

OUR NATIONAL AFFAIRS THE WORK OF THE TWO HOUSES.

Sessions During Holiday Week is Consequence of a Disagreement—More to Do Than Has Been Done.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The bill admitting Southern Dakota into the Union (the only measure of importance that passed the Senate during the week, and thus virtually dead. The House would have voted that bill, on general principles, even if the recent turbulent action of the residents of the territory, in the squabble over its location of county seats, had not given a reasonable pretext for non-concurrence in the admission. Both houses of Congress have, rather inappropriately inaugurated a season of peace and good will, by involving themselves in a snarl on the naval appropriation bill, the final outcome of which is difficult to predict.

SKULLDUGGERY.

A New York Cockloft Unveiled and Its Mysteries Explained.

New York, Dec. 21.—Great excitement was caused at Police Headquarters the other day by the discovery of a lot of human skulls and bones in the cockloft of an old three-story building at 11 West Third street. Herman Gerdes occupies the lower floor for a saloon. Various tenants have had the upper floors. The last one quit on Monday. The Board of Health were informed of the existence of the bones by an anonymous note, and Inspector Morris visited the cockloft. He climbed up the unsteady ladder that led to the cockloft, and holding a tallow-dip in one hand crawled around the dark corners in a crouched position. His head accidentally struck a beam and down fell a decayed skull. He raised the candle and saw three more skulls and a lot of moldering bones strewn along the dust-incrusted beam. Nine more skulls, some perfect and some broken, were scattered about the floor, and several old human leg bones were heaped in a corner.

"This is a sort of anatomical museum, I guess," said the Inspector. Word was sent Police Captain Brogan to clear away the skulls and other rubbish. Sergeant Douglas, of the Myer-street Station, landed on the tremendous sensation, which stirred Police Headquarters when the discovery was announced. "I knew all about them last September," he said. "The ground on which the Stewart stable stands, at Wooster and West Third streets, used to be a graveyard. It was all torn up many years ago, when the stables were built, and lots of relic-hunters got parts of old skeletons. An old man, who used to run a policy-shop at 11 West Third street, got a whole lot of these skulls and bones and took them up into his shop. He used them to shake up the numbered balls that had the policy figures on them, because he fancied that skulls were lucky."

WILKES BOOTH'S DOUBLE.

A Preacher Who Refuses to Have His Neck Examined.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—A special from Wheeling to the Enquirer says: The announcement from Atlanta, Ga., that Rev. J. P. Armstrong, rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, of this city, from 1874 to 1878, but now of Atlanta, had again been publicly declared to be J. Wilkes Booth, has created great excitement here, not a few people being found to-day who declare they always believed there was some great mystery connected with the life of the reverend gentleman, while on the contrary the assertion that he is Booth is pronounced ridiculous by those who are most familiar with Rev. Armstrong's history. Those who have seen Booth say there is no doubt of a remarkable resemblance between the two men, Mr. Armstrong's face, figure, tone of voice, and above all, his peculiar walk, being identical with the personal characteristics of the assassin, while a pronounced dramatic style and rather stately delivery give substantial ground to the suspicion that he was once on the boards in tragic parts. It is thought strange that, although Mr. Armstrong steadily maintains he is not Booth, he uniformly refuses to allow an examination of his neck where Booth had a scar.

Crime in Indiana.

VINCENNES, Ind., Dec. 21.—Mary Powell, a young girl, got into trouble at Albion, Ill., for shoplifting. Two prominent young men arrested her with false warrant, and she testified that they tried to outrage her. The young men were then arrested and bonded over to the court. The authorities sent for the father of the girl, who lived in Mount Carmel. He went to Albion and started to walk home. He was afterward found dead on the Air-Line Railroad, near Brown's Station. His death is a mystery. Eight or ten citizens of Albion bailed out the girl, who was committed to jail for stealing.

Two Schooners Wrecked.

PROVINCETOWN, Mass., Dec. 21.—Two three-masted schooners from Portland went ashore in last night's heavy storm in the harbor. The crews were taken off safe after very difficult and gallant work by the life-saving corps. The vessels will be total wrecks. The severe weather of the last two days has caused many wrecks on the eastern coast.

Germany's Addition to New Guinea. LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Standard's Berlin dispatch re-asserts that Germany has annexed a portion of the coast to the islands of New Guinea. A German consul will be sent to the South Sea Islands. Bismarck has sent a circular to various German ministers, instructing them to inform the powers of these movements.

That Row-Boat.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The row-boat "Ariel," which was hired by the three men at Queen-hite a few hours before the explosion under the London Bridge, and was not returned to its berth until six miles below the bridge, three hours after the explosion. This fact has just been reported to the police.

ECHOES FROM ABROAD.

Electric lighting for railway trains is a success as applied in England. Montreal complains of the mild weather. They are never satisfied up there unless the mercury is frozen in the bulb. It makes them nervous to see it bobbing up and down. The King of Bavaria has a daily income of \$2,700; the King of Saxony, \$1,800; the King of Wurtemberg, \$1,300; the Grand Duke of Hesse Darmstadt, \$740; the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, \$690. London society must be accredited with having done at least one sensible thing. It has voted the fashion of late dancing obsolete. Punctually at half-past 11 the music stops, and the light fantastic toe must cease to trip. To the public morgues in Paris there are brought an average between ninety and a hundred bodies daily. They are strangers to those that die, but they are at least recognized. A good proportion of the number are suicides. Dr. Dujardin-Bonnet, who is a recognized authority on the subject, writes to the Paris Morning News that, in his opinion, cholera cannot be communicated by actual contact with a cholera patient, but that it is rapidly communicated by contaminated water, and probably by means of the atmosphere. Sixteen lovely young ladies belonging to the Sultan have, by his permission, sent their photographs as a contribution to the beauty exhibition of Paris. It appears that the competitors need not at all put in appearance in the flesh, but that under certain circumstances, ladies at any distance and of any nation will be allowed to compete for photographs.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE BRASS WHEELS AND BUTTONS.

A Fire in a Railway Station at Windsor Caused by Secreted Explosives—Sensational Theories.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A fire occurred in the railway station at Windsor, Saturday afternoon, and was extinguished in the ordinary course, without having caused much alarm. It was found in putting things right, that the fire had originated in the explosion of a machine which was packed in a box, supposed to contain merchandise. Some brass wheels and bottles containing explosive material were discovered in the debris. It is believed that the plan was to blow up the parcel office, but that the force of the material used was over-estimated. The officials are very reticent about the Windsor railway station fire. They are inclined outwardly to treat the affair as of little importance. The nature of the liquid in the bottle found among the debris is unknown. The mixture has been forwarded to London for analysis.

In addition to the brass wheels and bottle of explosive material found in the debris of the fire, at Windsor station, the police discovered a tin meat can filled with tow. The tow is saturated with an oily, semi-congealed substance, omitting a strong odor. In the center of the tow is a small phial containing sulphuric acid. The fact that the fire and explosion occurred at Windsor has very naturally led to sensational theories that an attempt upon the Queen's life was in some way contemplated by whoever prepared the infernal machine. No tangible clue to any such plot has, however, been developed. Pursuing the investigations, the police have found all the parts of a set of clock-works and the key by which they could be wound up. The machinery is American make.

GETTING EVEN.

Senator Logan Said to Have Paid Off an Old Score.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—A special to the Enquirer says: Although a defeated candidate, Senator Logan still lives. But herein is a recital. The Forty-seventh Congress passed a resolution providing for a commission to visit South America. This commission was provided with a secretary. The latter place was a soft plum, and President Arthur appointed to fill it Wm. E. Curtis, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Inter-Ocean. The Commission is now in Mexico, and Curtis is with it in discharge of his official duties. Yesterday the appointment of Curtis was reached for confirmation or adverse action in the Senate. Logan fought the confirmation, and had followers enough to recommit the nomination to the Foreign Affairs Committee, which is equivalent to rejection. Now, for the cause: About two or three years ago Curtis was the managing editor of the Inter-Ocean. In a summer jaunt he visited New Mexico. While traveling in the country a stage-driver with whom he sat on the box gave him in his rough way the aliases of Logan in glib talk to the Zuni Indian reservation. This the correspondent put in presentable shape, and caused it to be printed in the Chicago paper. This gave Black Jack mortal offense and his first chance to get even has come in the shape of Curtis' nomination now with the Senate for confirmation.

OIL TANKS BURN.

A Large Fire With Heavy Loss at Hunter's Point.

New York, Dec. 21.—Nearly all the oil tanks, and several of the refinery buildings and docks connected with Pratt's Astral Works, on Newton Creek, Hunter's Point, opposite this city, on Long Island, were burned this afternoon. The fire originated in an explosion of one of the tanks. The burning oil overflowed into the creek, which became a running stream of fire, and communicated with other tanks and buildings, the intense heat driving the firemen from within working distance of the fire. All engines that could be spared from Brooklyn and New York were sent to the scene, as well as fire-boats of the harbor. Up to a late hour the burning oil still shot up a column of fire that was visible for miles in every direction. The loss is estimated at \$200,000, which is understood to be insured under the blanket policies of the Standard Oil Company.

Mrs. Fillmore's Effects Sold.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 21.—The personal effects of the late Mrs. Fillmore, widow of ex-President Fillmore, consisting of a large number of costly laces and shawls, together with diamonds and other jewelry, were sold at auction Friday by her executors, in order to pay her bequests to various charities. A fine \$200 camel's hair shawl brought but \$100, and a \$200 watch but \$8.50. Larger articles went cheap, but small jewels, suitable for trinkets and mementoes, brought good prices.

McDonald for the Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—At a meeting of Indians last night Senator Voorhes and all the Democratic members of the House from Indiana being present, it was unanimously agreed that Indiana was entitled to a representation in the next Cabinet, and that ex-senator McDonald would be a fitting representative.

NOTED PEOPLE.

Sergeant Bates, the harmless crank of flag-bearing fame, is sick and in want at Bloomington, Ill. Colonel Ingersoll is said to have made \$25,000 from fifty lectures during the last two months. Moody and Sankey are said to have made half a million dollars by the sale of their hymn-books. The Critic says Gov. Hauley, of Ohio, has written to a prominent Democrat to boom him for a place in the Cabinet. T. C. Mendenhall, professor of natural philosophy in the Ohio State University, has resigned to accept a position in the signal service at Washington. Mr. Winthrop's chief wish has been to be able to deliver his address on the completion of the Washington Monument, at the laying open of the ceremonies of which he was the orator. Prof. Meyer, until recently President of Indiana University, is undergoing a church trial for alleged improper intimacy with Miss Grayson. He objected to the testimony of the students on the ground that a rule of the church prohibited that in such cases the testimony of members of the church be used against a minister. After a long discussion it was decided that his objection was well taken, and the students were not allowed to testify.

A HOPEFUL SIGN.

A Southern Democratic Endorsement of Mr. Cable's Sentiments.

"A Southern Democrat" writes an open letter to The Century for January, in which he says: "I am free to confess that Mr. Cable's declaration that the cause of the Union was just, shocked me a little. It slipped in ahead of expectation; it seemed to be, at first glance, somewhat flippant. But a little reflection showed me that it is only a bold and fresh interpretation of the attitude and expressions of thousands and thousands of Southern people. For instance, it is safe to say that there are not five hundred thinking men in the South to-day who do not believe, as Mr. Cable believes, in a principle or as an expedient. There are not ten who would vote to secede to-morrow, even though such a movement was entirely practicable. In other words, there are not ten thinking men in the South who feel to-day (no matter what their feelings may have been in the hot days of secession and the hotter days of reconstruction) that secession would give them any rights or advantages as valuable as those they now have as citizens of the States that are a part and parcel of the American Union. I am not giving my opinion merely, for that is worth little or nothing; I am giving the result of observation, association, experience and discussion."

MICHIGAN BURGLARS CAPTURED. Arrested in Philadelphia Where They Gave Fictitious Names.

Two young men, giving their names as Fred Alberts and John A. Saxby, were arrested in Philadelphia, Pa., on Friday last. It was found their true names are Prime and Shannon, that they are from Detroit, and are wanted in this State for burglarizing the jewelry store of a man named Chase, at Pontiac, and taking \$3,000 worth of jewelry. A partner accompanied them to Philadelphia named "Skinny" Garrison, who has not yet been located. All three are known to be members of a notorious gang of young thieves and burglars which infested Detroit and the surrounding country for a long while. The gang at first numbered eight, and five of them are at present serving time in the penitentiary. Besides this Pontiac burglary, they are wanted for several other crimes committed throughout Michigan and Ohio.

Barnum Interviewed.

W. H. Barnum, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, has furnished an "interview" to the Chicago press in which he says in regard to Cleveland's civil service policy:

"I did Mr. Pendleton before his bill was passed that civil service was a very nice thing, but that he should first wait until the Democrats got in power and filled the offices with good, reliable men before he urged any such bill on the country. Seriously, however, I would say that there is no reason to suppose that good, competent Democrats cannot be obtained to fill all the offices made vacant by the change, and I look to Cleveland's Administration being in every sense a Democratic one. The only place where I do not look for wholesale changes is in the City of Washington. I think that many of the department clerks will very likely be retained, at least where they are well qualified and have proven their ability and honesty by past work."

A Music Hall for Boston.

Boston has in contemplation the building of a new Music Hall, with a seating capacity of 3,000 or 3,500, which shall be in all its appointments and acoustic properties equal at least to anything of the kind in the country. In this hall the great organ is to be placed, reconstructed and with additions which, it is claimed, will make it the largest and most effective organ in the world.

Randall to be Welcomed.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 21.—At a special meeting of the Board of Trade, Friday, the attack made on Samuel J. Randall by The Courier-Journal, in view of his projected tour through the South, was discussed and the feeling seemed to be that as Mr. Randall would come to Louisville anyway he ought to be hospitably received. Those present at the Board of Trade meeting appointed a committee to invite Mr. Randall to Louisville.

A Large Hotel Falls.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 21.—At 8 o'clock this morning, one of the immense hotels under course of construction just outside of the Exposition grounds, fell with a terrific crash into the bay of New Orleans, and fatally wounding Albert Freeze and James Carroll. The building was thought to be unsafe and a large gang of laborers were employed in bracing it up. The escape of others is marvellous, timbers falling on all sides.

Six Bold Burglars.

WHEELING, W. Va., Dec. 21.—Four o'clock this morning six masked men entered Henry Worman's house, in the suburbs, and after gagging the members of the family, secured \$4,000 from an old trunk, and escaped. Before the victims escaped from their bonds the robbers were ascertained to be Citizens are much excited over the affair.

Bismarck Means Business.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—Bismarck, in a letter which is made public, writes that with the Nation supporting him, he will, despite his declining powers, fight those who would wreck the empire and destroy it.

Financial Troubles.

VIENNA, Dec. 21.—Bloch & Co., bankers, suspended in consequence of a deficiency in the lower Austrian bank. Liabilities amount to \$100,000.

A French Vessel Lost.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—A French torpedo vessel was sunk in the harbor at Toulon by a storm yesterday afternoon. All on board were saved.

Exposition Notes.

Last week an average of seventy car-loads of freight a day were handled. On Friday one hundred car-loads were received. There has been an active controversy over the question of opening the Exposition Sunday. The Protestant clergy have opposed the proposition but the press has favored it, and an interview was granted with Archbishop Levey, of the Catholic Church, who says that the Exposition ought to be kept open on Sundays. The management has virtually decided to keep the Exposition open every Sunday. A dispatch to the Chicago Times says: Many visitors from the North are pouring in on every train, only to be disappointed to find the Exposition an unimpressive. It should be understood that not one department is yet open, that several buildings are still unfinished and that not one building has yet been long in the air, and that the operation as a whole will not be commensurable with the \$10,000,000.

DEFENDING MILLARD.

TESTIMONY GIVEN SATURDAY. Several Witnesses Who Testify to the Happy Relations Existing Between Millard and His Wife.

The evidence for the people in the Millard trial is all in and the prosecution rested their case on Saturday forenoon. The defense proceeded at once, and called Dr. E. Pray as the first witness, who testified that Dr. E. Pray came to him at the request of Millard, and asked him to take charge of his wife's case. John W. Hoath testified that Dr. E. Pray said he thought Millard had poisoned his wife; said he had no suspicion of it until Louisa Wortman told him she had been reading her husband's books and believed from the symptoms that Mrs. Millard had been poisoned. Dr. E. Pray told me during the trial at Ionia that I was foolish to testify in favor of a man who had made me trouble in a wheat transaction. Mrs. Hoath testified the same as her husband in reference to the talk with Dr. E. Pray. The doctor said she might have died from poisoning or something else. Harvey Hoath swore that Dr. E. Pray met him and talked to him about the trial; wanted to know how I was going to testify. I told him and he said he would have my evidence impeached. Bettie Van Vleck testified that she was a sister of Mrs. Millard, and that she was intimate with the family and had called there frequently; that their relations during all the years that she has known them were pleasant, and that she never knew of any trouble between Millard and his wife; had a conversation with Mrs. Wortman on April 27 in relation to a book. Mrs. Wortman said to me: "Bettie, I don't believe your sister is going to live, do you? I have been reading the doctor's book and believe she has got spinal disease."

On the 6th of May I asked my sister if I should not stay and help her, and she replied, "No, Matthew is here and he can take care of me; after Mrs. Wortman had gone she said Aunt Louisa did not know her place; knew the house was infested with mice and rats; Matthew was there during most of the sickness, and gave her the medicine most of the time; fixed up her vitals and sat up with her every night; he was very attentive; saw no act of unkindness on his part."

Cross—Heard my sister ask what they were giving her; she wanted me to ask Dr. Pray to examine the powder for her; thought there was morphine in it; showed the powder to Dr. Pray; he examined it and said it was bismuth and morphia. Helen Wortman was called, and said she never heard Millard say he was going to give his wife arsenic; the relations between Millard and his wife were pleasant; she told me she would rather have Matthew take care of her than anyone else; Louisa Wortman wanted Matthew to read a book, as it described his wife's sickness; it referred to a spinal disease.

Louisa Wortman testified that she did not remember that Helen Wortman was at Millard's when she showed respondent the book. Did not say to Compton during the trial at Ionia that was warped. He was going to stand up for Millard, but did tell him that Millard did not give him a very good recommendation. Mrs. Jason—Swore that she had been a neighbor of the respondents; the relations between her and her wife were pleasant. Mrs. Peter Van Vleck—Testified. Never saw anything but what the relations between respondent and his wife were agreeable, Louisa Wortman told me on April 24th, that Mrs. Millard's difficulty was spinal disease.

Henrietta Tasker—The relations between Millard and his wife were friendly. In a conversation with Mrs. Millard during her sickness, she stated that she would rather have Matthew get her supper than any one else; that whenever she was sick he was standing by her bed-side. Cross—Married Matthew's cousin. Diantha Miller—Have known Millard family intimately during last year of her life; Mrs. Millard's health was not good; she was always complaining of her head and back; never saw anything wrong between her and her husband; he took the best of care of her when she was sick.

Cross—During the last sickness was in there once. Re-direct—Went to the house several times but did not go into the room. William Wortman—Have known accused and his wife for twelve years; never knew their relations were pleasant; know Louisa Wortman; had conversation with her in my store in June; she wanted me to use my influence to get her the place as house-keeper for Mr. Millard, and also to get her son a place in the shop; Mrs. Millard was my niece. Cross—Conversation took place early part of the day; relations with Louisa were friendly at the time; she is related to me by marriage.

Afternoon Session.

D. R. Compton—Knew defendant and his wife; Mr. Millard said his wife's domestic relations were harmonious and peaceful; Louisa Wortman said to me at the former trial "I am surprised that you stand up for Mr. Millard as you do. He is no friend of yours. I would like to tell you what he has said about you." Gideon Noel said in the sleigh going from Ionia after the former trial, that Palo would be pretty good place after we got all the rascals out, and they had got one out.

Adelia A. Beach—Relations between defendant and his wife agreeable and pleasant; assisted in laying out body of Mrs. Millard; took the clothes off and washed it; I did not see any eruption on the body; Mrs. Wortman and defendant were crying; she had her hand on her arm, and said he had done all he could, and had nothing to regret. Cross-examined—When Mrs. Wortman and defendant were talking his sister was present.

Mrs. Minier—Knew defendant and his wife twelve years, and the relations between them were friendly and pleasant; was at the house after Mrs. Millard died; Frank Millard and wife were there. Cross-examined—Remember when defendant was put in coffin; assisted in putting her in the coffin; spent my time in parlor and sitting room; we opened the windows before going away.

Laura J. Hunt—Mrs. Millard was at my house on the Thursday before her last sickness; complained of a violent headache and of being threatened with an attack of a difficulty with the kidneys. Her health was not good at any time that I know her; complained of difficulty with her stomach and back; her domestic relations were pleasant and happy.

Cross—Her health was improved when she came back from the East. I knew about her health three months before she died. Rev. Alfred Cornell—I never knew anything to raise a question but that respondent and his wife lived happily together. Cross—Knew defendant before she died, called at Millard's frequently; was his lover or as Mrs. M. had the death; Frank Millard and his wife were there. Cross-examined until 6:30 the morning.

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