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WASHINGTON NEWS.

No Objection if Gen. Miles Cares to Take Charge of Massachusetts Militia—President will not Appoint Kansas Man—Japanese Minister Recovering—British Officer will Get a Present—Other Notes.

Correspondence of the Enterprise.

Washington, Dec. 27.

Governor-elect Douglas, of Massachusetts, wants General Miles to serve him as Adjutant-General of the Bay State militia. It is said at the War Department that there is no legal objection to General Miles serving as an Adjutant-General of the Massachusetts militia by the Governor's appointment if he chooses to do so, regardless of his detail by the President under the Dick law. In that case, however, he would receive no additional compensation from the government beyond his regular retired pay of \$8,250.

It will look a little funny for a former Lieutenant-General of the United States Army to act in the capacity of Adjutant-General of a State, but, of course, General Miles is his own boss, so long as he performs his semi-military service in the United States.

Kansas is out one Pension Commissioner—or will be after January 1st. Kansas members of Congress have been interviewing the President with a view of having some other Kansas man appointed in the place of Colonel Eugene Ware, who will gladly lay down the cares of a thankless official position very soon. The President said decidedly that he would not appoint a Kansas man. The President probably did not care to go through again his experience of a few years ago, when he offered the Pension Commission to Kansas, and then went through about six weeks of—in fact, he is said to have remarked that what he went through with Kansas politicians was something that rhymes with "well." All of a sudden Kansas went right up into the air, and about 40 men were presented to the President by as many different factions. The President knew a trick worth half a dozen of that, and so he appointed Colonel Ware. Colonel Ware was a personal friend, and he was not looking for office. In fact, he objected to being appointed to office. But the President wouldn't have it that way, as he wanted to get out of the Kansas troubles gracefully. Colonel Ware accepted and the President says in his annual message to Congress that there has never been a better Commissioner of Pensions. But, just the same, the President isn't going to go through with that factional fight again. He went over into Missouri, and offered the office to Maj. William Warner, Post Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. Major Warner declined with thanks. The President is in a dilemma. Those that he wants won't have it, and those who are crying for it he won't have—and there you is, honey.

The Japanese Minister, Kogoro Takahira, who was recently operated on for appendicitis, is still in New York, and very weak, but is reported to be slowly recovering.

The public schools of the District of Columbia celebrated their centennial anniversary, Monday, De-

ember 5. The School Board did not hold a meeting till six months after the establishment of the schools, which meeting occurred August 5, 1805. Thomas Jefferson, then President of the United States, was elected one of the trustees, and contributed \$200 to the support of the schools.

Commander Nugent, commanding the British gunboat Algerine, will receive from the American government a handsome gold watch as an evidence of this government's appreciation for his services in rescuing 33 seamen of the crew of the American steamer Mineola wrecked off Kamchatka.

By the death of Senator Hoar, Senator Platt, of Connecticut, falls heir to the handsomest committee room in the United States Senate. Senator Hoar was Chairman of the Committee on Judiciary, and Senator Platt succeeds him as Chairman, thus getting the committee room.

That the President has always strongly favored the Navy is very well known, but he has shaken up Army circles by referring to the Navy first in his annual message, letting the stronger, older, and more popular branch of the service, the Army, follow. His references to the Navy are much longer than those on the Army, too.

For Inland Waterway.

The Baltimore American says: Secretary Clarence H. Forrest, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, will represent that body at an interstate conference to be held at Columbia, S. C., December 28, to discuss a project for a 16-foot inland waterway between Norfolk, Va., and Beaufort, N. C., by way of Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds. The idea is to advance the interests of commerce from the South and save vessels laden with lumber and other bulky cargoes from the dangers of Cape Hatteras. The plan as outlined has already been reported to Congress, and the object of the conference is to push the matter. The government is also interested in the plan, because of the value this waterway would be in time of war against this nation. The government practically has an inside route for its torpedo boats from Maine to the Chesapeake capes, and there is strong belief that it will take up the matter of a system of waterways continuing from Norfolk to the east coast of Florida. The plan is to barge all the bulky cargoes, which could be done at a much cheaper rate than is charged by the sailing vessels and steamers. It is figured that such a plan would mean much to the lumber trade of Baltimore, should it go into effect.

Bank Notice.

The Wake County Savings Bank will open for business at its banking room No. 16 East Martin Street, on Tuesday, January 3, 1905, at nine o'clock a. m.

All deposits received on or before the 10th day of January will begin to bear interest from the first day of the new year.

W. W. VASS,
Cashier.

LETTER FROM BILKINS.

The Major Had a Pleasant Christmas—Relatives and Friends Visited Him—Mrs. Bilkins Objects to Games—Troubles of Those Who Would not Take Advice.

Correspondence of the Enterprise.

Well, Christmas hez cum an' gone; that iz the 25th hez, fer most people count hit Christmas up ter the first ov January. Sum people take Christmas awl the year. I don't. Enuff iz enuff ov anything.

I reckon' Betsy hed a purty nice time Christmas, but she don't seem ter be in much ov a gude humer yit. The prisent that she didn't git seems ter be a wuryin' her sum. But I am goin' ter make up fer that after while, next summer, maybe. I'm goin' ter take Betsy ter the seashore or ter Fuquay Springs or Chalybeate Springs; she kin take her choice. It iz a long time off, but hit iz a gude idea ter be layin' plans. She wont need eny furs then an' kin hev a big time prancin' around the summer resorts. I fooled her last summer an she wont let me git outin' ov her site next summer. So I'll take her ter the same place I go an' try ter lose her so I kin hev a big time. Hit iz a gude plan ter take your wife rite erlong when she gits sorter crossways an' looses confederence in you. Then awl you hev ter do iz ter stick rite by her side till she gits erquainted with sum ov the other ladies an' they git her talkin' erbout their clothes. Then she will want you ter make your self scarce. That iz the sikologickal moment when I will take on new life an' hev awl the fun that kin be squeezed out ov a summer resort. They iz more than one way ter kill a dog.

Well, sum ov our kin folks cum Christmas an' sum ov the nabors happened in. We had sumthin' gude ter eat an' tole yarns and played games. Betsy iz down on games, so we hed ter play 'em under protest. She thinks hit iz a criminal offense ter play flinch, panick an' awl them things. If she hed got inter society she would hev bin playin' pergressive uker before now.

I see that there hez bin the usual ermount ov drinkin' an' rowdyizum durin' the holidays, notwithstanding my request that people quit playin' the fool. Murders, fites, fires, axidents, peepie shot, peepie cut, skulls cracked. Sum ov them will hev ter go ter court. They hev paid too much fer their whistles, az my ole friend Ben Franklin uster say. Better take my advise hereafter an' you will feel better.

Oneasy lies the head that wears a crown. I wouldn't swap my job az consterable with the czar ov Russia. I'll bet he haint slept sound in ten years. Hiz people air raisin' cane awl the time an' the Japs are on top ov him an' awl over him. One day he iz reported dead, the next he iz alive, but unpopular. But he mite hev it easier if he would let the people run things. He orter do like the winnin'—pretend that hiz subjects air runnin' ov the country, but be a runnin' ov it himself awl the time. At any rate he will never hev eny fun in bein' a great ruler az long az he hez the people a thinkin' that they air

bein' imposed on. The Czar wants ter reform.

Yours,

ZEKE BILKINS.

Life in the Old Land Yet.

"There is life in the old land yet." That is especially true of North Carolina, the "good old North State." Charlotte, Greensboro, Durham, Raleigh and Goldsboro are growing rapidly, and Greenville, the county seat of Pitt County, on Tar River, in the center of the best cotton and tobacco lands in the South, has caught the spirit of enterprise, and is putting in a complete public water plant, and electric lighting plant. What Greenville needs, and will soon have, are tobacco manufacturing plants in competition with Durham and Lynchburg, and cotton spinning mills, to spin the cotton and manufacture the tobacco so abundantly grown in Eastern North Carolina.—Freeport, Ills., Journal.

The Winter Fashions.

The definite changes in fashion to be noted affect the bodice and sleeves, the bust being raised, the lines of the waist fitted and the shoulders wide and high. The graceful full skirt has had a long reign, and now we have as a possibility panelled skirts with short overskirts in panier style. These are, in fact, promised for spring.

The dart is back again—the old-fashioned seam that runs in pairs at each side of the bodice front and fits it to the figure like a glove—as is also the designs showing straighter sleeves, which bring the curves at the waist-line into greater prominence.

This season the separate wrap forms more than ever an important part of a complete outfit, and it is essential that the wrap should harmonize perfectly with the general color scheme if it does not match exactly the shade of the dress. The dolman, which found its way into favor last spring, has been given a definite place. Indeed, the big sleeve vogue, the end of which is not yet, finds use for cane and flowing sleeve effects. Even in dressy bodices is the leg-o'-mutton sleeve introduced, and the softly drawn-down effects have displaced the exaggerated blouse modes formerly in vogue.—From The Delineator for January.

Armor-Plated Boys.

One of the chief means of protection to our great battleships are huge armor plates. It is important in these days that there should be armor-plated boys. A boy needs to be iron-clad on:

His lips—against the first taste of liquor.

His ears—against impure words.

His hands—against wrong-doing.

His feet—against going with bad company.

His eyes—against dangerous books and pictures.

His pocket—against dishonest money.

His tongue—against evil speaking.

The Christian armor on her citizen gives more security to the nation than all the armor plates that are on her ships.—Exchange.