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GENERAL NEWS.

New Developments in the Rock Island Robbery.

INTERESTING GERMAN NOTES.

The German Government Sure of a Majority.

REPUBLICAN LOYAL LOVE FEAST

DOINGS OF CONGRESS—MILLIONS FOR DEFENSE—THE TRADE DOLLAR.

By Telegraph to the NEWS.]

The Train Robbery.

CHICAGO, February 12. — An *Inter Ocean* special from Morris, Illinois, says: Newton Watts, the baggageman, is held not merely as an accessory to the Rock Island train robbery; he is directly charged with being the assassin of Kellogg Nichols, the express messenger. This afternoon the State's attorney filed an information against Watts as having committed a murder by striking Nichols upon the head with an iron rod, which had been in use as a poker. It was upon this information that the writ was issued which transferred Watts from the care of the detectives to the custody of the sheriff. The preliminary examination of Watts is set for next Friday. One of his brothers was here to-day with brakeman Schwertz. The attorney had an interview with both Schwartz and Watts. The two men declared in a most emphatic manner that neither had said anything to the detectives or anyone else, which in the least inculpates themselves or any one else.

GERMANY.

Several Items of Interest.

BERLIN, Feb. 12.—During the debate to-day in the Lower House of the Prussian Landtag on the proposed loan of 40,000,000 marks for railway construction, Herr Mayback, minister of public works, expressed surprise at the meaning attached to the bill by Herr Imwall. The measure he said certainly proposed a continuance of peace, for in the event of war breaking out its purposes might not be carried into effect. He hoped that peace would be preserved, but he could not ask the house to recognize in the bill any special guarantee of peace.

The adhesions of the centre candidates to the septennate are announced daily. In a number of districts, where a number of deputies adhere to the triennate, the

CATHOLIC VOTE

is becoming divided. Many candidates are trying to avoid pledging themselves definitely. The attitude of the party on the whole, promises an ultimate submission to the instructions of the Vatican.

The charges leveled against Baron Frankenstein and Dr. Windthorst, of withholding knowledge from the party of the Pope's desire, was the suoject of an explanation by Baron Frankenstein at an electoral meeting at Karlstadt. He also admitted it was true that the Pope had expressed to several members of the centre party his desire that the septennate be passed, but he said that the members understood that it was only a personal wish concerning the Catholic conscience. Baron Frankenstein referred to the note of Cardinal Jacobini, of January 30th, communicated to himself and Dr. Windthorst. Both of them considered it

ABSOLUTELY CONFIDENTIAL,

and they did not reveal it to their colleagues. These explanations fail to refute the charge that the Centre leaders, during the debate in the Reichstag on the bill, had an explicit expression from the Vatican of its policy, and refrained from revealing it to the party. The letter of the 3d of January asks the chiefs of the Centre to use all their influence with their colleagues in behalf of the septennate. The government organs contend this letter was a positive instruction, having the authoritative weight of the Vatican, and not a mere utterance of personal advice by the Pope. To sum up, the position of the centre party is this: There will probably be returned to the Reichstag as many Catholics as there were in the last house, but they will be divided, a large majority voting for the septennate.

THE PROGRESSISTS

are losing heart, and admit the triumph of the government. It is now established that they will lose twenty seats to the conservatives. The socialists maintain an unbroken front and hold their own.

The prospect is that there will be a slight gain for the government candidates in six Berlin circles.

It is reported that Prince Bismarck is not inclined to favor the Emperor issuing an electoral manifesto, trusting that success is assured without the Emperor being pledged to assurances of peace or threatenings of war.

Heavy Defalcation.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12.—A special to the *Times* from Austin, Texas, says: There is quite a sensation here to-day among the members of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, which has been in session during the week. It is alleged that Thomas M. Joseph, a prominent lawyer of Galveston and for ten years Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of Texas, is short in his accounts in a sum ranging all the way from $12,000 to $30,000.

THE REPUBLICANS.

Their Love Feast Saturday Night.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—The first annual dinner of the Republican Club of New York on the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln was held at Delmonico's to-night, with about 275 more or less well-known Republicans present, including Senators Hawley, Harrison and Aldrich, Governor Ogleby, of Illinois, Governor Foraker, of Ohio, and Governor Lounsbury of Connecticut, Senator-elect Hiscock, and Ex-Governor Foster of Ohio.

MR. BLAINE

had been expected to respond to the toast of Abraham Lincoln, and at the last moment sent a letter of regret. The speaking continued until a late hour.

FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Cameron, from the committee on naval affairs, reported back with amendments the bill (introduced by him yesterday) to increase the naval establishment, and gave notice that he will call it up on Monday, immediately after the morning business. The amendments made by the naval committee have the effect of fixing the bonus to be paid the contractor for the first knot in excess of the contract rate of twenty knots to be attained by the proposed new cruisers, $100,000, and for each additional knot $300,000. The aggregate of the appropriation of $21,800,000 has not been changed.

Hale reported back from the naval committee with an amendment the bill introduced by him yesterday to provide for the increase of the naval establishment and gave notice that he will call it up at an early day. The amendment appropriates three million dollars for the

ARMAMENT OF VESSELS

for the construction of which the bill provides. The bill now appropriates $15,400,000.

Williams introduced a bill for the redemption of legal tenders in specie. Referred.

It authorizes the redemption of legal tenders in coin at San Francisco, in the same manner as the law at present provides for new York.

Platt withdrew his motion to reconsider the vote yesterday passing the bill to authorize the Fort Worth & Denver City Railroad Company to construct a railroad through the public lands in the Indian Territory.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the

POSTOFFICE APPROPRIATION

bill, the question being on the amendment appropriating $600,000 for the mail to South America.

Morgan moved to amend the subsidy amendment by using, instead of the word "built," the words "owned and officered;" that sentence will then read, "for the transportation of foreign mails by American owned and officered steamships;" also, to add to the paragraph as follows: "Such steamships so owned and officered shall be entitled to be enrolled, registered and licensed as American-built ships are, while they are employed in the execution of said contracts for transportation of foreign mail."

Beck opposed the subsidy amendment. The extract from the Postmaster General's report, he said, he had heard before, but he had, in committee and out of committee, insisted that a

FALSE CONSTRUCTION

was put upon it, and that the Postoffice Department was as much opposed to this subsidy as it had been to the subsidy of last year. The proposed subsidy was not in the interest of the Postoffice Department, but would be to the injury of the Postoffice Department. The majority of the committee had seen fit to assume that the Postmaster General's report was in accordance with the subsidy amendment, and, therefore, he had, himself, applied to the Postmaster General for a construction of his views on the subject, and had received a letter which he now read the Senate. The Postmaster says in this letter: "A fair reading of my two reports, the one for 1885 and the other for 1886, will show, unless I am greatly mistaken, that the only object or purpose in view, or suggestion in the last report, was to obtain the

CARRIAGE OF MAILS

to the South American Republics, with a double service to Brazil, at such cheap and economical figures as would be necessary for the purpose, and that no idea of a subsidy for the mere creation of a line of travel and trade was proposed. There are companies, nominally or actually of foreign organization, which I believe would compete for this service, and furnish it at comparatively cheap figure. I believe also that if competition were admitted, an American company would secure the service instead of a foreign company, but at a fair remuneration, and not as the recipients of a subsidy. I think there is good reason to expect this result if the opportunity be offered for it, and that an enlargement of our postal facilities may be secured with no vicious course of

SUBSIDY LEGISLATION

to bring it about. It was in this belief that the suggestion in my last report of 1886 was made. I cannot anticipate what many said, unfairly perhaps, in criticism of the report or in support of the assertion that the suggestion for this new service is inconsistent with the position taken in the report of 1885. I think, at least, that I see a distinction. That distinction itself is clear and substantial, and the extension of the postal service may be secured usefully and desirably without the payment of a dollar of subsidy, but only by giving a fair remuneration for a very limited mail carriage at the beginning."

After further debate the question was taken on Morgan's free ship amendment, and it was rejected—yeas 19, nays 31.

Morgan moved to amend by adding to the Senate amendment the words, "one line of steamships to

CARRY THE MAILS

provided for in this act shall be required to sail to and from a seaport on the Gulf of Mexico or the Mississippi River."

Agreed to without division.

Frye moved to amend the committee amendment by making it apply to all South American and Central American republics.

Agreed to without division.

The subsidy amendments as amended was then adopted—yeas 36, nays 14.

The amendment as adopted reads as follows:

For the transportation of foreign mails by American built and registered steamships to secure the greater frequency and regularity in dispatch and greater speed in such mails to Brazil the Argentine Republic and the republics Uruguay, Paraguay and other Central and South American republics, $500,000, and the

POSTMASTER-GENERAL

is authorized to make, after due advertisements for proposals, such contract or contracts with American steamships for a term of not less than five years and at a rate of compensation not exceeding for each outward trip $1 per nautical mile of distance in the most direct and possible sailing course between terminal points, as shall be found expedient and desirable to secure the ends above set forth; but every such contract shall be subject to be modified or annulled by act of Congress.

One of the lines of steamships to carry the mails provided for in this act shall be required to sail to and from a seaport on the Gulf of Mexico or Mississippi River.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—After taking up the trade dollar bill, Lanham, of Texas, presented a minority report from the committee on coinage, weights and measures, and offered an amendment providing that within six months after the passage of the act the trade dollars not mutilated or defaced shall be received at their face value in payment of all dues to the United States; that any holder of a trade dollar may exchange the same for a standard silver dollar or subsidiary coin, and that the trade dollars received by the Treasury either in payment or exchange shall be received or recoined into standard silver dollars or subsidiary coin at the option of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Warne, of Ohio, offered an amendment providing specifically that the recoinage of the silver dollars shall not be part of the

SILVER BULLION

required to be purchased monthly and coined into standard silver dollars.

Lanham accepted the amendment offered by Warner, and modified his own accordingly.

The amendment, as so modified, was agreed to—127 to 99, and the bill as so amended was passed—174 to 36.

As passed, the bill provides, in the first section that for a period of six months after the passage of the act, trade dollars, if not defaced, mutilated or stamped, shall be received at their face value in payment of all dues to the United States, and shall not again be paid out or by other means issued.

Section two provides that during the above period the holder of the trade dollar, not mutilated, defaced or stamped may receive in exchange on presentation of the same at the treasury or any sub-treasury a like amount of value

DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR,

in standard silver dollars, or in subsidiary silver coin, at the option of the holder.

Section 3 directs that the trade dollars received by the government in payment of dues or in exchange shall not be paid out, but shall be recoined into standard silver dollars or subsidiary coin, at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, provided the coinage of trade dollars recoined under this act shall not be considered as part of the silver bullion required to be purchased and coined in standard dollars as required by the act of July 28, 1878.

Section 4 repeals all the laws authorizing the coinage and issuance of trade dollars.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Blount, of Georgia, in the chair, on the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill.

Adjourned.

SUNDAY TELEGRAMS.

Discussing and Condemning the Strike and its Authors.

AN UXORICIDE AND SUICIDE.

Emperor William Reported Getting Weak.

PENSIONS MADE EASIER TO GET

BRUTAL PRIZE FIGHT — SLAUGHTER OF ITALIANS, ETC.

By Telegraph to the NEWS.]

Crop Prospects.

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—The following summary will be printed in this week's issue of the *Farmer's Review*: Reports as to the condition of winter wheat continue with generally a favorable character, with the exception of those from Kansas, where, in a majority of the counties, the outlook is regarded as poor. The latest reports were all made prior to the cold wave of Friday night, and the resulting damage to exposed fields, if any, has not yet been fully disclosed. Reports from Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, state that the plant is looking green and tender, but that protected acres are entirely exposed and indicating that the crop would be subjected to a certain amount of peril in the event of freezing weather.

Senate Programme.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.—In the Senate the following is the routine of morning business to-morrow:

Senator Cameron will ask that his bill to increase the naval establishment be taken up. If it be passed without extended debate, Senator Hale will probably call up his bill bearing substantially the same title during the morning hours Tuesday or Wednesday. These two measures are parts of one general plan for the increase of the navy—the Cameron bill providing for fast sea-going cruisers, and Hale's for coast defense vessels for loading batteries. The Tehuantepec ship railroad bill will be laid before the Senate at 2 o'clock. This measure will probably soon be brought to a vote.

THE DEFUNCT STRIKE.

A Good Deal of Fault-finding Going On.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The brewers' union met to-day. The members were outspoken against the leaders of District Assembly 49, and said they could not understand why the brewers of all trades had been ordered to help bolster the forlorn cause at the eleventh hour, which "49" had vainly ordered them to do. Herbrant, secretary of the National Brewers Union, expressed the belief that the strike had been wholly mismanaged from the start and it was doomed to a disastrous collapse from its inception. The brewers would not strike because they were earning good wages and would not give up these advantages, besides breaking their contract, when the result would only be additions to the common loss. Resolutions embodying these opinions were adopted and this action was supplemented by an

OFFICIAL DETERMINATION

that the brewers' organization should withdraw its delegates from District 49, which is practically secession from that body. The beer drivers' organization, at a meeting in the same hall, later in the day, took action identical with that of the brewers' union. Delegations from all the 'longshore unions of New York, Brooklyn, and Jersey City have had a convention this afternoon; the men were in conference four hours and they decided not to return to work save at 40 cents per hour for day work and sixty cents per hour for overtime. One shipowner was present and agreed to put 125 men at work at once at forty cents pending a

PERMANENT ADJUSTMENT

of the prices, but with the understanding that if the general scale became thirty-five and forty-five, his work should then be done by the men at the same rates. This proposition was accepted. There was developed a strong undertone of feeling against those who had led the men into the late useless strike.

Bloody and Brutal Prize Fight.

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—A bloody battle to a finish with skin gloves occurred yesterday in a barn, five miles south of this city, between George Lardwood, of New York, and Frank Stierk, of Philadelphia, weighing each about 160 pounds. They fought twelve rounds, ending in the complete knockout of the latter, who, in the eleventh round, had to be lifted to his feet by his seconds and was a mass of pounded flesh and blood. Lardwood was not much punished. The fight was for $300 a side and gate money. Twenty spectators paid $10 each for tickets. During the last three rounds, Frank Stierk's eyes were closed and he could do nothing, but in spite of the protests of his friends and even of his opponent, he persisted in standing up to be knocked down until rendered completely unconscious by a terrible blow on the jugular.

Murder and Suicide.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 13. — Charles Klose, of Schleisingerville, Wisconsin, saloonkeeper, loaded two shot guns this evening and emptied the contents into his wife's head as she was nodding in bed, killing her instantly. He then tried to shoot himself, but merely blew away one cheek. He locked the doors, poured kerosene over the furniture and set the house ablaze; when neighbors tried to enter he loaded one of the guns and blew out his brains.

William Weak.

VIENNA, Feb. 13.—Reports are current that Emperor William is in a very weak condition.

A Good Move.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—At all the Catholic churches in this diocese today, the pastors read a pronunciamento of Bishop Curtis, forbidding balls given with the intention of raising money for religious purposes or holding picnics, fairs, excursions or entertainments of any kind for the benefit of any thing religious or charitable without the approval and consent of the bishop. The decree was received with some surprise and created considerable of a sensation.

Pettifoggers Curtailed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.—The commissioner of pensions has had prepared a letter of instruction and blank forms of application and affidavits of witnesses for the use of applicants for pensions under the Mexican pension law of Jan. 29, 1887. The blanks, he thinks, will facilitate business in his office and enable applicants to have their rights promptly adjudicated without unnecessary correspondence, trouble or expense. The commissioner expects to have the blanks printed and ready for use on Wednesday next, Feb. 19. He invites direct application to his office by expectant pensioners. Upon receipt of an individual application, an appropriate letter of instruction and a set of blanks will be forwarded to the applicant. The letters of instruction are full and explicit, and the blank forms plain, and all may be easily understood without the necessity of legal education.

The Catholics' Arrival.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 13.—The *American* has the following special from Rome: The American cardinals arrived in Rome this evening. Father O'Connell, rector of the American College, met them at Geneva. They were met at the depot by many prominent officials and laymen. While at Paris, Cardinal Gibbons was a guest at the seminary of St. Sulpice. He will make his home at Rome in the American College, being assigned to the apartments formerly occupied by the late Cardinal McCloskey.

Bishop Green Dead.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 13.—A special to the *Picayune*, from Vicksburg, Miss., says: A telegram from Sewanee, Tenn., announces the death there this morning of the Right Rev. William Mercer Green, for the past forty years bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Mississippi.

The Way to Understand It.

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—The *North German Gazette* remarks a remarkable display of incapacity to conceive in their full bearing the recent manifestations of the Pope's will in a quarter where the pretension is made to most correct and profound comprehension of the objets of the Catholic church. The Pope, the *Gazette* says, advocates the septennate because it tends to uphold peace and authority, which are of equally vital importance for Catholicism and the state, and which he (Herr Windthorst) under the mask of an ardent son of the church, long ago opposed. Cardinal Jacobini's letter to the Pope is a protest to this abuse of his name and the order to obey the encyclical wherein is stigmatized the egotism of political parties. They misrepresent the Holy See who attribute to it diplomatic motives. The Pope desires the preservation of Germany, because it is conducive to peace.

Quickly Done.

NEW YORK, February 13.—When Bismarck dissolved the Reichstag, the socialists of this city met and promised to collect five thousand dollars for election expenses for twenty-five socialist members of the German legislative body. Yesterday the sum was twenty dollars over the $5,000.

Peace Persuaders.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The British troops in India will be armed with repeating rifles and the Martini rifles will be transferred to the Sepoys.

Horrible Fatality.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 13.—The jail at Murfreesboro, Tenn., burned this morning and three men confined in it perished in the flames. The fire broke out at 12:30 in the office, from an unknown cause. Jules Jackson, who was asleep up stairs, rushed down and opened the doors, and ten men in the upper floor cages escaped, but the three men in one of the lower cages could not be reached. They cried piteously for help until the flames reached them.

ITALY'S ABYSSINIAN WAR.

A Massacre After a Brave Resistance.

ROME, Feb. 12.—General Gene, Italian commander at Massowah, has reported as follows: Boretti is commanding at Saati. On Jan. 25, at 11 a.m., at Said heights, occupied by thousands of Abyssinians, who disappeared on the firing of some shells, Boretti sent out a party under Lieutenant Como, who surprised and engaged the enemy. The latter advanced intrepidly on all sides to within three hundred yards of the station positions. There was desperate fighting until five o'clock, when the enemy retreated. Boretti applied for reinforcements and the general sent a column under Col. Decristoforis. The column was delayed by difficulty in transportation. Decristoforis asked for more men and guns, and while the latter reinforcements were on the way it was learned that the Decristoforis party were massacred after forming a square and defending themselves to the last man and cartridge. The relief party found the bodies lying in the order in which the men had fought and the enemy retiring. Many corpses were mutilated.

Krupp for Bismarck.

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—Herr Krupp has issued a stirring appeal to his 20,000 employes to vote for the septennate.

Immediate relief and prompt cures effected by Red Star Cough Cure. No narcotics.

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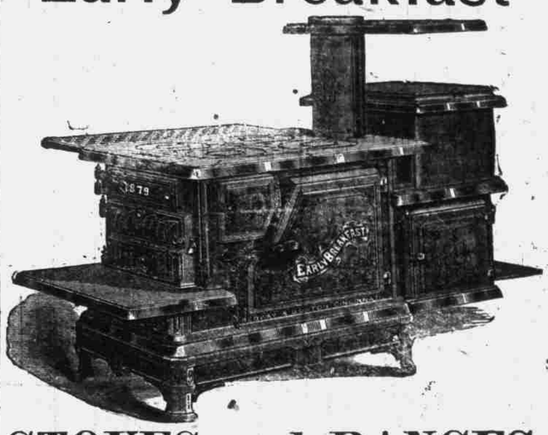

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