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The Evening Star.

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The proof of the pudding is in the eating. Yesterday's Star contained 52 columns of advertisements, made up of 759 separate announcements. These advertisers bought publicity—not merely space.

SENATOR SHERMAN

He Will Preside Over the Ohio Convention at Zanesville.

A STRONG FINANCIAL SPEECH EXPECTED

His Recommendations Will Undoubtedly Be Indorsed.

CONFIDENCE IN HIS ABILITY

Senator Sherman has gone to Ohio to preside over the gubernatorial convention to meet at Zanesville. This event is looked on with especial interest, for the reason that the Ohio Senator is expected to make a strong financial speech, which will be regarded as the keynote of the republican party of that state during the campaign. There is no uncertainty felt by republicans as to the tenor of this forthcoming speech, as the views of Senator Sherman on the financial question are too well known, and confidence is felt that the Senator's views have not changed on this important subject.

May Be a Financial Moses.

Senator Sherman has always believed in the use of silver in the monetary system of the government, although he has never had patience with the doctrines of free and unlimited coinage of silver. Very many republicans are now looking toward Senator Sherman as a strong factor in the next national campaign, as they consider him the ablest financier in the party or in the country. It is regarded as quite likely that Senator Sherman may prove a Moses to lead a large wing of the silver faction of the country into the republican party. This claim on the part of the republicans may sound strange to persons who are not acquainted with the manner in which the ex-Secretary of the Treasury is expected to come to the relief of his party.

High Regard of Bankers.

Among the large class of conservative business men and among bankers of the country Senator Sherman is regarded as thoroughly safe as a financial leader. Any project that carries his indorsement will be taken up by this class of people with confidence, and even though he should recommend a plan that would appear to be radical and unworthy of consideration if proceeding from some other source it would be accepted, and unless it should contain some unusual weakness after careful examination would be indorsed. In other words, Senator Sherman is regarded as an unusually good compromise republican, so far as the sound money men are concerned. At the same time he might secure the indorsement of many silverites by recommending some substantial recognition of the white metal in the finaces of the government, which, of course, would be very far from anything like free silver.

His Recommendations Will Be Indorsed.

If Senator Sherman sees fit to make some recommendations for the recognition of silver when he presides over the gubernatorial convention at Zanesville, it is safe to say that they will at once be indorsed by the sound money men of the party. There is no likelihood that he will say anything that will please the free silver leaders, but there is a large faction of silver people in the republican party in the west today who are inclined to be disgruntled and to kick over their party traces unless the republican leaders make some concession to them. It is this class of silver men, republicans who would rather vote for silver advocated by the republican party than to vote for free silver heralded by democratic leaders, that it is thought will be placated by utterances of the Ohio Senator.

Expected to Hold Free Silver Men.

There is no doubt that the cause of silver in Ohio is extremely strong today. All through that state, without regard to party lines, people are talking of the benefits that would arise from a more plentiful use of silver as primary money in the financial system of the country. Although the republican party scored decisive victories at the last election in Ohio the leaders of the party in that state are not without concern over the result of the next campaign. The claims of the democrats in that state that the great tidal wave in politics has rolled by and that their candidates have a chance for success make the republicans anxious to permit not only no victory for the democrats, but even a vote that should show a strengthening of democratic ranks over the results of the last election would be looked upon as dangerous and as discouraging to republicans throughout the country in the national contest for the presidency.

It is for this reason that republicans are hoping that Senator Sherman will be equal to the occasion by proposing some financial policy that silver republicans can indorse, while at the same time running no risk of alienating sound money members of the party.

THE PRESIDENT IN FLAMES.

His Portrait to Be Part of the Kiel Pyrotechnic Display.

President Cleveland's portrait will illuminate the night during the festivities attending the opening of the Baltic ship canal at Kiel. It will be shown in pyrotechnics from the yard arm of the cruiser New York, and at the same time a fiery portrait of Emperor William II will be displayed.

It was suggested to Secretary Herbert shortly before the New York sailed that it would be an excellent idea to have a display of fireworks at the opening of the canal, and that the President's portrait would look well among other set pieces. The Secretary thought well of the suggestion and the order was accordingly given. From one of the President's latest photographs this immense portrait was laid out to scale on a light frame, with thin strips of bamboo. At intervals of about four inches little candles or "lances" of slow-burning powder were placed along the bamboo strips and connected with a quick fuse.

MR. McCULLOCH'S FUNERAL.

It Will Take Place Monday From Rock Creek Church.

Arrangements for the funeral services over the remains of the late Hugh McCulloch, formerly Secretary of the Treasury, have been completed. The funeral will be private and the services will be as simple as it is possible to make them. There will be no honorary pall-bearers and the body-bearers will be the immediate employes of the dead man. The services will be held Monday, at 11 a.m., in Rock Creek Church, beyond the Soldiers' Home. The interment will be in Rock Creek cemetery. The Revs. Drs. Buck, Aspinwall and Mackay-Smith will conduct the services.

Ordered to This City.

Lieut. A. P. Niblack, now in Chicago on leave of absence, has been ordered to Washington June 4 to relieve Lieut. W. H. Scheutze of duty in charge of the naval militia business of the Navy Department. Lieut. Scheutze has been assigned to duty as naval aid to Assistant Secretary McAdoo, relieving Lieut. W. H. H. Southerland, who is ordered to the cruiser Cincinnati.

MR. LYMAN LEAVES

Incidents Attending His Retirement From the Commission.

He Addresses His Old Associates and Pays a Warm Tribute to the Great Cause.

Mr. Charles Lyman, who has been for so many years a member of the civil service commission, retired from office this morning upon the induction of his successor, Mr. John B. Harlow of Missouri. There was general and genuine regret at the commission building at the severance of the pleasant personal and official relations which had existed so long between Mr. Lyman and the officials and employes, and when it was announced that the retiring commissioner would bid everybody good-bye at the noon recess no one left the building. When the commissioners, secretaries, examiners, clerks and other employes—ladies and gentlemen—were assembled, Mr. Lyman, who was visibly affected, addressed them with much feeling.

Mr. Lyman's Remarks.

"The occasion which calls us together is, from one point of view, almost inexpressibly sad," said Mr. Lyman. "It marks the end of relations which have to me been very pleasant and agreeable. The breaking up of such relations that have been long continued and have been uniformly of such an agreeable character does not occur without some emotion; but I do not desire to dwell upon this feature of the occasion. There is a brighter side, and I am glad to look upon that side of it, and that grows out of the fact that we have been associated together, many of us for years, in a work which has commanded our sincere and cordial approval, a work in which we have been engaged in common with other people, and which we believe is of vast importance to this country. We have been engaged together, you and I, with others, in inaugurating, perfecting and carrying forward a movement, we call it a reform, I believe it is a reform; but at any rate it is a movement which I believe, and which you believe, has in it the elements of immense good to this country. It has to do with the administration of this government. It is a great government, and the administration of the government, whether that administration is good or bad, whether it is honest or dishonest, whether it is efficient or inefficient, is a matter of great concern to the people of this country.

What Civil Service Reforms Means.

"We believe that the civil service reform movement means not only good administration, honest administration, but it means clean politics," he continued, "and we have labored together in all these years in this movement, and upon this cause of reform we have made our impress. We have stamped in some degree, greater or smaller, our purpose and our personality. What we have written into this reform can never be unwritten; it will stand in the records of the government for all time, and it will be to your credit, as I believe it will be to mine, that we have worked together in this cause and have accomplished something toward its establishment and its perpetuity. It is possible that we have all made reputations in it in a way; it is possible that I might have made in some sense a different reputation if my course had been different.

Satisfied With His Course.

"I have not chosen to conduct my part of this work by proclamation," he said. "I do not regret it. I have satisfied myself, my judgment, my conscience, by doing the work of this commission, such of it as came to me, in the best way that I possibly could. I have given to it my thought, my whole purpose, the best that was in me; and now as I sever my connection with this work in its official relations, and my relations with you officially, I do not intend to sever my connection with the cause; a cause which lies very profoundly deep in my judgment and in my affections. For twenty-five years I have been a civil service reformer in office. If I shall live to be twenty-five years older than I am I shall be twenty-five years more a civil service reformer, and I shall everywhere and on all occasions stand for it, for what it means, for what it does; and I congratulate you ladies and gentlemen that you are associated with it, and I thank you cordially and heartily for the support and confidence which you have ever given to me.

Pleasant Closing Words.

"There has never been an occasion during our association together that you have not promptly, loyally and faithfully responded to every call," said Mr. Lyman, in conclusion, "and I am perfectly sure that you will give to my successor, a gentleman whom I have long known, and hold in high esteem, the same loyal, faithful and constant support which you have given to me. To my late associate, the president of this commission, I wish to tender my thanks for the kindness and courtesy he has invariably shown me. Our relations have been of the most agreeable character; it gives me pleasure to say this. I will not prolong these remarks. Before we separate, I desire to take each of you by the hand and say good-bye, and may God speed you in your work."

Following Mr. Lyman's remarks, addresses were made by Major Webster, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Kiggins, Mr. De Land and Mr. Halloran, who had been longest associated with Mr. Lyman.

JUDGE GOFF NAMED.

A Fellow West Virginian Wants Him for President.

Ex-Commissioner of the Internal Revenue John W. Mason indorses Judge Goff of West Virginia for the presidency and believes that the man who gained such wide reputation for his judicial decisions will make a most acceptable candidate for that office.

In talking over the chances of Judge Goff for the republican nomination, Mr. Mason said:

"Never before in the history of the country has it been so necessary to have a southern man head the ticket. The elections during the past year in the south have shown that that section is more than ready to come into the republican ranks if local prejudices can be broken down. Republican doctrines are spreading in all the manufacturing and other industrial districts of the southern states and the liberal element there would like to indorse these principles by voting for a republican president. Louisiana might be carried by the republicans, and if Judge Goff were nominated West Virginia would surely indorse him and there would be great probability of carrying Virginia. If it could only be said that a republican vote would mean that a southerner would be placed in the White House, much of the antagonism of the southern people would be overcome."

TROOPING THE COLORS.

Officially Celebrating the Birthday of the Queen.

LONDON, May 25.—The birthday of Queen Victoria, the anniversary of which occurred yesterday, was officially celebrated in this city today. At the Horse Guards during the morning many thousands of people witnessed the brilliant spectacle of trooping the colors. The Grenadier Guards, Scot Fusilier Guards and Cold Stream Guards took part in the ceremonies.

FORMOSA'S REVOLT

Information That She Has Declared Her Independence.

THE REPORT NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY

The Movement Regarded as a Rebellion Against Japan.

NEWS AT THE LEGATION

The State Department has received a cablegram from Mr. Denby, United States minister to China, stating that the Island of Formosa has declared her independence, that the powers have been so notified and that a government republican in form has been established in Formosa. This adds a new complication to the situation in the east. Before this government can recognize the Formosan independence it must be shown that a provisional government which can stand has been organized. There are great numbers of Japanese in Formosa, and it remains to be seen what course they will adopt.

Not Taken Seriously.

The dispatch of Minister Denby is not taken seriously at the State Department. The information contained in the dispatch was taken at the department to mean that the minister awaited instructions to recognize the new government, or that it was in a position to be recognized by the United States.

But there is not likely to be any such action taken by the government, nor would Minister Denby be justified in taking any such step. The United States recognizes Formosa as belonging to Japan, and no matter what may be the form of government which the revolutionists of the island may have organized, a recognition of the independence of the island would be distinctly an unfriendly act toward Japan. It is not for the United States minister to China, or to any other country, to recognize the independence of any island in revolt. The United States does not recognize the Cuban rebels, and the movement in Formosa cannot be regarded as anything more than a rebellion against Japan.

No Likelihood of a Republic.

The idea of a republican form of government being formed in Formosa is treated with some derision at the department. The population of Formosa is composed of savages, reclaimed savages and Chinese immigrants.

The latter are of the lowest classes of Chinese, and the people there, it is declared, would not know what a republican form of government was. It is thought more likely that an oligarchy is in control of the island. It is believed at the department that the trouble has arisen over the fear of the inhabitants of Formosa that the Japanese will take away the property the people have acquired. When they understand that the treaty ceding Formosa confirms all fees and holdings it is thought the population will have a different feeling toward the new possessors of the island.

Products of the Island.

Formosa is one of the richest islands of the sea. Nine-tenths of the tea used in the United States is produced there, and it supplies Japan with sugar and exports large quantities of camphor. It has petroleum wells and coal fields, but these have never been worked. They are in the northern part of the island, and will be of immense value to Japan. The population has been estimated as between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 people, but the best information is that it does not actually exceed a million and a quarter of people.

The United States has no consul in Formosa, the nearest consulate being Amoy, China, which has a general supervisory command over American interests in the island. There is a consular agent at Takow. The principal harbor is Kelung, from which a small railroad extends into the interior. The island contains about 14,000 square miles. The western half has been subdued and is very productive, while the eastern part is largely in a savage state.

No Advices at the Japanese Legation

The Japanese legation here has received no advices on the rebellion in Formosa and the establishment of an independent republic. The officials do not attach much weight to the affair, saying that the natives are little advanced from savagery and are incapable of organization or military action. They fight with bows and arrows. The Chinese soldiers who were on the island have been withdrawn, so that only the natives with their rude arms remain.

Against this, it is pointed out, is the powerful army and navy of Japan available to suppress a rebellion from such a barbarous class. Japan recently designated a viceroy, or governor general, for Formosa, and he left about two weeks ago, escorted by a fleet of Japan's modern cruisers. The latter are now in the large ports of Formosa.

THE PEOPLE OF FORMOSA.

Something About the Mixed Races Inhabiting the Island.

A writer in the New York Herald says of the people of Formosa: The natives on the verge of the settled districts, who, though living in communication with their own people and preserving their own customs and modes of life, have quietly accepted Chinese rule, are called the Peppo-whan. They are a large and well-formed race. It may be remembered that in the accounts of the repulse of Admiral Lespes in his attack on Tamsui the fighting of the hillmen was specially mentioned; these were the Peppo-whan. They are, however, very poor, being in the grasp of the Chinese usurers, to whom they have mortgaged their lands. The crops of rice pay the interest, the unfortunate people being allowed to retain only those of sweet potatoes for their own use.

The independent tribes of Formosa live high up among the mountains and on the east coast, and appear to be savages pure and simple. They are said, by Dutch writers, to preserve in their huts the heads of their enemies killed in war as trophies of victory, a custom common among the Dyaks or "head hunters" of Borneo and certain aboriginal tribes of Luzon. But a still more serious charge is brought against them by the Chinese—that of cannibalism. There is nothing in our recent knowledge of the Formosans to corroborate this charge. It is true that no European has ever had an opportunity of studying the independent tribes in situ, but the reports of the Peppos and the Chinese of the west coast do not allege cannibalism against their savage neighbors.

To what race these aborigines belong or whence they came are questions which in the present state of our knowledge can only be answered tentatively. How far did the twenty odd names of different tribes scattered over the eastern portion of the island really represent tribal distinctions it is impossible to say; on one point only can we be certain, that these people have no ethnic connection with the Chinese. High cheek bones are the exception among them, the face and head are small and round, the eyes are straight and not oblique, nor do the scanty vocabularies which have been collected indicate the slightest analogy with the Chinese. But a striking physical resemblance has been noticed between them and the Pellew Islanders; this, however,, is hardly a safe ethnological guide.

There can be little doubt that the Kuro Siwo, the gulf stream of the Pacific, which flows northward, past the island, toward Japan, has from time to time cast on its shores inhabitants of most of the islands of the China seas.

From the time of the Manchu conquest, in 1683, down to the present day, China has been gradually annexing Formosa, not by military operations, but by the most powerful of all agencies—immigration. Nevertheless, the results of two centuries of constant immigration have been very small, when we recollect that Formosa is only about 100 miles in a direct line from the teeming mainland, where, as De Quincy said, man is a weed, and that whatever differences there are in climate should rather invite than repel emigrants.

The native Formosans seem to be nearly as tenacious as the Chinese themselves, but they are slowly giving way before superior numbers. From Kelung, Tamsui, Taiwan and other settlements on the west coast the Chinese gradually extended up the rivers and over the alluvial plains, carrying on a constant war with the natives, civilizing some, killing others, but always holding what they had got and usually advancing a step forward.

In two centuries the natives who refused to bow their necks to the yoke, and who preferred independence and their native savagery, have been driven into the mountains, where the Chinese advance has stopped, probably because the soil was uninviting.

TO BE NEAR CONGRESS

Knights of Labor Headquarters to Front the Capitol Grounds.

A Handsome Building to Be Erected to Accommodate the Executive Officers of the Order.

When the general assembly of the Knights of Labor met in convention at Richmond, Va., in October, 1886, an order was passed directing the general officers to purchase or erect a suitable building for national headquarters. Washington was then a candidate for the honor, but Philadelphia was selected, and the handsome brown-stone residence of the late Matthew Baird of that city was purchased and occupied, and it is from that building that orders have issued during the last eight years. Recently, however, the Philadelphia house was ordered sold and the officers were authorized to select suitable headquarters elsewhere.

This was nearly two years ago. The executive board has visited Washington frequently during that time, and has made several offers for real estate here, the Hutchins building at 10th and D streets northwest having been at one time bargained for. But the deal fell through.

The knights are coming to Washington, however, and before long the flag of that industrial army will float over a building of their own at the corner of 1st and B streets northwest, fronting the north side of the Capitol grounds. General Master Workman Sovereign, Grand Secretary-Treasurer Hayes, and T. B. McGuire of New York, C. A. French of Massachusetts, H. B. Martin of Minnesota, and J. M. Kenney of Nebraska, composing the general executive board, were in the city Thursday and Friday, and before leaving had concluded the purchase of the ground mentioned and signed a contract with Beall & Baden of this city for the immediate erection of a substantial brick and stone two-story and basement building, 25x120 feet in size.

The first or main floor will contain the general offices of the order, while the private offices of the master workman, secretary-treasurer, executive board and editorial and composing rooms of the Journal of the Knights of Labor will be located on the second floor. The press and mailing rooms of the Journal and shipping department of the order will be located in the basement. The building will be heated by steam and lighted by electricity.

When completed the K. of L. headquarters will be an ornament to the national capital, and will add to the importance of Washington as a center for industrial news and movements. Speaking of their reasons for coming here, General Master Workman Sovereign said: "We are coming to Washington to keep an eye on the actions of Senators and Representatives. The reforms sought by labor can only be secured through legislation. This is the seat of war, and we want to be on the ground to look out for the interests of the masses. The classes maintain powerful lobbies here during all the sessions of Congress. The toilers will in future also be represented before congressional committees on all questions affecting their welfare. We believe our presence here will have a wholesome effect upon the actions of the people's representatives. Our official paper circulates in every hamlet in the United States, and we shall publish the records of both the friends and enemies of labor; and this can be done from Washington better than from any other point in the country."

DOWN TO WORK.

Twenty-Five Families Have Their Potatoes Planted.

The sturdy yeomen of the Pingree committee are making progress. Today the applications were swelled to sixty, about equally divided between white and colored. Lots are assigned as rapidly as plowed and harrowed. Twenty-five allotments have been made, and the allattees have got their crop in the ground just in time to catch the beneficent effect of the coming showers. In all, now fifty acres have been put at the use of the committee. Ten lots leased by Mr. Dana on Columbia road were plowed and harrowed today. A nice piece of land on the Conduit road will be put in order next. Some of the land offered is not accepted. An expert farmer inspects all land offered and makes a report on it. If it isn't worth planting on he so reports and it is rejected.

Working for Their Families.

Among those who are working donated lands are several colored widows, who have families dependent on them. Indeed, all the allottees have families. Every applicant has been looked up carefully, and so far all have been found to be working people long resident in the District.

Lands have been placed at the use of the committee by the following parties:

Albert M. Read, T. B. Harrison, Conrad Barrow, Chris. Heurich, twelve acres; A. S. Caywood, Weller & Repetti, fifty lots; Mr. Dana, ten lots; Dr. J. J. Purman, Mrs. Priscilla Thompson, Dr. J. A. Robbins, Israel W. Stone, Mr. Williams, Mrs. S. W. Brittingham, Mrs. W. C. Dodge, George Stambaugh, Mr. Whitehead, J. D. Croissant, Mrs. M. J. Hosack, Miss M. L. Herntzelman, Mrs. Chalker, R. M. J. Atwell, Mr. Mayes, Dr. M. D. Peck, Mrs. Reed's heirs, and others—in all about fifty acres.

These Are Farmers.

Those who have received allotments of lands and planted their crops are as follows: Jno. Wingfield, Chas. Shorter, Henry Albert, Mr. Scurvey, Jas. McCartney, Mrs. Wright, Thornton and Garner, Jas. Powers, Lucinda Henson, Martha Bailey, A. B. Kaufman, Geo. Denny, Jacob A. Long, Mrs. Floyd, Mrs. Patterson, Robt. Hilbus, Geo. Taylor, Arthur B. Whitaker, Edward Coleman, Reyburn Green, Jno. Thomas.

To Visit Battlefields.

Secretary Herbert and party, including Gen. W. T. Smith, Gen. Hyde and Col. Cassells, left here this morning to visit the battlefields of Gettysburg and Antietam. They will return Monday evening.

MERIT WILL RULE

Chiefs of Division Under Civil Service Requirements.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S ACTION

Extension of the Classified Service in the Agricultural Department.

HUNDREDS BENEFITED

Probably the cause of civil service reform has never received more substantial impetus than it did yesterday when President Cleveland issued a series of orders amending the civil service rules in relation to the Department of Agriculture. He directed that hereafter all chiefs of division in the department, of whom there are eighteen, should be taken out of what is known as the accepted class, appointments in which are subject to the personal pleasure of the Secretary of Agriculture, and that any vacancies that might occur hereafter should be filled by promotion from the large corps of trained experts employed in the department, or, occasionally, when necessary, by competitive examination. These positions demand skill on the part of those who hold them of a high technical and professional character. The cashier and the assistant disbursing officers, the chief clerks of the weather bureau and the bureau of animal industry and the scientific or professional experts employed in Washington in the Department of Agriculture have also been taken out of the excepted list, in all about twenty-five. The classification of the Department of Agriculture is further amended so as to make subject to competitive examination under the civil service rules the clerks, microscopists, assistant microscopists, stock examiners, taggers, agents and all other employes except temporary laborers in the bureau of animal industry outside of Washington. Also all state statistical agents and all messengers in the weather bureau outside of Washington. Those employed at Washington were already classified. The inspectors, veterinary inspectors and assistant inspectors of the bureau of animal industry were already subject to competitive examination. This extension to the remaining places in that bureau adds more than five hundred places to the classified service.

Magnitude of the Change.

Many of the more important places which are put beyond the possibility of their occupants being removed in case of political changes of administration are at present held by gentlemen who have risen to them step by step. For instance, the chief of accounts and disbursements first entered the department in 1875 at a salary of $1.50 per day, and was promoted stage by stage through the division of seeds, the division of statistics, and the divisions of accounts and disbursements, until he became its chief.

Secretary Morton was asked today how the President's order would affect the Department of Agriculture.

"The magnitude of the change in the classified service of the Agricultural Department may be realized," said the Secretary, "when it is known that all places and positions in the department are brought into the classified civil service except the Secretary and the assistant secretary of agriculture and their private secretaries, the chief of the weather bureau and his private secretary, the chief clerk of the department, and the laborers and charwomen. The extension of the classification of the department outside of Washington will include at least 150 taggers, 5 microscopists, 200 assistant microscopists, 15 clerks, 33 live stock agents, 96 stock examiners, 2 superintendents of quarantine stations in the bureau of animal industry, all messengers in the weather bureau stations and all state and territorial statistical agents, numbering 46.

Significance of the Order.

The action of the President at this juncture is taken as significant of future important extensions of the classified service in other departments. Before Mr. Roosevelt retired from the civil service commission that body had strongly presented to the President the necessity of extending the protection of the merit system over many of the positions now filled by political favor. It was represented to Mr. Cleveland that under the present mode of transacting the business of the government the men most qualified by long experience and familiarity with departmental work were not available for positions requiring direction of an executive character, such as the chiefs of divisions and bureaus exert. The reason for this was that after a clerk appointed under civil service rules had shown marked ability in the particular duties assigned to him and won promotions by reason of his excellence until he reached the highest grade in the classified service, he would prefer to remain there, in safety rather than accept a higher appointment which might be taken from him whenever the political complexion of the administration changed.

The President's Approval.

Mr. Cleveland, it is understood, recognized that the public business could be much better transacted by having all the offices, up to those occupied by men who directly assisted the shaping the policy of the government in a political sense, filled in accordance with the merit system. The extension of the merit system, therefore, to include the chiefs of division in the Department of Agriculture is believed to indicate a similar extension to the other departments at an early day. The appointments of Mr. Rice and Mr. Harlow to the places formerly held by Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Lyman are also taken as indications of the purpose of Mr. Cleveland to give the business affairs of the government all the advantages that can possibly accrue from the widest application of the merit system in appointments to and promotions in office.

The civil service commission today received petitions from the stereotypers' and pressmen's unions, signed by all the members of those organizations, most of whom are employed in the government printing office, asking that the civil service rules be amended so as to include the employes of the government printing office under the classified service.

OUT OF TOWN.

The President at Woodley and Cabinet Officers Scattered.

There is a noticeable scarcity of high officials in the city today. The President spent the day at Woodley, dispatching accumulated routine business preparatory to leaving the capital for the entire summer. Secretary Carlisle is in Kentucky. Secretary Lamont is in New York. Secretary Herbert is in Gettysburg, and Secretary Smith is down south.

Medical Director Dean's Retirement.

Medical Director Richard C. Dean, who is the second ranking officer in the medical corps of the navy, will be placed on the retired list on Monday on account of age. He is a member of the examining and retiring board at the Navy Department. His retirement will promote each of the following named officers to the next higher grade: Medical inspector, Thomas C. Walton; surgeon, M. C. Drennan, and passed assistant surgeon, D. M. Guiterar. There are now twelve vacancies in the lowest grade of the corps, which the department finds great difficulty in filling.

WINDER'S BUILDING

Some Clerks Employed in It Anxious as to Its Security.

Auditor Farrow Has No Fears on the Subject—Report of a Recent Examination by an Expert.

Several of the clerks in the Winder building, on 17th street, occupied by the office of the auditor for the War Department, have recently expressed doubt as to the entire safety of the building. They have made no formal complaint to the authorities, but have not hesitated to disclose their uneasiness privately to their friends. The principal cause of their apprehension is a recent addition to the large stock of files stored in the building. The fact that these files were all placed in the basement, where they could not possibly add the slightest strain to the walls, was entirely overlooked by the timid ones, who apparently considered nothing but the age of the structure and the existence of certain cracks in the front wall. They disregarded entirely the fact that these cracks originally appeared many years ago, and have not become any larger, and the further fact that the walls have since been repeatedly inspected by competent engineers and architects, and pronounced safe and sound.

Auditor Farrow Satisfied.

Col. Farrow, the auditor, talked frankly with a Star reporter on the subject today. He said he was not aware of the existence of any uneasiness about the safety of the building. He certainly felt none himself, and if any of the officials, clerks or employes were uneasy on that score, they had scrupulously concealed it from him. His office was on the third floor and naturally he was as much interested in the safety of the building as the other occupants. When the accounting system of the Treasury Department was reorganized in October last under the Dockery plan, it became necessary, Auditor Farrow explained, to transfer to and from the office a large number of files. As the transfer involved an additional weight on certain portions of the walls, he requested, as a matter of precaution, that they be examined by a competent engineer or architect.

His suggestion in this matter was respected by the Secretary of the Treasury, and an expert was detailed to make an examination. As a result of his report measures were taken to insure the perfect stability of the walls, and props were made at all doubtful points. The inspection showed that the walls were of unusual thickness, and that the structure was perfectly safe and secure in every respect. More recently the chief clerk of the Treasury Department found it necessary to transfer additional files to the office for storage, and notwithstanding they were all placed in the basement, the auditor requested simply as a precautionary measure that the building be again examined in order to determine the perfect propriety of the transaction. Accordingly another examination was made by an expert, with the same result as before, viz., that the security of the building was in nowise impaired by the transaction.

Confidence in the Building's Safety.

Colonel Farrow expressed confidence in the perfect safety of the building, and said he was surprised to hear that any of his clerks felt the slightest uneasiness in the matter. He referred the reporter to Mr. Logan Carlisle, chief clerk and superintendent of the Treasury Department, as an official who could give more details as to the results of the examinations of the building. Upon application to Mr. Carlisle the reporter received corroboration of Colonel Farrow's statements, and was shown the report of Mr. C. E. Young, the expert of the architect's office who examined the Winder building a few weeks ago. It showed that certain changes had been recommended to meet the redistribution of the weights of the building and that the grade of the terrace be changed so as to secure a better drainage from the walls. A contract has been made for this last mentioned work, and it will be executed in a short time. This improvement will serve to keep the foundations dry and free from surface drainage. All the other suggestions made by the expert, including the placing of posts under the beams of the first floor, have been faithfully carried out. According to Mr. Carlisle the building is as strong and safe as the treasury building itself.

DROWNED IN THE CANAL.

Capsizing of the Steam Yacht Trilby at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 25.—A steam yacht bearing the name of Trilby was capsized in the Hamburg canal this morning and two or three men are thought to be drowned. The accident occurred at the Michigan street bridge, which is being repaired. The yacht served as a ferry to carry workmen across the canal, and today there was a large crowd of Polish laborers who sought conveyance to their work. They clambered aboard like a flock of sheep. The Trilby took three loads safely across, but when she returned for the fourth, the Poles made a rush for her, and all jumping simultaneously on one side caused her to lurch, capsize and go to the bottom.

CHINA'S ALLEGED REFUSAL.

The Report Is Not Credited in London.

LONDON, May 25.—In official circles here the report that China has refused to pay an additional indemnity to Japan for the evacuation of Port Arthur and the Liao-Tung peninsula is discredited. It is believed, on the contrary, that an agreement has already been arrived at between China, Japan and the powers, on the basis of an extra indemnity.

TRIP OF THE ST. LOUIS.

She Leaves Philadelphia on Her Initial Ocean Voyage.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 25.—At 11:45 today the pioneer of modern merchant marine, the giant steamship St. Louis, cast off her hawsers at Cramp's ship yard and started down the Delaware river on her initial ocean voyage to try her speed.

It is expected that she will remain at sea from four to five days and then go to New York.

UNITED PRESBYTERIANS.

Elder Blair's Case Before the General Assembly.

PITTSBURG, Pa., May 25.—The United Presbyterian general assembly this morning resumed its consideration of the case of Elder W. H. Blair of Adamsville, Pa., who is charged with selling liquor on prescription to young men and to men of known intemperate habits. Rev. J. H. Hutchman, counsel for the prosecution, made an address, in which he handled the defendant without gloves.

Snatched Back From Death.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

CUMBERLAND, Md., May 25.—Samuel Keesucker, a boatman on the canal, attempted suicide this morning by shooting himself in the head. Just as he pulled the trigger his arm was knocked up, and the revolver was taken from him. He has been despondent, and says financial troubles led him to the attempt.

OSCAR WILDE GUILTY

The Playwright and Poet Sentenced to Prison

FOR TWO YEARS WITH HARD LABOR

The Solicitor General's Impassioned Appeal.

A JURYMAN'S QUESTION

LONDON, May 25.—The jury in the Wilde case has rendered a verdict of guilty and he has been sentenced to prison for two years with hard labor.

Oscar Wilde's trial having reached its final stage the Old Bailey court room was filled with interested spectators almost as soon as the doors were opened today. Sir Frank Lockwood, the solicitor general, resumed his address to the jury, which he had just begun when court adjourned yesterday. The prisoner's intimacy with Lord Alfred Douglas and the exhibition of the younger man by the elder one at hotels and public places in and about London were severely commented upon by counsel.

Referring to the much-commented-upon letters which Wilde wrote to Lord Alfred Douglas, counsel said that the jury had been told that they were too low to appreciate such poetry and that he thanked God it was so, as it showed they were above the level of beasts. (Applause, which the judge promptly suppressed).

Sir Edward Clarke, leading counsel for Wilde, here interposed objections to such appeals as the one just made by Sir Frank Lockwood, which, counsel claimed, should not be allowed.

When Sir Frank Lockwood continued his speech he warned the jury to render a verdict which would prevent "such a detestable and abominable vice to rear its head unblushingly in this country."

A Favorable Charge.

Justice Wills began summing up at 1:30 p.m. The general tenor of his address to the jury was favorable to Wilde.

During the address to the jury, the foreman asked whether, in view of the intimacy between Lord Alfred Douglas and Alfred Wood, one of the men whose name has been brought prominently into the case, a warrant for Lord Alfred's arrest had ever been issued.

The judge replied that he thought not.

The foreman then asked if it had ever been contemplated to issue a warrant for the arrest of Lord Alfred Douglas.

To this the court replied that he could not say, and the court adjourned for lunch.

When the court reassembled for business the judge said that the suspicion that Lord Alfred Douglas would be spared if guilty, simply because he was Lord Alfred Douglas, was a wild idea and a matter which they could not discuss. The present inquiry was as to whether the man in the dock was guilty of immoral practices.

The jury retired at 3:30 p.m.

Wilde Convicted.

The jury returned to court at 5:30 p.m., with a verdict of guilty against defendant. Wilde was entenced to two years' imprisonment at hard labor.

Alfred Taylor, Wilde's associate, was also sentenced to two years' imprisonment at hard labor.

The announcement of the verdict caused a great sensation in court, as it was the general impression that Wilde would escape conviction.

Wilde's Denial.

While the jury was out, at the request of the representative of the Associated Press, Wilde's counsel brought the following signed statement from Wilde, who was waiting in the prisoners' room below the dock.

The charges alleged against me are entirely untrue. Youth in every form always fascinated me because youth has naturally that temperament to which the artist has to try to attain. All works of art are works produced in the moment of youth. I have no sense at all of social grades. I love society and the rich and well born on account of their luxury. Culture, the grace of their lives, the external accidents of comely life. But any one, plough boy, fisherman or street arab, has an interest for me. Mere humanity is so wonderful.

"I do not ask of the young what they do. I do not care who they are. Their ignorance has its mode of wisdom; their lack of culture leaves them open to fresh and vivid impressions.

(Signed.) "OSCAR WILDE."

The document from which the above statement is cabled to the Associated Press is written throughout in Wilde's own handwriting, which is extremely graceful and firm, on a sheet of foolscap paper, and it is signed with a flourish.

When the foreman of the jury delivered the verdict, Wilde, who had entered the prisoners' dock a moment before, rose from the chair upon which he had been seated throughout the trial, and stood with his arms on the dock. The silence which prevailed throughout the court room was really painful as Justice Wills ordered that Alfred Taylor should also be summoned before him. Then, in a voice trembling with emotion, the justice said: "I never before had such a shocking case as this to deal with.

MARTI'S DEATH DOUBTED.

Cuban Revolutionists Have No News of It.

NEW YORK, May 25.—Senor Diogo Ramirez, a prominent Cuban revolutionist, in an interview, says:

"It may be true that Marti has been killed, but the stories about his death are so conflicting that I cannot believe it until our party receives confirmation of the news. It is very strange that we have received no word in regard to it.

"There are two facts which lead us to place no confidence in the report. One is that the government is making a second attempt to raise a loan in Paris and wants to show that things in Cuba are turning in favor of the Spaniards. The other is that they have just announced that reporters will not be allowed to go to the insurgents' camp.

"There are other men among them the name of Marti, and, for that matter, more than one man bearing Marti's Christian name—Jose. Maybe the Spaniards killed a Jose Marti, but not the great general of that name. Our chief argument against the report, however, is that Gomez and Marti had, only two or three days before, fought a battle in Camasan, some 200 miles from Dos Rios, where they are said to have been killed, and between Dos Rios and Camasan, which is away on the northeast, the country is very mountainous and could not be traveled in two or three days.

"But admitting that Gen. Jose Marti be really dead, we should deplore his loss sincerely, but it would not affect the cause in the slightest degree. There are many ready to take his place, and fighting will be continued with redoubled vigor, for the Cubans will be animated by the desire to avenge him."

The Ailsa Forced to Withdraw.

SOUTH END, England, May 25.—Ailsa and Britannia started at 9:43 this morning, with yachts of other classes, in a channel race from South End to Harwich, a distance of about fifty miles. The breeze was light. Ailsa was leading the twenties and forties when she was compelled to give up the race and return to her anchorage, having lost her bobstay. This destroyed the interest in the race.