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WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

For the Democrat:

The great Congressional fight is now fairly on, and the democratic members of the House are battling nobly for the government of the House before going any farther with legislation, and they have, in caucus, determined to stand by their guns to the bitter end. Of course they recognize the fact that if the republicans succeed in their intention of seating all the republican contestants before the Rules are adopted, they can then adopt any sort of rules they may desire, but they will have a hard time before they do it. With all of Speaker Reed's unfair decisions it took them three days to get the contested election case of Smith vs. Jackson before the House. The fight has been very exciting, and the most dramatic scenes have been frequented on the floor of the House. "Stand by your guns", is what ex-Speaker Randall wrote from his sick-room to the democratic caucus. Representative Bynum, of Indiana, but voiced the sentiment of his democratic colleagues when he said: "You, sir, (pointing to the Speaker,) have violated more than any man on this floor, parliamentary rules and practices. You may condemn what you have undertaken. You have the power, backed by a mob on the floor of this House. Men have tried to consummate such proceedings before. At the hour of midnight, a Federal judge made a ruling which perpetuated the republican party in power, but his name is now forgotten; and more than that, this proceeding is keeping with the practice of your party, it is in keeping with your action when you stole the Presidency. You have gone forward. You have usurped power. You have mutilated the record of the House in order to carry out the behests of the chairman of the national republican committee to turn out the Representatives of the people elected to seats on this floor. Now proceed in this matter, but in the language of the immortal Emmett, we propose to dispute every inch of ground, burn every blade of grass, and the last entrenchment of liberty shall be our grave."

Ex-Speaker Carlisle is now engaged in drawing up an address to the public in justification of the action of the democrats of the House in resisting Speaker Reed's usurpation. There is also talk of making a test case in order to have the Supreme Court decide upon the constitutionality of Mr. Reed's action. Many republicans openly condemn Speaker Reed's conduct, and at least two members of the Cabinet (Blaine and Rusk) are known to be opposed to it. The democratic Senators are aiding the members of the House in every way possible.

The President and Secretary Noble are greatly alarmed

over the condition of affairs in Oklahoma, and anxious that immediate action shall be taken on the Oklahoma town site bill, which has already passed the House also the bill providing for a territorial form of government for Oklahoma now pending in both House and Senate.

It is expected that the House committee on Reform in the civil service will to-day set a day for beginning the investigation of the civil service commission.

Secretary Windom is said to be very much chagrined at the opposition already developed to his silver bill, and Mr. Harrison has become so badly frightened at the outlook that he has changed his mind about sending a special message to Congress in its favor.

Secretary Rusk has received from Europe a large consignment of silk-worm eggs. He will distribute them free to all persons desiring to raise silk-worms. He will also furnish books of instructions in silk culture to applicants for them.

Ex-Senator Platt, of New York, paid Washington an unexpected visit last week, and all the republican politicians are cudgelling their brains to know what brought him here.

Representative Dibble, of S. C., has a bill before the House committee on the election of President and Vice-President, which provides for two Vice-Presidents. In arguing in favor of his bill, Mr. Dibble stated that the United States has been without a Vice-President twenty-five years during its one hundred of existence.

Senators Vance and Hampton spoke on the race question last week in reply to the recent speech of Senator Ingalls on the same subject. Mr. Vance was the recipient of a very handsome basket of roses, attached to which was a card with the following inscription: "To the Hon. Z. B. Vance, the honorable, faithful and impartial defender of the welfare of the sons of Ham."

Representative McAdoo, of New Jersey, thinks his resolution providing for the holding of Presidential and Congressional elections on the third Tuesday in October would accomplish great good by preventing national elections from conflicting with local elections.

Washington, Feb. 5.

Harrison is very fond of Republican editors who did so much blowing for him in 1888. He has rewarded a score or so with fat offices. The latest is C. E. Smith, who runs that bitter radical sheet the Philadelphia Press. He has been offered the Russian mission, that goes a begging. It has been previously tendered to that jackanapes Shephard, of a New York evening sheet of some kind.

When nature falters and requires help, recruit her enfeebled energies with Dr. J. H. McLean's strengthening Cordial and blood purifier \$1.00 per bottle.

REMINISCENCES, COGITATIONS AND NEWS ITEMS.

NUMBER VI.

For the Democrat.

I promised to tell your readers about Dengue.

It is a disease confined to cities, does not spread itself over country and city, as La Grippe does. It is not an annual, nor even a septennial. It seldom visits a city a second time. It is not like the cholera, a traveler, visiting all parts of the world by frequented paths or highways, but comes to a single city, and quietly and effectually visits every household in it. It is therefore a contagious disease, confined to a small district. I said I knew what Dengue is. I have had it, and can tell from experience, as well as observation, how it works.

At first the victim of the disease feels a pain in the back part of the head, which soon extends too, and down the spinal column, and thence all over the body, till the very marrow in the bones seems to feel the pain. Hence the name in English—Break-bone Fever. The patient becomes thirsty and swallows water to quench the thirst, which feels like dry meal in the mouth. The fever has a run of about fourteen days, on the average—some get well in less time, while others are confined to the house three weeks. It is seldom fatal. Next to none who are free from chronic diseases die of it. When the disease visited Memphis, Tennessee, as it did in 1861, the physicians estimated that not more than three per cent, of the population of that city escaped its attack, and only two, or at most, three deaths occurred from it.

I said to my companions, that if the disease attacked me, I would take a pack. Some of your readers, Mr. Editor, may not know what a "pack" is. To take a pack one denudes himself of clothing and has a sheet wet in cold water, thrown over and placed closely about him. He is then helped on to a bed and is liberally covered with warm bed clothes in order that he may sweat freely. If a patient does not sweat readily, hot bricks or stones or sad irons are applied to the feet and body. After sweating a half-hour or so the patient is uncovered and rubbed down with coarse towels, and soon is in a normal condition.

Well, I was attacked and took a pack, though my companions told me it would kill me. I went into the pack at about 11 o'clock, P. M. and the next morning at 11 o'clock I was setting type again as well as ever. It astonished the natives.

New Orleans, Pensacola, Charleston and some other southern cities have suffered from the Dengue. Charleston had it bad, only a few years ago. It is pronounced as near as I can make it with our English letters, *dongway*.

Now some words about the

weather. People and old people too, are constantly saying that never was such a winter known. The old folks forget. In the winter of 1840-1 I was in cold, bleak ice-bound New Hampshire. But one snowfall was experienced till into February. The weather was warm, and there was much sunshine. But a small rainfall was had. But in February the snow was piled snow on snow, and the same in March, till there was seven or eight feet of snow on the ground, which did not disappear till the middle of April.

Some fourteen years later. I remember, but little snow fell in New England till December 22nd, when it was blizzardly cold.

Let the reader remember this is written on the fifth day of February, while the warm weather still continues.

NEWS ITEMS.

William Abridge, who went home with La Grippe, has returned to his employment.

F. P. Moore & Co. are adding an addition to the rear of their store. They have dug a cellar, over which they will place the new part.

John Henley has the frame of his two-story house on Roanoke street up.

Capt. Jordan Cook, of your county, has purchased of J. S. Warner lots 706 and 708, on Roanoke street, on which is a new story-and-a-half house.

Mr. Warner did not sell him the barn which has been moved on to lot 710, on which he now has a house, and small building suitable for a shoe shop, or bed-room or kitchen to his 16x24 story-and-a-half house. He is ready to sell this property if any one wants to purchase.

J. S. W.

Linville Feb. 5th.

WHAT IS LIFE?

The mere lapse of years is not life. To eat, and drink and sleep, to be exposed to the darkness and to light, to pace around in the mill of habit and turn through into an implement of trade—this is not life. In all this, but a poor fraction of humanity is awakened, and the sanctities still slumber which make it worth while to be.

Knowledge, truth, love, beauty, goodness, alone can give vitality to the mechanism of existence. The laugh of mirth that vibrates through the heart, the tears that freshen the dry wastes within, the music that brings childhood back, the prayer that calls the future near, the doubt that makes us meditate, the hardship that forces us to struggle, the anxiety that ends in truth, an agency that is upright and paying, are the true nourishment of our natural being.—Select.

Exposure to bad 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.

THE RACES OF MANKIND.

There are Seventy-two of Them Existing Now—All Came from Asia.

M. de Quatrefages, the leading French ethnologist, in presenting the second part of his "Introduction to the Study of the Human Race" to the Academy of Science, has given an interesting summary of his general conclusions with regard to the origin and distribution of mankind.

Neglecting the minor differences, he estimates that there are no fewer than seventy-two distinct races in the human species. All these descend or branch off from three fundamental types—the black, the yellow and the white, which had their origin at the great central mass of Northern Asia, which is thus the cradle of mankind. Representatives of these different types, and the races which sprang from them, are to be found there.

The whites, according to M. de Quatrefages, appear to have originated on the west of the central mass, the yellow on the north and the blacks on the south. The whites extend westward and northward, giving birth to three secondary types, the Finnish, the Semitic and the Aryan, if we except the Allopyles, which form a different group. Their area of distribution is continuous, as is that of the yellows, because of the extensive land surface of the Eurasian continent.

The yellows spread eastward and crossed into America. The whites and yellows checked or blended with each other, producing many varieties of man. The blacks, or negro type, which originated on the south of the central mass, was forced by the nature of the continent, and probably by the attacks of the whites and yellows, to go south into Africa, and east into the Indian archipelago Melanesia.

The proto-Semites arrested their distribution in the north of Africa, and the mixture of the two races gave rise to the negroid population. In the center and south of Africa the blacks continued in their ethnic purity until the infiltration of other races from Europe and the north of Africa in modern times. Those which remained in their original home became blended with the whites and yellows, giving rise to the Dravidian populations which pass by shades into the three fundamental types.

As for the Allopyles, represented by the race of Cro-Magnon, they occupied parts of Europe and north Africa, from which they extended to the Canaries. The three fundamental types also found themselves in Oceania; the Allopyles occupying Polynesia, the blacks Melanesia, the yellows Malasia.

The latter were, according to M. de Quatrefages, the last to come into the martime world.

and is due to migration of different types—Allophylic, white and yellow, blending with a local quaternary race, which also belonged to the yellow type. Europe, since the tertiary ages, has received only Allophylic whites, Finns and Aryans. The number of races now existing in a pure state is exceedingly restricted, if, indeed, there is a single one which can be accepted as such. Perhaps some little groups, protected by their isolation, such as the Mincopies, may show an identity of characters attesting their ethnic homogeneity.—London Times.

Senator Vance in Anxious Pursuit of a Stray Hat.

Senator Vance, of North Carolina, lost his hat the other day. He came out of the Senate cloak-room bare-headed, with his overcoat on his arm, parading the corridors asking every one he met if he had seen a tall hat straying about anywhere. He was asking the question of Captain May, the doorkeeper at the lobby door, when the page came up with the missing article in his hand. Senator Vance was just saying: "Of course I don't think you have seen it, you know, but I was just asking," like the man who came into my office once when I was Governor of North Carolina. He was a trampish looking man, and his clothing was worn and seedy. He looked carefully around the room, and then said:

"Governor, you ain't seen nothin' of a pair of boots around here, have you? I left 'em in that corner last night, and they ain't there this morning."

"I answered that I had not seen the boots.

"I knowed some d—d thief had stole them," said the unknown. "Of course I knowed it wasn't you, but I just thought I'd ask."—New York Tribune.

Is Emigration Compulsory?

It seems that some of the colored people are in doubt as to whether they will be allowed to remain in North Carolina or not. Gov. Fowle has just received the following remarkable letter.

Kingsboro, N. C. Feb. 3

Gov. D. G. Fowle, Raleigh N. C.

Dear Sir:—Will you be kind enough to inform me something about the emigration question, I want to find out whether or not are we compelled to emigrate to the western States. I want to know all the particulars about this matter. I isn't satisfied in mind because I want to stay in my native State. But if we are compelled to go I want to know in time. Please answer by return mail and thereby oblige. Your very obedient servant, Gen'l M. Bullock.

Are you restless at night, and harassed by a bad cough? Use Dr. J. H. McLean's Tar Wine Lung Balm, it will secure you sound sleep, and effect a prompt and radical cure.