The Washington Times
Published Evening and Sunday.

FRANK A. MUNSEY

Daily, one year.....$3.00
Sunday, one year.....$2.50

The Times is served in the city of Washington and District of Columbia by newsboys, who deliver and collect for the paper on their own account at the rate of 6 cents a week for the Evening and 5 cents a copy for the Sunday edition.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1906.

## Sense About Hazing.

What the whole country has felt about the recent cumbrous courts-martial of midshipmen at Annapolis for hazing is set forth in the President's letter to Chairman Foss of the House Committee on Naval Affairs published in The Times of yesterday. Two or three bills now pend before that committee which were designed to amend the present law so as to make hazing less of an offense than open rebellion. The President wrote, expressly, in the hope of facilitating the enactment of some one of them.

After specifically disapproving the practice of hazing, the President says this:

> But the punishment of dismissal is altogether disproportionate to the culpability involved in some forms of hazing. In many cases these amount to nothing more than exhibitions of boyish mischief, attended with no consequences of any moment to those hazed, and indicating on the part of the hazers only some exuberance of animal spirits.
>
> Unquestionably they ought to be punished, for under any circumstances hazing constitutes a breach of rules, and the future officers of our navy must be taught, first of all and as a foundation for all other merits, strict and unquestioning obedience. But to punish those faults of youth by depriving the young men concerned of their career in life is to commit a glaring injustice.

It is an open secret that practically everyone in authority shares this view—Admiral Sands, commandant at the Naval Academy; the Secretary of the Navy, the chairmen of the two Committees on Naval Affairs, and all the officers in the service, young and old. Hazing must be punished as other offenses against the rules are punished. But to dismiss boys from the service for larks which are committed in every academy and college where there are two American boys is to deprive the service unnecessarily of the boys with exactly that kind of spirit which makes brilliant officers.

The thing to do now is to see that progress is made in amending the law. The President suggests two or three changes, any one of which would suffice. Perhaps the best is that which Admiral Sands is known to favor—the elimination of the courts-martial by enlarging the commandant's authority so that it shall correspond with the authority imposed on the heads of other educational institutions. The feeling in the House is that at least that much can be done without endangering the discipline of the Academy in the slightest. So, if Mr. Foss and his associates do not delay in reporting a bill carrying such a provision—and they may be relied upon not to waste any time about it—it can confidently be expected to go soon to the Senate. Delay may occur there, but not probably—there are too many Senators who were boys themselves.

And if anyone questions the need for the prompt action which the President proposes let him consider the item from the Navy Department published yesterday with the letter to Chairman Foss, announcing the dismissal by Secretary Bonaparte of two third class men for no misconduct worse than occurs in every high school in the country every week in the school year.

## Politics as a Study.

George Blumenthal, a banker of New York city, has just contributed $100,000 to Columbia University for the endowment of a chair of politics, the incumbent of which shall give instruction in those problems of government which will prepare the students for their duties as American citizens and enable them, should opportunity offer, to participate intelligently in the work of the Government. The idea is a good one and should be imitated.

It is obvious that a careful and systematic study of political institutions and of public affairs generally makes the man a more useful citizen. The only danger, of course, is that the student may permit his knowledge of the theoretical to tempt him to underestimate the practical side of the questions involved in his civic activities.

Why not have a chair of politics in one of our local universities. George Washington, for example, is rapidly realizing its legitimate ambition to become a national institution of learning, and its school of comparative jurisprudence and diplomacy is already justified as a proper start. There is no other community where American politics as a study should receive greater encouragement or the study of politics be of more benefit to the country at large. In Washington, as in no other city, the students of politics could see before them each day the practical operation of our entire system of National Government; they could come in personal contact with the prominent public men of the country; and, finally, as the students of our local institutions come from and return to every State in the Union, they would diffuse throughout the country the valuable knowledge here gained.

Washington is the center of American political life. It should be also the center of the study of American political institutions.

## President Favors Army Maneuvers

President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft have determined to make an urgent appeal to Congress for an appropriation of one or two million dollars for the purpose of enabling the regular army and, if possible, the National Guard of the country to go into camp for several months in the summer, and in that manner obtain some of the practical field experience in which our army and militia are lacking—sadly lacking. All soldiers and others who have given serious consideration to our military affairs will applaud the President's recommendation. It is to be hoped that in spite of its avowed policy of economy, Congress will be willing to grant the two millions, a sum small in comparison to the benefit which would be derived.

It may as well be admitted, Congress was displeased, and rightly, with the last army maneuvers, held a few years ago at Manassas. There some of the officers in command seemed to think that the field exercises were created primarily for the social entertainment of their guests. "Too many dinners at headquarters and too few rations for the soldiers," was one of the criticisms of these maneuvers. Perhaps in silent retaliation, Congress refused an appropriation for a repetition of the exercises. In other words the army, the militia, and the country at large were made to suffer for the snobbishness of certain officers.

The President now gives Congress an opportunity to repair the injury done the army and militia. By gathering in camps large bodies of military forces, the general officers and the several administrative departments of the service would be given opportunity for practical experience in the duties they would be called upon to perform in war, and they would be taught to avoid blunders, which in actual service would cost the country hundreds, perhaps thousands, of human lives. It is unfair to the general officers to expect them to handle in war large bodies of troops which they have never handled in peace. It is unfair to the soldiers to place them under the charge of men unnecessarily lacking in experience. It is unfair to the country to place its defense in the hands of an army which is never assembled until it is expected to march against the enemy.

The plea of economy in this matter is unbecoming the richest nation in the world, when even the smallest and most bankrupt countries of Europe are appropriating annually large sums of money for army maneuvers. Our army and our national guard are small and must remain so. Let them be made as effective as possible.

---

Was anybody heard to intimate that the groundhog didn't know his business?

---

Senator Patterson's picture now appears in all the Republican papers.

---

It is rumored that Poultney Bigelow and former Chief Engineer Wallace are going to start an anti-Taft society.

---

Thomas W. Lawson is going to write an open letter to the President. The correspondence will probably be a one-sided affair.

---

As Miss Alice is not going to get San Juan Hill as a wedding gift, she will not be bothered by the question as to what to do with it.

---

A number of Senators are so ill as to be unable to attend to their duties. The number will increase as the date for voting on the railroad rate bill approaches.

---

The Democrats can't even agree that they are against the Republicans, but then the Republicans can't even agree that they ought to be.

---

Mr. Stanley declares that he has not "gone into hysterics over the President." Mr. Roosevelt is no doubt equally composed with reference to Congressman Stanley.

---

According to Senator Bacon "the most influential part of the Legislature is at the other end of Pennsylvania avenue, in the White House." Congress seems more alarmed over this condition of affairs than do the people of the country.

---

In ten years the production of coal in this country has doubled, yet consumption has grown so fast that there is today no surplus on hand. A tie-up at this time, when industry is demanding the very limit of production, would be a national-wide calamity second only to a great financial panic.

### SONNET TO A STACK OF WHEAT.

Ah, toothsome viand on my breakfast plate,
With sirup ("Pure Vermont") all slathered o'er
What joy to see a stack of ten or more,
Hot, steaming, thin, my appetite to sate!
Unkind, indeed, that the strange thing called Fate
Has not placed thy inventor to the fore
Within the Hall of Fame. To thus ignore
Thy name is slighting one that's truly great.

But never mind—whoe'er thou art or where,
Alive or dead, thy memory will live
Adown the ages, past the fleeting years—
'T will rev'renced be assuredly, with care
So long as Bridget ne'er forgets to give
Our morning stack that fills us up and cheers!

—Puck.

# IN THE CIRCLE OF SOCIETY

## CHILEAN LEGATION HAS PARTY TONIGHT

### Minister and Mme. Walker-Martinez Give Dinner.

### WAYNE MAC VEAGHS DO, TOO

**Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth Will Be Hosts at This Evening's Dance.**

There are numerous events, some of them of more than usual interest, to engage the attention of society today.

The Chilean minister and Mme. Walker-Martinez are among the hosts giving dinner parties. Entertaining in the same way, will be Mr. and Mrs. Wayne MacVeagh, Commissioner and Mrs. Garfield, and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis.

---

Mrs. Robert Patterson will be hostess at a musicale this afternoon, and tonight there will be a dance at the Herbert Wadsworths.

---

Mrs. William H. Wiley, wife of Representative Wiley, received in her apartment at the Highlands yesterday. She was assisted by her daughter, Mrs. F. L. Drummond, known to the literary world as Sara King Wiley, and by Mrs. Wiley's niece, Mrs. de Mille.

Mr. de Mille, who is also a writer, was present and shared the attention of callers with Mrs. Drummond. He is playing this week in "The Prince Chap," at the Belasco

---

Mrs. William Alden Smith's at-home gave friends an opportunity of meeting the hostess' sister, Mrs. Jewell, of Detroit, who, with her small son, is in the city. Mrs. Diekema completed the receiving group.

---

A message from Cincinnati says that leaving that city at noon, February 16, in a special car will be: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ernst, Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Taft, Colonel and Mrs. Markbreit, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Neave, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harrison, Miss Anna Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. William Collins Herron, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sheldon, Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Wulsin, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Ingalls, Frank O. Suire and Mrs. Suire, Harry Roelker, Miss Roelker, Clough Anderson, and Benson Forraker.

In another party will be Colonel and Mrs. Brent Arnold, Brent Arnold, jr., Mr. and Mrs. Davis C. Anderson, Miss Rebecca Anderson, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stern.

They are coming to Washington for the White House wedding.

---

Mrs. Gallinger, wife of Senator Gallinger, will receive tomorrow and next Thursday, at the Normandie annex, 1405 I street, from 3 to 6, assisted by Mrs. C. H. Roberts, of New Hampshire.

---

Mrs. Hunter Doll will be at home at the New Willard tomorrow afternoon, from 4 to 6.

---

The Seminoles will give their monthly assembly tomorrow evening, at National Rifles Armory.

---

Miss Margaret Gale was hostess at a pretty luncheon today, her guests being Mrs. Charles Bell, Mrs. Key, Mrs. Kuhn, Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. Hinkley, Mrs. Arthur Lee, Mrs. Magruder, Mrs. Mulligan, Miss McKenna, Miss Marie McKenna, Miss Palmer, Miss Cullen, Miss Kibbey, and Miss Mauri.

---

Mrs. H. M. Hodges was at home yesterday. She was assisted in receiving by Mme. Hebbinghaus, Mrs. Walter McLean, and Mrs. Eberle. Mrs. Hodges wore a pretty gown of pearl gray silk with touches of blue velvet. A pleasant feature of the occasion was the singing of Miss Helen Nettleton.

---

Among the dinners given last night prior to the dance at the Washington Barracks, was that of Capt. and Mrs. Earl I. Brown. Among their guests were Miss Bessie Waddell, of North Carolina; Miss May Phelps, Miss Henrietta Cogland, of Kentucky; Col. Andrew Russell, J. Preston Evans, and Edward Duvall.

---

An army dance always has special attractions lacking at other dances, and the event at the Washington Barracks last evening was particularly brilliant, the officers' club being given an extra military air by flags and bunting, while a softer setting was made for evening gowns by ferns and palms disposed so as not to interfere with the dancers.

The Engineer Band gave the music. Lieut. Mark Brooks, Lieut. Richard C Moore, Lieut. William A. Mitchell, and Capt Clarke S. Smith formed the committee on arrangements. Mrs. Edward Burr, who has frequently entertained Gen. and Mrs. Frederick Dent Grant headed the reception committee, and wore white lace with pink applique. Mrs. William Langfitt, in white silk; Mrs. Frank C. Boggs, in pale silk gauze over silk of the same shade; Mrs. John Sewell, in cream colored brocade, and Mrs. Earl J. Bewn, in an imported gown of pink and white silk crepe, assisted Mrs. Burr.

A notable number of guests attended the dance. Among them were Gen. John M. Wilson, Gen. and Mrs. Humphrey, the Misses Humphrey, Col and Mrs. Egan Koerper, Miss Helen Koerper, Gen. and Mrs. J. A. Johnson, Colonel and Mrs. Pettit, Miss Pettit, Commander and Mrs. Phelps, Col. and Mrs. Thomas Symons, Maj. and Mrs. Harry Taylor, Lieut. Col. G. Barnett, Col. A. H. Russel, Major and Mrs. Abbott, the Misses Abbott, Maj. and Mrs. D. Gaillard, Maj. and Mrs. George Bolthals, Medical Director and Mrs. Fitzsimons, Surgeon and Mrs. W. M. Garten, Passed Assistant Surgeon P. C. McDonald, Major and Mrs. Langfitt, Miss Langfitt, Mrs. Bemis, Baron and Baroness von Leister, Miss Bessie Waddell, of North Carolina; Miss Henrietta Coyland, of Kentucky; Capt. P. C. Kent, Mrs. L. B. Baxter, Capt. and Mrs. Earl I. Brown, Major and Mrs. Burr, Captain and Mrs. Sewell, Mrs. Lyon, Lieut. and Mrs. Ferdinand Williams, Mrs. E. Stauffer Moore, Miss Moore, Capt. and Mrs. Frank Boggs, Capt. and Mrs. Barden, Lieut. and Mrs. Hannum, J. Preston Evans, Lieut. Com. G. N. Haywood, Miss Florence Haywood, Lieut. Com. and Mrs. F. E. Beatty, Capt. Guy Henry, Capt. and Mrs. Myer, Misses Goodwin, Miss Ruth Halford, Captain Harding, Miss Celeste Hein, the Misses Fitch, Capt. Sampson L. Falson, Captain Fournier, Admiral and Mrs. Field, Lieut. Harry S. Berry, Lieut. and Mrs. Charles L. Billingslea, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Bradley, Lieut. and Mrs. H. T. Hull, Capt. Edawrd B. Cassatt, Albert Clemens, Capt. Charles Chandler, Clyde Mendeville, Lieut. Alexander H. Davidson, Lieut. Leonard L. Dietrick, Lieut. Mathew A. Delaney, Lieut. Eliot J. Dent, Oswell Ecker, Capt. and Mrs. F. D. Evans, Capt. and Mrs. Stephen Foote, Capt. and Mrs. Walter Whitman, J. K. Stauffer, Phil Scantling, Richard Tyler, Lieut. Herbert Wigmore, Miss Leila W. Waller, the Misses Williams, Richard Whitely, Miss Wilson, Capt. and Mrs. Wright, Dr. and Mrs. Magruder, Miss Pauline Magruder, Lucian Meminger, Miss Marion Newcombe, Capt. and Mrs. J. C. Oakes, Miss Marion Oliver, Lieut. J. H. Poole, Miss May Phelps, Frank Poe, Capt. and Mrs. Charles Romeyn, Miss Hester Reilly, Miss Katherine Ridgley, Miss Mary Randolph, Lieut. and Mrs. Robert Smart, Lieut. P. H. Sheridan, Misses Sheridan, Miss Spurgin, William H. Spurgin, Rodger M. Stuart, Mr. Strong, Ensign A. Andrews, Assistant Surgeon M. W. Walker, Lieut. R. L. Berry, Medical Director Dickinson, Miss Dickinson, Capt. and Mrs. R. G. Davenport, Lieut. and Mrs. F. F. Evans, Lieut. O. L. Kean, Lieut. Henry S. Kilbourne, Lieut. and Mrs. Conrad E. Koerper, Harry Kerr, Capt. Fitzhugh Lee, Miss Natalie Lincoln, Gould Lincoln, Lieut. Donald C. McDonald, Lieut. Bukeley T. Merchant, Capt. and Mrs. Edward Millar, Capt. and Mrs. J. J. Morrow, Miss Polly Mason, Mrs. Ayres, Miss Juliet Ayres, Misses Butler, Jerome Bonaparte, George Bloomer, A. A. Caudron, M. C. Chase, Robert Centaro, Captain and Mrs. Craigg, Miss Converse, Don Jose Castellot, Frank Chambers, Miss Alice Downing, Ed H. Duvall, Dr. Frazier, Hugh Gurney, Lieut. J. B. Gilmer, Lieut. and Mrs. T. Kinsel, Lieut. and Mrs. R. W. McNeeley, Lieut. H. Osterhaus, Lieut. and Mrs. P. M. Rixey, Lieutenant Shackford, Lieut. and Mrs. E. S. Yates, Commander and Mrs. H. M. Hodges, Dr. L. H. Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. Hatch, Richard Hooker, Charles Howard, Dr. and Mrs. Hicks, Charles Harris, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Hamilton, F. Hinckley, Miss Virginia and Pickett Reid, Dr. and Mrs. M. Ireland, Dr. Hugh Jones, Dr. A. G. Love, Dr. Lewis Lehr, Dr. William Mason, William C. Morrow, Dr. H. B. McIntyre, Miss Mary Marshall, Senator and Mrs. Martin, Halsey Malone, Capt. D. Moore, Captain and Mrs. Nolan, Dr. J. Nichols, Miss M. Marion, W. Walker, W. W. Pierson, Ernest Rennie, Miss Roneyn, Dr. M. A. Reasoner, Dr. H. A. Reed, Captain and Mrs. Markham, Dr. and Mrs. Cooper, Lieutenant Adams, Lieutenant Grant, Lieutenant Ralston, Lieutenant Tyler, Lieutenant Schley, Lieutenant Fisks, Lieutenant Rone.

MISS BEATRICE ASHMEAD,
One of the Several Attractive Girls Who Will Assist Miss Perkins and Miss Walker at Their Reception This Afternoon in Honor of Mrs. Flint, of California.

## ROOSEVELTS PARTAKE OF MARYLAND DINNER

### Secretary and Mrs. Bonaparte's Cabinet Entertainment on Mayflower Made Notable by Electric Display, Unusual Decorations, and Baltimore Menu and Guests.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt were the guests of honor last night at one of the odd dinner parties of this season. The Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Bonaparte were the hosts. The dinner was given on board the Mayflower, which is at her berth in the Washington Navy Yard. The guests were able to drive directly to the covered gangway.

The approach to the vessel was lined with incandescent lights, and the Dolphin, as well as the Mayflower, was decoarted with festoons of light. The only decoration in the reception room was a large Venetian vase of American Beauty roses. The dining room was lined with early spring flowers, ferns, and other greens. Flowering almond was used about the fireplace and sides of the room.

The table decorations were of white and purple lilacs, mignonette, and orchids, with pink lights from overhead. Corsage bouquets of violets and orchids were placed for the ladies, and boutonnieres of the white violets for the men. The silver punch bowl presented by the Russian peace delegates, filled with lilacs, made a very effective decoration.

The menu was that of a typical Maryland dinner.

The guests besides the President and Mrs. Roosevelt were: Cardinal Gibbons, Governor and Mrs. Warfield, Senator and Mrs. Hale, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Newberry, Representative and Mrs. Foss, Mme. Bonaparte, Jerome Bonaparte, Mrs. Sheridan, Mrs. Longworth, Miss Tuckerman, Mrs. Davis, Everett Wheeler, of Buffalo; Mr. and Mrs. W. Hall Harris, of Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. John C. Rose, of Baltimore; Robert Garret, of Baltimore; Dr. and Mrs. Richard H. Hart, of Philadelphia; Lieut. Com. A. T. Long, U. S. N., and Lieutenant Commander and Mrs. Edgar.

---

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor and Mrs. Metcalf entertained at dinner last night when their guests were the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand, Senator and Mrs. Wetmore, Senator Kean, Senator Brandegee, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Hague, Mr. and Mrs. William Corcoran Eustis, Mrs. Cowles, Mrs. Hope Slater, Miss Gwynne, Miss Chabot, Ernest Rennie, of the British embassy, and Captain Fauson, of the British embassy.

---

The Brazilian Ambassador and Mme. Nabuco were hosts at a dinner last night. Their guests were the Ambassador from Mexico and Mme. Casasus, the Minister from Norway and Mme. Hauge, the Minister from Switzerland, Dr. Vogel, Baron and Baroness Von dem Bussche Haddenhausen, of the German embassy; M. and Mme. Chermont, of the Brazilian embassy; Commander and Mme. Lan, of the Argentine legation; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Miss Hagner, and others.

---

Ambassador Nabuco will leave Washington for Michigan next Sunday. A number of dinners will be given in his honor in different parts of that State.

---

Mrs. Audenried gave a dinner last night complimentary to the Speaker and Miss Cannon. Invited to meet them were the Secretary of War and Mrs. Taft, Capt. and Mrs. Richardson Clover, Mr. and Mrs. Peirce, Mrs. Warder, Admiral O'Neil, and Representative Adams.

---

Colonel Colton and the Misses Colton entertained at dinner last night Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Alger, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Edson Bradley, Colonel and Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Maus, Captain Henry and others.

---

The Misses Colton expect to go to New Orleans in a couple of weeks for the Mardi Gras. While there, they will be the guests of the Misses Ellis, who were their guests earlier in the season.

---

Mrs. Overstreet, wife of Representative Overstreet of Indiana, has joined Mr. Overstreet, and will be at the Portland for the remainder of the season.

---

There will be a musicale and tea today from 4 to 9 o'clock at the home of Judge G. M. Hustead and Mrs. Hustead, 1322 Fairmont street, for the benefit of the Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital. The musical program is in charge of Mesdames True and McLeod, while the committee includes Mrs. C. S. Bundy, Mrs. A. S. Brown, Mrs. G. M. Husted, Mrs. S. G. Cornwall, Mrs. Tyssowski, Mrs. R. J. Hopkins, Mrs. H. Edmonds, and Mrs. L. H. Roome. The entire affair will be under the direction of St. Stephen's committee of the board of women managers of the hospital.

---

Mrs. Cornelia E. Martin gave a dinner last evening in honor of her niece, Miss Sylvia Wilder. Her other guests were Dr. and Mrs. Kean, Miss Miller, Miss Bacon, Miss Alexandrine Fitch, Miss Natalie Magruder, Lieutenant Kibber, U. S. N.; Capt. Dan Moore, Capt. Fitzhugh Lee, Francis Poe, and Upton Alexander.

---

Lieut. Gen. Adna R. Chaffee, who has just been retired as chief of staff of the army, and Mrs. Chaffee and Miss Chaffee, will be lost to Washington society for the remainder of the season. They left today for New York on a trip to Cuba to attend the dedicatory exercises in connection with the erection of monuments on battlefields about Santiago. From there they will sail for Vera Cruz and then they will proceed to the City of Mexico, where they will remain till about the middle of May. They will return to Washington the first of June, when they will at once arrange for the removal of their household effects to Los Angeles, where in future they will reside.

---

Mr. and Mrs. Abram Frey have issued invitations to the wedding of their daughter, Miss Lulu Mary Frey, and George Justus Mueller, jr., Wednesday evening, February 14, at 8 o'clock at the Mt. Pleasant Congregational Church. The church ceremony will be followed by a reception from 8:30 to 10 o'clock at 1515 Newton street, Mt. Pleasant. Mr. Mueller and his bride will be at home at 3117 Eleventh street northwest after March 15.

---

The following Washington people are in New York today: R. G. Ames, E. W Ball, M. Herzog, T. F. Ralston, J. R. Atkinson, E. N. Bannon, A. T. Fleming, J. B. Henderson, W. E. Hutton, R. S. Nowell, L. L. Pierce, G. L. Raymond, T. T. Gabb, E. Gates, T. S. Hamlin, C. M. Lewis, J. H. McCalley, A. C. Neubeck, and F. D. Power.

---

Miss Goldsmith, of R street, entertained Monday evening for Miss Mame D. Bachrach, of Philadelphia. Among those present were Miss Bachrach, of Philadelphia; Miss Stern, Miss Loeb, Miss Baer, Miss Leon, and Miss Engel, and Dr. Leon, B. Wollberg, M. Baer, L. Greenabaum, Moe Baer, Samuel Steinberger, Jonas Machealis, and J. Leon.

# THE PERSONAL SIDE AT THE CAPITOL

### Congressmen Requested to Aid Former Government Employe Who Sorrows With "Blighted Hopes and Shattered Aspirations."

Several members of Congress recently have been the recipients of a communication in the form of a query as to whether a bill for a claim of $500,000 in payment for "blighted hopes and shattered aspirations" a young man, alleging to have been a Government clerk, sustained in three and one-half years' service in the War Department.

The genuineness of the letter, the real purport of the writer's request, and the non-receipt of his certified claim for the half million dollars from "Uncle Sam" have created considerable curiosity. As yet, so far as can be learned, no member of Congress has taken enough interest in the case to investigate the real source or purpose of the "queer request."

Following is a complete text of the letter:

"Dear Sir: Some time ago I sent you a bill, sworn to, and papers proving that I was appointed a clerk in the War Department under Civil Service law and rule; that I was annoyed, ridiculed, insulted, provoked for three and one-half years by clerks, officials or other employes till I was injured exceedingly; that these agents of the Government violated rules of the department and the contract implied in my appointment; that this daily persecution injured my feelings, causing insomnia, nervous prostration, mental depression, neuralgia, or other disease or ailments, rendering me unable to study for the degree of Ph. D. and unable to do literary work which would bring many thousand dollars.

"Therefore I asked $500,000, or an appropriate amount, because my education and literary ability was my capital, lost by persecution. Has it been introduced? Respectfully yours, ——."

The letter is dated at a small town in Ohio January 29, 1906. The writer signs his name in full.

Commenting upon it today, one Senator said when asked what he intended to do about the request, said:

"If that fellow's feelings were hurt so badly in the Government's service, he will have to stand another shock, or suffer another disappointment. I don't think 'Uncle Sam' is quite as easy as he pictures him."

---

**Congressman Slemp, Sphynx.**

Representative Campbell Slemp of Virginia occupies a unique position in the House in that he is the only Congressman who has declared an absolute boycott on newspaper men. Mr. Slemp avows that he will never again give an interview to a newspaper man, and says he will never help a correspondent to secure news of any kind. He has wrapped the mantle of silence and his greatness about him and asks only that he be not molested in the discharge of his duties.

Back of all this there is a story. Mr. Slemp's feelings are hurt nigh to an excruciating degree. He is the only Republican from the Old Dominion, and he constantly finds his Congressional way beset by Democrats both in Washington and in Virginia. Moreover, practically all the Virginia newspapers are of the Democratic persuasion. They have not given Mr. Slemp's action in the political world much mention.

Mr. Slemp does not like them any more.

---

**Gaines' Pertinent Query.**

John Wesley Gaines of Tennessee asks many questions on the floor of the House in the course of a debate. He is always seeking information, and frequently raises a laugh by his pertinent queries.

Yesterday a member was speaking on the railroad rate question and was bewailing the fact that the charges for icing refrigerator cars are excessive. He then cited some of the figures showing the high rates in this region.

"One moment," interrupted Mr. Gaines; "do they charge as much for icing them in winter as they do in summer?"

"Yes," replied the speaker gravely.

Then a realization of the joy of the situation, expensive ice in winter, broke on the members—and the House laughed.

---

**Her Patience Gave Out.**

A woman was an example of patience in the Capitol yesterday afternoon that would have done credit to Job himself.

She went up to the big watchman on the east corridor on the House side leading to the Speaker's private office, and said she wanted to see the Speaker. She was not quite middle-aged, rather on the favorable side of 40, and she was good looking and dressed, the height of the fashion. She had a look of the kind that extends slightly forward and betokens great determination. She was very much in earnest.

The guard went to the Speaker's room and found that he was engaged and would be busy the remainder of the day. He conveyed this message to the fair caller.

"I shall stay here until I see him," she said, "it takes all day," she declared.

"I am sorry," said the guard, foreseeing trouble.

Then the woman with the chin of determination stood in that east corridor in the shadow of the statue of Thomas Jefferson from 1:15 until 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon. At last, realizing the unapproachableness of greatness and the futility of her patience, she silently departed—much to the relief of the guard.

---

**The Poor Policeman!**

A Capitol policeman at the main door of the entrance to the House of Representatives this morning bent down to hear a question from a pretty little woman.

"Officer," she said, raising her voice above the noise of moving feet and much talking, "will you kindly tell me where I will find the Capitol?"

"This is the Capitol," said the guard.

"Oh!" she exclaimed. "I thought this was the Library of Congress." And there was that in her tone which indicated that she thought it was the policeman's fault that the Capitol was not the Library.

## BIBLE'S POWER WANING SAYS DR. LYMAN ABBOTT

**Man Is Real Source of Religious Authority, Asserts Noted Student.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Many an old idea crumbled in the address of the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, who Sunday addressed members of the Young Men's Christian Association at their Twenty-third street branch. His subject was "The Authority of Religion." The well-known scholar and author declared that the time had passed, in the Protestant churches at least, when the voice from the pulpit could be considered as the source of religious authority.

"The pulpit," said he, "has lost its power and the minister can no longer say 'I say so' and it must be so. In the same way the Bible has not the same power that it did in the days of Jonathan Edwards. It does not carry conviction. I do not say that this will always be so, but at present it is."

It was the view of the speaker that the real source of religious knowledge came from within and that the conscience of the individual must lead him. The clergyman declared that religion must be apprehended by each individual, and if one is not able to understand spiritual truths he should go to those who have the genius for religion in order to receive instruction. He quoted several times from the works of Prof. Huxley, remarking as he did so that the works of the philosopher mentioned were not often used in the pulpit.

Dr. Abbott gave many illustrations to show how the world was continually seeking knowledge of God and how all nations were trying to find new and better ideals. One of his illustrations was drawn from the present visit to this country of the Chinese commission.

"One of my friends, who lives in Chicago," said he, "met the party of forty or fifty Chinese commissioners who were visiting that city. They had seen the railroad shops and the stockyards and other points of interest, and he asked one of the party what had most impressed him. Now that I am a thousand miles away from Chicago I think I may safely say that I would have hardly looked to Chicago for spiritual inspiration.

"The commissioner replied that he had been most taken by three things there, first, the asylum for the insane; second, 'the house of the lady,' by which he meant an institution for the care of the poor, and, third, the Young Men's Christian Association."

## JUDGMENT FOR $10,000 CAUSED DOMESTIC ROW

DETROIT, Feb. 7.—A judgment of $10,000 against the city is said to have broken up the home of Samuel B. Miles, who was just granted a divorce from Jane M. Miles. The complainant, a real estate dealer, told Judge Walker his story.

"My wife and I were happy," said the witness, "until she obtained a judgment against the city for $10,000, and then our troubles began."

"What happened?" asked the court.

"Well, she became so independent after she got the money that I couldn't stand her any longer, so I left."

Miles said his stepchildren also made it uncomfortable for him. He and Mrs. Miles were married in 1878 and separated in 1898.

## WED WITH POLICE STANDING GUARD

**Threats Had Been Made Against New York Girl, Who Became Bride Last Night.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—With a police guard at the altar and scattered throughout the church to protect her and the bridegroom from possible violence, and with the members of the congregation casting nervous looks over their shoulders as the ceremony proceeded, Miss Alice F. Lansdown, nineteen years old, of Kinsella avenue, Van Nest, was married in St. Raymond's Church, Westchester, last night, to Louis Appilito, twenty-two years old, of Mount Morris avenue, the ceremony being performed by the rector, Dean Edward McKenna.

As both parties to the union are Catholics, publication of the banns from the pulpit had been necessary, and after each of the three weekly performances of this formality required by the church, Dean McKenna had received an anonymous letter written in a masculine hand warning him that if he performed the marriage trouble would follow not only for him but for the bride.

He told Appilito and the young woman of these communications, and they advanced the theory that they had been written by a former unsuccessful suitor for the girl's hand. The letters made no difference in their intentions, however, and they insisted upon being married.

Meantime, rumors of the threats had spread among the members of the church, and the building was crowded to the doors last night at the time fixed for the performance of the marriage. Anticipating trouble, however, Dean McKenna had gone to the Westchester police station, told the story and asked for protection. Half a dozen policemen were sent to the church, and one of them, Sylvester Vliet, stood within a few feet of the altar while the service proceeded. There was no demonstration, and having been duly pronounced man and wife, Appilito and his bride left for their home.

## FIERCE BATTLE WITH A HUGE WILDCAT

GREAT BARRINGTON, Feb. 7.—"I thank my stars I am living, for I surely did have a close call," said Charles Pexley, a resident of Williamsville. Mr. Pexley was attacked and savagely clawed by a wildcat, but was saved by his dog.

"My, but that wildcat clawed me frightfully," continued Pexley, "and had it not been for my faithful dog, Jyp, I should not have been living now."

Pexley was working in the woods near his home. The cat, which was unusually large, sprang upon him from a dense thicket and clawed him furiously. The noise attracted Jyp and he rushed to the aid of his master.

Master and dog battled fiercely to repel the attacks of the wildcat and at last succeeded in driving the animal away, but not until Pexley's hands were lacerated, his face covered with deep gashes and his clothes torn from his body.

An armed posse of coon hunters is scouring the woods for the big cat.

---

**HER FRIENDS.**

"He asked her to say the word that would make him happy for life."

"Did she?"

"No, she said 'yes.'"

—Houston Post.