

HEWITT'S BANK BILL

GENERALLY INDORSED AS A SAFE MEASURE.

Gen. Sherman on the Finding of Gold--Peculiar Communications to Congressmen.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE APPEAL. OFFICE OF THE MEMPHIS APPEAL, No. 1205, F STREET, WASHINGTON, December 18--Congressmen occasionally receive some very peculiar communications. Not the least funny was one which reached Representative Ballentine, of Tennessee, a few days ago from one of his constituents. The letter set forth the inspecuous condition of the sender through untoward circumstance, and wound up with the cool request that Mr. Ballentine should introduce a bill to get Congress to appropriate \$100 for the purpose of relieving the necessities of the writer. No reason was assigned why Congress should be thus generous, but the applicant evidently labored under the impression that the National Legislature, being in a quandary as to what to do with the few hundred odd millions in the Treasury, would be glad of the opportunity of this easily getting rid of a small portion of the surplus, and at the same time do a kind act. Mr. Ballentine wrote to his correspondent to inform him of his inability to assist him in the manner suggested, and was surprised to receive a second letter expressing the sorrow of the writer at the stinginess of Congress in not being willing to give the small sum asked and requesting him to furnish the \$100 himself. Mr. Ballentine has not as yet, I believe, brought himself to see the necessity of thus expending a quarter of his yearly salary, and I have it on reliable authority that he is not lying awake at night considering the unblushing request.

REPRESENTATIVE JONES, of Alabama, had rather a peculiar experience also. Last session he sent to one of his constituents a large government publication containing many pages. The recipient of this gift was highly delighted, and placed the book in a prominent position in the best room of the house. When callers arrived he would take them to see this book and remark: "Just see what a fine one Congressmen think of me. He sent me this large book as a token of friendship and appreciation of what I have done for him." The awe struck visitor would look at the precious volume and, remarking in a low voice, would go away with the impression that its owner was indeed considered a great man by the member of Congress who had so magnificently remembered him. One man in the village was, however, quite jealous at the distinction which the other had gained, and as soon as Representative Jones was back in Washington this session, sent him a letter, recalling the incident in his mind, and concluding: "Now, I don't want this man to imagine that you think so much more of him than you do of me, and I want you to send me the biggest book you can find and then I can crow over him." Mr. Jones accordingly sent round to all the departments and at last discovered an immense publication, of antique date, numbering many pages and measuring in length and breadth, and sent it to his constituent, who is now, no doubt, the biggest man in the village.

Mr. Hewitt on last Saturday introduced an important financial proposition in the House which provided means of reducing the surplus in the Treasury and gave security for national bank circulation in order to prevent the contraction of the currency. "The bill is the result of long and careful study," says Mr. Hewitt in explanation of the measure. "It is not a hastily conceived plan. Its purpose is, first, to provide an outlet for the accumulating surplus in the Treasury if the revenues of the government are not reduced. It is the part of statesmanship, I think, when there is, as now, so much division and uncertainty, to provide against the contingency of the failure of legislation. If the revenues are not reduced the surplus will continue to pile up in the Treasury. To correct this the bill authorizes the Secretary to use the surplus to prepay the interest on the government bonds in excess of 3 per cent, reducing the interest of all the bonds to 3 per cent. It is a mere business proposition. If a business house has out interest bearing securities and wants to pay off all the interest at once it arranges with its creditors for a discount. Now, I want to apply the same business principles to the government. By paying at once the government will make an interest on the interest, computed at 3 per cent. The taxpayers will be relieved just this much, and the interest on the public debt will be reduced 3 per cent. The fact that the interest above this amount has been paid will be stamped across the face of the bond, and the coupons they shall be cut off and coupons of the lower rate substituted. Now, as a second proposition, these bonds may be deposited in the Treasury to secure national bank circulation. The banks can buy these bonds in the market to replace the 3 per cent that have been called. Their interest being reduced they will not command such a premium as they now do. It is probable that three per cent having ten years to run would command a small premium. To overcome this I propose to allow the national banks to issue par upon these bonds. This, I think, will about make up the difference of the premium. Now, it may only properly be asked, "Suppose the bondholders refuse to accept the prepayment of the interest?" This is provided against in the bill by the proposition that the Secretary of the Treasury deposit the surplus in banks upon a security of an equal amount of the bonded or other indebtedness. I think it will be found that the bill meets all the requirements of the case. It will prevent the contraction of the currency, and put the surplus into circulation among the people. The bill is intended as an expedient if the revenues of the government are not reduced. It would not be of so much value if the tariff were reduced, but it would even then be serviceable."

Gen. W. T. Sherman, who is at present in this city, forty years ago drew up the first official report to the government of the United States of the great discovery of gold, which report electrified the continent, while the subsequent production of the precious metal in a few years revolutionized property values throughout the commercial world, and gave an unprecedented impetus to industries, enterprises and general prosperity. "Tennessee" was then a young lieutenant of the Third Artillery and adjutant on Gen. Mason's staff, stationed at Monterey, Cal. Gen. Sherman, at Chamberlain's Hotel the other night, was telling his reminiscences to

NEITHER FOUND GUILTY.

LORD AND LADY CAMPBELL THE VIGILS

Of Malicious Gossip--Gen. Butler Is Greatly to Blame for His Ungentlemanly Conduct.

LONDON, December 20.--Sir Charles Russell concluded his argument for Lady Colin Campbell in her divorce suit against her husband today. The judge proceeded at once to sum up the case for the jury. He said Lord Colin Campbell denied his wife's charge of infidelity, which depended chiefly on the testimony of Lady Miles. Whatever might be said against Lady Miles by the defense, it must be admitted that she was until lately Lord Colin's friend; that she had done all in her power to discourage the bringing of the action against him, and that she only took Lady Colin's part when she became convinced that unjust charges were being brought against that lady. The testimony given by the doctors that Mary Watson was *virgo intacta* did not negative the testimony given by Lady Miles that she saw Lord Colin and the girl in such a position as to warrant the belief that the pair were guilty. Suspicion, however, the judge said, was insufficient. If adultery was not proven as a fact, the jury were bound to find that Lord Colin was innocent. At the last trial, in which Lady Colin secured a decree of separation, it was shown that Lord Colin had given plaintiff a disease in such a manner as to amount to the cruelty which she alleged as the basis of her petition for separation. In the present case the evidence against Lady Colin depended on what the family servants said. This should be received with suspicion. In regard to the Paris incident, the judge said that there were so many important examples of mistaken identity that the jury would be compelled to carefully consider whether sufficient evidence had been adduced to reliably establish the statement that the lady who was there with the Duke of Marlborough was Lady Colin Campbell. If Neptune Blood's testimony was true, that he saw Lady Colin on that day at home, then the Paris story was demolished.

Referring to the allegations concerning Lady Colin's conduct at Leigh Court, the judge said they all depended again on stories told by servants, and principally on those told by Rose Gaer. Her own fellows describe her as a chatterer, and she had contradicted herself, and other witnesses had contradicted her on important points. She at first swore that the Duke of Marlborough and Lady Colin occupied the same apartment for an entire week at Leigh Court, and afterwards testified that the Duke of Marlborough was at Leigh Court only two nights. The judge declared he believed Rose Gaer had invented the story about Lady Colin and the Duke of Marlborough sitting together like lovers on a bench in the Paddington Station. Lord Colin's conduct towards his wife while she was in Paris, on the occasion when he telegraphed the Paris police to arrest her and lock her up in the prison, Justice Bulla characterized as outrageous, remarking that he never had known of anything more dishonest than Lord Colin's allegation to the Paris officials that his wife was living in open adultery with one of the courtiers, and should be arrested and treated as a common woman of the town. The story told by the man servant O'Neill that he once saw through the key hole of the door of the dining room at Cadogan Place, Chief Shaw and Lady Colin in criminal intercourse, the judge said he could not regard with favor.

The jury must consider whether O'Neill's letter to Lady Colin, after his discharge by her, seeking re-employment was not an attempt to blackmail, and then the jury would further consider the question whether Chief Shaw's statement in denial as the statement of a distinguished public servant was not worth as much, if not more, than the statement of such a person as O'Neill.

Gen. Butler, the Court thought, should have come into court and given testimony as to his innocence, but so long as he chose to remain away, there was no power in England to compel him to come. It would, however, the judge said, be impossible to exaggerate the manness exhibited by Gen. Butler, if he was innocent, in remaining away from court, because in so doing he deserted Lady Colin. But the judge told the jury they must take Gen. Butler's absence as evidence of guilt on either his or Colin's part.

Replying to a question of a jurymen, the judge said that Gen. Butler was beyond the jurisdiction of the court, and that a subpoena could not compel him to attend and testify, because, being made a correspondent, he was protected by the clause of the law which makes it impossible to ask an incriminating question unless the witness was a voluntary one. The case was then given to the jury and they retired.

After a short absence they returned a report that they could not agree upon a verdict. The disagreement of the jury was not final. They again retired to reconsider the case, and returned at 10 o'clock with a verdict. They found that Lord Colin Campbell had not committed adultery; that Lady Colin had not committed adultery with any of the correspondents. The jury also found that the conduct of Gen. Butler was unworthy of a gentleman, and that his conduct had caused the only difficulty which the jury experienced in reaching a decision. The announcement of the verdict was received with applause.

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