

CALENDAR FOR 1877.

Calendar for 1877 showing months from Jan to Dec with days of the week and dates.

ASTRONOMICAL-1877.

The following are the principal astronomical phenomena of the year 1877. The times given are Chicago mean-time; and the appearance is that presented to an observer in this city, unless otherwise stated.

Table of astronomical data including sunrise, sunset, and moon phases for various months.

The apparent motions of the moon will be more irregular in 1877 than usual. The north node is now near the vernal equinox; so that she will swing back and forth through about fifty-six degrees of declination each lunar month.

Earth in perihelion... Dec. 31 0h -m-p.m. Vernal equinox... Mar. 20 6h 22m a.m.

The year is a very barren one in regard to eclipses in this region. There are only five, as follows:

A total eclipse of the moon, Feb. 27, at 11 h. 19 m. p. m., below the horizon of the United States.

A partial eclipse of the sun, Aug. 8, at 10 h. 42 m. p. m.; visible in Alaska, Kamchatka, the North Pacific ocean, and the Arctic ocean.

A partial eclipse of the sun, Sept. 7, at 8 h. 4 m. a. m.; visible to all that part of South America situated in more than 18 deg. of south latitude, and extending nearly to the south pole.

A total eclipse of the moon, Aug. 23, at 5 h. 16 m. p. m.; partially visible in the Eastern and Southern States.

A partial eclipse of the sun, Sept. 7, at 8 h. 4 m. a. m.; visible to all that part of South America situated in more than 18 deg. of south latitude, and extending nearly to the south pole.

The times given above are the instants of conjunction or opposition in right ascension.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

A Servian fort at Belgrade caused some excitement by firing upon an Austrian man-of-war. The Servian Government promptly apologized, and banded the indiscreet commander of the fort, and everything is serene.

A cable dispatch informs us that Denmark is in a bad way politically. There is a conflict of authority between the Rigsdag (Chamber of Deputies) and the Rigsraad (Supreme Court), which promises to result in serious complications.

Persia, it is said, will occupy Bagdad in case of war.

A severe commercial crisis exists in Russia, and many heavy failures are reported.

The reforms adopted by the preliminary conference of the powers at Constantinople are very sweeping in their character. They include the admission of Christians in the Ottoman army, and the transformation of the vilayet of Sophia into a Christian province, under a Governor. There is considerable doubt as to whether the Porte will yield to the recommendation of the powers.

A dispatch from Constantinople says the project of reforms submitted to the Porte includes the division of Bulgaria into two provinces, popular election of Mayors of towns, the Governor General to have complete control of the police force, the organization of law courts to be left in a great measure to an international Commission, foreigners to be eligible for legal appointments, if the Commission finds the appointment necessary, only 30 per cent. of the taxes to be paid to the Porte, the militia not to exceed 1 per cent. of the male population.

San Domingo has just passed through another successful revolution. Gonzalez has been deposed from the Presidency, and our old friend Baz, who was some months ago unceremoniously bounced and compelled to flee for his life, has been recalled and reinstated in the Presidential chair.

Latest advices from the City of Mexico furnish the following interesting items regarding the progress of the revolution in that unhappy country: The Iglesias Government is established at Queretaro. The States of Guanajuato, Queretaro, Aguas Calientes, Zacatecas, Durango, San Luis Potosi, Jalisco, Colima, Sonora, Sinaloa, and Tabasco recognize Iglesias. The States of Mexico, Hidalgo, Puebla, Vera Cruz, and Oaxaca are occupied by Diaz troops. Iglesias has about 12,000 good troops, while Diaz has 18,000 of every grade, but he is well provided with artillery, in which Iglesias is deficient. On the 6th inst. 6,000 men, with twenty field howitzers and ten rifled cannon, left Mexico for Queretaro. Iglesias has about 7,000 troops in Queretaro, with six pieces of artillery. This force is sufficient to garrison the place, which is strong and easily defended. All parties are anxious to be recognized by the United States.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

W. C. Wall, Superintendent of the Money Order Department of the Pittsburgh postoffice,

is a defaulter to the amount of several thousand dollars, and has fled to parts unknown.

All the New York theaters gave maine performances last Thursday for the benefit of the sufferers by the Brooklyn fire. The receipts amounted to the snug sum of \$14,000.

Petroleum has been discovered in Wyoming Territory.

Here is a laudable bit of journalistic enterprise: The morning newspapers of Cincinnati have chartered a train, which leaves that city every morning at 3:30 o'clock and delivers the papers in Indianapolis at 7:30.

The Chicago Tribune of Dec. 22 says: "The most remarkable meteor observed in recent years passed over Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana last night at 8:30, going northeastward. At Bloomington the aerolite presented a disk three times the apparent size of the full moon. At all places reported from the roar caused by the passage of this great mass of matter through the dense atmosphere of the earth was alarmingly audible, and the tremendous friction to which the surface-parts were subjected caused continuous superficial disintegration, with accompanying explosions, filling the air with multifarious points of light tinged with every hue, and presenting a very beautiful phenomenon. At Mendota and Garrett, in Illinois, the inhabitants were mystified by a sudden illumination of the atmosphere, accompanied, in the latter place, by a detonation louder and sharper than an ordinary cannon."

Three men were smothered to death in a mine at Georgetown, Col., a few days ago.

Four freight teams, with five men, were killed by Indians on Indian Creek, Col., last week. Two of the men were killed and their bodies frightfully mutilated. Over forty bullets were found in one wagon.

During the season of navigation on our great lakes, now closed, 639 marine disasters were reported, involving a total loss of property estimated at \$1,173,260. The total deaths of seamen recorded were 155. New craft were set afloat having an aggregate tonnage of 7,461, a falling off from last year.

The House Louisiana Investigating Committee, sitting at New Orleans, in executive session on Thursday, instructed Mr. Morrison, its Chairman, to report the members of the Returning Board to the House for contempt in refusing to produce the records called for. The committee has been divided up into sub-committees and dispatched to different portions of the State for the purpose of investigating the charges of intimidation and bulldozing. Messrs. Morrison, Jenks and Townsend will remain in New Orleans and continue the investigation of matters of a general nature relating to the late election in sections not included in the districts allotted to the sub-committees. The investigation will probably not be concluded before the 1st of February.

There is considerable apprehension of trouble in New Orleans on the 8th of January, when the Governor is to be inaugurated. Both Packard and Nichols will be inaugurated. The Republicans, it is said, will not oppose the inauguration of Nichols, but should he attempt to exercise the functions of the office he will in all probability be resisted, and a call will be made for troops, 1,100 of whom are now stationed in the city.

A Charleston (S. C.) dispatch of the 22d says: "At an immense meeting of conservative taxpayers last night, resolutions were unanimously adopted recognizing Hampton and Simpson as lawfully elected, and pledging them moral, financial, and material aid."

Little Rock, Ark., had still another conflagration on the night of Dec. 21. Loss about \$100,000. This makes three heavy fires in that city within a week—all incendiary—entailing a total loss of \$400,000.

Both of the South Carolina Legislatures have adjourned sine die.

The Florida Supreme Court has issued an order directing a recount of the vote by the State Canvassing Board, and a declaration of the result as shown upon the face of the returns.

A fire at Homer, La., destroyed \$150,000 worth of property.

There is talk in New Orleans of a coalition between Pinchback and Warmoth and the Democrats, by which Nichols is to be made Governor, and the two first named are to be sent to the United States Senate.

A resolution was adopted by the House Investigating Committee, at New Orleans, on the 26th, ordering that the refusal of President Orton, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, to appear and produce certain telegrams be reported to the House, and that the House be asked to proceed against him for contempt.

The town of Crockett, Houston county, Texas, has been almost totally destroyed by fire.

The silver payments from the treasury from April 1 to Dec. 20 were as follows: In redemption of fractional currency, \$15,207,965; on currency obligations, \$9,844,597. Total \$25,052,562.

Charles A. Dana, of the New York Sun, has been indicted by the Grand Jury of the District of Columbia for libeling Alex. R. Shepard.

Mr. Holman, Chairman of the House Appropriation Committee, says he shall endeavor to secure the passage of all the appropriation bills before the end of the session substantially upon the basis of the bills last year.

The House Committee on Indian Affairs has prepared a bill making the Indian Bureau a department, to be wholly under the control and management of civilians.

Acting Vice President Ferry refused to give receipts to messengers bearing the electoral votes from any of the contested States. He says this course is made necessary by the fact that if the receipt was given the first messenger reaching the treasury would then be enabled to draw his mileage from the Treasurer, and there is no provision in the law whereby two persons both claiming to be messengers can be paid.

Representative Seelye, of Massachusetts, has submitted to the Indian Commission a plan for the reorganization of the Indian Bureau. It contemplates taking the management of Indian affairs entirely away from the Executive Department of the Government, and placing it in the hands of a commission organized similar to those which have control of the great educational and beneficial institutions of the country.

The Associated Press agent at Washington has had another talk with President Grant, the result of which he reports as follows: "The President said, in reply to a question, that he was not apprehensive of armed collisions in connection with the Presidency, no

matter what might be the fears of others. It seemed to him that the people desired only a fair count of the electoral votes in the Southern contested States in order to be satisfied of the result. The reports of the several committees now there would shed light on the true condition of affairs, and have a tendency to solve existing difficulties. It was certainly desirable to establish the actual fact of the election of either Hayes or Tilden, for neither could feel satisfied if any doubt remained of his election, because in such a case his position as President would not command the requisite general support. The President remarked that no one could suppose that he had any connection with or relation to the declaration as to who was elected. That was not a matter for him to determine. The President, recurring to the recent election, remarked that he should promptly recognize whoever should be declared his successor. With this his political feelings would have nothing to do."

The President has sent to the Senate a message embracing the report and journal of proceedings of the commission appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Appropriation bill of last year, to treat with the Sioux Indians for a relinquishment of their right to the Black Hills, etc. He calls the special attention of the Senate to the articles of agreement between the Indians and the commission, as among other advantages to be gained by them is the clear right of citizens to go into the country of which they have taken possession, from which they cannot be excluded. Ordered to be printed and lie on the table.

POLITICAL POINTS.

President Grant has informed a Washington correspondent that he is not a candidate for United States Senator from Illinois, as has been intimated, but would like to see Gen. Logan re-elected.

The Democrats of Illinois have decided to hold a State Convention, at Springfield, on the 8th of January.

The State Committee of the Oregon Democracy met at Salem last week and issued a calling for mass-meetings to be held in every county of the State on the 8th of January.

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CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 20.—Senate.—The Senate passed a bill to create a new Territory out of the northern portion of Dakota, west of Minnesota, to be called Hudson. The Oregon electoral case was again before the Senate, and Mr. Boyd concluded his speech. The matter was further discussed by Messrs. Morton, Eaton and Sherman. Mr. Hitchcock introduced a bill providing for an additional Representative in Congress from Nebraska. The Pension Appropriation bill was passed.

House.—The report of the Judiciary Committee on the question of the power of committees to compel the production of telegrams was made. The report asserts the right. A resolution, offered by Mr. Hurd, and adopted by the committee, makes a description of the telegrams to be given a subpoena for both the reports and the communications, and must be produced when called for. A long discussion ensued. Among the notable speeches made was one by Mr. Crockett, who declared that the telegrams should be sacred as the postoffice, and on Mr. Hewitt declaring that the sanctity of the postoffice was more sacred as his (Hewitt's) letters have been constantly opened in the New York postoffice. Mr. Garfield suggested that it was the duty of the Senate to ask for the telegrams, and Mr. Wood (N. Y.) favored the report of the committee. A resolution was passed, and the committee was ordered to report the telegrams to the House. The House passed a resolution to refer to the committee on the report of the committee on the Oregon electoral case, and to report thereon on or before the 1st of January.

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