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## WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

### For the Democrat:

Ex-Speakers Carlisle and Randall have ably presented their case in the minority report on the code of Rules, which Mr. Carlisle by his parliamentary adroitness, compelled the republican majority of the House committee on Rules to report much sooner than they had intended. It says of the clause in the proposed Rules, authorizing the Speaker to count members not voting to make a quorum. "This is the most radical, and in our opinion, the most dangerous innovation proposed by the majority. If agreed to, the personal rights of the citizens, protected heretofore by laws enacted by the votes of a majority may be impaired by the votes of a fraction of the members of Congress. In the same way enormous sums of money may be appropriated from the public treasury for unconstitutional and improper purposes. Any rule or practice which enables the Speaker or the clerk to pass bills by counting members present and not voting, will inevitably result in destroying the confidence of the people in the integrity of legislation. \*\*\*

The Rules were called up in the House today and nothing else is to be done until they are disposed of. Just when that will be, cannot be stated yet. The Republicans seem inclined to try to rush them through and have a final vote taken not later than Wednesday, but this programme will be vigorously resisted by the Democrats, who insist upon ample time being given for a full and free discussion. They have taken this stand, not because they expect to defeat the adoption of the Rules, but that they may have an opportunity, through the medium of speeches, to show up every flaw in them, so that the country may place the responsibility where it belongs.

The imperative need of more public buildings in Washington has been much talked of in both ends of the Capitol, since Senator Morrill brought out the fact that \$121,700 a year was being paid out by the Government for rents in this City, and owing to the overcrowded condition of the Government building the amount was continuously increasing. The sentiment in Congress seems to be in favor of erecting the buildings necessary to carry on the business of the Government, and it is probable that early action will be taken in the matter. This is particularly necessary in the Government printing office, a ramshackle old rat-trap which will some day fall down and kill several hundreds of its sardine-packed occupants if it is not replaced by a new building.

The Republicans in Congress are a long ways from being a happy family just now. Senator Edmonds threatens to resign from the Sen-

ate Committee on Foreign affairs, because a resolution of his was voted down in executive session, while Senator Sherman, chairman of the committee, chuckles and says: "let him go." On the House side there are oceans of trouble. Speaker Reed is hopping mad because the Republican caucus amended his code of Rules by adding a clause making pension legislation privileged at all times and he has intimated to Mr. Carlisle through a third party that if a Democrat will move to strike out this clause enough Republicans would vote with him to do so.

The hearings in the Ohio ballot-box forgeries still go merrily on, but it is expected that this week will end them. Whatever the committee may do, the impartial public has convicted Foraker and Halstead of trying to destroy a man's good name with a paper which they knew to be forged.

Belief that the new Rules are to be adopted by the House has brought a swarm of lobbyists of all descriptions to Washington in the hope of getting part of the spoils. This is the way the matter strikes Representative Crisp, of Georgia, one of the most clear headed men in the House: "When you consider the proposition for immense expenditures of public money that are being urged upon the Congress, and that these Rules make the way clear for them, you do not have to be a prophet to see that the money asked for by Congress is apt to be overbalanced that held at the Treasury."

The Democrats are taking the preliminary steps toward a winning Congressional campaign this year. Representative Flower, of New York, has been elected temporary chairman, and Representative McRea, of Arkansas, temporary secretary of the Congressional campaign committee. Great pressure is being brought to bear on Senator Gorman to accept the permanent chairmanship of this committee.

Bob Ingersoll, who is here, endorses Speaker Reed, but then it must be remembered that Ingersoll, like Reed, does not believe in a hereafter.

The Presidential proclamation opening the Sioux Indian reservation to settlement, was issued to-day.

Washington, Feb. 10.

## REMINISCENCES, COGITATIONS AND NEWS ITEMS.

NUMBER VII.

### For the Democrat.

I have been cogitating. This country is in need of good roads and good farmers. The generation of young men just now entering life as farmers, ought greatly to outdo their fathers, and the generation now ripening for the grave. Superior farming machinery is comatable by young farmers greatly in excess of that which was to be obtained even twenty years ago. There are more

books and newspapers and knowledge which the young men of-to-day can command over those which their fathers ever dreamed of.

This train of thought has been suggested from the fact that a young man of my acquaintance has voluntarily given up other employment, and retired to some 80 acres of land, which he proposes to cultivate in true style, and avail himself of this market, which, in time, will demand the produce of many intelligent, prosperous farmers.

Noah P. Webb, was born in Caldwell county, some six miles from Linville. Years ago it seemed, to me that he thought there was nothing good enough for him here in his native neighborhood and was longingly looking toward the Great West. The Linville Improvement Company was organized and began surveys of their purchases. Noah engaged with the company, saved his money, and, a year ago last fall, went to Kansas. He wandered over that State, obtained many new ideas, and found that there was more than the North Carolina ways of doing business, yet he was not satisfied; he came back home and again entered into the company's service. At last, he has concluded that he can do even better on his land and now proposes to settle down on the old homestead of his father. A grand, good decision.

Now, let Mr. Webb study his profession, learn what will command the most ready sale and prove the most remunerative and he will succeed.

Messrs. Blackwell & Weld, who have had a big contract sawing lumber for the Linville Improvement Company, are pulling up stakes preparatory to the removal of their saw-mill to Russell county, Va., where they have a contract which will keep them sawing for three years or more, and then there will be thousands of lumber left for others.

And this reminds me of the vast forest still standing in old Virginia, though she has been settled longer than any of the original states except North Carolina. And on this fact I might indulge in some reminiscences of an interesting character, but I forbear.

The other day I heard of the death of W. S. Turbyfill, of Cane Creek, in this county. He was A. S. Church's sawyer, and a most excellent workman and citizen he proved to be. A month or more ago he was taken sick, and growing worse instead of better was conveyed to his home, where he lingered some weeks and died. Mr. Church speaks highly of him.

Mr. George W. Julian has been Blackwell & Weld's sawyer here. He bought two lots on Roanoke street, and erected a framed dwelling. He is going to Virginia with his employers, and has sold his real estate to J. G. Loven. He is from Heaton's Creek, Tenn. J. S. W. Linville, Feb. 12.

## THE MONTANA IMBROGLIO.

St Paul, Minn. Feb. 10.—A Pioneer-Press special from Helena, Montana says: Senator Becker, a Democratic absentee arrested at Miles City on Friday, was brought into Helena on a special train Saturday night by Sheriff Parker. When Bozeman reached the Democrats had Parker arrested for kidnapping on a warrant issued by a Justice of the Peace. Parker did not feel disposed to obey the warrant but the sheriff who served it, was accompanied by a crowd of Bozeman men, who would probably have taken the prisoner away had he resisted. He went to court and easily gave bonds for his appearance next week. A special train was then made up and brought Parker and Becker to Helena.

Becker was brought into the Senate, which was in session, and the question whether or not he should be fined for contempt was taken under consideration by the committee on privileges and elections. The presence of Becker makes a quorum and the Senate will probably sit all night and pass laws, as it is expected other Democratic absentees will be present on Monday to block the proceedings.

(Later.) The Republican House and Senate were in session until 2:30 o'clock yesterday morning and passed eight appropriation bills. Becker took no part in the proceedings, but was counted present by the Lieut. Governor, thus making a quorum.

Helena, Montana, Feb. 10.—Democratic State Senator Becker, who was brought here by the sheriff on Saturday night, was spirited away by Democrats last night on a special train. A dispatch just received says he crossed the Idaho-Montana line this morning. All of the Democratic Senators are now out of the State and the Senate is without a quorum. The question now raised is whether bills passed Saturday can become laws. The Lieutenant Governor is ordered to sign bills in the presence of the Senate. The bills are not yet signed. Legal advice will be taken whether the signature of the President of the Senate must be affixed in the presence of a quorum; if not, the appropriation bills will be signed and sent to the Gov.

## TRAGEDY IN CHURCH.

Charlotte, N. C. Febr. 5th.—A terrible tragedy occurred just across the Virginia line, about thirty miles from Sparta, N. C., last Sunday, the particulars of which reached Charlotte to-night. The scene of the tragedy was in a Baptist church, of which the Rev. Jasper M. Stooke is the pastor. Sunday morning the Rev. Jaser was preaching about the "Sins of Men." He used some very strong language in picturing the ungodly and wayward men, and during the course of his remarks took occasion to say

that "there was a man in his congregation who was so mean and unfaithful to his wife that it was a wonder God did not rain down fire and brimstone on his head and consume him."

The preacher pointed his finger towards Thomas Coleman, who occupied a seat near the pulpit, and as he did so that individual jumped to his feet to enquire if the parson meant to be personal in his remarks. No sooner was Coleman on his feet than a half a dozen deacons were up demanding that he sit down. Everything was in an uproar and during the confusion Edward Clawson cried out to Coleman that "Yes, he meant you and you know it." Then there were cries of "put him out" and several grabbed hold of him. Coleman resisted bitterly, and seizing a stick of stove-wood lying near the stove he began to wield it hard and fast, knocking four men to the floor and fatally wounding Jerry Ferguson. One man becoming enraged wrenched the club from Coleman and dealt him a deadly blow across his head. He then walked out of the church and has not been seen since. It is said that the riot lasted about six minutes, during which the greatest confusion imaginable prevailed. The women screamed and ran out of the church, and there was not one in sight when order was restored. A complete list of the killed and wounded is as follows:

Killed—Thomas Coleman and Jerry Ferguson.

Wounded—Ed. Clawson, John Peeby and Robert Edwards.

There are many accidents and diseases which effect Stock and cause serious inconvenience and loss to the farmer in his work, which may be quickly remedied by the use of Dr. J. H. McLean's Volcanic oil Liniment.

Learn to be a man of your word. One of the most disheartening of all things is to be associated in an undertaking with a person whose promise is not to be depended upon—and there are plenty of them in this wide world, people whose promise is as slender a tie as a spider's web. Let your given word be a hempen cord, a chain of wrought steel that will bear the heaviest sort of weight. It will go far toward making a man out of you. And a real man is the noblest work of God—not a lump of moist putty, moulded and shaped by the last influence met with that was calculated to make an impression; but a man, a forceful, energized, self-reliant, and reliable character, a positive quantity that can be calculated upon.—[Standard.

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.

## Cleveland and Harrison as Civil Service Reformers.

On civil service reform the practical record of neither party is immaculate. Both parties have made public professions of adhesion to the principles of this reform, and both have fallen short of their professions under the temptations of power. Mr. Cleveland's administration, in its later months, lapsed painfully from the resolute faithfulness with which it began. But at its worst estate, his administration was like the driven snow in comparison with the shameful corruption with which the post-office "patronage" has been handled by these two eminent Presbyterian elders, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Wanamaker, from the moment they gripped the reins. Curious, isn't it, that "the party of the saloon-keepers and ballot-box stuffers" should have given us, in this respect, a comparatively honest administration; while "the party of the elders and deacons," in defiance of its formal pledges and of the solemn ostentations of its presidential candidate on the floor of the senate, should so have renewed the shame of the worst days of the republic? No punctiliousness in family prayers, not a lifetime of labor in Sunday school, can undo or outdo one hundredth part of the demoralization that has been wrought by this treachery to public duty.—[L. W. Bacon in Forum.

## PRETTY MRS. MORRIS.

A special from Reidsville to the Atlanta Constitution dated Jan. 28, says: As was well known, there was more at stake in the trial of Mrs. Cora Morris, charged with causing the death of her husband by chloroform, just closed, than the mere conviction or acquittal of the prisoner. There is the large estate of Mr. Morris, bequeathed in his will to his wife, and a ten thousand dollar insurance policy on his life, also payable to Mrs. Morris. The acquittal of the prisoner, of course, throws all this into her hands, whereas if she had been convicted, the will of her husband would have been null and void. This is the home of Mrs. Morris, and it is located in this thriving town where is located most of the property mentioned in the will of Mr. Morris. It is learned to-night that there will be yet more law suits over the matter, and there is more unrest in store for pretty Mrs. Morris. The relatives of the dead man will contest his will on the charge of the infidelity of Mrs. Morris, and the overpersuasion on her part, in inducing her husband to make its provisions in her favor. The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, of Newark, N. J., announces that they will fight the case until judgment day before they will pay over the ten thousand dollar policy.