

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 1893.—President Cleveland was no more disturbed by the seeming discourtesy of the Senate in adopting a resolution, asking for copies of all State department documents relating to Hawaii, than he was of the senseless clamor which followed the publication of Secretary Gresham's recommendation on the same subject some weeks ago. Before the resolution was introduced he had given orders that all documents be copied for the purpose of sending them to Congress with the special message on the subject which he stated in his annual message would shortly be sent in. The message and accompanying documents are all ready and they will go to the Senate this week, and some of those documents will not make pleasant reading for republicans, either in or out of Congress. They will show a long series of plotting that is entirely opposite to what has always been the recognized foreign policy of the United States.

Your correspondent had a little chat with Chairman Wilson concerning the tariff bill. He said that the bill would be reported to the House this week, probably on Wednesday, and that he had been agreeably surprised at the weakness of the democratic opposition to the bill. The question of submitting the bill to a democratic caucus is still an open one. Personally Mr. Wilson is indifferent, being perfectly satisfied to leave it to his democratic colleagues to decide whether to hold a caucus on the bill or not. He thinks that the permanent benefit which the bill will carry to millions of our people will far outweigh the hardships that it will temporarily impose on thousands, and that in the end it will be generally regarded as one of the best tariff laws ever placed upon our statute books. He looks for minor changes in the bill, both in the House and in the Senate, but not for any changes in its underlying principals—the welfare of the masses rather than that of the favored few.

The internal revenue bill has not been entirely completed, but it probably will be this week. It has been definitely decided to double the tax on cigarettes; to tax playing cards, and to tax inheritances. The income tax is still undecided, but the probability is that the tax on net incomes of corporations, which was first agreed upon by the committee, will remain in the bill, the understanding being that those members of the committee who favor a personal income tax instead will be at liberty to offer that as a substitute for the corporation income tax and leave it to a majority of the House to decide which, if either of them, shall remain in the bill. Representative Bryan, of Nebraska, who is recognized as the leader of the democrats on the Ways and Means committee who favor the personal income tax, has not abandoned hope of winning in the committee. He said on the subject: "The fact that the corporation tax would bear heavily on many people with very limited means, while the individual tax would be collected from the wealthy who escape taxation in many forms, is having its influence. If the tax is levied on incomes the rich will pay their proper proportion which they do not at present and would not under the corporation tax." A compromise has been suggested by which both corporation and individual incomes will be taxed.

The first result of the work of the joint Congressional committee which has for months been investigating the methods of the executive departments of the government will be seen when the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill is reported to the House. That bill will make some radical changes in several of the Departments, all in the interest of economy and a more prompt transaction of public business. Among these changes will be the abolishment of the postal note and of several bureaus of the Post Office department, the work of which is not considered necessary. This is only the beginning of the work of the committee, which has three expert accountants aiding in locating all unnecessary handling of public accounts and duplication of work. Its intention is to put the government business upon the same basis as that of the railroad or other big private concerns before it gets through, but it is already finding it a hard task as the employees of the useless bureaus appear to have more Congressional

friends that any other class of government employees.

Democrats in the House are determined that the bill admitting Utah to statehood shall be passed, and if the republicans persist in filibustering to prevent a vote upon it, as they did last week, it will be made a party question and forced to a vote under an order from the committee on Rules.

The Senate will this week begin the consideration of the election repeal bill. Senator Hill will lead the democratic forces.

How the New Tariff Bill Discriminates in Favor of the South.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 28.—The sectional character of the new tariff bill is very marked. While ad valorem duties are substituted for the specific, yet when it comes to Southern products and industries the specific rates are retained. In the woolen schedules the specific duties are all abolished. In the cotton schedule the specific duties are retained. There are cotton mills in the South, and that section of the country is interested in cotton generally. But in wool and the woolen business its interest is comparatively slight. Nearly every product of a Northern farm is put on the free list. But rice is retained at a specific rate of duty, which amounts to about 100 per cent. Apples and other fruits and vegetables of the North go on the free list, but there is no reduction in the high specific duties on oranges and lemons. The specific duty on peanuts, an exclusively Southern product is retained, but peas and other Northern products go on the free list. Binding twine, salt, lumber and other industries in which the North is largely interested are put on the free list. But refined sugar, something which is consumed by every man, woman and child in the United States, and which is wholly under the control of a giant monopoly, is protected by a specific rate of duty. To be sure, it is small, but if there is any justice in putting salt, binding twine, cotton ties, fruit, vegetables and the products of the farm on the free list, then there is more reason for putting refined sugar on the free list. But it is a Southern interest, and a specified duty is retained on that account, while bone char, and some other things used in its manufacture, are put on the free list. Stone for building purposes goes on the free list. But marble in which Tennessee is largely interested, is kept on the dutiable list without any reduction in rate. The sugar bounties are retained for a period of eight years at a progressive rate of reduction on the ground that there are vested interests in sugar which need protection.

From Rutherford College.

It may interest your numerous readers to know that Rutherford College, an institution of Burke County, is finishing up a most prosperous calendar year, with an annual roll of 173 students, of which number fifteen have been preparing for the Christian ministry, and five at least are now knocking at the itinerant doors for admission into the Conference.

During the year none have died; one was expelled, two were reprimanded, and but a small per cent. received demerits for violation of school laws.

The exercises of the year have developed the fact that mild, moral, rational treatment of young ladies and young men, is a more potent element of successful control than rigid, dogmatical rules.

R. L. A.

The new French Cabinet is regarded as a "makeshift," and the talk is that it will hardly last beyond two months. But when Mr. Gladstone went into power it was prophesied often that his Government would soon go to pieces. But it holds on after nearly a year, and is perhaps stronger to-day than when it began business. There have been something more than twenty changes of the Ministry since the French Republic started some twenty-two years since. The truth is that all over Europe there is great unrest, and nothing but the great armies keep revolutions and riotings down. The *Buttton Herald* takes this view, and tries to sustain it in what it says:

"To all intents and purposes, Europe is a vast republic similar to that of the United States, Canada or that federation which lately sprung into existence in Australia. Commercially it is so, and the effort to maintain national boundaries between countries whose industrial and political ambitions ought to be the same has resulted in practical failure.

Times are ripe for changes of great magnitude in the countries beyond the sea."—[Wilmington Messenger.]

ELOQUENT DEFENSE.

Judge Wing, Coughlin's Counsel, Fighting For the Life of His Client.

"There has never been made out such a case of circumstantial evidence against Daniel Coughlin as would warrant his imprisonment for a single day, and when this case is concluded you will agree with me. Injustice is often committed in the temple of justice. I tell you that a judge or jury who would send a man to die in prison because of errors is a murderer as guilty as any who ever died upon the scaffold. But in these modern times men are sentenced to death or to prison through inexcusable errors, and the men who make them suffer no remorse. There are committed in court rooms murders as atrocious as any perpetrated outside."

Thus, in stentorian tones, and with his right arm sawing the air, ex-Judge Wing addressed the jury this morning in outlining the defense in behalf of Coughlin. It was the most vigorous address that has so far been made in the case. The court-room was packed, and the wife of the ex-detective, as on yesterday, sat in the front seat within the rail. It was evident from the opening sentences of the address of the senior counsel for the defense that reliance would be placed upon the hypothesis that evidence against the last survivor of the last trial would be purely of a circumstantial character.

Judge Wing impressed upon the jury the idea that, in cases where conviction depended upon circumstantial evidence, that evidence should be carefully analyzed, and should be weighed by both judge and jury before the prisoner at the bar was condemned. Jurors, judges and lawyers should view circumstantial evidence as doctors diagnose diseases, they should view it from all points. All circumstances should be unexplainable on every other hypothesis than the guilt of the accused. The counsel quoted numerous criminal cases in this and other cities by way of illustrating his argument that circumstantial evidence was unreliable, and should always be construed in favor of the defendant on trial. He held the court-room breathless, and his energetic manner of speech made an evident impression on the jury.

Mr. Depew For President.

The case with which Chauncey M. Depew obtained an extraordinary audience with the Pope, as narrated in the *World's* cable dispatches, has been the subject of a great deal of comment.

It appears, however, that he carried with him from this country letters of introduction to the Pope from Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Corrigan, the two most eminent Catholic prelates in this country. These letters hinted strongly, if they did not say so in fact, that Mr. Depew would probably be the next President of the United States, that he was a most liberal-minded man in both his religious and his secular views, and that the Catholics of the State of New York liked him very much.

Banker Eugene Kelly said last night: "Mr. Depew will be the next Republican candidate for President. I am a Catholic, and I know something about the Catholic sentiment in this State, and particularly in this city. I can state most positively that this sentiment is in favor of Chauncey M. Depew for President."

"The Catholics like him because of his liberal views on all public questions. In Mr. Depew's opinion it is not a crime to be a Catholic. He believes that this country is for everybody and that no discriminations should be made in regard to religion. Besides that, he is an able man, perhaps the ablest man in this country to-day, taking him all round, and it would be an honor to the country to elect him President."

Mr. Kelly denied that there was any truth in a story to the effect that Mr. Depew went to Europe as the representative of a number of prominent Catholic bankers to secure a portion of the Papal funds for deposit in this city. He commented as absurd and without the slightest foundation in fact.

He added: "I don't think the Pope has any surplus funds to invest just now."

J. Pierpont Morgan knew nothing about such a report, and Archbishop Corrigan refused to have anything to say about it.

War on the Lords.

Last night's action of the House of Lords in adding a "contracting-out" amendment to the Employers' Liability bill is practically accepted by the Government as a declaration of open war against the principle of the bill. If the Lords stand firm this must precipitate a conflict, which, very possibly, will end in the speedy dissolution of Parliament and an appeal to the people of Great Britain on the great issue of "mending or ending" the House of Lords, with Home rule and other Liberal measures as the subordinate questions.

In fact, the News deliberately intimates this morning that the entire bill must now be abandoned "until the House of Lords has been dealt with." When it is remembered that Arnold Morley, the Postmaster-General, is the chief owner of the News, the significance of this statement becomes apparent, as it doubtless was inspired by Mr. Gladstone and the Cabinet.

The *Chronicle*, a recognized and able organ of the masses, goes further still. It says:

"The attitude of the Lords is an invitation to a trial of strength which, for aught we know, may bring us nearer revolution than any political questions since 1832. The challenge will, we hope, be instantly taken up."

If, then, as appears now certain, the Government refuses to compromise with the Lords on this amendment, the bill in its entirety must fail. It, therefore, seems most probable that the Government will regard the time as propitious for an appeal to the country upon the rejection by the Lords of a measure which is most popular with the masses of all Great Britain—far more generally popular than was the Home rule bill.

In this event Prime Minister Gladstone may force a dissolution before January is over, and Great Britain may then be plunged into a conflict more momentous than any since that when, on March 19, 1649, "the Commons of England assembled in Parliament, finding by too long experience that the House of Lords is useless and dangerous to the people of England," did ordain and enact "that from henceforth the House of Lords in Parliament shall be and is hereby abolished and taken away, and that the Lords shall not from henceforth meet or sit in said house called the Lord's house, or in any other house or place whatsoever as House of Lords."

The return of Charles II brought about a revocation of this act, but it does not seem improbable that it may now be re-enacted after another 245 years.

An Enthusiastic Cleveland Man's Views on Recent Events.

Perhaps there was no more ardent advocate of the nomination of Mr. Cleveland for the presidency than Cashier Jacob Haas, of the Capital City bank. In season and out of season he has extolled the wisdom and patriotism of the president. The recent message of Mr. Cleveland, however, has not been altogether satisfactory to Mr. Haas.

"Why," said he the idea of taxing corporations and exempting individuals is the most absurd proposition ever made to the people. It means that all the idle wealth of the country is to be exempt, while the property of the poor, the trust funds of widows and orphans, invested in active business, are to be laid under heavier tribute. Here are our railroads now under receiverships all over the country. Not only have they gone down under the exactions already made, but under a corporate income tax the man does not live who would ever see them on their feet again. Every widow with \$100 invested in a share of stock from which she expected to get a return will be taxed, while the big money princes of New York and Boston will go free. Yes, sir, I am in favor of an income tax upon individuals, one which will increase in amount as the income grows larger. If money is to be protected by the government, let the money pay its tribute, not according to the number of people who happen to have it, but upon its own account. I confess I cannot see why Mr. Cleveland has taken the stand he has. He is certainly not considering the situation of the country at large, outside of the exclusively money centers. I am also in favor of the repeal of the 10 per cent tax on state banks, and I hope that congress will go to work and carry out the wishes of the people."—[Atlanta Constitution.]

STATE NEWS.

The act to prevent fraudulent assignments, passed by the last legislature, takes effect Jan. 1, 1894. After that date parties making assignments, will find more stringent requirements than the present law demands.

The United States government pays Mrs. Stonewall Jackson a pension of \$8 per month as the widow of Lieut. Thomas Jonathan Jackson. Stonewall was first Lieutenant in the First Artillery, United States army, in the Mexican war.

Lieut. Shipp, U. S. A., who has been visiting in this city for several months, has been assigned to the Davis School at Winston as military instructor by Secretary Lamont. Lieutenant Shipp was born and reared in North Carolina, and is a son of the late Judge Shipp, of Charlotte. He has a fine record in the army, and the action of Secretary Lamont will give great satisfaction.—[Raleigh Observer.]

An effort is being made by an experienced hop raiser of Washington to establish the growing of hops as a money crop in the French Broad valley. Mr. K. J. Justus, of Bowman's Bluff, has leased his river farm in that vicinity for five years to John Waske, who will begin operations this spring by planting five acres in hops. Mr. Waske's confidence in the ultimate success of his venture is manifest in the fact that he will bring his plants for the five-acre start from Washington at an estimated expense of \$150; move his machinery for baling the crop for market at an additional cost of \$150; build the necessary barns for saving and curing the crop at his own expense.—[Hendersonville Times.]

Most of the prominent papers in North Carolina are advocating a day being set apart during Christmas week to raise funds in every nook and hamlet in the State to aid in erecting a monument, not especially to the ranking officers of the Confederacy, but many unknown graves, cover the remains of the truest patriots of our land. Let not the youngest child of the State in ages to come regret that he or she failed to lay a stone in the monumental pile. It is earnestly requested that every Vice President of the Association in North Carolina provide a means on Christmas day to collect funds. The ladies of Raleigh are zealously at work preparing Confederate scenes and music for the occasion.—[Raleigh Observer.]

Georgia's Claim on Uncle Sam.

The Georgia Legislature is taking steps to press a claim for \$200,000 against the Federal Government for part of the purchase money for the territory now embraced in Alabama and Mississippi.

When this territory was ceded, commissioners agreed April 24, 1802, on \$1,250,000 as the price. It is certain that \$1,000,000 of this was paid, but the Federal Government claims certain offsets, the amount of which has never been determined.

Georgia made an effort to have the case settled just before the war of 1812, another just before the Mexican war and a third just before the war of the rebellion. The wars presented action and now the fourth effort is to be made.

One of the greatest burdens the people of this country have to bear is that of the arrest detention, prosecution and punishment of the criminal classes, and how this expense has grown, in one State at least, is set forth in startling figures by Gov. McKinney, of Virginia, in his message to the legislature Wednesday. Yesterday's dispatches told us that he shows that the criminal expenses of his State have increased from \$78,000 in 1860 to \$321,000 in 1893—exactly 400 per cent. There is no reason to suppose that Virginia's case is exceptional, and certainly that State has witnessed no such increase in population or wealth as could allow it to be said that the increase in crime is in a ratio with them. We have no doubt that if a comparative statement, such as the Governor of Virginia has made, were shown for North Carolina, our people would stand appalled.—[Charlotte Observer.]

If you would know more about Jesus talk less about the weather, politics and frivolous topics, and more about him?