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BRIEF WIRINGS:

A SPEC OF WAR.

The Chilean Affair Once More Assumed a Serious Phase—A Special Message.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The controversy with Chile is approaching a conclusion. It is learned that the latest communications from Minister Egan are of a character to discourage the diplomatic argument to induce the Chilean authorities to express any regret at the assault upon our sailors in Valparaiso, or to make any reparation for the killing of the men of the Baltimore.

All day yesterday Secretary Blaine was engaged upon the preparation of the American case against Chile. When Mr. Blaine has completed his statement, the president will take it in hand and prepare it with an introduction of his own and, perhaps, adding some language that he deems essential to impress congress with the importance of prompt treatment of his suggestions, will send it to the house as a special message. In a temperate way, following the traditions in the forms of presentation, he will indicate to congress the conclusion that the indifference to our request for reparation by the Chilean government amounts to manifestations of hostility, and that in order to assert the demands of the United States effectively, the president will request that he be permitted to use the naval and military forces of the United States to constrain that respect which can not be argued through the ordinary diplomatic channels and by the development of the agencies of the state department.

Should the president send his special message on Chile to congress, as it is now considered not improbable he may, it is considered almost certain that the holiday recess will be either abandoned or reduced to one of unusual brevity.

Mills Ignored.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—A partial list of house committees, as presented by Speaker Clegg, is as follows: Ways and Means—Wm. M. Springer, of Ill.; Benton McMillen, Tenn.; H. G. Turner, Ga.; W. L. Wilson, W. Va.; A. B. Montgomery, Ky.; J. R. Whitting, Mich.; B. F. Shively, Ind.; W. Bourke Cochrane, N. Y.; Moses T. Stevens, Mass.; W. J. Bryan, Neb.; F. B. Reed, Me.; J. C. Burrows, Mich.; Jos. McKenna, Cal.; S. E. Payne, N. Y.; John Datzell, Penn. Coinage, Weights and Measures—R. P. Bland, Mo.; Chas. Tracy, N. Y.; J. R. Williams, Ill.; C. B. Kilgore, Texas; S. M. Robertson, La.; R. A. Pierce, Tenn.; J. F. Estes, Va.; G. F. Williams, Mass.; W. A. McKeighan, Neb.; H. F. Bartine, Nev.; Abner Taylor, Ill.; G. W. Stone, Pa.; M. N. Johnson, N. D.

Judiciary—D. B. Culbertson, Texas; W. H. Cate, Ark.; W. D. Bynum, Ind.; T. R. Stockdale, Miss.; I. H. Goodnight, Ky.; C. J. Boatner, La.; J. A. Buchanan, Va.; A. C. Chapin, N. Y.; F. C. Layton, Ohio; S. P. Wolvorton, Pa.; E. B. Taylor, Ohio; James Buchanan, N. J.; G. W. Ray, N. Y.; H. H. Powers, Vt.; Case Brothers, Ky.

Appropriations—W. S. Holman, Ind.; W. H. Forney, Ala.; J. D. Sayre, Texas; W. C. P. Breckenridge, Ky.; A. M. Dockery, Mo.; William Mutchler, Pa.; C. R. Breckenridge, Ark.; Barnes, Conn.; Md.; J. H. O'Neill, Mass.; L. F. Livingstone, Ga.; D. B. Henderson, Ia.; W. Cogswell, Mass.; H. H. Bingham, Pa.; Nelson Dingley, Me.; W. W. Groves, N. C.; Public Lands—McRae, Pendleton, Tucker, Amerman, Bailey, DeArmond, Seersley, Hare, Stout, Fichter, Townsend, Sweet, Clarke, Wyo.

Indian Affairs—Peel, Allen, Tarpin, Rockwell, Braxley, Lynch, English, Clover, Kem, Washington, McKenna, Hooker, Hopkins, Harvey.

Territories—Washington, Kilgore, Manser, Campbell, DeWitt, Branch, Terry, Simpson, Donovan, Rife, Smith, Ill., Perkins, O'Donnell, Joseph.

Mines and Mining—Cowles, Cooper, Pearl, Campbell, Pendleton, Caminetti, Arnold, Bowman, Miller, Townsend, Stevenson, Huff, Smith.

Judge Woods' Nomination.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—President Harrison was well aware that the nomination of his old friend and neighbor, Judge Woods, of Indianapolis, would meet with more or less opposition, said a well informed member of the house to-day, "but the nomination to the federal circuit was made as a result of the president's knowledge of Woods' abilities, and you may depend upon it that, unless Judge Woods declines the appointment before the senate has acted on the matter, and that is not very probable, the nomination will not be withdrawn." This remark was brought out by the telegraphed announcement that the patent lawyers of the leading cities of the west had been invited to meet at the University club, in Chicago, on Saturday, to protest against the appointment, and to demand its rejection by the senate. The tremendous amount of criticism and opposition to the nomination has evoked has created great interest here among Republicans and Democrats alike, and there is considerable speculation regarding the final outcome of the affair. The probability is however, that as soon as the nomination is confirmed, as it certainly will be, the storm will blow over, and give place to some other matter of fresher public interest.

The Deadly Cigarette.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 24.—The fact of the family that the death of the millionaire, John P. Richardson, a former Chattanoogan, who died last week on his plantation near New Orleans, was caused by excessive cigarette smoking, was first stated here through an intimate friend of the family that the death of the millionaire, John P. Richardson, a former Chattanoogan, who died last week on his plantation near New Orleans, was caused by excessive cigarette smoking. The pulmonary trouble, however, was on a light attack, and the family physician said it could have been cured. But heart failure due to cigarette smoking, set in, and death quickly followed. His estate will foot up between \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000, of which, by the law of Louisiana, his wife gets half. He had his life insured for \$100,000.

Denounce the Circular.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The representative Irishmen of this city are highly indignant over the circular that is now being distributed over the country by the revolutionary factions, and which declares that the time has arrived for the revival of force methods has arrived, and urging a re-organization of Fenian circles everywhere. It is probable that a mass meeting of the home rule elements will shortly be called to denounce the sentiments expressed in the circular.

Dismissed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The president has issued an order for the removal of Samuel D. Warmcastle, collector of internal revenue for the twenty-third district of Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh, and discharging Deputy Collector Mitchell from the duties of collector until the vacancy shall have been filled. Warmcastle was charged with neglect of duty. The office will not be filled until the assembling of congress.

E. S. Troops Out.

LARDO, Texas, Dec. 24.—An engagement has taken place between the United States troops and the Mexican troops and the insurgents. The insurgents were defeated, with three men killed and a number wounded. The United States troops were left to prevent the crossing of the insurgents.

THE ARID LANDS.

Senator Warren, of Wyoming, Talks on the Subject.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Yesterday Senator Warren, who has been selected chairman of the committee on irrigation and arid lands, spoke to a reporter as follows: "No one could begin to estimate the arid government lands. Wyoming, where we have a soil and climate adapted to the successful production of all crops of the temperate region; with one-third of the state underlaid with coal; with oil fields known to be among the largest in the United States; with iron, copper and soda in abundance, and with precious metals almost everywhere, we have now less than one person to each square mile of area. The total assessed valuation of the state amounts to little more than 50 cents to each acre of land in the state, and this includes cities and towns. We need more people and more capital to develop our resources, but we can not have these unless our agricultural interests are developed.

CONDENSED NEWS.

Russell Sage, Jr., is in a dying condition. A disastrous cyclone visited northern Kansas and southern Nebraska. The town of Truckee, Cal., was partially destroyed by fire. Loss over \$100,000. Senator Colquitt, of Georgia, denies the report of intended resignation. He is a Democrat. New York will send a delegation to Washington to ask for the Democratic convention. The six-day-go-as-you-please started at the St. Louis natatorium with nineteen contestants. John Smith, Floyd Gregory and Mose Henderson were killed by a mob at the DeWitt (Ark.) jail. Trouble is feared from the Indians on the Fort Hall reservation. The Messiah lives at Walker Lake, Neb.

Judge George Chandler, assistant secretary of the interior, is mentioned as a probable successor to Senator Plumb.

Dr. E. P. Plumb jumped from the third-story window of the Keeley institute at Des Moines and died from his injuries. The report that the late Senator Plumb was a two-millionaire is denied. The total of the fortune being placed at \$200,000. Edward M. Field still refuses to take nourishment, and in consequence is growing weaker. Cyrus W. Field is reported as improving.

Extensive tobacco frands have been unearthed in New York, New Orleans and Chicago. Large importers are reported involved. Officers of the state and naval departments discuss the Chilean situation and, apparently under orders observe unusual reticence.

The Rev. Andrew Jones, the prophet of the Johnston disaster, predicts the coming of a fearful disease, to follow in gripe over the country. Some workmen, while excavating for building purposes at Sungus, Mass., unearthed an Indian sepulchre which contained the skeleton of a giant.

Two indictments of grand larceny were returned against Edward M. Field. Frank J. Sprague charges him with larceny of 350 shares of Edison stock.

A London dispatch says Lord Howard de Walden has begun proceedings for a divorce from his wife, Lady Howard de Walden, who has instituted a counter suit.

The receipts from customs at New York during the first twenty days of this month were \$3,322,703, a decrease of \$1,745,617 compared with the receipts during the corresponding period of last year.

George Mears, Aurora, Ill., a well known turner, who was supposed to have been cured by bicloride, loaded himself with a revolver and went shooting for his wife who left him. She was stopping with Mrs. George Wormly and that lady and her son were dangerously wounded.

The United States supreme court affirmed the judgment of the circuit court of New York in the case of President Claassen, of the Sixth National bank of New York, and J. A. Simmons, the former convicted of embezzlement and the latter complicity. Claassen and Simmons will serve six years in the penitentiary.

The inspectors of the bureau of animal industry at Long Island unearthed an abattoir at Newton creek, which they found to be devoted entirely to the slaughter of broken-down, crippled horses. Many of these horses were diseased and some of them affected with glanders. The inspectors thoroughly investigated the destination of the carcasses. It was found that the meat was corned and put up for export as ham or beef.

HONORE MERCIER.



Honore Mercier, premier of Quebec, and his cabinet have been ignominiously dismissed from office, a committee of three judges having found that they received \$100,000 from a contractor for the sale of the Bay des Chaleurs railway. This amount issued by the judges to have been divided illegally and corruptly between Premier Mercier and his fellow-ministers. There is great excitement in Canada consequent upon the disgrace and dismissal of the premier and his cabinet. Honorable Mercier and his fellow-ministers are threatening rebellion, urging that the dismissal of Mercier and ministers is an outrage which would justify extreme action, the disgraced statesmen controlling a majority of twenty in the house of commons at Quebec.

TERRITORIAL TIPS.

The total enrollment of pupils in the public schools at Denning now numbers over 175. J. H. Riley, of Las Cruces, has purchased the ranch of Capt. Jesse Young in the Organas, together with all of Mr. Young's cattle.

Capt. J. C. Lea, of Roswell, contracted with some Kiowa county farmers to feed 600 head of his 2-year-old steers, average weight between 600 and 700, till July 15, 1892, for \$2.70 per 100 pounds of weight put on.

El Paso has secured the survey of the road from that city to White Oaks, which has recently been concealed by the contractor on the old line. Such is the substance of a telegram to O. L. Houghton, an Optic.

J. W. Gould, the experienced vintner from Fresno, left for California on Monday last, where he is to purchase grape vines for the 140-acre vineyard, to be put in by C. W. Greene, about three miles south of town.—Eddy Citizen.

At Catskill, Blithen's saw-mill was wrecked by a boiler explosion. The accident happened while the men were at dinner, otherwise the loss of life would have been frightful. The buildings in the vicinity were completely demolished. The explosion was caused by the safety valve refusing to work.

A Socorro authority says: "The Ciudadain is in receipt of another letter from a chap in Ohio, who wants to know "how lemons do in central southern New Mexico." We think they do pretty well, if you do not use too much water, and put a large amount of sour mash in with the brew—the water should be hot."

The El Paso short line surveying corps, under H. P. McCricket, to whom was assigned the work of the preliminary survey between Trinidad and this city, have been compelled to stop work and go into camp, by reason of the excessive fall of snow in the mountains through which that portion of the route lies. Mr. McCricket is expected in the city for a conference with General Manager Houghton, and would have arrived before this, but for the non-arrival of any trains from up the road.—Las Vegas Optic.

Holiday Rates.

Tickets for the holidays sold by the Santa Fe railroad at one first class fare for the round trip; on sale Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1; return limit to Jan. 4, via the Santa Fe route.

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