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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, August 1, '85.

The claim which the city of Washington put forth for the custody of General Grant's remains was not grounded so much on special reasons, operative in the present case only, as on the conviction that the proper place of interment for citizens whose lives identify them with the history of the republic is the capital of the country. And it is gratifying to see by the well-nigh universal sentiment of the press that this feeling is shared by the nation at large. There should be in the United States, as is the case in other countries, a sacred spot where the bravest and best should repose in honor together. Such a pantheon of heroes would be not the glory, but a wall of strength to the capital and to republican institutions. The most precious spot in all that proud British empire, upon whose domain the sun never ceases to shine, is the few square feet of earth in London which contains the dust of her great men; and there is not an Englishman any where on the face of the earth to-day who would not make the last stand and shed the last drop of blood to protect Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's from the desecration of an enemy. In like manner would Americans be stirred by a new and broader and deeper patriotism, if the national capital contained the ashes of those whose deeds have made the country illustrious. This is the sentiment, which underlies the general expression in favor of Washington as the burial place of General Grant, and it is this patriotic feeling that has been out-gone by the selection which has made.

A few days ago, the New York Herald contained a bitter attack by cable from London on Stanley's Congo association. Surprise was expressed at the time, and Stanley, who is in London, promptly denied the charges made against the association, and challenged investigation. And now Rear Admiral English, of the United States navy, comes into the controversy with an elaborate report to the navy department on the Congo region, in which he was sent recently to study the advisability of establishing a commercial post at the mouth of the Congo river. Rear Admiral English is emphatic in declaring the region as a habitation for white men, and his accounts are in great measure the allegations of the Herald's correspondent. His views, moreover, are confirmed by the opinions of Commander Bridgman and Mr. Tisdal, who have recently visited the coast.

With but one or two exceptions the American steamship companies have refused to carry the foreign mails after the first of August at the rate of compensation tendered them by the postoffice department, so that after that date the service will be performed almost entirely by foreign companies. The Postmaster General adhered to his decision not to distribute the \$400,000 subsidy among the companies, but he offered them a three times as much as the ordinary compensation, and three times as much as foreign companies are ready to do the same work under the circumstances the

American companies might better have continued the service through the summer and autumn and let Congress settle any grievance they might have felt at the action of the postoffice department.

Secretary Whitney is candid enough to admit that, for obvious reasons, our navy officers know little about the construction of iron ships, and he declares that the department will go "modestly and deliberately" in its efforts to build up a modern navy. Some other nations would be much better off, pecuniarily and as naval powers, if they had observed a similar policy. Millions upon millions have been squandered by various countries in costly experiments, and in spite of these expensive lessons, it is true of other nations as of this that little is fixed in modern naval architecture.

Forty years ago the concerts at the White House grounds were quite different in many ways from what they now are. They were then looked upon as quite aristocratic. Senators and cabinet ministers promenaded with their wives, while the common herd was supposed to be provided for by those given by the same band at the capitol on Wednesdays.

In these days we hear a great deal about doing as they did in Jackson's day. The fact of the matter is people who talk that way don't think much. It is now impossible to do as they did in Jackson's day. There is all the difference between that time and now that there is between riding a walking-stick as a boy and making a success of riding a bucking mule. The entire popular vote cast in 1824, according to the best records, was less than 400,000. In 1874 it was about 10,000,000. In 1840, when Harrison was elected, it was only a little over 2,000,000. But these figures express only a very small side of the case. The number of employes have increased in much greater ratio; it is now something simply enormous. The employes of the postoffice department, for instance, extend through all the departments. The railway mail, the carrier system, and cheap postage have done it. The number of employes to-day are said to be five times as many as they were when the republicans took the reins of the government in 1860. The time is certainly coming when something must be done to very much relieve the heads of the departments. One mind cannot grasp the whole of this great system. There are as many office-seekers to-day as there were voters in 1824.

A Servant Girl's Tribute.

During Wednesday afternoon a neatly-dressed young woman, unmistakably of the working class, approached the Tribune cashier's window and inquired diffidently:

"Is this the place where they receive subscriptions for Gen. Grant's tombstone?"

"It is," was the reply.

Without a word she deposited \$4 on the counter and turned to leave.

"Wait a minute, madam," said the cashier, "to whom shall we credit this on the list?"

She paused a moment and then said, "Put down 'From a servant-girl, one week's wages,'" and then she went away.

The Law and the Cattlemen.

Chicago Weekly News.

If the cattlemen had obeyed the injunction of the old legal maxim, caveat emptor—let the purchaser beware—they would not now be cursing Gen. Sheridan and frantically appealing to the president. They looked upon the lands of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes to covet them and they beguiled the guileless Indian to lease what was not his to lease, and now they are tearing their hair over the bad box into which their covetousness without caution has placed them. Their attempts to put the government in the wrong by saying that it tacitly consented to these Indian leases will not do. The government of the United States can do no wrong. Some of its officials intrusted with the management of its affairs may have tacitly consented to the lease of Indian reservations to speculative cattlemen, but the latter were bound by law and the dictates of common prudence to examine the title they were renting. The same laws, statutes, and treaties upon which the attorney-general has based his opinion were open to the inspection of the attorneys of the wealthy cattlemen. If they neglected to examine them or trusted to the tacit consent of officials to confirm an illegal bargain, so much the worse for them. To-day they claim that the strict enforcement of the order to remove their cattle from the leased reservation lands in forty days will be a virtual destruction of their cattle interests, amounting to \$6,000,000. They should have thought of this before their cupidity led them to take illegal leases of lands they may not occupy except in open defiance of the law. Attorney-General Garland's opinion touching the status of the Indian leases is clear, strong and conclusive. His citations from the United States statutes preclude any construction which might serve to shelter the cattlemen in the occupancy of the lands leased from the Indians. By section 2116 revised statutes, now in force, it is declared "that no purchase, grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands or any title or claim thereto from any Indian nation or tribe of Indians shall be of any validity in law or equity unless the same be made by treaty of constitution." If, notwithstanding this comprehensive and explicit provision of the law, any one enters with cattle or other live stock on an Indian reservation under a lease he is an intruder, and may be removed therefrom as such although the tribe consents to his occupancy. From which it doth appear that if the cattlemen are wise they will stop passing resolutions of remonstrance about their hardships and remove their trespassing cattle without delay. The people of the United States have little faith in the protests of men who have openly defied the law. Gen. Sheridan says the cattle can be removed in forty days. In forty days there should not be an intruding bull, steer, cow, calf, or other four-legged property of cattlemen on the Indian reservations.

The Parting.

The parting was sad, the tears were bitter. Hide, sun, thy kindly face, and gather ye storm's blackest, jinky scroll! Tenderly kiss the pale, wan cheeks; brush back the damp, clinging, unburn locks from the pale, high brow which a fond mother's lips have kissed since infancy. Speak the last sad, parting word, the words which make us linger on their echoes. Say good-bye for aye; dress the cold hand and watch the slow, retreating form which fades away forever. He is going to play in first base ball match.

The Mormons of Utah, are evidently preparing to test the mettle of the new administration. Army officers well posted in Salt Lake affairs believe that they are planning outbreaks with the view of precipitating a conflict, and thus to unite the entire Mormon population. What they hope to finally gain from such a course can hardly be conceived, but it will be a bad day for Mormonism when it presumes to strike at the government while in the hands of the present party. The republicans resolved in a national platform twenty-five years ago to put down polygamy and the curse has constantly grown on its hands. Cleveland will be prompt to show that polygamy can be crushed in a summary manner when the job is undertaken by a democrat.—Ottawa Democrat.

In Search of Sunken Wealth.

Chicago Herald.

An expedition will soon sail from Philadelphia for Vizo, Spain, in search of the Spanish treasure galleons sunk in the bay in 1702. An engineer who visited the spot last summer declares that he positively located eleven of the sunken treasure galleons and, in a diver's suit, went down upon the decks of several of them, which were lying at the depth of thirty or forty feet below the surface. With a charge of dynamite he blew off the deck of one of them and laid bare the general cargo, which consisted of huge logs of mahogany and logwood in perfect preservation. He also picked up coins from the deck, and iron balls, mementoes of the sea fight 183 years ago.

It is a well established fact that cows in New Mexico and Arizona produce more calves than cows on the Northern ranges. From a careful computation of data on this point it has been found that about ninety-five per cent. of the cows of this section drop calves every year providing there has been the maximum bull service. On the other hand the three-year-old steers of the Northern ranges will outweigh the steer of the same age grown in Central New Mexico by 200 to 250 pounds except in the case of high bred stock, when the difference is very slight.—Ex.

Table Tastes of the Great.

San Francisco Argonaut.

Gen. Sherman likes red head ducks and rock-fish. Samuel J. Randall is a daily eater of game, and his table is well supplied with pheasants and quail. Ex-Secretary Lincoln is a rather dainty eater, and humors his palate with quail, terrapin, and rock-fish. General Sheridan is particularly fond of canvas-back ducks and diamond-back terrapin, and these must be very choice. Justice Harlin, of the supreme court, buys generally canvas-back ducks and rock-fish. Judge McArthur likes canvas-back ducks and shad. Wade Hampton likes blue-wing teal and black bass. He often goes hunting and fishing for these. He is one of the greatest fishermen in Washington. Mr. Arthur, when in the White House, bought large amounts of game—diamond-back terrapin, woodcock, and canvas-back ducks were a standing order. Secretary Bayard is peculiar; nothing but salt-water spots and terrapin will satisfy him, and it is said that he won't let any one cook these but himself. He prides himself on his manner of getting up terrapin. Ex-Secretary Frelinghuysen was a great game-eater, especially of canvas-back ducks and pheasants.

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