THE BRITISH RUSH A BOER LAAGER.

Six Killed, Ten Wounded and Many Others Captured.

ONLY THREE BRITISHERS WOUNDED.

A Little Sensation Caused in London by a Rumor That General French, With Five Hundred British Troops, Had Been Captured While His Force Was Enveloped in a Mist on the Hills.

London (By Cable).—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, April 15:

"Colonel Sir Henry Rawlinson's column rushed the South Laager, northwest of Klerksdorp, at daylight. Six Boers were killed, 10 wounded and 23 taken prisoners. He captured a 12-pounder, one pompom complete, and two ammunition wagons with ammunition.

"Our casualties were three wounded.

"Colonel Plumer captured a field cornet and seven men, with ten wagons and eighteen rifles.

"During Colonel Pilcher's operations in Orange River Colony seven Boers were killed."

It is said that a private telegram has been received here to the effect that General French with 500 British troops has been captured by the Boers while his force was enveloped in a mist on the hills. No confirmation of the report can be obtained, but the rumor causes a sensation for a time.

The War Office knows nothing about the rumored capture and entirely discredits the report.

The British newspapers and magazines, commenting upon the alternating periods of hope and apprehension which characterize the later stages of the South African campaign, compare these with the later stages of the American War of Independence, as though to emphasize these fluctuations.

While the letters of responsible correspondents in Pretoria depict the situation in a rather despairing mood, the Pretoria representative of the Daily Mail sends a dispatch of the most hopeful character.

"The next six weeks," he says, "will see a resumption of active campaigning. Lord Kitchener will renew his sweeping movements. He has an army of 250,000 efficient troops, including 60,000 mounted men, with a good supply of horses, 40,000 having been secured in Cape Colony alone."

MRS. NATION HEAVILY FINED.

The Sentence Suspended While She Stays Out of Kansas City.

Kansas City, Mo. (Special.)—Mrs. Carrie Nation, who was arrested Sunday charged with obstructing the street, was arraigned before Police Judge McAuley, fined $500 and given until 6 o'clock to leave the city.

The Judge told Mrs. Nation that if she was found in the city after that hour she would be arrested and put in jail. She agreed to leave town and 15 minutes later boarded a street car for Kansas City, Kan.

Mrs. Nation appeared in court early accompanied by her brother and a woman friend. The courtroom was literally jammed by a curious crowd. Several cases were called before Mrs. Nation's and she watched the proceedings with manifest impatience. When Judge McAuley finally asked Mrs. Nation what she had to say to the charges she delivered a tirade against police and court.

Judge McAuley then gave his decision and warned Mrs. Nation not to come to this city again. The fine was suspended. It will be held over Mrs. Nation in case she should return, and until she is released from the court's order she is practically barred from visiting Kansas City.

Mrs. Nation pleaded that she wished to go to Liberty, Mo., within a few days and asked if she would be permitted to pass through Kansas City enroute. Judge McAuley answered in the affirmative, but warned Mrs. Nation not to stop off here.

Student Has Bubonic Plague.

Chicago (Special).—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Ann Arbor, Mich., says: "Dr. Victor C. Vaughan, dean of the medical department and one of the most noted bacteriologists in the country, appeared before the State Board of Health yesterday and practically acknowledged that the case of Student Charles B. Hare is one of bubonic plague. He assured the board that there would be no spread of the disease, as all precautions had been taken to prevent it, and the student will recover."

Man Killed by Knock-Out Drops.

St. Louis, Mo. (Special).—John P. Smith, former mayor of Fort Worth, Texas, died in this city, the victim of knockout drops, administered late Friday night or early on Saturday morning in a saloon near Union Station. Mr. Smith was taken from the Planter's Hotel to St. Mary's Infirmary on Sunday in an unconscious condition, and he never regained consciousness. His daughter Florence and son, James Young, arrived from Texas on Sunday. The body has been shipped to Fort Worth.

Prof. Rowland Dead.

Baltimore, Md. (Special).—Prof. Henry A. Rowland, the world-famous professor of physics at the Johns Hopkins University, died unexpectedly at his home, 915 Cathedral street. Dr. Rowland had been in poor health all the winter and within the past few days his symptoms had become somewhat alarming, but this was not publicly known, and his death, unexpected even to his friends, will shock not only this community, but the great world of science everywhere. Professor Rowland left a widow and two children.

King's Gift to McKinley.

Washington (Special).—Mr. Grip, Minister of Sweden and Norway, had an audience with the President to present Count Wachtmeister, the head of the celebrated Swedish family of that name. Count Wachtmeister was commissioned by King Oscar II as the bearer of a fine photograph of His Majesty to President McKinley. The King's autograph is on the photograph. The presentation was made by Count Wachtmeister, who spoke of King Oscar's great esteem and high opinion of the Chief Executive of the United States.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

Domestic.

A general jail delivery occurred at Georgetown, Del., from the Sussex county prison. Nine of the prisoners, all of whom were awaiting trial, made their escape by sawing the bars of their windows and making ropes out of their bed clothing.

Half of the employees of the W. Dewees Wood plant of the big steel combine, at McKeesport, went on a strike. It may be the beginning of a fight between the Amalgamated Association and the United States Steel Corporation.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania decided that members of the American Federation of Labor had no right to entice a glass manufacturer's apprentices to join the union.

The transport Thomas arrived at San Francisco with officers and men of the Thirty-fifth and Twenty-eighth Volunteer Regiments.

The Shamokin Silk Mill Company, in Shamokin, Pa., started up, the girl strikers being told that their union would be recognized.

Gen. A. C. McClurg, head of the publishing house of A. C. McClurg & Co., of Chicago, died at St. Augustine, Florida.

Forty bars of silver bullion, valued at $1000, were stolen from the steamer Lade, while lying off Newark, N. J.

Evidence was taken in New York in the case of Miss Lena Manchester, of Cincinnati, who charges that she was the victim of a bogus marriage. E. M. Bonner having brought her from Cincinnati to be married.

Solomon Hotema and Sam Frye, Choctaws, who were on trial in Texas for killing a number of alleged witches, were acquitted on the ground of insanity.

Charles Henry, 14 years of age, accidently shot and killed William Myers, Jr., while playing at the former's home, near Martinsburg, W. Va.

The new hosptial at the University of Virginia was inaugurated, the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson being celebrated at the same time.

A firm of accountants engaged by the Merchants' Club of Chicago to investigate the accounting methods of the city of Chicago, in a report to the club state that taxes to the amount of $500,000 a year for the past decade have been released as loss and deficiency; that clerical errors, such as posting hundreds of thousands of dollars, have remained uncorrected, and that books of record have been destroyed.

At the trial of a Chinaman for the murder of another Chinaman in New York, next week, the District Attorney expects to show that an association of "highbinders" exists in Chinatown.

The United States Court in New Orleans the United States Court dismissed the suit brought by Boer representatives to prevent the shipment of mules and horses for British use in the Transvaal.

The Rockingham Co. (Va.) Democratic Convention nominated State Senator George E. Keezewell and Tallourd N. Haas for the Constitutional Convention.

Mrs. Rachel Frye, whose mind was unbalanced by long sickness, drowned herself in a mill dam near her home, in Wardensville, Va.

The Jersey Central Railroad officials came to an agreement with its engineers and firemen, and their wages will be increased.

Nearly forty cotton mills in the Fall River district will shut down temporarily, throwing 17,000 operatives out of work.

A hundred and fifty newly enlisted men in the Fourteenth United States Cavalry deserted at Leavenworth, Kan.

Foreign.

It was reported in London that a private telegram had been received to the effect that General French, with 500 troops, had been captured by the Boers, but the British War Office discredited the rumor. General Kitchener reports that Colonel Rawlinson's column rushed the Boers near Klerksdorp. Six were killed, 10 wounded and 23 taken prisoners.

Archbishop Martinelli, papal delegate to the United States, was preconized as a cardinal at the consistory in Rome and 11 other cardinals were also created. The Pope, in an address at the consistory, deplored the revival in several parts of Europe of hostilities against the Church and of the law against religious associations in France.

The Italian Consul General at Zanzibar visited the Somali coast to break up trade in contraband. He had the palace of the Sultan bombarded and the Sultan's son and quantities of arms were captured.

At a big meeting held in Sofia, resolutions were adopted protesting against the arrest of the members of the Macedonian committee and condemning the attitude of Russia.

Li Hung Chang has asked General Chaffee to leave a sufficient number of American troops to police the Chinese city.

General Gras, inventor of a rifle, died at Auxerre, France.

Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany, arrived in Vienna and was welcomed by Emperor Francis Joseph and the Austrian archdukes.

From British sources comes a report that President Steyn has broken down and that he has advised the Boers to surrender.

Prince Ching declares that the missionary statements regarding a rebellion in Mongolia are not supported by the facts.

Emilia Kempin, a leader of the woman's movement in Germany, died in an insane asylum.

There have been 302 cases of bubonic plague in Cape Town, 153 of which have proved fatal.

Sir Edward William Watkins, a noted English railroad man, is dead.

Chief of Staff Surgeon Schimmel was convicted of freeing, for a financial consideration, the sons of wealthy families from service in the German army. Other parties will be prosecuted on similar charges.

Financial.

It is said $61,000 is bid for New York Stock Exchange seats.

A seat on the New York Stock Exchange sold for $59,000.

Bank clearings reached the enormous total last week of $2,776,000,000.

The English Government was a borrower at the Bank of England last week.

Local indebtedness in England has increased £77,000,000 or 39 per cent. recently.

In the first week of April forty-three railroads increased gross earnings 5.35 per cent.

THE SCANDALS IN THE COMMISSARY.

Disclosures Made at the Trial of Sergeant Memson.

TREACHERY OF A NATIVE GUIDE.

Testimony that Quantities of Flour Were Taken From a Government Storehouse in Manila and Sold by Three Commissary Sergeants and Others, Who Divided the Proceeds--Business Men Involved.

Manila (By Cable).—The trial of Commissary Sergeant John Meston, charged with complicity in the commissary frauds, is finished. No verdict was announced and Meston's conviction is uncertain. Other trials of those implicated will follow.

Capt. James C. Read, formerly depot commissary at Manila, has been arrested.

It is alleged that entries upon the books of Evans & Co., government contractors, indicate that the commissary officers received the following sums: Major George B. Davies, upward of $1000; Capt. James C. Read, $1000; Capt. Frank H. Lawton, $750; and Mr. B. Tremaine, Colonel Woodruff's chief clerk, $700.

It also appears that Evans & Co. furnished the handsome residence of Colonel Woodruff. Harold M. Pitt, manager of Evans & Co., who is now under arrest, was notoriously lavish in entertaining commissary and other officers, while the depot commissary, a frequenter of the "Tenderloin district," occasionally spent days at Pitt's house in questionable society. Pitt's house is a bacchanalian rendezvous, and prominent officers frequently visited it, drinking champagne and playing poker. Women of doubtful reputation have often been known to be there. It is alleged that Pitt had the inside track in securing government contracts, and it is also asserted that he was the prime mover in the scheme to re-establish cockpits in Manila, Mrs. Lara being subsidized in securing a cockpit.

It is asserted that the commissary department made unauthorized purchases of quantities of champagne. Pitt sold some. In addition to what the transports brought, the commissary imported 200 gallons in February and a like amount in March. The commissary and the commissary sergeant kept private carriages and indulged in other extravagances.

By the treachery of a native guide Lieutenant Mills, of Company G, of the Forty-third Volunteer Infantry, was almost entrapped while pursuing insurgents in the interior of the Island of Leyte. After a sharp skirmish the attacking insurgents were defeated. Surgeon Lewis Thompson and Private Prosset were severely wounded.

At Silang, in Cavite Province, the insurgents have surrendered several Nordenfeldts.

AMERICAN BOER PRISONER.

Randolph Martinsen Among the Boer Captives at Lisbon.

Paris (By Cable.—"Among the Boer prisoners who recently arrived in Lisbon from Lorenzo Marquez," says a special dispatch from the Portuguese capital, "was a young American, Randolph Martinsen, who described himself as a son of the president of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad. He was captured by the British, but released as an American on promising not to fight again. Subsequently he was arrested in Lorenzo Marquez at the request of the British authorities under suspicion of being a Boer agent.

"Mr. Martinsen, on being brought here, secured his release through the American Charge d'Affaires, and his father sent him money to pay his passage home. According to his representations he was aide-de-camp to Colonel John Blake, commander of the Irish Brigade."

BANK SWINDLER'S RUSE.

He Made a Rich Haul in Toronto by Raising Checks.

Toronto, Ont. (Special.—A clever bank swindler made a rich haul in Toronto Saturday, the total amount of which will not be known until the tellers and ledger keepers in various banks check up business. A stranger asserting that he lived in Halifax opened an account in the Imperial Bank Saturday morning, depositing $50. Shortly afterward he presented a check for $20, which was marked by the ledger keeper. Shortly before 1 o'clock, during the rush preceding the close, this check, raised to $2455, was presented to the teller and cashed.

The same procedure was adopted at the Bank of Commerce, where a check raised from $20 to $2000 was cashed. It is believed several other banks were similarly victimized.

Tax Unconstitutional.

Washington (Special).—In the United States Supreme Court an opinion was handed down in the case of Fairbanks vs. the United States. The case involved the constitutionality of the war-revenue law imposing a tax upon export bills of lading. The Court decided against the government, holding that provision of the law unconstitutional. The opinion was handed down by Justice Brewer, and Justices Harlan, Gray, White and McKenna dissented.

Boy Killed While at Play.

Martinsburg, Va. (Special).—The 10-year-old son of William H. Myers, living near Van Clevesville, five miles from this place, was shot and instantly killed by his cousin, Harry Henry, aged about 15 years, with a shot gun with which the boys were playing. This was the only living child Mr. Myers had, two others having died with diphtheria in one day about a month ago.

Steel Trust to Build Big Plant.

Conneaut, Ohio (Special.)—The attorney for the United States Steel Corporation here said that the big steel company will build a plant in the square mile of land adjoining the State line and lying in Pennsylvania.

Overdose of Morphine Causes Death.

Huntington, W. Va. (Special).—Dr. Charles Kelley Gardner, one of the oldest physicians in this city, died Sunday, the result of an overdose of morphine, taken, it is believed, with suicidal intent. He was prominently known throughout Northern West Virginia.

A BIG FIGHT FOR FORTUNE.

Estate of the Late Senator McPherson Involved --$5,000,000 Contest.

Jersey City, N. J. (Special).—A fight has been begun for the $5,000,000 estate of the late Senator John R. McPherson, of New Jersey. Mrs. McPherson, who died last month, left the estate in trust for her only daughter, whose elopement and marriage to Dr. Muir created a sensation.

According to the terms of the will Mrs. Muir was to have the income of the estate during her life, after which the income was to revert to Aaron S. Baldwin, the executor. At his death $50,000 was to be given Christ Hospital, this city; $10,000 to the Emergency Hospital, Washington, D. C., and the residue to Yale University for the education and support of poor students.

The daughter, Mrs. Muir, arrived from Europe on Thursday and, with her husband, she at once called upon counsel and instructed him to file an appeal from the probate of the will. The appeal as filed will permit almost any kind of testimony to set the document aside, such as undue influence, lack of testamentary capacity, and similar grounds. The fact that the will was drawn up and signed only the day before Mrs. McPherson died, and whilst her only child (Mrs. Muir) was in Europe with the Hoboken physician with whom she eloped, will also be one of the points in the effort to set aside the will.

FOUR PEOPLE STRUCK BY EXPRESS.

Three Killed and One Slightly Hurt. Two Women Hurled Great Distance.

Wilkesburre, Pa. (Special).—A party of four people, while crossing the tracks of the Lehigh Valley railroad, at South Wilkesbarre, were run down by the Buffalo express going north. Three of the party were killed and one injured. The dead are: Morris O'Connell, aged 41; Mrs. Morris O'Connell, aged 39; Mrs. Frank Cranmer, aged 40. Injured: Frank Cranmer. O'Connell and his wife were entertaining the Cranmer couple, whose home is in Bradford county. During the evening they visited relatives in this city, and at 1.30 started to return to the home of the O'Connells. When they reached the crossing at South Wilkesbarre a freight train was blockading it.

As soon as the freight train moved out the party started to cross the tracks, but did not notice the approach of the passenger train from an opposite direction. The engineer of the express failed to see the people on the track until the locomotive had plowed into them. The two women were hurled a great distance in the air, and when picked up were dead. Both bodies were badly mangled. Mr. O'Connell had both legs and one arm broken. He was taken to a hospital, where he died in a short time.

Mr. Cranmer was able to step back from the track before being struck with full force and escaped with slight injuries.

Disaster at Cripple Creek.

Cripple Creek, Col. (Special).—An electric car on the high line of the Cripple Creek district railway jumped the track and completely turned over at the terminal station, corner of Second and Myers avenues, injuring the motorman and ten of the twenty passengers. The car was running 20 miles an hour when it struck the curve, which is very sharp at the point where the wreck occurred.

Boy Saves Many From Death.

Frankfort, Ind. (Special).—Milo Hughes, aged 8 years, saved a Monon freight train from a wreck. The boy lives near the railroad four miles north of here, and while at the creek discovered the bridge in flames. He knew the southbound fast freight was due, and running up the track he met it and by waving his hat succeeded in stopping the train. The trainmen took the little fellow in their arms and hugged him.

George Q. Cannon Dead.

Monterey, Cal. (Special).—Apostle George Q. Cannon, of the Mormon Church, died here after a brief illness. The body was taken to San Francisco for embalming, after which it will be taken to Salt Lake City.

George Q. Cannon was 74 years old. He was a native of Manxland and had been one of the leaders in the Mormon propaganda, doing as much as any other one member, perhaps, in promoting the cause of the Church.

Court of Arbitration.

The Hague (By Cable).—Dr. W. H. De Beaufort, president of the administrative council of the permanent court of arbitration, has notified all the powers concerned that the court is now constituted. This notification is intended to take the place of a formal installation. The court has not yet been signed by China, Luxemburg, Mexico or Turkey.

Colonel Musick Dead.

Omaha, Neb. (Special).—Colonel John R. Musick, author, journalist and politician, died of heart failure at his apartments in this city. Injuries received while rescuing the injured after a cyclone at Kirksville, Mo., were causes which led to his death. Colonel Musick devoted a great part of his life to writing historical stories for young people.

Industrial Depression Abroad.

Berlin (By Cable).—It is stated that the Krupps are about to discharge 3000 hands from their Essen, Buckow and Kiel works. They have already dismissed 4000 since October. The industrial depression continues. According to a recent estimate one-fourth of the workers in Berlin are very insufficiently employed or totally idle.

Victim of Kentucky Feud.

Sneedsville, Tenn. (Special).—Even Bledsaw, a feudist, was found dead, sitting upright against a tree, grasping his rifle tightly. It is believed he had been decoyed to the desolate spot in hope of capturing the man who killed his father, several years.

Plot to Kidnap Three Boys.

Cleveland, Ohio (Special).—It developed here that a plot was recently on foot to kidnap the sons of two wealthy East End residents. Letters of a threatening nature have been received by the families of the boys, and every effort is being made to guard them from harm. Two of the boys, Cyrus and David Ford, are sons of H. Clark Ford, a lawyer and real estate man, and the third boy is the 10-year-old son of B. F. Whitman. Mr. Whitman is treasurer of the East End Banking and Trust Company. Both families are wealthy.

THE POWERS ASK HUGE INDEMNITY.

Russia Demands Right to Deal Independently Regarding Manchuria.

JAPAN'S CLAIM VERY MODERATE.

Germany Wants Less Than Russia, Whose Claim is $90,000,000--The Total Will Be Far in Excess of the Amount Which China is Able to Pay--Russia Has Stated that She Had No Idea of Annexing Manchuria.

Washington (Special).—The efforts of the State Department, through Special Commissioner Rockhill, to keep down the total of the indemnity demanded on China to a sum not to exceed $200,000,000 have so far proved a failure, and there is little prospect of success.

The British Government is in entire harmony with the United States in this matter and has agreed to take a sum somewhat lower than that of the United States, which is approximately $25,000,000, though our Government is willing to reduce its claim if others will do the same. The British Government, like that of the United States, prefers commercial privileges to money demands which China cannot meet.

The heaviest claim for indemnity so far put in is that of Russia, which wants $90,000,000, and in addition claims the right to deal in the Manchurian matter separately with China without any regard to the other Powers. Germany is willing to take $30,000,000 less than Russia, or $60,000,000, but if Russia insists on $90,000,000 Germany will probably insist on $80,000,000.

Japan is reasonable and agrees entirely with the United States and Great Britain. France, however, itisists on a large sum, while Italy, Austria and some other nations, such as Spain, Belgium and Holland, that suffered no particular loss, and contributed nothing in the way of troops, are putting in demands in excess of those of the United States, Great Britain and Japan.

This is a condition of things that gives very little promise of bringing down the claims to any reasonable sum, such as China can pay. At the present time there seems to be no hope of reducing the aggregate below $300,000,000, and it may reach $400,000,000. Nothing has yet been determined respecting the method of raising the indemnity fund, even after an agreement is reached.

KILLED FOR WINTER'S WAGES.

Young Woodman Waylaid and Murdered After a Struggle.

Greenville Junction, Me. (Special).—The finding of the body of Mathison Pare, a woodman, at Askwith, has revealed a most brutal murder, with robbery as the motive.

The victim, who was 21 years old, had worked this winter on Moosehead lake. On March 8, when he had finished his work, he received his wages, amounting to $108, and started for his home in St. Benoit, Canada.

No tidings as to his whereabouts were learned until Thursday last, when his mutilated body was found by a party of wood cutters. The body, which was frozen, lay in the snow. The man had evndently been shot by a rifle ball, which struck him in the face. There were indications that a struggle took place and that the rifle wound had not proved fatal, as there were knife cuts on the face and neck. The right side of the head was crushed as if from a blow with the butt end of the rifle. His money and a valise filled with clothes were missing.

OUTLAWS USE THEIR GUNS.

They Kill a Man Whose House They Were Robbing and Kill a Detective.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special).—Thomas D. Kahney, a grocer at No. 13 Albert St., Mount Washington, about 3 o'clock in the morning was shot and almost instantly killed by burglars who were looting his house. Kahney met his death while trying to rescue his wife from the robbers. Three men had entered his house and were trying to force a gag in Mrs. Kahney's mouth to prevent her from giving an alarm. Several shots were fired at Kahney with fatal effect.

After the shooting the burglars fled from the house. As soon as the murder of Kahney was reported to the police department Superintendent O'Meara put the entire force of detectives to work on the case. Several of the officers came upon the three burglars on Fulton street, and immediately the fugitives opened fire. The officers promptly returned the fire, and in the fusilade that followed "Paddy" Fitzgerald, one of Pittsburg's oldest and best known detectives, was almost instantly killed and two other officers are reported wounded.

Slain in a Friend's Room.

Columbia, S. C. (Special).—Captain John J. Griffin, commercial agent of the Norfolk and Western Railroad Company, was shot to death in the rooms of Major Bernard B. Evans, brother of ex-Gov. John Gary Evans, of this city. Major Evans was arrested on suspicion of having committed the crime. The two men were alone at dinner. Major Evans summoned Dr. R. W. Gibbes, who found Captain Griffin dying and speechless on Major Evans' bed. A 44-caliber Colt's revolver bullet had entered just above the left nipple.

To Build Monument to Harrison.

Indianapolis, Ind. (Special).—Following the death and burial of ex-President Harrison, the Commercial Club of this city and other civic organizations resolved upon building a monument to Harrison. The proposition found favor in the East, and Senator Fairbanks subscribed $1000 and reported he had received letters from Col. John W. Foster authorizing a subscription of $1000 each by himself and Stephen W. Elkins, making a nucleus of $3000.

Girl Arrested for Murder.

Elkton, Md. (Special).—Another chapter was added to the Simpers tragedy at Strahorn Mills when State's Attorney Evans had Sarah Simpers, aged 12 years, sister of the murdered boy, arrested and lodged in the Elkton jail, charged with committing the crime. Thomas Simpers, aged 10, is already in prison under the same charge. The two youthful prisoners accuse each other of killing their 7-year-old brother Howard, but on account of their age the District Attorney will endeavor to have them committed to the Reform School until they become of age.

LIVE NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Stop Postal Abuses.

Having repeatedly failed to secure remedial legislation from Congress to prevent abuses of the privilege of second-class mail matter, the Postoffice Department officials have under consideration the question of the adoption of a proposed rule, by authority of the Postmaster General, to bring about the desired reforms. With this object in view, Mr. Edwin C. Madden, Third Assistant Postmaster General, has addressed a long circular letter to about 400 publishers of newspapers and periodicals, setting forth the objects sought to be accomplished by the proposed rule and asking the following question:

"In the judgment of those addressed, will a departmental rule be regarded as injurious to legitimate newspapers and periodicals which will stop absolutely all premium inducements, direct or indirect, and of whatever character, for subscriptions? In other words, after a publisher has fixed a price on his publication any bonus or premium given to the subscriber or any combination with another thing except a second-class publication shall vitiate that subscription in its relation to the second-class rates of postage?"

President's Tour to the Pacific.

The President, Mrs. McKinley and party will leave Washington by the Southern Railway, Monday morning, April 29, at 10.30 o'clock, for a tour to the Pacific Coast and return, covering a period of between six and seven weeks. They will have a train consisting of a private car for the President and Mrs. McKinley, two Pullman compartment cars, two Pullman sleepers, a dining car and a combination car. Col. L. S. Brown, general agent of the Southern Railway, will accompany the party from here to New Orleans, and from New Orleans to Portland, Ore., E. O. McCormick, passenger traffic manager of the Southern Pacific Line.

A Successor to Baron Fava.

The State Department has been advised through the American Ambassador at Rome and the Italian Foreign Office that Baron Fava will be succeeded as ambassador from Italy to this country by the Marquiz Obizzo Malispina di Carbonara, at present minister for Italy to the Argentine Republic. The Marquiz has had a wide diplomatic experience, and served in Washington as one of the attaches of the Italian legation about ten years ago. He will receive a substantial promotion by his new appointment, rising from the rank of minister to that of ambassador.

Patent Commissioner Resigns.

Walter H. Chamberlin, of Chicago, Ill., tendered his resignation as United States Assistant Commissioner of Patents. The resignation will take effect May 1, when Mr. Chamberlin will resume the practice of patent law. Mr. Chamberlin called on President McKinley and explained that he cannot afford to remain here and neglect his practice.

Dairy Products Market.

H. E. Emery, formerly of the North Carolina agricultural experiment station, has been detailed by the Secretary of Agriculture to visit China, Japan, the Philippines and other Eastern countries with a view to extending the markets for American dairy products.

Capital News in General.

The United States Supreme Court decided that divorces are only generally valid when the parties have a legal bona-fide residence in the State which granted them.

The Government is said to have made compromises with the importers in the "hat trimmings" cases.

The President made a number of appointments of surgeons in the Volunteer Army.

As a result of a meeting during the inauguration exercises the engagement is announced of ex-Congressman J. Frank Aldrich, of Missouri, to Miss Mathilde Agan, of New York.

Col. James C. Berrett, ex-mayor of Washington, and a prominent figure in politics in Maryland and in Washington for half a century, died of paralysis.

Ambassador Cambon has purchased a site on which the French government will erect an embassy.

Plans have been arranged to be presented to Congress for an extension of the Capitol.

The Navy Department gave a medal and a gratuity to Sergeant Helms, of the Marine Corps, for gallantry and heroism, despite the recommendation to the contrary by Rear Admiral Crowninshield.

The Comptroller of the Currency appointed a temporary receiver for the Farmers National Bank of Vergennes, Vt., whose cashier had embezzled about $90,000.

Secretary Hay has been sounding the Senators to learn what sort of a treaty with England bearing on the isthmian canal will be certain of ratification.

President James M. Waterbury, of the Waterbury Rope Company, explained to the Industrial Commission why the Cordage Trust was a failure.

An attempt to rob the express train on the Pennsylvania Railroad, near Washington, was foiled by the express messenger.

President McKinley appointed a Board of visitors to West Point Military Academy.

The Treasury Department was advised by the big meat-packing concerns in Chicago of a rumor that the British Government intended to make war on American meat.

The Congress of the Loyal Legion adopted an amendment to the constitution admitting veterans of the Spanish-American War.

Our New Possessions.

Major William Monaghan, a volunteer paymaster, died while serving in the Philippines.

The Cuban Constitutional Convention declines to pass upon the Platt amendment, and the question has been left to the commission which goes to Washington to consult the President.

Archbishop Chapelle, the papal delegate in the Philippines, has been summoned to Rome.

The immigration at the port of Havana, Cuba, during the last half of the year 1900 was 14,578.

The American Philippine Commission received a cordial greeting at Antique Province, on the Island of Panay.

At a meeting of European members of the Filipino Junta in London, it was reported that General MacArthur was preparing to torture Aguinaldo to compel him to sign the oath of allegiance, the members of the Junta evidently not being posted on the doings of Aguinaldo since his capture.