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WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Democrats in Congress are far from being pleased with the financial outlook. The House Ways and Means committee made a favorable report of Representative Byrum's resolution authorizing an investigation of the charge publicly made that Sec. Foster had made a deal with certain New York bankers where by he was to exchange at par for gold \$50,000,000 of U. S. bonds. The fact that New York bankers crossed some of the public's faith, and that they are known to be furnishing the treasury with gold caused many people to believe this charge; hence the necessity for an investigation. The public wants no secret juggling with the finances of the country. It is only fair to Sec. Foster and the present administration to say that they deny the charge of issuing or of having promised to issue bonds for gold. Still it is believed by some that Sec. Foster, who is now in New York, is there to break up the deal, because of the proposed investigation.

"Silver work" in the House and Senate amounted to nothing more substantial than to make it certain that no silver legislation would take place at the present session. It has been repeatedly stated here within the last ten days that President-elect Cleveland had said he would call an immediate extra session of the next Congress if the present failed to take some action that would stop the purchase of silver by the government, but now that Congress has by votes in both House and Senate given notice of its failure to take such action no one seems to be certain that an early session will be called, and there appears to be a doubt in the minds of quite a number of democrats as to whether Mr. Cleveland ever authorized those statements.

If Mr. Harrison's influence be strong enough to accomplish it the legislation necessary for the annexation of Hawaii is to be brushed through Congress. Mr. Harrison has decided to send a message to Congress recommending annexation and suggesting the terms to be contained in the legislation. To many this appears to be as hasty as was the action of Minister Stevens in establishing a protectorate, and it is certainly going to be done with much less to excuse it. It is assumed to be necessary for this government to endorse the action of Stevens, and that being done what occasion is there for hurrying annexation? It is well known that so long as Hawaii is under the protection of the American flag no European government will dare to interfere. There is a great big nigger concealed somewhere in this Hawaiian wood pile, and his feet will be exposed if there be no undue haste in the matter.

The talk of the republicans on the floors of Congress and

in private, on the pension question, is very different. Privately they admit that if something is not done to reduce them the payments will soon bankrupt the country, but on the floors of Congress they bitterly resist every attempt to reduce the amount paid. The House committee on appropriations after careful consideration has recommended some amendments to the general pension appropriation bills, now being considered by the House, which would if they became laws save \$3,000,000 a year but the republicans are doing everything in their power to prevent the adoption of these amendments. One of the amendments provides for transferring the pension bureau to the war department and the detail of "army officers" to manage it, which would remove it from politics; others provide for a suspension of pensions paid to widows who were not married within five years after the close of the war; to those having a yearly income of \$300 or more, and, "except in cases of total disability" to alien non-residents.

Unless the republican Senate shall refuse to agree to amendments to the legislative and executive appropriation bills which have already been passed by the House there will be a method change made here on the first of next July. The clerks in the departments will work eight hours instead of seven each day, and will have their annual leave of absence with pay cut down to fifteen days. The departments will cease to close on account of the death of ex-officials, and Congress will no longer pay the big prices it has paid in the past for funeral expenses of members who died. Whatever may be said of these amendments they are in the line of democratic economy, and for that reason they will probably be defeated in the Senate.

The difficulty the Panama investigation committee has had in getting witnesses to testify has caused the suspicion to be general that influences are at work to prevent the truth being found out. The committee has now gone to New York to see if anything can be got out of the bankers who distribute the money. Later they will go to Indiana to get ex-secretary Thompson's statement of what he did to earn his salary of \$24,000 a year; also what he knew about other money spent.

Queen Victoria's hand is not of fairly like proportions by any means. She wears gloves of the size 7 1/2. They are always black and always shorter than the fashion of the hour demands. She began at the beginning of her reign with one-button gloves and has advanced only to four-button since. She wears only about two dozen pairs a year and each pair costs the royal wearer only 8s. 6d.

One dollar pays for the Democrat one year.

Is There A Worm In The Road

Courier Journal.

Why did the President nominate Judge Jackson, a democrat, to succeed Justice Lamar on the Supreme Bench? is a question which has been widely discussed during the last few days. Diverse and diverse views have been expressed, the latest by the Philadelphia Times, which answers the question in this way:

"Well, Harrison is human, and he does things for the same reasons which animate most other men.

"Harrison, being eminently human, is a good hater; and, if he cherishes one resentment above another, it is the one of which Judge Gresham is the central figure.

"Had he nominated a republican for Supreme Judge, he would likely have failed of confirmation and Cleveland would have inherited the power of appointment. In that event, Cleveland might appoint Gresham, and Harrison would prefer a solid democratic Supreme Court to all republicans with Gresham.

"Judge Jackson will pretty certainly be confirmed, and he is probably the only man thought of who is reasonably safe in the Senate. Harrison wants the vacancy filled; he doesn't want Gresham and he has done his level best to trump the Gresham trick."

Of course, if we are going behind the nomination in search of sinister motives, this is probably as plausible as others that have been assigned. But so many others have been assigned, and of such varying nature, that all can not be true; and not knowing the true from the false, the Courier-Journal prefers not to bother itself with any of them.

Instead of trying to answer the question as to the President's motive in this case we might ask another: Why is it that we are so quick to suspect, and ready to seek, a base foundation for every apparently worthy human action?

On its face the nomination of Judge Jackson is a good one, and does credit to the President. For one, the Courier Journal is willing to see the Judge go upon the Supreme Bench without desiring a round for some explanation of his appointment which would be a discredit to the President.

Lesson From Excess of Wedded Joy.

Cor. St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Dr. N. A. Keys of Kansas City and Miss Kate Cameron of Princeton, Ky., aged respectively 62 and 54 years, were married here last week. They had never seen each other until they met here one week before marriage and were drawn together by their belief of sanctification. In her excess of joy over the event the bride of three days has become a lunatic, pronounced so by physicians. She had to be sent away from home. Miss Cameron was a very estimable lady and well off in this world's goods.

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Wanted to Become a Nigger.

"I had the meanest joke played on me over at Indianapolis the other day that a white man was ever called upon to endure," said Frank Gilderoy to a *Globe Democrat* man at the lindle table d'hote. "I had been wishing for some time to become a Nigger. I had talked a great deal about it, and my ambition became pretty well known to the traveling fraternity. About a dozen drummers were Sundaying at a hotel in the Hoosier hub, and they put up a job on me that for breadth and depth of depravity sounds without a parallel. Tom Guines—everybody knows Tom—lives in Indianapolis. He was elected to steer me against the game. He pretended to be 'way up in G' in Masonry, grand mixer, or something or other in a small lodge in the city. Tom said that his lodge met on Monday night next, and that if I desired to become a member he would see me through and give me all the sixty-six degrees; and the usual fee for going through the entire gamut was two hundred dollars, but that business was a trifle dull and they had reduced the rate for October, and I could just go through a flying for fifty dollars. Bit? Of course I bit, and bit hard. No sucker ever made such hot haste to swallow a hook meased in red flannel. The rest of the gang pretended to leave town the next day, but it was only a blind.

"Well, sir, the next night Guines steered me against the goat. I had an idea that the initiatory rite was a hair-raiser, but had no conception of its true horror. I was ushered into a dimly lighted hall among goblins, ghosts and chimeras. I was tied to the back of a large he-goat that bucked like a Mexican mustang, and the whole gang of gobbies chased by Pagasas over benches and boxes for half an hour. Then I was plunged into a hog-head of ice-water. After that partially recovered I was stripped, stood on a pedestal and painted like a zebra. Suddenly the lights went out. The mystic brotherhood changed a lot of rot around me, the grand master mortar mixer leading the stop and the grand master hod carrier doing the antistrophe act. Then I was informed that I would be required to stand without moving for one hour as a test of my endurance. I was told that I was circled about with spear points and that to move meant death in large quantities delivered suddenly. Then the grand master ladder holder commanded silence and I proceeded to endure. It was the longest hour I ever saw. It seemed to stretch out through all eternity and lap over at the edge. I stood there from midnight until 5 o'clock. Then daylight began to creep through the window and I found that I was alone. The grand master mortar mixer and his gang of fiendish Pites had made a sneak, leav-

ing me standing there in the cold like Patience on the monument, with only red, white and blue stripes for covering. I bought a double action revolver that carried a ball as big as a door knob and started out to hunt Tom Guines, but learned that he had gone to Mexico for the winter. If he yearns to see his grandchildren playing around his knee he had best stay there.

Yes, But It Isn't True.

Charlotte Observer.

From a very labored and exhaustive article in the New York Mail and Express, the following paragraph is taken as a pretty fair sample of the whole jeremiad against the South:

"What hope is there for a section of the country which is led by men who mingle knavery and folly in their political platforms? On account of the political inequality in the South, emigration necessary to its development goes by it to the North where political dishonesty is not the absolute rule. Capital has been for years retiring from the South. There is no class of investment to-day so difficult to dispose of as that located in Southern regions."

The chief difficulty about this precious excerpt is that it is not true. It is not only a misstatement but the reverse is the fact. Northern manufacturers—especially of textile fabrics—are selling northern plants and buying Southern plants. They are getting just as near to the raw material as possible.

Of course the "men who mingle knavery and folly in their political platforms" are the men who helped to elect Cleveland in 1884 and again in 1892. Col. Shepard never heard of the gentlemen who came down from his part of the Union, together with emissaries from the East and the West, and restored the "political equality" or equilibrium of the South by adding North Carolina with a debt of over \$3,000,000 while they made South Carolina so poor that the State Treasurer never took the trouble to shut the vault door when he went to dinner—with every other Commonwealth under the rule of reconstruction in equally as bad condition.

And yet, during the four years of Cleveland's first administration, more miles of railway were projected and constructed in North Carolina than in any ten years of its history, and, on the eve of his inauguration for a second term, eighteen new textile mills have been completed in the State, along with other industrial enterprises, and in many, if not the most of them, there are large investments in Northern capital.

But there—it is needless to take up the wild statements of the New York Mail and Express. When the rest of folks who are up with the times are getting up their linen for the millennium, Col. Shepard will be hammering away on the "rebel brigadier."