

The Intelligencer.

Office Nos. 25 and 27 Fourth Street.

SENATOR PAYNE'S men might start an Ohio conscience fund.

That shower of dust in Texas is a bad thing. A Chicago girl had been sleeping across the State.

CARTER HARRISON lights on his feet again. The Mayor of Chicago is a lucky, if not a great, man.

When a man of eighty years takes his life as an Ohio man has done, he exhibits an undue degree of impatience.

The President seems in a fair way to lock horns with the Senate. The subsequent proceedings cannot fail to be of interest.

The Queen won't take kindly to Mr. Gladstone—the never has—but a Gladstone government is what the vote of the Commons want.

Let us hope that his departing lordship Salisbury enjoyed his dinner with the Queen—the roast beef of England and a sup of 'all-and-all' in a bit of pewter.

SENATOR PAYNE would help himself in public opinion if he were to do the thing which he is said to be doing in secret. He cannot be a comfortable seat.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is showing its power in the New Jersey Legislature. Perhaps the Baltimore & Ohio will tunnel that side or go over it by balloon.

There must be more persons in the county who would like to do something for the widows and orphans of Newburg. The way is open. The Intelligencer wants promptly all offerings.

If the government will turn the New Mexico cowboys loose on the red skin, it will promote the peace of that disturbed Territory. This policy might result in quieting the Indians and subduing the cowboys.

"Hens" protests against tramping dogs that have done no harm. They must wait until the dog puts its teeth in. It may be that "hens" knows more about a certain kind of novel than the dog that barks at noonday.

We submit to the esteemed Register that it is impolitic to try to lead its parliament in Council into a frenzy to make them solid. Those who feel that way need no leading, and the others do not respond as desired. Witness the election of the Police and Fire Commissioners.

If the majority tax-payers desire to take the sense of the people on their anniversary beginning in the management of a property worth a million dollars, let them put it to a popular vote. It would astonish them to see the Democratic ballots pour in against them.

The first day of the Coroner's inquest at Newburg brings out some interesting testimony. The failure to comply with the instructions of the Mine Inspector, and the accusation of drunkenness against the Superintendent, are matters which have been talked about at Newburg, but the Intelligencer preferred to wait the inquest. The beginning is not well for the management.

On a more there is occasion to commend Council for good work. The Police, and Fire Commissioners elected last night are fairly representative of what is best in the community. They are intelligent business men of high standing, who add to their other good qualities an active interest in city affairs. While there are two from each of the great political Parties, there is probably not one of them who would swerve from his public duty to serve his party.

Mr. Miller, as Mayor of the city and School Commissioner, has performed good public service. Mr. Hoffman, as member of Council, has displayed intelligence and zeal for the public welfare. At the head of the Fire Commission he has been particularly effective, and it is a graceful recognition of services rendered to make him a member of the body which is to control the Fire Department. Mr. Spindel has served well in the Board of County Commissioners and always taken an active part in local affairs. Mr. Bodley has had experience in the Fire Department, takes great interest in its success, and will be a valuable councillor in the Board. Mr. Bodley was once elected a Fire Trustee, but declined to qualify, never having desired public preferment. From such a body of men the public will expect the best results.

Death of Editor Fleming's Wife.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MONROEVILLE, W. Va., Jan. 28.—Mrs. Fleming, wife of Julian E. Fleming, editor of the New Dominion, died at a few minutes past 9 o'clock this morning.

She was nearly 70 years of age and had been gradually wasting away with consumption, and her death was not a surprise to her friends. She was the daughter of Rev. W. N. Stewart, of this county, and was greatly esteemed and loved by all.

Mingo Risk Renewed.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

STURTEVANT, Jan. 28.—The skating rink at Mingo, owned by Hill Brothers, together with its contents, which consisted of \$200 worth of skates, piano and other fixtures, was destroyed by fire at 10 o'clock this morning. The loss, \$2,000, fully covered by insurance. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

The New Assistant Treasurer.

New York, Jan. 28.—Charles J. Canda, the newly appointed Assistant Treasurer, entered upon his duties this morning at the Sub-Treasury building. His first official act was the signing of a number of documents which were brought him as soon as he reached the office. It is believed that he will make but very little change in the funds by the afternoon.

Expert testimony from Washington.

They will not complete their task until February 10th.

Left Detroit.

OTAWA, Jan. 28.—Fully six hundred families of fishermen on the Grosse and Montserrat coasts have been rendered destitute by the failure of the Robin fishery.

THE INQUEST BEGUN

IN THE NEWBURG MINE HORROR.

The Examination of Witnesses to Last Night Saturday—The Mine Superintendent's Admission and a Subordinate's Damaging Statement—At the Mine.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

NEWBURG, W. Va., Jan. 28.—The inquest into the causes of the death of the thirty-nine miners who lost their lives in the Mountain Brook shaft of the Orrol Coal Company, at this place, a week ago today, was begun this morning by County Coroner John P. Jones, assisted by Prosecuting Attorney N. J. Fortney and the jury empaneled last Friday, consisting of Messrs. G. J. Shaffer, James McGee, T. D. Howard, J. O. Mayer, James C. Stuck, J. C. Howell, William Shaw, C. A. Holmes, James Harrington, William Law, John Menelew and Frederick Richter.

The examination is conducted in the large hall over Mayor Ellis's business house, and this was crowded nearly all day with men anxious to hear what the witness had to say. The examination was conducted by the prosecuting attorney, though Coroner Jones and the jurymen showed their interest and their appreciation of the significance of the testimony by frequent questions directed to bringing out more clearly the vital points in the evidence. The evidence is recorded by H. C. Hyde, of Kingwood.

While nothing sensational transpired, there was not a little in the sworn testimony that was of almost startling interest and deep significance.

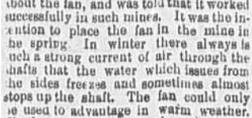
SUPERINTENDENT LAXTON.

The first witness called was the Superintendent of the shaft, Mr. John Laxton. He described the workings of the mine by aid of a chart, and told what the duties of the different employees were. He said an air shaft had been increased in the afternoon through the mine, had been ordered sometime ago, and was now in the possession of the company at Newburg, though it had never been used. He asked State Mine Inspector Fletcher about the fan, and was told that it worked successfully in such mine. It was the intention to place the fan in the mine in the spring. In winter there always is such a strong current of air through the shaft that the water which issues from the fan stops the fan. The fan can be used to advantage in warm weather, the Inspector did not order a fan to be procured; he approved the witness's suggestion that this should be done.

Laxton thought enough gas would accumulate in the shaft to cause an explosion if the whole brattice was down at the abandoned room where Ditcher McAndrews was digging. He did not believe this brattice was down; there were men in the mine who would have detected it had it been down. He said that the brattice in the parts of the mine were work was progressing. When he entered the mine after the accident some of the brattice was down and some not. This particular brattice had entirely disappeared, and he did not know where it was.

REGULATION TO SHUT OFF THE AIR.

The importance of these brattices is readily seen from a description of the manner of working. A constant current passes down one shaft, through the headings and rooms, and up another shaft, the shaft being 300 feet deep. A rough diagram will assist in explaining this:



O represents the air shaft, and x the other shaft. The air passes down at x, is taken through the headings and work-ings and up at o. If—F is an out fall, the two ends of this channel are left open, the air will find a passage through this and back to o, leaving the entire space to a without ventilation. The brattice which is indicated by the letters a and b, is closed, such passage as this, and the theory is that the end of the mine being deprived of a current, the gas quickly accumulated there till a lamp came in contact with it.

Such a case is expected to keep the air from coming out cut-offs that where a ditch passes under a door board is placed in it down as far as the surface of the water, and where a door closes over a track heavy sacking is tacked on the bottom of the door, and the air is not allowed to pass under the door. Laxton said he told McWilliams the day before to be careful not to move the door in digging the ditch.

SLIGHTED INSTRUCTIONS.

Fire sump, Laxton said, accumulates above, and depends down until it extends so low as to come in contact with the lamps. The witness was one of those who found McWilliams' body. It had been blown to some distance from where he had been working. He did not order another shaft to be sunk. He did instruct Laxton to place pulleys and weights on the doors throughout the mine to prevent the possibility of their being left open by carelessness. This was not done. The miners and drivers had the strictest instructions never to leave any door open.

The admission that the order of the Inspector was disregarded caused some comment. It is said that damage suits against the company will be begun by many of the victims' families on this ground.

OTHER TESTIMONY.

John Miller, a miner, was the next witness. He came out of the mine about two hours and a half before the explosion. As he passed the brattice where McWilliams was digging a ditch he saw McWilliams and John Hornaby on the other side of the brattice pounding on them. McWilliams said he was going to knock the door down. Miller felt uneasy that day, though he could not say why. He wore a naked lamp on his head. The witness did not know it would make any difference if that door were down.

Charles McCartney, night driver and water bailer, said that between 4 and 7 A. M. on the day of the explosion he had seen a naked lamp on his head. The witness did not know it would make any difference if that door were down.

PROSECUTOR FORTNEY.

Mr. Laxton advanced at this point in the testimony, and after several questions directed to shaking the witness's statements which did not have the desired effect, he said:

"Gentleman, I desire to be heard in regard to this witness. This man is prejudiced against me."

Coroner Jones called Mr. Laxton to order with a sharp turn, and the Superintendent took his seat.

CABINET ACTION

ON THE INQUIRIES OF THE SENATE

In regard to Officials Removed—The Administration Disposed to Make an Issue With the Senate—Sherman's Bill Suspended—The Colossal of Silver.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The Cabinet meeting today lasted about two hours and was devoted almost entirely to a discussion of the questions arising out of the recent Indian outbreaks in New Mexico. The question of the policy to be adopted in regard to applications by the Senate for information relative to suspensions from office was considered. The President is understood to be opposed to complying with requests for such information, and is sustained in that view by all the members of his Cabinet. At the meeting today letters were formulated in answer to the requests of the Senate for papers touching changes in the office of United States Marshal for the Southern District of Alabama and in the office of Collector of Internal Revenue for the District of South Carolina.

The exact language of the letters cannot be learned, but it is known that they in form the Senate that it is not deemed advisable to comply with the requests in their present form. It is understood that it is the desire of the administration to force the Senate to state its position on this question so that the matter may be brought to an issue and settled as soon as possible.

SHERMAN'S BILL.

Suspending the Colossal of Silver Introduced in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The following is the full text of Senator Sherman's bill introduced today to amend the coinage act of February 28, 1873:

Be it enacted, etc., That the coinage of the silver dollar provided by the first section of the act to which this is an amendment, be discontinued from and after the passage of this act.

Section 2.—That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to purchase from time to time silver bullion in bars not less than nine-tenths fine at the market price thereof, not less than two million ounces Troy per month, nor more than five million ounces Troy per annum, and shall issue in payment thereof certificates of not less than \$10 each, and the bullion so purchased shall be retained in the Treasury for the redemption of such certificates at any time outstanding shall not exceed the cost of the bullion purchased by such certificates and the certificates thus issued shall be receivable for customs, taxes and other duties on the same as provided by law, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem in coin the same certificates on their present value for redemption at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States in the city of New York in sums not less than \$50.

Section 3.—That any holder of standard silver dollars or gold coin of the United States or gold bullion at its mint value may deposit the same with the Treasurer of the United States and receive in exchange therefor certificates of like denomination and legal effect to the certificate provided for in the preceding section. The coin deposited for or represented by the certificates shall be retained in the Treasury for the payment of the same on demand.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The hearing on the question of an International Copyright, was begun at the Capitol today in the room of the Committee on Patents. A number of literary gentlemen were present and presented their views on the subject. Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) was among those who spoke in favor of the proposed law. James Russell Lowell is in the city and will appear before the committee tomorrow.

Mr. D. S. Sewick, President of the American Copyright League, then said to the committee that Dr. Howard Crosby had been invited by the League to set forth the views of that organization in regard to international copyright law. Dr. Crosby then addressed the committee.

Hazen's Explanation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—General Hazen, chief signal officer, says there is nothing shown in the memorandum of Second Comptroller Maynard respecting alleged irregularities in signal service accounts but what is always found in the ordinary course of differences of an officer's public account, or some other irregularity from him. He says he has been informed that the case was prepared by clerks who have been discharged from the Signal Service, and asserts that it has been made purposely hostile and sensational.

AIMING AT GERMAN JUDGES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—A resolution offered by Mr. Call in the Senate was, at his request, laid over for the present, instructing the Judiciary Committee of the Senate to report a bill providing for the retirement or removal of United States District and Circuit judges when any cause is pending against them for the violation of their official duties or for the commission of any crime, and that such judges shall be removed from office.

COLUMBUS AND LAFAYETTE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 28.—A concurrent resolution was offered by Mr. Morrill in the Senate today, and at his request laid over for the present, setting apart for the purpose of the west end of the Capitol, on Pennsylvania avenue, a site for the erection of a statue of Columbus and the circle at the western end of the Capitol, on Maryland avenue, a site for a statue for the Marquis de Lafayette.

THE HENNEPIN CANAL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 28.—Representative Henderson of Ills, and Messrs. Argue and Nelson of Chicago today made arguments before the House Committee on Railways and Canals, in the course of which they urged an appropriation to defray the expense of beginning work on the Hennepin Canal, and dwell upon the benefits to be conferred upon the country by the completion of the enterprise.

THE "CONSCIENCE FUND."

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—A resolution offered by Mr. Lige in the Senate, was agreed to directing the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Senate as to the origin of what is known as the "conscience fund" to be conferred upon the country by the completion of the enterprise.

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THE HENNEPIN CANAL.

CAPTAIN CRAWFORD'S DEATH

Described by General Crook—Surrender of the Benegades.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 28.—The War Department today received official information from General Crook of the death of Captain Crawford, Third Cavalry, at the hands of Mexicans in Mexico, and the probable surrender of the Benegades.

An accompanying report from Lieutenant Mans, first Infantry, who was next in command to Captain Crawford, gives details of the affair, from which it appears that Captain Crawford's command of Indian scouts located the camp of the Benegades on the night of the 10th inst. at a point about fifty miles south-west of Narco, Mexico, and one mile north of the Armas river, being about 200 miles from the border line. They surrounded the camp and quietly awaited the Benegades' attempt to escape. The braying of the burros alarmed the hostiles. Two of them made their appearance and were fired upon by the scouts, and a general fight ensued. Finally the Indians retreated to the rocks and left all their effects in the hands of the scouts.

A RUNNING FIGHT.

A running fight was kept up for two or three hours, when Captain Crawford's command was surprised by a volley of bullets fired in their midst from an unexpected quarter. At first it was supposed that the shots came from Captain Davis' command, which was also after the hostiles in that vicinity. Captain Crawford signalled for his men to stop firing, and it was then discovered that the attacking force was composed of the Benegades, who were then Captain Crawford's men for the hostiles. Lieutenant Mans started out to consult with the Mexicans, when firing began in another part of the line. It was about to take steps to stop it, when a bullet struck him in the back with a bullet hole through his head. A parley between the two forces followed, and it was found that Captain Crawford was mortally wounded, and a guide named Horne and five other men were wounded. On the side of the Mexicans, the commanding officer and five other men were killed and four others wounded. The entire day was consumed in settling affairs.

APACHE HOSTILITIES.

The following day two squads from the hostiles, who had escaped, came to Lieutenant Mans to treat for terms. He refused to talk with them, and also refused to talk with two bucks who followed soon after. Geromino, the head chief, and Natchez, the second in command, appeared in person. They said they were utterly discouraged and were tired of being hunted from rock to rock, as they had been the past two months. Lieutenant Mans would consent to nothing but an unconditional surrender. The Benegades then agreed to meet General Crook at a point on the line between Mexico and the United States. They sent to the American camp as hostiles Chief Nannand another, chief Geromino's wife and children and seven other persons, and also a number of horses. They were to the place of meeting with General Crook, and expect to reach there by the 4th prox. The party numbers twenty-two bucks, and is supposed to comprise all the Benegades. General Crook is expected to receive them in no doubt of their surrender. They have prepared a written statement of their troubles and grievances which led them to leave their reservation.

Captain Crawford, after being shot, remained for a few days in the hands of the hostiles, which occurred on the 15th. He was carried with the command for seven days and was buried at Narco, Mexico. His death was much regretted at the War Department, where he is described as a gallant officer and one of the best Indian fighters in the service.

STOPPING A LEAK.

Proposed Bill to have the Government Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Annually.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—A leak in the revenue of the Government, amounting to about \$200,000 a year, according to the estimate of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, will probably soon be stopped by a bill introduced in the Committee on Ways and Means. For some years distillers have been taking advantage of a defect in the law by gauging the size of whisky casks so that the surplus capacity over the gallon shall be a little less than the standard barrel of forty-two gallons, in which the surplus comes within the allowable fraction. Later the distillers have resorted to another device, also, to increase the advantages which the defect in the law affords. They have placed the standard barrel of forty-two gallons into four ten-gallon casks, so that they gain nearly a half gallon of spirits free of taxation, making for each standard barrel a gain of nearly two gallons which goes to the distiller.

When the spirits are gauged and the tax paid, they are usually transferred from the small casks to standard barrels, and in this way placed on the market. In each instance nearly a half gallon is gained, the tax on which would average forty cents. Forty times five hundred thousand half gallons gives \$200,000, and this is how the Commissioner figures out the loss of the government by this means. A bill agreed upon by the Ways and Means Committee provides for the taxation of fractions the same as whole gallons.

RACE DISCRIMINATION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Mr. Ingalls presented to the Senate the petition of Frederick Douglass and other leading colored citizens of the District of Columbia, complaining against discriminations against them at theatres and other places of public entertainment in the City of Washington. The petition is signed by the District of Columbia, and is amended to prevent such discrimination. The petition of Mr. Ingalls was accompanied by affidavits in support of its averments. It was referred.

FATAL HALLOWEEN ASSAULT.

DUBLIN, Jan. 28.—It is now believed as certain that the balloon Le Fugitif, has been destroyed in a recent gale, and the three aeronauts, Aime Girod, a musical composer; Jules Isnand, the baritone organ attached to a theater in New York; and a Dubois Carrach, have perished. Le Fugitif was last seen on Saturday circling over Brest in a sale of wind. The aeronauts made frantic efforts to land, and they threw overboard all the objects in the car, carpet-bags, overcoats, rugs, shoes, watches and instruments, but as the balloon descended nearly fifty yards from the ground a sudden gust whirled it seaward and out of sight. A Russian steamer, now arrived, reported that on Sunday six miles off Brest, it passed a wrecked balloon and saw answering exactly to the description of Le Fugitif. Scarcely any hope remains that the aeronauts have not perished.

RETIRING VICEROY CHIEF.

DUBLIN, Jan. 28.—Lord Carnarvon, viceroy of Ireland, left Dublin Castle today accompanied by his wife, for their home in England. The retiring viceroy was followed to the railway station by enormous crowds, and his route all the way to Kingstown, where he took the ferry for Holyhead, was lined with people anxious to witness his departure. He was escorted by a military band from the time he left Dublin Castle until he departed from the Irish coast. The enthusiasm of the populace was phenomenal.

ST. LOUIS MERCHANT MISSING.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 28.—John Stone Morrison, a wealthy and well known contractor doing business at No. 612 Chestnut street, is reported to the police as having disappeared on the evening of the 25th and has not been located by a search of the city since that time. He is supposed to have a large amount of money on his person, and it is feared that he has met with foul play.

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