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CHRISTMAS!

street.

The festival of the Christian world with its sacred memories and its hours of rest comes to us another time. Eighteen hundred and seventy-three! How the Christian Age grows! And yet civilization is new-the world seems still in its youth-man is a child in wisdom, though he no longer prattles as a child of tender years.

The birth of a Saviour brought joy in the world. Let His anniversary likewise bring joy to all hearts, old as well as young. Therefore A Merry Christmas to all the readers of THE MORNING STAR!

THE CASE OF THE VIRGINIUS. The opinion of the Attorney General of the United States puts an entirely different phase on the Virginius question. From this it appears that the vessel was not property under American protection, having been fraudulently registered. The particulars are these: The Virginius was registered in New York Septembor 26, 1870, by one Patterson, who made oath as required by law. There is, says the Attorney General, abundant evidence to show that the proprietorship was not in Patterson, but that the ship was owned by Quesada, Mora and other Cubans. There was no bond signed by the owner, captain and sureties, as required by law, there was no insurance on the vessel, and Verona and the other Cubans who took passage slipped aboard after the vessel had left the harbor of New York.

The direct consequence of this opinion will be the forfeiture of the

WHAT CONGRESS HAS DONE. Up to the close of the session on Friday last eight hundred and forty five bills had been introduced in the House of Representatives and two hundred and thirty in the Senate. During the entire session but ten bills were passed by both houses.

The only bills of importance were the naval appropriation bill; the bill removing the legal and political disabilities of Thos. S. Bocock, E. J. Harris and Daniel Trigg, of Virginia,

and John II. Reagan, of Texas; the bill providing for the redemption of the '58 loan, and the bill regulating steam pressure on tow and tugboats on the Messissippi and its tributaries.

The question of salary seems to the average Congressman of more importance than the interests of his constituents and of the country at large.

It was reported in Washington that Davis, the Radical candidate for Governor in the late Texas election, and the present incumbent, who was defeated by some 40,000 majority, will treat the election as invalid. He officially approved the act under which the election was held. Doubtless he is encouraged in his lawless course by Grant's policy in Louisiana. Suppose Mr. Grant issue an imperial ukase abolishing the State governments, and send out a satrap for each province, as he has done in Louisiana. The present way of working things is positively boring to the average man of

peace. The President says he does not mean to withdraw the nomination of Attorney General Williams for Chief Justice. The Senate, in the meantime, withholds confirmation, pending grave charges that come like a Pelion of disgrace upon the Ossa of his known incapacity. A Washington correspondent informs us that the substance of these is that gross election frauds had been perpetrated in Oregon, which the United States District Attorney, though a Republican,

will surely succeed." He is the coming political leader in the war upon monopolies-and that because he possesses the qualities I have named. He will retain the affection of the people because he never permits any thought of his own advancement to seduce him from the path of duty. He has stood by the people honestly and bravely, and they will not forget it. The battle for civil service reform against plunder, and of the people

against monopolies will scarcely produce a nobler leader than he.



- Anthony Trollope argues that fiction is the real sermon of the age. - The dancing season is in full feather. The Spanish waltz is to supersede the German.

- Great preparations are being made for the inauguration of Governor Allen in Ohio on the 12th of January.

- The Terre Haute Gazette says there is a man in that city who has been divorced twice and married three times, and is now for another divorce - "Owing to the absence of the editor, this week's issue will be found unusually spicy," says the office devil of the Creston Times, who was left in charge for a few days. - Mark Twain is nothing if not honest. On being surprised by a toast at a dinner party in London,

recently, he pulled out a large roll of manuscript, and proceeded to reply. - It will be gratifying to the many friends of Mr. Rinehart, the Maryland sculptor, says the Baltimore Sun. to learn that he has within the past few weeks completed at his studio in Rome the plaster cast of another statue, which has been conceived and executed within the few months since his departure from Baltimore. The new figure is of Atalanta. The sculp-

tor represents Atalanta with figure slightly bent forward in the act of starting, gathering up light graceful falling drapery with her hands. The arms, chest and waist are free, head poised, features animated, and the face and figure alert and instinct with energy, ready for the word "go." MRS. WILLIAMS.

Slanders Refuted-An Adventurous but Creditable Career.

Correspondence of the Courier-Journal." WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.

was prosecuting; that Williams first Observing the call you make in the ordered him to close his proceedings, Courier-Journal for correspondents

Estate and Loan Association Real - Peter Stoft was killed by falling through a hatchway in Savannah SAVINGS BANK! on Friday. - On last Thursday night the dwelling of Mr. Albert S. Bacon, in Mitchell county, Ga., was entirely consumed by fire. - Mrs. J. E. Minis, of Lee county,

MISCELLANEOUS.

plants more cotton than any woman in Georgia. This year she cultivated 1,000 acres in cotton and 500 in corn. Eldership of Sumter to that of Columbia District, and will make his home in the city of Columbia. He is

DOWN IN DIXIE.

ing, Mr. Beecher refused to give a notice in the following characteristic and Beecher-like manner. He said: "I am requested to give a notice which puts me in a little difficulty. I don't want to and I do want to. The Amaranth Dramatic Association wish to give a benefit in the Academy of Music next Saturday evening. They wish to pay all the expenses themselves and give all the receipts to the poor of Brooklyn. Now I want the poor to have all they money they can get, but I don't want to advertise a theatrical company, and therefore I shall not give the notice." [Great laughter.]



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THE "STAR"

Virginius, under the provisions of the act of 1792, referred to by the Attorney General. Under this law the owner is required to swear that no subject or citizen of any foreign province or State is interested in any way in such vessel or its profits. Patterson having taken this oath falsely, together with the commander, Shepherd, the vessel may be libelled for forfeiture, seized by a United States Marshal and sold at auction.

This is quite an humble place for the Virginius to occupy after the dignity of her late position. From the armory of Mars to the rubbishroom of Mercury!

The Attorney General proceeds in his opinion to treat any claim that Spain may set up to the Virginius as wholly untenable, while granting that if she had been taken in Cuban waters the case would have been different. The privateer was captured on the high seas, and therefore not subject to capture by the Spaniards. From this it is inferred that our Government ought to maintain the demand for money compensation to the families of the survivors of the Santiago butchery. If Spain had no right to take the Virginius on the seas she certainly was guilty of a grave wrong against this country in shooting any of its citizens in cold blood.

To-day the salute in reparation for our wounded honor was to be fired. As that honor is ascertained not to have been so seriously injured in the capture of the Virginius the salute will be dispensed with. But Spain will to-day disclaim any intention to injure the United States in the matter of the capture.

THE GAUSE OF THE CUBANS

Seems to be in the ascendant once more. Our advices are from patriot sources. They indicate that in several recent engagements the Volunteers were worsted and lost heavily in ammunition, clothing, provisions, etc.

From their mountain fastnesses the patriot Cubans cau wage indefinite war with the mother country. It would be profitable to Spain to stop the war, if she had to erush out the Volunteers to accomplish this purpose. Every year she sacrifices

and upon the District Attorney representing the facts Williams had him removed from office. The outlook is decidedly squally for the Presidential favorite.



Newton Booth, the Senator Elect from California-Able, Honest, Brave. The following sketch of Gov. Booth, showing his relations to California politics, is taken from a private letter, written by a prominent lawyer of San Francisco to a gentleman in New York:

Gov. Booth is in many respects a very extraordinary man. Educated to the bar, he turned merchant, and made a handsome income in mercantile pursuits. I have heard him make speeches on different subjects-sometimes political, sometimes literary, but always eloquent, thoughtful, scholarly, and as full of matter as an egg is of meat. He was taken up by the Republicans two years ago and elected Governor upon an anti-railroad platform. He stumped the State and beat Gov. Haight, one of the most popular political leaders we have ever had. The railroad people preferred Booth, and helped elect hoping they would be him, able to seduce him from the platform upon which he was nominated, but he has adhered strictly to his pledges. In the election of last September for members of the Legislature he took a prominent part. The railroads controlled the Conventions of both parties in San Francisco, and the same was true of nearly all the rest of the State. Booth fearlessly appealed to the people outside of par-ties in a series of speeches of remarkable eloquence and power and under leadership the Independents his carried San Francisco and most of the principal cities of the State. In the judicial election in October the Independents, under the lead of Booth, made a nomination for Supreme Judge and elected him, although both the other parties had in the field candidates of tried fitness and great personal popularity. Booth has three of the great ele-

ments of a statesman-he is able, houest, and brave. The people here understand this perfectly, and they love him with a devotion that has hardly been given to any political leader since Douglas died. I heard him speak one night in San Francisco, when Un on Hall was crowded to its n termost. At the very opening of the meeting, while the form of a preliminary organization was going ou, the audience caught a view of him on the stage. Such enthusiasm I never saw before, even in the old days. The applance continued putil he came for-

to enlighten the reading public in regard to the sinister insinuations about Judge Williams obtaining a divorce for the lady who is now his wife, and as I have the particulars, and they

contain nothing to the discredit of either party, I do not hesitate to write what I have no doubt to be the truth. Mrs. Williams' maiden name was Hughes, and she was born near St. Louis. While still a child her parents moved to Keokuk, Iowa. At the age of fifteen Mrs. Williams did what many a fooolish girl has done before and since that time-ran away and married a man of whom her parents disapproved. The husband was also too young for the responsible duties he had assumed, and before the birth of their child his wife had the most convincing proof of his infidelity. She was ill and came near dying, but the kind physician who was in attendance took her home to her father's house, and there was a suit brought for divorce. Judge Williams had known her from childhood and granted the divorce. Mrs. Williams remained single for some years, when she again trusted her happiness into a husband's keeping and made a second mistake .--Judge Williams was also married, and the two knew nothing of each other's whereabouts for many years. Mrs. Williams' husband was a drunkard, and they became very poor .--Then she took matters in her own hands, left her husband, and opened school in Oregon. She taught and earned money. One day a letter came rom California that her husband was dying in a hospital. Nobly she forgot all the sorrow he had caused, and the promptly responded to the call. and nursed him and supplied his wants until his death. After the funeral she returned to her school, which she kept until Judge Williams, who was new a widower, asked her to become his wife. This was about the time he became United States Senator. This last marriage has preved happy and prosperous. Mrs. Williams' beauty is more than common and of a rare type .--Very dark hair, with very blue eyes that have long, dark tashes. Her complexion is fair and clear, features good, though not regular. Her form is full as it should be, after the heyday of youth is passed. She has beautiful neck and arms. She dresses well, though not extravagantly; for, with all the receiving she does and the invitations she accepts, I don't think any win er she has had over six expensive dresses. I know I have seen some of the old ones turned and retrimmed. Mrs. Williams is an admirable housekceper and manager.-She is generous and hospitable. She has always taken in and understood the situation; and without intrigue, or in any way but such a fond and

