National Republican.

VOL. XVII--NO. 234. WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1877. FIFTY CENTS PER MONTH.

A LYING DETECTIVE.

TWO RESPECTABLE CITIZENS ARRESTED FOR FORGERY.

OSTENSIBLY AT THE INSTANCE OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT, BUT IN REALITY THROUGH THE MACHINATIONS OF A LYING DETECTIVE NAMED BENSON—A QUEER WAY OF DOING BUSINESS—THE HONOR OF THE DEPARTMENT AT STAKE.

In the case of the alleged forgeries of certain Treasury drafts, payable to the order of Caleb Tompkins, by Messrs. Peugh and Grow, which has been under consideration for some time past before Judge Mills, of the Police Court, we have refrained from making any mention, and did not expect to do so until the final disposition of the case. We have been cognizant of the facts in regard to this case since some time before the arrest of the parties charged with the crime. When the Treasury Department first ascertained that there was some doubt about the genuineness of the signature of the payee of the draft, they made an investigation of the criminal connection of both Mr. Peugh and Mr. Grow with the alleged forgery, and decided that there was nothing which implicated them in it, and that the Department would only make reclamation for the money.

As soon as this was done, Mr. Grow called upon Mr. Gilfillan, the Treasurer, and made inquiry as to the probability of the payee's signature not being genuine, and informed him that if it should prove true that it was a fraud, he would be ready to respond to and reclamation made for the money. M. Grow was informed that no proceedings other than for the refunding of the money would be taken, as the Department was satisfied that he was innocent of any crime as to the forged signatures. Less than a week after this conversation Mr. Grow was arrested for forgery. At the earliest moment after this, he called upon Mr Gilfillan to ascertain the cause of such a proceeding, and was informed that it was contrary to the instructions of the Treasury Department that it had been caused by Benson, one of the detectives of the secret service, who called upon a clerk in the Treasurer's office named French, and told him that Treasurer Gilfillan desired him to proceed to the District Attorney's office, and enter an information against Messrs. Grow and Peugh.

Mr. French, not thinking that Benson would dare to tell him a deliberate and willful lie on a matter of such importance, obeyed what he believed to be the Treasurer's instructions, whereas, in truth, as Mr. French ascertained after the arrest of Messrs. Peugh and Grow upon his information, that Mr. Gilfillan had not even been consulted by Mr. Benson nor anybody else on the subject, and that Benson's statement to him that Mr. Gilfillan desired him to pursue the course he did was a lie.

Benson's act was wholly disavowed by the Solicitor and Treasurer, and the proceedings denounced as a gross outrage upon Mr. Grow, and that these criminal proceedings sought at once to be dismissed.

Mr. Grow was informed by the Treasury Department that upon refunding of the money he would receive the drafts, and that the prosecution against him and Peugh would be dropped, and that it of necessity must cease. To this end the form of a letter was outlined for Mr. Grow to write the Secretary of the Treasury, and which was written and sent as desired. Whereupon, on the payment of the amount of the drafts, they were returned to him, with the fullest assurances from the Secretary, the Solicitor and the Treasurer that this act should terminate all further proceedings.

Upon such promises and representations Mr. Grow parted with his money to take up these drafts. But when the case was called last Tuesday, to his surprise, he found that the District Attorney proposed to force the case to an examination. Through his counsel, he asked for a postponement until the Friday following. On that day a further postponement until to-day was granted, in accordance with the indirect request of Mr. McCormick, acting Secretary of the Treasury, contained in a letter addressed to the Assistant District Attorney for the purpose of giving him time to look into the facts of Mr. Grow's case, in order to determine the duty of the Department in regard to it. To-day will develop the course to be pursued. Mr. Grow has acted toward the Government in a highly creditable manner.

It is conceded by all who are familiar with the facts of the case that neither Mr. Grow nor Peugh are criminally implicated, and that the proceedings pending before Judge Mills should be dismissed. The facts of the case are these: In November last Mr. Grow purchased the interest of Mr. Peugh in two Treasury drafts, one for $1,007 and the other for $335, Mr Peugh having been the attorney in the case, and thereby being entitled to the possession of them until his fee of $350 was paid. Mr Grow in turn delivered the drafts to another party on his leaving collateral with him, to take to the payee for his indorsement, and they were subsequently returned to him indorsed by the payee, whereupon he returned the collateral and sent the smaller draft to his bank for deposit.

At a subsequent date, at the request of the holder, he sent the other to be placed to his credit, he having already advanced him a considerable portion of the money on it. Mr Grow had repeated applications by parties who claimed to be creditors of the payee, Tompkins, to get possession of these drafts in order to force him to a settlement with them, and it was to one of these creditors he gave the drafts. As an evidence of Mr. Grow's good faith in this matter, it will be found that he indorsed each of these drafts when he sent them to bank.

Mr. Grow wishes to refrain from making his defense public at this time, as he now fully comprehends that he is not contending with the United States, but with an organized conspiracy against him. We have in this case the anomaly of a prosecution carried by subordinates against the wishes of the Treasury Department. There is no question as to the final result of a trial, but the United States ought to dismiss the prosecution and not put the accused to the vexation and expense of a trial.

THE RECENT INDIAN FIGHT

THE INDIANS SURPRISED IN THEIR DEPS—SOME GALLANT FIGHTING BY GEN. GIBBON'S COMMAND—SQUAWS JOINING IN THE FIGHT—THE KILLED AND WOUNDED.

By Telegraph to THE REPUBLICAN.

HELENA, MON., August 13.

None of General Gibbon's supplies were cut off, as reported. He did not even lose a horse by capture. Everything possible is being done for the wounded. General Howard will continue the pursuit of the Indians as soon as the cavalry comes up.

With all his advantages, however, the force of General Gibbon was too small for the work undertaken. He was unable to cover the entire Indian line in his attack, which enabled a large portion of the savages to concentrate among remoter tepees and in the brush surrounding them, from which both bucks and squaws kept up an incessant and well-directed fire, which forced the troops into a defensive position, from which the savages attempted to dislodge them, but without success. The fight kept up a considerable length of time, but finally resulted in the flight of the Indians to the southeast, leaving a number of their dead on the field.

The loss of Gen. Gibbon is very large in proportion to the number of troops engaged. The killed are Capt. Logan, Lieut. Bradley, seventeen soldiers and five citizens, and the wounded are Gen. Gibbon, (slightly,) Capt. Williams, Lieut. Coolidge, Lieut. English, Lieut. Woodruff and thirty-six men.

THE INDIANS SURPRISED.

A special from Gibbon's battle-field (Big Hole,) August 11, says a correspondent arrived there at 10 a. m., in company with Gen. Howard, after a tremendous ride, with a small body guard and some Indian scouts.

The accounts of the fight given by the panic-stricken citizens in their flight from the scene, I find, are either entirely untrue or grossly exaggerated. On the 9th instant Gen. Gibbon's command struck a hostile camp numbering eighty-nine lodges. The surprise was complete, a great mass of the Indians being in bed. The soldiers were right in the midst of the tepees before firing commenced, and with the first crack of guns the savages rushed from their beds in wild dismay, only to be met in many instances with a death shot before the situation was fully realized.

WHEATLEY, THE BEAT.

HE ASSAULTS THE PROPRIETOR OF THE REPUBLICAN—ANOTHER CHAPTER OF RASCALITY.

Last Wednesday an article appeared in the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN headed "A Bohemian Beat," and exposing the confidence operations of a man named Joseph R Wheatley, and the frauds practiced by him upon the proprietors of boarding-houses and others. The next day Wheatley visited this office, and departed apparently well pleased with an arrangement by which he was to call the next day and have ample opportunity to see upon what grounds the article that appeared against him was based.

He did not come, however, and nothing was heard of his movements until yesterday. About 11 o'clock yesterday morning, as Mr. Murtagh, proprietor of THE REPUBLICAN, was walking on the west side of Thirteenth street by the reservations between Pennsylvania avenue and E street, Wheatley emerged from the restaurant known as "The Club," on the opposite side of Thirteenth street, and crossing over assaulted Mr. Murtagh with a cane. Mr. Murtagh seized hold of the cane, and in the struggle for the possession of it Wheatley was landed at full length in the gutter. Mr. Murtagh then passed on his way up Thirteenth street.

Wheatley, when he recovered from the fall, picked himself up and slunk away to get consolation from the gamblers who had instigated the assault and imbued him with sufficient courage to make it. The idle gamblers who infest Rum Row were out in strong numbers to witness the assault. Having grievances against THE REPUBLICAN for closing up their halls, they urged Wheatley to make the assault, and would have paid the costs if he had been arrested.

Wheatley is one of those men without visible means of support who have always haunted Rum Row. He turned up conveniently as a witness in the John McCarthy case, and in other ways been suspiciously connected with the gamblers.

In reference to the charges made against Wheatley, every day makes them surer and stronger. After his visit to THE REPUBLICAN office last week, as he then showed a disposition to "beg off," it was decided not to print anything more about him, as he had already been quite thoroughly exposed, and the public had been warned against him. Since then other complaints from parties who have been swindled by him, have been received.

The proprietor of the Mourten house, on F street, who furnishes meals for twenty-five cents each, says that he has been engaged in keeping hotels and boarding-houses for fifteen years, and no one ever beat him except Wheatley. Wheatley exhibited some of his bogus letters from newspapers acknowledging indebtedness, and managed to get trusted for five or six days. His character was then discovered, and the door was closed upon him.

There are complaints from oystermen, barkeepers and others whom Wheatley has either victimized or attempted to victimize. Steps are being taken to have him arrested at an early date, and it is hoped that he will meet with little mercy in the Police Court. His deceptions and frauds are most despicable, as in every instance they have been practiced on women. It is not necessary to devote much more space to such a subject, but the following letter received by Judge Mills at the Police Court last week is interesting in this connection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 8, 1877.

Noticing an article in this morning's REPUBLICAN requesting those who have been victimized by J. R. Wheatley to make it known at police headquarters, it is but justice due the community to expose this impostor. He represented to me that he was employed by Frank Leslie to write for his paper; delayed paying his room rent, waiting for a check from Leslie, would receive a large amount in a few days. None came. He promised me money repeatedly. None came. I turned him out, after giving me a note for $40, dated July 4, 1877. While here he feigned to have a fit, only to get the sympathy of those in the house, for an excuse to not be turned out. I fully believe I have asked him frequently for my money, but he never has any, he says. I hope the community will soon have one less of such dead beats.

MRS. C. MERWINE,
906 F street northwest.

LYDIA THOMPSON IN NEW YORK

WITH HER BAND OF BLONDES, ENGAGED FOR THE SEASON AT WALLACK'S—AN ENTERTAINMENT OF SHIPBOARD.

By Telegraph to THE REPUBLICAN.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.

The Lydia Thompson company which will open the preliminary fall season at Wallack's theatre next Saturday night, arrived in this city yesterday morning on the steamer City of Chester, of the Inman line, from Liverpool. Nearly four years have now elapsed since Miss Thompson bewitched the gilded youth of New York with her blonde tresses and capers, and it was three years ago last June that she left New York to revisit her native land. Her first appearance in this country was at Wood's Museum in 1867. Since then time has apparently dealt lightly with Miss Thompson. Among the leading members of the present troupe are Misses Burville, Duncan, Ada Lee, Grey, Elmore and Everleigh, Miss Ella Chapman, of the Chapman Sisters, banjo soloist, who has met with great success in London; Mr. W Edouin, the "Heathen Chinee" of past seasons, and a number of minor celebrities. Samuel Colville is Miss Thompson's manager, and accompanied the troupe on its voyage to New York. Miss Rossean, of Washington, who did monk good service in the Oates Opera Bouffe Company last season, was also a passenger on the steamer.

During her recent stay in England Miss Thompson was in London the greater part of the time, only making two short provincial tours. Before leaving for the United States she had been playing for some time at the Folly theatre, formerly known as the Charing Cross. The passage from Queenstown to Sandy Hook was remarkably fine, moderate and light winds blew all of the way, and the ocean was smooth.

On Friday evening last a grand entertainment was given on board for the benefit of the Sailors' Orphanage at Liverpool. After dinner the afterpart of the main saloon was cleared and an *impromptu* stage was erected. A drop-curtain was hung, scenery arranged and footlights were put in place. Some of the members of Miss Thompson's company had previously agreed to give their services for the entertainment, but as none of the baggage of the troupe could be removed from the hold without great difficulty, the regular stage costumes were dispensed with, Miss Thompson was not called upon to perform, and Miss Rossean was too ill to sing. A portion of the new comedietta entitled "Orange Blossoms" was first given, after which an olio of musical and dramatic odds and ends was performed. Miss Burville sang a solo from "Robert le Diable," which was enthusiastically applauded. Miss Chapman played and sang banjo solos. The entertainment concluded with the trial scene from "Robinson Crusoe," in which Mr Edouin acted as foreman of the jury. At the conclusion of the performance Purser Kavanagh, accompanied by Miss Thompson, appeared among the spectators and collected 80 guineas for the charity named. The festivities were concluded by a champagne supper.

MAJ. MOORE ON DECK.

A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT DENYING GEN. BOYNTON'S CHARGES,

AND ASKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD IN HIS DEFENSE—WHICH, IF GRANTED, WILL ENABLE HIM TO ESTABLISH HIS INNOCENCE AND CONFUSE HIS ENEMIES—DOES THE PRESIDENT INTEND TO SUSPEND THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES IN THE CASE OF MAJOR MOORE?

Major Wm. B. Moore, late chief of the special Treasury agents, has addressed the following letter to President Hayes:

WASHINGTON, August 13, 1877.

To the President of the United States:

SIR: I inclose a copy of the Cincinnati *Gazette* of the 11th instant, containing a three-column letter from Gen. H. V. Boynton, which paper came into my hands after delivering my letter of the 11th to Secretary Sherman—a copy of which is herewith inclosed.

In this letter Mr. Boynton weaves a web of fiction so interesting that he expects to withdraw attention from the real issues that he has raised, and hide from public attention the gross imposition he has put upon you by his falsehoods.

In a short review I will call attention to the various points in his letter wherein the author seeks to justify what he has said and done to induce you to make my removal, and point out their inconsistency.

In the first place it would be impossible for your biographer, Mr. Howell, to know more of you than the author of this letter assumes to know of me. Yet when he is confronted with a statement in the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, giving the details of his attempting to blackmail me, he makes a denial, which is printed in the *Sunday Herald* of this city, wherein the inference is given that he barely knows that such a person as "Major Moore" exists.

Second. He charges that you dismissed me (and assumes to talk by your authority) because of the discovery of certain documents showing that I attempted to kidnap an important witness wanted by the Senate Committee investigating the San Domingo affairs. In the next breath he claims that said documents are in his possession, and they were not shown to you until five days after your action against me.

Third. He asserts that a plot between Gen. Babcock and myself was concocted to kidnap Raymond H. Perry, to prevent him from testifying. The falsehood in this consists of the fact that I had never seen Gen. Babcock until I arrived in Washington with the requisition for Perry, neither had I ever communicated with him or any other member of the Administration upon the subject of Perry's arrest up to that date.

Fourth. His reference to me in connection with the whisky prosecutions are false in every particular. Mr. Boynton was a witness against the Government for the only person in Washington who was convicted, and, according to his own showing, we could not both have been on the same side in those affairs.

Fifth. He alleges that I was practically placed in charge of the secret service force after the retirement of Secretary Bristow, and that I used it to manufacture falsehoods against Secretary Bristow and friends.

I have never spoken to but two officers of the secret service force; the present chief and his assistant. I have never had an official conference with any member of that force in my life on any subject whatever. The records will show that I have never had any relation with the force directly or indirectly.

On the other hand, I propose to prove that the documents that have been imposed upon you have been in the hands of the New York *Sun* people two years; that the absurd kidnapping story was exploded in 1876, and that the so-called documents were published in that sheet at the time; that Mr. Boynton to get the documents was in negotiation with the vilest detective in the country—a self-confessed perjurer, and that his medium for obtaining them was the Washington detective of the New York *Sun*.

Mr. President, there is not a charge or insinuation in this whole three-column letter, wherein reflection is made against the late Administration or myself, that I am not prepared with documentary evidence to prove a willful lie if the opportunity is given me.

The object of the publication in the Cincinnati *Gazette* is to draw attention from the real issue in this controversy.

Mr. Boynton represented to you that he had correspondence in my handwriting that proved that I had maliciously attacked friends of Mr. Bristow in the Treasury. Mr. White, of the *Tribune*, informed me that he had been invited to say to you that he had seen the originals of the letters he had published in his paper. You have not, neither do I believe you will deny that these representations were the basis of your action towards me.

I now offer to prove that the interpretation put upon my letters to President Grant is false and malicious. I can prove by Mr. Boynton's own proposition to me that the letters were stolen from the files of the Treasury, and that Mr. Boynton first offered to sell the documents to me for suppression before he offered them to you in evidence of my unfitness for office.

Divested of all verbiage, I offer to convict Gen. H. V. Boynton with having in his possession papers that were stolen from the records of the Treasury, and by threatening me with their publication of attempting to extort from me a large sum of money for their suppression.

W. B. MOORE.

MR. MOORE'S LETTER TO SECRETARY SHERMAN.

WASHINGTON D. C., August 11, 1877.

Hon. John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury:

SIR: You say in your letter to me, "E. J. B., July 26, ultimo: I have had a conversation with the President in regard to your matter, and he thinks that under all the circumstances you cannot be restored and I, of course, must acquiesce in his judgment."

In the evening of Monday July 30, I represented to you that the decision of the President creates an impression not only erroneous, but unjust. I did not wish to be understood as asking to be restored, but I expressed to the President a wish—after learning the published reasons for my dismissal—to be heard in self-vindication, and I had his assurance, not only to myself, but through friends who called upon him in my behalf, that I should be fully heard.

The purpose of this letter is to ask that the promise of the President be carried out, and that some suitable person or persons be designated to examine the charges against me. This is alike due the authorities and myself. I respectfully call attention to the enclosed publication dated Rye Beach, N. H., August 7, 1877, and signed by General H. V. Boynton. It will be seen that he assumes to give—authoritatively—the President's reasons for my dismissal of the 6th ult.

I desire to meet not only the charges discussed between the President and myself, but any others that may be preferred, particularly those now named by Mr. Boynton.

Very respectfully,

W. B. MOORE.

AN EFFORT TO FORM A NEW PARTY.

THE LABORING MEN OF PENNSYLVANIA ORGANIZING—SECRET MEETINGS BEING HELD—THE LABOR QUESTION ELSEWHERE.

By Telegraph to THE REPUBLICAN.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.

The *Graphic's* Philadelphia special says an attempt is now being made by representatives of all the trades unions in this State to form a new political party to be known as the Protective Labor party of the United States. Several meetings have taken place in this city, to which reporters were not admitted, but interviews with prominent labor agitators establish the fact that they are sanguine of success.

They denounce the communistic principles of the Workingmen's party, now forming in the Western States, and claim the following as their platform: First, mutual protection of labor; second, the direct representation of the working classes in municipal, State and Congressional legislation; and third, repeal of all oppressive law against labor and the enactment of just laws for the protection of labor. Secret meetings are also being held by Internationalists, of whom there are 1,500 in this city. They have adopted most of the ultra-communistic principles, and indorse the recent action of the railroad strikers. The leaders of the International party are principally French, and it is claimed that prominent delegates from Berlin and Paris are now on their way to this country for the purpose of effecting a thorough organization.

The labor-party movement is keeping pace in New York with the efforts being made elsewhere. The action of the State convention of the Workingmen's party at Cincinnati on Saturday last has greatly encouraged the chief agitators of the subject in this city. One of the leaders said to-day: "The labor question is now fairly to the front, and nothing can stop the movement until the question is settled at the polls." Yesterday a largely-attended meeting was quietly held on the east side of the city for the purpose of taking the preliminary steps for the perfect organization of the Workingmen's party throughout the city.

The work of organization will be begun in each of the election districts of the city during the present week. A State convention is proposed, but the time for holding the same has not yet been designated. The organization will be on the same plan as other political parties. A national convention is to be held next month, and the executive committee is now determining whether it shall be held in Boston, Newark or Chicago, all three of which places have been proposed.

THE BANKERS' CONVENTION.

OVER SIX THOUSAND BANKS EXPECTED TO BE REPRESENTED—IMPORTANT SUBJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED.

By Telegraph to THE REPUBLICAN.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.

The official call for the annual convention of the bankers of the United States, announced to commence at Association hall, in this city, September 12, was issued yesterday and sent to six thousand and three hundred banks, which are expected to be represented. The call was signed by James Buell, president of the Importers' and Traders' Bank, and sets forth the urgent necessity of a full attendance, and recounts the magnitude of the subjects to be discussed.

It refers to heavy and "discriminating" taxation under which the banks are placed, and states that united effort would be necessary to obtain a repeal of the present laws. It then continues: Besides this question of tax repeal, which is so necessary for the prosperity of business and for the very existence of our banks in many parts of the country, there are other practical subjects to be discussed. Prominent among these is the unrestricted power to issue municipal, county and other bonds, by which heavy burdens of taxation are being foisted upon the people. These burdens are now so heavy that they are a frequent menace to our public credit at home and abroad.

"Unless some judicious restrictions can be devised to stop these reckless issues of bonds the outcry in favor of repudiation will be oftener heard in future, although it is evident to any reflecting citizen that issuers of such bonds are men who should be punished, and not honest men, who have given their money in good faith for them." The convention will last three days, and during the sessions the questions of remonetization of silver resumption, specie payments and union of banks for refunding of debt will be discussed.

EMIGRATION TO BRAZIL.

DOM PEDRO'S OFFER IN EUROPE—THE SAD STORY TOLD BY RUSSIANS AT CASTLE GARDEN.

By Telegraph to THE REPUBLICAN.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.

The visit of the Emperor of Brazil to Europe and his offers to give free passage to Brazil and homesteads to all married emigrants caused great excitement in Russia, and a large number of persons are on the way, Russian Protestants, or Mennonites, being largely represented. But if the story of a party of that sect which arrived at Castle Garden yesterday be true, the offer of the Emperor will doubtless prove of little avail, and that immigration will not be diverted from the United States.

The emigrants say over forty families started with them, intending to go to Brazil. On arriving at Berlin they found no agent of the Brazilian Government there, but were told to go to Hamburg. They went there and were again disappointed. After waiting a few days four families, who had sufficient means, embarked for this city. The rest left to find their way back to their homes the best way they could. If they succeed in reaching their old homes it is not probable their reports about Brazilian emigration will be such as to induce others to try the experiment.

THE GEORGIA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Ex-Governor Jenkins, who is presiding over the Georgia constitutional convention, talks pretty freely about that august but not especially impressive assemblage. He said to a reporter of the Augusta *Chronicle* the other day: "It bids fair to be the most absurd and ridiculous constitution that ever was drawn up. The convention is entirely too large a body. Every man seems to think that he must offer something, and that his measure is the most important of all. They are really making a code of laws instead of a constitution." Mr. Jenkins made himself unpopular early in the session by stating to the committee on the bond question that in 1872 he had advised a man to buy some bonds because the State would not repudiate its own word. The repudiators have abused him for speaking of such a thing now, especially for putting the incident in such an offensive way, and they will not be likely to treat him any more gently now, after this discriminating opinion of a convention which has eclipsed all its other follies by the unpardonable one of repudiation.

WHY THE MEN ON THE ERIE ROAD STRUCK WORK.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—Donohue, the Hornellsville striker, says the men on the Erie railroad struck because they found no confidence could be placed in the officers of the road acting under orders from Mr. Jewett. They found Jewett proposed to and did reduce them ten per cent., when the cost of living and paying rents, &c., were just as high as during the war, and they believed further reductions were intended. They also knew all organizations among themselves for their mutual improvement were broken up, and would be broken up as fast as formed. Heaven send that the workmen may arouse from their sleep and help us in framing laws next fall that will give this vast body of men some right of appeal!

LOSS OF MAILS.

LONDON, August 13.—The officers of the United States frigate Trenton telegraph from Smyrna, under date of August 12, to the London agent of the New York Associated Press, requesting him to announce that all are well on board, and that the Trenton's mails since June 15 have been lost.

A WIFE MURDERER.

FALL RIVER, MASS., August 13.—Yesterday, while intoxicated, Thomas Fitzgerald stabbed his wife in the left breast with a knife, causing death in an hour. The murderer was arrested.

POLITICAL NEWS.

AT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION AND DEPARTMENTS.

THE SITTING BULL JOINT EMBASSY.

NOBODY WANTS TO GO—WHICH FACT SURPRISES NOBODY—PLANS FOR APPROACHING THE OLD GENTLEMAN.

General Crook, who was invited to act as one of the members of the International Joint Embassy to wait upon General Sitting Bull and his brethren, is in the city. He has formally declined the honor of serving on the commission, and recommends General Terry for the position. The latter still has the matter under advisement, but regards General Crook's suggestion as one of doubtful motives.

John A. Welch, esq., of Philadelphia, who was to be the civilian member of the embassy, has not yet signified his intention to accept. It is possible that he may be looking for his worst enemy with a view of recommending him for the position. Fearing that the self-sacrificing spirit of our countrymen is below the heroic average, and that nobody will be found yet ready to be slaughtered, the Administration has been considering numerous devices as to the manner in which the embassy will approach the obdurate chief.

It is to be hoped that some feasible plan can be arrived at so that the interests of life insurance companies may be protected, and timorous life-loving patriots may be roped in. One of the plans suggested in the informal council was that the commissioners should clad themselves in impenetrable armor. Another plan was to write General Sitting Bull a friendly epistle requesting his vandalic majesty to surrender himself a prisoner of war, for the time being, upon the theory that an Indian should trust a white man, which proposition never yet has been fully agreed to by the Indians. Another plan suggested was that of justice. Send the Canadian member of the embassy over to Sitting Bull with a request that he allow himself and those of his brethren who will accompany him to be bound hand and feet and brought down to the headquarters of the commission. At this juncture the alcoholic member of the Cabinet suggested the sending of a postal card with cross bones upon it as an evidence of what remains when the *spirit* has left us. The administration, however vetoed the word "spirit," and there the matter ended, the proposition not being considered relevant to the question under consideration. At the Cabinet meeting to be held to-day further suggestions will be in order.

HON. ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS.

THE IMPROVED CONDITION OF HIS HEALTH—WHAT HE EXPECTS TO DO THIS WINTER.

This venerable statesman, whose extreme illness in the city last winter was the occasion of so much solicitude, causing even the premative announcement of his death, has so far recovered from his attack that he is able to walk quite freely. Not long ago he visited Atlanta, Georgia, as a delegate to the State constitutional convention, and walked from the depot to the hotel, declining the proffer of a carriage. This is quite gratifying indeed. Mr. Stephens has not been able to occupy his seat in the House of Representatives for nearly two years, and the fact that he intends taking an active part in the affairs of the next Congress is pleasing to contemplate. He is certainly the most experienced statesman in the Democratic party today, and had he been able to participate in the discussion over the electoral count question in the last session many of the disgraceful features of that exciting period would never have been witnessed. Though much changed physically, Mr. Stephens maintains his mental vigor and activity, as will be evidenced by his recent magazine articles on the author of the Junius letters. Certainly none but a clear intellect and vigorous mind could ever enter into such a discussion and take such novel grounds as did Mr. Stephens in rejecting every theory that has yet been suggested on the subject. Mr. Stephens is heartily in accord with President Hayes' new policy of reform, &c., and, as it will be remembered, called upon the President last spring and so stated his views. Such men as he in the next House will do more for peace and harmony than scores of the blatant "small-fry" who seem now to be eager for the fray.

CLERKS MUST PAY THEIR DEBTS.

ORDER TO THAT EFFECT ISSUED IN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT—NOTHING FOR A CLERK TO DO BUT ANTE UP.

A circular has just been issued by Acting Secretary McCormick to the clerks of the Treasury Department, stating that the credit of the Government required its duties to be performed by honorable men; that the Secretary would not be annoyed by creditors seeking their just dues from clerks; that it was expected that all just debts would be paid, and that if clerks refused to pay such they will be charged with fraudulent practices and recommended for dismissal to the chiefs of their respective bureaus. This is a new departure from the previous custom of the Department. Heretofore the officials of the Treasury have steadfastly refused to have anything whatever to do with the debts of clerks, except in the most flagrant cases of bad faith. The theory of the old rule was that if a clerk demeaned himself as a respectable person, and performed his duties in an efficient manner, the Department had no right to enter into his private or business relations with other men. It is to be supposed, however, that Acting Secretary McCormick means to properly discriminate in cases where equities are involved, and not give "sharpers" and vindictive creditors opportunities whereby to hang their little bills, whether right or wrong, a constant threat over the heads of distressed clerks. People usually resort to courts for the enforcement of their claims, and if the Department would only recognize judgments rendered against clerks as positive proof of existing debts it might nearer approach justice on all sides.

BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING.

DAILY REPORT OF DELIVERIES ON AUGUST 13 1877.

Comptroller of the Currency—National currency notes, $300,000; Secretary of the Treasury—four per cent. consols, $85,000; miscellaneous, $5,170; total, $390,170. Balance on hand at close of day's work—U. S. notes, $17,777,583; N. C. notes, $23,533,020; four per cent. consols, $66,947,650; four-and-a-half per cent. consols, $1,615,100; miscellaneous, $49,814,600; total, $160,289,950.

NAVAL GAZETTE.

Chief Engineer John H. Long to the Swatara, at Hampton Roads, 21st inst. Lieutenant C. K. Curtis has been detached from the Passaic and ordered to the Essex, at Hampton Roads. Master Morton E. Hall has been detached from the Essex and placed on sick leave. Chief Engineer Fletcher A. Wilson has been detached from the Swatara on the 21st inst. and placed on waiting orders. The Enterprise left Portsmouth, N. H., Saturday afternoon for Hampton Roads. The Mayflower, with the cadet engineers on board, arrived at the New York navy yard Saturday evening from Cold Spring, N. Y., where she had been to give the cadets an opportunity of studying machinery, &c. Commodore Ammen, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, left here Sunday night for Providence, R. I., to attend a meeting, to be held in that city to-day, of the Rhode Island harbor commission, which consists of Commodore Ammen, Gen. Warren and Prof. Henry Mitchell. The Swatara and Huron arrived at Fortress Monroe yesterday.

ARMY ORDERS.

Leave of absence has been granted First Lieut. Wm. Hoffman, 11th infantry, for six months. The leave of Col. B. H. Grierson, 10th cavalry, has been extended two months. First Lieut. E. D. Wheeler, 1st artillery, has been transferred from Battery K to Battery A, vice First Lieut. J. M. K. Davis, appointed regimental adjutant. First Lieut. E. H. Totten, of the same regiment, has been assigned to Battery K.

ARCHITECT CLARK.

The charges which have recently been filed against Architect Clark, of the Capitol Extension, by Alfred E. Lee, to the effect that he draws two salaries from the Government and his inefficiency, were on Saturday sent to Mr. Clark by Secretary Schurz, with the request that he make an early reply thereto. Pending the reply no further action will be taken.

CENTENNIAL AWARDS IN MEXICO.

A dispatch has been received from the United States Minister giving an account of the distribution of premiums in the City of Mexico to Mexican exhibitors at the Centennial Exhibition. The distribution took place at the National theatre, the awards being made by the President of the Republic in the presence of his Cabinet and a large audience. A procession, composed of the industrial organizations of the city, escorted the President to the theatre. A general sentiment of gratification was manifested at the successful part taken by Mexico in the exhibition, and for the attention which its commissioners and exhibitors had received.

OUR RIGHTS IN MEXICO.

The Department of State has received a dispatch from Minister Foster, in Mexico, referring to the published accounts relative to the firing on the American consul's boat at Acapulco, and stating that the affair is now being investigated by the National Government of Mexico, and also by the Military Governor of Guerrero.

MINOR CAPITAL TOPICS.

—Bob Lincoln, son of ex-President Lincoln, is now in Washington.

—The Presidential party will leave on the 9:20 train this evening at the Baltimore and Potomac depot.

—The amount of receipts yesterday from internal revenue were $606,424.43, and from customs, $900,332.49.

—Private Secretary Rogers will remain at the White House during the absence of the President on his trip to New England.

—Mr. Rufus H. Thayer, the principal clerk of the supervising architect's office, has left the city for a few weeks' sojourn at Capon Springs.

—It was a wise man who said the other day that the only way to give general satisfaction was to let every man have his own political party.

—Among those who saw the President yesterday were Attorney General Devens, Secretary Shurz, Postmaster General Key, and Mr. Schleicher, member from Texas.

—A letter from Minister Washburne states that he intends taking charge of his residence in Chicago the first part of September. General Noyes, the newly-appointed Minister to France, will assume his duties on September 1.

—Col. Corbin, formerly of the Executive Mansion, has been tendered the position of secretary to the Sitting Bull international embassy. No response as yet has come from the Colonel. It is probable that he will decline, however, on account of sickness in his family.

—General Terry, commanding the military division of Montana, informs the War Department that, in his opinion, the dispatches published yesterday and the day before signed Gibbon, and purporting to have been sent by that officer to Gov. Potts, are unauthentic.

—The spirit of generosity which prompts young West Pointers to bestow their brass buttons upon spooney female admirers as tokens of the past is for the future to be checked. A regulation order has been issued at the academy forbidding here after such acts of gallantry.

—Assistant Secretary of State Seward always wears a small black skull cap, the reason assigned for the *habit* is that the cap covers the scars upon the head which still remain from the wounds received while endeavoring to shield his father, the late Secretary Seward, from assassination.

—Mr. O'Sullivan, who is interested in the interoceanic Nicaragua canal scheme, was at the State Department Saturday on business connected with that enterprise. He says that the work will cost $60,000,000, and can be completed within five years. No appropriations will be asked of Congress, but subscriptions opened to all parts of the world.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

EX-MINISTER SCHENCK.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA, Aug. 13.—Ex-Minister Schenck, who has been on a tour of inspection in this State for the past few days, has purchased one of the largest and best cultivated farms in this section of of the State, and will engage in stock raising. Mr. Schenck expects to spend a portion of each year in this locality.

SENATOR MORTON.

RICHMOND, IND., Aug. 13.—Senator Morton arrived in this city at 10 o'clock to-night in the superintendent's car of the Central Pacific railroad. He is almost helpless on account of a paralytic stroke which occurred at San Francisco last Sunday week. The Senator was accompanied by his wife and Gov. Burbank and Mr. Hart, of Nebraska. He is the guest of his brother-in-law, Gov. Burbank.

HON. DAVID DAVIS.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., Aug. 13.—Hon. David Davis has recovered from his late sickness. It was only a slight attack of fever and ague. The report that he is afflicted with cancer on the stomach does not seem to be well founded.

HON. JOHN F. WINTERS.

Hon. John F. Winters, the newly appointed consul to Rotterdam, has accepted the appointment and will sail for Europe with his family on the 1st of September.

HON. TOMLINSON ROGERS.

JONESVILLE, WIS., Aug. 13.—Hon. Tomlinson Rogers, an old and wealthy resident of this section of the State, and for a long time a member of the Legislature, fell dead this morning while walking in his garden.

THE BENNINGTON CENTENNIAL.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CELEBRATION—MANY DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN TO BE PRESENT.

BENNINGTON, VT., Aug. 13.—To-day's trains have brought some three thousand visitors, besides those who have come in from the surrounding towns by private conveyance. President Hayes will be accompanied by Mrs. Hayes, their son, Burnhard, and Miss Foote. Hon. E. J. Phelps, president of the day, will deliver an address of welcome on Wednesday and Gov. Fairbanks on Thursday. Gov. Prescott, of New Hampshire, and the troops from that State will be received at Rutland to-morrow by Gov. Fairbanks and full staff and brought here, arriving at 8 o'clock to-morrow night. Then the 1st Vermont regiment will escort them to camp. Everything is quiet and orderly.

Gov. Hubbard, of Connecticut, has written a letter to Gov. Fairbanks declining his invitation to be present, on the ground of prior engagements. Govs. Conner, of Maine; Prescott, of New Hampshire; Van Zandt, of Rhode Island, and Lieut. Gov. Knight, of Massachusetts, in place of Gov. Rice, who is ill, will be present and take part in the celebration. Lord Dufferin, Governor General of Canada, has sent a courteous note, regretting his inability, by reason of a trip to Manitoba, to be present, but indicating a purpose to be represented by one of his ministers.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

PROGRESS OF SULEIMAN PASHA—TERRIBLE MASSACRES AND ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY THE TURKS.

By Cable to THE REPUBLICAN.

LONDON, Aug. 13.

A dispatch from Bucharest says the number of Russians between Plevna, Rustch and the Balkans is now estimated at 140,000 men.

A dispatch from Adrianople says Suleiman Pasha pushed his reconnoissance to Karalom without meeting any Russian troops.

A dispatch from Alexandropol says General Tergakaspoff's army has been reinforced, and is advancing to attack Ismail Pasha, who is retreating towards the Armenian frontier.

TERRIBLE MASSACRES BY THE TURKS.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—A dispatch from Bucharest says Gen. Gourko has been ordered to withdraw his forces from behind the Balkans. A dispatch from Gabrova says large numbers of Bulgarian fugitives continue to reach that town, and report that the Turks have devastated the Eski Saghra and Schirpan districts, that they have massacred from twelve to fifteen thousand men, women and children, and have burned sixty villages.

CELEBRATION BY "FORTY-NINERS."

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—The Associated Pioneers of the Territorial Days of California will celebrate the 27th anniversary of the admission of California into the union at Ocean Hall, Long Branch, on Saturday, September 8. Addresses will be made by prominent persons, and a poem written expressly for the occasion, "The Land We Adore