

A Letter from Gov. Cleveland. NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The National Civil Service Reform League, December 20, addressed a letter to President-elect Cleveland, in which it announced the fear that the new administration might not carry out the provisions of the civil service act, and expressed the hope that this would not prove to be the case. To this Mr. Cleveland replies as follows:

ALBANY, Dec. 25. Hon. George William Curtis, President: DEAR SIR: Your communication dated December 20, addressed to me on behalf of the National Civil Service Reform League, has been received. The practice of reform in the civil service is demanded as abundantly established by the fact that the statute referred to in your communication passed in Congress with the assent of both parties, and by the further fact that enforcement of the law which has been enacted is generally prompt among patriotic people calling for a fair and honest administration of the law which has been thus enacted. I regard myself pledged to this because my conception of true Democratic faith and public duty requires that this and all other statutes should be faithfully and honestly enforced, and because in many utterances made prior to my election as President, approved by the party to which I belonged, and which I have no disposition to disclaim, I have in effect promised that this should be done. I am not unmindful of the fact to which you refer that many of our citizens fear that recent party changes in the national executive may demonstrate that abuses which have grown up in the civil service are ineradicable.

I know they are deeply rooted and that the only way to success in the maintenance of party organization, and I am not sure that those who profess to be friends to that reform will stand firmly among its advocates until they find it obstructing their way to patronage and place. But, fully appreciating the trust committed to my charge, no such consideration shall cause the relaxation on my part of an earnest effort to enforce this law.

There is a class of government positions which are not within the letter of the civil service statute, but which are so disconnected with the policy of an administration that removal therefrom of the present incumbents, in my opinion, should not be made during the term of the President, and for the purpose of putting in their places those who are in political accord with the appointing power. Many now holding such positions have forfeited all just claims to retention because they have placed their party purposes in disregard of their duty to the people and because instead of being decent public servants, they have proved themselves offensive partisans and unscrupulous manipulators of local party management. Lessons of the past should be unlearned; such officials, as well as their successors, should be taught that efficiency, fitness and devotion to public duty are the conditions of the continuance in public place, and that the quiet and unobtrusive exercise of individual political rights is the reasonable measure of their party service. If I were even addressing none but party friends, I should deem it entirely proper to remind them that though the coming administration is to be Democratic, a due regard for the people's interest does not permit faithful party work to be always rewarded by appointment to office, and to say to them that while the Democrats may expect all proper consideration in the selections for office not embraced within the civil service rules, they will be based upon sufficient inquiry as to fitness, as it is by those charged with their party service, than upon the persistent importunity or self-solicited recommendations on behalf of the candidates for appointment.

Yours, very truly, GROVER CLEVELAND.

Foreign Notes. LONDON, Dec. 27.—A story is now told that the emeralds which adorned the crown of the Empress Eugenie were false. The crown was bought with the jewels at the government sale at Paris. The bogus emeralds were purchased by an English nobleman for £40,000 and the money paid the Empress for her claims to the emeralds as personal property. The money however was returned when it was found that the emeralds were only imitation. The *Figaro* asserts that the Empress was aware of the deception.

George Augustus Sala sailed to-day for New York and on the 14th of February leaves San Francisco for Australia. The news from Egypt is not of the most satisfactory character. It appears that Wooley has decided to abandon the attempt to reach Soudan by the desert route from Korti, thus cutting off a great bend in the Nile; the difficulties of the way seem to him too great to be surmounted with the resources at his command. Instead of the desert route, he will use the road from Musweh to Berber, which is likewise through a desert, but much shorter than the other. He has accordingly changed his base from Korti to Meraweh. This change places the relief of Khartoum two months further than expected. General Wooley is far from satisfied with the arrangements of the expedition. He has sent a furious complaint to the war office of the inefficiency and absolute breakdown of the transportation and commissary service. Although two good months have elapsed since the pioneer corps left Taras, only fifteen hundred of the seven thousand men composing the force of the expedition have reached Korti. British envoys have left Korti for Khababiat, other tribes, which are only a week's march to Mahdi's camp. The envoys will endeavor to persuade the tribes to enter into an alliance with England.

The admiralty has awakened to the fact that the present facilities for coaling war vessels at home and foreign ports is not what it ought to be. It has therefore appointed a special naval committee to report upon the matter, and instructed it to look means to improve the present facilities, and also to suggest a method by which the facilities could be easily and quickly extended in case an outbreak of war would make such a step necessary or desirable.

The Army and Navy Gazette contradicts the statement of United States Senator Blair that the British government is negotiating to purchase Ericsson's submarine gun and projectile torpedoes. The Gazette says Ericsson's invention would revolutionize naval warfare, but financial reasons will prevent its use by the various governments.

The Chinese Puzzle. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Secretary of the Treasury to-day sent a telegram to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco in reference to Chinese immigrants. The following is a copy: "Section six of the act of 1884 applies only to Chinese merchants coming for the first time to the United States. Chinese merchants, former residents of the United States, may be admitted on any satisfactory proof of such fact by certificate or otherwise."

Dropped Dead. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Capt. David Nye, general superintendent of the North Pacific Coast Railroad, dropped dead to-day of heart disease.

Reception to Randall. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 29.—A large crowd of representative business men gathered at the Board of Trade rooms to take part in a reception to Congressman Samuel J. Randall at noon to-day. Among those notable for their presence were Capt. Silas F. Miller, Col. J. F. Faulkner, Col. James F. Buckner, Jr., Capt. M. F. Fishback, D. L. Graves, Gen. Green Clay Smith, and Bishop T. N. Dudley and others. Mr. Randall's arrival at the Board of Trade rooms was slightly delayed, and the crowd expressed impatience by thumping the floor with canes and raising a noisy disturbance. When Randall and his party arrived at 12:45 the passage about the door was crowded so much that it was found very disagreeable to pass in at that point. Mr. Randall found it necessary to enter through a window from the committee room to the platform, which had been arranged for the speaker. Close behind Mr. Randall, who walked beside Mr. Green, was Congressman McAdoo. The party were accorded a hearty reception. Mr. Green was very complimentary to Mr. Randall in his speech of welcome.

Upon concluding, Mr. Green introduced Mr. Randall. There was a clapping of hands. After the excitement had died away, Mr. Randall advanced to the front of the platform and in a slow, measured voice, began a speech of twenty minutes. While speaking, Mr. Randall's right hand explored the depths of his pantaloons pocket. Mr. Randall said: "Mr. President and gentlemen of the Board of Trade of Louisville: Reared as I have been in mercantile life, like most of those around me, you can understand why I appreciate more than might be under different relations, the honor which this body of men tender, and I say that it is proper in the outset that you, being a body of men composed of persons of every political party, should be given to understand that I am here present to-day without any personal political motive. I come among you to witness for myself, to study the details that prevail in the great South in the business relations that it bears to the country. We are passing through a period of great depression, and, as I think, I can show that this depression is phenomenal in its character and unlike all others that have preceded it in the United States. What is known as the panic of 1857, which I know of only, perhaps, from reading and hearsay. There was antecedent to that period for seven years a balance of trade against the United States aggregating \$150,000,000 in value. Again in 1857, the panic of that year was preceded by eight years of adverse trade against the United States in foreign countries aggregating \$350,000,000; and the more recent panic of 1873 came upon us after nine years, after ten years of a balance of trade against the United States aggregating \$1,000,000,000 in value, and yet to-day we are in the midst of a depression, when the last nine years of trade in the United States has been in favor of the United States to the extent of \$1,300,000,000, and therefore we cannot measure our present depression in business by these rules of trade which I have indicated as controlling, in my judgment, the panic of prior years. It is due to your intelligence that I should give you the reasons which I think have contributed to bring us to the present trade condition. I consider that it is over and exhaustive taxation, and to some degree the trade restrictions, which ought to be swept aside. Cheers.] The government should be administered economically, and there ought not to be collected a dollar of revenue from the people of the United States in excess of that which is necessary to economically administer the government of this people. Cheers.] It is a trite saying, and some of you have realized the truth of it, that a man who spends more money than he makes will become embarrassed, and I say, according to my judgment, a country which imports more than it exports must become embarrassed, and the great object of government is to free people like ours to have such laws enacted and honestly and intelligently administered as will promote the great objects of the trade and commerce of the country. Cheers.]

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What They Think of It. WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The *Evening Star* to-night prints brief interviews with a number of Democratic members of Congress upon Governor Cleveland's letter. Representative Ellis, of Louisiana, said to the reporter that he regarded the letter as a "warning production" which had come from Governor Cleveland's pen. "The life of the Democracy," he said, "depends upon upholding law." With the policy indicated in Cleveland's letter, twenty-five years from now the party will still be in power. Cleveland has proven himself to be a statesman of a high order. He will trample upon this accursed spoils system. I pray every Democratic Senator and Representative to gather around him and make the name "Democratic party" the last in your list of honor and honesty. There are sentiments in that letter which should be posted on the portals and gateways as the Jews used to do. They should serve as a frontal piece to rest before the eyes of American politicians. Every Democrat and every Republican said Pusey will read that letter and say, "It has the right ring." Cleveland has grown upon me. Representative Holman thinks the letter is timely, manly and proper. He says the Independents gave Cleveland valuable support and it was eminently proper for him to answer their inquiry as to his course with regard to removals and appointments. "I have never realized the truth of it, that a man who spends more money than he makes will become embarrassed, and I say, according to my judgment, a country which imports more than it exports must become embarrassed, and the great object of government is to free people like ours to have such laws enacted and honestly and intelligently administered as will promote the great objects of the trade and commerce of the country. Cheers.]

Storm Subsided. DENVER, Col., December 28.—The storm which recently visited a large portion of the mountain range has subsided. All the roads are open and the trains are now running nearly schedule time.

Carried Over the Falls. NIAGARA FALLS, December 30.—A man, supposed to be James Greenwood of Chippewa, while crossing the Niagara river from Chippewa to Port Bay, about a mile above the falls, lost control of his boat and was drawn into the rapids, where it upset and was carried over the falls.

Dying. MONTREAL, December 30.—Archbishop Bewigit is said to be dying. Bishop Tahre has administered to him the last rites of the church. He is the oldest bishop in America, and made himself famous in opposition to the burial of Guibord.

Illinois Winter Wheat. SPRINGFIELD, December 30.—The forthcoming report of the Illinois department of agriculture, shows that the area of the growing crop of winter wheat is 2,317,000 acres, a decrease of 405,000 acres from previous seeding. The condition of the growing crop is fair.

English Grain Trade. LONDON, December 29.—The Mark Lane *Express* says: The weather during the week was dry. The autumn sown wheat obtained a good start and is in excellent condition. Trade during the week was a little stronger owing to small deliveries of English wheat 3s 5d, against 3s same week last year.

Hendricks to Deliver the Address. NEW HAVEN, Conn., December 28.—Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks has consented to deliver the annual address before the Yale Alumni and the graduating classes in June next.

Filibustering Expedition. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Secretary of the Treasury has received a communication from the Collector of Customs at New Orleans saying he is informed by the Spanish consul that one Gomez recently left that city for some point on the Gulf coast with the view, it is believed, of fitting out a filibustering expedition for Cuba to be conveyed by the schooner Phoenix. The collector says he has notified the collectors of the Gulf ports with a view of intercepting the proposed expedition. The Secretary of State has been furnished with a copy of the letter.

Delayed Mail. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Ten days accumulation of mail matter for the east arrived on steamer from Portland, Or., this morning. It will be forwarded over the Central Pacific.

One for the Chinese. PARIS, Dec. 30.—A report has reached Paris that a French transport, with troops from Tonkin, has been sunk by a Chinese cruiser, between Singapore and Saigon. There is great excitement in the ministry. Marine telegraph inquiries have been sent in all directions, and there is much anxiety.

Taxing Religious Works. PARIS, Dec. 27.—The Senate adopted the clause of the budget establishing the principle of taxation of religious bodies.

Military Movements. KANSAS CITY, December 30.—In pursuance to instructions from the War Department Brigadier-General Angur, of the Department of the Missouri, has ordered Colonel Hatch, of the ninth cavalry, to proceed to Camp Russell, on the Cimarron river, Indian Territory, with six troops of cavalry and one company of infantry, and remove unauthorized person from Oklahoma and other points in the Indian Territory. Colonel Hatch, now at Ft. Leavenworth, is making preparations for the expedition.

Illegal Voters Sentenced. CINCINNATI, December 30.—Judge Sage, of the U. S. District Court, to-day sentenced the prisoners, most of whom had been convicted of a violation of the election laws at the recent elections. Kolb Beny, James Usher and James McLaughlin, for illegal voting, were sentenced to six months in the Hamilton county jail. D. Shannon and Ferdinand Moth, for the same offense, and Daniel Kinney for hindering citizens from voting, to six months in jail.

Nicaragua Canal. LONDON, December 29.—The *Telegraph*, in an article on the Nicaragua canal says: The canal will be of untold advantage to mankind. There cannot be two opinions as to the advisability of England seeking peace and harmony with America in preference to any other power. It can hardly be Earl Granville's desire to quarrel with America over the long forgotten Clayton-Bulwer treaty to which few Englishmen attach very great importance.

Hocking Valley Trouble. COLUMBUS, O., December 29.—President McBride states that the Miners' Association has issued a call for a convention to be held in this city January 7th, to consider the situation in the Hocking Valley. The operators claim that the strike is practically over and that they now have nearly all the miners they can accommodate. Between 30 and 40 old miners went to work to-day at the reduced rate of 50 cents.

Sensation Rumor. CHICAGO, December 27.—In view of the threats made by the Socialist leaders and recent demonstrations made by their followers, the commander of the 1st infantry has established a volunteer guard to protect the arms and property of the regiment stored in its armory. The statement is made that four regular organized military companies of Socialists are now in existence in the city, two of which are armed with breech-loading rifles.

Warning Against Anarchists. PARIS, December 29.—A manifesto has been issued by the Austro-Hungarian Democrats of this city and circulated in Vienna. It warns workingmen against the anarchist agitation, and advising that combined action be taken to break the coalition between the clerical and aristocrats. The manifesto predicts growing financial and commercial depression, preparing the way for an early revolution, and workers in every part of the country are called upon to found new institutions.

Explosion. AUGUSTA, Ga., December 29.—This morning at 10 o'clock an explosion occurred in the office building of the Augusta Gas Light Co. adjoining the works in this city, demolishing a two-story brick structure and wounding three workmen. The explosion was caused by the accidental lighting of gas in one of the pipes.

Fever on Shipboard. SAN FRANCISCO, December 28.—The brig-sloop *Star of Erin*, which arrived last night from Acapulco, Mexico, had 14 of her crew down with the malarial fever. The captain died of it and was buried at sea on December 18th.

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The Disaffection in Plymouth Church. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Henry Ward Beecher, after he had concluded his sermon to-day touched upon the alleged disaffection in his congregation owing to his action in the late campaign. He alluded to his forty years pastorate and said he never mixed politics with his theology in the pulpit. He said he did not know how far the trouble had spread but had only learned it from the newspapers. It threatened them. He had hoped the Republican party which had done so much for the nation, would get wisdom, but he was bitterly disappointed.

The Earthquake in Spain. MADRID, Dec. 27.—The Mayor reports many parts of Albuquerque in ruins, and 150 persons are believed to have perished. At Arenas Delroy forty persons were killed. Disasters are likewise reported from other towns. Slight shocks of earthquake have been felt in many places in Spain since Thursday.

Yesterday, in Deer Lodge, a little son of A. P. Winslow, about ten years old, while playing around the machinery in the planing mill, got his left hand caught in the planer, and it was so horribly mutilated that the arm had to be amputated just below the elbow. Children should not be allowed around machinery when in motion.

Office, Residence, Helena. Secretary and Acting Governor, Helena. Auditor, JOSEPH P. WOOLMAN, Helena. Treasurer, D. H. WESTON, Helena. State Printer, JOHN S. HEDGES, Helena. Attorney-General, WM. H. HUNT, Helena. Librarian, MISS MARY M. HARRIS, Helena. L. O. GUTHRIE, Helena.

Office, Residence, Helena. Chief Justice, D. S. WADE, Helena. Asst. Justices, W. J. GALBRAITH, Deer Lodge, JOHN COBURN, Bozeman. District Attorneys and Clerks. First District, H. N. BLAKE, Virginia City. Second District, W. H. HERRINGTON, Butte. Third District, WILLIAM H. HUNT, Helena. Clerk 1st Dist. Court, T. McFELY, Virginia City. Clerk 2d Dist. Court, E. J. DAVIS, Deer Lodge. Clerk 3d Dist. Court, C. G. REYNOLDS, Helena. Clerk Supreme Court, I. R. ALDEN, Helena. Registrar Supreme Court, A. HEDGES, Helena. L. O. GUTHRIE, Helena.

Office, Residence, Helena. Collector, T. HOS. PULLER, for the District of Montana and Idaho, Helena. Deputy 1st division, J. H. HATHAWAY, Glendive. Deputy 2d division, J. H. HATHAWAY, Helena. " 3d " GEO. F. MARSH, Butte. " 4th " JOS. SMITH, Virginia City.

Office, Residence, Helena. Surveyor General, JOHN S. HARRIS, Helena. Helena Land District. Register, F. ADKINSON, Helena. Receiver, Z. H. MOYER, Helena. Bozeman Land District. Register, DAVIS WILSON, Bozeman. Receiver, JOHN T. GARDIN, Bozeman. Miles City Land District. Register, E. S. BRIDLER, Miles City. Receiver, C. H. GOULD, Miles City.

Office, Residence, Helena. James M. Ahnoux, Benton. Isaac R. Alden, Helena. Joseph F. Cowan, Bozeman. Theophilus Muffly, Virginia City. Wm. F. Bercheil, Sun River. E. F. Farns, Oatman. John Potter, Hamilton. Orville B. O'Hannons, Deer Lodge. E. F. Farns, Oatman. Frank H. Wooddy, Missoula. A. D. McPherson, Bozeman.

Office, Residence, Helena. Sheriff, DAVID H. CHURCHILL, Helena. Public Administrator, H. HATHAWAY, Helena. Treasurer, JAMES W. K. ROBERTS, Helena. Clerk and Recorder, WALTER E. FREDERICK, Helena. Probate Judge, JOSEPH DAVIS, Helena. County Assessor, WM. H. GUTHRIE, Helena. County Commissioners, D. H. CRUTHER, Helena. THIED DISTRICT. Dawson county, at Glendive—Fifth Monday of March; first Monday of September. Cascade county, at Miles City—Second Monday of April; first Monday of November. Yellowstone county, at Billings—Second Monday of April; first Monday of November. Gallatin county, at Bozeman—Fourth Monday of May; third Monday of December. Madison county, at Virginia City—Third Monday of February; fourth Monday of August.

Office, Residence, Helena. Silver Bow county, at Butte City—Third Monday of September; second Monday of March. Beaverhead county, at Dillon—Second Monday of April; second Monday of October. Missoula county, at Missoula City—Fourth Monday of June; second Monday of November. Jefferson county, at Boulder City—First Monday of May; first Monday of December. Meagher county, at White Sulphur Springs—Fifth Monday of April; third Monday of September. Chouteau county, at Fort Benton—Third Monday of April; first Monday of October.

Office, Residence, Helena. D. S. WADE, Chief Justice. WM. J. GALBRAITH, Asso. Justice. JOHN COBURN, Asso. Justice. A true copy of the record. Attest: I. R. ALDEN, Clerk.

Office, Residence, Helena. Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, and Chicago & Northwestern Railways. Together they form THE ROYAL ROUTE. he shortest and best equipped passenger route between Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago. Tickets are for sale at all Northern Pacific Railroad offices. For map of the route, and all information, address T. W. TEASDALE, Gen'l Passenger Agent, St. Paul, Minn. H. BILLARD, 414-J-25 Gen'l Traffic Manager

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