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CHARGES TO MEET.

An Explosion in the Legislature Caused by Most Serious Accusations

BY AN UNNAMED LAWYER.

Embezzlement and Misappropriation of Funds Alleged

AGAINST THE PENITENTIARY OFFICIALS

Chairman Dearden, of the Appropriations Committee, Says They Are Specific and Must be Denied—He Declines to Give the Accuser's Name—The Senate Ready to Act if the House Delays Too Long—Mr. Dearden an Admirer of the Warden and Takes no Stock in the Charges—He Hopes the Whole Matter Will be Cleared Up Satisfactorily—The Entire Affair a Surprise to Those Most Directly Interested.

Serious charges have been made against the management of the Western Penitentiary. Chairman Dearden, of the House Appropriations Committee, who reports them, says they were made some days ago. They consist of alleged misappropriation of funds, or embezzlement. The Pittsburg lawyer who made the accusation has been requested to put it in writing, that action may be taken upon it by the Legislature. To those most directly interested the charges are a surprise, and Mr. Dearden, who says he highly esteems the officers of the penitentiary, adds that the allegations are specific and must be met. He hopes the charges will all be dissipated.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

HARRISBURG, March 19.—Misappropriation of funds or embezzlement has been charged against the management of the Western Penitentiary. The charges were made ten days ago to Chairman Dearden, of the House Appropriations Committee, by a Pittsburg lawyer. As the charges or allegations were verbal, and as the gentleman desired that they be made the basis for a Legislative investigation, he was asked by Mr. Dearden to put them in writing. He has not done so yet.

Mr. Dearden declined to give the lawyer's name.

Chairman Dearden Defines His Position.

The allegations were brought forward in debate just before 6 o'clock this evening, and Mr. Dearden, in answer to indignant protests from ex-Speaker Graham, of Allegheny, Captain Billingsley, of Washington, and others, declared emphatically that he is not their author, is not in sympathy with them, and has the highest regard and admiration for Warden Wright and other officials of the Western Penitentiary, with whom he is personally acquainted.

In the midst of the debate the House adjourned, leaving the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the western members very much wrought up.

It was after the House had passed 29 appropriation bills on second reading, and postponed one, that the explosion occurred. Mr. Graham asked that the postponed appropriation bill for the Western Penitentiary be taken up. Mr. Dearden immediately opposed the proposition in general terms, but left the impression that there were charges to be met.

Few Thinks the Bill Should Pass.

Mr. Fow, of Philadelphia, who has been on the sub-committee that considered the needs of the penitentiary in connection with the bill just called up by Mr. Graham, explained that there had been charges at that time that a certain official of the institution had received money from prisoners. The charges had been investigated and the official discharged. There were no charges now affecting any officials, he declared, and therefore there was no reason why the bill should not pass.

Mr. Graham expressed his surprise at the stand taken by Mr. Dearden. He admitted that Mr. Dearden had intimated that there might be objections if the bill was called up, but had not expected opposition to come from that quarter. Mr. Graham referred to the recent investigation at the penitentiary and its result as removing any objections that could exist to the passage of the bill, and paid a high compliment to the ability and integrity of the management.

The Charges Long and Serious.

Mr. Dearden then, in defense of his position, became more specific and declared that there were "long and serious charges of misappropriation of funds." He then said: "I know what I am talking about, and there are gentlemen in the Legislature determined to probe the matter to the bottom. The institution is a noble affair as it stands, and a credit to the State; $1,000,000 had been expended in its construction, and more was asked in this bill. The bill for maintenance was still in committee. The matter is too serious to take it up without knowing more of the charges. I understand that the Senate Committee has contemplated taking the matter up because of our slowness to act."

Mr. Graham expressed himself as much surprised that the bill under consideration had been reported from committee if there was anything wrong. He referred to the fact that the State Board of Charities had recommended $140,000—double the amount asked by the appropriation bill as amended in committee—as a sufficient justification of the need for it.

The Allegations Must be Denied.

"I make no charges myself," said Mr. Dearden, in reply. "I simply repeat the charges made. I am not in sympathy with the charges. I doubt their strength. I know Warden Wright and other officers of the penitentiary, and highly esteem them, but these charges are specific, and must be denied from a responsible source. Knowing Warden Wright as I do, I would like to say all I could in exoneration of him, but I think it improper to take the bill up, under the circumstances."

Captain Billingsley expressed his surprise at what he heard from Chairman Dearden. As a member of the sub-committee that had gone to the penitentiary to especially inquire into the need for the building appropriation, he declared it the best conducted institution of its kind in Pennsylvania.

"So it is," exclaimed Mr. Graham.

Captain Billingsley Struck With Surprise.

"The Appropriations Committee," continued Captain Billingsley, "will bear me out in what I say. I am surprised to hear the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee talk as he does to-day."

Dr. Walk, of Philadelphia, in defense of Chairman Dearden, said the bill that had brought on the discussion had been introduced on January 14, and reported from committee January 24. The charges had been made known since that date. He was not surprised that the gentleman from Washington didn't know of it, as he had been absent so much, and he intimated also that the gentleman bothered himself too much about Washington county politics to attend to appropriation bills, save and except some particular measures he appeared before the committee to advocate.

Captain Billingsley also smiled at these thrusts, and Dr. Walk said charges had been made in Pittsburg papers, and marked copies were received by members. Mr. Fow again declared that these charges had been disposed of. The sub-committee of the Appropriations Committee had been over the books of the institution and found everything all right. Mr. Dearden then said:

The Whole Matter Should be Cleared Up.

"A prominent Pittsburg attorney came here ten days ago to confer with me in my official capacity. He made serious and direct charges. I asked him many questions, and after he had answered them I requested that when he go home he put those charges in writing and send them to me. I assured him if he would do so we would make a thorough investigation, to establish the truth or falsity of the charges. In doing so we would simply discharge our duty. I don't want the House to regulate its action by what is stated, only so far as it accords with its sense of duty. I hope, if investigated, the whole matter will be cleared up."

Chairman Graham, in reply, rehearsed the recent trouble over Dr. Maharneke's case, and said that because of it he had had the bill postponed from time to time. That investigation had been over for some time, and the talk of a Legislative investigation had seemed to die out. It was now late in the session, and he had called up the bill after the consultation with Mr. Dearden, to which he had referred.

No Unkind Feeling in the Matter.

"I am sorry," said Mr. Graham, "that he has any unkind feeling."

"I disclaim any unkind feeling," interrupted Mr. Dearden.

Mr. Thompson, of Warren, who was Chairman of the sub-committee that investigated the needs of the Western Penitentiary, explained that the sub-committee had investigated nothing at the penitentiary except the matter that came immediately before it. "We were not instructed to investigate any charges then made," he said.

"That's right," exclaimed Chairman Dearden.

"We investigated honestly and fairly," said Mr. Thompson, "the only subject that was before us. I see no reason why the matter should be forced on the House now. It should be postponed until some future time. Bad feeling is being brought about. An investigation was properly conducted, and we found the penitentiary conducted in an excellent manner—in fact, we fell in love with the management and the way of doing buisness.

At this point Mr. Kratz made a motion to adjourn, which was carried amid great confusion. SIMPSON.

IT IS ALL NEWS TO HIM.

Neither Hon. B. C. Christy Nor Warden Wright Can Explain.

B. C. Christy, Esq., the lawyer who was prominently identified with the recent investigation at the penitentiary, was seen last night regarding the charges of embezzlement, or rather, misappropriation of funds and mismanagement at the prison. It was believed he might be able to tell something as to the identity or information of the lawyer who had made the matter public; but this Mr. Christy said he could not do, as he knew nothing about any such charges whatever.

In speaking of the matter, he said: "I was in Harrisburg about a week ago, but did not hear anything about the charges. If they were brought, it was not done by any informant of mine, and I know nothing about them."

Warden Wright, when spoken to on the subject, seemed surprised, as there are no grounds for any such accusations as far as he is concerned, or any person connected with the institution, so far as he knows or believes.

SHE STOOPED TO CONQUER.

A Wealthy Louisville Girl Elopes With and Marries a Dissipated Character.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

LOUISVILLE, March 19.—The 14-year-old daughter of Mr. William Ashby, of the firm of Miller & Ashby, the largest and most fashionable merchant tailoring establishment in this city, has been abducted and married by Joe Stultz, one of the lowest and most dissipated characters of Louisville. The marriage occurred last Wednesday, but the facts were not made public until to-day when the news created a great sensation.

The girl became infatuated with Stultz and was coaxed over into Indiana, and there went through a marriage ceremony. Upon her return she told her parents, and a warrant was soon out for Stultz's arrest on a charge of abduction. He has not been found.

HE WILL OBEY THE LAW.

The New Postmaster at Indianapolis Clearly Not a Mugwump.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

INDIANAPOLIS, March 19.—Indiana Civil Service reformers have begun a warfare on the new Postmaster Wallace, much like that against Mr. Jones. Wallace said he would give Republicans preference in making appointments. William Dudley Foulke wrote him, taking issue and objecting to the policy. Wallace says in reply to-day:

"Mr. Foulke is not pleased with what he supposes are my intentions in the making of appointments. He protests because he thinks I am not going to follow the civil service law as he interprets it. It is impossible to please these people. I shall answer Mr. Foulke and tell him I am a law-abiding citizen, and that I will observe the civil service law as far as possible."

Wants to Be an Inter-State Commissioner.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., March 19.—Theodore Welch, of Montgomery, General Freight Agent of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, is being urged for the vacancy on the Board of Inter State Commerce Commissioners, caused by the resignation of Commissioner Walker. Mr. Welch is a Republican.

WOMEN AT WORK.

First Day's Session of the Sorosis—Letter of Regret Received From Mrs. Harrison — Ten-Minute Reports Read—Social Pleasures.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, March 19.—Members of the Sorosis and their friends and delegates from half a hundred women's clubs in all parts of the country filled the parquet of the Madison Square Theater this morning and overflowed into the balcony. It was the first day's session of the convention of women's clubs arranged by the Sorosis, the elder sister of them all. At 10:30 o'clock the curtain was rung up on the setting of the first scene in "Captain Swift." On the stage sat the officers of Sorosis and a few of their most honored guests.

Mrs. Clymer rapped on the table before her with her gavel in a business-like way, and called the meeting to order. After the Secretary, Miss Allen, had called the roll and read a note from Mrs. President Harrison, telling how sorry she was she could not attend the convention, Mrs. Clymer made a brief address of welcome. Mrs. Jennie Croly, Chairman of the Correspondence Committee, read a number of letters from well-wishers all over the country. Miss Frances Willard hoped the clubs would form a strong organization and prove to the men that women can set a higher standard of club life than they. Ten-minute reports from delegates followed.

At 1 o'clock Mrs. Clymer announced that the convention was adjourned until to-morrow morning, when a permanent organization would be effected and more reports will be heard. To-morrow evening Sorosis will give an entertainment at Hardman Hall in honor of their guests. Recitations and instrumental and vocal music make up the programme.

The delegates and members of Sorosis, to the number of 150, lunched to-night with Mrs. William Todd Helmuth at her apartments in the Madrid, in Fifty-ninth street. After the luncheon many of them visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and later took a drive in the park in carriages provided by Mrs. Anna Dormitzer.

A FIGHT IN SIGHT.

Collision Between the Oklahoma Boomers and the Soldiers—Firearms Flourished and Clubs and Stones Freely Used.

WICHITA, KAN., March 19.—The Oklahoma boomers having fled to the woods upon the appearance of Lieutenant Carson and his soldiers, scouts were sent out to hunt them down, but instructed not to resort to violence. In what is known as the Crutchee country, northeast of Oklahoma station, quite a large number of boomers had gathered around William Bock. Among the number were his daughter, a relative, Samuel Anderson, and an old man named William Adams.

Their property had been destroyed in a former raid, and they cherished bitter animosity against the troops. Their hiding place was discovered by an Indian scout and reported to Lieutenant Carson, who sent a detachment after them. As soon as the boomers saw the troops coming they made preparations to stand their ground and protect themselves. When surrounded and called upon to surrender they began parleying and made threats, which exasperated the soldiers, who charged the party, but seeing the boomers were armed, and having orders to avoid a conflict, they dismounted and, by an adroit movement, part of the boomers were relieved of their arms.

Anderson and Adams, however, held out, and made a desperate resistance with their guns. The former received a terrible blow from the butt of a revolver, and the latter was struck in the mouth. After being disarmed the boomers fought with clubs and stones, but were soon compelled to surrender. Several soldiers received slight wounds, but none serious. There has been great excitement among the boomers since the conflict, and while all express a determination to make similar resistance they are seeking safer hiding places.

SLATTERLI'S CASE NOT REACHED.

The Mother of the Applicant too Ill to Appear Before the Board.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, March 19.—The Board of Pardons was engaged nearly all day in hearing arguments in the case of Samuel Johnson, of Delaware county, the murderer of John Sharpless. Johnson wants his death sentence commuted to imprisonment for life. Among those who spoke for executive clemency was Senator Cooper.

The case of Edward Slattery, convicted of murder in the second degree, Allegheny, was not heard, Mrs. Slattery wrote a letter to the board, in which she said she was prevented from being at the meeting by illness in her family, and that she expected to have the evidence to show her son's innocence ready for submission to the board at the April meeting.

The Governor to-day respited Peter Baronoski, of Schuylkill county, who was to be hanged next Tuesday, until May 1 next.

WHITELAW REID SURPRISED,

But He Will Endeavor to Find Time to Go to Paris.

NEW YORK, March 19.—A reporter this evening succeeded in getting a brief interview with Mr. Reid on the subject of his nomination as Minister to France. The following is the substance of the information elicited:

"I first learned of the nomination on returning to town this evening from Ophir farm. The nomination came without any solicitation or effort on my part. I had not been a candidate for this or any office and had made no effort for any. I am greatly honored by the distinction, and hope also it may be thought a compliment to the profession, whose good opinion and honor I value more than any office. The natural presumption is that in case of confirmation by the Senate a nominee for such an office will accept. I shall certainly try to arrange my business so as to do so. If I could not it would certainly be discourteous in me to announce this to anybody else before I said it to the President, who did me the honor to make the nomination."

NOT QUITE A PAUPER.

A Poor Relation, After Wandering 30 Years, Brings Back a Fortune.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

EASTON, March 19.—Daniel Murray, a brother-in-law of John W. Sayres, the school-slate manufacturer at Bangor, put in an appearance to-day, after an absence of 30 years, in the garb of a tramp. He introduced himself to Mr. Sayres, stated that he was without a dollar, and supposed he would have to go to the poorhouse.

Mr. Sayers told him he could remain with them, when Murray stated that he had money, and to Mr. Sayres' astonishment produced a wallet containing $10,500.

JEFF DAVIS WRITES A LETTER,

Denying That the South Ever Contemplated a Church Establishment.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

ATLANTA, March 19.—Did the Southern Confederacy ever contemplate, or was there any danger of a church establishment, if the Confederacy had succeeded? The Philadelphia *Presbyterian*, a few weeks ago, published an article claiming that it did.

At the request of a Southern clergyman, Jeff Davis is just out in a letter denying the story as untrue and absurd.

HE WAS NOT WANTED.

Eugene Schuyler's Appointment Withdrawn Before 'Twas Rejected.

HE COULD NEVER BE CONFIRMED,

His Attack on E. B. Washburne Alone Being Enough to Prevent That.

MANY OTHER THINGS AGAINST HIM.

His Way of Saying Just What He Thought Made Him Very Many Enemies.

Mr. Eugene Schuyler's name was yesterday withdrawn from the consideration of the Senate for First Assistant Secretary of State. The excuse was given that Mr. Schuyler didn't want the place. Mr. Schuyler couldn't get it. The Senate wouldn't confirm him, and Mr. Blaine was so informed. Mr. Schuyler's faculty for making enemies by being too outspoken on various occasions killed his chances of assisting Mr. Blaine in the duties of his office.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The withdrawal of the name of Mr. Eugene Schuyler, with the explanation that he had declined to be First Assistant Secretary of State, means simply that Mr. Blaine has been informed that his friend could not be confirmed, and he has in this way been saved the mortification of rejection. Mr. Washburne, of Minnesota, was, naturally enough, determined to revenge an offensive remark Mr. Schuyler made about Mr. E. B. Washburne, and the two Senators from Illinois, Mr. E. B. Washburne's State, could not refuse to oppose Schuyler under the circumstances, even if under some other circumstances they would have been quite ready to confirm him.

The late E. B. Washburne was so incensed at the offensive paragraph in "American Diplomacy" that he made at the time some very vicious attacks upon Schuyler's character, but as the latter does not play cards, some of these charges were unfounded and probably none had much foundation. E. B. Washburne was at times vindictive.

OTHER ENEMIES TO CONTEND WITH.

Mr. Schuyler had other enemies to contend against. Mr. Evarts is not friendly to him. During the period of the Turkish atrocities in Bulgaria, Mr. Schuyler was Consul General at Constantinople, and made a trip through Bulgaria to see what the Turks were doing. Some letters from him giving the awful details of what he saw were published in the London *Telegraph*. His friends say that he wrote his observations in confidence, to Mr. Gladstone, and the latter being engaged in a political quarrel with the Tories on the Turkish question, seized the opportunity to fortify himself by publishing the confirmatory letters from the American Consul General, but others say that Mr. Schuyler sent a series of letters to the *Telegraph*.

In view of Mr. Schuyler's official relations with the Turkish Government this was not discreet. The State Department thereupon punished Mr. Schuyler by publishing his confidential dispatches to his own Government regarding Bulgarian affairs, in which he handled the Turks more frankly than he did in his London letters. The Turkish Government was, of course, very angry, but not a word was said at the time. After awhile Mr. Schuyler came to the United States on a visit, and then the Turkish Government refused to allow his return.

A FALLING OUT WITH RUSSIA.

Earlier than this he had had some strained relations with the Russian Government. When he was Secretary of Legation at St. Petersburg he was a young fellow and very chummy with the Grand Duke Constantine, the imperial scapegrace. When the Grand Duke stole his mother's diamonds and the police were after him Mr. Schuyler gave him shelter. Later than this, in his book entitled "Turkestan," he discussed the operations of the Russian officers about as frankly as he afterward discussed the Turkish barbarities in Bulgaria and the Russian Government did not fancy it.

Four years ago Mr. Schuyler hoped on the strength of his special knowledge of the foreign service to be appointed First Assistant Secretary of State or Minister to Italy, and it was while he was in Washington on that errand that he and Walker Blaine became fast friends, and this had a very direct connection with his selection as First Assistant Secretary of State.

That Mr. Schuyler suffered somewhat from the unfriendly attitude of Republican members of the Foreign Affairs Committee toward Mr. Blaine is more than a probability. Mr. Schuyler and M. Waddington, French Minister to England, married sisters, daughters of the late Charles King, of New York.

THE NAVY AGAINST HIM.

Mr. Schuyler has suffered from the hostility of certain naval officers unjustly. While he was at Constantinople the Turkish Government refused a permit to the Trenton to pass through the Dardanelles, and the disappointed officers always held the Consul General and Secretary of Legation responsible for this, though he had nothing in the world to do with it, and some naval officers on a dispatch boat attached for a time to the American Legation in Constantinople were offended because he got them ordered down the Sea of Marmora one time, when they preferred to stay at Constantinople, and wherever these disgruntled naval officers have gone they have circulated stories to Schuyler's discredit. Naval officers are numerous in Washington.

SENATOR SHERMAN SOURED.

He Isn't Making Any Recommendations to the President Just Now.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, March 19.—John Sherman is not a frequent visitor at the White House just now, and he talks as if he had good reasons for staying away. During his service in the Senate General Harrison and Mr. Sherman were the warmest of friends, and their former intimacy, as well as Mr. Sherman's prominence as a leader of the party, justified the expectation after the election that he would be called to the Cabinet; but he was not, and he was not invited to Indianapolis, and he has not been called into consultation by the President at any time. Mr. Sherman paid his respects to General Harrison immediately after the latter's arrival at the Arlington Hotel, and the first day he was in the White House he went up with other members of the Ohio delegation to make a formal call. Mr. Allison comes and goes at will, is admitted behind the closed doors that divide the public from the private portion of the White House at any time, and Mr. Butterworth and others come and go as they like; but Mr. Sherman will not go again till he is invited.

When Mr. Sherman was asked the other day to sign a letter recommending a friend to office he said: "I am not making any recommendations to office just now. If the the President should honor me with his confidence, I would very gladly give him my advice, but I shall not volunteer it."

Mr. Sherman earnestly urged the appointment of General J. S. Robinson, Secretary of State of Ohio, for Assistant Postmaster General, but he was set aside and Mr. Whitfield, of the same State, who was recommended by Mr. Butterworth, got the appointment.

THE LIST LENGTHENS.

Another Batch of Appointments Made—Editor Whitelaw Reid Gets the French Mission, the Most Important Vacancy Filled.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The following appointments were sent to the Senate to-day by the President:

Whitelaw Reid, of New York, to be Minister to France.

Julius Goldschmidt, of Wisconsin, Consul General at Vienna.

Andrew C. Bradley, of the District of Columbia, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

John R. McFie, of New Mexico, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of New Mexico.

Frank R. Aikens, of Dakota, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Dakota.

Postmasters: Massachusetts—C. L. Merriam, at Shelburne Falls; W. F. Fitch, Winchester; G. A. Draper, Hopedale; E. E. Fuller, Taunton. Rhode Island—J. E. Bowen, Central Falls. Connecticut—J. W. Hague, Torrington. New York—J. W. Corning, Palmyra; J. M. Field, Rye; J. Buckley, Cape Vincent. New Jersey—O. Van Wyckle, Matawan. Ohio—J. S. Brailey, Wauzon; C. S. McCoy, Cadiz; H. R. Snyder, Illinois—J. A. Fellows, Pontiac. Iowa—Mrs. Lucy Bowers, Tipton; C. H. Everitt, Atlantic; W. F. Carpenter, Manning; Mrs. Sarah H. Earthman, Griswold; F. T. Piper, Sheldon. Michigan—B. O. Shaw, Newaygo. Wisconsin—E. McGlachin, Stephens Point. Colorado—W. E. Culver, Las Animas. Dakota—A. M. Andrews, Plankinton.

The nomination of Eugene Schuyler, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of State, is withdrawn, he having declined the appointment.

Mr. J. Lowrie Bell, who was yesterday appointed General Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, is 50 years of age, and was born in Reading, Pa., where he received his education. In his 28th year he entered the service of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, as a clerk in the freight department. A few years later he was promoted to be assistant general freight agent of Philadelphia. After several years of efficient service he was again advanced to the position of General Freight Agent. He served in that capacity until 1880, when he was made the General Traffic Manager of the Philadelphia and Reading system, and served until March 1, 1888, when, at the expiration of the Receivership of the road, he withdrew from its service and has since been engaged in looking after the railroad and coal interests of other parties. He has always been a staunch Republican in politics, and enters the Postal Service at the urgent personal solicitation of Postmaster General Wanamaker, who has known him for many years, and who admired him for his high personal character and ability. He took the oath late this afternoon, and will enter upon his new duties to-morrow.

Julius Goldschmidt, Consul General at Vienna, is a resident of Milwaukee, about 40 years of age, and married. He is a gentleman of wealth, culture and pleasing address, one whose nomination, in the language of a Wisconsin Senator, is eminently fit to be made. He succeeds Edmund Jussen, brother-in-law of Carl Schurz.

William Wallace, whose nomination to be Postmaster at Indianapolis, and who was to-day confirmed, is a brother of General Lew Wallace, and was at one time associated in business with General Harrison. With the exception of his present appointment he has held but one public office, that of clerk of Marion county, Indiana, from 1861 to 1865.

HARRISON A HOME RULER.

An Intimation That District of Columbia Men Will Have District Offices.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, March 19.—District of Columbia citizens are overjoyed, especially the office-seeking portion of them, at the nomination of Mr. Andrew C. Bradley, a prominent member of the District Bar, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the District, to succeed the late Judge Merrick. They rejoice because this is a peculiar recognition of the principle of home rule, for the reason that Mr. Bradley is District born and bred. His grandfather came to this city when the seat of Government was removed from Philadelphia and was Assistant Postmaster General under President Washington.

Since this appointment was announced to-day, the strife for District offices to be filled by Presidental appointment has become tremendous, especially for the office of Recorder of Deeds, now held by the colored man, Trotter. The only prominent District colored man seeking this office is Mr. Perry Carson, the most noted local boss among the colored men, who keeps a hotel on the avenue, but would not object to the $12,000 or $15,000 annual fees of the Recordership. It is assumed now that District men will fill all the District offices.

NOT A CAUSE FOR REMOVAL.

Political Activity Not a Crime in the Eyes of the Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—One of the matters considered at the Cabinet meeting to-day was the case of an Illinois postmaster whose removal was asked by one of the Illinois Congressmen on account of the postmaster's political activity. It was admitted by the Congressman that the office was well managed, and the matter was called to the attention of the Cabinet for the reason that action taken in the case might constitute a precedent hereafter.

Postmaster General Wanamaker said tonight that he did not feel at liberty to talk about what took place at the Cabinet meeting. There is reason to believe, however, that the result of this meeting was adverse to the wishes of the Illinois Congressman, but it is not known whether or not any fixed line of action in cases of this kind was determined upon.

EVARTS YET UNDISTURBED.

He Hasn't Been Asked to Resign in Order to Go to England.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The attention of Senator Evarts was drawn this afternoon to published reports from Albany, N. Y., that he was considering the question of resigning his seat in the Senate, and that he had been offered the mission to England, but had declined it. The Senator said:

"Nothing has been said by me respecting a retirement from the position I now hold. As to the English mission, a man cannot well refuse what has not been offered him. There is no authority from me for the publication of any of these stories."

ELEGANT INAUGURAL SOUVENIRS.

Five Solid Gold Badges Made and Given to Honored Guests.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—Five solid gold badges of a design identical with that adopted by the Inaugural Committee have been made as souvenirs of the event. The badges have been presented to President Harrison, Vice President Morton, Mr. A. T. Britton, Chairman of the Inaugural Committee; Mr. Simon Wolf, Chairman of the Badge Committee, and Congressman Dudley Coleman, of Louisiana.

FOUR RAILROADERS KILLED

By a Collision on a Canadian Railway—No Passengers Injured.

RIVIERE DU LOUP, QUEBEC, March 19.—The Halifax express, on the Intercolonial Railway, came into a collision to-day with a special freight train near Rimouski station. Whitney, driver of the express, and Foley, his fireman; Michaud, conductor of the special, and Foley, fireman of the special, were killed.

Two other train hands were injured, but not fatally. Both of the engines, the baggage car and two freight cars were wrecked. None of the passengers were injured.

A BEAUTIFUL GHOST.

The Residents of a Select Section of Brooklyn Much Mystified.

STRANGE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

In a Large House Leased to the Alleged Widow of Admiral Pitcher.

A TALL, SLIM, HANDSOME WOMAN

Rends the Air With Screams and Touching Appeals for Liberty.

Brooklyn has a haunted house. The screams of a tall, slim, beautiful woman, begging for mercy and liberty, have frightened the residents of a select district of the city. One rumored cause of the noises is that a fair bride is imprisoned in the house. Another is that the captive is a victim of the morphine habit who is undergoing a cure. The mystery is to be fathomed by the police, if possible.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

BROOKLYN, N. Y., March 19.—The fine three-story-and-basement brown-stone house at 158 Berkley Place, in the center of one of the most select districts on Prospect Heights, was a special object of interest to a good many people to-night. According to the story told, the house possesses a mystery which neighbors and detectives have been unable to solve.

Since June, 1888, Mrs. Pitcher, who, it is said, represented herself as the widow of the late Admiral Pitcher, has been the responsible occupant of the house. She leased the house for two years from the owner, Henry L. Fessler, an importer, who lives at 135 Berkley Place, but who is at present in Europe. The only other occupants of the house, in addition to Mrs. Pitcher, are a man, supposed to be her brother, and a young woman, described as tall, slim and beautiful. It is around the latter that all the alleged mystery is concentrated.

ONE ROMANTIC RUMOR.

One of the rumors circulating in the neighborhood represents her as a married woman who was forcibly separated from her husband, and who has been virtually kept a close prisoner in the house. The frantic screams of the fair prisoner are said to have been heard at all hours of the day and night by Mrs. McLaughlin, the wife of Jockey McLaughlin, and the other occupants of 156, the house adjoining, and to have reached the ears of people living even at 154. Such moaning complaints as these are also reported to have been overheard:

"Oh, my God, let me out of this place!" "Let me go in peace!" "You're no mother of mine!" "You're a fiend!" "Oh, why do you do this?" "Let me go!" and in another voice: "I'll fix you!" "I'll cut your heart out!"

A butcher boy is represented to have been so startled once by what he heard after delivering some meat in the basement hallway that he believed there were ghosts in the house. A man who carried wood into the cellar also said that he heard loud moans and groans as he was going down the cellar stairs.

REPORTED TO THE POLICE.

As far back as December the gossip of the mystified neighbors became crystalized into a complaint against the house, which was forwarded to police headquarters and referred to Police Captain Kenny, of the Bergen street station, for investigation. Captain Kenny sent a detective to the house to make inquiries, and entrance was obtained on his representation that he was anxious to purchase the house. Mrs. Pitcher, it is said, showed him and his companion through the house with the exception of the rooms on the second floor, which she refused to exhibit, her objection being that her brother was lying sick in one of the rooms, in no condition to be disturbed.

From time to time since December other complaints have been made about the house to Captain Kenny, but they were so indefinite that he did not act on them. Although Mr. Pitcher's lease does not terminate until June next, the house has been sold within a few weeks.

A reporter of THE DISPATCH called at the house last night, after making his way to the stoop through a crowd of people who had read the story in an evening paper, and were gazing at the house, apparently in expectation that the tall, slim, and

BEAUTIFUL CAPTIVE BRIDE

might possibly make her appearance at one of the windows, all the blinds of which were drawn down. The basement, hall and top floor were lighted. Mrs. Pitcher herself answered the bell and admitted the reporter. She is a middle-aged woman with flaxen hair and a firm but rather pleasant face. When the reporter explained the object of his visit she said:

"I have seen the awful story published about this house and its occupants. It is false. There is no person, man or woman, here deprived of his or her liberty. All I wish to say at present is that this is an attempt at blackmail."

On leaving the house the reporter found Detective Reynolds, of the Bergen street station, mingling with the curious crowd on the sidewalk. Detective Reynolds said:

"I think there is certainly some mystery about this house and its occupants. From various sources I have learned that there have been some strange transactions going on in the house.

THE ALARMING SCREAMS

have been heard by at least a score of people. Once or twice a week an old-fashioned coach has been driven to the house, containing a man and a woman. The former would remain in the coach while the woman went into the house. One day, while the coach stood in front of the house, a man passing heard a woman scream and cry out: 'No, no; I won't sign it.' The explanation given to me was to the effect that the captive woman was a victim of the morphine habit, and that Mrs. Pitcher and her male companion were trying to cure her of it. I am not satisfied, however, that this is the true explanation of the story, and I will not rest until I get to the bottom of the mystery."

Inspector Reilly said last night that the matter would be thoroughly sifted.

MARRIED LATE IN LIFE.

A Couple of Elderly Couples Joined for the Rest of Their Lives.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

ANSONIA, CONN., March 19.—Last week, in Waterbury, the Rev. Dr. Davenport's study was invaded by a happy-looking couple, and in a few minutes Mrs. Harriet B. Hills, aged 73, had become Mrs. Jeremiah Johnson, the groom being 76 years old. Both bride and groom had been married twice before.

In Bridgeport the Rev. John I. Lindsay married Frederick M. Perry and Miss Mary Kate Borrougles, after 30 years of courtship. The groom had reached 58 and the bride 48. When the two were young the bride's father, then a prominent citizen and bank president, objected to the match and strove in every way he could to break it off. When he died other obstacles prevented their marriage until now.

AMERICANS ABROAD.

The Catholic Pilgrims Warmly Welcomed at Rome—The Pope's Sympathy With Our Institutions—a Feast of Reason.

ROME, March 19.—The American College gave a grand dinner this evening in honor of the leaders of the American Pilgrims. Many prelates were present. Bishop Keane, the President of the new Catholic university at Washington, spoke in English, Latin and French. His remarks were much applauded. The Pope's vicar, Cardinal Parocchi, delivered a powerful Latin oration on behalf of the Pope.

He expressed the Pope's admiration for American institutions, and spoke of the deep interest taken by His Holiness in the birth of the Washington University, which he regarded as one of the chief glories of his pontificate. Cardinal Schiaffino spoke in Italian. He sketched the work of the Catholic Church in establishing universities in all ages and in all countries, and eulogized the Washington University as the crowning work of Christian education—a work that was destined to display America to the world as a living exemplification of perfect accord between the highest learning and science and the Catholic faith.

Mgr. Jacobini traced America's wonderful progress, and paid a tribute to the priests who planted the seeds of the Catholic religion there and fostered its advancement. He referred to the treasures of faith poured forth by Catholic Ireland, and contrasted the strong and vigorous life of America's institutions and people and of the Catholic Church in America with the sadly painful situation of the people and church in the Old World.

COMMERCIAL UNION.

Another Warm Debate in the Canadian Parliament—A Government Member Strongly Attacks the Policy of the United States.

OTTAWA, ONT., March 19.—It is thought Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution in favor of closer trade relations with the United States will undoubtedly be voted down by the Government supporters, but such action will hardly indicate the feeling of the people. The Government side has the best speakers, but the opposition contend that if they do not possess the same eloquence they have submitted better logic.

The debate was resumed this afternoon by Mr. Cockburn, of Toronto, who delivered an ultra-loyal speech, which met with applause from the Government benches, but was greeted with derisive cheers from the other side of the House. Mr. Cockburn is a firm believer in a national policy of protection and is opposed to schemes for unrestricted reciprocity or commercial union. He instituted comparisons to show that the various provinces of Canada are enjoying greater prosperity than the various States of the Union.

He said the decline in land values in New York State from 1870 to 1880 was $270,000,000, while Ontario, in the same period, experienced an increase of $66,250,000. He asserted that three-quarters of the number of farms in New York State were mortgaged. America's alleged aristocracy, he said, lived only for boodle, and he had nothing kind to say about the plutocracy. All the Americans wanted was to get the trade of Canada and to give nothing in return.

CINCINNATI POLITICS.

A Bolt Against the Regular Republican Municipal Ticket.

CINCINNATI, March 19.—The Republican city convention met to-day, with Smith A. Whitfield, recently appointed Second Postmaster General, as chairman. Much interest was felt in its work, owing to a recent exposure in the newspapers of a secret organization which, it is charged, undertook to control all nominations. The test was on the nomination for Controller. The members of this organization were opposed to the renomination of Eshelby, the present incumbent. John B. Mosby was nominated for mayor; General E. F. Noyes, Judge Superior Court; Henry Ziegler, City Treasurer; Daniel Brown, Controller, and Amos Dye, Judge Police Court.

The *Times-Star*, Republican, announces that it will not support the ticket nominated by the convention to-day, and calls for a mass convention of Republicans to nominate a ticket. It says the men who have sought to rule the Republican party by means of an oath-bound organization controlled this convention and nominated the ticket. It says the honest, self-respecting Republicans have rights, and that it is time they asserted their independence of gutter politicians within the party.

NEW JERSEY WET ONCE MORE.

The Legislature Repeals the Present Local Option Law.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

TRENTON, N. J., March 19.—The Wertz bill passed the House to-day, and it is as good as a law of the State as Governor Green will sign it at once. The bill renders null the local option election ordered to be held in the near future. Beside repealing the local option law, it takes from the Republican measure of last year some of the arbitrariness of the legal processes for punishing illegal liquor selling. It in effect does not so much do away with local option as transfer it from the county to the township, since it gives the residents of each township power to fix by vote in a town election the amount of the license fee, and temperance townships may vote a practically prohibitory fee.

It is said, however, that township rivalries will operate to keep licenses down. Voters may say to themselves that if a neighboring township is going to have hotels with bars, they may as well have them also, since undoubtedly such hotels tend to draw trade and various sorts of patronage to places where they exist.

COPPER NOT ANY CHEAPER.

The Price to be Maintained as Per the Agreement Signed March 15.

[SPECIAL