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MEXICAN CLAIMS.

LA ABRA MINING MATTERS

Defeated in the United States Senate-Compliment to Col. J. N. Staples -- The August Senate Confirming Cleveland's Appointees-Personal.

La Abra Mining Company of New York vs. the Government of Mexico. Benjamin Weil and others vs. the same. Claimants obtained a judgment

against Mexico before an international court, of which Sir Edward Thornton was the umpire, for upwards of \$1,000,000, the greater portion of which has been paid to the Secretary of the State to the use of claimants. Mexico has made several attempts to get rid of the payment, First, by a motion before the court before it expired, which was referred. Then before the Department of State, under First National Bank Building, General Grant's and Mr. Hayes's administration, and it was referred by them. Mr. Frelinghuysen recommended a new trial some three years ago, and negotiated a new trial with Mexico for the purpose of creating another international tribunal, to rehear and retry the cases, upon the ground of fraud and newly discovered evidence alleged by Mexico. This question has been pending in the Senate in executive sesion for three building. A spring season stock had or four years. On yesterday it was all been received by each one of these decided not to refer the cases, and firms. The aggregate loss is estimatthe proposition for a new trial

rejected by the Senate. It has been a desperately hard fought case. It takes twosthirds majority in the Senate to ratify a treaty. The opposition, it is said, won the case with six or seven to spare. It is thought if there had been a full vote the opposition would have had a majority. The opposition for the La Abra Company consisted of Joseph E. McDonald, of Indiana; John N. Staples, of North Carolina; George T. Curtis, of New York, and Shellaheyer & Wilson, of Washing-

ton. The case was argued before the Committee on Foreign Relations by counsel, by printed arguments. Mr. Staples submitted two arguments to the committee in behalf of his clients, one on the law of international awards, and the other in reply to an argument on the other side on the

It is thought probable that the losing party in this great case will atempt to institute dilatory proceedings to prevent the payment of the money, but it is likely that nothing will come of these proceedings if instituted. Col. Staples has been highly complimented on his two very able arguments. He has devoted much time and study to the case which will greatly extend his reputation as a

The Senate with that disregard of its own resolutions which was predicted at the time they were passed, has been steadily confirming the President's nominees, including many who were of the obnoxious class of partisans. Yesterday, not content with the slow process of confirming a dozen or so at altime, the braggart body passed favorably upon a hundred postmasters, consuls, collectors, etc., including the postmasters at Wilmington, Winston, Reidsville and other places in North Carolina.

Col. Green says that if Mr. Randall opposes the Morrison-Hewitt tariff bill it will be defeated in the House just as the Morrison bill of the 48th

Col. Green thinks that the proposed alliance between the Republicans and the prohibitionists will result in some loss to the Democratic party, but hopes that not many prohibitionists will at the last moment decide to give their old enemy a chance at political

Last night in the debate on the River and Harbor bill Mr. Skinner offereditwo amendments which were not adopted. He moved that instead of \$15,000, for the improvement of Beaufort harbor, \$84,000 be appropriated, and in lieu of \$2,000 for Edenton Bay the sum of \$5,000. Chairman Willis opposed these amend-ments. Mr. Skinner made some cogent remarks in favor of his prop-

Mr. Johnson, who did not avail nself of his second day's leave of absence, but returned to the House this morning, explained why his pair was not commenced on Monday afternoon, on the vote fixing a time for consideration of Public Building

Gen. R. B. Vance, deputy com-missioner of patents, was on the floor of the House this morning.

The congregation of ft. John's church in this city, have just sent an organ to the Episcopal church at Franklin, Marion county. The gift, I understand, is due to efforts made by Rev. Mr. Deal, the rector of the Franklin church.

FIRE IN NEW YORK.

750,000 Worth of Property Destroyed. New York, April 22.- A few minutes before seven o'clock this morning a fire broke out on the upper floor of the six story brick building running from No. 58 to 66 Crosby street, and from 512 to 516 Broadway. This is a new building and is erected on the site of Harrington and Harts old the site of Harrington and Harts old theatre, which burned some time ago. The fire broke out on the upper floor of No. 60 in a building occupied by August Bernheim & Bauer, wholeeale dealers in clothing, and J. W. Goddard & Sons, importers. Three

loss is expected to be heavy.

The fire threatened one of the most valuable business blocks in the city. So fiercely did the flames gain headway that three alarms were sent out. These were supplemented by several special signals and soon a dozen fire engines were at work. When the fire was first discovered by a police officer, the flames were issuing from the windows on the fifth story, but before the firemen could reach the fire the two upper floors were one mass of flames. The building was provided with a brick roof, and before this could be broken through to allow the firemen to get at the fire, the flames broke out on the Broadway front, getting thus a good draft.
The fire licked up everything before
it and the flames rose higher and
higher and grew hotter each minute. The firemen battered in the roof and walls and succeeded in directing a stream of water on the blazing mass. An opening once made, scores of streams began to play upon the roaring flames and in less than a half hour the firemen had gained the upper hand of the flames. The building is 200 feet in extent, running from Broadway to Crosby street, and is practically a double building. The ground fioor of the south side is occupied by a Laufer & Co., importers and dealers in hats; Plonsky and Simon manufacturers of makes and selection. mon, manufacturers of neckwear, occupy the first floor, and August Bros., manufacturers of boys' clothing, occupy the remainder of the end of the building, front and back. The north end of the building accommo-dates only two firms, J. W. Goddard & Sons, importers of silks and converters or cotton goods, having the ground floors and cellers, and August Bernheim, Bauer & Co., occupying the remainder of that part of the ed at \$750,000. Three upper floors only are burned out, but the entire building was flooded with water. Messrs, Goddard & Sons carried a stock valued at \$500,000, and August Bernheim, Bauer & Co., carried a line of like value. August Bros. es-timate the value of their stock at \$50,000, while the stocks of Plonsky & Simon, and A. Laufer & Co. are

placed at \$125 000 more. The origin of the fire is unknown. Congressional Pen Sketches. This from the Weshington Gossip of Macfarland of the Philadelphia Record: Many strangers visiting the Senate galleries are surprised to learn that Senator Alfred H. Colquitt of Georgia is not a preacher. He is the very picture of a fine, old fashioned Southern clergymen, and is almost invariably taken for one. But he is not and never has been, although he s a great temperance orator and lay exhorter in the Methodist church. Now, if the Prohibition party ever gets strong enough he will be elected President. Meanwhile, what South-ern man (he may say to himself) is so available for the Vice President's place on the Democratic ticket as he who would bring to its support the prohibitionists of the country. The only regularly ordained clergyman in either House is Representative John A. Anderson, who is now serving his fourth term from the fifth district of

Kansas Anderson was busy in home mission work when he was first asked to run for Congress. His wife pro-tested. "I married you a home mis-sionary," she said, "and I want to bury you a home missionary." This desire, Anderson pointed out, would not be interfered with by hisgoing to Congress, and he has been here ever since. Governor Curtin sits on the extreme northwest corner of the Democratic side of the House, like an advanced skirmisher on the picket line. Not that he sits in his seat often or long, but he spends a little of every day in it writting his letters. He has no committee room in the Capitol now that he is on no committee, and so he does his writing either at his desk in the House or in his library at his residence on K street formerly the house of Rear Admiral English. The Governor spends a few hours of almost every day with half a dozen good fellows from his colleggues in the House lows from his colleagues in the House over at the Congressional Cafe, just opposite the House end of the Capitol, in an apartment which is coming to be known among members as "Curtin's Committee Room." I need hardly say that the committee meet ing there is much more certain of a regular quorum than any of the Comregular quorum than any of the Committees meeting in the Capitol. The largest man in the House is Geo. Taliaferror Barnes of Georgia, commonly and irreverently known as "Brer Tarrypin." He weighs 300 pounds, and is five feet five inches each way. He is very proud and very fond of his flesh. He says he would not lose a pound of it for a thousand dollars. When he was

thousand dollars. When he was twenty one years of age he weighed but 100 pounds, and his friends feared he would blow away in the next high wind. But by laughing continually he has grown continually fatter, until at fifty-three he rivals Major Ben: Perley Poore. Judge Barnes is an excellent lawyer and a natural diplomat, and withal a brilliant wit. This is his first winter in Washington, but everybody knows him and likes him already. Confirmations by the Senate.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Among the confirmations made by the Senthe confirmations made by the Senate yesterday were the nominations of Wm. L. West, of Kentucky, to be Governor of Utah, by a vote of 45 to 15, and D. C. Bradley to be collector of internal revenue for South Carolina. The latter gave rise to considerable discussion, Bradley being charged with moonshining predilections. Edmunds is said to have led opposition to Bradley in person, but he had been favorably reported by the finance committee and was confirmed, 27 to 15.

Fire in Uhicago. Chicago, April 22.—A. H. Andrews & Co., suffered a great loss this morning by reason of fire. It occurred in the school furniture factory at Displaines and Polk streets, and the loss is estimated at \$100,000.

firmed, 27 to 16.

TEN-MELLION BOND CALLED.

Description of Issues for Redemption of the 3 Per Cents. of

Washington, April 20.—The acting secretary of the treasury this afternoon issued the one hundred and thirty-sikth call for the redemption of bonds of the 3 per cent. loan of

The call is for \$10,000,000, and notice is given that the principal and acrued interest will be paid at the Treasury of the United States, in the City of Washington, D. C., on the 1st day of June, 1886, and that the interest will cease on that day. larms have been sent out and the The following are decriptions of the

> Three per cent. bonds issued by the act of Congress approved July 12, 1882, and numbered as follows: \$50, original number 271 to original number 274, both inclusive. One hundred dollars, original num

ber 2,007 to original number 2,048 both inclusive, and original number 9,917 to original number 9 921, both Five hundred dollars, original

number 908 to original number 921, both inclusive, and original number 4,219 to original number 4,223, both inclusive. One thousand dollars, original number 7,336 to original number 7,759, both inclusive, and original number 23,712 to original number 23,719, both inclusive.

One thousand dollars, original number 13,625 to original number 14,596, both inclusive; total, \$10,000,

The bonds described above are either bonds of the "original" issue, which have but one serial number a each end, or "substitute bonds, which may be distinguished by the double set of numbers, which are marked plainly "original numbers" and "sub-stitute numbers."

Items from the State University. To the Editor of THE OBSERVER: University of North Carolina.

CHAPEL HILL, April 19th, 1886. The annual contest for the medals was held in the "Di." Society last Friday night and Saturday morning. After a spirited debate, the Debaters' Medal was awarded to Mr. W. A Self, Medal was awarded to Mr. W. A Self, (senior class), of Newton. As Mr. Self had five competitors of recognized ability, he can afford to esteem his victory very highly. The merits of the debate were decided by Major R. S. Tucker, of Raleigh, President Battle and Prof. Mangun

The Declaimers' Medal was awarded Saturday morning after a similar contest, to Mr. Jas. L. Crowell, (Freshman class), of Stanly county. The judges were President Battle, Prof. Henry and Prof. Love. In an nouncing the decision, Major Tucker and President Battle made pleasant speeches, in which they expressed the committee's great satisfaction with the contests.

We understand that the Essayists' Medal will be awarded soon. The sigth University lecture was delivered a week ago in the University Chapel by Prof. A. W. Mangum. His subject was "Dreams." While dealing with delicate questions of great psychological importance, Prof. Mangum did not fail to make his address both graceful and interesting

After remarking at length upon the strange phenomena of the sleeping mind, he explained very clearly the general causes that induce or affect dreams, and closed with a discussion of the benefits to be derived from dreams. The lecture was received with great attention by a large au-

The Knights of Labor Question. St. Louis, April 22.-Another step in the aggressive warfare of the striking Knights of Labor upon the Missouri Pacific Railroad was taken this morning at 10 o'clock, when five hundred employees of the Missouri Car and Foundry Company stopped work and joined the strike, in obedience to the order of District Assembly No. 17. This move had been contemplated ever since the Knights found that the company were supplying repair material for the Missouri Pacific and Iron Mountain shops, where it is claimed by the strikers that new men are not suf-ficiently skilled to make their material. A committee from the Enights called upon the Vice President of the company and informed him that unless they ceased furnishing repair material to the Missouri Pacific and the Iron Mountain companies their men would be ordered out. The Vice President replied that these two companies were among their best cus-tomers, and that they would continue as long as they were able to fill all of their orders. The committee then retired and issued the order to the Knights of Labor employed by the company to quit work this morning. This order was afterwards sent to the executive board, who endorsed it, and the men struck. President Mc-Millan was seen by a reporter, and in reply to the question as to his future plans, said: "We shall try to run our works with a new force of men, but if we fail we shall open our works at Cambridge, Ind., which have been closed for sometime. If we can't run our business there as we see fit, we shall go out of business altogether. I would rather see the works idle for five years than to accede to any de-mands like these made by the Knights

of Labor." Col. Cowles' Honor Mark. Says J. R. Randall in a recent letter to the Augusta Ga., Chronicle:

"Col. Cowles, a North Carolina
Congressman, who served under
Gen. Hampton during the late unpleasantness, has a bald head, revealing a singular wound. It is a long seam, as if ripped up by a pointed weapon, but was really inflicted by a musket ball which plowed the cranium. The Colonel's brain was partially exposed at first, but the bone thinly healed over it. I am told that apt to kill him, and it is one of the gallery jokes that he came to Congress to avoid any dangerous com-

Quarantine to be Raised. New Orleans, April 22.—The Governor has issued a proclamation establishing a quarantine from and after May 10, against all vessels arriving at the Mississippi quarantine station from entering American and West Indian ports, in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Health of the State.

WASHINGTON, April 22, Mr. Jay Gould today appeared before the committee of investigation of the la-bor troubles in the Southwest.

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HENRY WISE GARNETT, Solicitor of Patents, Attorner at Law and Counsellor in Patent Causes, WASHINGTON, D. C.
References—RIGGS & CO., Bankers, Second National Bank, Washington, D. C.

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