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WASHINGTON LETTER

From our Regular Correspondent.

Poor Cuba! The formal announcement that John Sherman had been compelled to become McKinley's Secretary of State, in order to make a place in the Senate for Ross Hanna, makes it certain that unless this Congress does something for Cuba, it will have to go on fighting alone. There has been a suspicion for some time that McKinley occupied very nearly the same attitude towards Cuba that President Cleveland does, and Mr. Sherman has made that suspicion a certainty by saying: "I do not believe that this government should interfere between Spain and the Cubans. I do not believe that this government should attempt to settle the war or take any steps putting upon us the burden of determining the nature of rule in Cuba in case the Cubans win." As this language was used when he was just from the presence of McKinley and after he had accepted the Secretaryship of State, there isn't the slightest doubt that it is an advance statement of McKinley's Cuban policy. It is several shades worse than the present Cuban policy. President Cleveland has at least tried to bring about peace. McKinley proposes to do absolutely nothing and to let the butchery continue indefinitely. This may result in stirring up the friends of Cuba in Congress. There are now in Washington petitions signed by six hundred thousand American citizens, asking Congress to recognize the independence of Cuba.

It is evident that Speaker Reed doesn't expect Representative Boatner, of La., who was unseated at the last session of Congress and reelected to fill the vacancy and for a full term beginning March 4th, next, to be unseated in the contest which is again being made for his seat. Otherwise he would not have selected Mr. Boatner, who is one of those rare democrats who favors protection to a certain extent, to fill the democratic vacancy on the Ways and Means Committee. Representative Bail, of Texas, who was given the vacancy on the Rules Committee was, it is said, given his choice of the vacancies by Mr. Reed. Charlie Crisp, son of the late ex-Speaker Crisp, was given the vacancy on the Post office Committee, and Representative Stokes, of South Carolina, that on the Committee of Agriculture.

The republican steering committee has given the Nicaragua Canal Bill the first place in the order of business of the Senate, which is merely another way of killing the time during the four days a week the leisurely Senate condescends to sit during this session, as they know that the bill has no chance of getting acted on in the House.

Those members of the Huntington's lobby, who are not regularly on his pay roll, found themselves out of a

job, when the House sent down so hard on the Pacific Railroad Funding Bill. The question of legislation on the subject is still being considered, but Huntington seems at least to realize that the numerous lobby he had at work in Washington did the funding bill more harm than good; and from now on, the lobbying will not be so openly conducted. If there is any legislation on this matter it is likely to be along the line of the bill which has been reported favorably to the Senate, and which is now being considered by the House Committee. It provides for a commission of Cabinet officials with authority to settle the whole business.

If the free homestead bill fails to get through, Speaker Reed will make numerous warring enemies who will be heard from if he is again a candidate for his party's Presidential nomination. The bill when passed by House only provided for free homesteads in Oklahoma, but before the Senate passed it, amendments were added extending the area of free homesteads. When the bill went back to the House instead of allowing the House to vote on the Senate amendments that the bill could be sent to Conference if they were not accepted by the House, Mr. Reed sent the bill back to the Committee on public lands, and its friends are whispering that he did it for the purpose of having the bill smothered.

Representative and Senator-elect Money, of Miss., thus disposes of a sensational story sent from Washington: "There is not a word of truth in the story that I have the slightest misunderstanding with Consul-General Lee growing out of my letters on the Cuban question. General Lee and I are the very best of friends, and there is not the least particle of a chance of our disagreeing. I was so much amused over the newspaper publication that there was to be a duel between us as the General will be when he sees it."

The much talked of bill authorizing the President to appoint delegates to any International Monetary Conference that may be called, has been introduced in the Senate. This is a measure for which everybody in Congress will vote, and which nobody in or out of Congress believe will ever amount to a row of pins, so far as increasing the use of silver as a money is concerned.

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The Earliest American Coins.

St. Louis Republic.
The very earliest coinage that can be called American was ordered by the Virginia company and was minted in the Bermudas in the year 1612. At that time, and for a long time after, tobacco was the standard currency in Virginia. In 1645, however, the Virginia assembly, after reciting that it "had maturely weighed and considered how advantageous a quoin (coin) would be to the colony, and the great wants and miseries which do daily happen unto it by solely depending on tobacco," provided for the issue of copper coins of the denominations of two pence, three pence, six pence and nine pence, but nothing was ever done toward carrying out the law.

Seven years later, in May, 1652, the "general court" of Massachusetts passed a law which created a "mint house" in Boston, and which directed that a regular coinage be established. The coins provided for by this law were, in the quaint language of the old statutes, "to be 12 pence, 6 pence and 3 pence pieces, which shall be for forme flat and stamped on one side with N. E. and on the other side with characters xiii, vid and id according to the value of each piece." This Boston mint was the one which produced the famous "oak tree" and "pine tree" shillings, which are highly valued by collectors of old coins and which have sold as high as \$25 each. This early mint continued in operation for 34 years. During the reign of William and Mary copper coins were struck at this mint for the Carolinas as well as for New England in general. The first coins struck for Maryland were silver shillings, sixpence and fourpence pieces, which Lord Baltimore caused to be minted in London.

Two artists went out to paint each a picture of peace. One painted a silvery lake embossed deep among the hills where no storm could ever touch it—calm, sweet, quiet, in its shelter. The other painted a wild sea, swept by tempests, strewn with wrecks, but rising out of the sea, a great rock, and in the rock, high up; a cleft with herbage and flowers, amid which, on her nest, a dove was sitting. The latter is the picture of Christian peace.—J. R. Miller.

A sharp pain in the lungs or side can be driven away by applying vaseline and mustard in the proportion of two parts vaseline and one part mustard. Rub it to gether and spread on a piece of linen as you would an ordinary mustard paste. This is also excellent for a severe pain in the back of the neck, and has been used with good results for breaking up the grip.—Exchange.

Much of the trouble in this world is caused by the man with the beam in his eye trying to point out the mote in his brother's eye.

McKinley's Plan for His Trip to Washington.

President-elect McKinley has made his wants known relative to his trip to Washington. His mother, wife and niece will accompany him. On account of the age of his mother, Mr. McKinley has made a special request of the Pennsylvania Company, that the train bearing the presidential party to Washington be run on a slow schedule, in order not to have too great a strain on the old lady.

Mr. McKinley has requested that, if possible, the special train leave Canton at 3 p. m. the afternoon of March 1, and the running time be arranged so that the train will arrive in Washington about 11 a. m. March 2.

Mr. McKinley's escort will have about four or five hours ahead of the presidential train, in order that the former may arrive in Washington in time to get off the dust of travel and make a presentable appearance when they escort McKinley from the depot to the Ebbitt House.

Chairman Hanna will leave Cleveland for Washington two or three days before McKinley, and will be on hand to ride with him to the hotel. The infantry escort, the eighth regiment, will leave Canton four hours ahead of McKinley, on a special train, while the Cleveland troops will do the same thing at Cleveland, both arriving in Washington about the same time.

Major McKinley's train will consist of two private cars, one of which will be used by himself and family; two sleeping cars, one baggage car, a dining car, and a car for the transportation of the committee and newspaper correspondents.—Cleveland Dispatch.

What to Read.

If you are down with the blues, read the twenty-seventh Psalm.

If there is a chilly sensation about the heart, read the third chapter of Revelations.

If you don't know where to look for the north's rent, read the 37th Psalm.

If you feel lonesome and unprotected, read the ninety-first Psalm.

If the stove pipe has fallen down and the cook gone off in a pet, put the stove pipe up, wash your hands, and read the third chapter of James.

If you find yourself losing confidence in men read the first chapter of First Corinthians.

If people pelt you with hard words, read the 15th chapter of John.

If you are all out of sorts, read the twelfth chapter of Hebrews.—Bible Reader.

Washington Times, Jan. 18: A year ago Sam Jones located hell in Oklahoma, where he was then proselytizing. He now locates it in Boston, which gives rise to the suspicion that it follows him around.

CASTORIA
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Sunower Philosophy.

Some men want to eat with their knives, whether it is polite or not.

There is such a thing as dressing too fashionably for the size of the town.

When there are children on either side, second marriage never amounts to more than New Year resolutions.

When an old man marries a young woman the divorce court lawyers begin to show little tokens of friendship for the couple.

When the people get to heaven and all things are made clear, will they know which was right the stepmother or the children?

A girl has an idea that she isn't showing proper appreciation of music unless she listens to it with a sad, far-away look in her eyes.

If people like you, let them see very little of you; they may have given you credit for virtue that intimacy will show that you don't possess.

No one should become too proud; a look through an old album seldom fails to disclose that every one has had an ancestor who wore sidewhiskers.

The cause of so much dyspepsia in the west is the disposition of people to eat all they can buy for a quarter. Leave something on; your stomach will do better.

Husband and Wife.

You may think it weak and childish, if you please, but it is the admired wife—the wife who hears of praise and who receives smiles and commendation—who is capable, discreet, and executive.

I have seen a timid, meek, self-distrustful little body fairly bloom into strong, self-reliant womanhood under the tonic and cordial companionship of a husband who really went out of his way to find occasion for showing her how fully he trusted her judgment and how tenderly he deferred to her opinion.

In the home there should be no jar, no striving for place, no insisting on prerogatives, or division of interest. The husband and wife are each the complement of the other. And it is as much his duty to be cheerful as it is hers to be patient, his right to bring joy into the door, as it is hers to sweep and garnish the pleasant interior. A family where the daily walk of the father makes life a festival is filled with heavenly benediction.—The Meader.

Dingley Defies Mark Hanna.

The New York Journal says that Mark Hanna has met with an unexpected setback. He called on Chairman Dingley, of the committee charged with drafting a new tariff bill, to look out for the trusts in the way of prohibitive duties, but his would be dictation was flatly refused. Hanna thus finds himself unable to repay the trusts for their heavy contributions during the campaign.

"Chairman Dingley, of the Ways and Means Committee, has flatly refused to accept Mark Hanna's dictation as to the way the tariff bill now in process of being drafted, shall be shaped. The National Chairman desires that the

trusts shall be well cared for by means of prohibitive duties in return for their heavy campaign contributions. Mr. Dingley, however, will not be a party to any such pie."

The statement made by Senator-elect Money, of Miss., about what he saw in Cuba has been denied by a man by the name of Wood.

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