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WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—Unless his present plans are changed, President McKinley will go to Ohio just before the election and remain there to cast his vote. He doesn't regard his vote as necessary to the success of the Republican ticket, state and legislative, but he believes that casting his vote is a patriotic duty that should never have been left undone by any man when it can possibly be done. He has preached this from the stump all over Ohio in the many campaigns in which he has participated, and he wishes to show his Ohio friends that he continues to both preach and practice it. Whether the President will make a speech before the election in Ohio is not yet fully determined. He is somewhat inclined to think that it would not be strictly in accordance with propriety for him to make a partisan speech in a state campaign, but attempts to persuade him to address at least one meeting, at Cincinnati, are still being made, and they may succeed.

Secretary Wilson, who is widely known as an attractive campaigner, because of his straightforward appeals to the common, everyday horse-sense of his hearers, has gone to Ohio to take the stump for a few days for the Republicans. Secretary Wilson has no scruples about a member of the Cabinet taking the stump for his party; the issue in Ohio has been made to involve the policy of the national administration, and he thinks it all right for members of the administration to take part in the public discussions.

Events of the last few days in Spain have convinced even the most sensationally inclined scribblers that a great many people have allowed their imaginations to run away with their judgment in discussing the attitude of President McKinley toward both Spain and Cuba. The President has every reason to feel gratified at the visible result of his Cuban policy—the recall of General Weyler by the Spanish ministry—and to expect a still greater result—peace in Cuba.

A great many who regarded the sending of a commission to Europe to treat with the governments over there on the feasibility of the adoption of international bimetalism as chimerical, when it was first proposed by Senator Wolcott, are now convinced that the Commission has really been of some service. It has, for one thing, made the government of Great Britain for the first time give serious consideration to the subject of international bimetalism, instead of curtly dismissing it, as it had always previously done. Of course, this doesn't make it certain that Great Britain will eventually agree to international bimetalism, but it is a longer step in that direction than it seemed possible awhile ago to make Great Britain take, and the credit is certainly due to the efforts of Senator Wolcott's Commission. Arrangements have just been perfected for a series of conferences between the Commission and Ambassador Hay with the British Chancellor of the Exchequer and other officials, for the purpose of fully discussing the matter in all its bearings.

Secretary Gage will appeal from the decision of the Board of Appraisers, that the Dingley tariff did not become operative until the minute that it was signed by the President, to the courts, and the question will be passed upon by the U. S. Supreme court at an early day, as there is a provision of law under which customs cases are advanced on the docket of the Supreme court. Secretary Gage had previously decided that the tariff law was retroactive, and his decision will be followed by collectors of customs until it is reversed by the Courts. If the courts uphold the decision of the Board of Appraisers, the Government will have to refund about \$300,000 to importers whose importations were entered at the custom houses on Saturday, July 24th, before the signing of the tariff act by the President. Secretary Gage holds that the bill became a law on the day that it was signed by the President, and that the goods entered on that day were liable to the new duties. The bill was signed in the afternoon, after the close of the business day at the custom houses, and the decision of the Board of Appraisers would, if upheld, make all goods entered that day subject only

to the old duties. Treasury officials are confident that Secretary Gage's decision was right and that it will be upheld by the Supreme Court.

NEXT WEDNESDAY THE DAY.

The Wallace Shows Will Spread Their White Canvas in Hickory.

Wednesday Oct. 20th The Great Wallace Shows will spread their acres of white canvass in this city, and if the advance reports are to be believed, the tented institution this season is one of the two largest circuses in America. The press of every city in which the shows have exhibited have been lavish in their praise of the enterprise, particularly the Pittsburg (Pa.) Chronicle Telegraph, where the shows appeared a short time ago. This great newspaper has among other good things the following to say:

The title of "The Greatest Show on Earth" has been claimed by many aggregations which annually visit this vicinity, but it is certain there are none greater than The Great Wallace Shows, which appeared here Monday and Tuesday of this week.

The claim was made by the management that the combination was the best three ring circus, museum and menagerie in America, and the claim is no exaggeration. Another claim made was that the various features of the show, as advertised, would be shown, and it is a pleasant task to say that the claim was literally true. Not a feature as advertised was omitted, and all who attend the performances were loud in their praises of the production and the honest way in which the management conducts the gigantic affair. Honesty toward the public is one of the mottoes of the owners, and that this pays was evidenced by the great crowds which attended the performances. It is safe to say that on the next visit of The Great Wallace Shows to this vicinity there will be even greater appreciation of the promises which the management made and kept.

The management also claimed that the shows are lofty in the conception, regal in appointment, and pure in character. This is all true, and more especially the latter. There is nothing in any of the many and varied features of this great show to cause a blush on the cheek of the most modest.

The show is full of many features of exceptional worth, and most of them have no equal in the world, and the \$10,000 challenge that the world does not hold their equals has not and will not be taken.

Another thing which shows that the management is dealing fairly with the public is the fact that two Pinkerton detectives are with the show, to insure that there shall be no pocket picking swindling and other devices from those attending some circuses suffer.

A pleasing feature of the great shows is that there is a genuine band, made up of 36 musicians, and not an aggregation of amateur performers. This band renders music, and not the combination of discords made by some so called bands.

Indeed there is no feature of the great combined show which is not first class and far above the average, and no one need hesitate about going and taking their wives and families or sweethearts, and they can rest assured they will be well entertained. Anyone who has seen The Great Wallace Shows is sure to go again, because some of the features are so novel and startling that one could not tire of seeing them.

In Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and America, the five great continents Shaker medicines are used by suffering humanity for the cure of sickness and disease.

Never was there such universal demand, never such wonderful results. Shaker Digestive Cordial, a cure for indigestion, is prepared from herbs and roots, and is a natural remedy, which cures by and by nature, and not by fighting her.

Shaker Digestive Cordial cures those fat who have become corpulent, by restoring the system to its normal condition. It restores the system to its normal condition, and is a natural remedy, which cures by and by nature, and not by fighting her.

It relieves the symptoms of dyspepsia and after using for a reasonable time, finally cures the complaint. Sold by druggists. Trial bottle 10 cents.

LIGHTING'S DEADLY WORK.

Severe Thunder Storm Near Winston-Salem.

ONE WOMAN KILLED INSTANTLY.

And Seven Others Severely Shocked.

Two of Them May Not Recover.

Meeting Broken Up.

Greensboro Telegram, Oct. 11th.

Last night about 7 o'clock, as the congregation was assembling for services at Union Ridge church, about two and one-half miles south of Salem, a bolt of lightning struck a tree near the church, and descending it left the tree and struck the assembled people, instantly killing one woman, a Mrs. Huntley, and severely shocking several others.

A man by the name of Heitman, standing in his wagon, was only slightly shocked, while his wife and several others who had just alighted from the wagon, were seriously hurt, two of whom it is thought will not recover. Mrs. Heitman's baby was thrown some distance from its mother, but strange to say it was not hurt, while the mother was badly injured.

The meeting was broken up and great excitement and confusion prevailed.

The lady killed and those who were most severely shocked all lived near Cenerville, a suburban village of Winston-Salem.

DROUGHT IN THE WEST BROKEN.

Heavy Rains Fell in Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas.

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 10.—Specials to The Times from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Arkansas points announce the breaking of the drought. The rain has been general throughout Kansas, varying from a good rain to a regular downpour.

At Wichita there was a precipitation of three inches. Other reports of good rains in Kansas come from Independence, Emporia, Hutchinson, Concordia, Greenleaf, Frankfort, Stockton and Atchison. A heavy rain fell at Springfield, Mo., and reasonably good rains are reported at Little Rock and Siloam Springs, Ark., and Nebraska City, Neb.

The prolonged and disastrous drought was broken this evening by a heavy rainfall, which appears to be general over this section, Centralia, Mo.

Little Rock, Ark., A drought of more than two months duration was broken today. Light rains fell throughout this section and the temperature dropped several degrees.

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 10.—Late tonight rain fell here resulting in a steady downpour, which promises to be a drainer. This is the first rain in two months.

Evansville, Ind., Oct. 10.—There was a hard rain here tonight, the first in three weeks. It is believed that the drought in this section is broken.

Louisville, Ky., Oct. 10.—The prolonged drought in this state was broken tonight by light showers. Indications point still further precipitations.

Cincinnati, Oct. 10.—Rain began to fall here at 1:30 o'clock this morning with every appearance of becoming copious and continuous. It is the first in four weeks.

TO OVERTHROW CIVIL SERVICE.

Chicago Man Visits Lincoln to Obtain Bryan's Help.

Lincoln, Neb., October 9.—E. S. Stoll, ex superintendent of the Chicago post office, is in Lincoln seeking the cooperation of W. J. Bryan in a movement looking to the overthrow of the present civil service rules, in order to elect those made effective by Mr. Cleveland's act under Mr. Bryan's sanction at this time and necessary in other ways.

Mr. Stoll says that the crusade which he is furthering is widespread and sure to succeed. It is proposed to hold a convention, probably at Cincinnati, in the near future, when a permanent advisory service association will be organized.

While Mr. Stoll is working in the interest of the removal of the central states, his other pet schemes are enacted in California and New York.

Mr. J. W. Munson has been appointed post-master at Charlotte to succeed Mr. L. R. Robertson.

TENNESSEE IS BURNING UP.

Want of Rain Will Cut the Wheat Acreage Short.

Nashville, Tenn., October 10.—Another week has passed without rain in middle and west Tennessee and the same report comes from each and every county of failing streams, springs and wells, of the utter destruction of all vegetation and an entire impossibility to do farm work.

The ground cannot be plowed and the acreage to be put in wheat will be cut short. The money loss to the farmers of this state will be great. Forest fires have done great damage.

THE LONG DROUGHT BROKEN.

Rain Comes to the Relief of Some Distressed States—Kansas Still Suffering.

St. Louis, Oct. 10.—The long drought that has been so disastrous in this State, Nebraska, Texas, and other Southwestern states, was broken today by a copious rainfall. Kansas, however, did not share in the blessing and the condition of a large part of the State is most distressing.

Stock is perishing for lack of water, railroads are burning fire guards for protection against prairie fires, and the farmers are locking their wells against travellers.

Louisville, Ky., October 10.—The drought was broken in western Ky. today, when heavy showers fell. Indications are to night that the entire State will have rain before morning.

The Voter's Place in the Game.

Washington Star.

"Politics is a very curious institution," remarked the baseball enthusiast.

"It gets very much mixed up sometimes," his friend replied.

"Yes. There is wrangling between the parties, and it's hard to tell just how anything is going to come out."

"But the voter nearly always gets the worst of it."

"Of course he does. The voter isn't anything but an umpire in the game."

The New Road.

Salisbury World.

The Southern's new line via Mooresville, the North Carolina Midland, is now being pushed rapidly along. It is expected, we are told by a railroad man, that this road will certainly be completed by the middle of next March and that by the latter part of that month trains will be running regularly over it.

There is no longer any doubt about the road being built as originally designed. In fact, there has never been any doubt about it, various idle and incorrect rumors to the contrary notwithstanding.

Cuba's Next Captain-General.

MADRID, Oct. 9.—General Ramon Blanco, who is to succeed Gen. Weyler as Captain-General of Cuba, will be accompanied by Gen. Arderino, who is to act as second chief in command, or Deputy Governor, in place of the Marquis of Alameda, Gen. Gonzales Parrado, chief of staff, and Gen. Pardo, Bernal and Canella.

On October 16th San Juan will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his birth in a manner of once novel and original. Just fifty friends, one for each year of his life, will be invited to this birthday celebration, and the guests will come from every part of the United States, says Tom Watson's paper.

The old man who looks out at the world with clear and healthy eyes can not help feeling great gratification at the thought that his children have inherited from him no weakness nor tendency to disease. The healthy old man is the man who has throughout his life kept his digestion good and his blood pure. Not one in a thousand does so. Germs go through the healthy body without effect. Let them once find lodgment or let them find a weak spot, they will develop by the million and the blood will be full of them. Instead of giving strength to the tissues, it will force upon them nutritious matter, and the man will lose flesh and the more susceptible he is to disease. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the only medicine that absolutely and infallibly cures all blood diseases, and almost all diseases are some blood disease. It isn't a medicine for some one particular disease. It is a medicine for the whole body. It forces out all the germs of disease and replaces impurities with rich, red blood.

Three Valuable Books Given Away.

"ART AND FANCY WORK," "NURSERY RHYMES," "HOME DYEING."

Mrs. Nellie Daggert, editor of The Home, has published a new edition of her popular book, "Fancy Work and Art Decorations," that gives practical instructions for making doilies, table covers, scarfs tray cloths, pin cushions etc. with fifty illustrations. This book together with "Nursery Rhymes" a 16 page pamphlet with a handsome colored cover design of the Old Woman who lived in a Shoe, and "Successful Home Dyeing," will be sent free to any reader of the Hickory Press who forwards the following coupon to Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.

COUPON.

This entitles any reader of the HICKORY PRESS to one copy of "Fancy Work and Art Decorations," "Nursery Rhymes" and "Successful Home Dyeing."

The above liberal offer is made to advertise the old reliable Diamond Dyes, and to get their book upon home dyeing into the hands of women who want to dress well by making their old clothing look like new.

Diamond Dyes have special dyes for cotton, different from those that are used for wool, and are the only package dyes on the market that can be relied upon to give colors that will not fade or crock. The fact that Diamond Dyes have been the standard home dyes for nearly twenty years and that their sale increases from year to year, is proof positive that they have never had an equal.

Maiden Dots.

MAIDEN, Oct. 12, 1897.

Mr. Robert L. Foard was married Sunday to a Miss Carpenter, near Lincolnton. The happy couple arrived in Maiden yesterday where they will make their future home. They are stopping at Mr. E. D. Fox's. We wish them a long, happy, prosperous life.

Mr. Jacob Abernethy is building a fine house on his tract of land about four miles from town.

There was a fine rain fell here yesterday.

The Harvest Home services at Matthews was a grand occasion. The house was crowded and the church was beautifully decorated. Maiden was well represented.

Mr. D. M. Carpenter made a flying trip to Charlotte yesterday. He will return today.

Mr. Will Gall is confined to his room. We hope he will soon be able to be out again.

Rev. Carrol Smith, of Conover, was visiting in Maiden last week.

Rev. T. C. Heston received a new buggy last week which was manufactured at his father's shops at Littletown, Pa. The buggy was neatly finished and painted by his brother, who is a carriage painter, and trimmed by an intimate friend. Horse blankets and lap robes were presented by his brother in law, and his harness was made by an uncle. The buggy will long be remembered by him, being made at his old home and by his near relatives. "Poodle."

Evangelist Lee is holding a meeting in Charlotte this week.

Mr. J. H. Ramsay has been appointed post-master at Salisbury.

The ranks of the Lynchites or "Sanctified Band," at Southport, are being recruited quite largely. More "arks" loaded with their followers are arriving there. It is said that these people are afraid to go any further South, and so will abide at Southport.

Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption.

This is the best medicine in the world for all forms of Coughs and Colds and for Consumption. Every bottle is guaranteed. It will cure and not disappoint. It has no equal for Whooping Cough, Asthma, Hay Fever, Bronchitis, Diphtheria, La Grippe, Cold in the head and for Consumption. It is safe for all ages, pleasant to take, and, above all, a sure cure. It is always well to take Dr. King's New Life Pills in connection with Dr. King's New Discovery, as they regulate and tone the stomach and bowels. We guarantee perfect satisfaction or return money. Free trial bottles at Shuford Drug Co.