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## WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1897.—Senator Sherman has said enough to let all the world know what the Cuban policy of President McKinley will be. To boil it down, President McKinley purposes to let the Spaniards and Cubans fight it out without taking sides, and to let both understand that American citizenship has got to be respected, something that has not been done under the Cleveland Olney Cuban policy. Such a policy would have prevented the exciting scenes in Congress caused by the treatment which Spain has been allowed to give American citizens in Cuba.

If Congress fails to dispose of all the appropriation bills, it will not be the fault of the House, which passed the last of them several days ago. The Senate has been in an ugly mood since the Cuban excitement last week, which was so suddenly brought to a close by a deal between Secretary Olney and Spain, which resulted in the pardon of Julio Sanguily just as the Senate was about to adopt a resolution demanding his unconditional release. Senator Sherman's announcement that American citizens everywhere would be protected by President McKinley's administration also had a quieting effect, but the ugly temper of the Senate has come to the surface in a number of personal wrangles over unimportant matters.

Washington begins inauguration week full of visitors and with every arriving train bringing more, and the decorations already in place make it certain that it will present a much handsomer and more artistic appearance than it has ever done before. The stands along Pennsylvania avenue, from which the parade will be viewed, are much handsomer than usual, just as the prices for seats are much higher than usual, ranging from \$5.00 for the best to \$1.00 for the rear seats in the stands. There are seats for about \$50,000 in all the stands and the present demand indicates that they will all be occupied, but those who see the parade from seats will hardly be one-tenth of the total number of spectators.

Many prominent men, including Chairman Hanna, and four members of President McKinley's Cabinet are already in Washington, and the corridors of the principal hotels remind one of scenes at a National Convention.

John Wedderburn, who figured in the Courts as the defendant in a suit brought by W. R. Hearst, in connection with the Examiner Claims Bureau, and the Press Claims Company, both of which Wedderburn originated and both of which are now dead, has run up against an official snag in the conduct of the business of John Wedderburn & Co. Fifty-five prominent patent lawyers of Washington, including four ex Commissioners of Patents, have signed charges against the firm of Wedderburn & Co., and that the National Recorder, a paper published by them, be shut out of the mails for fraud.

How much those who were saying a few days ago how strong the opposition in the House was to the bill authorizing President McKinley to call a monetary conference or to appoint delegates to one called by any other country, knew about the state of feeling towards the bill, may be inferred from the vote by which it was passed, 279 to 83.

Senator Burrows believes, notwithstanding the address issued by the silver republicans last week, and the positive assertion of Senator DuBois to the contrary, that they will vote with the republicans for the tariff bill. Speaking on the subject Mr. Burrows said: "I have every reason to believe that while these gentlemen have announced themselves as silver republicans, they will cooperate with their colleagues of the republican party on this line, and when we have secured such legislation as will supply the Treasury with necessary revenue for Government support, it will be time enough to take up the silver question. I suppose this proclamation of the silver party has reference more particularly to the campaign of 1900 and I confidently believe that before that time the country will be in such a state of prosperity that the silver question will not be able to engage to any extent the attention of the pub-

lic." There was a general feeling of relief when it was announced that the Senate Committee on Public Lands, had, after investigating the matter, reported that the land patent issued to Mr. Perrine, the step father of Mrs. Cleveland was issued in accordance with the law and precedents controlling such matters.

Representative Murray's request for an investigation of the last election in South Carolina has been referred to the next House as an important matter demanding the consideration of Congress.

## THE MURDER OF DR. RUIZ.

The Spanish Government to Make Rigid Investigation—The Doctor a Regularly Naturalized American Citizen.

WASHINGTON, February 26.—Official cablegrams from Madrid received at the Spanish legation regarding the death of Ruiz, show that the government is aroused to most energetic action and that orders have gone forward to Cuba to have a most thorough investigation into the affair. This is regardless of the question of Ruiz's nationality; for whether he is an American or not, the government has determined that if a crime has been committed those guilty shall be punished.

In the meantime no efforts are being spared to determine whether Ruiz was an American citizen or not and under both the state department and the legation authorities, the records are being searched. So far, it can only be found that Ruiz, then a dental student, took out his first papers declaring his intention in Philadelphia, December 19, 1877. This was near the close of the last revolution. He soon graduated as a dentist and returned to Guanabaco in 1880, where he has practiced ever since. It cannot be learned that he ever returned to the United States nor does it appear that he lived here long enough to acquire naturalization. However, the Madrid government will push the investigation of his death just as forcibly as possible and if the charges are correct that the doctor was killed or driven to suicide by his jailers, the severest punishment of military law will be executed on those responsible.

Philadelphia, February 26.—Ricardo Ruiz de Ugarrio, or Ricardo Ruiz, as he was lately known and who is said to have been beaten to death in a Spanish prison in Cuba, was an American citizen. He was naturalized in this city. The fact was alleged some time ago and today a record of his naturalization was found in the prothonotary's office. Under his full name Ruiz declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States on December 19, 1877, and the final naturalization papers were granted January 21, 1880. When he came to this country the man called himself simply Ruiz. He was naturalized in open court by Judge Thomas K. Finletter. The papers were regularly indexed under the name Ugarrio and when the controversy was begun over his nationality, the name Ruiz could not be found. The discovery, however, removes all doubts on the subject.

## A SOUTHERN TRAIN KILLS NINE.

Dreadful Accident Near Chattanooga—Of 10 People in a Wagon, Only One Escaped.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 24.—About 4 o'clock this afternoon, on the Southern Railway, four miles from this city, incoming passenger train No. 7, traveling at a high speed, struck a covered wagon which was trying to clear the tracks ahead of the train at Avondale crossing. The wagon was hit squarely in the center and with its ten occupants hurled high into the air. The occupants were Mrs. W. J. Woodward, her eight children and one grand child, all of whom, with one exception, were killed. The ground for some distance presented a gory sight. The bodies were gathered up after much searching, and taken to the morgue, where the nine members of the same family made a gruesome spectacle. The infant which was undoubtedly shocked to death, there lay like a wax figure in its mother's arms. Every window in the passenger coaches was broken and the engine's pilot demolished. The engineer is absolved from blame for the accident. The father and one child remain of a family of twelve.

## ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THESE NATIONS STAINED.

Russia's Language Toward England Regarding the Cretan Situation Decidedly Threatening England Unable to Agree to Turkish Rule in Crete on Account of Popular Sentiment Against It—Turkey's War Footing—Taking Insurance Against War.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Graeco-Cretan situation is in its larger aspect less hopeful. The announcement of the agreement of the powers for its final settlement was, to say the least, premature. There exists at the present moment serious irritation between Russia and Great Britain, which has provoked the former power to adopt an attitude that can hardly be described in a milder term than threatening. I do not pretend to know the exact cause of the trouble. It was discussed at hastily summoned meeting of the British cabinet this afternoon, with what result it, of course, is impossible to say. A singular semi-official communique from St. Petersburg is published today, in which it is set forth "in the event of Greece, with blind apprehension of her own advantages, offering further opposition to the well-meant advice of Russia and of the powers in alliance with her, of creating difficulties, or in the event of her allowing herself to be encouraged in her present attitude by self-seeking friends, perhaps on the false supposition of lack of unanimity among the great powers because one or the other powers did not support at the outset the proposals of Russia, who is in perfect agreement with Germany and France. Russia in such an emergency is determined upon her course of action. Conscious of her unity with France and of her absolute agreement with Germany and also with Austria, even if isolated powers should not associate themselves in the steps she is resolved to take, Russia will be in a position, at any rate, not to allow the peace of Europe to be endangered by events in Crete."

This is the tone which Russia has not adopted towards any power within living memory. England, of course, is the country meant, and the words employed suggest some exceedingly grave suspicions. It may be, however, that this language was used in the interval between the reception of Lord Salisbury's note, saying in effect that England would do nothing in regard to Greece until the fate of Crete was decided and before England had notified her acceptance of Russia's proposal for solving the difficulty.

That proposal, although agreed to in principle by the six powers, will not be enforced in the form interpreted by Lord Salisbury in the house of lords on Thursday. Neither England nor Italy nor France, will fire a gun to drive the Greeks from Crete in order that the islands be delivered to Turkish troops for "police" purposes. Public opinion in all three countries would put an absolute veto upon that proposition. Every dispatch received from Greece and Crete makes it perfectly clear that such an arrangement would never be submitted to. In fact, the reply of Greece to Lord Salisbury's discouraging speech Thursday night has been a summons to two more divisions of reserves to mobilize. Nothing but absolute autonomy for Crete will be accepted by public opinion in this country, and Lord Salisbury is fully aware of this fact by this time. His unfortunate allusion to the use of Turkish troops as police in Crete has added much to the popular indignation. Public anger is slow to kindle in England. Cause and effect in this, as in all things else, are separated by a wider interval than in almost any other country. Public opinion is fully aroused now. It did not need another of William Watson's lyrics and series of Gladstone notes to inflame it. Watson's lyrics are sufficiently savage. This is one of his verses addressed to Greece:

Who are those would bind thy hands  
Knives and dastards none beside.  
All the just in all the lands.  
Hail thee blest and sanctified.  
Curst who would thy triumph mar  
Be he Kaiser, be he Czar.

No news has yet been received of the reception of the note or ultimatum from the powers to Greece, but it is generally expected that it will be sent today. Its terms and the number of signatures it has will dignify much. There is no real reason, however, for thinking the Greek government will change its attitude or its purpose in response to a demand on the lines of Lord Salisbury's speech. All accounts agree that it is not within the power of the king or government of Greece to change its policy at such bidding. Quite aside, therefore, from the question of the unanimity of the powers, the situation is still one of the greatest difficulty. The financial side of the situation just now is interesting. It is possible to insure almost anything in London, and a great many persons to whose ventures war would be dangerous have been taking out policies against such a contingency at Lloyd's during the past few days. These are the latest rates to pay in the event of war between England, France, Germany or Russia: Within one year 4 per cent of the amount of the amount of the insured; a policy against a war between any of the six great powers before August 20th, costs 8½ per cent and against a war between England and any European country except Turkey 5½ per cent. It is significant that a policy against a war between England and the Transvaal republic within the next year costs 5½ per cent.

An Englishman who passed through Salonica at the beginning of this week writes that nobody seeing the Turkish recruits arriving there would suppose they would be able to make much of a fight against the well fed and well-clothed Greek soldiers. The newly mobilized redifs in particular who have been called from their homes and families for one-third time within twelve months are ragged hungry-looking and depressed. Many of them have served since the beginning of last year in Armenia and Crete, but they have not received a single piastre of the pay due them, and are not likely to get anything but hard knocks in the coming campaign if, indeed, there is to be a war.

The porte has announced blithely its intention to put 110,000 men on the Thessalian frontier, but so far it has been able to obtain only funds enough to equip and transport about 15,000 for that purpose. It looks as though non-Mussulman financiers and contractors have arrived at the conclusion that the beginning of the end is near; for the former have tightly closed their purse strings and the latter have had the audacity to press for a settlement of their long standing accounts, a proceeding which is very like crying for the moon. The porte has got no money, but he would be oblivious of history who would lightly assume that that fact indicates that Turkey is not in a position to wage war. The troops who lately passed through Salonica were without ambulance equipment or surgical appliances of any kind, but their arms were evidently all right and the ammunition trains appeared to be ample. The artillery, too, was in good condition and the batteries were well horsed.—Copyrighted by New York Sun.

## LYNCHING IN TENNESSEE.

A Negro Rapist and Murderer Hanged by a Mob.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 24.—Corrected details of the lynching of the negro Charley Brown at Soddy last night were received today. Yesterday afternoon Miss Ellen Walker, the pretty 12-year-old stepdaughter of H. D. Varner, a highly respected farmer living near Soddy, was going home, having been to a neighbor's house. She was grabbed at a lonely spot by Brown, a negro, who told her not to scream and drew a pistol. The girl, after a fearful struggle, freed herself from his grasp and ran screaming down the road. The negro fled and hid in a barn. He was soon surrounded by a posse of officers. Deputy John Sadler went up in the loft, and when his head projected above the ladder he was fatally shot by Brown. The negro was finally arrested, and a mob quickly formed and took the trembling wretch from the officers' hands and swung him to a tree. The negro miners are highly incensed over the lynching of Brown, and have formed a mob and threaten vengeance on the lynchers. A serious trouble is expected.

## STATE NEWS.

Mrs. Dillard, wife of the late Judge Dillard, died at her home at Greensboro Thursday.

Geo. S. Powell, of the firm of Powell & Snyder, of Asheville, has been elected cashier of the Western Carolina Bank of that city.

The special committee of the State Senate appointed to investigate the lease of the North Carolina Railroad have unanimously signed a report exonerating the board of directors of the North Carolina Railroad from any and all charges which were made regarding their action in leasing the road to the Southern.

C. C. Campbell, a white man, completed a two years' term in the penitentiary Thursday, but as soon as he was released he was arrested for horse stealing in Mecklenburg and taken to Charlotte for trial. Campbell escaped from the penitentiary some time ago and it was during his escape that he stole the horse.

Asheville Citizen, 25th: Last night about 10 o'clock three white boys got on a cattle-car in a freight train on the Asheville & Spartanburg road and rode from Asheville to Spartanburg Junction. There it was found that one of the boys of the name of Murphy had been shot and killed. His comrades admitted doing the shooting but claimed it was accidental.

Yadkin Ripple, 24th: On last Sunday afternoon about 5 o'clock, Mr. G. G. Nestal, who is on the Statesville mail line, was seen to drive out of town as fast as his horse could run. This aroused an inquiry which developed the fact that he was going to carry off and marry Miss Mary Hutchens. There was objection to the match on both sides, hence his rapid departure. We suppose he was married in Iredell Monday.

Fire at Wilmington Friday night destroyed the large dry goods establishment of Polvogt & Co. Stock valued at \$30,000 with \$20,000 insurance; building at \$12,000, partially insured. While this fire was in progress another was started in a different portion of the town and \$5,000 damage done. The Messenger office was threatened but the fire was gotten under control and it was saved.

Dispatches from Athens and Crete report that Greece has declared that if the bombardment of the insurgent position in the island of Crete is repeated she will break off diplomatic relations with the powers. Turkey is reported to have threatened that Turkey will break off diplomatic relations with the powers unless the Greek troops are withdrawn from Crete. In the meantime a war of extermination is being waged between the Christians and Mohammedans in Crete.

## CONSIDERING THE REVENUE ACT.

Refused to Take off Tax on Lawyers and Doctors—Hunting Bill Passed Today.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 1.—A resolution was passed this morning excluding lobbyists from the floor of the House. This is to do away with the lobby evil, which has become quite a nuisance.

The bill making it unlawful to hunt on the lands of others without permission, was taken up in the house today and passed. It will likely become a law.

## CONSIDERING REVENUE ACT.

The revenue act was taken up, the house going into committee of the whole on the bill. The section levying the tax on doctors, lawyers and dentists was discussed. The House refused to repeal this section.

## TO BRIDGE THE CATAWBA.

A bill was introduced this morning to provide for a bridge across the Catawba between Mecklenburg and Gaston counties.

A bill was introduced to provide for the payment of all attorney's fees when the prosecution is adjudged frivolous or malicious.

## BARNES IS PUBLIC PRINTER.

The bill giving the public printing to Guy V. Barnes, of Raleigh, passed the Senate by a large majority this afternoon. The sections of the revenue act imposing taxes on inheritance and taxing drummers \$50 each were stricken out to-day.—Charlotte News