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WASHINGTON LETTER

From our Regular Correspondent.

If any person in Washington had any remaining doubts about Mark Hanna being the whole thing under the McKinley administration, they must have been dissipated since Hanna's arrival. He attracts more deference from republicans than the four members of the McKinley Cabinet who are in town combined do, and accepts it all as his right and speaks with an air of proprietorship, not only of the coming administration but of both branches of Congress. So big has Hanna's head become that he is actually allowing himself to think of trying to take a fall out of Tom Reed, and is now sounding Republican members of the next House in order to ascertain whether it will be possible by the use of patronage to beat Reed for the Speakership nomination before the republican caucus with a McKinley candidate.

Gen. Fitz Lee's friends are not talking for publication, about Secretary Olney's threat to recall Gen. Lee because he has shown the lack of zeal on the part of the administration in protecting American citizens in Cuba, but they are wishing that Olney will have the nerve to carry out his threat, because they know it would make Gen. Lee the most popular man in America.

While at the Capitol Mr. Bryan called on many of his friends among the newspaper correspondents and spent some time very pleasantly with some of those who served in the House with him. In company with Mrs. Bryan he left for Nebraska on Tuesday.

If some of the appropriation bills fail to get through before Congress closes, as many are predicting will be the case, it will be because a coterie of Senators for reasons of their own wish them to fail.

About the smallest piece of business in connection with the inaugural preparation was the taking down of the white and yellow decorations which were being put on the Treasury building, because some body suggested that the colors stood for bi-metalism. It is understood that the removal of the white and yellow decorations direct from the White House. This decoration isn't ordered by the Government but by the clerks in the Treasury department.

The written charges have been filed with the Post Office Department by fifty-five Washington Patent Attorneys, including four gentlemen who have held the office of Commissioner of Patents. The firm known as Wadsworth & Co., successors of the defunct Examination Bureau and the Claims Co., in one of its papers published by the National Recorder, has the charges go into detail and close by asking that the National Recorder be shut out of the mails as a fraud, and that a fraud or-

der be issued against Wadsworth & Co., for obtaining money under false pretenses. In addition to the written charges, a personal hearing was given by the Post Master General to the Committee representing the Patent Attorneys who signed the charges.

If either Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Olney can extract any satisfaction from the part they played in getting from Spain the pardon of Julio Sanguily in order to head off the adoption by the Senate of a resolution directing the President to demand the immediate and unconditional release of Sanguily they should be allowed to do so. The sentiment in Congress was pretty nearly expressed by Senator Morgan, when he said in the course of his speech on the recent relations of this government with Spain: "Oh, what welcome news was that pardon! to that President of course in the White House, who for two years has been down on his hunkers before Spain. How joyous his honest and noble American heart must be, and in what transports of joy must be his magnificent person when he hears that by a combination between the crown of Spain and the President of the United States they have dragged out of a poor creature a confession which enables them to escape the danger of paying damages and gives them the liberty of sleeping and snoring like sluggards, while Americans suffer."

It is a matter for all round congratulation that the Senate Committee on Public Lands quickly investigated the matter and unanimously arrived at the conclusion that, the land patent to Mr. Perrine, the husband of Mrs. Cleveland's mother, was regularly and legally issued.

The farewell address of Senator Dubois was a little disconcerting to the republican leading, who have been expecting that the republicans would be allowed to reorganize the Senate at the extra session without any trouble. Mr. Dubois told them plain and flat the silver republicans would not help them; and that they would not be allowed to organize the Senate. It will soon be seen whether Mr. Dubois spoke for himself alone or by authority of the other republican silver Senators.

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The legislature wants to tax horse traders and it looks now like the bill will pass.

The tax on lawyers and doctors has not and will not be repealed. The \$10.00 will have to come as usual.

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"A Field For The Missionaries," Morganton Herald.

The above is the caption of an article in last Sunday's Pittsburg Dispatch from which the following is taken.

"In the western part of North Carolina there are several counties amid almost inaccessible mountains of which there is less known to the outside world than there is of Central Africa. The climate is unequalled in America. The scenery rivals that of Switzerland. Magnificent bodies of marble, iron and gold; thousands of acres of the finest timber that ever grew, beautiful valleys, where cattle could roam the year a round without need of cover—all there exist. Yet the natives of the country are probably the most ignorant in the United States. They have absolutely no knowledge of the world outside of their own communities. The Mormons, at their worst, are said to be far higher in the scale of morality. Polygamy is practiced with shameless openness, and the marriage ceremony itself is rare. Missionaries are needed as badly as in any district in the world."

The Herald arises to say that the writer of the above happened to be dead right as to our climate, scenery and natural resources, but as to the natives of the Western North Carolina mountains being "the most ignorant in the United States" and lower in the scale of morality than the Mormons he is dead wrong. In fact, he don't know what he is talking about. If he will come down for a while we will show him that it is quite different from what he imagines. We will show him culture and refinement even in the caves of the mountains, and churches with their spires pointing heavenward dotted here and there, where the people worship their God on Sunday instead of attending a game of baseball or the saloons or other places of worldly amusement. We will also show him a people who make their own 'hog and hominy' and do not depend upon the 'free lunch' stands for their daily bread. We will show him the prettiest women in the world and women of culture too, and as pure as the driven snow, and a people who are perhaps as high in the scale of intelligence and morality as can be found anywhere. Pittsburg not excepted. Of course we have some ignorant people as you will find in the slums of Pittsburg. This class is found in every section. We venture to say that there are people in Pittsburg who could not tell the difference between a crab apple and a June-bug.

Brother, come down and we will show you around, and then you can write intelligently, of this section.

The green peas on the truck farms around Norfolk are well up and looking very promising. The truckers are very cheerful over the outlook for the spring system. The heavy shipments of kale continues, the Old Dominion line alone carrying about 2,000 barrels a day to New York.

Stormy Jordan's Saloon. New York Sun.

One of the first sights that greets the stranger as he lights at Ottumwa, Ia., is the sign over Stormy Jordan's establishment. "The Way to Hell" is what the stranger reads. Perhaps he may pass on with a shudder. If he enters he will find signs on the wall conveying further warning. "Nose Painting," reads one. "Hell Fire on Tap," says another. "Beware the Drunkard's death and Damnation" is the warning of the third. Perhaps, too, an advertisement of the Keely cure hangs on the wall.

The customer seats himself at a table and takes up a paper. It is quite as likely to be a temperance tract as not. John B. Gough's 'Plat form Echoes' may beat one elbow and 'Ten Nights in a Bar room' at the other. A little bit gazed, the customer marches up to the counter and says:

"Gimme the best you've got." The man behind the bar is Stormy John himself. He draws down his brows as he looks at the customer, scanning him closely from head to foot. Then, without saying a word, he walks over to a water cooler and draws a glass of the sparkling fluid. He shoves it across the counter and says severely:

"There, young man; that is the best drink I know of."

If the customer does not swear or laugh he probably says:

"Here, what yer givin' us? I want some good whiskey."

"There is no good whiskey," answers Stormy with the air of a Sunday school teacher.

"Well, some bad, then," reports the customer. "Gimme some hot stuff or I'll find a joint where I can get it."

"You'll be hot enough some day if you keep on this way," answers Stormy severely. "If you are bound to have it, though, I had as well sell it to you as let some one else do it. But it's poison, I tell you, that'll send your body to the grave and your soul to perdition. Still, it's as good poison as they make and if you're particular about the taste of it you may as well get it here."

Sometimes Stormy actually converts a man to his way of thinking, though each conversion is a money loss to him. No one seems to know how he got his name. It's appropriateness was recognized when he was figuring frequently in stormy court scenes during the ten years or so that Iowa had a law prohibiting the sale of alcoholic drinks. Stormy fought the law on principle. It seems to him unwise and unjust. He didn't propose to submit to it. He was willing to join hands with the temperance people, but not with the prohibitionists.

Clarksburg, W. Va. is to have an ordinance requiring boys to get off of the streets by 8:30 at night. The bell will be rung at that hour, as a signal for the streets to be cleared, and after that hour any boy found on the streets will have to give a proper account of himself.

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A Batch of Wonder from Jefferson. Editor Democrat:

Is there any way to explain the following wonders? When they are explained to the satisfaction of the public, then I have a few more questions to ask:

I wonder if McKinley could not protect us better with a 500 per cent. tariff horizontal? I wonder if that would not protect?

Wonder who will deliver letters in Boone? Also in Jefferson?

Wonder who Marsh Dixon voted for for U. S. Senator in the place of Zeb Vance? Wonder why the press did not report his vote?

Wonder who Tom Birmingham voted for, and why?

Wonder if Pritchard's name was Pritchett over in Tennessee? Wonder why it was changed?

Wonder if it is true that Wakefield voted for Pritchard? Wonder how his wife liked that?

Wonder if Pritchard will ever come to Ashe court and stand his trial for killing the Sniders? Wonder if he is guilty? Wonder what would be done if he is?

Wonder if Linney was on Lincoln's side at Boston? Wonder what he is going to do about it? Wonder if it was a good speech?

Wonder if Linney will sue the Washington Post for slander in making and publishing a picture of what the paper says is Linney?

These and a few other questions I want to ask to be explained as they appear to be wonders. But maybe this will do for a few days till we hear from McKinley, etc.

J. W. TODD.
Jefferson, N. C. March 3.

A Human Gift.

Nothing on earth can smile but the face of man. Gems may flash reflected light but what is a diamond flash compared with an eye flash? Flowers cannot smile. This is a charm which even they cannot claim. Birds cannot smile, nor can any living thing. It is the light in the window of the face, by which the heart signals to father that a friend is at home waiting. A face that cannot smile is like a bud that cannot blossom. Laughter is day and sobriety is night and a smile is twilight that hovers between both, and bewitching is more than either.—Ex.

My son follow not in the footsteps of a loafer, and make no example of him who is born tired' for verily I say unto you, business is overstocked, the seats on the corners are all taken, and the whittling places are all occupied. It is better to saw wood at two bits a cord than to whittle at a loafing match and cuss the government. My son while thou hast left in thy skull the sense of a jay bird, break away from the cigarette habit for thy breath stinketh like a glue factory, and thy whole appearance is less intelligent than a store dummy.—Ex.

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There is talk of an extra session of the legislature. Please don't, Governor Russell. We can endure famine pestilence, drouth, war, but don't inflict any prolonged agony on the State; such as an extra session. If they don't do anything let 'em go home.—Progressive Farmer.


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