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FRIDAY MARCH 11 20th 1891.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 16, 1891.

Mr. Harrison has given no sign that he intends to remove the present head of the Pension bureau, notwithstanding the damaging facts brought out by the Congressional so-called investigation into the peculiar business methods of Gen. Raum, although he has had his attention called to the matter by a very prominent member of his party, who, I have reason to know, told him that Raum and his wild-cat speculations and his proven obligations to the king of the pension sharks was more than he should attempt to carry. Raum has within a week, boasted to a personal friend that he was all right and would not be disturbed.

A democratic Representative said to me to-day: Looking at the matter from a political point of view, I hope that Harrison will not kick Raum out now, because, if he is left in his position until next winter the democratic House will snow him and his methods up in a manner that will disgust all decent men, whatever may be their political affiliations, and it will help us greatly in the Presidential campaign. But whether Raum goes or stays we shall investigate the Pension Office, which I am satisfied is honey-combed with fraud, that can easily be discovered, if it is fearlessly and honestly looked for.

The air of mystery which always prevails around the State department is just now very much intensified, owing to the fact that Mr. Blaine and Sir Julian Pauncefote are deep into the negotiations preliminary to the arbitration of the Behring Sea question, which Mr. Blaine is pleased to think or to pretend to think that he has compelled Great Britain to accept, although all the rest of the world knows that he never made the slightest progress toward a settlement of the dispute, until he returned to the position maintained by Mr. Bayard under the Cleveland administration. These negotiations are not conducted at the department. Oh, no. There are too many prying newspaper men always on the watch, so whenever Mr. Blaine has any very important business on hand it is transacted at his private residence. The administration feels very much relieved at the prospect of a peaceful settlement of this question, having last fall become fully satisfied that the sentiment of the country was opposed to any unnecessary display of "jingoism."

Mr. Harrison was anxious to find a good reason for not appointing the new Circuit Judges created by the late Congress until next winter, doubtless believing that the longer they can be held the greater their value in votes at the next republican national convention, so he referred the matter to Attorney General Miller, expecting that he would render an opinion against his right to make the appointments during the recess of Congress. But the Attorney General, following the excellent example of Solicitor General Jenks in a similar case that occurred under Mr. Cleveland, has given his opinion in favor of the President's right to make the appointments at any time. Between this opinion and the clamorings of the republican applicants and their friends, Mr. Harrison will find it difficult to postpone the matter very long, although he still professes to be in doubt as to his right to make them until Congress is in session.

Treasurer Huston is again at his desk, although he cannot hide his anxiety to have his resignation accepted in order that he may feel at liberty to express his opinion of Mr. Harrison and his administration. An attempt was made to get him out of the way by giving him a foreign appointment, but he refused to be caught, and says that he intends to return to Indiana for the express purpose of taking an active part in politics, which is interpreted to mean that he will do his level best to prevent that state endorsing Mr. Harrison.

If things go on for a few days longer as they have for several days past, there will not be a democrat employee left in the government printing office. It is customary to largely reduce the force shortly after the adjournment of Congress, and that reduction is now being made, and the discharged people are nearly all democrats, or women who owe their appointments to democrats.

Prof. Charles W. Smiley, special agent of the Census for the collection of the fish and fishery statistics, is

under charges. His work is said to be practically worthless, although it has cost a large sum of money.

The adage "a woman is at the bottom of everything," is brought to mind by the claim of a female lobbyist, who by the way is also in the employment of the Government, that she killed the Wanamaker postal telegraph bill in the House Postoffice committee, and that the money she used was furnished by Jay Gould. Perhaps she is only trying to divert suspicion from the eminent republicans who actually did disburse Gould's money here.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Last week the ballot bill caused a windy war. This week the revenue bill comes up, and while it will likely cause infinite discussion, it will not be disposed of in a day, as was the former measure. It is made a continuing order until passed or defeated and may take up nearly all the legislative week.

In what shape it will find itself, when the house gets through with it, is a hard matter to predict. It was to be made a caucus measure last week, which might be taken as an indication that the republican majority does not intend to make a party matter of it. The fact is that the bill so completely revolutionizes the method of taxing corporate and other personal property that nearly every one is at sea upon it. Its supporters claim that it will fairly and justly equalize taxation and relieve real estate, while its opponents charge that it is unjust, impracticable and unconstitutional.

THE HOUSE.

Bills were introduced in the house by Mr. Wherry, of Cumberland, requiring dental colleges and dentists to have a magneto electro machine in their establishment; also providing for the protection of bona fide purchasers of land, who have purchased, believing the title to be valid; by Mr. Lytle, of Huntingdon, providing for the selection of a site for the erection of a hospital for the chronic insane; by Mr. Morrow, of Indiana, authorizing the Indiana normal school to place a mortgage of \$50,000 on its property; by Mr. Eby, of Lancaster, providing for the establishment of an additional orphans' court in Lancaster county; by Mr. Ransley, of Philadelphia, providing for the election of school controllers, the commencement of their terms, and terms of those now in office; by Mr. Stewart, Philadelphia, regulating the employment of janitors in cities of the first class; by Mr. Riter, Philadelphia, defining the status of fraternal societies, exempting them from the supervision of the insurance commissioners; by Mr. Gillan, Franklin, extending the act of '85 relative to jurors to criminal cases.

Mr. Brown, of Crawford, called up his resolution to place on the calendar the bill requiring railroads to fence their property in Crawford county. It was defeated by a vote of 87 yeas to 49 nays.

Mr. Tool, of Snyder, succeeded in having his fish basket bill placed on the calendar by a vote of 131 to 10, and Mr. Fitzharris, of Cambria, was likewise fortunate regarding his measure providing for the uniformity of text books. The vote was 103 to 34.

Mr. Baker, of Montgomery, called up his resolution to put on the calendar the bill providing for an annual meeting of representative school directors, but it was defeated by a vote of 72 yeas to 52 nays.

THE SENATE.

Bills were read in place as follows: By Mr. Grady, to protect the public highways, roads and streets within this commonwealth. [The bill requires that all wagons used in carrying heavy burdens shall have tires not less than six inches wide, common light spring wagon, pleasure wagon, &c., carrying less than 1,600 pounds, being exempt from the provisions of the bill, the penalty for violation being \$10 fine on each vehicle used without such six inch tire.]

By Mr. Robbins, to provide for the expense of the care and treatment of indigent chronic insane in county or city almshouses. [The bill provides for the payment by the state to counties \$1 on each chronic insane patient maintained.]

By Mr. Robinson, fixing the day of election officers at \$3 per day, except in cities of the first class.

By Mr. Rapsler, providing for the payment of losses occasioned by the killing of horses condemned by the proper state officers, under the act of June 2, 1887. [The bill provides for the appropriation of \$685 to pay owners for horses affected with glanders and killed by orders of the state board of agriculture.]

By Mr. Robinson, providing for the election of a clerk of the court of quarter sessions of Delaware county.

Mr. Grady reported from committee the sinking fund bill, and at his request that measure was read the first time.

The oppressed subjects of European governments turn to this country for free homes, free laws and for the free use of Salvation Oil for their pains.

It is the slight cold frequently contracted that finally undermines the system. Use Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup in the beginning stages and be cured.

A MOB IN NEW ORLEANS.

ELEVEN MEN LYNCHED IN PRISON.

The people of New Orleans last Saturday wreaked vengeance on the supposed assassins of Chief of Police Hennessy of that city, who were acquitted on Friday by a jury supposed to have been corrupted, and broke the power of the secret society called the Mafia which has terrorized that community for years past. Thirty people have been killed by them in the past sixteen years, and no convictions have followed.

A mass-meeting was held around the statue of Henry Clay at 10 o'clock and addressed by eminent citizens.

The crowd numbering several thousand, then proceeded to the Parish Prison, into which they forced an entrance, and there shot, beat, and strangled to death eleven of the Italians charged with Hennessy's murder.

Right or wrong, the events of that day have the moral support of a large proportion of the best citizens of New Orleans.

The following is given as a formal statement in behalf of the people, of the actuating cause which led to the tragedy as ascertained from interviews with a number of prominent citizens, some of them active participants in the stirring events.

On Oct. 15, 1890, about 11 o'clock at night, D. C. Hennessy, Chief of Police of the city of New Orleans, going from his office to his home, was waylaid and shot to pieces by a band of Italian assassins, armed with such blunderbusses as could only have been made and used for the purpose of assassination.

The indignation and excitement were such that mob law and lynching were about to be resorted to. The entire community felt that in the endeavor to reach the guilty parties innocent Italians might be sacrificed.

To allay the excitement and to assist the constitutional authorities, the Mayor of the city appointed a committee of fifty representative citizens to take charge of the investigations and to aid in the trial and conviction of the assassins. This method arrested violence.

The Committee entered upon its work, and, at a mass meeting subsequently held in front of the City Hall, the action of the Committee was ratified, and they were encouraged to continue their labors to secure the prosecution and trial by the courts.

After months of preparation and a trial which continued three weeks, and in which distinguished counsel assisted the able District Attorney, a jury charged to have been bribed and corrupted, in the face of testimony establishing their guilt rendered a verdict of mis-trial as to three and acquitted three. Three more were on trial and acquitted because of insufficient evidence.

The acquittal of Machea, the chief conspirator, and of Marchesi and Bagnette and the mis-trial as to Pollitz, Scofield and Monasterio, fell like a thunderbolt upon the community and impressed law abiding citizens with the conviction that the laws have been violated, that the verdict invited assassination and the engrafting of the Italian Mafia upon American institutions.

The feeling grew strong that for self-preservation the people must assume the authority which they had delegated to the courts and the courts were powerless to enforce; this feeling increased until it found vent in the mass meeting.

This uprising of the people to secure the punishment of the assassins who struck down their chief officer of police in the night time with assassination was orderly and the people dispersed quietly as soon as their work of vindication was done.

The facts given above are taken from dispatches that appeared in last Sunday's papers. Whatever the provocation may have been, it is not likely

ly that the deliberate judgment of the American people will approve of the action of the mob, even though led by "prominent citizens." Italian residents of this country are asking for protection, and the affair may lead to complications with the Italian government.

Senator Herring has introduced a bill providing for an additional law judge in Lycoming county.

The counties that will each lose a member of the Legislature under the next Legislative apportionment are Adams, Bedford, Bradford, Chester, Clarion, Columbia, Crawford, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lancaster, Lawrence, Mercer, Schuylkill, Somerset and Wayne. Allegheny will gain four members, going up from sixteen to twenty, and each of the following counties gain one: Blair, Clearfield, Jefferson, Lackawanna, Luzerne and Northumberland. Philadelphia will retain her present number of Representatives, thirty-nine.

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Our opening will be continued the balance of this week.

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