

CONGRESS RECONVENES.

Senate Passes a Bill Restricting the Death Penalty.

WIPING OUT OLD BLUE LAWS.

OF SIXTY OFFENSES FOR WHICH THE DEATH PENALTY WAS PRESCRIBED, BUT FIVE NOW REMAIN—ANOTHER RADICAL RESOLUTION REGARDING THE WAR IN CUBA.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The senate yesterday passed the bill abolishing the death penalty in a large number of cases. The measure is in the line of recent state laws abolishing capital punishment, and applies the same principle to federal offenses, although the change is not extended to a total abolition of the death penalty.

During the day Mr. Call, of Florida, introduced resolutions calling for information as to the condemnation of Julio Sangulilly at Havana to life imprisonment, and also directing the secretary of state to demand Sangulilly's immediate release.

The house entered upon its work immediately after reassembling by taking up the Loud bill to amend the laws relating to second class mail matter. The whole day was devoted to general debate on the measure under a special order which will bring the bill to a vote this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Representative Sulzer, of New York, introduced a joint resolution stating that the kingdom of Spain is not conducting the Cuban war in accordance with civilized usages, and notifying Spain that "if the barbarous manner in which the war has been conducted does not cease within thirty days the United States will recognize the independence of Cuba and maintain it by force of arms."

Fatal Fight at a Church.

BAY CITY, Mich., Jan. 6.—A thousand of the warring faction of Poles, who are determined that Father Bogacki shall not officiate as their priest, attacked the parsonage of St. Stanislaus church yesterday and stormed it for over an hour. All the windows were broken and the doors battered down. The entire police force was unable to quiet the mob. Father Bogacki finally surrendered and was driven to a priest's house. The police took possession of the parsonage. Joseph Yochomovitch was shot in the body and fatally injured. Detective Fitzgerald, who was guarding the beleaguered pastor, was arrested charged with firing the shot. Mrs. Joseph Torskowski was shot in the leg. Two of the priest's body guard, Joseph Bartkowiak and Alex Yonkowiak, were wounded into insensibility. Bartkowiak will probably die.

The Cost of Armor Plate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Secretary Herbert yesterday transmitted to congress his reply to a provision in the last naval appropriation bill directing him to examine into the actual cost of armor plate and report to congress. The main contention in congress was that the government was paying too much for armor plates. The present cost of armor is \$583 per ton. Mr. Herbert's conclusion is that the cost of material and labor is \$198.70, and allowing for the cost of maintaining the plant and the nickel now furnished by the government, and 50 per cent profit to the companies, the net cost to the government would be in round numbers \$400 per ton.

Ex-Congressman Indicted for Libel.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The grand jury has returned an indictment for criminal libel against ex-Representative Conn, of Indiana, the former proprietor of the Washington Times. A bench warrant for his arrest was issued. The alleged libel charged that District Commissioner Truedell had used his public office for his personal and private ends instead of the public good. Mr. Conn is now in Indiana, but it is understood will return shortly and will give bonds to answer to the indictment.

A New Governor's Bereavement.

BISMARCK, N. D., Jan. 6.—Governor Frank A. Briggs took the oath of office and assumed his position as governor yesterday. A peculiarly sad coincidence in connection with the inauguration was the fact that while the oath of office was being administered the governor received a telegram announcing the death of his oldest daughter, Stella, at Minneapolis. Mr. Briggs leaves at once for Minneapolis.

Bram Convicted of Murder.

BOSTON, Jan. 4.—The jury in the case of Thomas Bram, the mulatto mate of the barkentine Herbert Fuller, who were locked up Friday night on account of being unable to reach an agreement, returned a verdict late Saturday afternoon. The jury declares that Bram alone murdered Captain Nash, his wife and Second Mate Blaudry.

Minister Willis Reported Dying.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 6.—A Honolulu correspondent, writing under date of Dec. 28, says that United States Minister Willis, who has been suffering from pneumonia for some time, has been given up by his physicians. For three days previous to the dispatch of the letter Mr. Willis' death was hourly expected.

Queen Victoria May Abolite.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The Westminster Gazette gives prominence to a report that Queen Victoria has decided to commemorate the fact that she has enjoyed the longest reign in English history by abolishing in favor of the Prince of Wales.

Death of General Francis A. Walker.

BOSTON, Jan. 6.—General Francis A. Walker, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and widely known as a political economist, died yesterday, aged 53.

DELAWARE'S "RUMP" HOUSE.

Kent County Republicans Organize an Independent Legislature.

DOVER, Del., Jan. 6.—The Delaware legislature was organized yesterday amid confusion and turmoil. The seven Kent county Republicans, against whose contest for seats the court of errors and appeals on Monday decided, were denied recognition, and after a fruitless protest the Republicans left the hall and organized a "rump" house at the Hotel Richardson. There they elected Dr. T. C. Moore speaker and Charles Hastings clerk. After notifying the senate that they were ready to receive any communication from that body, and receiving no reply, the body adjourned to meet next Friday afternoon. The regular house elected E. B. Rigglin speaker.

The Kent countians were led by Dr. George W. Marshall, chairman of the Republican county committee. When they appealed to the Republican senators to retire from the hall and organize another body Senators Pearce and John M. C. Moore refused to do so, although it is charged that they had agreed to do so in case Senator J. Frank Allee, of Kent, was not recognized.

The senate was also organized by the Democrats, Samuel R. Meredith, whose seat was in dispute, being permitted to vote, while Allee was not. This made the vote 5 to 4 in favor of the Democrats. After participating in the vote for temporary chairman the Republicans refused to vote, except in the case of the chaplain, when John M. C. Moore voted for Rev. T. P. Revello, who was elected.

After adjournment the Republican senators held a conference in the State House parlor, during which Senators Hanly and Allee accused Senator George Fisher Pearce of treachery, and of playing into the hands of the Democrats. Pearce made no defense.

Death of a Leading Physician.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6.—Dr. William Henry Pancoast, until very recently president of the board of trustees and who occupied the chair of anatomy and clinical surgery in the Medico-Chirurgical college, died yesterday of pneumonia, at his home, southwest corner of Eleventh and Walnut streets. Dr. Pancoast was one of the most eminent surgeons and medical practitioners of the country, and was descended from a family the members of which have for generations been prominently identified with the welfare of the city of Philadelphia. Prior to connecting himself with the Medico-Chirurgical college he had succeeded his father as professor in Jefferson college, of which he was a graduate. He was a native of Philadelphia, and 62 years old.

Roth's Great Cycling.

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—The year's mileage record medal will no doubt be awarded to E. N. Roth, of the Clarendon wheelmen, this city, who, on New Year's eve in a driving rain storm, completed one of the greatest year's rides of history, a ride that promises to stand unchallenged for many years to come. Roth rode 34,380 miles in 340 days, an average of over 101 miles each day for the entire time. He traveled over a dozen states in making this ride, and followed the good weather throughout the country. He started Jan. 23 and finished Dec. 31, at midnight. His greatest month's mileage was 4,000 miles and over. Roth has ridden one wheel the entire season.

Titled English Marksmen Dead.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Sir Henry St. John Hallford, bart., C. B., died yesterday, aged 68. Sir Henry was captain of the English rifle team which visited America a score of years ago. Upon his estate in Leicestershire Sir Henry had a private rifle range, upon which he and his friends practiced in their spare moments. He was the captain of the English eight in the contests for the Eiche shield for many years, that emblem being competed for by teams from England, Scotland and Ireland.

The Dauntless' Cargo Safely Landed.

KEY WEST, Fla., Jan. 6.—The Dauntless has successfully landed its expedition in Cuba. The expedition is the one that the Three Friends attempted to land when pursued by a Spanish gunboat and left at No Name Key, from which place it was taken last Friday by the Dauntless. The cargo, it is said, consisted of 400,000 cartridges and 1,900 rifles, some dynamite, one 12-pound Hotchkiss gun, medicine, etc. Fifty men were also carried to Cuba by the vessel.

To Prohibit New York Skyscrapers.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—A bill is about to be introduced in the state legislature limiting the height of buildings to 175 feet. It will have the indorsement of the city authorities of New York, and will probably be passed. The fire department, the board of public works, and the real estate men are opposed to "skyscrapers." Plans for a thirty story structure are on file in the office of Superintendent Constable, of the building department.

The Indianapolis Monetary Conference.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 6.—The success of the national monetary conference, which begins in this city on Jan. 12, is assured, and it is now believed that between 150 and 500 delegates alone will assemble in Tomlinson Hall on that date. A number of cities and towns have written to say that they have appointed delegates. Ex-Governor Stanford, of St. Louis, will in all probability be chosen temporary chairman to open the convention.

Frozen to Death in the Blizzard.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 6.—Representative McGrath, of Barnesville, was excused from attendance on the legislature yesterday, having received a telegram that his brother was frozen to death in Sunday's blizzard. Two children of John Patih, of Hunter, N. D., were frozen to death in the storm. The blockade by the blizzard is greater than at first estimated. No trains have reached Fargo from any direction since Sunday morning.

Twenty Convicts Pardoned.

SLRINGFIELD, Ills., Jan. 6.—Governor Altgeld yesterday pardoned twenty convicts, twelve of whom were charged with murder. The sentences of the latter ranged from short terms for manslaughter to imprisonment for life for murder in the first degree. The reason given by the governor for the issuance of the pardons was that they were recommended by the state's attorneys of the counties represented.

Ex-Government Official Indicted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The grand jury yesterday filed three indictments for embezzlement against Francis J. Kieckhefer, formerly chief of the bureau of accounts in the state department. Kieckhefer was dismissed Oct. 30, 1893, when irregularities in his accounts were discovered. The shortages will aggregate \$130,000.

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