# The Democrat. NEWS IN BRIEF.

B. H. ADAMS, Publisher.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, : MISSOURL

Orders were issued by the war department, on the 15th, making assignments of troops to the new military department of Alaska.

The coldest weather ever known in Santiago de Cuba was experienced, on the 19th, the themometer falling to 58 degrees. For the first time in 30 years snow fell on Mount San Piedro, 20 miles to the northwest.

Dr. D. K. Pearsons, of Chicago, has made an offer to the Congregational Iducational society of Boston to give \$15,000 to the general treasury provided the society will secure \$30,000 additional from friends of its work.

Ex-Speaker Reed, who was in Washington on business before the departments, visited the house, on the 19th, for the first time since his retirement from congress, and was obliged to hold quite a levee in the ways and means committee room.

The British ship Westgate arrived at New York, on the 15th, from Chio, New Caledonia, a French convict settlement near New Zealand. The Westgate brought 2,750 tons in nickel ore to the American Metal Co., and is the first vessel to arrive here direct from New Caledonia.

Former Congressman Isaac Stephen-con made public announcement, on the 15th, of his intention to give to the city of Marinette, Wis., where he has lived for nearly fifty years, a public library building to cost \$50,000. The structure will be built within two years of Marinette county granite.

Acting upon the recommendation of Quartermaster-General Ludington, the secretary of war has ordered the estabiishment of a bi-monthly transport service between San Francisco and Manila. The service will be started by the troopship Sherman, which will leave San Francisco for Manila on the 15th. or 16th inst.

Gen. French entered Kimberly, on the 15th, at the head of his victorious treepers. He dined at the club, and next pushed on to get in touch with the retreating enemy. The success of Gea Roberts' initial move caused rescieing in London, where it is hope-I that the long series of reverses has at last come to an end.

The bill generally known as the Loue bill, relating to second class mail matter, was favorably acted on by the house committee on post offices on the 16th. As finally agreed on a uniform rate of one cent per pound is fixed, the proposed clause making the rate two cents in case of extreme distance being omitted.

Mayor Ashbridge of Philadelphia, on the 16th, sent to National Chairman Hanna a check of \$25,000, representing the first quarter of the amount that city promised to raise for the Pepublican national convention in June. The work of collecting the second quarter begun on the same day, and nearly \$5,000 was raised.

Secretary Root has a plan to have the military schools and colleges of the country brought into close touch with the regular army and track kept of pupils when they go into civil life. especially if they join the national grard, and thus secure the creation of a reserve list of persons in civil life who are fully equipped for instart military service.

The speech of the governor, Sir Hugh McCallum, at the opening of the Newfourdland legislature, on the 19th, iatimated that the session had been called at the request of the imperial government to renew the modus vivendi on the treaty coast so that Frerch fisherman may be enabled to prepare for the summer's operations without delay.

Commissioner-General Ferdinand W. Peck left Chicago, on the 15th, en reute for the Paris exposition. Mr. Peck leaves with the satisfaction of having succeeded in awakening American manufacturers and producers to the opportunity offered by the fair to American commercial expansion and of having secured and sent over the exhibits of some 7,500 exhibitors.

The British embassy, upon inquiry being made, on the 18th, authorized the statement that there was no truth whatever in the story contained in the Paris dispatches that President Mc-Kinley had sounded Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador at Washington, to ascertain how an offer of mediation in the Transvaal difficulty on the part of the United States would be received by Great Britain.

The state department has taken steps to make sure of the position it has assumed toward ex-Consul Macrups in anticipation of an inquiry from congress, by directing an investigation into every phase of the allegations contained in that officer's statement, including especially & therough investigation of the condition, under which the consular mail and cable service were conducted.

Wesley church, the largest Methodist church in Minneapolis, Minn., and the has dsomest house of worship in the northwest, is free from debt. At the morning service, on the 18th, in response to the urgings of the pastor, Rev. James S. Montgomery, the congregation contributed, in 90 minutes, at the rate of 262 a minute, a total of \$23,000, sufficient to pay every penny of the indebtedness and leave a few thousands over for a rainy day.

Compiled from Various Sources.

FIFTY-SIXTH CUNGRESS.

In the senate, on the 14th, the discussion of the financial bill under the ten-minute rule occupied the session, at times becoming spirited and interesting. The amendment brought in by the finance committee declaring that the provisions of the bill are not intended to place obstacles in the way of international bimetallism, was the most important involved in the debate, and no vote upon it was reached......In the house the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill occupied the stention of members during the session, the debate taking a wide range, merging, finally, into a somewhat caustic controversy between members from Missouri.

In the senate, on the 15th, the senate

In the senate, on the 15th, the senate substitute for the house currency bill was passed by the decisive majority of; Ayes, 43; nays, 29. Of the amendments offered the only two adopted were: One, offered by the finance committee, keeping the door open to international bimetallism, and one by Mr. Nelson (Minn.) providing for national banks with \$2,900 capital in towns of more than 4,000 inhabitants. As passed the bill makes the dollar of 25 8-10 grains of gold, nine-tenths fine, the standard of value, all forms of United States money to be maintained at a parity with it..... In the house consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriations bill was continued.

In the senate, on the 16th, discussion of In the senate, on the 15th, the senate substitute for the house currency bill was

appropriations bill was continued.

In the senate, on the 16th, discussion of the Philippines question was resumed, Mr. McEnery (La.) opposing the permanent acquisition of the islands, and Mr. Stewart (Nev.) advocating the admission of the products of any of the island possessions of the United States free. The bill providing a form of government for Alaska was read..... In the house most of the time of the session beyond that occupied in the discussion of the civil service bill was devoted to attacks upon a specimade by Mr. Sims (dem., Tenn.), on the lith on the question of pensions. The currency bill was then received from the senate, its amendments disagreed to and conferces appointed.

The senate was not in session on the

The senate was not in session on 17th.....In the house the legislative. coulive and judicial appropriation bill w passed after four days' consideration to civil service appropriation, which w striken out in committee of the whole w restored before the final vote on the by a vote of 123 to 77. Mr. Suizer (den N. Y.) charged the republican party with fostering "monster monopolies." with N. (1.) charged the republican posts, fortering "monster monopolies." will drew forth a reply from Mr. Grosven (rep. 0.), who accused Sulzer of "hippodroming through the west as a vice presidential candidate."

presidential candidate."

In the senate, on the 19th, a bill for the benefit of claimants having cases penaing against the United States in the carcuit and district courts affected by a certain act of 188, was passed. Mr. the offered a resolution, which, after a long constitutional debate, was adopted, caling for information as to why the law of congress relating to telephone charges in the District of Columbia had not been enforced and practically was not been enforced and practically was inoperative. In the house the debate on the Puerto Rican tariff bill, on oil hands conceded to be the most far-reacaing and important measure to be introduced at this session and which is expected to last for several days, was begun.

## PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

For the first time the British gen erals have completely outmaneuvered the Boers. Gen. Cronje has evacuated his position at Magersfontein, and is trekking eastward towards Bloemfouteir, with the British pursuing and skirmishing with the Boers' rear

Gen. Buller began his fourth move for the relief of Ladysmith on the 14th, but the censor held up the information until the 1t8h, when his position was at Hussar hill, south of the Tugel. Owing to the nature of the country the advance is necessarily slow, the difficulties being described as "incalculably great."

Two men affoat on an ice flee made the trip from Yonkers to New York, on the 15th, and were rescued off the Fort Lee ferry. From half past seven o'clock in the morning until half past five in the evening they sat in an open skiff, which had been nipped between two big ice cakes and hoisted upon

one of them by the action of the tide. The rapid accumulation of money in the treasury during the present month is increasing the anxiety of the treasury officials that there will be intense pressure for currency in the autumn unless something is done by congress to increase the currency supply or reduce the accumulation of

money in Washington and New York. A dispatch from Monterey, Mexico, rays: "An American syndicate, with a capital of \$10,000,060, will immediately begin the construction of a great stee plant in this city. The plans for the mammoth concern have been completed, and the ground purchased for

locating the several buildings," Leslie Eastburn, a 21-year-old boy. shot Jasper Sutton, an aged and respected citizen of Bloomfield, Ia., or the 18th, three bullets penetrating the abdomen and causing almost instant death. Eastburn called at Sutton's home to take his 18-year-old daughter Alice to church. The father ordered

bim away and the tragedy followed. Uncle Sam now has 61 vessels 121thorized or under construction. Some of the best of these ships are nearly conpleted, and by the end of the year 22 vessels will be commissioned. 1:1 May the Kearsarge will be ready for its crew; in June the Kentucky will be completed, and the Alabama will have the finishing touches put upon it

in July. Armed with a shotgun and accompanied by his dog, Richard Cain left Shelbyville, Ind., on the 17th, in search of game, that his family might have meat for supper, he being out of empleyment. The next morning his dead bod; was found, with his dog by his side. He had evidently fallen down. discharged his gun and blown his head

The steamer Olympia brings news to Tacoma, Wash., that civil war is raging at Shantung province, China... The anti-foreign society known as the "Boxers" is determined that all foreigners shall be driven out, including

Mrs. Annie E. Lodge, mother of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts, died at her home, in Boston, on the 19th. She was 79 years of age.

Jean Louis Legare, who surrendered Sitting Bull and hundreds of other Siou: to the United States government in 1881 and 1882, has gone from the porthwest to Ottawa, Ont., to push, with the promised help of the Dominion government, his claim for \$13,400 and interest from the time of its presentation, 18 years ago.

The most important news from the war in South Africa, on the 19th, was to the effect that Gen. French had headed off Gen. Cronje's retreating cimy, and was only awaiting reinfercements to attack; Hlangwane hill, ecommanding the flank of the Boer defenses at Colenso, had been occupied; Lord Methuen had reached Kimberley, and Gen. Buller had won an important

victory and was again moving to the

reliet of Ladysmith. Representative Lacey, of Iowa, in introduced a bill to amend the civil service act. It provides that government employes shall serve for five years, with opportunities for reappointment for another five years. These now in the service shall serve our a term of five years, and those who have served beyond that time shall be divided into classes whose terms shall gradually expire.

Lieut.-Col. Henry C. Brinkerhoff, of the Eleventh infantry, has been appeir ted treasurer of the Island of Puerto Rico, relieving Maj. Jas. A. Buchanan, Fifth infantry.

#### LATE NEWS ITEMS.

In the senate, on the 20th, discussion of the Philippines question was resumed, Mr. Kenny speaking against retention and in favor of self-government. Fifty-two pension bills and a number of bills on the calendar were passed, after which the Hawaiian government bill was taken up and some amendments agreed to .... In the house the time of the session was mostly taken up by three set speeches on the Puerto Rican tariff bill, the constitutional question involved forming the principal subject of discussion.

The board of naval construction, on the 20th, received estimates of the board of survey on the cruiser Boston. The necessary repairs to the ship will cost about \$400,000, and occupy two years. When they are completed the Boston will be, like he Atlanta, a thoroughly modernized type of war ship. The work will be done at the Mare Island navy yard.

During the discussion of the war budget in the French chamber of deputies, on the 20th, the marquis de Gallifet said: "Thanks to the eminent director of infantry (Gen. C. F. Mallet), France, in six months' time, will possess the finest rifle in the world, and only a slight modification of the present weapon will be necessary."

Latest intelligence from the war in South Africa, dated the 21st, said: "The Boers are leaving all the positions held by them on British territory and are concentrating for the defense of their own. Sir Redvers Butter thinks they are about to raise the siege of Ladysmith, and this is the large news of the day."

Judge Taft, president of the Philippine commission, had a long conference with Secretary Root at the war department, on the 20th, in regard to the proposed work of the commission. It was said the commission would be completely organized in the near future, and that it will start for Manila about April 1.

A board of officers to consist of Brig.-Gen. William Ludlow, Col. Henry C. Hasbrouck, Seventh artillery, and Lieut.-Col. William H. Carter, assistant adjutant general, has been appointulations with a view to the establishment of a war college for the army.

An interesting series of races between electro-mobiles will occur in Berlin during the spring, lasting four

## CURRENT NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. Mary Grindrod, aged 87 years. dred at Bloomington, Ill. She came from Manchester, England, 16 years

Arrangements are being made for the Missouri postmasters' convention, which is to be held in St. Louis, February 2.

The state department has decided to fully investigate the charges made by Charles E. Macrum, former consul to Joe Choynski was given the decision over Peter Maher in a six-round con-

test before the Fort Dearborn Athletic club at Chicago. Mrs. Catherine Rusmisell, aged 89

years, died at Danvers, III. She was the mother of 12 children, of whom five ar. living. Christopher Eblade, a farmer, living

hear Wanda, Ill., was frozen to death within a quarter of a mile of his home. He had been drinking. Darius McDaniel, a leading farmer, died near Pana, Ill., Friday from the

bursting of a blood vessel in his head during a fit of coughing. Near Minier, Ill., Philip Railsback, aged 80 years, died of general debility. He was born in Kentucky and settled

in Tazewell county in 1830. Col. William L. Distin, surveyor general of Alaska, and wife have left Quircy, Ill., for Seattle, where they

take the steamer for Sitka. James Zimmerman, one of the pioneers of Colescounty, Ill., and a wealthy and influential citizen, is dead. He was born in Augusta county, Va., in 1827.

The democratic senators held a caucus at Washington, and decided to continue their opposition to the republican policy regarding our island possessions. The Rock Island (Ill.) shooters' an-

nual tournatment was concluded Friday. H. Ealtentsein, of Cambridge, Ill., won the gold medal, killing 60 birds out of a possible 64. A pro-Boer resolution with a rider

expressing sympathy with the Filipinos was voted down by an overwhelming majority in the South Carolina house of representatives. Fruit growers and commission men predict a short strawberry crop, due

partly to a long-continued drought and partly to the low prices of last season, which has caused many growers to reduce the acreage.

Department Store Law So Declared by the Supreme Court of the State of Missouri.

### IT IS THEREFORE UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

The Law Only Applied to St. Louis, Kanuas City and St. Joseph-The Court Blasted the Last Hope of Train Robber Kennedy, Sentenced to Seventeen Years.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 21.-The supreme court, in banc, in an opinion by Judge Robinson, declared the department store law passed by the last legislature to be unconstitutional and void, for the reason that law is clearly class legisation, and because the act is incomplete and not a law, and does not constitute a rule of conduct; and for the further reason that the act imposes an occupation tax as a license to do business.

The law applied to only St. Joseph, Kansas City and St. Louis, and to stores in those cities employing clerks. This feature is objected to in the opinion as class legislation. The case decided was that of State ex rel Wyatt against Ashbrook and other officers of the city of St. Joseph, for a writ of mandamus to compel them to issue a license to conduct a department store in that city without paying the license tax requiredby the law. The court, in the opinion, orders the writ awarded.

This decision releases John W. Thayer, president of Emery, Bird, Thayer & Co., of Kansas City, from paying a fine of \$100 imposed on conviction of violating the law, a case now before the supreme court.

The supreme court overruled the motion to transfer to the court en bane the case of the train robber, John F. Kennedy. This is the last attempt for him, and he must serve his 17-year sentence in the penitentiary.

## FORMER ACTION RATIFIED.

Democrats in Joint Session Confirm the Election of William Goebel as Governor.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 22.-The demoeratic members of the two houses of the legislature met in joint session at three o'clock Tuesday afternoon, and by a vote of 72 to two ratified the former procedings by which William Goebel was declared governor and J. C. W. Beckham lieutenant governor, and through which Beckham, since the death of Gov. Goebel, claims title to the office of governor.

The republican members of the legislature remained away from the joint session in the afternoon, having decided in caucus not to attend.

The senate had adopted the resolutions Monday, and the house Tuesday, and the adoption of them by the joint assembly, from the democratic standpoint, puts the finishing touch as to its action on the contests. In the session of the joint assembly | them entirely.

Tuesday afternoon Senator Triplett ing Representative Grider voted against the ratification resolutions. Mr. Grider, in explanation of his vote, said he had hoped that there would be a full and fair investigation of the contest, and that he hoped to be able to vote with the democrats, but he could not satisfy his own conscience and do so in this matter.

Mr. Orr declined to vote. He said he had voted with the democrats in their former action and did not think rati fication of those former proceedings necessary now. The lobbies were crowded, and when Speaker Trimble arrounced the vote in the joint assembly there was a mild outburst of applause.

## GOVERNORSHIP CONTEST.

Lawyers Luboring to Avoid a Clash of Authority.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 22.-The attorneys for Taylor and Beekham will hold a joint conference at ten o'clock Wednesday, for the purpose of discussing propositions to settle which of the two injunction suits relating to the contest over the governorship shall have precedence on the consolidation of both cases, in order to avoid a clash between courts over the questions involved of jurisdiction. The Beckhain suit is set for hearing before Judge Centrill, at Georgetown, Friday, and he attorneys will attempt to agree upor a plan of action and facts forming the basis of the suit, and as to what judge the agreed case shall be tried before. Sentenced to Banishment.

Chuton, Mass., Feb. 22.-Arthur

Payne, a 15-year-old lad, was sentenced to be banished from the state for two years in the district court here Tuesday after having pleaded guilty to a charge of forging a check. The lad's father will take him to California to remain with friends until the period of his banishment expires. At the end of the two years, if he comes back to Massachusetts, he will be placed in charge of a probation officer.

The Muckross estate, which includes the famous lakes of Killarney, is an nually visited by so many visitors that their fees amount to at least \$6,000 a year, which is two per cent of the price paid by Lord Ardilaun for the property.

One of the oldest hostelries in Eng land is the New inn at Gloucester, bu: in spite of the centuries which have rolled by since it was built its once appropriate inscription still clings to

A "cupful" in all cases is half a pint

### MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Recent Deaths. William E. Bard, one of the pioneer erchants of Sedalia, aged 60.

C. I. Davis, a pioneer, at Monroe. Mrs. Susan Vanliew, uged 68, at Knobnoster.

Dr. Alexander Weems, aged 77, at Pilot Grove, Cooper county. Mrs. John Lawcock, aged 80, in

owersville, Putnam county. Mrs. Susan Rupe Williams, one of the oldest residents of Howard county, in Fayette, aged 82.

James Gibbs, aged 30, a pioneer citzen of Saline county, well known in central Missouri.

Thomas Lapsley, aged 72, for 35 years a resident of Knobnoster. C. J. Van Cleave, a practicing physician of Brownington, Henry county. Warren Adkisson, 77 year old, and Joseph G. Kitchen, 40 years old, at Marshall.

Col. William P. Bush, aged 72, at Monroe City. Dr. Richard Huff, at his home in lefferson township, Johnson county. He was 72 years old, and one of the

pioneers of Johnson county. Mrs. Ann Shaw, widow of Joel K. Shaw and sister of Gen. John B. Hepderson, of Washington, D. C., at her home near Louisiana, after a long illness, aged 71.

Refuse to Pay Personal Taxes. The St. Louis Single Tax league has been requested by the president of the board of assessors to make returns for taxes on personal property for the

present year. In reply, Secretary of the League George Bigley has written, saying that the league declined to make return, for the reason that it considers personal property taxation in this state unconstitutional. The league is now awaiting the action of the hoard of ing a corporal. The charges are murassessors, and is preparing to take the matter to the courts if necessary. Secretary Bigley said that the members of the league refused to pay taxes on their personal property because such property was earned by their individual effort, and the exclusive enjoyment of their personal property is

as their natural right. "As our buildings and personal property are the results of our indiridual effort," he said, "it is unjust to tax them for public purposes until land and franchise values have first been taken in to bear the people's expenses."

guaranteed by the laws of the state

Verdict in the Jesse Case.

The jury in the case of the state gainst C. C. Jesse, charged with havng murdered Frank Griffin, editor of iriffin's Maryville Daily Review, returned a verdict, at Maryville, of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Jesse's punishment was fixed at two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. The jury was out 60 hours.

Short Crop of Strawberries.

Fruit growers and commission men, ays the St. Louis Republic, predict a short strawberry crop, due partly to a long-continued drought and partly to the low prices of last season, which caused many growers to reduce the acreage, an some discontinue raising curred.

Mrs. Crumpacker, Attorney.

The leading feature of the recent ession of the circuit court at Unionville was the admission to the bar of Mrs. Roxie Crumpacker, one of the best-known women in Putnam county. She is the first woman to be admitted

to the practice of law in that county.

An Old Time Slave. John Francis, who died at the Mullauphy hospital, St. Louis, nearly a century old, was one of the last of the old-time slaves of the pioneer families of St. Louis. He belonged to Henry Soulard at the time of the war of 1812 and was set free by his master.

Department Store Law Vold. The state supreme court, in banc, in an opinion by Judge Robinson, declared the department store law passed by the last legislature to be unconstitutional and void, for the reason that "the law is clearly class legis-

Reward for a Killer.

Gov. Stephens has offered a reward of \$200 for the arrest and delivery to the sheriff of Carter county of Grant Freeman, who shot and killed Mace Smith.

Col. Theo S. Chase Dead.

Theodore S. Case, who had been a resident of Kansas City for 47 years, and who held the office of postmaster for 14 years, died recently of paralysis.

Given Forty Years. A jury in the criminal court at Kansas City broke the state record when it gave Ed Sims, a negro, 40 years in the penitentiary for highway robbery.

Rural Mail Delivery in Caldwell. Free rural mail delivery has been established from Kingston, Caldwell county. The route is 24 miles in length and supplies 200 families.

Fell Dead Handling Icc. Jesse Dillender, a white man, 60 years of age, fell dead at Louisiana, while handling ice. His death is attributed to heart disease.

Preached for Many Years. Rev. S. C. Givens, a well-known Baptist, died at Louisiana. He was 64

years of age, and had been preaching for many years. Will Be Rebuilt. The Odd Fellows' home at Liberty

will be rebuilt. A fire-prof structure will be erected, a pride and ornament to the order.

A Weak Jail. Eight prisoners escaped from the Wright county jail at Hartville, a few nights ago, by prying off a transom

### THE POPULIST CONVENTION.

The Populist National Convention Will be Held at Sloux Falls, Dakots, May 9.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 21.-The Populist national committee, presided over by Senator Butler, took up thequestion of time and place for the national convention. A proposition from the Texas delegation that May 9 be fixed upon as the date, was amended to permit a committee to decided on both time and place. The amendment was opposed vigorously by the Texas delega-tion as "cowardly and truckling to the democrats." Senator Allen, of Nebraska, spoke at length in favor of harmony, and for the naming of a date by the whole committee. "Bryan will be the nominee of both democrats and populists," said Senator Allen, "and the question of date makes little difference anyhow."

The amendment to refer to a committee was voted down, and Wednesday, May 9, the same date as that of the middle-of-the road convention at Circinnati, was decided upon.

Three cities, Kansas City, Sioux Falls, S. D., and Indianapolis, presented claims for the convention, and each was granted unlimited time to set forth its respective advantages. Sioux Falls was finally selected.

# BY MILITARY COMMISSION.

A Filipino Guerilla to be Tried for Murder and Assault with In-

Manila, Feb. 20, 5:55 p. m.—A military commission meets at Calamba, Wednesday, to try a Filipino member of the guerilla band which attacked a squad of Americans February 2, killder and assault with intent to kill. The case is important, as foreshadowing the policy of treating guerillas as bandits. It is supposed that one reason which has hitherto deterred the American authorities from adopting this poling is that the in insurgents have more than fifty American prisoners, and may retaliate, although a. few of them were captured while fighting.

## A MYSTERIOUS SINKING.

The British Steamer Restormel. Grain Laden, Sunk Mysteriously in Delaware River.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.-The British steamer Kestormel, which was ready to sail from this port with a cargo of wheat for Limerick, Ireland, sank in the Delaware river, off Kaighn's Point, N. J., Monday night. Considerable mystery surrounds the sinking of the vessel, as it is reported that the grain was to be forwarded eventually to South Africa. The steemer had nearly ten feet of water in her forehold when the first mate discovered that the vessel was settling. Despite the efforts of the crew to keep her afloat, by use of pumps, the vessel sank in a short time. Capt. Merlin was not aboard when the accident oc-

## EX-CONSUL MACRUM'S MAIL.

cial Knowledge that it Was Interfered With.

Washington, Feb. 21.-The state department has completed preparations for the reply to be made to the house resolution inquiring into the allegations that ex-Consul Macrum's mail had been opened by the British censor at Cape Town. The answer will be sent to the house Wednesday by the president, as is customary with communications of the kind from the state department. It will show briefly that the department has no official knowldge whatever that there was any interference with the ex-consul's mail. as he made no complaint to the department on the subject.

## IMPORTANT TO CLAIMANTS.

ubstance of Rulings by the Comptroller of the Trensury in Regard to Payment of Claims.

Washington, Feb. 21.-The comproller of the treasury has recently rendered several decisions in which he holds that under the act of July 31, 1894, claimants against the government who accept payment under a ettlement by the auditor, are precluded from obtaining a revision by the comptroller of such settlement as to any items which have been rejected. Persons, he says, receiving treasury warrants in payment of claims should not transfer or cash them if they are not satisfied with the amount paid. Otherwise they are stopped from asking for a revision by the comptroller.

Political Crisis in Jamaica.

Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 21.-There excitement here over the political risis. The elected members, as a protest to the subversion of the legis'nture, left the chamber in a body. Additional official members where then introduced and sworn in, marking the re-establishment of crown government. The American reciprocity treaty will be considered Wednesday.

Hotel Fire at Knoxville, Tenn. Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 21.-The-Hotel Flanders was partially burned Monday morning, 75 guests being forced out into the streets, with the nereury hugging the zero mark. Me-Nabb's cafe, in the hotel block, was gutted. Six firemen were overcome by

Black Eye for the Suffragists.

Boston, Feb. 21.-In the house, Tuesday, had its annual debate on woman suffrage, resulting in the defeat of the proposition, 124 to 32, a larger maiority than for many years.