



The Weekly Herald.

R. E. FISK D. W. FISK, A. J. FISK, Publishers and Proprietors.

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THE SNOW ANGEL.

The bright bells danced the winter night; Old Heath-bells rung with glow; The windows overflowed with light; Joy noted each merry and Christmas tree; But to one the bells and mirth were naught; His soul was deep, by was fraught; He wanted not the guests were gone; He wanted to dream his dream alone; And the night wore on.

THE CATS.

Oh, the warbling of the cats!— "Merry cats!" "Oh, I love to hear the chirp of their midnight night!" And they wait around and frisk all; In the air of night; In a way so sweet and brisk all; While their shapely tails they whisk all; With a Cataline light— Keeping time with their tails; In a lot of Bonny fluff; To the concert of time in using in sundry sharps and flats; As a canticle on rats; Rats, rats, rats; To a wild, carnivorous canticle on rats!

MIRIAM'S WELL.

MIRIAM'S WELL. Come, gather around me, children, and listen while I tell; How long ago there bubbled up the wonderful Miriam's Well; Close by the roots of the Tree of Life its crystal depths were fountains; And all the people stepped softly there, for that was hallowed ground; And a grim old watchman guarded the well so cold and deep; And he would creep with stealthy tread, you never find him asleep; For he knew the times of the zephyrs among the reeds of play; He could hear the grasses growing at noon of the summer day; He would nod and laugh when Miriam came chiding for a drink; And he would be the chaffier from which gray Miriam quaffed; And he would be the wisest of men; for god of the learned was he; And nature had never a secret which keen Miriam could not see.

THE COTTON CROP.

WASHINGTON, December 30.—The December cotton report of the Department of Agriculture indicates a smaller yield than the returns of its condition in October. The October average was 74, against 68 in '83, 88 in '82 and 66 in '81. The returns of the condition in October and the product in December have been usually divergent this year. The first indicated a larger crop than last year, and the latter the product slightly less. It is certain the rate of yield will be much below the average.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky., December 30.—At an early hour this morning a fire originated in a back of E. F. Scherff's dry goods store on Main street, between Bridge and Spring, and seven stores on Main street and a hotel on Bridge street were burned before the fire was gotten under control. These were the only buildings left in one of the best blocks in the city, embraced in the main part of the city, not burned two years ago. The total loss will foot up a little over \$75,000, well insured.

RAILROAD TRAFFIC.

MONTREAL, December 30.—The Grand Trunk traffic receipts for 1884 are about \$17,000,000. A decrease of over \$2,000,000 compared with 1883.

The Newark Savings Bank Failure.

TRENTON, N. J., December 30.—The action brought against Daniel Dodd, president of the Newark Savings Bank Institution, and the directors, was decided today by the filing of the opinion by Vice-Chancellor Van Fleet. The Savings Bank was wrecked as alleged by the action of Dodd, who deposited \$345,000 with Fisk & Hatch and \$160,000 with E. H. Harriman & Co. The bank was embarrassed some six years ago and the court of chancery took charge of its affairs and directed the manner in which its investments should be made, that they should be in United States or Newark city bonds. Dodd made a special deposit with the two firms named and permitted the use of the money and bonds by both. When Fisk & Hatch failed the money of the savings bank institution was swallowed up in the wreck, and a bill was filed to attach Dodd and the directors for contempt of court for violating its order. The opinion is a long one, and says: "It was possible for a party to commit contempt of court by inherent insolence of his conduct, it would seem to be quite plain when the circumstances under which the order alleged had been violated was made or considered, and had some of the persons now before the court on the charge of contempt was to be adjudged guilty, whether they consent prior to their appearance in court justified conviction or not, with my views of what constitutes propriety, decency and manliness, it is scarcely possible for me to imagine a course of conduct more disrespectful and insulting for a senior to ask a judicial tribunal to give him aid and protection, and then, after he had got all he can get and when his interests, price, or conceit, makes it desirable for him to do so, to insult the court by trampling on its judgment and defying its authority, and when he is called upon to answer for his misconduct to tell the court it is without power to punish him for it, had no authority to pronounce judgment, which he was convinced that it had power to pronounce that which he has since contemned."

THE EARTHQUAKE.

MADRID, December 30.—At Granada today the *te deum* was sung and prayers offered for the cessation of the earthquake. At Priego, in the province of Cordova, the shocks came while the theatre was crowded with people, and a terrible panic followed. Many persons jumped from the galleries and windows upon the crowd below. Two persons were killed outright and forty more or less injured. At Malaga two lofty chimneys of the gas works fell. Patients in the hospital were so terrified that they forgot their maladies and fled to the open air. Convicts in prisons refused to enter their cells and remained all night in the court yard. Almania and Santa Cruz were completely destroyed. Soldiers are now employed in clearing up the ruins in search of corpses, which are found in large numbers, many of them horribly disfigured. The number killed is unknown. There is much distress among the survivors, who ask relief. At Albuñuelas 200 persons were injured. From one house 100 bodies have been so far removed. The barracks at Loja, in the province of Granada, was ruined. At Seaffarraya, a town near Loja, fifty persons perished. MADRID, January 1.—Shocks of earthquake continue to be felt at Jaen, Malaga, Benamargosa and Velez. There were several shocks at Terro Wednesday and Thursday, destroying more buildings. The town is completely abandoned. The church at Terje was damaged, and services are held in the open air. Three hundred and fifty corpses have been discovered at Orenas. Del Rey, and 250 persons are now suffering from injuries. At a meeting of the Premier Ministers of Finance and Interior, Senators and Deputies for Granada and Malaga held today, it was decided to adopt measures for the immediate relief of the sufferers and provide shelter and provisions for the homeless. A national fund has been opened, to which all government employees have been invited to subscribe a day's pay. The land tax has been remitted in the suffering districts. Committees of the principal inhabitants in each town have been formed to distribute funds. It is reported that the government has loaned 3,000,000 pesetas to be used for the relief of the inhabitants of the affected districts.

THE HOE PATENT CASE.

WASHINGTON, December 30.—The effect of the decision of the Supreme Court in Hoe patent case, where it was held that appeal did not lie from the Commissioner of Patents to the Secretary of the Interior upon similar cases pressed upon by the Secretary is now being tested on a motion pending before the Commissioner of Patents. In February last the Secretary reversed the decision of the Commissioner in the patent telephonic interference case of Blake vs. Drawbaugh vs. Edison, and made an agreement before the Commissioner, taking the ground that the Secretary was a *de facto* judge at the time, and sound practice required that the Commissioner should support the decision.

EXPLANATORY DISPATCH.

ST. LOUIS, December 30.—Congressman Morrison, of Illinois, furnishes the Associated Press with the following self-explanatory dispatch which he sent the editor of the New York Herald this evening: "Dear Sir.—In the dispatches printed today I find your Washington correspondent quoted as sending among misstatements the following on the subject of the reciprocal treaty: 'The fact is that the ingenuity of the President to permanently maintain in the essence of wise protection by removing the tariff on sugar and compelling the revenue to come from competing foreign manufacturers is so plain to Mr. Morrison, that he said to your correspondent that no bill carrying such a special job into effect should ever be reported from his committee, for he would never allow such a bill to be considered while he was chairman of the Ways and Means committee.' I do sometimes have a careless talk which occurs with correspondents and other gentlemen about the committee room when the committee is not in session, but I have said no more on this subject than that the legislation to carry into effect those treaties would not be reported by the committee with my consent or vote, as the treaty with Mexico had been already reported without my consent or vote. Respectfully yours, WM. R. MORRISON."

CHARGES RETURNED.

WASHINGTON, December 30.—General Hazen has returned to the War Department the charges preferred against Sergeant Otto Holmstrom of having rifled Lieutenant Greely's papers, preferring not to order a court martial, although requested to do so by the Secretary of War. The chief signal officer assigned as his reason for this course that a court ordered by him would be merely a garrison court, with the power to inflict no severer punishment than a reduction in rank and a short imprisonment. The charges against Holmstrom, if proven, should be followed, in the opinion of Gen. Hazen, by more summary punishment than such a court could be able to impose.

MEASURES FOR THE RELIEF OF GEN. GRAN.

PHILADELPHIA, December 31.—Measures for the relief of General Grant's personal effects, trophies, etc., are in favorably progress with the expectation of early satisfactory results. Consultations upon the legal aspects of his business are still going on, and Mr. Childs goes to New York to-morrow on business in connection with the subject.

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THREE YEARS IN PENITENTIARY.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—Ben F. Bigelow, who was cashier of the National Bank of the Republic in 1882, and convicted of embezzlement, was today sentenced to 3 years in the penitentiary.

NO HARMONY BETWEEN THE SENATE AND HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, January 1.—The Star says the feeling of antagonism, for it amounts to that, between the House and Senate, seems to increase rather than diminish. It has reached a degree at which party sentiment and affiliation is sunk in the opposition of one house to the other. The Democrats and Republicans of the House join in condemning the Senate for what they term a disposition to usurp the entire legislation of Congress. So prominent a Representative as Holman said today, that under the encroachments of the Senate the constitutional method of legislation was being gradually reversed. He said half of the revenue bills now come from the Senate, and half of them should come from the House. Another Representative said: "Yes, the Senate wants to boss everything; the Senators, in order to keep themselves in place and power, are trying to run rough shod over the House." Among Senators the opinion is unanimous that the House is arbitrary and dictatorial, and unless the Senate stands firm in the assertion of its rights it might as well, as one said today, be content to sit here and pass such bills as the House chooses to send over. This does not speak well for an amicable settlement of the disputed naval appropriations. Close friends of Randall openly declare his angry feeling seems to be boiling over on the subject, even though it may result in the failure to appropriate for the present needs of the navy. On the House side the prediction is freely made that the Senate will back down, as it did on the naval bill at the last session. But even in the House there are those who are holding out on the interstate commerce bill. A Democratic member said to our reporter: "There are a good many who do not want any legislation for the regulation of railway traffic. There are perhaps more men in Congress either directly or indirectly interested in railroads than in any other branch of the government, and all of that class is violently opposed to any such legislation. I have heard some pretty strong talk upon the subject, and I predict now that Congress will not do anything at this session beyond passing the appropriation bills."

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SILVER COINAGE.

WASHINGTON, January 1.—The Star has the following: Bland, chairman of the House Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, says that he does not think the committee will report Buckner's bill for the suspension of the coinage of silver dollars favorably. The committee will meet next Wednesday to consider the subject, and Bland will oppose the bill. He says whenever there shall be any silver legislation, it must be given to the unlimited coinage of silver, but that the question should be left alone at this session. Representative McMillan said to a reporter that he does not believe there is the least possibility of the passage of any act restricting silver coinage at this session. He says that so far as the House is concerned, even if the Buckner bill should be reported from the Coinage Committee, it would not pass. He thinks there would be two-thirds vote in the House against it. McMillan does not believe such a bill would pass the Senate. The House coinage committee stood 5 to 5 on Buckner's bill until the arrival of chairman Bland. His presence makes the committee stand 6 to 5 against the bill, so there is very little prospect of its getting out of the committee. In the Senate the Finance Committee have agreed to defer consideration of the silver question until the arrival of Senator Jones of Nevada, who is expected very soon after the re-assembly of Congress.

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NEW YORK CITY APPOINTMENTS.

NEW YORK, December 30.—When the Board of Aldermen met to-day an injunction was served on them restraining the board from confirming any nomination from Mayor Edson for the positions of Commissioner of Public Works and Corporation Counsel. The injunction was issued by Judge Beach at the instance of Theodore Roosevelt and others, on the ground of alleged fraud and corruption.

NEW YORK CITY APPOINTMENTS.

NEW YORK, January 1.—Judge Trux has not yet given his decision in the matter of the injunction restraining the Board of Aldermen from doing any official act. The Board remains in office until January. Mayor Kirk arrived at the City Hall at 11:30 a. m. and appointed Col. E. T. Wood Corporation Counsel. Col. Wood is a brother-in-law of ex-Mayor Edson and a leading member of Tammany Hall. Mayor Kirk remained in the Mayor's office receiving congratulations until noon, Mayor Grace making his appearance at that hour. The feeling about the City Hall to-day is no means as intense as yesterday or last night. The principal events of the morning were the appointments made by the Board of Aldermen from doing any official act. The Board remains in office until January. Mayor Kirk arrived at the City Hall at 11:30 a. m. and appointed Col. E. T. Wood Corporation Counsel. Col. Wood is a brother-in-law of ex-Mayor Edson and a leading member of Tammany Hall. 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