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AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The President has appointed George A. Allen, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania Vice Wm. A. Stone suspended for offensive partisanship. The President signed Allen's commission Saturday evening.

The conference on the inter-state commerce bill adjourned without reaching a final conclusion until Wednesday morning.

The Supreme Court to-day rendered a decision in the case of Frederick M. Kerr against the people of Illinois, brought here by a writ of error from the Supreme Court of that State. By the decision to-day the judgment of the Supreme Court of Illinois sustaining the decision of the Criminal Court of Cook County against the prisoner is affirmed.

A decision was also rendered by the Court to-day in another important case, viz: The United States against Wm. Raucher. Raucher was an officer of an American vessel who was extradited from Great Britain to answer for the murder of a seaman, and who was afterward brought to trial for a different offense, viz: Cruelty and unusual punishment of the same seaman whom he was charged with murdering. The case brings up an important question which has long been the subject of diplomatic negotiations between the Governments of the United States and Great Britain and which has never before been fully settled, viz: whether, under the extradition treaty in force between the two countries, a person extradited for one offense can be tried for another. This court holds, in a carefully prepared opinion by Justice Miller, that the person who has been brought within the jurisdiction of the court by virtue of the proceedings under an extradition treaty can only be tried for one of the offenses described in the treaty, and for the offense with which he is charged in the proceeding for his extradition, unless reasonable time and opportunity have been given him after his trial under such charge to return to the country from which asylum he had been forcibly taken under these proceedings.

Chief Justice Waite dissents from the opinion of the court on the ground that he does not find in the treaty anything which forbids the trial of a prisoner for an offense other than that for which he was indicted.

A decision was rendered by the United States Supreme Court to-day in the tax case of the City of New Orleans against the Louisiana Lottery Company, brought here by appeal from the Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Louisiana. This was a suit instituted by the lottery company for the purpose of obtaining an injunction to restrain the city and Board of Assessors from assessing and collecting certain taxes levied by them upon it in alleged violation of its charter. The act incorporating the company provided that it should pay to the State the sum of \$40,000 per annum to be credited to the educational fund, and that it should be exempt from all other taxes and licenses from the State, parish or municipal authorities. The courts held that the tax complained of is prohibited by the terms of the contract contained in the company's charter.

Representative Curtin has issued a call for a meeting of his special labor committee to-morrow to outline a plan of proceedings in compiling its report.

When Cox, of New York, took the oath of office to-day, he found himself in an embarrassing position, having to occupy a seat on the outer row upon the Republican side. But, from this embarrassment he was released by the courtesy of Representative J. D. Sayers, of Texas, who, upon being introduced to Mr. Cox congratulated him, his party and country upon his return to legislative labors. Mr. Sayers then in a spirit of courtesy tendered his seat to Mr. Cox. This seat is an important one on the Democratic side and was occupied by Mr. Cox during several Congresses. Cox, though loath to dislodge Mr. Sayers, was finally induced to accept the courtesy, and taking from his scarf a pearl pin of the design of a star and crescent, presented it to Mr. Sayers as a memento of the occasion.

The issue of standard dollars from the mints during the week ending Dec. 4th was \$381,011. The issue during the corresponding period of last year was \$399,395. The shipments of fractional silver coin during November amounted to \$747,491.

Representative J. J. Adams of New York, who is at present a member of the House committee on appropriations, is a candidate for Mr. Hewitt's place on the committee on ways and means. On that gentleman's resignation, Adams expects the support of the New York Democratic delegation.

The Treasury Department to-day accepted an offer to compromise what is known as the Lester undervaluation case. Mr. John T. Lester, of Chicago, recently imported a number of valuable paintings from Paris which were seized by the customs officers because of an alleged attempt to evade legal duties. Two invoices were used, one for the consignee, and the other for the customs house. The value of the paintings, according to the former, was \$12,000, and according to the latter \$7,000. By the terms of the compromise Mr. Lester will pay the duties and costs amounting to about \$1,600, and a penalty of \$800.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The annual report of the Secretary of War, furnished for publication to-day, shows that the expenditures of the Department for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1886, were \$36,990,903, divided as follows: Salaries and contingent expenses, \$1,992,469; military establishment, including transportation, \$24,279,500; public works, \$6,294,305; miscellaneous, \$4,406,627. A surplus of \$1,208,016 remained unexpended. The appropriations for the year ending June 30th, 1886, are \$46,027,539, and the estimates for the year ending June 30th, 1887, are \$48,268,835. The army at the date of the last consolidated return consisted of 2103 officers and 23,946 enlisted men. There are ten regiments of cavalry, five of artillery and 25 of infantry. Of the Indian scouts there are 593, and 2003 enlisted men are on the detached service, with recruiting parties, etc. The report gives in detail the changes and operations of the different divisions.

The Indians are generally quiet, although the presence of troops is necessary to preserve the peace and prevent, especially in the Oklahoma country, the seizure of land by settlers and its invasion and occupancy by the herders of cattle. The Secretary says:

"There seems but little hope of improving this condition of things, in view of the avidity with which this fertile country is seized by settlers and cattlemen and there is a duty resting upon the government to keep its agreements with the Indians for whose benefit it has been set apart. Congress alone can give the needed remedy, and in the interest of good government it is earnestly hoped by all who have executive duties to perform in this Territory that speedy action will be taken."

A large portion of the report is given up to a graphic account of the operations against Geronimo and his band and their final incarceration in Florida, the leading features of which have been given in the daily news at the time of their occurrence.

The Secretary recommends that the retired list be increased so as to include all officers permanently incapacitated from active service. He also concurs in the opinion of the Lieutenant-General that the army be increased to 50,000 men.

It is suggested that Congress enact a law providing for examinations for promotions similar to those held in the navy. At the West Point Military Academy, there are 300 cadets and 68 officers. The Superintendent favors the competitive system in the selection of candidates for the Academy.

In discussing the report of the Engineer's Bureau Secretary Whitney again calls attention to the utterly defenseless condition of our sea coast and lake frontier. He urges that appropriations should be made, and work begun at once to fortify the principal seaboard cities against attacks by water. The report says:

"We have a single problem to solve in defending our cities—how best to resist and silence armored ships and steel guns and mortars of modern construction. It can only be accomplished by guns of equal force to those which any enemy can bring against us, or by torpedoes or submarine mines laid in the navigable channels, both so guarded and protected that they can co-operate service when required. We have no gun now which can stop the progress of, or do any material injury to a well armed ship. The manufacture of the guns is a work of time, and of long time and cannot be extemporized when needed. Torpedoes may be more quickly created, but still time and money are needed for their construction. It has been said by a well-informed writer on the subject that it is a matter of doubt if we have on hand enough cables and cases to control with torpedoes the channel of the port of Sandy Hook alone."

During the year the Springfield Armory manufactured 29,527 rifles carbines and shotguns, besides repeating arms and manufacturing swords and miscellaneous articles. The Secretary expresses the hope that Congress during its present session will place the army on an equal footing with the navy in the matter of manufacturing of guns and urges that the bill which has already passed the Senate to establish a gun foundry at the Frankfort Arsenal be taken up and passed by the House. In conclusion the report recommends the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of War and that the Secretary's offices be increased.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The report of Daniel Manning, Secretary of the Treasury, is devoted very largely to the consideration of the silver question, one half of the printed report being given up to it. He reviews at length the work of the international monetary conferences and the failure to obtain any joint action by England, Germany or France, owing to the refusal of England to change her policy as to a single gold standard. The report speaks of the appointment of a royal gold and silver commission in September last, on the petition by the English House of Commons. Respecting this, Secretary Manning says:

The proof is ample that the free coinage of silver now, would at once entail the silver basis offered by an open mint to both metals free. The coinage of silver for silver owners into legal tender dollars, would stop the use of the mint for the free coinage of gold by gold owners. It would stop the simultaneous circulation of gold and silver dollars. The gold dollar would be at a premium and would be exported. Throughout the United States it would make use of silver in legal tender payments exclusive, apart from greenbacks, which would first be used if possible to empty the Treasury of gold. Men would then cease to signify by the term "dollar" anything else than the debt of a silver coin not at all the monetary unit once embodied in the equivalent coins of the two metals.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES.

Regarding the renewed international conferences, the Secretary says:

"I venture to think, with all due deference to those who are responsible for the decision, that the time for another conference has not arrived, and that the moment for diplomatic interference is not perfectly felicitous."

The Secretary argues against continued coinage, and says:

"To stop the purchase of silver is our only choice, our duty and our interest. It will stop wasteful and injurious expense, and the taxation which delays it. It will commence and promote reform in the sum and methods of Federal taxation. It will recover to the United States an equality of position—not coinage—with the foreign Powers which will give us due influence in negotiation. It will induce negotiation, and negotiation to the end of relief, not for the purpose of delay."

He continues on this point:

"If to manufacture and store or distribute coin of depreciated metal could stop its depreciation, or relieve the depression of trade or improve the money circulation, or call out into use for the employment of labor more of the loanable capital, or arrest the drop in prices, then the Treasury trouble and tax burden would have some effect. But it does the reverse. Every wage earner knows that silver inflation has not stimulated and does not stimulate industry and trade. Silver has never been as low as this year (1886) though the Treasury has bought and stamped \$500,000,000 of it in the last eight years. The prices of all commodities range lower than in any previous year of the nineteenth century."

He finally says:

"If the law were repealed which makes compulsory Treasury purchases of silver, and if that repeal were accompanied by the declaration of Congress that the United States now hold themselves in readiness to unite with France, Germany and Great Britain in opening their mints to the free coinage of silver and gold at a ratio fixed by international agreement, it is the deliberate judgment of the undersigned that before the expiration of another fiscal year, this international monetary dislocation might be corrected by such international concurrence, the two monetary metals restored to their old and universal function as one standard measure of prices for the world's commodities, the depression of trade relieved and general prosperity renewed."

THE PUBLIC DEBT

is stated as consisting of four principal items—\$346,000,000 of legal tender notes, \$64,000,000 of 3 per cents of 1882, \$350,000,000 of 4 1/2 per cents of 1891, and \$738,000,000 of 4 per cents of 1907. This has been paid off at an average of \$100,000,000, the \$125,000,000 of surplus revenue being partly used for this and the purchase of silver—a needless depletion of the people's earnings which the present Congress can completely cure. The last of the public debt subject to call, \$64,017,800, of 3 per cents, Secretary Manning promises to have called for payment on or before October 1, 1887.

The sinking fund, according to Treasurer Joking, will meet the payment of the whole public debt, greenbacks and bonds, by the year 1908—within a year after the last funded debt becomes due and payable. The Secretary comments on this and says that it will be without a cent of surplus taxation, if his recommendations are heeded. Beside the repeal of the silver purchase act, he urges the repeal of the act for the compulsory post redemption issues and re-issues of legal tender notes.

THE TARIFF

on raw materials is attacked by the Secretary.

"Indeed," the report says, "It is my own belief that whenever we begin taking off the shackles of the war tariff and the taxes on raw materials, such increased prosperity will follow to employers who dread it, and such large and steady employment to the wage earners who need it, by increasing the sale abroad of our own manufactures and by whipping out foreign competitors in our own markets, that we shall see our income from imported manufactures dwindle so fast as not only to compel the retention of those most fertile of revenue—whisky, tobacco and beer tax—but perhaps to drive us back to getting ten millions of revenue from two cents a pound tax on coffee and half as much on tea. The field of Federal taxes is not land, not incomes, but things here consumed. With inland and seaport collections of taxes, the declaration of principles in relation to taxation and protection is not attacked where trade is free and within the reach of all in Europe as it is among the United States of America."

THE GREAT SURPLUS PRODUCTS

of our industry, including the manufactures, would have the pick of the foreign market, for the reason that our labor, being most highly paid and insuring the largest percentage of labor cost, would everywhere surpass its rivals. Great Britain would follow next, for next to our laborers here are the highest paid, therefore, the most efficient, and therefore next affecting the percentage of labor cost of her chief products. France and Germany would follow next, and command the next unsupplied markets, and last at all, at the foot of the list, whatever that rival chose to produce, would come the pauper labor of Europe and Asia. The low wages of pauper labor signify the least efficiency, which is but another name for the highest percentage of labor cost in product. Other things being equal, it is obvious that high wages can never be paid unless it is profitable to pay them, and it can only be good business to pay the highest wages because the efficiency of those who earn them vindicate its superiority by the reduction of labor cost in production.

HIGH WAGES TO LABOR

and cheaper products are correlative terms low wages to labor and costlier products are correlative terms. One implies the other wherever labor competes with labor upon otherwise equal grounds. What pauper stands any chance of competing with the intelligent artisan? The pauper labor of Europe is a 'bugaboo' except that in the expense of American labor. Its products are not fenced out by our tariff laws. They come in because we ourselves destroy our own easy power of competition even in

our own market. By tariff taxes on raw materials we fence in our own surplus products, making them cost too much to compete at home and of course, too much to compete abroad, with the manufactures of untaxed raw materials. The cheapest and best taxes to retain are those on tobacco and whisky. The immediate passage of the act simply and solely placing raw wool on the free list is urged."

NAPIERVILLE, Quebec, 6.—The Roman Catholic Church here was burned by fire to-day. The presbytery and convent near by also took fire, and at 1:20 a.m. the walls of the convent were falling, and the presbytery will be a heap of ruins in a short time. The inhabitants of the town are in the wildest state of excitement, Assistance from St. Johns has been telegraphed for. The loss will probably be about \$50,000.

Washington, 6.—Shortly before three o'clock Sunday morning a fire was discovered under the stage of Herzog's Opera House in this city, which in a short time enveloped the whole building in flames. Aided by the strong wind and the inflammable material in the Opera House, the flames soon gutted the whole building from cellar to attic. Last night nothing but the broken stone and ice-covered outer walls were standing. The buildings in the vicinity were seriously endangered but were saved by the strenuous exertions of the firemen and the fact that they were covered by snow which had been falling all night and was still descending. The building was erected by the Young Men's Christian Association, and its large hall in the second and third stories was formerly used for concert and lecture purposes, whence the appellation of Lincoln Hall. For a few years past the hall has been occupied as a theatre, doing business at popular prices and was named Herzog's Opera House. The building, it is said, is still owned by the Y. M. C. A., but is heavily mortgaged. The loss on the building is \$115,000; insurance \$75,000.

DOVER, N. H., 6.—R. L. Herson & Sons' tannery, at South Berwick, Maine, burned this morning. The loss is estimated from \$75,000 to \$100,000.

St. Johns, N. F. 6.—The schooner Edith from St. Pierre from Lanceland was lost Sunday on a reef near Miquelon Island. All the crew, numbering thirteen, perished. The vessel was loaded with provisions for the winter supply of Miquelon.

Point Pleasant, N. J., 6.—The three-masted schooner which came ashore yesterday above Townsend's Inlet, was boarded to-day by the Life Saving crew and found to have settled. She is Emily Shepard of Middletown, Conn. The crew were picked up by a passing steamer and brought here.

Pittsburg, Pa., 6.—Jas. B. Eads, who is visiting friends here, stated to a reporter yesterday that the gentlemen interested in the scheme to shorten the distance between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of North America by means of a ship railway across the Isthmus of Panama, had decided to abandon the acceptance of governmental aid trammelled by governmental restrictions. The company has concluded to form a private corporation. For means to carry the immense enterprise to a successful termination, an appeal for financial aid will be made to all the great money centres of the world. The ship railway company will be international in its scope and international in its membership. At the coming session of Congress that body will be asked to charter the new organization, when the process of securing the money will be rushed with energy.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., 6.—Thos. Dalton, a young man well known in this city, was shot and killed this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock in the rotunda of the Peabody Hotel by Russell Godwin. Dalton was seated when Godwin approached with a drawn pistol and fired at him. The bullet struck Dalton in the breast, and as he staggered to his feet, fell to the floor. Godwin fired three more shots into the prostrate form, after which he coolly laid his pistol on the clear stand of the hotel and walked to the front door, where he was arrested. Dalton died almost instantly. All of the four wounds, he received were mortal ones. Godwin, who is only 22 years of age, refuses to make any statement. The cause of the tragedy was the scandalous rumors circulated by Dalton and his married sister about young Godwin. Godwin is the son of John R. Godwin, one of the most prominent cotton factors of Memphis. Dalton was 25 years old and leaves a widowed mother and two young sisters. He has been absent from Memphis for three months and only returned last Friday.

WASHINGTON, 6.—About 18 months ago John Rowe, a gambler of New York, came to Washington with a full pocket book. He was accompanied by Minnie Raymond, his mistress, whom he shortly established as the proprietress of a baguio south of the "Avenue." About six months ago he encountered a streak of bad luck and lost all his money. On being refused he was unbranded her and was ejected from the house by the police. He threatened the woman's life at the time. To-night, mad with jealousy and his reduced circumstances, he went to the dive and shot the woman through the head, causing almost instant death. The woman is still alive, but will probably die.

St. Louis, Mo., 7.—A special from El Paso, Texas, says: This morning a man arrived on the Mexican Central Railroad from Chihuahua who tells a tale of outrage in that city. The man is the Rev. T. Rappanbort, a Jewish rabbi in ill health. The Jewish people

of this city raised money to send him to the City of Mexico, where he says he has brothers. Rappanbort says he stopped off at Chihuahua last Friday, and after going about the streets for a time with an American they returned to their hotel. Soon afterwards an officer came in and arrested them both, charging them with being revolutionists, and took them before a magistrate. Rappanbort says the officer went through his pockets and took away \$48. He showed his papers to the magistrate, who thereupon discharged him, but kept the \$48 "for costs." He says the American refused to "pay anything, and appealed to the American consular agent who said he had no authority beyond commercial affairs, so the American went to jail, where he now is. Consul Brigham will investigate the matter and report to the State department.

BALTIMORE, 7.—A fire occurred early this morning in two frame buildings on Eutaw Street which were destroyed. The police rescued 13 persons from the buildings, but could not find Mrs. Ann Pack, aged 90 years. Her body burned to a crisp, was, after the fire, found in third story room.

MILWAUKEE, 7.—In the case of Grottauk Massinger, Milwaukee garden rioter, the jury came in about 11 o'clock and reported a (dis)agreement. The Judge sent them back for further deliberation, and immediately afterward left for Waukesha. He will not return until evening. Consequently nothing can be learned in regard to the jury's finding until that time. The general opinion is there will be no verdict.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The President is somewhat improved in health to-day and was able to preside at the regular cabinet meeting.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The Court of Claims last May decided favorably to the claimants on the general principles applicable to the French spoliation claims. Since then the Government has moved for a rehearing, and the argument on this motion has been going on for some two weeks. Yesterday the court decided the motion against the Government. Judge John Davis delivered the opinion. The general principles decided in May are reaffirmed and the court considers in detail other points, holding that a vessel could not be legally condemned on the single ground that her crew did not conform to the French laws; that decisions of prize courts are not binding on the political departments of a foreign government; that an appeal to the court of last resort in France was not necessary to the validity of spoliation cases, because France did not require it as a condition precedent to the recovery of an indemnity. The opinion discusses the laws of nations as applied to neutral rights, and holds generally, while reserving particular cases for discussion upon their individual merits, that the conduct of France towards American commerce prior to 1800 was illegal.

PENSIONS.

Senator Ingalls to-day introduced the following bills amendatory to the pension laws:

To increase the pension for the loss of an eye to \$30 per month, and for a partial loss of sight to a proportionate amount.

To increase the pension for the loss of one hand or foot, or for the total disability of the same to \$35 per month.

For the loss of an arm within five inches of or above the elbow joint, or the loss of a leg within six inches of or above the knee joint, or the total disability of the same, to \$40 per month, and for the loss of an arm within six inches of the shoulder joint, to \$45 per month.

Also, providing that the pensions of all persons now on the pension rolls, and all persons hereafter granted pensions by special act of Congress, shall commence from the date of the discharge from the service of the United States, provided the disability was contracted in the line of duty in the service of the United States.

The annual report of Attorney General Garland contains a detailed statement of the business of the Department of Justice during the last fiscal year, together with the statistics of crime in the United States. During the year 634 suits, aggregating in amount \$3,500,000 have been brought under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Court of Claims. The total number of such cases pending is 691, involving \$25,000,000. Under the Bowman act 1,238 cases have been transmitted to the Court by the Legislature of Congress. These involve a large amount. There are now pending 1,140 cases, the amount involved being \$80,000,000. Under the same act twenty-eight claims to the amount of \$4,000,000 have been transmitted by heads of Departments. Of these, nine cases including \$1,500,000 are still pending. In addition to the above, there has been filed under the "French Spoliation Act," 250 cases, amounting to \$12,000,000. It is thought 500 more cases will be filed, and that amount will be increased to about \$15,000,000. During the year 425 suits, claiming \$17,706,428, were brought to trial. In 336 suits, claiming \$1,619,900, judgment was for claimants for \$907,589. During the year 1,374 civil suits, to which the United States was a party were terminated in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States. The aggregate amount of judgments rendered in favor of the United States in civil suits is \$621,158. The Attorney General briefly urges the importance of legislation on the following matters, the necessity for which was pointed out in his last annual report: Fees for