

GOVERNMENT GOSSIP.

OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL IN AND ABOUT THE DEPARTMENTS.

The Navy Minus a Secretary--A New influx of Office-Seekers--The President's Office--Mr. Bayard's Return--Why he is Government Printer--The Smith Court of Inquiry--Minor Notes

SECRETARY BAYARD'S RETURN. Secretary Bayard has returned from Fort Monroe and was at his office today. MINISTER KEELY QUALIFIES. A. M. Keely qualified at the State Department this afternoon as Minister to Austria.

MINISTER LAMONT AT WORK. Colonel Lamont has sufficiently recovered to be at his desk today, disposing of current official business.

ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR. During the absence of Secretary Endicott Mr. John Treadwell, chief clerk of the War Department, is acting as Secretary.

THE MONUMENT STAIRWAYS. The contract for the ironwork of the Washington Monument stairways has been awarded to the Sneed Co. Iron Works of Louisville, Ky.

THE CHECKER CLAIMS. The Court of Claims was engaged this afternoon in hearing final arguments in the cases of the Cherokee Indians against the Government, involving the possession of about \$2,000,000.

HONORS TO THE PRESS. Colonel L. J. Deane of Austin, Tex., Washington correspondent for Texas and Tennessee Journals, has been tendered the highest secret secretary of the U. S. Legation at Japan.

VISITORS TO THE MONUMENT. The elevator of the Washington Monument is not running and has not been for some days. Visitors will not be permitted to ascend the monument for some days, and during the work on the stairways the running of the elevator will continue to be more or less interfered with.

THE NAVY MINUS A SECRETARY. Secretary Whitney left the city this morning without signing a designation for Commodore Walker to act during his absence. It is reported that the navy is without any secretary in Washington authorized to act as Secretary. This has scarcely ever happened before and no arrangements are likely to result.

THE WYOMING GOVERNORSHIP. It is generally believed among the Territorial citizens now here that Governor Warren of Wyoming, President Arthur's appointee, will not be disturbed, and his commission will be issued. It is also generally believed that the nomination of B. P. Rawlinson as Governor of Wyoming is without any support in Washington authorized to act as Secretary.

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE. The candidates for Government Printer are renewing their applications to the President, and pretend to have information that the President will give the office to John E. Kelly of Indiana and B. P. Yorkston of St. Louis are again brought out by their friends. The belief is quite general, however, that Mr. Kelly will not be disturbed, and if distributed, that a Buffalo, N. Y., man will receive the appointment.

THE INDIAN LEASE SYSTEM. Senators Dawes and Ingalls of the Senatorial Subcommittees appointed to investigate the leasing system in the Indian Territory, will leave this week for the West to enter on the performance of their duties. Their report is directed to the leasing system, and is to be made in the form of a report to the Senate, and is to be made in the form of a report to the Senate, and is to be made in the form of a report to the Senate.

THE ARTILLERY LEAD FROM WASHINGTON. When the Second Artillery leaves Washington barracks and Fort McHenry on Monday, the entire collection of portraits in the office of the Secretary of War, the collection is the only complete series of oil paintings of secretaries in existence. The State Department has been collecting portraits of Secretaries of War, and the Treasury and Navy Departments have all portraits of a few of the ex-Secretaries. The collection is very incomplete, as is the collection of Secretaries of the Interior. The portrait of Lincoln will complete the unbroken succession of portraits of Secretaries of War from the foundation of the Government to the present Administration. The collection also embraces members of the old Board of War and persons prominent in the history of the department. The portraits are mainly by well-known artists, and are of a high order of merit. The statement has been publicly made that Jefferson's portrait has been removed from the collection, but, as a matter of fact, it occupies one of the most conspicuous places, and is one of the finest portraits.

THE DISTRICT MARSHALSHIP. The appointment of Marshal of the District as far as ever from being decided, as far as can be learned. There are a number of applicants, but only three or four who are strongly informed. The papers are filed directly with the District Marshal in each instance, and have received his personal consideration. On Saturday he sent them to the Attorney-General to be sent to the District Marshal for his signature and an expression of opinion as to which of the applicants seemed to be the most qualified.

REHEARING DENIED. The Supreme Court today denied the motion for a rehearing in the Virginia bond case. The opinion, which was against the State, will therefore stand.

DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT IN THE VIRGINIA BOND CASES. The Supreme Court today denied the motion for a rehearing in the Virginia bond case. The opinion, which was against the State, will therefore stand.

PERSONAL MENTION. Colonel William F. Shaffer of New York is at the Arlington.

PERSONAL MENTION. Governor John T. B. Clark of Ohio is in the city.

PERSONAL MENTION. Judge Charles W. Tankersley, formerly of Arkansas and later of Colorado, is here from New York, where he has just finished a general manager of the Commercial Coal Co.

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SWORN INTO OFFICE.

THE NEW ASSOCIATE JUSTICE TAKES THE IRON-GLAD OATH.

An informal Reception Given to His Honor, After Which He is Seated at the Left of the Chief Justice--Judge Merrick's Personal Appearance.

Judge William M. Merrick of Maryland, the new Associate Justice of the District Supreme Bench, was sworn in this morning and took his seat in the Court in Grand Term at the City Hall. The courtroom was crowded with members of the bar who wanted to see the new dispenser of justice before whom they will have to practice. There was a good deal of disappointment as to the manner of swearing to the new judge. It was expected by many that he would have been sworn in by the Chief Justice, but such was not the case. The operation occurred in the private consultation room, and the only persons present were Chief Justice Carter, Justice James and Merrick and one of the assistant clerks of the court. He took the iron-glad oath of office to the surprise of some who doubted that he could ever take it. He never voluntarily bore arms against the United States, he voluntarily gave aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility thereto; that he never sought nor accepted, nor attempted to exercise the functions of any office whatever under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the United States, etc.

Besides the oath to support the Constitution he took an oath "to administer justice without respect to persons, and to do equal rights to the poor and the rich, and faithfully and impartially discharge and perform the duties of his office according to the best of his ability and understanding, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the United States."

Promptly at 10 o'clock the new Judge walked across the court to the bench and took his seat at the left hand of the Chief Justice. During a delay of five minutes the time was taken up by Judge Merrick in formal reception, on his part, to a number of lawyers, principally elderly ones, who paid their respects to the Judge by shaking him by the hand and speaking a few words. Judge Merrick is rather tall, spare build and stops a little. He is dressed in a neat-fitting suit of black broadcloth and his face was clean shaven. He has a soft, pleasant face, which is nearly always wreathed in smiles. He is believed to be in general appearance to be in the advanced age of 67. There was a handsome bouquet of flowers placed on his desk by some admiring friend.

Nothing occurred in the courtroom out of the usual order of things except the hand-shaking mentioned and no time was lost in getting to business. Judge Merrick, in order, simply remarked Justice Carter and General B. F. Butler and Colonel William A. Cook called the attention of the court to the case of Samuel Strong against the District.

A WAR PENDING.

The United Nations Antagonize the Amalgamated Association.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 4.--The United Nations of America have thrown down the gauntlet to the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, the issue being the steel mill, and indications are that there must be a fight between the two bodies. It was not long ago that the Amalgamated Association was organized in the Ohio Valley began to surrender their charters in the Amalgamated Association would arise so soon, it being expected that the Amalgamated Association by the scale sent out by the millers, however, shows that the struggle must come at once.

THE ILLINOIS SENATORSHIP.

A Programme Looking to a Termination of the Contest.

The arrival of Judge Lambert Tree of Chicago this morning, caused quite a commotion among the Illinois people who have been here several weeks in consultation over the Senatorial deadlock. It was not long before Colonel Morrison's friends held a final meeting and agreed upon a programme, which is that Colonel Morrison is to be given the solid Democratic vote in the Legislature at the earliest possible moment.

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ON GETTYSBURG'S FIELD.

A Distinguished Party Leave Washington for the Battle-ground.

The special train for Gettysburg, having on board the Presidential party, members of the Royal Legion and about 200 excursionists, left the Baltimore & Potomac Railroad Station this morning at 8 o'clock. It is believed that the President will reach the station in time to see the Fallman hotel cars--the President and St. Nicholas.

The committee in charge of the excursion was a number of the members of the President's party, and it is believed that the committee that he desired, as far as possible, to remain unobserved.

The Presidential party consisted of Secretaries Endicott and Whitney and Postmaster-General Vilas, Commissioner Black, Assistant Secretary Cook, several members of the diplomatic corps, Generals Rosecrans, Ord and Sigel, and Major-General Van D. Manning, Hon. W. M. Springer and Hon. Martin Maginnis. They were taken in charge by the committee and whirled into the "St. Nicholas," the other hotel car being used by the members of the Royal Legion.

Secretary Lamar was expected to be a member of the excursion train, but was unable to reach the station in time, arriving there just as the train steamed out at the other end of the building. Although chagrined he was not disappointed, as the excursion will be postponed for the next train left, which was at 8:30 o'clock.

Among the passengers in the excursion cars was a number of the members of the Grand Army of the Potomac, who will remain over with a number of the excursionists and inspect the battle-field to-morrow, having on a special train, which will bring them to the battle-field to attend the reunion in that city.

Considerable alarm was occasioned about noon by the report that an accident had occurred to the Presidential train. An investigation, however, it was learned that just after the train left Hanover, Penna., the engine broke down. This caused delay until about 10 o'clock, when the train resumed its journey.

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FOREIGN WAR NOTES.

OPENING OF A BREACH BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA.

The Celestials Determined That the Others Shall Gain No Advantage--The Russia-Afghan Frontier Negotiations to be Continued in London.

LONDON, May 4.--A dispatch from Shanghai says the dispute between the Chinese and Russian governments over the Manchurian frontier question assuming alarming proportions. The Chinese commissioner appointed to meet the Russian commissioner for the purpose of settling the disputes arising out of the frontier question and definitely fixing on a dividing line between Russian and Chinese possessions in Asia, has been awaiting the arrival of the Russian commissioner for several weeks, but as no official has yet put in an appearance. The Chinese officials are indignant at this, and openly accuse Russia of acting in bad faith. They assert that the same tactics pursued by Russia in dealing with the English with regard to the Russo-Afghan frontier are being repeated. The Chinese Government will insist on its claim with regard to the frontier line and is fully determined to force it.

FRONTIER NEGOTIATIONS TO BE RENewed. LONDON, May 4.--In the House of Lords this afternoon Earl Granville, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that England and Russia had reached an agreement whereby negotiations concerning the Afghan frontier question would be renewed. Earl Granville further stated that the negotiations would be carried on in London, and that all preliminary details had been arranged in view of an early meeting of the commission.

THE INVENTORS' EXHIBITION OPENED. LONDON, May 4.--The International Inventors' Exhibition was formally opened by the Prince of Wales to-day. His Royal Highness in a very happy address heartily welcomed all the foreign exhibitors, and expressed his hope that the coming year would meet with the success which should certainly follow the indefatigable labors of its promoters. Among the notables present were the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Edinburgh and an enormous crowd assisted at the opening exercises. The music was furnished by Strauss' famous band.

THE BRITISH SUBJECTS IN ODESSA. VIENNA, May 4.--It is reported here that the Italian consul has been instructed to assume the protection of all British subjects in Odessa in the event of war between Russia and England.

DEATH OF AN M. P. LONDON, May 4.--James Chalmers, Conservative member of Parliament for the county of Ayr, Ireland, aged 157, died to-day at the age of forty-four.

LABOR TROUBLES.

The Striking Quartermen Quiet Yes.

JOLIET, ILL., May 4.--There was no demonstration of any kind made by the strikers yesterday and quiet reigns about the quarries and in the city. Sheriff Bell, at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, released all the prisoners captured Friday but four. They were conducted to the city limits and told to leave the county at once. No further action was taken by the sheriff.

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FORTUNE PROPHITOUS.

Gen. Middleton's Steamer Sinks Off the Sand-Bar.

WINNEPEG, MAN., May 4.--A dispatch has just been received from the West announcing that a rise of the water in the Saskatchewan has enabled the steamer Northco to move off the sand-bar and she is expected to reach Clark's Crossing by noon to-day. The Governor-General's body-guard are also expected to reach Clark's Crossing to-night. The telegraph line is still down west of Humboldt, and nothing can come through. Major Walsh has been visiting the halfbreeds, near Fort Qu'Appelle, and has every confidence they will prove loyal. Many of them have friends and relatives in Hiel's camp and say if it were in their power they would induce them to withdraw. Indian Agent McDonald has gone to Touchwood, where the Indians have left their reserve and will try to get them back. There is a report that the Indians have gone North, but it is not confirmed. The remains of Private Ferguson, Ninth Rifles, killed at Fish Creek, arrived at Fort Qu'Appelle yesterday and will be embalmed and brought to Winnipeg. Lieutenant Swinney's body is expected to arrive there to-day and will be similarly treated.

NO NEWS FROM Gen. Middleton. WINNEPEG, MAN., May 4.--The wires between the West and East are again cut, and it is feared that the news of the day is not reaching here. It is thought that General Middleton made an advance on the rebel yesterday, and that an engagement had been fought. The news of the day is not reaching here. It is thought that General Middleton made an advance on the rebel yesterday, and that an engagement had been fought. The news of the day is not reaching here. It is thought that General Middleton made an advance on the rebel yesterday, and that an engagement had been fought. The news of the day is not reaching here