



No. 203. This quarter-sawed oak writing desk is polished like a piano. It has a 9-inch beveled plate glass in top and a deep drawer below. Artistic French legs, also finished in mahogany.

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(Mail orders filled promptly.) We will mail anyone, free of all charges, our new 113 page Special Catalogue, containing Furniture, Draperies, Lamps, Stoves, Crockery, Mirrors, Pictures, Bedding, Refrigerators, Baby Carriages, etc. This is the most complete book ever published, and we pay all postage. Our lithographed Carpet Catalogue, showing carpets in colors, is also yours for the asking. If carpet samples are wanted, mail us 3c. in stamps. There is no reason why you should pay your local dealer 50 per cent. profit when you can buy from the mill. Drop a line now to the money-savers.

**JULIUS HINES & SON,**  
Baltimore, Md.  
Please mention this paper.

**\$8,000 FIRE AT MT. AIRY.**

The Cause Was Probably Incendiary-Flames Spread Rapidly and Enveloped a Number of Buildings.

MT. AIRY, N. C., Dec. 11.—Fire broke out this morning at 4 o'clock in Graves' livery stable. Soon the residence of Mrs. J. W. Cook was on fire. It spread rapidly to W. A. Poindexter & Co.'s store, then to the postoffice building, McRae's store and to the large Graves warehouse, all frame buildings and burning rapidly.

The loss, about \$8,000, covered by one-third insurance, Welsh and Worth, owners of Graves' warehouse, Kapp and Hampton, owners of the postoffice building, and Poindexter & Co.'s store rooms, being the heaviest losers. The fire was probably incendiary.

**Insurgents Won't Surrender.**

HAVANNA, Dec. 12.—The plans of the insurgents to strike a blow near the city have been checked, according to the official account, but the concentration of their forces is such as to make it unlikely that the insurgent band will surrender, as the Spanish authorities have been hoping.

The business concerns of the city are much discouraged by the actual situation. They do not now look forward to a speedy end of the revolution. All say they have abandoned the hope that the insurgents will surrender or accept the conditions of autonomy.

**News From Hayti.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Official confirmation reached here to-day telling of the Haytian cabinet. The advices show the feeling of resentment against the United States to be very bitter, because President McKinley didn't intervene to prevent humiliation by Germany. Material injury to our interest is feared. The new cabinet, it is expected, will be entirely anti-American in sentiment. The Marblehead has been instructed to stay at Port Au Prince, as unfavorable developments are feared.

General Blanco announces a brilliant victory over the insurgents. He has probably been reading with covetousness the account of Weyler's enthusiastic reception. But then Weyler was a creative genius while Blanco is only a poor imitator.—Greensboro Telegram.

**WASHINGTON LETTER.**

**WILLIARD'S HOTEL.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.

The first week of the Congressional session has passed without a ripple of excitement or an incident of note. No session of Congress in years has opened with so little stir or show of political interest. Members were slow in arriving, slipped quietly into their places and have not generally been as talkative as is sometimes the case. But all this quiet on the surface of things is only indicative of the seriousness with which both Congressmen and the public view the business of the session and its subsequent results. The situation is such that we can have war, or two or three wars, if we will, and the material condition of the country is still such as to call for the most careful and thoughtful consideration of the various problems of finance and Governmental policy. The prosperity that has been looked for is not yet visible to the naked eye.

The fact that the committees were already appointed and the organization of the House complete simplified the preliminary work of this session of the 55th Congress very greatly, and business could begin from the start instead of the usual process of "killing time" until after the holiday recess. Some of the committees, notably the Ways and Means and the Appropriations, have already considered much of the business before them, and the latter has several of its bills nearly ready to report to the House. This, it has been said, will conduce to a shortening of the session, though the talk on that point so rife a few weeks ago seems to have subsided. The fact is, nobody can foretell at this time what the length of the session will be or what results may come out of it. The general belief now is that the President's recommendations will be pretty nearly followed out so far as the House is concerned; that nothing will be done in regard to Cuba at present; that Hawaii would be annexed if it rested with that body to decide it, but that there will be no currency legislation of any sort.

Speaker Reed came back to Washington this session in a brand new suit, of modern cut, and sports a necktie as red as a Plymouth Rock rooster's comb. He now raps the House to order each day with a gavel made from the wood of an apple tree that grew by the side of a log cabin near Lowe's Ferry, Tenn., in which Admiral Farragut was born. It was presented to him by some admirers from that region, and with one solid whack, as he steps to the elevated chair, brings everybody to the position "eyes front!" Over on the Senate side the most observed by frequenters of the gallery is Senator Hanna, who has no red necktie but is more than usually florid of countenance. As one correspondent puts it, he came back to the Senate wearing the look that belongs to a man who succeeded in getting over the fence just as the pursuing bull hooked off the top rail.

The promise of gay times at the White House this winter for the galaxy of youth and beauty that has been staying in and about there has been sadly nipped in the bud by the hand of the fell destroyer. Where it was hoped there would be gayety and pleasure commensurate with the

joyous spirits of a bevy of pretty girls, all will be tinged with sorrow and mourning. Probably even most of the usual official functions will this season be omitted.

By reason of his position at the head of the Appropriations Committee of the House, Representative Cannon is the logical successor of Mr. Holman as the watch dog of the Treasury, hence he is talking cheerfully about getting rid of the deficit by simply cutting the expenses of the Government down to the receipts. But even Judge Holman would have found that a difficult task under the present conditions, President McKinley's recommendation that the appropriations for general expenses be reduced by \$20,000,000, regarded as an unwitting admission that the Dingley bill is not a success as a revenue producer. It produces juicy "revenues" for the trusts and monopolies as it was intended to do, but fails to do what was expected of it for the Government, as the enormous deficit shows.

**BIG MAIL ROBBERY.**

Amount Involved Said to be About \$100,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—It was learned to-day that one of the biggest robberies in the history of New York police occurred Nov. 9th. The amount involved is said to be in the neighborhood of \$100,000, and was taken from registered letters in the railway mail service on that section of the Central Railway of New Jersey known as the New York, Somerville, and Easton branch. On November 9th, it is stated, two bags containing \$30,000 were taken. How long the defalcations had gone on before that date has not yet been ascertained.

Major Charles F. Lewis, of the Philadelphia branch of the Government Secret Service, was in this city to-day, investigating the robbery, which has been kept secret until now by the postal authorities.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE REPORT**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 10.—The postal officials here to-night admitted that there had been a number of losses of registered mail matter reported on the railroad referred to, but said that up to date no definite advices had been received as to the amount. It would probably, however, reach as much as \$100,000.

**The Surprise of All.**

Mr. James Jones, of the drug firm of Jones & Son, Cowden, Ill., in speaking of Dr. King's New Discovery, says that last winter his wife was attacked with La Grippe, and her case grew so serious that physicians at Cowden Pana could do nothing for her. It seemed to develop into Hasty Consumption. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in store, and selling lots of it, he took a bottle home, and to the surprise of all she began to get better from first dose and half dozen dollar bottles cured her sound and well. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, is guaranteed to do this good work. Try it. Free trial bottles at Morris' Drug Store.

**Weyler Talks.**

MADRID, Dec. 13.—Gen. Weyler declared in an interview today that the Spanish government would find means to avenge the insults contained in McKinley's message as well as the traits of intervention.

**WEDDING AT REIDSVILLE.**

The Marriage of Mr. Dixon Sykes to Miss Mollie Scoggin—Their Home Will be in Monroe.

REIDSVILLE, N. C. Dec. 14.—The marriage of Mr. Dixon Sykes, of Monroe, and Miss Mollie Scoggin, of this place, occurred at the First Baptist church this afternoon, at 5 o'clock, Rev. J. A. Monday, officiating. Numerous friends of the contracting parties from all parts of the State were in attendance, and it was one of the prettiest marriages ever seen here. The groom's brother, Professor Walter Sykes, of Wake Forest College, was best man, and Miss Louise Burton was maid of honor.

Among the visiting attendants were Misses Alice and Virginia Lamberth, of Thomasville; Miss Maggie Scoggin, of Oxford; and Messrs. Sykes of Monroe, Martin, of Thomasville, and Lamberth, of Lexington.

A reception was given last evening at the home of the bride, which proved to be a most enjoyable occasion.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Sykes took the South-bound train for Monroe, their future home.

**MRS. MCKINLEY DIED SUNDAY.**

Services Was Held in the Old Church at Canton, and the Presidential Party left Immediately.

CANTON, Ohio, Dec 14.—The funeral services over the body of Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley, mother of the President of the United States, who died here at the family home-stead early Sunday morning will occur at 1 o'clock to-day at the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

The interment will be in West Lawn Cemetery, and immediately thereafter the President and officials from Washington, who accompanied him here, will leave for Washington.

**Free Pills**

Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you in their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c. per box. Sold by

J. De Morris' Druggists.

Ex-Congressman Thomas Settle says the future of the republican party in North Carolina is not bright. Mr. Settle has doubtless been losing confidence in the party ever since Kitchin cooked his goose in the fifth district.—News and Observer.

**This Tells Where Health May be Found.**

And that is more important than making money. If your blood is impure, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the medicine for you. It cures scrofula, salt rheum, rheumatism, catarrh and all other diseases originating in or promoted by impure blood and low state of the system.

Hood's PILLS are easy to operate. Cure indigestion, headache.

**Lost—\$10.**

On Dec. 1st I dropped on the floor in front of the cashier's desk in the People's Bank. \$10. Whoever found it will greatly oblige by letting me know.

R. I. SATTERFIELD,  
At, N. C.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

**ROYAL BAKING POWDER**  
Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

**Col. J. D. Cameron Dead.**

Col. J. D. Cameron died at his residence in Asheville, Thursday morning at 8.45 o'clock. For several years he had been in declining health and was unable to do active work.

John D. Cameron, a native of Orange county, was a member of a distinguished family. He was the oldest journalist in the State and had been a well known figure in North Carolina for many years. As an editor and a leading politician he held a prominent place among the journalists of the old school. Some years ago he wrote a number of sketches of North Carolina which were widely read. For a number of years he edited the Hillsboro Recorder, which was moved to Durham, and he edited it there for some time. He has a large circle of relatives and friends in this section who will regret to hear of his death.

Col. Cameron was seventy-six years of age, and the cause of his death was a general breaking down of his health.

Ex-President Cleveland and ex-candidate Bryan are both hunting ducks. The situation is likely to develop some rivalry between the partisans who give out the figures on the result of each day's sport for publication.—Washington Star.

**A New Year's Gift Heralded.**

The measureless popularity of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters has been the growth of more than a fourth of a century. As in the past, the coming new year will be ushered in by the appearance of a fresh Almanac, clearly setting forth the nature, uses and operations of this medicine of world wide fame. It is well worth perusal. Absolute accuracy in the astronomical calculations and calendar will, as before, be valuable characteristics, while the reading matter will include statistics, humor and general information, accompanied by admirably executed illustrations. The Almanac is issued from the publishing department of The Hostetter Company at Pittsburgh, and will be printed on their presses in English, German, French, Welsh, Norwegian, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish. All druggists and country dealers furnish it without cost.

Even some of our extreme eastern Senators are becoming aroused to the enormous pension steals which are being perpetrated upon the government and are planning for Legislation to check the same. If the matter had been investigated years ago the government would have been many million dollars better off today.—Winston Journal.

If one expects to get a square meal, he must pay a round price for it.

A woman's glory in her tresses. All above them, at least, at the theater, are distress.