

**ACTION OF CONGRESS.**

**THE SENATE PROGRESSES SLOWLY WITH THE INDIAN BILL.**

Confirmation of the New Jersey Postmaster Who Were Politically Objectionable to Hobart—The House Passes the East of the Appropriation Measures.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The senate made slow progress on the appropriation bill, disposing of only one item of the Indian bill—That directing the opening of Uncompahgre Indian reservation in Utah. It involved a conflict with the executive branch, which has steadily resisted opening these lands, on the ground that they contained valuable mineral deposits. Mr. Vilas endeavored to have a royalty reserved to the government, but was defeated in this, and the clause was agreed to after a long debate.

During the session a resolution by Mr. Mills of Texas was adopted asking the president for information as to the death of Dr. Rull at Guinnabon, Cuba.

Mr. Modell (Rep.) of Vermont announced a Cuban speech on Thursday.

In executive session the senate by a vote of 88 to 23 refused to adopt Senator Sewell's motion to reconsider the vote by which a number of nominations for the office of postmaster in New Jersey were confirmed a few days since. The last vote was taken on the nomination of H. J. Kohlhaas to postmaster at Paterson, in which there was special interest because of the fact that this is the home of Vice President Eliot Hobart, whose name figured in the brief debate that preceded the vote. Mr. Sewell said that Kohlhaas was objectionable to Mr. Hobart because he was a Democrat, but he refused to say the nominee was personally objectionable to Mr. Hobart. The Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans voted solidly against reconsideration, while the straight Republicans supported the Sewell motion.

The vote had the effect of confirming Mr. Kohlhaas, and after the result was announced Mr. Sewell withdrew his objection to the office involved.

**Civil Service in the House.**

The house passed the naval bill, the last of the appropriation bills, and sent it to the senate. Mr. Boutwell, chairman of the naval committee, was in charge of the measure and displayed such skill in its handling that its provision aroused little opposition, and it was passed practically without amendment.

Mr. Barrett of Massachusetts made an effort to secure an authorization for a dredge at Boston to cost \$1,000,000, but after a somewhat acrimonious debate the amendment was voted out on Thursday. He then tried to secure the appointment of a commission to pass on the relative merits of Boston and Portsmouth as a location for a dredge, and was also unsuccessful.

The feature of the session was an exceedingly interesting political debate on the subject of civil service reform. It occurred during the consideration of a bill to permit the governors of the territories to appoint certain officers of the territory in cases of vacancy without the consent of the legislative councils, which is now required by law.

It was precipitated by some remarks of Mr. Bailey of Texas, which led to denunciation of the law by Delegate Flynn of Oklahoma and General Grover of Ohio. Every time they thrust their weapons into the law they were greeted with enthusiastic applause by most of the Republicans.

Mr. Bailey himself boldly declared the law to be a humbug, but he could not resist the temptation to make political capital by suggesting that General Grover, as the representative of the incoming administration, had given notice that the law was to be repealed.

General Grover parried this neatly, however, by recalling the fact that his first controversy in the house with Mr. McKinley was over this very question. Mr. Brooks (Rep.) of Indiana, chairman of the committee on civil service, defended the law and declared that General Grover had "flashed the sword in the heart of the president elect." He called attention to Mr. McKinley's later acceptance of the law, in which the president elect said he would take "no step backward" in the matter of civil service reform.

**The Past Week in Congress.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The senate passed the Lodge immigration bill by a vote of 34 to 21.

In the house the conference reports on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and the bill to fix the times and places of holding a court in each judicial district were adopted.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—In the senate Chairman Sherman again called up the arbitration treaty, and it was further considered in executive session, but without a vote being reached. The nomination of C. F. Amidon to be district judge of North Dakota was confirmed after a spirited debate.

The house, by a vote of 197 to 91, reversed the finding of a majority of the elections committee and declared the contested election case of N. P. Hopkins versus J. M. Kendall, from the Tenth Kentucky district, in favor of the Republican contestant, Mr. Hopkins. Appropriation and pension bills were considered.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The senate spent almost eight hours in continuous executive session on the arbitration treaty yesterday. No result was accomplished beyond voting down the motion made by Senator Nelson to postpone further consideration of the treaty until March 5. The vote stood 20 to 30.

In the house there was a spirited debate over the general deficiency appropriation bill, but no vote was reached. The bill as reported carries \$8,441,997.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—In the senate yesterday a resolution extending sympathy to Greece in her struggle to secure the independence of Crete was passed. The Indian appropriation bill was debated. There was a tacit agreement among senators favorable to the Anglo-American arbitration treaty that no further effort would be made at this session to secure the ratification of the measure.

The house continued its consideration of the general deficiency bill, but no session was taken.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—In the senate yesterday President Washington's farewell address was read by Mr. Daniel. Most of the day was spent in consideration of the Indian appropriation bill.

In the house the general deficiency appropriation bill was passed without amendment, and consideration of the navy appropriation bill was begun.

**Approved by the President.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The president has approved the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill and the bill to reorganize the judicial districts of Arkansas and to increase the pension of Clara L. Nichols, widow of Major General W. A. Nichols.

**New York Legislature.**

ALBANY, Feb. 24.—Senator Ellsworth introduced a bill to prohibit the publication of alleged portraits in newspapers. It was decided not to adjourn over inauguration week. The free textbook bill passed the assembly by 22 to 18. A resolution for an investigation into reported sales of state salt lands was adopted by the assembly. Hearings were given on the bill for municipal ownership of gas plants, for the sale of poisons by merchants and on the bill prohibiting the carrying of "knockout drops."

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**DEFIANCE OF GREECE.**

THE HEROIC HELENES ARE EAGER FOR THE FRAY.

Diplomatic Relations to Be Ruptured if Firing on the Insurgents Is Repeated. All Europe Stirred Up Over the Crisis. Turkey May Invoke Khedive's Aid.

ATHENS, Feb. 24.—The situation on the island of Crete continues critical and may involve all Europe in war. The ambassadors of the powers have given notice to Greece that she must desert from further warlike preparations, but the heroic Helenes continue to fight with vigor and determination to Crete and the Macedonian frontier. The foreign warships occupy the port of Khania and on Sunday bombarded the insurgent camp in the foothills near the city.

**May Sever Diplomatic Relations.**

PARIS, Feb. 23.—A dispatch received here from Athens says that Greece has declared that she will break off diplomatic relations with the powers if the bombardment of Crete continues.

On the other hand, it is stated that Asim Bey, the Turkish minister at Athens, threatens that Turkey will break off her relations unless the Greek troops are withdrawn from Crete.

**Consuls Fired on by Creteans.**

KHANIA, Feb. 23.—The British, Italian and Russian consuls, who recently went to Selino to inquire into the situation there, have returned to Khania, bringing with them 170 Mussulmans, who feared to remain in the town. The consuls state that they were unable to negotiate with the combatants, who were resolved to fight to the end. Both sides, Moslems and Christians, refused to be hampered with prisoners, and therefore massacred all the enemies who fell into their hands. Two thousand Creteans and 250 Turkish troops, with three guns, are still holding Selino against the Christians, but their position is critical. When attempting to approach Cadano, the consuls were fired upon by the Creteans, despite the fact that they were bearing a white flag.

**Delvannis Defies the Powers.**

ATHENS, Feb. 23.—A great indignation meeting was held here last evening in order to protest against the bombardment of Crete by the powers of the insurgent camp near Selino. Resolutions were raised for war, and the speakers vehemently declared that the country was now fully determined to sacrifice its blood and treasure in aid of Crete.

Premier Delvannis addressed a crowd of people from the terrace in front of the ministry of finance and declared that the cabinet was in perfect accord with the nation, which might be assured that the government will do its duty.

The minister for foreign affairs has called at the foreign embassies and has lodged a protest against the bombardment of the island of Crete by the foreign warships.

The Greek ship Thessalia has returned to Milos, having failed to land arms or provisions anywhere on the Crete coast, owing to the fire from the warships.

Premier Delvannis in the legislative chamber denied all of the reports of the landing of Turkish troops on the island of Crete.

**For Cretean Home Rule.**

ROME, Feb. 24.—Austria and Russia have submitted to the powers a proposal looking to the autonomy of Crete, which, it is suggested, should be made subject to unanimous resolution, to be communicated to Turkey and Greece.

**Young Journalist's Bad Demise.**

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—Clifford Smyth, United States consul at Cartagena, Colombia, has just notified the relatives and friends of the death of G. Frederic Joseph of this city of tropical fever.

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**CONSUL LEE RESIGNS.**

NOT UPHELD IN WASHINGTON AND WILL LEAVE HAVANA.

Preferred to Return Rather Than Abandon American Citizens—His Request For Warships to Enforce His Demands—Many Among Spanish Soldiers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—The Herald this morning prints the following from its Havana correspondent, sent by way of Key West:

Consul General Lee has resigned. His letter tendering his resignation under certain conditions goes by the next mail. He determined some days ago to take such a step if he were not upheld in his efforts to protect American citizens in Cuba.

The consul general asked the state department that he be authorized to demand the release of Cuban prisoners under the same illegal circumstances as was the case of the Rulo. Such authorization has not been granted him.

Spanish warships in Cuban waters have since Sunday been concentrating in the harbor of Havana. This is regarded here as very significant, in view of the important incidents of the last few days.

Great anxiety is felt at the palace and in all official circles at the news from Cleveland, which states that that city is the center of a serious mutiny of the Spanish troops. Large amounts of pay are due the

army in Cuba, and the discontent caused by this has culminated in open insurrection in the Spanish ranks in the Cienfuegos district.

The insurgents in the eastern end of the island have captured Havana, an important town in Santiago.

**The Brutal Slaying of Ruiz.**

HAVANA, via Key West, Feb. 20.—Dr. Richard Ruiz, a nationalized American citizen, was found in his cell in the Guanabacoa jail Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. There is little doubt that he was beaten to death by his jailers at Fontevieja's orders.

Dr. Ruiz, who studied and practiced dentistry in Philadelphia for many years, was arrested some ten days ago and charged with having helped Anagnuren's band to desert from their troops and mutiny. The charge was of the dimmest character, as every one in Guanabacoa knew that Ruiz attended strictly to his business and took no interest in political or revolutionary movements.

The Spanish authorities, as usual, failed to notify the consul general of the step they had taken, and a representative of the consul has now been doing his best to learn from unofficial sources of the high handed proceedings.

Of course, the only crime of which Ruiz was guilty was American citizenship, and for this he has now been done to death in a most brutal and inhuman manner.

When the 72 hours had elapsed during which by Spanish law prisoners may be kept incommunicado, General Lee demanded that a lawyer and a representative of the consulate be admitted to see the prisoner. The state department was informed of the situation by General Lee, but he received no reply.

When instructed, or not General Lee will take all the steps which the situation demands and perform his duty to his fellow citizens.

**Cuba's Terms of Peace.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—The World this morning publishes under the head of "The Most Important Document in the Cuban War" an autograph letter written to that paper by Salvador Cisneros, president of the provisional government of the Cubans and countersigned by Maximo Gomez, the general in chief.

The letter was approved by the so called cabinet of the provisional government and bears the seal of the infant republic. It is as follows:

"At the request of your correspondent we have the greatest pleasure in answering the following questions:

"Do you believe that the war can be ended on the basis of independence by the payment of an indemnity by Cuba to Spain with the United States as arbitrator?"

"On the basis of independence it will be possible to enter into negotiations. These should provide for the evacuation of the island by the Spanish and for the future relations between Spain and the new Cuban republic.

"We believe there should also be included an indemnity to be paid Spain, provided the amount is reasonable. This would be honorable, practicable and good for all.

"But if once it should be done as soon as possible. The indemnity should prevent the further loss of blood and of money, and it would save the economic resources of the people who have sworn to the complete destruction of the island before they will submit anew to the domination of Spain.

"Each day that passes causes fresh hatred and devastation. Soon the productive capacity of the country will be destroyed.

"Cuba can pay less as time passes, not only because each moment she earns less, but it will be increasingly difficult for her to fulfill the obligation, and agreements she is now able to make.

"The indemnity to Spain should take the form of the acknowledgment and guarantee by Cuba of a part of that debt already contracted by Spain or the payment of a sum in bonds or in money to Spain.

"We would not deem it inadvisable for the United States to intervene as arbitrator or as a satisfactorily as the friends of both sides, providing always that the island of Cuba shall not sacrifice thereby her own sovereignty.

"We are yours, in the greatest consideration,"

"SALVADOR CISNEROS,"

"MAXIMO GOMEZ."

**Failed a Trip on His Son.**

PATRICK, N. J., Feb. 24.—While Rowland Lane of Mead avenue was cutting down trees, his son Willie, 19 years old, related him with his dinner. The boy sat down a few feet from his father while the latter finished felling a large tree.

The father was not aware that his son was so near, and the tree fell in his direction. It fell upon the boy and crushed him. The agonized father had to cut the tree in half before he could get the boy out. There is no hope of his recovery.

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**DESTRUCTIVE FLOODS.**

Great Damage Done by High Water in Ohio and Allegheny Valleys.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 21.—The flood now raging here will probably equal the great flood of 1884, which increased 24 feet. It is impossible to estimate the damage the present rise is doing, but \$300,000 will be puting it mildly at Pittsburg and Allegheny alone. All the lowlands in the vicinity of either of the rivers have been submerged.

More than 10,000 men have been made idle by the rise, as many of the mills are located on the banks of the streams. The water has invaded the heart of the city and flooded cellars and stopped traffic in many places, notably Sixth and Market streets, popular thoroughfares.

A large part of Allegheny has apparently been blotted out.

Many people are made homeless along the banks of the Allegheny river. Beginning at Brownsville, on the Monongahela river, California, Monongahela City, Charleroi, east and west of Ellersbeth, Portview, McKeesport, Turtle Creek, Bossmer and many smaller hamlets have been inundated, or partially so, causing much suffering. The distress of the people's wail, as many fled to the hills and remained there all night in the rain and cold rather than trust to their homes.

The coal and coke trade of Brown & Co. fell with a crash above the bridge of the Wheeling division of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and a fleet of 80 coal loads and large wrecks out from their moorings, completely blocking the channel from bank to bank, threatening all the craft for miles below. About half of the fleet was saved.

The Washington Electric company, meter plant and machine shops, East Pittsburg, covering acres of ground, are all under water, caused by the backing up of Turtle creek. Hundreds of homes are also under water from this cause. The exposition building is completely surrounded by water. The Oliver Wire and Nail company's plant, Ditwirth Spoke company's works, Finch's distillery, the Keystone Rolling mill, part of Jones & Laughlin's works, the Iron Iron company, Schoenberger's Consolidated Steel and Wire company, the W. Deveson Works, part of the Edgar Thomson works and a score of plants up the Monongahela valley have been compelled to shut down. The United Coke and Chemical plant at Glassport has just been completely hidden and probably ruined, involving \$300,000 loss.

**HARRISON'S DAUGHTER.**

Many Congratulations For the Ex-President and His Wife.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 21.—At 5:30 yesterday morning ex-President Harrison heard the first cry of a little daughter who had just opened her eyes upon a strange world as she was handed to the nurse by Dr. Henry Jamison, the attending physician.

The babe was perfect in form and feature and weighed 8½ pounds.

"Is it a boy?" asked General Harrison.

"No, it is a girl," replied the doctor.

Mrs. Harrison's splendid health and courage heretofore bravely through her ordeal. There were present besides the doctor Mrs. Barnhart, the nurse, and Mrs. Parker, the devoted sister of Mrs. Harrison.

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**McKinley's Cabinet Completed.** CANTON, O., Feb. 20.—The cabinet of President McKinley is now completed, the latest selections being Colonel John J. McCook of New York for attorney general and James A. Gary of Maryland for postmaster general. The list as completed is as follows: Secretary of State—John Sherman of Ohio. Secretary of the Treasury—Lyman J. Gage of Illinois. Secretary of the Navy—John D. Long of Massachusetts. Secretary of War—Russell A. Alger of Michigan. Secretary of the Interior—Joseph McKenna of California. Postmaster General—James A. Gary of Maryland. Secretary of Agriculture—James Wilson of Iowa. Attorney General—John J. McCook of New York.

**Safe Crackers Got \$2,000.** ALBANY, Feb. 24.—The safe of the Albany railway was broken open by robbers and about \$2,000 taken. The safe crackers drilled holes in the safe door on either side of the combination and touched off the blast, probably while the policeman on the beat was sending in his periodic return to headquarters from a distant police call box. They left their burglar tools behind, but there is no other clue to their identity.

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