

Clarion

ALEX. P. BEATTY, Editor and Proprietor.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1877.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

The extra session glided into the regular session of Congress on Monday last, and there being no delay in organization the President's message was immediately presented. Being the first annual message of President Hayes it was looked for with unusual interest. As it is too lengthy for our space we give its main points in brief. The financial question is discussed at length. The President favors the faithful execution of the law providing for specie resumption and deprecates the incessant agitation of the subject in Congress. He does not favor the unlimited re-emption of silver. The President makes no lengthy discussion of his Southern policy, but states the views which he entertains of the relations of the two sections and the necessity of a restoration of harmony. Allusion is also made to the efforts of the administration in the direction of civil service reform. Although difficult to carry into successful and satisfactory execution in the present state of party machinery and feeling he earnestly argues the necessity of civil service reform, so that a wise and beneficial administration of the Government shall not so continually be interfered with by the influence of party patronage and party factions. The message is in the main a sensible, frank and patriotic paper, free from any taint of partisanship and pervaded by a spirit of wholesome earnestness.

A PARTY CRISIS.

Last spring the destinies of the country hung tremblingly for many days on the magic figures 8 to 7. Last week the republicans of the Senate passed through a similar crisis. As they suddenly woke up to the reality that the state of parties stood 39 to 27, with two republicans mightily uncertain, there was no little consternation in the ranks. Their control of the Senate seemed to be suddenly coming to an end. They were not working in harmony at the best. A number of prominent senators are very sore-headed. The President's course is not to their liking. But now their party supremacy was in utmost peril. The wrangling of factions must cease. It would take skillful engineering and cool heads in the leadership to avert disaster and wreck. The air was full of rumors with the House democratic, and the Senate rushing to the same condition. The alarming rumor took foot that Tilden might attempt a desperate dash for the Presidential chair in the French style. The crisis was serious. The republican press sounded the alarm. Anxious solicitude prevailed in the party ranks as they watched the greatest contest which now commenced with the energy of a death struggle and lasted for a full week.

The sudden trouble was that Conover, of Florida, and Patterson of South Carolina, both republicans, showed signs of kicking in the traces. Patterson is in a delicate situation. An indictment is hanging over his head which may possibly transfer him to an institution not half so cheerfully ventilated as the Senate. No wonder his wrath rose at hearing such frequent allusions to the penitentiary. He admitted he was going to vote for the admission of the democratic claimant from South Carolina to a seat in the senate. But he was in no unholy alliance with the democrats. His republicanism, he said, would bear favorable comparison with that of the present occupant of the Presidential mansion. Congress took the floor to make like expressions. Both parties were wrought up to high excitement. The republicans feared defeat—the democrats feared disappointment after all. A full week was consumed in adroit parliamentary tactics and time killing speeches.

The contest was finally ended two hours after midnight on Friday with the admission of Kellogg from Louisiana, by a vote of 30 to 28, and Butler from South Carolina by 29 to 28, which is a gain of one Senator to each party. Sharon, of Nevada, republican, stays away from the Senate to

attend to his big silver mine. If he will attend to his duty as he ought, and Patterson keeps clear of that ugly institution, the republicans may reasonably expect freedom from another such scare during this session. Let us have peace.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Carl Messner, who was on trial in New York, on the charge of killing his brother, John, was acquitted Wednesday.

Thos. Cooley was killed and Thos. Thomas fatally injured by a permanent explosion in a coal mine in Rock Island county, Iowa, Monday week.

At Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania last week, the jury in the case of the Scranton vigilantes returned a verdict of not guilty, after being out ten minutes.

President Case, of the N. Y. Security Insurance company, convicted of perjury in swearing to false accounts, was lately sentenced to five years in State prison at hard labor.

At Corning, New York Wednesday, Jno. McNamara, charged with shooting Ellen Callinan, was found guilty of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to hard labor at prison for life.

John Barnhard, residing at No. 137 Preston street, Baltimore, had a difficulty with his wife, last Wednesday night, and seizing a pistol fired at her, without effect, however. He was arrested.

Two freight trains on the Grand Trunk railroad came into collision near Galveston, N. H., on Tuesday night. Both engines and several cars were wrecked. A man who was riding on one of the locomotives was badly injured.

At Elizabeth, New York, Wednesday, Peter Eller and other jurors accused of arriving at a verdict by playing a game of cards in the jury room were tried and acquitted. The charge came from over-hearing a juror tell an old story in a saloon.

Gov. Robinson has pardoned Ex-Customhouse Weigher Grace, who was sent to the penitentiary for four months for assaulting Survivor Sharp. Grace has already served two months, and the governor thought the sentence was excessive.

Thomas Stapleton, charged with rioting in throwing a stone at the United States troops on Pratt street, Baltimore, during the labor troubles last summer, was arrested last week on a bail piece, issued out by the Criminal Court.

A negro named McGhee attempted to outrage miss Templeton, a daughter of a Presbyterian clergyman, of Columbia, Tenn., last week. He was identified by the young lady and taken to jail. He was afterwards taken from the jail and lynched.

On Saturday last, the wife of Mr. Owens, keeper of the Rome jail, New York, was deprived of the keys of the prison and Con Leary, of Utica a jail-breaker, released by a stranger who drove off in a buggy, not only taking the convict with him, but also the keys of the prison.

Gally Bond who stands charged with the murder of L. S. Hill, an old planter residing in Memphis, Tenn., in December last, was arrested on Saturday and incarcerated in De Soto jail. It is alleged the murder was committed on account of Hill refusing to allow Bond to marry his daughter.

The Sound steamer C. H. Northam, lying at the foot of East Seventh street, New York, was nearly destroyed by fire Tuesday morning. Three colored men were burned to death. The boat was valued at \$500,000, and the damage at \$175,000, upon which there was \$120,000 of insurance.

The Governors of Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi and Ohio, have united in a call for a convention of people of the Tennessee Valley in Chattanooga, Dec. 5, to take measures to urge upon Congress an appropriation for the improvement of the Tennessee river.

A party of emigrants for Arkansas started from Pittsburg on Wednesday on a flat-boat, intending to travel by the river, but had hardly got into the stream when by a collision with a fleet of coal boats their vessel broke up, throwing them all into the river. Five persons were drowned, including a man, his wife and two children.

Laura Bannan, a young lady residing in Baltimore, on Sunday playfully pointed a loaded pistol at Mr. James Murphy, a gentleman who had accompanied her to church and returned home with her. The pistol went off, and the ball crashed into the unfortunate young man's brain. The wound was fatal.

It is reported that seventeen hundred of the Indians on the march to the new reservation on the Missouri river have stampeded and left the main body. This party of Indians was joined by 2,800 others when they started, and the short rations caused by this large increase in the number to be provided for may have caused the stampede if it has occurred.

Isaac Evans, an aged and infirm colored man, residing along the mountain, near Burkittsville, who is unable to support himself, and is without friends willing to keep him, was taken to Montevue Hospital on Sunday last.

Fanny Blair, a bright mulatto girl, has been arrested in Charles county, and committed to jail, on the charge of murdering her fifteen months old child by throwing it into an unused well near Beantown. The evidence is very strong against her, and the only reason assigned for the commission of the horrible crime is, that a man had promised to marry her provided she got clear of the child.

Last Thursday, when the grand jury of Montgomery county asked to be discharged for the term, the court instructed them to return to their room and inquire through whose neglect the county jail still remains in a dangerous and terrible condition, notwithstanding frequent reports of grand juries as to the matter. It is probable that the county commissioners will be indicted for neglect of their duty in the premises.

A special dispatch from St. Paul, dated November 24, says: "The captive Nez Percés arrived here about 8 o'clock and left at 10 this evening for Fort Leavenworth, via namely Mason City and Ottumwa and through Northwest Missouri. Large crowds of people greeted them at the depots, but they were in cars with the windows down, and were invisible. The Indians are reported to have recovered from their fears of treachery, and are reconciled to the transfer.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

Saturday, December 8, 1877, at 1 o'clock p. m.

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PERSONAL PROPERTY

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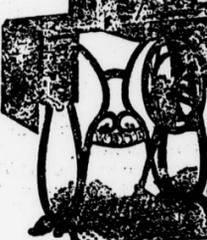
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