply.

Terrific Floods in Canary.

Madrid, Feb. 24.—Advices from Las Palmas, Grand Canary, show that terrific floods have occurred in that island, destroying houses and crops and causing much misery among the inhabitants. The damage is estimated at $350,000.

Russia Doesn't Want Korea.

London, Feb. 24.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg states that Russia has no intention of acquiring Korea, but that she regards it to be her right and duty to guarantee the freedom of that country.

In consequence of numerous requests from Government Clerks and School Teachers, the Washington Newspaper Syndicate has decided to accept **$1.00 Down and $1.25 a Month** Instead of $2.00 down and $2.00 a month, their usual club rate on the Encyclopædic Dictionary, which is now selling for $16 for only four days more. Publisher's price, $42.

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320 members were admitted to our Washington Club the last two days. Only 50 memberships remain, and 4 days yet to go. Will somebody "get left?"

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It is the only Dictionary which gives *all* the words in the English language of today. As to extensive vocabulary, superior word treatment and comprehensive encyclopædic character, this work has distinctive claims over all others of a similar nature, and is destined to supplant them in popular favor.

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WASHINGTON NEWSPAPER SYNDICATE, TIMES BUILDING.

In consequence of the great rush the office will remain open until 10 p. m.

PATRIOTS ARE NEEDED.

Dr. Verbrycke Delivers a Special Sermon to the Jr. O. U. A. M.

Gurley Memorial Church, on Florida avenue, was filled to hear an eloquent and patriotic sermon by the pastor, Rev. I. R. Verbrycke, to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

That body was well represented and occupied the front pews. The interior of the church was profusely and artistically decorated with the Stars and Stripes.

After the reading of the Scripture lessons by the pastor the entire congregation joined in singing, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

After prayer by the pastor the offertory followed, during which the "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by the choir. Extending welcome to the organization before him Dr. Verbrycke then followed with his subject: "Patriotism, or loyalty to the ancient landmarks of our fathers," chosing his theme from Proverbs xxii:28—"Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set up."

"There is a ring of loyalty," said the pastor, "in the words which I have chosen as our text tonight. The wise writer of the book of Proverbs, the illustrious King of Israel, calls upon his people, so peculiarly blessed of God, that they had become the leading nation of the world in opulence and in power, to leave unchanged the ancient bounds which their fathers had set. Embodied in this admonition, I imagine that the good and God-fearing king implied even more; he warned them to leave inviolate the ancient institutions, which the Almighty had established; the institutions and principles which had exalted them, and made them the foremost nation of their time.

It seems to me that we can, with profit, tonight apply these words to ourselves, and to all loyal American people. Providence smiled upon these ancient people until they became regarded as the most blessed of all peoples. The same has been true in the case of America. God inspired the heart of Columbus, filled him with undaunted courage and persistence, and guided his tiny bark across the perilous and unknown sea to give to the world a new country. God led the persecuted Puritans, the Pilgrim Fathers, along the same stormy path to land on New England's rocky shore, to implant the first principles of liberty and freedom.

"The demand today is for patriots in our executive halls, patriots in our offices of trust, patriots in our schools, patriots at the ballot boxes throughout the States."

Struck on Fire Island.

Boston, Feb. 24.—Capt. Vannaman of the three-masted schooner Annie E. Stevens, which arrived yesterday from Georgetown, S. C., lumber laden, reported that his vessel struck on Fire Island while working up the coast and remained hard and fast for fully three hours before getting off. Sail power was used in floating her. She was towed from Vineyard Haven by the tug Mercury. The vessel is thought to be uninjured.

FOR MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

5 lbs. Best Creamery Butter	$1.30
3 lbs. Best Creamery Butter	80
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Clifton Cream Cheese	18
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At my stand and on mail orders only.
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BESTOWING FRESH HONORS.

Committee on Naval Affairs Promote Lieut. Commander Brown.

The resolution introduced early in the present session in the House of Representatives, authorizing President Cleveland to nominate Lieut. Commander R. M. G. Brown, retired, to be a commander on the retired list in the United States Navy, has been considered by the Committee on Naval Affairs, and Representative Dayton, the author of the resolution, was instructed by a unanimous vote to make a favorable report.

The resolution, a duplicate of which was introduced in the Senate by Mr. Faulkner, will be returned to the House today or tomorrow.

Lieut. Commander Brown is a son-in-law of ex-Senator Henry G. Davis of West Virginia, and resides in this city. The distinction to be conferred upon him is in recognition of his conspicuous service as an officer of the United States war ship Trenton, when on duty in Samoan waters, three years ago.

The incident was at the time the subject of official correspondence between Rear-Admiral Kimberly and the Navy Department, in which the hero, then a lieutenant, received honorable mention. He was afterward presented a handsome sword by act of the West Virginia legislature, and received also a series of very complimentary resolutions adopted by the same body as an accompaniment to the sword.

KASSALA IS IN DANGER.

Thousands of Dervishes Are Hovering Around the City.

Rome, Feb. 24.—A dispatch from Massowah states that 5,000 Dervishes are hovering around the town of Kassala, in the northwestern part of the province of Tigre. An engagement has taken place between the Italian outposts and a force of 600 of the Dervishes.

The latter were repulsed with a loss of eighty killed. The Italians lost ten killed. Kassala is a well fortified place and no anxiety is felt for its safety.

HARRISON IS RETICENT.

Not Yet Willing to Talk About His Wedding Plans.

New York, Feb. 24.—Gen. Harrison is still at the Fifth Avenue Hotel and probably will remain in the city for the next ten days. He denies himself to all callers except a few personal friends.

E. F. Tibbitts, the ex-President's private secretary, said today that Gen. Harrison as soon as he had completed plans for his marriage would make public the arrangements, but until then he wished to avoid all publicity.

Miss Richards' Lecture.

Miss Janet Elizabeth Richards will deliver an illustrated lecture entitled "Paris; Modern and Historic," at Universalist Church, corner of Thirteenth and L streets, tomorrow evening, beginning at 8 o'clock. The lantern slides with which the lecture will be embellished were made from photographs taken by Miss Richards while in Paris.

Old Newspaper Man Dead.

Newburyport, Mass., Feb. 24.—Jere S. Allen, one of the oldest newspaper men in New England, died yesterday afternoon, aged eighty-eight years.

AIDING THE INDUSTRIES.

Experimental Stations in Mining and Engineering Contemplated.

A bill is to be introduced simultaneously in both houses of Congress early this week to establish experimental stations in mining and engineering at all educational institutions which now have similar stations in the agricultural industry.

The measure will provide for the appointment of experts as instructors, to be selected from the ranks of the graduates of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, upon the same general plan that prevails in the detail of army officers for duty at the experimental stations under the existing law, and the new establishments are to be under the control and direction of the Navy Department.

INQUEST IS UNNECESSARY.

Body of Soldier Lyle Will Be Buried by His Comrades.

The body of William Lyle, the inmate of the Soldiers' Home who killed himself by cutting his throat with a razor yesterday, as told in today's Morning Times, was viewed at the morgue this morning by Coroner Hammett and an investigation made into the circumstances. The coroner decided that no inquest was necessary.

Lyle was a gallant soldier and had done good service in the West. His consuming thirst for liquor was the cause of his downfall. He was about to be dismissed from the home for an infraction of the rules of that institution while drunk, and this made him despondent. The remains will be interred today with military honors.

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Stoll's Seventh Street.
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Internal Rheumatic Cure.
"Warranted to cure or your money back."
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 3, 1896.
To the I. C. R. Chemical Co.:
GENTLEMEN:—I wish to state to you and those suffering with Rheumatism that I was suffering badly from an attack of Rheumatism. I was off of my feet three days. From the time I began to take your I. C. R., which I was recommended to get, I was walking, and in one week I was out tending to my business. I would not be in the house without it for the world. I have been suffering for about seven years from that disease, and have tried everything that I ever heard of, but your medicine excels all.
Respectfully yours, JOHN YOUNG,
Baker, No. 1215 11th St. S. E.
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