

CURRENT CAPITAL TOPICS.

Veto of the Army Appropriation Bill Prepared.

The Message May Go to the House To-Day. Grounds on Which the President's Signature will be Withheld--Legislative Bill in the Senate--Serrano for Refunding Certificates, &c., &c.

The Veto of the Army Bill. The President yesterday, after consultation with the Secretary of War, prepared the draft of a veto message to be sent to the House of Representatives with the army appropriation bill, which will be submitted to the Cabinet at the meeting to-day and sent later in the day to Congress. The President considers the subject of so much importance to the country that he does not feel warranted in keeping the public in suspense as to what he may consider his duty in the matter, and therefore will return the bill at the first opportunity, with his reasons for withholding his signature.

It is understood that while the majority in Congress have not in that capacity attempted to threaten the President, he feels that by the declarations of acknowledged leaders, assuming to speak for the caucus, a menace has been presented in a manner quite at variance with the constitutional relations which exist between the legislative and executive branches of the Government. This subject may or may not be referred to in the forthcoming message.

It is further understood that the message as now prepared is very emphatic in its allusions and objections to the attempt by the legislative branch of the Government to restrict and embarrass the exercise of lawful power by the co-ordinate branches. It is also emphatic in its objection to the covert or indirect, though very effective, manner in which the bill provides for the cancellation of the judicial authority of the Government, while ostensibly pretending simply to prohibit the presence of "layabouts at the polls." This prohibition, simple and plain, the President would willingly approve, and will undoubtedly say as much in his message, but he is anxious to bring into effect a repeal of the statutes which authorize the use of an effective power in the legal enforcement of the law.

It is known that rough notes of this veto were prepared several days ago; but the first formal draft was not completed until yesterday, when, as stated above, it was "gone over" by the President in the presence of the members of his cabinet. The bill, in its present form, and the remainder can be put in type on very short notice. It is a comparatively brief document, and the additions made to it will not fill more than three columns of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

The excitement yesterday and last night in political circles over this subject was intense, and the buoyant confidence seen yesterday in the Republican generally over the existing attitude of affairs was in marked contrast with the discouragement of the Opposition.

The very general conviction is that after they have failed in the effort to carry the bill over the veto the Democrats will abandon the so-called Beck programme of starving the Administration into submission, pass a bill for the temporary relief of the Government, and then adjourn until next December.

The Refunding Certificates. Secretary Sherman having been advised that in consequence of the rise in value of 4 per cent. bonds the intent of the Department to enable persons to invest small savings in Government securities is being evaded for speculative purposes, with a view to the speculative conversion of the certificates in large numbers into bonds, he has issued a supplementary circular, directing that where such evasion is manifest or where one person claims more than \$100, either for himself or others, the certificates be sold, the circular limits commissions to public brokers, and announces that bonds in exchange for refunding certificates will not be ready to be issued before July 1st.

The Legislative Appropriation Bill. The legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill will be considered to-day by Senators Davis, of West Virginia, Beck, and Windom as a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the present indications are that the report will not be reported to the full committee until the 10th inst. before Wednesday, nor taken up for action by that body before Thursday. The House has renewed in this bill the attempt which it has made, without success in several preceding Congresses, to dictate the number and pay of the Senate employees. The Senate will again undoubtedly refuse to consent to the reduction proposed by the House in this class of matters, and such have heretofore been controlled by the branch of Congress for itself, and the bill will accordingly be returned to the House of Representatives with a greater or lesser number of amendments.

The Question of Army Promotions. The greater part of yesterday's executive session of the Senate was consumed by the formal and somewhat desultory discussion of various questions involved in the pending nominations for promotions and appointments in the army. The subject was brought to the attention of the Senate by members of the Committee on Military Affairs, who have grown impatient at the delay of the Judiciary Committee in reporting upon a general subject while the nominations remain suspended in the hands of the Military Committee.

The principal question informally discussed yesterday was whether the thirtieth section of the act of June 15, 1874, is still in operation. This section provided that no appointment or promotion above the rank of captain should be made in the army until after the report of the joint committee on reorganization (commonly known as the Burnside Commission) "shall be made and acted upon by Congress."

The question turns upon whether the emphatic rejection of the plan by the House of Representatives in the last session by the House of Representatives is or is not practically action upon it, or whether the bill must have been considered as an independent proposition.

The Rapid Growth of Kansas. The records of different departments contain the press reports of the rapid growth of the State of Kansas in various ways, and show that a mighty tide of immigrants is flowing into that State. The records of the Post-office show that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, there was an increase of post-offices in the State from 1,065 to 1,104, a net increase of 39. During the following year the increase was 35, and during the year ending June 30, 1878, the increase was 87; while during the first nine months of the present year the increase is 113, and offices are now being established at the rate of one a day. In many cases where the places are not on a post route the citizens of the place contribute the necessary money and pay their own carrier for bringing them a mail once a week or oftener, in some instances, a distance of ten or twelve miles. Beyond the

THE SUGAR NOTCH MINERS

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International Exhibition at Antwerp. Mr. Weaver, Consul at Antwerp, furnishes the Department of State with some additional information regarding the International Exhibition to be held in Antwerp this summer. The exhibition will be open for thirty days, commencing August 21, all goods to be in hand by the 15th inst. Bulky machinery will not be received.

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Capital and Departmental Notes. Revenue receipts yesterday were from internal revenue, \$554,862.32; from customs, \$467,775.35.

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DISSATISFIED LABORERS.

Grievances of Which the Working-men Complain.

Discrimination on the Elevated Railway Work-Two Rates of Wages Paid-Compromise Made-Contractors Withholding Pay in Brooklyn-A Strike to Secure a Settlement--Canal Strike.

NEW YORK, April 28.--The managers of all the ocean steamship lines, with the exception of the Rotterdam, Brazilian, Alexandria, Ward's, Rotterdam, and Alex's steamship lines, have given notice to their stevedores that on and after Thursday they will not pay for loading or discharging vessels more than twenty-five cents per hour, day and night alike. The rates the companies are now paying are thirty cents per hour for day work and twenty-five cents for night work. The stevedores say that if the men strike they will not yield, as there are lots of unemployed men who will be glad of a job. If the men strike Thursday steamship sailing on Saturday will not suffer, as they will be nearly loaded by Thursday; but vessels sailing next week may be delayed.

Workmen Looking for their Pay. NEW YORK, April 28.--A large number of laborers in the employ of the Government contractor struck this morning on the wharf of Woodruff & Robinson's store, Brooklyn. It appears they had some trouble in getting their pay, and they resolved they would not work any more until they got their money. They have been informed that the contractor has got his pay regularly from the Government, and, having failed to pay them, they are now afraid they will lose it.

Strike on the Lachine Canal. MONTREAL, April 28.--A strike among the laborers on the Lachine Canal works began to-day. The men demand \$3.50 per day.

Freshet in the Red River. LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 28.--The Iron Mountain Railroad bridge across the Red River, at Fulton, was washed away this morning. Trains from the South did not cross to-day. The Red River rose nearly twenty-two feet last night from heavy rains.

St. Louis, April 28.--H. S. Hopkins, bridge-builder for the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway Company, left here to-day with sixty mechanics and laborers and material for a new bridge to be placed over the Red River in place of the one that was swept away last night. The structure will be in place on Wednesday. In the meantime passengers and freight will be transferred by steamer, causing very little delay.

Would-be Wife-Murderer in Jail. PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 28.--Asa Spalding Coon, who attempted to kill his wife in Hopkinton, was arraigned to-day and pleaded guilty of assault with intent to kill, and was committed for trial in default of \$5,000 bail. The injured woman may recover, but the husband has not been estranged. Her jaw and cheek bones are badly fractured. The weapon used was a pistol, with which he has threatened her life for considerable time, because of jealousy. He has been married thirty years, and have four children.

Fatal Row. NEW ORLEANS, April 28.--In a row among rowboats on the steamer Holiday to-day George Jones and James Glynn, colored, were killed, and another, name unknown, jumped overboard and was drowned.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY. Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. The fifty-first annual meeting of the Bible Society was held last night over Ballantyne's book store, with Rev. Dr. Pitzer in the chair and Mr. J. V. A. Shields as secretary.

Reports were received from the board of managers, the depository, and the treasurer, the latter of which was referred to an auditing committee, consisting of Messrs. Woodruff, Rynald, and Smith.

The committee of arrangements reported that the anniversary meeting would be held in Lincoln Hall on the first Sunday in May, at 8:30 o'clock.

Rev. Dr. Naylor, of the Metropolitan Church, was announced as one of the speakers.

The annual report showed a more satisfactory financial statement than for the past ten years. It stated that the parent society, having adopted the cash plan in conducting their business, the expense of the depository had been lessened; that fifteen churches had contributed to the society during the past year.

Since January last Mr. Scott, the collecting and distributing agent of the society, had collected \$309.00, and distributed gratuitously thirteen Bibles and thirty-eight Testaments to families without the word of God and sold Bibles amounting to \$122.61. The board of managers commend him and his work to the prayers and contributions of all Christians.

The report closed with an appeal to the Christian public, without distinction of name, to assist in the dissemination of the word of God.

The treasurer's report showed that the receipts from all sources had been \$107,376.42, and that the disbursements were \$107,376.42. The election for officers resulted as follows: Messrs. Bothwell, Lyman, and Pratt being the nominating committee; President, Rev. A. W. Fitzer, D. D., vice-presidents, W. H. Campbell, John C. Harkness, Andrew Bothwell, Charles Lyman, W. S. Fort, A. S. Pratt, W. J. Sibley, Francis H. Smith, W. H. Woodward, and George Ryan, Jr.; secretary, James V. A. Shields; treasurer and depository, William Ballantyne; directors, George Richbart, R. S. Jordan, R. H. Hall, L. C. White, James A. Kennedy, E. C. Mirick, P. C. Oate, T. J. Perry, W. H. Barstow, J. T. Sweetman, H. O. Stier, H. W. Garnet, and J. C. Kinslow.

Congressmen's Privileges. Justice Wylie yesterday, in the Supreme Court of the District, delivered the opinion of the court in the case of Messrs. R. T. Merrick and T. J. Durant vs. Hon. DeWitt C. Giddings, of Texas, for breach of contract. The suit was brought to recover from the defendant \$70,000, which was the amount due the plaintiffs from the defendant, according to the agreement upon which they were employed by the State of Texas in the collection of certain bonds and

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The report closed with an appeal to the Christian public, without distinction of name, to assist in the dissemination of the word of God.

The treasurer's report showed that the receipts from all sources had been \$107,376.42, and that the disbursements were \$107,376.42. The election for officers resulted as follows: Messrs. Bothwell, Lyman, and Pratt being the nominating committee; President, Rev. A. W. Fitzer, D. D., vice-presidents, W. H. Campbell, John C. Harkness, Andrew Bothwell, Charles Lyman, W. S. Fort, A. S. Pratt, W. J. Sibley, Francis H. Smith, W. H. Woodward, and George Ryan, Jr.; secretary, James V. A. Shields; treasurer and depository, William Ballantyne; directors, George Richbart, R. S. Jordan, R. H. Hall, L. C. White, James A. Kennedy, E. C. Mirick, P. C. Oate, T. J. Perry, W. H. Barstow, J. T. Sweetman, H. O. Stier, H. W. Garnet, and J. C. Kinslow.

Congressmen's Privileges. Justice Wylie yesterday, in the Supreme Court of the District, delivered the opinion of the court in the case of Messrs. R. T. Merrick and T. J. Durant vs. Hon. DeWitt C. Giddings, of Texas, for breach of contract. The suit was brought to recover from the defendant \$70,000, which was the amount due the plaintiffs from the defendant, according to the agreement upon which they were employed by the State of Texas in the collection of certain bonds and

MORNING NEWS BY CABLE.

Mr. Ryland's Resolution in the House of Commons.

Sharp Criticism of the Policy of the Ministry--A Decisive Vote for the Government--Terrorism in Russia--Suspicion and Alarm on All Sides--The Bulgarian Election To-day, &c.

British Expenditures Censured. LONDON, April 28.--In the House of Commons to-night the debate was resumed on Mr. Ryland's resolution censuring the government for the increase of the national expenditures.

The Right Hon. Mr. Goschen blamed the government for postponing the payment of liabilities. He pointed to the example of the United States, which paid off \$150,000,000 of debt during a period of gloom and depression.