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WASHINGTON LETTER.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL WILL BE PASSED OVER THE PRESIDENT'S VETO.

Memorandum to Gen. Grant—Silver Democrats Stirred Up—The Treasury Deficit, Etc.

WASHINGTON, June 1st, 1896.—While no republican in Congress contends that the River and Harbor Bill which Mr. Cleveland has vetoed and which will this week almost certainly be passed over his veto is a perfect measure, or that any previous bill of its kind was, every republican in both branches of Congress will vote to pass the bill over the veto, because they believe it is, taken as a whole, a good measure and that the improvements provided for will mostly, if not all, be good commercial investments which the republican party has always fostered and believed in. Besides these reasons, the failure of the bill to become a law would result in large losses by reason of the stoppage of many important improvements now under way.

It is now regarded as certain that Congress will not be in session later than next Monday or Tuesday, and there is a strong probability that adjournment will take place during the latter part of the present week.

Although the President, Vice-President, and every member of the Cabinet except Secretary Morton were in Washington the only member of the administration on who attended any of the memorial day exercises was Secretary Herbert, who is an ex-Confederate. This has been commented upon to a considerable extent, as there was no excuse other than want of inclination why these officials should not have paid their respects to the memory of the men who gave up their lives to make it possible for them to hold their present offices.

A majority of Congress feel reluctant to adjourn without doing something definite for Cuba, but any attempt to do anything would start an indefinite debate which might do more harm than good, with no certainty that anything could be done, anyway.

Senator Squier, as the first step towards the erection of a suitable memorial to Gen. Grant, has introduced a bill providing for the creation of the Commission, composed of the Secretary of War, the Chairman of the House and Senate joint Committee on the Library, and the Architect of the Capitol. The duties of this commission will be to secure from leading artists and architects, plans and estimates for a monument, each artist or architect being at liberty to make his own, and the estimated cost of the same. All of these plans are to be reported to Congress. After consideration, Senator Squier concluded that this was a better plan than that of his original bill, providing out-right for a monument to Gen. Grant. He wishes the monument to be the best that can be suggested, and believes the creation of this commission is the best way to get it.

The silver democrats are considerably stirred up over a consultation which Mr. Harrity, the Chairman of the democratic National Committee, had with Mr. Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle while he was in Washington. The consultation would not have worried the silver men much, as they knew that all the parties present had been doing all they knew how to do to down them for many months, had it not been for Harrity's announcement means that some trick has been concocted by which Harrity feels certain of defeating the silver men at the Convention.

The Treasury deficit for the month of May exceeds \$3,000,000, and for the eleven months of the fiscal year is pushing \$27,000,000, and these figures are made as favorable as possible by democratic Treasury officials.

To make Senator Brice mad you have only to mention Mr. Cleveland's name to him. He thinks of C. what the late Wm. H. Vanderbilt once said of one of his sons-in-law. The trouble all came about through the fight between the silver and anti-silver democrats in Ohio. Although Senator Brice has had no love for Mr. Cleveland since the tariff fight which resulted in the substitution of the Gorman tariff bill for the original Wilson bill, some time ago called on him and told him that he would help to

prevent the silver men getting the Ohio delegation to the Chicago convention. According to his friends, Mr. Cleveland gladly welcomed his offered assistance. It was not long, however, before Senator Brice found out that the "sound money" democrats were expected to become a mere Cleveland machine, to vote for him or for any man he might name, in case they got to Chicago. He also found out that instead of his being credited for what he was trying to do, the Cleveland men were steadily trying to break down his influence in the party. He threw up in disgust, and now says he doesn't care what the Convention does.

The political gossips are all busy trying to figure out what was talked about at a conference between Senator Quay and ex-Senator Platt. These gentlemen met Saturday night, and it is fair to infer that their talk was interesting.

A DAY OF FUNERALS.

And the Burial of Many Dead Had to be Postponed for Lack of Facilities.

ST. LOUIS, May 30.—One hundred and twenty-eight victims of Wednesday's horror were laid to rest to-day in the cemeteries in East St. Louis. The total of interments would have been larger but for the fact that the facilities of the undertaking establishments were inadequate to the sudden and pressing requirements of the situation.

Quite a number of these establishments were in one or another of the numerous paths made by the tornado, and carriages, hearses and coffins by the score were reduced to kindling. Hence the demand upon those of the mortuaries whose plants were in order, were doubled and as a result there was more or less confusion and painful annoyance. No pretense was made of observing a time schedule and in many cases the bereaved relatives and mourners sat from early morning until late in the day awaiting the coming of the funeral equipages. Hearses did treble and quadruple duty, the hearses being driven at break-neck speed from the cemeteries to the devastated districts as rapidly as their loads had been deposited at the door of the vault or by the side of the grave. In several instances a single hearse bore three caskets, one containing the remains of an adult and the others those of the little ones. At the graves the services were abbreviated and the address of eulogy or condolence was dispensed with. The interments in this city were divided between Calvary, Bellefontain, St. Peter and Paul, Pick and Hebrew cemeteries, the first named two receiving the greatest number. Between the hours of 8 o'clock this morning and 3:50 this afternoon the processions continually passed over Geyer avenue thoroughfare leading to the grave yard of St. Peter and Paul.—Ex.

ACROSS THE CONTINENT.

C. L. Glover to Waik from Asheville to San Francisco.

C. L. Glover of Asheville set out at 7 o'clock this morning for a tramp across the continent, to carry out his decision to walk from Asheville to San Francisco without a cent for expenses, except such money as he shall realize from the sale of certificates of membership in "The Footman" club of Asheville.

On the route Mr. Glover will sell these certificates, the subscriber being given receipts showing the number of shares to which he is entitled in the club. When he has completed his long journey Mr. Glover will write his experiences and publish a book, "The Footman," a copy of which will be furnished to subscribers for each share held.—[Asheville Citizen, May 28.]

Starved Himself to Death.

About a month ago Mr. John A. Edens, who lives at Holly Ridge, thirty-five miles from Wilmington, on the Wilmington, Newbern & Norfolk Railway, was seized with the hallucination that his family and friends had entered into a conspiracy to poison him. He, therefore, stopped eating and no amount of inducement could be held out to him to take even a mouthful of food. He also refused to allow a doctor to give attention, and the result was that he died of sheer starvation last Thursday. For twenty-five days he had not eaten a bite.—[Wilmington Messenger.]

DIFFICULT

TO SECURE ABLE SEAMEN

For the Warships of the United States.

ALTHOUGH WAGES ARE HIGHER THAN IN ANY OTHER COUNTRIES.

American Navy Mostly Made Up of Foreigners—Defects That Require Uncle Sam's Attention.

The possibility of a war between this country and Spain over the recognition of Cuban patriots as belligerents brings the question of the United States navy prominently before the American public. Any war that might arise between this country and a European power would be fought mainly on the sea. Even the small nation of Spain ranks with the United States in naval ships and armament.

England, during this fiscal year, will spend \$110,000,000 on her navy, and she has always a sufficient number of men to man her ships when they are launched and ready for commission. But it is vastly different here. It is with the greatest difficulty that a crew can be secured for the various American warships when ready for commission.

It is a remarkable fact that about 60 per cent of the seamen in the American navy are foreigners. When the Chicago was the flagship of the White Squadron, in 1891, only 10 per cent of the crew were Americans, according to the private diary of Commodore Joseph N. Miller. There is something wrong with the present system of securing United States seamen. No other country has the trouble and difficulty that is experienced by the naval officers of this country and this in spite of the fact that the United States pays a higher rate of wages to the sailors than any other Government. Not only do they receive higher wages but they are also given better rations and greater liberty. The able seamen in the English navy receive \$12 13 and ordinary seamen \$8 89 a month. A small rate in addition is given for badges and length of service, generally amounting to about two cents a day for each badge and four cents a day for renewed enlistment. An English man-of-warman enlists for ten years, but they go into the service as ordinary seamen, and are thoroughly trained before they are sent on a commissioned man-of-war. There are no landsmen in the British navy of any country outside of the United States. The following table gives the pay per month, with rations, of the seamen in the American navy:

Seamen, first-class—	
Able seamen, gunners	\$26
Able Seamen	24
Apprentices	21
Seamen, second-class—	
Ordinary Seamen	19
Apprentices, second class	15
Seamen, third-class—	
Landsmen	16
Apprentices	9

Five dollars per month in addition to their regular pay is allowed to seamen in charge of holds and to landsmen assigned to duty as Jacks-of-the-Dust or as Lamp-lighters.

Any person who, after having enlisted in the navy for a term of three years and received an honorable discharge or a recommendation for re-enlistment, upon the expiration of his term of service, re-enlists for three years within three months from the date of his discharge, receives an increase of \$1 per month to the pay prescribed for the rating in which he serves for each consecutive re-enlistment.

Twenty cents per month is deducted from the pay due each officer, seaman and marine in the navy, to be applied to the fund for naval hospitals.

The pay in the United States Navy not only exceeds that of any European country, but also that of the Atlantic liners, which is \$19 08 a month for able seamen.

When the Olympia was commissioned for the Asiatic station last year the officers at Mare Island, San Francisco, had the utmost difficulty in get-

ting a full crew. The executive officers of the warship were on the shore at San Francisco, begging men to join the United States service. The same difficulty was found in securing a crew for the battle ship Texas.

The men secured for the Olympia could not be designated men-of-war-men. They were simply common every-day merchant seamen who had no knowledge of the use of guns or arms. In the event of war a crew of this kind on board of a warship might be the means of losing an important battle. The old times when seamanship won the day have gone by. The modern war vessels have neither sails nor yards, and in many instances they are equipped with only two short masts for electric light purposes and carrying of small guns in fore and main tops. The man-of-war-man of to-day and the crews in general of the navy of every country must be thoroughly drilled in guns and accurate use of small arms.

If three cruisers or battle ships were put into commission this week, they might probably be in some of the Eastern harbors for three or four weeks before the naval officers could fit them out with a crew.

The whole fault lies with the present system of securing apprentices for the navy. In England, boys ranging from 10 to 16 years of age who are brought up before a Magistrate for general misdemeanors are sent to a naval training ship, and not to a reformatory prison, as in this country. The boys receive an education on these training ships, and are taught all kinds of modern gunnery practice and seamanship. Boys under 15 years remain on board one year, and those who are 16 years of age remain two years. As a result of this system there is a continual supply of ordinary seamen for the British navy.

The United States Navy Department has the following training ships where boys may enter: Richmond, harbor coast, Newport, R. I.; Minnesota, New York City; Wabash, Boston; St. Louis, navy yard, League Island, Philadelphia; Dale, navy yard, Washington, D. C.; Michigan, Erie, Penn.

A boy to enter any of these training ships must be from 14 to 17 years of age, and must have the consent of either his parents or guardian. He must be able to read and write the English language and must be not less than 4 feet 9 inches tall, 70 pounds in weight and measure 26 inches around the chest. A boy of 16 must be 5 feet 1 inch tall, weigh 90 pounds and have a chest measurement of 28 inches. All boys must remain in the service until they are 21 years of age and they are paid \$9 a month at the commencement and a free outfit of clothing not exceeding in value the sum of \$45.

There is a naval Reserve body in several of the states.

ASSISTANCE FOR ST. LOUIS.

The House Provides for Temporary Necessities of the Sufferers.

Washington, May 28.—All interest in the House proceedings to-day was overshadowed by the St. Louis horror. A resolution was passed directing the Secretary of War to place at the disposal of the mayors of the stricken cities a sufficient number of tents to provide for the temporary necessities of the homeless, and to render such aid as might be in his power. Mr. Bartholdt, of St. Louis, who saw Secretary Lamont to-day, said there were eight or ten boats used in the Mississippi river improvement which might be able to render assistance, and these will be ordered to the scene of the disaster if necessary.

Free Silver Wins in Oregon, Too.

PORTLAND, Ore., June 1.—10 p. m.—Owing to the exceedingly slow count it is difficult to forecast the result of today's elections, but returns up to this hour indicate that ex-Governor Pennoyer will be elected mayor of Portland. For Congress, Ellis, Republican, the free silver candidate, leads Northrup, sound money, by about 5,000 in the second congressional district. In the first district, Vandenburg, free silver Populist, holds a plurality of 500 over Tongue, Republican.

Indications are that the free silver candidates will triumph and that Senator Mitchell will succeed himself in the Senate.

JOHN LOWLOW.

The Great Clown Dying at his Sister's Home in Cleveland, Ohio.

Less than a year ago, says the Winston Republican, old John Lowlow, the greatest of clowns, made his reappearance in Winston-Salem with Sells Brothers' circus. From there he went to Greensboro and in conversation with editor Joe Reece, of the Record, he told of his prospects this year. Lowlow did not like the modern three-ring show, and said he was going to start up this year and be around next fall with the old Robinson style of circus. Alas! for all his dreams! To-day he lies dying at his sister's home in Cleveland, Ohio. No man in the ring was ever treated with the social courtesy that Lowlow was. His mother wit took him where men of his station were seldom admitted. John Lowlow was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1841, and is therefore, 55 years of age. He was left an orphan early in life, and begun to scuffle for himself. His uncle sent him to the University of North Carolina, but after getting a little learning he ran away and soon after attached himself to old John Robinson's circus in Savannah as lemonade-seller. From that he was promoted to the ring and finally began his life-long engagement with the Robinson's in 1856. He never left the Robinson's but once, drawing always a salary of \$150 per week. Last year he was with Sells, but intended next fall to revive the Robinson circus and make a tour throughout the South. Lowlow's name was Lawlow, but the first time it appeared in print it was spelled "Lowlow," so he let it go at that. There has never been a clown to equal Lowlow. He had no rival. His family consists of a wife and one son, a lawyer, who lives in Cincinnati.

Two Gracful Acknowledgments.

SALISBURY, N. C., April 23d, 1896.—The indirect benefit which results to the public from patronizing home institutions has been brought home to us recently in such a way that we desire to call attention to a special instance of it.

The Southern Stock-Mutual Insurance Company of Greensboro, N. C., has been doing business here a little more than a year, and the money which our people have paid this company for fire insurance has come back to us multiplied several times. This company has just made a loan of \$4,000 to the Central Land Company, of Salisbury, of which the undersigned are directors, and with the proceeds of this loan many homes are being built on the Central Land Company's property to accommodate Salisbury's increasing population.

Here is a very practical demonstration of the advantage of fostering home institutions. The money which the people of Salisbury paid last year to the Southern Stock-Mutual Insurance Company has not been carried to New York or Liverpool; but has come back to our doors increased four-fold. [Signed] JOHN S. HENDERSON, President;

N. B. McCANLESS, Vice President; P. H. THOMPSON, Manager.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., May 26th, 1896.—We desire to cite below an instance of the benefit which North Carolina enterprises, if encouraged and fostered, can be to our public institutions. The Asheville Library Association has just secured a loan of \$2,000 on its building and lot on Church street, and it happens that the lender of this amount is the Southern Stock-Mutual Insurance Company of Greensboro, N. C. This company has been writing insurance in Asheville for something more than a year, and now brings back in the form of this loan every dollar that has been paid to it by Asheville property-holders.

Such institutions that tend to keep among us the money that we pay out cannot be too well supported.

[Signed] GEORGE S. POWELL, President; HAYWOOD PARKER, Vice President; W. B. WILLIAMSON, Treasurer. J. G. HALL & SON, Agents, Hickory, N. C.

North Carolina's 77 Railroads.

The new blanks prepared by the Railroad Commission shows that there are seventy-seven railroads in the State. These range from the Milton and Sutherland road, which has a quarter of mile in the State, to the Carolina Central 264 miles long.

The Chatbam Record says that work will begin at Cumbock coal mine more extensively than ever.