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AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 23.—In the Mason court-martial to-day, Captain McGilroy, of Sergeant Mason's marine company, testified that since Mason's confinement he had been returned to duty by witness as duty sergeant.

Warden Crocker described the location of Guiteau's cell, and said the arsenal troops could be witnessed from the cell window. Guiteau, when not reading or writing, spent some time looking out of the window.

Bigelow, counsel for Mason, objected to testimony as to Guiteau looking out of the window, unless the Judge Advocate engaged to show that this habit was known to Mason.

The Judge Advocate said he proposed to show this.

The Court sustained Bigelow's objection.

The Judge Advocate then announced that he intended to prove Mason knew of the habits of Guiteau.

Mason, rising from his chair, exclaimed: "I will clear that, Judge; I did know."

The president of the court peremptorily ordered Mason to be silent.

No material fact was elicited to-day.

The arrival of Mason's wife and little boy seems to have a soothing effect on him. He continues to complain bitterly of the food and the quarters furnished him, and constantly urges the treatment accorded him by the military authorities and that accorded Guiteau by civil officers at the jail.

Van Wyck has introduced a bill in the Senate to compel railroads to pay State taxes on unpatented lands donated them by the government. The bill says one of the provisions of the land grant charter is that railroads must pay the cost of surveying lands. Companies hold land throughout the West which they have not surveyed and patented, and the courts have held that the State cannot tax these lands because the United States still holds an interest in equity in them, by reason of the fact that under the condition imposed by the grant, the lands might revert to the government through the failure of the railroads to comply with these conditions. It is claimed that the railroads have the lands unpatented to avoid taxation, and Van Wyck's bill releases and quit claims to any State that proceeds against these lands for the collection of taxes, all interest in equity of the general government. It is thought this will encourage States to collect these taxes.

The Senate committee on naval affairs this morning voted to reject the nomination of Watmough to be Paymaster General of the navy, and Stevenson to be pay director. A few days ago the committee agreed to an adverse report on Watmough, but held it back in order to give the President time to withdraw the nomination if he saw fit. Several members of the committee waited on the President and officially advised him of this action. The committee waited until to-day, and not receiving any intimation from the President as to his purpose, formally adopted an adverse report, and ordered it to be presented to the Senate. The nomination of Stevenson was then taken up and a motion to report adversely adopted.

The Senate passed the Grant retirement bill by a vote of 35 against 17, and adjourned without determining what bill shall be next taken up. Several motions in behalf of immediate consideration of various measures including one earnestly urged by Miller to take up the Chinese bill, are still pending.

Bayard has offered a substitute for the bill to retire Grant, providing a pension for all ex-Presidents equal annually to one fourth the amount of his annual pay while President.

The House committee on private land claims will report for passage a bill providing for the issuance of land scrip to Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, in lieu of about 270,000 acres of land in Louisiana, the title to which has been known to be confirmed to other parties.

NEW YORK, 23.—The *Graphic's* Washington correspondent has unearthed another South American scheme co-insident with Blaine's recent foreign policy, that has not heretofore come to light, and which is almost on a par with the Peruvian

Company and Credit Industrial. The project was to work a great silver mine in Bolivia. A syndicate was to be formed with something like \$73,000,000 capital, and a bonanza, by the side of which the Nevada lodes would appear puny. Was promised by the manager. The modus operandi was to secure a title from Bolivia to the silver district, for which that Government was to receive a royalty from the production. American capital was to work it, and blocks of stock were to be distributed among a large number of leading politicians, who were to contribute to the prosperity of the enterprise by assisting in shaping the foreign policy of this country in certain channels. The manager presented the matter to certain senators, and endeavored to show that the enterprise was legitimate, and above all would be profitable. All that was desired of senators and other prominent politicians was to induce the Government to interfere and prevent Chili from overrunning Bolivia and absorbing the province which embraced the mine. It was urged that if they went abroad at once and put in American capital, the Administration could not decline to insist that Chili should respect the property rights of our citizens. Bolivia was represented as being willing to give sufficient guarantees on her part, the inducements being twofold: First, a royalty from the now idle mines; and second, the protection of the United States, under cover of preserving the rights of its citizens within the territory of a sister republic, whose title at the time of investment was not jeopardized. Whether any of the senators gave encouragement to the scheme is not known; but one at least who was offered a block of stock in the Bolivian bonanza is known to have declined to have anything to do with it. Should congressional inquiry into South American matters be ordered, it will doubtless come out.

The *Mail and Express' Washington special* says: The House committee on elections will take a vote to-morrow on the disputed election case, between Cannon and Campbell. The following points have been agreed upon, and will be reported on that day to the House: First, that minorities never can elect; second, that Campbell is not entitled to the seat; third, that Cannon, having received a majority of all the votes cast, should be given the seat unless disqualified by some Constitutional objection; fourth, Cannon, admitting that he lives in polygamous relations, thus violates the law, and not being a Constitutional officer of the Government like a Member of Congress, but simply a Delegate from a Territory holds his place at the will of Congress; fifth, that the committee intend to notify the citizens of Utah that in spite of the admitted citizenship of Cannon, that polygamy will not be recognized in the United States, report that he should be excluded from his seat in the House.

The *Tribune* editorially says: Our regular Paris correspondent mentions the most conspicuous victims of the recent collapse of the religious banking house. Among those are the Emperor of Austria, who has lost \$6,000,000; the Count de Chambord, whose investments in Union Generale amounted to \$1,000,000; the Prince and Princess de Progle, whose losses exceed \$3,400,000, and the unfortunate Duke of Cumberland, blind King George's son, whose wife is sister of Wales, King of Greece, and the Empress of Russia. There investments were made, whether by sovereigns, princes or pretenders, because the financial enterprise had been blessed by Pius IX, and was seemingly endowed with religious sanctity. They wanted to enrich convents and themselves as well.

A Washington special to the *Graphic* says a vigorous crusade against the liquor traffic will surely be inaugurated by Senator Logan, who has carefully prepared a speech favoring a bill providing that all revenues of the government hereafter derived from the tax on the manufacture and sale of distilled spirits shall be divided among the States and Territories in proportion to their population, exclusively for educational purposes. Logan will oppose both the reduction and repeal of the internal revenue taxes, but will urge most energetically that the proceeds of the manufacture and sale of liquor be devoted to free schools and thus relieve the people of that burden. He has been gathering statistics on the subject and says they show the expense of carrying on the educational system of the States and Territories does not ex-

ceed \$75,000,000 which is just the sum that it is estimated will be received from the tax on liquor during the present fiscal year. Logan thinks if such a law is passed it will at once become popular as well as permanent.

COLORADO SPRINGS, 23.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Mexican National Construction Company, (Palmer-Sullivan,) held here to-day, nineteen twentieths of the stock represented by a unanimous vote. The capital stock was increased by \$3,000,000. Nearly the entire amount of new stock was taken by the present stockholders. This amount will enable the company to complete, equip and put in operation 729 miles of the road. The completion of this mileage will entitle the company to \$5,400,000 in subsidies from the Mexican government, payable in stipulated sections as completed. Of this mileage 302 miles are complete and in operation. Rails and rolling stock are already provided for 729 miles, the grading is completed 550 miles and ties have been bought and delivered for 582 miles. It is expected that the 729 miles will be completed and in operation before the end of the year. The system for which concessions have been granted covers 2,962 miles. When 729 miles are completed there will remain a gap of 470 miles to connect the City of Mexico with the United States.

CHICAGO, 22.—Dispatches indicate that the anniversary of Washington's birthday was generally observed throughout the country. The boards of trade closed and in a number of places suitable ceremonies were held.

WASHINGTON, 24.—The President has nominated Sargeant to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Germany, and Conkling as associate justice of the Supreme Court.

NEW YORK, 24.—The *Tribune's* Washington correspondent says: The prediction is made by members of the House that the Grant bill will cause earnest debate there and that the passage will not be as easy as it has been in the Senate.

The nomination of William Tucker, Jr., Logan's son-in-law, to be major and paymaster in the army has evoked much criticism. It has not been an uncommon practice since the beginning of Grant's administration for Presidents to appoint paymasters from civil life, but Tucker is one of the very bad men appointed from civil life who have seen no military service. This appointment carrying with it the rank of major, will put Tucker over the heads of 120 captains of cavalry, 60 captains of artillery and 250 captains of infantry, or in all, 430 officers, many of whom fought on the battlefields of the late war, and most of whom have probably been 20 years in the service.

ST. LOUIS, 24.—A boiler at the Vulcan Steel Works exploded this morning. Three men were fatally injured and a number painfully hurt.

RICHLAND, Ark., 24.—Mrs. McAlfee killed her husband with a rifle barrel. McAlfee forced his stepdaughter, Mrs. McAlfee's daughter, to his adulterous bed, and while there was killed by his wife.

ST. LOUIS, 24.—A man known as Wood Hite, who was arrested in Logan, Kentucky, Feb. 11, for complicity in the robbery of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad train at Winston, Mo., on the night of January 15th, last year, was arraigned in court at Gallatin, Davis County, on Wednesday, he plead guilty and was sentenced to the penitentiary for two years. Hite is first cousin of the notorious bandit Jesse James. It is said he fired 11 shots into the locomotive on the night train that was robbed and chased the engineer out on the pilot. He would not give any information respecting the rest of the gang. Hite has lived in Logan County, Kentucky, for several years, and it is believed others concerned in the robbery, reside in that or adjoining counties.

FOREIGN.

CAIRO, 23.—Private dispatches from Khartoum enabled me for the first time to make known the facts concerning the successful uprising in Sudan of the so-called Elmi Mehdi or the Messiah of Islam. A few months ago Elmi Mehdi, or to call him by his proper name Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed, burned up Mail-ow on the White Nile, and for the second time defeated the Egyptian troops sent against him, killing 120 of them. Mehdi then proceeded to

Gebel Zoder, situated about six days' march from Fashada, a strong military post on the White Nile, midway between Khartoum and Gondokola, having secured the alliance of the Shilluk.

The Governor's tribes marched out with 800 regular troops armed with Remingtons to attack the Meladi in front. While about 2,000 shilluks, commanded by their king in person, started to cut off the Meladi with his Bagara Bedouins. They fell unexpectedly upon Rhasid Bey and utterly defeated him. Three hundred Egyptians were killed, and Rhasid Bey himself was slain by the Meladi's own hand.

The whole affair lasted only half an hour. The Meladi then turned upon the Shilluk, and after a sanguinary conflict routed him and killed Kaikien, the Shilluk king, and his entire suite. Toshoda would also have fallen had not Zelger Pasha, with 800 Egyptian troops, arrived by forced march from Kondofan just in time to strengthen its fortifications that Mehdi prudently declined to attack. The Mehdi is master of the whole country, and is backed by all the Bagara tribes, numbering about 10,000 fighting men. They were armed with double barreled percussion guns, but their chief weapon is the remarkably long, heavy and admirably made lance. They are excellent horsemen. Everything will remain at a standstill in the Sudan until the arrival of reinforcements from Cairo, which have been imperatively demanded. The present Egyptian army, however, is by no means anxious to serve its country in the field where, whenever it has done so, it has always justified Colonel Gordon's conclusion, that it is utterly useless, unless for anything except internal commotion.

ST. PETERSBURG, 23.—Lieut. Haber and Master Schulze, United States Navy, left to-day for Irkutsk via Orenburg. They will proceed down the river Lena in a steamer and along the coast to the east in search of the *Jeannette's* third boat. Lieut. Danenhauer starts from Irkutsk for St. Petersburg in a few days.

LONDON, 23.—Hill, Mackmaster & Plant, merchants of Manchester, have failed. Liabilities, £70,000. Mackmaster has absconded.

The Bank of France and the Bank of Belgium have reduced discount to 4.

The Court of Appeals reversed the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, granting Bradlaugh a new trial in the case of Clark vs. Bradlaugh with costs against Bradlaugh.

PARIS, 23.—The weekly statement of the Bank of France shows an increase of 96,000,000 francs in gold, and 4,300,000 francs in silver.

ST. PETERSBURG, 24.—The Pan-Slavists here and at Moscow are arranging a grand reception for Gen. Skobeloff.

All the Nihilists on trial yesterday, two excepted, pleaded guilty. The court sat till midnight.

TUNIS, 24.—Four tribes on the frontier of Tripoli have revolted and burned Hammaho.

BERLIN, 24.—A fire occurred last night in Berlin, at the terminus station of the railroad, caused by the explosion of an infernal machine concealed in a box which had been insured as containing valuable dress goods. The sender of the box was arrested.

Correspondence.

The Parowan Postoffice.

PAROWAN, Feb. 15, 1882.

Editor Deseret News:

There has been a good deal of talk here and in some other places lately, about the Parowan postoffice. I desire to send you a true statement of the little affair for publication if you see proper to insert it in the NEWS. I have been postmaster of Parowan for the last four years and a half, ending Jan. 10th, 1882, when a new appointee took charge of the office. This change was effected through the misrepresentations of Rev. W. C. Cort, Presbyterian minister of this place, to the Postoffice Department at Washington, as follows, according to the information furnished me from Washington: First, that the postmaster at Parowan had been absent from home so many months. This I do not deny, but there are hundreds who will testify that the business of the office was thoroughly conducted in my absence by my daughter, who is a young woman of ability and was my sworn my as-

sistant.) Second, that some members of my family assisted in handling the mail who were not sworn. (This was true to some extent, but it is a well known fact that through all the western country, in the small offices, the postmasters are assisted generally by their families. There is not enough in them without working in that assistance, though I know they should all be sworn. Still, the postmaster is responsible for everything as I felt I was in my case.) Third I was a "Mormon." (True, every word. Now comes the entirely false part.) The P. M. was an unaccommodating person, refused to keep lock boxes, conducted the business of the office in a loose manner, was disloyal and he (Mr. Cort) and the ladies that were with him had every reason to believe that their mail matter had been tampered with. These statements are wicked and false; as false as falsehood can make them. No one knows better than Mr. Cort, that I was not unaccommodating. Lock boxes he never named to me. It is my belief and the general belief of the community that he never really believed that his mail matter had been tampered with, but he wanted to let his friends in the States know that he was not in sympathy with the "Mormons." If he did not kick up a little fuss when he thought he saw a chance, he might lose an opportunity of astounding his friends and gaining a little cheap notoriety. He jumped into print some time ago over the matter.

Three petitions were gotten up by the citizens of Parowan and sent to the Postoffice Department at Washington in my favor. The first was sent as soon as it became known that there was a movement on foot for my removal, praying that I be retained.

A second petition was gotten up and largely signed after the appointment of the new postmaster, denying Mr. Cort's false statements and praying that I be reinstated, setting forth how well the post office had been conducted under my charge, and that I had the entire confidence of the community, etc.

The third petition was gotten up by some business men of the place. Not the slightest attention has been paid by the P. O. Department to these petitions, that we are aware of. The Presbyterian minister weighs against all the rest of the community and no questions asked. Here is the one man power in a little way, with a vengeance, but then you know it depends altogether whose ox is gored, seeing that I live in the back parts of Utah, 250 miles from Salt Lake City. I have been looking around lately to see if I could discover any of these warlike preparations against the Government, that Rev. Sheldon Jackson told the people in the Central Presbyterian Church of New York City were going on in the back parts of Utah. I have been asking my friends about it, but they say it must be still further back. Yes; so far back that it never will be found only in the brains of the false originators.

Now here is an excellent opportunity for Mr. Cort, who calls himself "Truth Seeker." He can vindicate truth by publishing a denial of Mr. Sheldon Jackson's statement to the people of New York, which Mr. Cort knows contains not a shadow of truth. Will any of the sectarian ministers now sojourning in Utah refute the false statements that are being circulated against our people in the East and West at the present time? It is hardly to be expected that they will labor to tear down what they themselves, to a great extent, are responsible for erecting, but if they would do it, it would stand to their credit before God in time and eternity. The Latter-day Saints have learned one lesson, "Man proposes, but God disposes." Therefore we hope to keep the faith, trust in God, and labor and wait for that happy time predicted,

"When the right and the might
And the truth shall be,
And come what there may,
To stand in the way;
That day the world shall see."

Your Brother in the Gospel,
WM. C. MCGREGOR.

P. S. I can solemnly say, and am willing to take oath of it before God, if required, that while I have been P. M. of Parowan I have held every person's mail matters sacred, whether Mormons, Jews, or Gentiles, and no tampering has ever been done, as far as the duties of P. M. were concerned, it made no difference to me what people were; the persons who assisted me in the post office are willing to make the same statement.

W. C. MCG.