

WASHINGTON.

Discordant Views and Vain Ambition Still Troubling our Senators.—House Caucus Deterrred.—The President indorses the Financial Plan of Secretary Carlisle.—Change of National Banking Law, perhaps.—Free Coinage also, perhaps.—The "Press Claims Co." Pressed because of Claims.—The Nicaragua Canal Bill Threatened.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, December 7, 1894.

The democratic Senators have made earnest efforts this week to agree upon a programme for the session. Two conferences have been held for the exchange of views, but the same old obstacle to harmony—too many different views and too many would-be leaders—still stands in the way. There is still hope, however, that some sort of an agreement may be reached, but it is altogether too much like the hope indulged in by a very sick man that he will get well to please those democrats who have no sympathy with the attitude assumed by certain Senators elected as democrats, at the last session, and which is still maintained by them. They then adopted a rule or ruin policy, and, notwithstanding the ruin which their rule has already accomplished they still stick to it.

The democrats of the House have deferred holding their caucus until next week so as to give the Senators time in which to decide what is to be done, or attempted, at this session.

That the democrats in Congress are doing some hard thinking on the financial plan proposed by Secretary Carlisle and endorsed by President Cleveland is shown by their reluctance to commit themselves at this time either for or against the proposed plan. The short time at their disposal will, of course, increase the chances against the adoption of such a comprehensive financial measure, although there is a disposition on the part of the Southern democrats to try to pass a bill embodying that part of the plan that provides for the exemption of the currency of such State banks as may adopt the regulations provided from Federal taxation. President Cleveland says he considers the plan proposed by Secretary Carlisle as the most statesmanlike financial document ever submitted to Congress, and that he proposes to stand by it to the end of his term.

A subcommittee of the House committee on Banking and Currency was appointed at the last session to consider the numerous bills before that committee and to formulate either from them, or as an original measure, something to take the place of the national banking law. Representative Cox, of Tennessee, is chairman of this subcommittee, and the other democratic members are Culbertson, of Texas, and Cobb, of Missouri, the republicans being Brosius, of Pennsylvania, and Haugen, of Wisconsin. Mr. Cox says the subcommittee will hold daily meetings until it has agreed to some measure to be reported to the full committee or has demonstrated the impossibility of reaching such an agreement. In addition to the financial bills introduced at the last session the subcommittee will consider the plan for increasing the currency of the National banks and for the exemption of the State bank currency from Federal taxation, under specified conditions, proposed by Secretary Carlisle and endorsed by President Cleveland. Unless there is a very decided change in the attitude of members of the committee there is very little probability of an agreement being reached, more's the pity, for something ought to be done.

Chairman Bland, of the House Coinage Committee, says he will endeavor to get that committee to report his free coinage bill to the House, and that if the committee does so the bill will certainly pass the House. While it is known that a majority of the Coinage committee favor free coinage, there are several of them who would not vote to report the bill to the House at the last session, because they knew it could not possibly become a law. Whether any of these gentlemen have changed their minds remains to be seen.

The "Press Claims Co.", of Washington, well known to the publishers of the country through its schemes to obtain advertising, is once more before the courts, as defendant, in a suit which has been brought by a Kansas City publisher, who wants \$840 in cash for the advertising he has done for the "Press Claims Co.", instead of the worthless shares of stock in that Company, which he says were misrepresented when the original contract, which he now wants canceled, was made. The suit is against John Wedderburn, manager of the "Press Claims Co." and William Hearst, of the "Examiner Bureau of Claims." Mr. Hearst has no connection with the concern, he having in a suit against Wedderburn repudiated the whole business, but he was at one time associated with Wedderburn, or rather his name and that of his paper, the San Francisco Examiner, was, in the "Examiner Bureau of Claims;" hence his figuring in the present suit. Notwithstanding the black eye given

the Nicaragua canal bill by the failure of President Cleveland to endorse it in his message, the friends of that measure are preparing to make a determined effort to push it through the House. Its principal opponents are democrats who believe the measure to be unconstitutional, and who say they will defeat it if possible.

Salt Rheum often appears in cold weather, attacking the palms of the hands and other parts of the body. Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, cures salt rheum.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, assist digestion, cure head ache. 25c.

NOTES FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA EXPERIMENT STATION.

Within the past year, a new feeding stuff called "cotton seed feed" has been quite extensively advertised in this and other States. This feed purports to be a mixture of one part of cotton seed meal and five parts of cotton hulls by weight, and is sold in car lots at \$11.50 per ton in bulk. It is specially recommended for fattening purposes but is also claimed to give good results in the production of milk and butter.

In a bulletin now in press, the Experiment Station gives the details of some experiments carried out to test the value of this feed. The feed has been examined as to its chemical composition, its digestibility, and its actual feeding value for dairy cows. The results of these experiments were in brief as follows:

The chemical composition was found, on the whole, to correspond very well to the composition claimed for the feed. Its digestibility was comparatively low, the total amount of digestible food present in the feed being somewhat less than in clover or timothy hay, and somewhat greater than that found in good corn-fodder, although the proportion of protein is considerably higher than that in either corn fodder or timothy. At the price named, a pound of digestible food in the cotton seed feed was found to cost about 34 per cent. more than in timothy or clover hay and 20 per cent. more than in corn.

Two experiments were made with dairy cows to test its value as a feed for milk and butter. In the first experiment a ration of cotton seed feed and bran produced 18 per cent. less milk and 10 per cent. less butter than one of corn-fodder, mixed hay, corn-meal, and cotton-seed meal containing the same amount of dry matter. The estimated net profit per cow per day was 17 per cent. less on the cotton-seed feed ration than on the hay and fodder ration. In the second experiment, a ration of cotton seed feed, bran, and Buffalo gluten meal produced 15 per cent. less milk and 6 per cent. less butter than a ration of clover hay, corn meal, bran, and Buffalo gluten meal, containing 2 1/2 pounds more grain and 3/4 of a pound more coarse fodder. The net profit per day and head, in this case, was 4 per cent. less on the clover hay ration than on the cotton seed feed ration, but it is probable that the cows on the clover hay ration were somewhat over fed.

The general conclusion drawn from these investigations is that cotton-seed feed is too expensive in proportion to the amount of food which it contains to successfully compete, on equal terms, with ordinary dairy feeds at average prices.

An incidental result of the experiments is to illustrate the possibilities of profit in dairying. The net profit above the estimated cost of feed and care in these experiments ranged from 77 to 95 per cent. of the cost of the feed. While there are other elements of expense in dairying which are not included in these estimates, the results nevertheless make a very good showing for the profits of dairying and particularly of butter production.

The Experiment Station has recently reprinted from its annual report for 1893 a little pamphlet entitled "Rational Stock Feeding." The pamphlet contains tables of feeding standards and of the composition and digestibility of feeds, together with illustrations of the method of calculating rations. It may be secured free upon application to the Director.

The annual reports and quarterly bulletins of the Station will be sent, free of charge, on application, and inquiries on agricultural subjects answered so far as possible.

Address, H. P. ARMSBY, Director, State College, Centre Co., Pa.

"There is danger in delay."

Since 1861 I have been a great sufferer from catarrh. I tried Ely's Cream Balm and to all appearances am cured. Terrible headaches from which I had long suffered are gone.—W. J. Hitchcock, Late Major U. S. Vol. and A. A. Gen., Buffalo, N. Y. Ely's Cream Balm has completely cured me of catarrh when everything else failed. Many acquaintances have used it with excellent results.—Alfred W. Stevens, Caldwell, Ohio. Price of Cream Balm is fifty cents.

A Christmas Woman's Magazine.

The sparkle of bright music, in a new ballad by Sir Arthur Sullivan, entitled "Bid Me at Least Good Bye," adds much to the pages of the Christmas Ladies' Home Journal, in which the full piano score and words are given. Frank Stockton opens one of his cleverest tales with an equally clever title, "As One Woman to Another"; Eugene Field is particularly happy in a striking bit of character verse, to which a whole page with illustrations is well given; Frances Hodgson Burnett is delightfully reminiscent in telling of "The Man Who Most Influenced Me," who, she says, was an enemy of hers; John Hendrick Bangs begins his "Paradise Club" in a really funny "take off" on the equal suffrage question; the Rev. S. D. McConnell makes a very real being of the mother of Christ, in his article "A Girl of Galilee." The wives of Alphonse Daudet, and Mascagni, of "Cavalleria Rusticana" fame, are well sketched with portraits; Mr. Howells is particularly interesting in his literary autobiography; Robert J. Burdette is funny and wise in a Christmas article; Maria Parloa tells of "The Fete Days of the French"; Madame Nordica, the opera prima donna, writes to girls who think of operatic careers; the new serial, "A Minister of the World," takes us to the border of fashionable religious life in New York City; and in addition to all this there are not less than twenty articles on the practical side of a woman's life at Christmas time. This is indeed a creditable number of The Ladies' Home Journal—the best, in fact, which it has ever issued. It is not surprising when one looks over such a magazine as this why it is that over 600,000 women buy it each month, particularly when they can get it for ten cents a copy. The subscription price of The Ladies' Home Journal is one dollar per year. Published by The Curtis Publishing Company, of Philadelphia.

Castoria is truly a marvelous thing for children. Doctors prescribe it, medical journals recommend it and more than a million mothers are using it in place of Paregoric, Bateman's Drops, so-called soothing syrups and other narcotic stupefying remedies. Castoria is the quickest thing to regulate the stomach and bowels and give healthy sleep the world has ever seen. It is pleasant to the taste and absolutely harmless. It relieves constipation, quiets pain, cures diarrhoea and wind colic, allays feverishness, destroys worms, and prevents convulsions, soothes the child and gives it refreshing and natural sleep. Castoria is the children's panacea—the mother's friend.

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BROOKLYN, N. Y., May 13, 1893. GENTLEMAN:—I hereby send you my baby's picture, to recommend Castoria to those who do not use it. She was a small, delicate child when she was born, and started to be sickly, so the doctor told me to use Castoria, and I done as I was told. She gained in a very short time, she was only six months old when she weighed twenty four pounds, and now she is eleven months old and weighs twenty six pounds, and is a strong, healthy child as you see by this picture. MRS. OBERLE, 229 Hopkins Street.

CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF THE NEW YORK LEDGER.

The Christmas number of the New York Ledger will be published December 22nd. It will be a beautiful and elaborate product of the printing press, a marvel of cheap printing. It will be sold for the regular price of five cents. It will have an illuminated Christmas cover with an exquisite winter scene, a beautiful girl returning over the snow from the woods with greens for Christmas decorations. The girl is a winner. In this number a new serial story, entitled "At a Great Cost," by the new and popular English author, Effie Adelaide Rollins, is commenced. Mrs. Barr's delightful story, the "Flower of Gala Water," is continued. It contains a portrait of General Booth as he appears on the platform, with an article on General Booth and the Salvation Army; several delightful Christmas poems, Christmas editorials, illustrated Christmas sketches and a Christmas story for the children, with all the usual interesting features of the Ledger, specially adapted for the Christmas season.

In addition to the attractions mentioned, the Christmas number of the Ledger will contain the continuation of George E. Gardner's wonderful story entitled "A Treasure Found—A Bride won," with illustrations. Prof. Charles F. Holder contributes an interesting article on "Insect Mimics." Nataly von Eschstruth contributes a novelette entitled "His First Order," which is also illustrated. Altogether, the Christmas number of the New York Ledger affords the biggest five cents' worth of good reading in the market.

METHODS OF PRIMARY READING. III.—THE PHONIC METHOD.

By William Noetting.

This method did not take its rise among us, but was brought here from some of the countries of the old world whose languages are nearly free from the anomalies and inconsistencies which burden English orthography. In Germany and some others of the countries across the Atlantic, this method was in some form or other, and to some extent, employed nearly a century ago. It must not however be assumed that this method, in the spelling form, is that of the Germans. Such an assumption would be their knowledge of psychology. Diesterweg, in Praktischer Lehrgang, published in 1830, speaks of word and of thought reading, laying special stress upon the latter. He says a pupil should not be permitted to read a sentence unless he knows what all its words mean; and he attributes poor reading to the failure of teachers to insist upon this. He emphasizes the importance of daily word repetition to make word recognition automatic. Failing to make the recognition of words automatic is a common fault of teachers at the present day.

The phonic method, or what is called by that name, instead of having had a fixed form, or mode of use has had nearly as many as it has had different advocates. Some commenced by teaching the short vowel sounds, then combined these with consonants to form words. Thus with the short sound of a they combined t, making at; then prefixed in succession m, f, r, c, s, &c., making mat, fat, rat, cut, sat, &c. This was followed by a comparison of hard and soft a, in eat, out, copse, cold, can, with cedar, cell, cinder, cider, &c. Fixed initial and terminal combinations, such as bl, sc, br, cl, sh, sm, and ld, ll, it, ip, ill, in, were taught as a unit.

Others, to supply the deficiency in characters to represent all the sounds, changed the forms of some of the letters, a, for example, to represent certain sounds, or introduced new characters to complete the necessary number. This phonetic system, as it was termed, seemed to be quite a success, and by those who saw only with their eyes and heard only with their ears, not with their minds, was declared to be the long-sought-for; but, alas! like all artificial systems, it was doomed to a comparatively short life. It was true that pupils learned to pronounce by it quite rapidly as long as they used the phonic characters, but when given exercises in the common alphabet, and failing to meet the accustomed aded letters, were helpless. Besides, the method did not teach reading; but only pronunciation. This method was advocated by Dr. Alfred Holbrook of Lebanon, Ohio, in The Normal Methods of Teaching, published in 1860.

To relieve the dryness and monotony of the so called pure phonic method, a few teachers here and there, struck by what they considered a happy thought, introduced as aids to the memory of some of the sounds, the noises of animals. That of the sheep was made to help the sound of a in area; that of geese, sh; that of the cow, w; that of the dog, r; &c. But these auxiliaries met with little favor among the body of teachers; the more intelligent declared the help nonsense, and a system that needed such assistance, unphilosophical and unpedagogical. This happy thought, like numerous others before it, was soon doomed to the same fate.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Legal Advertisements.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Daniel Whitmire, dec'd., late of Centre Township.

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of Daniel Whitmire, late of Centre Township, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned administrator, to whom all persons indebted to said estate are required to make payments, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to G. M. WHITMIRE, Administrator.

SNYDER, Atty. 11-16-94.

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