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WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

For the DEMOCRAT:

Chief Justice Miller has consented to deliver the address to Congress when it celebrates its centennial Wednesday. One hundred years of Congress is a theme that almost any man could become eloquent over, and the people are expecting something great from the Chief Justice. Admittance into the Capitol is to be by ticket only, and already it is almost impossible to obtain them.

Sergeant-at-Arms Leedom of the House of Representatives has the sympathy of everybody here in the misfortune that overtook him just as he was preparing to turn his office over to Mr. Holmes' his newly elected Republican successor. C. E. Silcott, who has been Cashier of Mr. Leedom's office for six years and who has handled during that time more than \$30,000,000 has turned thief and absconded with about \$75,000 of somebody else's money. Whose money, and who will have to bear the loss is as yet a very fine legal problem. The money was drawn from the Treasury by Silcott on salary receipts signed by Members of the House of Representatives, and the Treasury officials claim that the men who signed the receipts will have to stand the loss, while the Representatives are generally of the opinion that the loss should fall on the Government, and that the Government will have to take its chances of recovering the money from Mr. Leedom. Several Treasury experts are now assisting a committee of the House to investigate the books of the Sergeant-at-Arms. As soon as their report is made the House will take some action. Gambling and women were the cause of Silcott's ruin. He is supposed to be in Canada.

The nomination of Judge D. J. Brewer, of Kansas, to be associate Justice of the Supreme Court was a complete surprise to everyone here, except the Kansas Senators. It was hardly a welcome surprise either to many of the Republicans. The fact that Judge Brewer is a rampant prohibitionist adds nothing to the popularity of

his nomination. There is no opposition to his confirmation, which will probably be pushed right through.

No official notice of the death of Jefferson Davis was taken here, notwithstanding his having once been Secretary of War, and quite a sensation was created in some quarters because a lady living several squares from the Capitol, saw fit to drape the front of her house in mourning.

Senator Voorhees is "loaded for bear" on the tariff question. He offered a preamble and resolution in the Senate setting forth the fact that all existing tariff taxes on foreign merchandise should be so revised, repealed or amended as to provide First, for the collection of a sufficient revenue to pay the expenses of the Government economically administered, the principal and interest of the public debt as they fall due, and liberal pensions, but not a dollar more; second, for the taxation of all articles of luxury at the highest practicable rates and for the reduction of taxes on all necessities of civilized life to the lowest possible rates consistent with a tariff for revenue only; third, for the curtailment and overthrow as far as possible of all monopolies in trade by the enlargement of the free list. Mr. Voorhees gave notice that he would at some future time call up the resolution and address the Senate thereon. His speeches are always worth listening to.

A deluge of Federal election bills have already been introduced in the Senate. It is safe to predict that none of them will ever pass the House.

Speaker Reed has announced the House committee on Rules, Accounts and enrolled bills. It is not thought that the complete list of committees will be completed before the holiday recess. The Democratic members of the committee on Rules are ex-Speakers Carlisle and Randall.

The Civil Service law seems in a fair way to catch it from both parties in the Senate. Senator Vance has introduced a bill for its repeal, and Senator Paddock one removing the Railway Mail Service from its jurisdiction. Both gentlemen state that the law is a humbug, and that its strict enforcement would be directly in opposition to our whole system of Government. When two men usually as far apart as these two agree, there is food for thought in the subject of agreement.

Ex-Speaker Carlisle takes back his old place of Democratic leader on the floor of the House, with as much ease and grace as he laid it down to accept the speakership. No man ever had a stronger hold on his party associates in Congress than Mr. Carlisle has.

The President and Vice President are in Chicago. They both expect to return in time to hear Chief Justice

Fuller's address to Congress Wednesday. R. December the 8th. 1889.

BILLY MAHONE.

Billy Mahone could not get to be Governor of Va., and so he has come to Weldon N. C. to superintend the construction of a canal to utilize the great water power on the Roanoke at that place. Mahone has, for a number of years been interested in the town of Weldon and has made several visits there, during a visit several years ago the little Gen. had quite a lively experience, which ought to make a deep impression of him. Mahone was walking along the sidewalk one rainy afternoon, a big burly engineer who was at the depot waiting the time for the departure of his train, walked across the street, approached the 105lb Gen. lifting his hat and bowing politely: "Why howdy General, I have not seen you in a long time." Mahone hatted the engineer, held out his hand and said in a familiar tone: "Don't you know me General?" Mahone only looked at him with indignation. Don't you know John R.—I was in your command during the war, "don't you remember me?" pleaded the engineer. Mahone smote his long beard and in a very indignant manner said: "No—don't you I know nothing about you." "See here," shouted the enraged engineer "you can't curse us like you used to General," and seizing the little Gen. tossed him ten yards into the muddy street 'mid the shouts and laughter of all present.

Boone N. C. Dec. 13th. 1889.

Editor DEMOCRAT:

I find Watauga county in a prosperous and thriving condition, notwithstanding hard times. But the mail facilities are in a worse condition here than any place I have ever been. Since I have been here I have not been able to get mail through from Bakersville, a distance of 50 miles, under 10 days. There is a through mail from Boone to Plum Tree 3 times a week, I have received my mail from there in 6 days; I have been here 3 weeks on business connected with my office and have not yet been able to get mail through to Greensboro N. C. and return. There is neglect and violation of the Postal service some where among P. M.'s. I think it would be well for a U. S. P. O. Detective to look up matters in general as the public cannot endure such treatment any longer. W. H. Greer, U. S. Deputy Marshal.

Children will freely take Dr. J. H. McLean's Tar Wine Blood Balm unlike cough syrup, it contains no opium, will soothe and heal any disease of the throat or lungs quicker than any other remedy.

Sick headache, wind on the stomach, biliousness, nausea, are promptly and agreeably banished by Dr. J. H. McLean's Little Liver and Kidney Pills, twenty five cts. a vial.

Clips.

Civility goes a great way toward making friends and keeping them.

A business man keeps copies of all important letters written by him and carefully preserves all which he receives.

Restlessness and fretfulness hinder godliness. The very restless will never be very godly; the very godly will never be very restless. "Be still, and know that I am God."

Cunning leads to knavery; it is but a step from one to the other, and that very slippery; lying only makes the difference; add that to cunning, and it is knavery.

All preaching starts from "Christ crucified" and returns to that. It is no narrow theme, but a swivel gun that may be swung in any direction and directed to every practical issue of life.

Stanley and Emin Pasha have reached Zanzibar. Just as they got there Emin had the mishap to fall from a balcony and seriously injured him. He may die.

Dom Pedro has arrived in Portugal. He still claims the throne of Brazil—says that he has not abdicated. There have been disturbances in Brazil. Eight men were shot.

Washington Notes.

Senator Vance has re-introduced his bill to repeal the civil service law. One of the Senator's ablest speeches was made in support of this same bill last winter, and a similar brilliant effort may be looked for when the bill comes up for consideration in this Congress. The law will not be repealed but it is very probable that the large additional appropriation asked for by the civil service commission will be refused.

Dr. Mott, W. W. Mott, Loge Harris, collector Eaves and other prominent Republicans, are in the city. Loge Harris wants to be Reading Clerk of the House. Many have come to further the confirmation of their friends whose names are before the Senate.

The North Carolina Republican Association met here last night and passed resolutions expressing their appreciation of that part of the President's message relating to the South. Messrs. W. P. Cannady, John Nichols and John Smythe (a negro) was appointed a committee of three to convey to the Executive this resolution of approval.

Tell me ye winged winds that round my pathway whiz, oh, is there not some lonely spot where perfect quiet is?—some still retreat, some solitude that's covered thick with flies? You bet there is, go watch the store that doesn't advertise.—*Courier*

Marry A gentleman.

It was excellent advice that was lately given to young ladies urging them to marry a gentleman or not marry at all. The word is used in its broadest, truest sense. It did not have reference to those who have fine raiment and white hands and the veneering of society polish, merely, to entitle them to the distinction, but to those possessed of true, manly and noble qualities, however hard their hands and sun-browned their faces.

A true gentleman is generous and unselfish. He regards another's happiness and welfare as well as his own. You will see the trait running through all his actions. A man who is a bear at home among his sisters, and discourteous to his mother, is just the man to avoid when you come to the great question which is to be answered yes or no.

A man may be ever so rustic in his early surroundings, if he is a true gentleman he will not bring a blush to your cheek in any society by his absurd behavior. There is an instinctive politeness inherent in such a character which everywhere demands respect, and makes the owner pass for what he is, one of nature's noblemen. Do not despair girls, there are such men still in the world. You need not die old maids. But wait until the prince passes by. There is no harm in delay.

You will not be apt to find him in the ball-room, and I know he will never be seen walking up from the liquor saloon. Nor is he a champion billiard player. He has not had time to become a "champion," for he had too much honest, earnest work to do in the world. I have always observed that the "champions" were seldom good for much else.—*Ex.*

Gen. J. B. Bruce Declares his Allegiance to the Democratic Party.

Gen. J. B. Bruce of Pulaski, Tenn., a gallant Union general, and a life-long Republican, and one of the most influential members of his party in that State, has come over to the ranks of Democracy. In a letter announcing his change of politics he says he has "Come to the conclusion that the Republican party is a sham and a fraud." Continuing, Gen. Bruce says: "There is too much violation of Civil service law, too much boodle in the management of the Pension Office, and too much tariff to suit the masses of the American people. The Democratic party is the only party for the people, and with that party I propose to act and vote in the future." Gen. Bruce was formerly a State Senator in Alabama, and has held many offices of honor and trust in the Republican party. Thus the campaign of education rolls along, and one by one theyse the errors of their way and flee from them.—*French Broad Voice.*

BACKBITING

What an ugly, long, compounded word, and the lexicographers have not honored the word enough, to connect the two parts with a hyphen and classify it as compound.

The word has an ugly tenor, and yet the person who practices the thing is uglier than the word or its sound. It implies a sneaking cur that slips up behind and knifes you unexpectedly. It is a bit man dog walking upon two feet, assuming an upright position, but possessing "down right" nature.

Men, and women too, who go about in a community peddling in neighborhood gossip and trying to hatch scandals out of imaginary ovoid, ought to be condemned by the voice of a free people to be nibbled to death by young tadpoles in a stagnated frog pond.—*Rutherford College Gazette.*

Far better than the harsh treatment of medicines which horribly gripe the patient and destroy the coating of the stomach, Dr. J. H. McLean's Chills and fever cure, by mild yet effective action will cure. Sold at fifty cents a bottle.

ATTENTION!

BIG BANKRUPT SALE!

On Tuesday, Dec., 17th, 1889 purchaser, look to your interest. An opportunity now offered to buy goods at your own price.

The entire stock of hardware recently owned by J. P. Norris, at Elk Park, N. C., will be sold at public auction commencing on the 17th day of December 1889, and to continue from day to day until closed out. This valuable stock of hardware consists of every nice line of goods selected with the greatest care and suited to the needs of every one. Such an opportunity to buy goods at your own price has never been offered in this part of the State. There will also be sold at public auction at the same time a large lot of first class Boots, Shoes, Hats and Ready made clothing. The goods must be sold regardless of price, and it will pay every one to attend and get bargains such as have never been known in Western N. C. Merchants will find it to their interest to attend this sale, as the goods are first-class and will be sold for less money than can be bought at the manufactories for. Farmers and Mechanics will serve their interest to be present, as everything can be bought at prices never before known. Let every one come to the Great Auction Sale, get good bargains and go home happy.

E. J. BANNER, Assignee of J. F. Norris, December 6th 1889.

Exposure to rough weather, getting wet, living in damp localities are favorable to the contraction of diseases of the kidneys and bladder. As a preventive and for the cure of all kidney and liver trouble, use that valuable remedy, Dr. J. H. McLean's liver and kidney balm. \$1.00 per bottle.