

PAYMENT OF WAR CLAIMS

A Bill Authorizing Secretary Root to Make Investigations.

Obligations Created by the Government for the Use and Occupancy of Churches and Other Buildings During the Civil War—Four Hundred Thousand Dollars Needed.

Mr. Mahon, on the Committee on War Claims of the House of Representatives, has returned a favorable report on the bill to authorize the Secretary of War to cause to be investigated and to provide for the payment of all claims presented on behalf of churches, schools, libraries, hospitals, and establishments conducted for the benefit of churches, or for charitable purposes, arising from the occupation and use of buildings, grounds, and other property of various kinds occupied, used, taken away, injured, consumed, or destroyed by the United States or its Army, during the civil war, or for its benefit in any way.

The bill provides that the Quartermaster General shall proceed to investigate claims of the character mentioned in the same manner as he shall take the same course as claims arising under what is known as the Fourth of July Claims act, that is, he shall report the amount due in each case, and certify the same to the Auditor for the War Department for payment, who will report them to Congress for appropriations. The testimony now on file may be used as evidence in the consideration of these claims.

There are thirty claims before the committee for the use and occupancy of church, college, and school buildings, for injuries to them by United States troops during the late war. Claims of this character were before the committee aggregate \$255,725.52—colleges, and universities, \$187,437.26; churches, \$109,088.66.

This bill is based on numerous precedents. In the Forty-first Congress the Kentucky University at Lexington, Ky., was paid \$25,000 for the use and occupancy of its buildings by United States troops. The Forty-third Congress paid the East Tennessee University \$18,500 for use of its property. The Forty-eighth Congress donated 46,000 acres of public land to the University of Alabama, to be applied to the erection of buildings destroyed by fire on April 4, 1865, during military operations at Tuscaloosa. The Fifty-first Congress paid the following claims: Roman Catholic Church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Chattanooga, Tenn., \$18,729.89; Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary and High School at Alexandria, Va., \$10,000; First Baptist Church of Smithland, Ky., \$500; St. Joseph Commercial College of St. Joseph, Mo., settled in Treasury Department and investigated by the War Department, \$100,000.

The Fifty-third Congress paid the following claims: St. Cecilia's Academy of Nashville, Tenn., \$200; Roman Catholic Church of Charles County, Md., \$10,000; St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Washington, D. C., \$17,481; and St. Francis Church at Washburn Springs, Mo., \$400.

The total amount authorized to be paid by Congress to churches and colleges since the late war is \$1,000,000.

The committee reports as follows: "Every authority on the law of nations who touches this subject, from Grotius to Halleck, agrees that the destruction of property of this class is a violation of this law. But it cannot be maintained that the Government is liable for all injuries committed either by its troops, without orders, upon property protected by its title. But there are many examples in history which seem to place the case of endowed institutions hearing, established and given to the public purposes, upon grounds of their own, and give them a peculiar title to reparation when so injured which is not possessed by the public school or even by the church.

"The funds or buildings of the public school are public funds belonging to the people, and the destruction of such property is a violation of the law. The funds or buildings of the church, though consecrated to religious purposes, are the property of particular sects, and are neither within the law, nor for the use of mankind at large. But in the language of an eminent judge, 'the arts and sciences are admitted among all civilized nations as forming an exception to the reverse rights of warfare, and as entitled to favor and protection. They are considered not as the peculium of this or that nation, but as the property of mankind at large, and as belonging to the common interest of the whole world.'

"Your committee are of the opinion that the Government should, in dealing with churches and colleges, imitate the frequent examples which have been furnished by the most highly civilized nations, and the most famous commanders have respected their moral obligations by making voluntary reparation, and the moral duties of injuries inflicted on churches and colleges and kindred institutions by the operations of war.

"Your committee are of the opinion that \$100,000 would pay all meritorious claims of this nature. As there are a number of these claims pending before Congress, the committee are of the opinion that justice to the Government and to the claimants is better assured in providing, as this bill does, a tribunal where all claims of this character may be investigated and determined. Your committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill."

A Nov-1 Case Decided. RALEIGH, N. C., March 17.—Judge Purnell, of the United States District Court, here, yesterday filed an opinion in a very novel and interesting case. George W. Cobb, private banker at Elizabeth City, went into voluntary bankruptcy and swore his estate was worth over \$50,000 at that time. Before he was adjudged a bankrupt he had executed a bond to his wife, in which he agreed to pay her an annuity of \$2 a month during his life and during the same period to pay her \$12.50 a month for rent of property occupied by him. When he went into bankruptcy he stopped these payments. His wife brought suit, claiming that she is entitled to her claim for the annuity and the rental during Cobb's life, and that, based upon the estate mortality tables, she is entitled to \$2,782. The reference in bankruptcy decided in her favor. The judge decided against her, saying to allow her claim would be an injustice to the other creditors; that what may accrue in the future is not a debt under the terms of the bankruptcy act.

Member of a Rochester Camera Company Commits Suicide. ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 17.—Horatio H. Mutschler, of 22 Cole Street, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head while at work in the Ray Camera Company's plant in Commercial Street this forenoon. Mutschler was a member of the firm. He went to the factory yesterday and started working in the draughting room.

Nobody heard the shot, and his brother found him lying dead in one corner of the room, with a revolver in his hand. Mutschler had been dependent for some time, and last night talked with his brother about transferring money in the bank to his wife. Mutschler's father committed suicide in a similar manner ten years ago.

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS. Army Promotions Sent to the Senate for Confirmation. The President has sent the following nominations to the Senate:

For promotion in the Volunteer Army of the United States: Lieut. Col. Thomas R. Hamer, Charles T. Boyd, Third Cavalry; Major William L. Mutschler, Second Cavalry; Major Charles H. Shaper, Thirty-seventh Infantry; Captain William E. Uteck, Fourth Infantry; Second Lieut. William E. Uteck, Fourth Infantry, to be First Lieutenant.

To be surgeon with the rank of major: Capt. Alexander D. Ghiselin, assistant surgeon, Eleventh Cavalry; to be assistant surgeon, with the rank of captain: Major Charles H. Shaper, Eleventh Cavalry; to be assistant surgeon, Eleventh Cavalry.

For appointment in the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry: To be first lieutenant, Second Lieut. William W. Bessell, Porto Rico Battalion; Louis R. Bennett, late first lieutenant, Fourth Illinois Volunteers; to be first lieutenant, Fourth Illinois Volunteers; Morris E. Locke, of Ohio; John O. Steyer, of Virginia; W. W. Ballard, jr., of Virginia.

To be second lieutenant: First Sergt. Francis Hamill, Second Lieut. John S. Oakes, Eleventh Cavalry; to be second lieutenant, Eleventh Cavalry; to be second lieutenant, Eleventh Cavalry; to be second lieutenant, Eleventh Cavalry.

So mother's too large for the baby. So is mother's dose of Scott's Emulsion, but no baby is too young for small doses of this easiest and best food-medicine. The enriched blood brings color to the cheeks, strength to the bones and muscles, and flesh to the wasted limbs.

THE RACE PROBLEM.

Radical Views of a North Carolina Negro President.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 17.—President George T. Winston, of the State Agricultural and Mechanical College, formerly president of the University of North Carolina and of Texas, has returned here after having given evidence before the subcommittee of the United States Industrial Commission. He spoke mainly on the means of improving the negro race, and his language was perhaps the plainest the committee has ever heard.

He declared that the gift of the franchise to the negro had resulted in almost alienating the whites from the negro, and the negro was not, as a rule, willing for the whites to do anything for him, and this gulf broadens and deepens daily. The greatest blessing which can befall the negro is his education, and the restoration of the kindly relations of thirty-five years ago, as this would elevate the negro in a truly helpful way. This can be brought about by the absolute elimination of the negro from politics in the Southern States and by industrial education, which will make him useful and possibly indispensable to the white people in the South.

President Winston declares that even yet the real race trouble has not begun in the South, but will come when the whites who labor will not want the negroes to labor and are arrayed against the latter in a struggle for employment, and when striking whites in mines, etc., are replaced by negroes. President Winston assures the committee that unless the negroes abandon their political and social "equilibrium" and devote themselves to industrial training and manual labor, the fate is sealed; that now there is a place for him in the industrial life of the South, but unless he fills this place speedily, certainly before another generation passes away, he will have no place at all except as the vermin of the wall as an incompetent.

A member of the committee asked President Winston why the negro should not be allowed to vote here just as he is allowed to vote in New England. President Winston said he would ask in reply why "chickens" are not allowed to vote in California, Indiana in the Northwest, etc., while both Chinese and Indians can vote in North Carolina.

BADLY BURNED BY OIL.

Serious Injuries Sustained by a Maryland Woman.

FREDERICK, Md., March 17.—Mrs. Jennie Shaw, wife of Breckinridge Shaw, was seriously burned at her home, on South Market Street, yesterday afternoon, by the accidental upsetting of a coal oil stove.

Mrs. Shaw was bathing her 2-year-old baby, when her seven-year-old boy, who was playing in the room, backed up against the stove and turned it over, spilling the oil over the floor. Quickly laying the baby aside, Mrs. Shaw attempted to smother the flames, and grabbing the blazing stove, threw it out into the yard.

The wall of the room had taken on fire, and before she observed it her skirts were ablaze. She fell over on the floor, hoping to smother them, but without avail. The fire on her children had already spread to Charles Poole and William H. Harrison coming in, wrapped her in pillows torn from the window and soon subdued the flames, not, however, before Mrs. Shaw was nearly burned off.

Dr. Franklin B. Smith was summoned, and dressed the wounds, which, he said, were very serious. She was burned from her neck to her feet, and her back being especially severe. Mrs. Shaw was Miss Lamotte, of Manchester, Carroll county, and a niece of former Congressman Frank T. Shaw, of that county.

CALLING IN THE BONDS.

holders of Western Maryland Securities in a Dilemma.

BALTIMORE, March 17.—Many of the holders of the Western Maryland land mortgage bonds, due on January 1, last, have not yet turned the certificates into the city register's office for cancellation. Up to yesterday only \$667,500 of the \$775,000 worth of bonds that were outstanding have been canceled.

Although the bonds were due on January 1, it was decided to allow them to run for two months longer, so that certain technicalities in connection with the hearing, established and given to the public purposes, upon grounds of their own, and give them a peculiar title to reparation when so injured which is not possessed by the public school or even by the church.

THE AGNEW FACTION WINS.

Everything Swept Before It in the Alexander Prizes.

ALEXANDRIA, March 17.—At an "action" held in this city the Republican right night held meetings for the purpose of electing delegates to the city convention, which will be held in Serpents Hall, on the 19th instant.

The object of the city convention is to elect delegates to the Eleventh Congressional District Convention, which meets in this city on the 20th inst., and also to elect delegates to the State Convention, which meets at Norfolk on April 10. The Park Agnew faction elected every delegate, and the McKimley faction was defeated by acclamation. The meetings were more largely attended than any since the war.

LIFE ENDED WITH A PISTOL.

Member of a Rochester Camera Company Commits Suicide.

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THE HUMAN OSTRICH ILL.

Arthur Shutt Operated on in a Baltimore Hospital.

A Dog Chain, Knives, Nails, Broken Glass, Tacks, Screws, and Spoons Removed From His Stomach—The Details of an Interesting and Extraordinary Freak Patient's Case.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 17.—Prof. William S. Halsted, of the Johns Hopkins University and Hospital, yesterday performed one of the strangest operations on record. He cut into the abdomen of a man and removed some of the most remarkable objects ever taken from a human stomach. These included a broken glass, nails, tacks, chains, dog chains, glasses, knife handles, and similar things.

Arthur Shutt, who said he was by "profession" a "human ostrich" and "man with a cast-iron stomach," was the subject of the operation. He was admitted to the hospital on Tuesday. He complained of a gripping pain in his stomach. He told the physician who examined him that he never had any severe diseases, but had when a child suffered with the common ailments, measles, whooping cough, and malaria. Last year he had a two-months' attack of rheumatism in his knees and hips which kept him in bed. His appetite had not been as good as it should be of late. He said he was a fairly regular drinker of whisky, but not to excess, and smoked some.

When questioned further by the hospital physician, the doctor said he had been in the habit of chewing such heavy articles of diet as tacks, nails, glass, and similar odds and ends, but professed never to have swallowed them before last Saturday.

Last Saturday he met a number of students, so he said, and boasted to them of his ability to chew glass and nails and swallow them. It was with them from 7 o'clock in the evening until 2 o'clock in the morning of Sunday. He swallowed the broken pieces of an entire beer glass and a quarter of a pound of temporary nails, and a box of No. 11 tacks before he swallowed them. He said he did not intend to swallow them, but merely chew them. His audience, however, misled him so that he swallowed all of them.

About 3 o'clock Sunday morning he was seized with a sharp pain and almost immediately vomited a quantity of dark, reddish fluid. There were no signs, however, of the glass and nails. All day Sunday he experienced great pain, sometimes getting worse and sometimes better. He was then sent to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where, according to the symptoms, his case was immediately diagnosed as "foreign bodies in the stomach."

Shortly before Shutt was put under the anesthetic he complained of a severe pain, which he described as "something like a saw working in the stomach, and a positive tract." He was then given ether by two of the hospital physicians and placed carefully upon the operating table.

Dr. Halsted then made a quick incision with his operating knife into the skin and muscles. Several assistants, dressed in aseptic clothing, were at once called in, and rubber gloves, all of which had been sterilized in boiling water, handed to the surgeon. The patient was then placed on a table, and the stomach was opened, and sewed up with catgut sutures. In like manner the muscles and skin were sewed together.

The operation, which was of a most delicate nature and required great skill, consumed two hours and a half, and at that period the patient did not lose a pint of blood. Loss of blood was prevented in Dr. Halsted's operation by peculiar forceps which he used, and by clamping the blood vessels as soon as they are separated.

After the wound was sewed up the patient was lifted on a table, and a layer of iodoforn and silver foil were placed. This is to prevent bacteria from getting into the wound, and to prevent inflammation, which might lead to a fatal issue.

A physician, in speaking about operations for the removal of foreign bodies from the stomach, said: "The removal of foreign bodies from the stomach is a matter of great difficulty, and seldom is there one to let for long. Nothing can be got out of a stomach unless it is removed. The plain, simple fact of the matter is, however, that you cannot get a decent house here for less than \$15,000, and even that is a risky investment. It is a matter of great difficulty, and seldom is there one to let for long. Nothing can be got out of a stomach unless it is removed. The plain, simple fact of the matter is, however, that you cannot get a decent house here for less than \$15,000, and even that is a risky investment. It is a matter of great difficulty, and seldom is there one to let for long. Nothing can be got out of a stomach unless it is removed. 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