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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1894.

CONGRESS.

Congress will assemble again next week. It is not likely that much more than an organization and the arrangement of committees will be effected before the usual holiday adjournment. As at present constituted there is but little likelihood of sufficient harmony between the executive and the legislative branches of the government to warrant the conjecture that the expiring Congress will do much of anything either on the tariff or financial issues over which so much discordant feeling existed previous to election. It is intimated, however, that some action may be attempted upon the supplemental tariff-bills looking toward free raw material. If there are not some sarcastic farewell criticisms before final adjournment we shall miss our guess about it.

The Five Per Cent. Bonds.

In the matter of disposing of the 5 per cent. bonds there was not the least trouble about it. The chances are that bonds bearing a lower rate of interest would also have been taken. Hundreds of proposals were made and letters received from capitalists in the hope of patriotically helping the government, of course. Individuals wanted them and syndicates conspired and combined for their through love of country and the root of evil. In fact, considering that the interest is payable in coin, we wouldn't mind shouldering a million or two ourselves. Of course it would be somewhat more satisfactory if it were plainly stipulated that the accrued interest was payable in gold coin, as under the terms of agreement they might run in a lot of cheap silver on a fellow. At present writing it looks as though Drexel, Morgan & Co. in combination with a syndicate would gobble all the bonds the government now offers. 'Twas ever thus.

Contest Over a Judgeship.

In the matter of the contest for the office of President Judge of this judicial district the petition and necessary papers have been prepared and signed and will be presented to the proper authorities in due time. The law requires that at least fifty voters shall sign the petition and that it shall be presented to the Attorney General, and if in accordance with law a commission issues to the three President Judges in the counties nearest the court house of the most populous county of the district. These are Judge Searle of Montrose, Judge Archibald of Scranton, and Judge Rice of Luzerne. This commission will be directed to the Common Pleas of Wyoming county and as soon as issued the Judges will meet and proceed to a proper examination of the matters set forth in the petition and answer. We understand that before the next issue of the Democrat the papers will have been presented and the proper steps taken that will decide who was legally elected President Judge of this district at the election held week before last.—*Tunkhannock Democrat.*

The Postmaster General's Report.

In his annual report to Congress the Postmaster General advocates and recommends such a revision of the postal laws as will render it self-sustaining. Considering that the deficiency for the year ending June 30, 1894, was over \$9,000,000, it would take pretty clever revision to make up the difference. To cut down the cost of water transportation for mails and add about half thus saved to the pay of the struggling star routers and country postmasters would, we think, be a very good and popular scheme; but, though the proposition fairly bristles with equity, it is not likely the big boats, some of which have for years received as high as \$4 per mile for carrying the U. S. mails, will be the sufferers in the effort to curtail postal expenses. While little continental mail carriers are about starving to death, big ocean transports are controlling monopolies as usual.

The Postmaster General advocates the free-carriage of newspapers, and highly favors their free delivery to everybody but country people. Free delivery in the rural districts he thinks too costly; but in towns and cities where they have good pavements and short distances, it is all right for further extension on the same plan and basis.

A \$300,000 Steal.

The virtue and benefit of a change in bookkeepers, &c, is again demonstrated by the recent exposure of a \$300,000 thief in New York. He was a bookkeeper in the shoe and Leather Bank, and his peculations had been going on for nine years. This is considerable money to steal before being detected. It is quite likely that this respectable thief managed to get considerable high life out of that amount. His name is Samuel C. Seeley, and being very bright and pert, he knew just how to do it, and how any bright and "smart" young man can do it. Report says he was an old and long-trusted employee. But he seems to have patterned after Josh Billings' mule that used to behave itself six months at a time just to get a good chance to kick him. Mr. Seeley operated very cleverly through outside accomplices who were so called depositors at the bank. Frederick Baker, a bright lawyer of Broadway, is mentioned in connection with the requisite brans to secure the bulk of the boodle through the trusted bookkeeper, and cashier, Mr. Seeley.

The defalcation illustrates not only the benefit of change of bookkeepers, but also the importance of discarding the old and adopting the new and improved methods of doing things generally, the style of bookkeeping in banks being no exception to the rule.

The bank pursued the old-fashioned ledger-book method, which permitted this conspiracy to exist without detection. Under the old system no deposit slips are used, the depositor simply presenting a pass-book, in which the bookkeeper writes the amount of the deposit.

The scheme as worked by Seeley and his confederates was very simple. Seeley entered false credits on the pass-book for small amounts, charged them in another account, and carried these charges along in a clever way from year to year. These peculations began about five years ago, and had swelled to the total of \$354,000 when the discovery was made of the defalcation.

Some time ago the bank decided to change the system of keeping books and adopt a more modern method. Seeley immediately knew that his falsification of the books would be revealed, and disappeared a few days ago while the overhauling of the books was in progress.

The method was marvellous in its simplicity. When Baker wanted money Seeley would put down to his credit any sum that he thought right. This sum he would deduct from the account of some other depositor, one which was not usually disturbed by additions or with-drawals. This, of course, would not be discovered in a very short time, and when it would come time to balance this second account Seeley would simply transfer to it the necessary sum, which he would deduct from a third account.

In this way the books would show no shortage. Baker would get all the money he desired. This plan was made all the surer from detection by the fact that Seeley's ledger never went into the hands of any other bookkeeper, while at the same time he was allowed to write up the pass-books of all the depositors whose accounts he kept in his ledger.

Out of the vast sum thus stolen the outside accomplices are said to have gotten it all but about \$11,000 which Seeley admits came to him. And yet there are people who stoutly affirm that there is honor among thieves.

Baker the lawyer, who lived in fine style at his country home on the shores of Flushing Bay, seems indeed, to have had some sense of pride if not of honors, for he went and drowned himself.

The bank having a capital of \$1,000,000 and a surplus of \$200,000, can easily stand the defalcation without serious impairment.

Because of the defalcation and the unknown whereabouts of her husband Mrs Seeley is now dangerously and probably fatally ill. Thus we have but another record of the curse of vanity. It is, after all, but one of a number now daily revealed in the papers.

HOGGISH.

Gov. Hogg, of Texas, now indicates his purpose to issue requisitions on the governor of New York for a lot of other hogs, whom he claims have conspired to control and root others out of the coal oil market. The papers emanate from the grand jury of Mc Lennan County, Texas, and, at the instance of Attorney General Culbertson, John D. Rockefeller, Henry M. Flagler, J. D. Archibald, Benjamin Brewster, H. H. Rogers, Wesley Tilford, Henry Clay (not the immortal) Arthur Finley, C. M. Adams, E. Wells and others, are indicted and wanted by Gov. Hogg on account of their hoggishness.

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Hood's Pills cure nausea, a sick headache, indigestion and biliousness. 25.

Personal Impressions of the New Czar.

In the early spring of 1892 I was in the interior of Russia, and while there received an intimation that upon my return to the capital the Czarowitz would be pleased to see me. Accordingly, when I arrived at St. Petersburg, I was notified at what hour on the day following I could present myself before his Imperial Highness. At one o'clock I reached the palace, and entering its gates, was admitted and shown upstairs into the sitting-room, where I had to wait some moments.

In a few moments there came through the opposite door a trimly built young gentleman, whose boyish appearance made him seem even younger than he was, and not to exceed say one-and-twenty. He was clad in a simple gray uniform, entirely barren of ornament. He advanced and shook hands, with a frank and pleasant welcome that immediately put me at ease.

It was the year of the famine and I had been in Russia attending to the distribution of the flour which the American millers had sent over to the peasants. On this subject his Highness addressed me, in the excellent English of which the Russian gentleman is usually master. He desired, he said, through me, to thank those who had contributed to the relief of the unfortunate, and spoke with deep feeling of what the peasants had suffered during that dreadful year. He showed genuine concern for the condition of the people; but, turning from this, the Czarowitz said he was filled with wonder at the sympathy shown by the Americans, and while he appreciated the value of their aid, he marveled that a nation so far removed from Russia should have been so prompt and generous in its gifts.

The Czarowitz impressed me as a kind-hearted, amiable, wholesome young man, well endowed both mentally and physically to cope with the arduous duties of his great position, and as one who would conscientiously endeavor to do his duty under all circumstances. His eyes were straightforward, steady and strong, his forehead of good proportions, and his head well shaped. His figure was of medium height, but well knit and sprightly. He appeared to be in excellent health, and was clear-cut, straight limbed, and graceful—altogether an exceedingly attractive and pleasant gentleman, not quite matured, but without the slightest trace in his face or figure of either weakness or ill health.—*Harper's Weekly.*

A HANDSOME PAIR.

The Czarina of all the Russias is pretty as a picture if the newspaper cuts don't flatter her, and the Czar himself strongly favors Grant in his boyhood days. It is much to be hoped that the subjects of this newly wedded and highly elevated and respected pair may find much less occasion for terrorizing their lives than they had or thought they had in the case of the recently deceased and buried Alexander III. No doubt a higher order of civilization and christianization is quite possible with the anarchist Russian subject. Where cruelty and stringent government fails we think the more merciful conditions of simple Democratic government a consummation devoutly to be sought. The freedom of the press, unknown to Russia, we rather apprehend would be the greatest blessing that could befall both the rulers and the cowering subjects of this cold region.



Miss Katie Rosenkrantz, Uister, Penn.

Scrofula

The Worst Case the Doctors Ever Saw

Hood's Sarsaparilla Perfectly Cured "C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.: "Dear Sirs:—I wish to testify to the great value of Hood's Sarsaparilla. For some time I had been troubled with scrofula, which early last winter assumed a very bad form.

Sores Appeared on My Face and hands and gradually increased in number until they reached to my shoulder. The doctors said it was the worst case of scrofula they ever saw and also went so far as to say it was incurable. I tried ointments and other remedies but to no avail. A friend recommended Hood's

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures Sarsaparilla, and although I was completely discouraged, as a last chance I resolved to give it a trial. After taking one bottle I noticed the sores had commenced to heal. After the sixth bottle

They Were All Healed. I continued to take it, however, until I had used nine bottles, and now I am perfectly well." Miss KATIE ROSENKRANTZ, Uister, Penn.

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The Religions of China.

The eyes of the world are at the present time centred upon China. Particular interest is taken in the "Flowery Kingdom" by Christians. It is claimed that defeat in the present war would wonderfully open up the way for missionary work. China being now about the most unfruitful field for missions. Apropos of the progress of Christianity in the Empire, it might prove interesting to glance at the other great religions that hold sway there. Christianity counts for little so far, as not much has been accomplished, relatively. The State religion of China is Confucianism, which, though, is rather a moral code than a religion. It is exclusively the belief of the higher class, and emanates from Confucius, who was born in 525 B. C.

Taoism is another religion of the country, and consists in the belief in a multitude of spirits, who are supposed to influence the destiny of man. Buddhism is the great popular religion of China, and has had a foothold there since the first century of our era. It alone has nearly a million of priests. A strange thing about it all is that there is a bond of harmony between these three faiths, the adherents of each of them frequently being found at worship in the same temple. For example, the Confucians, of high caste, will worship in the Buddhist, or lower class temples, using the Taoist, or heathen ritual. This is more than can be said of a great many Christians, especially when we consider the great difference which exists between all heathen religions.

Lippincott's Magazine for December, 1894.

The complete novel for the December number of Lippincott's is "Mrs. Hallam's Companion," by the well-known writer, Mrs. Mary J. Holmes. It follows from America to Europe, and back again, the fortunes of a young lady who deserved a better position than that of a "companion"—and found it.

A short story by the author of "Dodo" will attract general attention. In this case expectations will not be disappointed, for Mr. E. F. Benson has written nothing better than "A Creed of Manners." If the hero's professions were moderate, either his creed was more than it seemed, or the man was better than his creed. To what heights gentlemanhood can raise is the burden of this beautiful and touching little sketch.

Miss Ellen Mackubin, who is rapidly coming to the front, tells of "A Live Ghost." "A Western Daisy Miller," by Claude M. Girardeau, has the flavor of the prairies, if not of the newer regions beyond.

Dr. Charles C. Abbott's account of "An Old Neighbor" reads like truth rather than fiction. True, too, and historical, are Charles Howard Shinn's recollections of "Don Jaime, of Mission, San Jose."

Calvin Dill Wilson has an interesting paper on "Shooting Bob White," and Alvan S. Sanborn another on "Living Pictures at the Louvre." Under the caption, "Shall I Study Medicine?" Dr. A. L. Benedict gives some valuable figures and facts concerning doctors and their various experiences.

Esme Stuart writes of "Some Notable Women of the Past," and copies some of their letters. The closing instalment of "Talks with the Trade" discusses "The Personal Element" in literary business.

The poetry of the number is by Florence Earle Coates, Susie M. Best, H. Prescott Beach, and Clarence Urmy.

What's Coal A-bringin' Now?

She sat before the cheerful fire And gazed into its gleam. Her lover said, "Her thoughts aspire In some poetic dream." Her red lips moved as if to speak, One white hand caught her brow, She turned to him with glowing cheek—"What's coal a-bringin' now?"

Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.

Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in 30 minutes, and speedily effects a cure. It is a peerless remedy for Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in Left Side and all symptoms of a Diseased Heart. One dose convalesces. Sold by W. S. Rish-ton. 6 15-17.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Society Leaders ARE Fashion Followers.

When the oracle Fashion speaks a world prostrates itself. She says to a certain class of merchandise, GO, and it goeth. To another, COME, and it cometh; and while her ways are not always ways of pleasantness, yet they are ways of changeableness, and life would be far more prosy and monotonous were it not for her varied dictations. She has set her seal of approval on the following garments:

COATS AND CAPES.

The new golf cape is daily increasing in popularity, and if you have been postponing your purchase to see if they're to be worn, you need delay no longer, as they are surely here to stay, this season at least. Rough Scotch Effects, with plaid, silk and worsted linings, at \$6.50 each.

The seal plush capes, in 27-inch, are much in favor this season, and while large dress sleeves are in vogue, their popularity is assured. 30-inch seal plush cape, with 108 inch sweep, price \$10.

FUR CAPES.

Here you will find representatives of the animal kingdom from far-off Polar seas, and, if you are in search of a warm, serviceable garment that will remove one-half the terrors of a cold winter, buy a fur cape. 27-inch Coney cape, satin-lined, full sweep, \$5, \$6 and \$7. 27 and 30-inch Astrakhan, 96 inch wrap, lined with silk serge, \$10 and \$12

CHILDREN'S GRETCHENS.

Some would have us think that anything is good enough for the children. We do not think so; but we select these garments with as much care and attention to style as any garment that comes into our store. We are showing a good assortment of some really choice styles, prices ranging from \$1.50 to \$10 each. When shopping below don't fail to visit our CLOAK ROOM and see what Fashion suggests this season.

GROCERY DEPT.

Canned goods are now again in vogue, and we are prepared to show you all kinds. The famous "Blue Bell" goods have no superior. The "Sunbeam" brand of corn is one of the finest and we recommend it. New evaporated California peaches and apricots. We sell Chase & Sanborn's celebrated teas and coffees. Holmes & Coute's marshmallows and Fig Newton crackers. Try them. They are excellent.

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will convince the best judges that he sells the best made.

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