

THE SUBURBAN CITIZEN

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NO. 8.

LIVE NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Treaty May Be Abrogated.

Negotiations with Great Britain to secure the abrogation or amendment of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty will be renewed by the State Department at an early date. It is the opinion of the high officials of the Department that Congress will not wait much longer on diplomacy to remove obstacles in the path of the construction by the United States of an Isthmian canal. There is a well-defined expectation, amounting to a conviction, among them that soon after the reassembling of Congress that legislative body will take matters into its own hands and pass a law abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

Kearse's Bad Gun.

Orders have been given by Rear Admiral O'Neil, chief of ordnance, for the shipment of a 13-inch gun to the New York Navy Yard, where it will be installed in the place of the damaged 13-inch weapon on the battleship *Kearsarge*. Department officials say that several weeks will be required to make the repairs. It has been decided that it will be necessary to remove the upper 8-inch turret and then the top of the 13-inch turret, after which the gun will be lifted out. The operation will be a lengthy one, and it will be cited by the opponents of the superposed type of turrets as an additional objection to their adoption in future battleships.

Stamp Stock Running Low.

An evidence of the commercial activity in the country is shown in the enormous demand for postage stamps. The demand is so heavy and persistent that the reserve stock of stamps has become greatly depleted. The law requires that there shall be kept constantly on hand at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing 100,000,000 1-cent and 200,000,000 2-cent stamps. Heretofore there never has been any difficulty in supplying current demands, and, at the same time, maintaining this reserve. The demand recently, however, has increased so rapidly that the number of 2-cent stamps in the reserve has been decreased to 140,000,000 and the number of 1-cent stamps to 36,000,000, and now the Treasury Department has decided to increase the hours of work in the postage stamp division of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

A Government on Wheels.

At the last meeting of the Cabinet the President asked his official family to make all arrangements for accompanying him upon his trip across the continent. During the month of May, therefore, the administration will be a government upon wheels. The transfer of the National Capital to a railroad train is probably unique in American history, but, as Secretary Cortelyou explained, no other course is possible under the circumstances. With the Cuban problem still unsolved, with affairs in China demanding constant attention, and with the Philippine situation requiring constant watchfulness, the President does not feel justified in leaving Washington for a month and severing all connection with the Cabinet. The probability is, therefore, that the Cabinet will hold regular sessions while en route, for the business of the departments, except purely minor matters, will be forwarded from Washington and will be considered with as much dispatch as if the President and his advisers were in Washington. All the arrangements for the trip are in the hands of Secretary Cortelyou, who will have charge of the train.

There will be a regular office on board the train, with a force of stenographers and clerks and with telegraph operators. A detailed schedule will be arranged before the start, and the party will adhere to it closely, so that at any moment it will be possible to communicate with the President by wire from the White House. Mail will be received, and letters of immediate importance answered. Cipher messages will be received as usual, and they will be at once translated and laid before the President. Business will be transacted in a manner that would be impossible if 3000 miles of territory intervened between the President and the Cabinet.

Capital News in General.

President McKinley granted a special audience to a delegation sent by a Porto Rican mass-meeting to protest against the Hollander Tax Bill.

Some idea of the pressure upon Secretary Root for places in the army can be gained from the statement of the fact that there are over 7000 applications for the 610 second lieutenants from volunteers or ex-volunteers alone.

Secretary Long has conferred upon the board of awards the task of procuring a suitable design for the medal which is to be bestowed upon sailors who participated in the battle of July 3, off Santiago, under the terms of the recent act of Congress.

The resignation of Mr. Kasson as special plenipotentiary for the negotiation of reciprocity treaties has been placed in the president's hands.

The battleship *Oregon* was ordered home from the Asiatic station.

THE PENNSY'S STOCK.

One Hundred Millions Added by the Stockholders.

CAPITAL STOCK NOW \$251,700,000.

The Stock Will Be Issued as the Directors of Said Company May Hereafter Order. The Thirteen Directors of the Company Are to Be Divided Into Four Classes.

Philadelphia (Special).—The stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at their annual meeting here decided to vote on the question of increasing the capital stock of the company \$100,000,000 and to take a vote on the classification of the directors.

The stock will be voted on these questions on Tuesday, March 26, when the annual election will be held. The capital stock is now \$151,700,000 and the increase will bring the total to \$251,700,000. Nothing was said about the manner in which the stock will be issued, the resolution adopted by the shareholders authorizing "the issuance, disposition and sale at a price not less than par of such increase, at such time or times and in such manner as the directors of said company shall by resolution prescribe."

The 13 directors of the company are to be divided into four classes, the first class to consist of four and each of the other classes of three directors, and will be elected as follows:

Those of the first class for the term of one year, those of the second class for the term of two years, those of the third class for the term of three years, and those of the fourth class for the term of four years.

The chairman of the meeting was authorized to appoint a committee to nominate a ticket for the directorate, which will be voted for on March 26.

John P. Green, first vice-president, read the resolutions as they were adopted. In offering them he made some explanations that were the first official statement of the needs and purposes of the increase of capital stock, and foretold the policy of the company in the matter of its internal administration.

"In the annual report," said the first vice-president, "the company must have, from time to time, the capital which is required for the making of improvements and betterments which the development of its business render imperative."

NO MORE CHINESE HEADS.

The Names of Ninety-Six Minor Officials Will Be Submitted for Trial.

Pekin (By Cable).—A general meeting of the foreign ministers was held here at which the reports of the committees were heard. Regarding more punishment of the Chinese connected with the Boxers, there is strenuous opposition against demanding many more heads, but a list containing the names of 96 minor officials will shortly be presented to Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, urging that they be tried for complicity in the outrages and punished, when found guilty, in such manner as the Chinese themselves see fit, except in the case of six men, who, the ministers think, should be executed. The report of the committee on the general principles on which indemnity claims should be considered was adopted. Those claims which are palpably unjust will be disallowed.

UNITED STATES HOLDS ALOOF.

Will Not Take Any Part in International Disagreements Between Foreign Powers.

Washington (Special).—The orders given to General Chaffee to withdraw all troops from Pekin except the two companies of the Ninth Infantry which will remain as a legion guard, indicate that this government adheres consistently to the policy which it has always announced of taking no part in any international disagreements that may arise between the powers in Pekin over the division of Chinese territory. The announcement that the Signal Corps has taken down the telegraph wires it built from Tien Tsin to Pekin and that General Chaffee himself is making ready to sail for Manila, where he will succeed General McArthur, is plain proof that this government considers its military operations in China at an end.

Suicide's Ingenuity.

Salem, N. J. (Special).—David D. Drummond, aged 52 years, of Pentonville, three miles from this city committed suicide by shooting himself. He went into a henhouse, placed the end of a gun barrel in his mouth and pulled the trigger by means of a string attached to his toe.

Prince Albrecht a Suicide.

Berlin (By Cable).—Prince Albrecht zu Solms-Braunfels has committed suicide at Wiesbaden, having learned that the disease from which he was suffering was incurable.

BUILDING BLOWN UP.

Distressing Death of a Number of People in Chicago.

Chicago (Special).—A boiler of the Doremus Laundry, occupying part of the old Waverly Theater Building, on West Madison street, between Throop and Loomis streets, exploded, destroying the building. In a few moments the mass of debris caught fire. Eight bodies have been recovered from the ruins, several persons are still said to be missing, while at least 25 men and girls were so seriously injured that many of them will die.

The most conservative estimate by the police concedes that at least three—dead or alive—are still in the ruins; yet the search for bodies in the ruins came to a sudden end early in the afternoon, and the work of rescue was entirely abandoned.

The cause of the cessation of the search was a dispute between the firemen and police as to who was responsible for the recovery of any bodies which might be concealed beneath the debris. The police said it was not their work to dig for bodies, and nobody else volunteered to do the work.

The explosion took place at a time when many of the employees of the laundry had gone to work, a time register found in the ruins showing that 36 had already reported for duty, while two or three others were known to have just entered the building. Of these hardly one escaped injury of some sort. The working force of the laundry is usually much larger, but none of the ironing women were on duty.

The force of the explosion was so terrific that buildings for blocks around were shaken as if by an earthquake, and hundreds of windows were shattered.

The building in which the explosion occurred was known as the Old Waverly Theater, and was built in 1877. Subsequently it was remodeled, and the rear used by the Doremus Laundry. The part of the auditorium running towards Throop street was used by the Volunteers of America, while the small stores built out from the wings of the auditorium, and facing on Madison street, were rented to shopkeepers. One of the stores was used as the office of the Doremus Laundry, and through this access was had to the laundry. Directly back of the office and in the southwest corner of the building the boiler-room was located.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

Are Having a Quarrel Over a Piece of Land at Tien Tsin.

London (By Cable).—Friction has arisen at Tien Tsin between the British and the Russians over a piece of land alleged to belong to the railway company and to have been in possession of the company for some years.

According to dispatches from Tien Tsin the Russians assert that this land is part of their new concession, and, therefore, Russian property. Mr. Kinder, manager of the railway, had begun to make a siding, but was stopped by the Russian authorities. He appealed to Colonel McDonald, who referred the matter to General Barrow, British chief of staff in Pekin, who replied: "Carry on the siding with armed force, if necessary."

Guards were put on the line by the British, and the work was continued. General Wagasak, the Russian commander, protested, and said the thing would not have been done if the Russians had had as many troops as the British, adding that such matters should be left to diplomacy.

Colonel McDonald again communicated with General Barrow, who telegraphed, "Continue the siding." General Wagasak, very indignant, appealed to the Russian minister to Pekin, M. de Giers.

SIXTEEN LIVES LOST.

Seven Men Caught in a Flooded Mine—A Dozen Buildings Demolished.

Litttle Rock, Ark. (Special).—Reports from over the state show that the storm of Saturday and Sunday was far greater than reports indicated. Thus far there are 16 deaths reported.

Great damage was done at Osceola, Piggott and Paragould.

Forest City, Ark. (Special).—Three persons were killed and many injured in this vicinity Saturday by a tornado. Four miles west of this city Pinky Watson, colored, and her infant child were the first victims. In the same neighborhood 16 houses and miles of fences and trees were leveled. In Johnston township, to miles northeast, the tornado literally lifted the house of J. A. Wooley from its foundation and shattered it to fragments, killing Wooley and seriously injuring his wife and stepson, Bob Allen. Outbuildings and miles of fences were blown down.

Killed by the Cars.

Reidsville, N. C. (Special).—Thomas Harris was killed here by a freight train. He belonged to a prominent family, and was a native of Virginia. He left a widow and five children.

GEN. HARRISON DEAD.

The Ex-President Succumbs After Making a Brave Fight.

WAS UNCONSCIOUS AT THE END.

A Pathetic Incident Just Before Death—His Strong Sympathy for the Sturdy Boers, Suppressed During Life From a Sense of Propriety, Found Expression While He Was in a Delirium.

Indianapolis (Special).—Benjamin Harrison, ex-President of the United States, died at his home here at 4:45 o'clock Wednesday afternoon without regaining consciousness.

His death was painless, there being a gradual sinking until the end came, which was marked by a single gasp for breath as life departed from the body. The relatives, with a few exceptions, and several of his old and tried friends were at the former President's bedside when he passed away.

The General's condition was so bad in the morning after a restless night that the attending physicians understood that the end could not be far off.

None of General Harrison's children was present at his death. Neither Col. Russell Harrison nor Mrs. James R. McKee had reached the city, although both were hurrying on their way to the bedside of their dying parent as fast as steam could carry them. Elizabeth, General Harrison's little daughter, had been taken from the sick room by her nurse before the end came.

General Harrison's wealth is rated by some as high as half a million dollars. Those who are best informed about the ex-President's affairs, however, say he was worth about \$250,000 or \$300,000. At the time he was elected President he was reputed to have accumulated a fortune of \$125,000 from his law practice, and this has been doubled at least since that time. Of late his practice, owing to his reputation as a constitutional lawyer, was lucrative.

The News in Washington.

Washington (Special).—President McKinley will attend the funeral of General Harrison. The itinerary will be so arranged as to enable the President to leave Canton for Indianapolis and he will return immediately after the funeral. After a brief stop at Canton he will return to Washington. It is not expected that any members of the Cabinet will go. Although expected, the death of General Harrison was a distinct shock to the President, the two men having seen much of each other while the former was in the Executive office. The President learned of General Harrison's death from several sources, and in the evening he sent a telegram of condolence to Mrs. Harrison.

Kind Words From England.

London (By Cable).—All the morning papers publish long memoirs of ex-President Benjamin Harrison and editorials dealing with his career. The Daily Chronicle says: "It may be long before America finds another President as capable, honorable and conservative." The Standard expresses the opinion that General Harrison has not left a deep mark in the history of his country, but like all the papers, it pays a tribute to his high personal character.

CARNEGIE GIVES FIVE MILLIONS.

The Steel King Gives a Princely Donation as He Retires From Business.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special).—Two communications from Andrew Carnegie, which were made public here, tell of the Steel King's retirement from active business life and of his donation of \$4,000,000 for the endowment of a fund for superannuated and disabled employees of the Carnegie Company and \$1,000,000 for libraries for the employees.

This benefaction is by far the largest of the many created by Mr. Carnegie, and is probably without a counterpart anywhere in the world. The fund will in no wise interfere with the continuance of the savings fund established by the company 15 years ago for the benefit of its employees. In this latter fund about \$2,000,000 of the employees' savings are on deposit, upon which the company by contract pays 6 per cent, and loans money to the workmen to build their own homes.

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