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FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Immediately after the reading of the journal Senator Elliott Mahone was sworn in. He took a seat upon the republican side.

On motion of Pendleton the Senate adjourned till to-morrow.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

General Gossip of the Capital.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The town is rife with rumors and gossip to-night about the expected new distribution of important offices. Most of the rumors cannot be traced to any foundation except the wishes of self-nominated candidates. Some others, which seem to be well founded, are as follows: Levi P. Morton has accepted the French mission, and will be nominated at once. Ex-Governor Noyes, of Ohio, the present incumbent, has already tendered his resignation.

Ex-Secretary Evarts can have the English mission if he wants it, but there are doubts of his acceptance. Senator Hoar has requested the retention of Lowell at London, and he will not be disturbed.

No change will be made at present in the Austrian mission, but Minister Kasson will resign during the summer in order to come home and attend to his canvas for the speakership of the next House of Representatives. It is rumored that General Schofield, of Pennsylvania, now register of the Treasury, will be appointed minister to Russia, and that Hugh Young, of Pennsylvania, a brother of Gov. Tom Young, of Ohio, will succeed him in his present position.

Report says that Edward McPherson will be appointed First Assistant Postmaster General, to succeed Tyner, but he may prefer to resume his former place as Clerk of the House of Representatives. General Chas. Ewing, brother of General Tom Ewing, is urged for the governorship of New Mexico.

There are three candidates for the vacant Judgeship in the United States Court of Claims, ex-Private Secretary Rogers, Colonel John Hamilton, of Kentucky, and ex-Congressman Sheldon, of Louisiana, now of Ohio, who was spoken of as General Garfield's private secretary, and who came to Washington with the presidential party. Judge Cooley, of Iowa, is said to have a good chance for being appointed to fill the vacancy on the United States Supreme Bench. The Illinois delegation will press Judge Drummond. Wm. E. Chandler is talked of for various important positions, but will probably be appointed Solicitor General, the place next to Attorney General in the Department of Justice.

It is believed that there will be quite a number of changes in the bureaus of offices in the different departments. General Garfield said last evening, while talking upon this subject, that he intended to make changes, as he thought the service would be improved by so doing. He intended, he said, to put a good deal of new blood into the Washington departments.

The caucus committee report will maintain the old committees so far as the changes will admit.

Hampden will be on the committee on mines, Groom pensions and other principal committees will have the same chairman as before. Several of the new democrats will get a chairmanship.

The republican caucus discussed the organization and agreeed that it ought to be postponed until all the vacancies are filled. It was held that a complete organization cannot be effected until the vacancies are filled. After the Senate adjourned the republican caucus again met when it was stated positively the democrats had determined to go ahead with the organization. This intention is severely criticised as taking unfair advantage and the republicans are determined to attempt to reorganize when their vacancies are filled. It was also stated that the new senators to succeed Carpenter and the Cabinet ministers would arrive here by the end of next week, so the republicans agreed to oppose any organization before then.

The extra session of Congress was also discussed and favored. It was said that if democratic senators take the present advantage to construe by the extra session the republicans can probably control the committees of both houses. The funding bill was mentioned as a reason for an extra session. The democrats intimate that they can adjourn in a few days, leaving democrats to stand until December. If this is done the Chinese treaty will not be taken up as the Senate is only acting on business sent in by the President. The republicans will, unless assured Mahone will act against them, attempt to upset this arrangement when their new members are elected. Mahone was at the Capitol to-day with Don Cameron, but informed neither side of his purpose. Probably the republicans will refuse to arrange the minority, and the democrats will then leave the republican membership the same as last session.

The members of the Cabinet of ex-President Hayes, with the exception of Senator Sherman, assembled at the Executive Mansion at 10.30 o'clock this morning, as also their successors, except Secretary Lincoln. President Garfield signed the commissions of his immediate advisers, and detained them a short time after the Cabinet officers of the previous Administration had retired. Before the retirement of the ex-Cabinet officers, however, a half hour was spent in social intercourse, during which President Garfield requested the old members to give the newly-appointed ministers all the information pertaining to their respective Departments.

The new Cabinet was formally organized, with the exception of Postmaster-General James. The new members qualified before Chief Justice Carter, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. Secretary Windom arrived at the Treasury Department shortly after 1 o'clock. He will enter upon his duties to-morrow. Secretary Windom received the officers of the Department and attended to other matters preparatory to assuming full control. Attorney-General McVeigh assumed charge of his Department. A great many people called on President Garfield to-day.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon Mr. Blaine formally assumed the duties of Secretary of State, and received several bureaus. Judge Hunt entered upon his duties as Secretary of the Navy this afternoon, disposing with all formality, not even making his presence in the department known until the chief clerk, upon entering the Secretary's room, found him sitting at his desk. He afterwards received ex-Secretaries Thompson and Goff, who remained in conversation with him half an hour or more. Attorney-General Devens took leave of the Supreme Court to-day, and introduced his successor, Wayne McVeagh.

Among the bills which passed the Senate during this last Congress, but which expired for want of final action in the House of Representatives were the following: California measures—A bill to create the Los Angeles collection district; a bill to establish a Pacific Coast Dead Letter Office at San Francisco; a bill to provide for auditing the account for supplies furnished by California merchants to the Indian Bureau; a bill for the repayment of purchase money and fees on void entries of public lands and the Japanese indemnity fund bill,

Berry's debris bill, and Booth's bill for the relief of California State University, expired on the calendar of the House and Senate respectively, without passing in either branch of Congress. The Chinese treaties, though left without action on the Senate calendar of Executive business, will not require renewal by the executive committee, but it is understood will have to be considered and reported upon by the new committee on foreign relations when it is appointed.

A meeting of the members of the bar of the United States Supreme Court, ex-Senator Thurman presiding, was held to-day, and a suitable formal expression was given to the regret at the death of Matt. H. Carpenter. Among those present were Senators Conkling, Jones, of Florida, David Davis, Bayard, Lamar, Garland, Hawley, McMillan, Blair and Dawes; Representatives Robeson, Lapham, Chapin and Tucker; Judge McArthur, Jere S. Black, District Attorney Cookhill, J. M. Wilson and R. I. Merrick.

The national republican committee meeting was held to-day. A large number of delegates and proxies were present. Marshall Jewell presided. The sub-committee, consisting of George C. Gorham, Edward C. McPherson and Wm. E Chandler, which had been appointed by Secretary Dorsey to consider and report plans of representation in the national convention, submitted majority and minority reports. The majority report, submitted by Chandler and McPherson, proposes that hereafter national conventions be composed of four delegates-at-large from each State, two from each congressional district, one for each republican senator, one district delegate for each republican member of Congress; provided, that district delegates should be chosen by the voters of their respective districts, and at conventions held in the district. Gorham's minority report recommended that the national republican convention of '82 should consist of a number of delegates from each State, equal to twice their number of senators and representatives in Congress, and that republicans of each state should direct the manner of chosing its delegates. After discussion, the two reports were referred to a committee of five, who are to consider the subject fully and report to the future meeting of the full committee. The contest in the District of Columbia between Sayles J. A Bowen and Dr. Purvis for membership in the national committee, was considered, and after considerable discussion it was decided to accept the credentials of Dr. Purvis, a colored gentleman.

The President has nominated ex-Secretary Nathan Goff, jr., for United States attorney of West Virginia; Judge Bancroft Davis, formerly minister to Berlin, has accepted the assistant secretaryship of state. Chandler was not offered the place.

With the exception of Lincoln all the new cabinet officers qualified this morning, at the executive mansion, before Judge Carter. They will take charge of their respective departments this afternoon.

Chicago, 7.—Robert T. Lincoln, the newly appointed Secretary of War, leaves to-morrow morning for Washington, to assume the duties of that portfolio. His wife, who is a daughter of ex-Senator Harlan, of Iowa, accompanies him, and their three children will follow in a few days.

More Comments.

NEW YORK, 7.—From the *World:* The presidential mountain in labor has brought forth a litter of cabinet mice. Two men alone of positive strength and weight should be excepted from this verdict—Blaine and James. If we set aside Blaine, a representative of the most energetic and progressive element of the republican party, and James, as a representative of administrative experience, the remaining offices are so filled as to nullify the value of the cabinet either for the republican party or public administration. The *World* considers the appointment of Windom as amazingly unfit.

The *Herald* says the cabinet is a body of vigorous men, most of them young. Windom, James, Lincoln, Blaine and McVeagh are all in the prime of vigor and manhood. We cannot call it an able cabinet, by no means as able as that of Hayes'. We should say that Blaine is the one man of genius. The onereal leader. The country will see not such a cabinet as was formed by Pierce, Buchanan or Lincoln, but a groupe of earnest, practical men, devoted to the republican cause and anxious to do their best to support their President and serve the nation. The cabinet begins its work with the confidence of the country, and is deserving the confidence of the republican party. We congratulate President Garfield upon having on the whole, done well as he has done. We give to him and to his constitutional advisers our best wishes for a successful, conservative and brilliant administration.

Cincinnati, 5.—Republicans express satisfaction with the make-up of the cabinet. The leaving out of Foster is regarded as a presidential matter. It is believed that Foster acquiesced in this necessity.

The *Commercial* will say, to-morrow, that the formation of the cabinet is a happy solution of a somewhat difficult problem. Leaving Foster out was wise, as to select him would look too much like the President was providing for a second term. The appointment of James as Postmaster-General is strong. While the President has not asserted himself strongly, he has secured a finely balanced cabinet, and one with strength enough for any probable emergency.

The *Enquirer* will say: Garfield has shown magnanimity in failing to appoint Foster, and that Blaine will be the controlling power in the Cabinet.

The Italian Earthquake.

The following are additional details of the earthquake at Casamacciati, Island of Ischia: The first shock occurred at 1.30 last Friday afternoon, and the second an hour later. The whole upper part of the town was destroyed and two thermal establishments were seriously damaged. The details confirm the damage to property, loss of life and injury to the people previously mentioned. The Syndic and Sub-Prefect are directing operations for the recovery of the bodies of the victims. The royal steamers *Nagura, Pagona* and *Esploratore* have arrived from Naples with soldiers and physicians. The soldiers rescued many people from the ruins. The population fled to the surrounding country and along the sea coast. The government is sending food from Naples. The King and Minister of the Interior have sent contributions for the relief of the sufferers. The second and fatal shock lasted seven seconds and was accompanied by a noise like subterranean thunder. Then came the crash of falling houses, accompanied by the shrieks of the victims. The probable loss of life will reach 200. The damage to house property is $10,000 francs.

A London dispatch gives additional details about the destruction of Cassamaciati. The shock occurred on Friday afternoon, which lasted seven seconds, and was accompanied by a noise like thunder, then came the crash of falling houses, mingled with the shrieks of the victims. Mothers were found with infants still clinging to their breasts. At the Villa Cametti, two girls playing upon a doorstep, were struck dead by falling architecture. Two hundred houses were thrown down and many others damaged. There are 161 persons killed and many more injured. The total number of victims is estimated at 300. The wounded are being conveyed in steamers to the hospital of the Pellegrini at Naples. At Amnes five persons were killed and 13 houses destroyed. The panic-stricken inhabitants are camping in the fields for fear of their lives.

Many deeds of heroism were performed by the military. A Neapolitan sergeant plunged among the ruins of a fallen house and rescued a woman with her babe. A corporal saved a blind man, who unconscious of his danger struggled with his rescuer. Harrowing scenes were presented at the mortuary chamber; mothers, wives and children were striving to snatch the dead from the biers on which the soldiers were carrying them away. Soldiers, police and doctors were immediately dispatched from Naples. Shortly before the first shock the mineral springs were observed to be in a state of ebullition.

BRITISH AFFARS IN AFRICA.

Rumor that General Wood is Killed.

The *Tribune's* London special says: Notwithstanding the general sympathy with the late General Colley, personally, military men unanimously condemn his attack on Spitzkop as faulty, alike in conception and execution. They eulogize at the same time his courage and the military capacity of the Boers. Ministers censure still more gravely Colley's political proceedings. It is known, though not publicly stated, that Colley delayed negotiations with the Boers hoping to retrieve his two former disasters before being compelled to accord either an armistice or peace. The ministers say that the Boers probably first learned of the intentions of government toward them from an examination of the papers found in Colley's pockets after his death. An intimate friend of Colley describes him as having an insane contempt for danger or prudence; hence, his judgment in military matters was hopelessly unsound. General Robert's appointment is widely disapproved, people in military circles asking why send Roberts, who is ignorant of the country, when Wolseley knows every inch of ground? The general feeling is that Major General Woods has been unhandsomely treated, General Newdegate, an officer of little recommendation, except mere rank, being put over his head, while Roberts who, moreover, is known to be in weak health, is placed over him.

Chicago, 7.—The *Opposition* has the following, dated London, to-day: It is reported by a special dispatch that General Sir Evelyn Wood was shot and instantly killed while attacking the Boers.

Durbar, 7.—Dr. Barber and Dr. Dyas, while being escorted from Transvaal to Orange Free State, were fired upon by Boers after they reached the free state. Dr. Barber was killed and Dr. Dyas was wounded. The affair was similar to the murder of Captain Elliott. Young burghers of Orange Free State have become increasingly hostile, and are reported to be looting wagons on the road to Natal.

Newcastle, 7.—General Sir Elevyn Wood went to Mount Prospect today, and subsequently had an interview with Janbert, which resulted in an armistice to the 14th. Rumors of peace are rife about the camp, but I learn that it is improbable, unless we agree to all their terms. These were formally stated as the complete independence of Transvaal, in fact, all they rose to obtain, and amnesty to all leaders. By the armistice, permission is granted to send provisions for eight days to beleaguered garrisons.

A Boom for San Diego.

The *Times'* editorial: Certain Boston capitalists who are largely interested in the prosecution of railway enterprises in Colorado and the southwest, are said to be actively engaged in a scheme for making San Diego, the most southerly seaport of California, the vast entreport for the vast system of transcontinental traffic. It is by no means the first time that the ancient town of San Diego has been made to do duty as a scarecrow for San Francisco. One would suppose from the animation which the new scheme has infused into railway circles that San Diego had just been discovered. As a matter of fact, San Diego has long been threatening to match the palm of commercial security from San Francisco, and yet it remains an isolated and poverty-stricken town. Nothing short of being made a Pacific railway terminus will revive its ancient splendor.

Carlyle's Latest.

Carlyle's "Reminiscences" were published to-day. Over 4,000 copies were taken in advance. They contain many more autobiographical details than were expected. There are several characteristic illustrations of early contemporaries. Extracts from letters of many persons are given, including Leigh Hunt, Parr, Lamb, De Quincy, Chalmers, Talma, Murray, Disraeli, Hazlitt, and a dozen of what Carlyle calls "thin celebrities." He nicknames Beaconsfield "Demothenes Disraeli." Froude, before publishing the book, sailed for Madiera in ill health.

The Eastern Storm.

CHICAGO, 7.—The trains are still weather bound in nearly every part of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa, and northern Illinois. Even milk trains from the neighboring dairy towns are stopped and there is not a little trouble in consequence at hotels, in private houses and restaurants. Snow plows are running in every direction and large gangs of shovelers are busy aiding them. In the city the snow is still so piled up that foot passengers on the sidewalks cannot see those who walk on the other side. It is, however, melting slowly.

Bold Robbery.

A bold highway robbery was committed on the west side last night. The victim being a German printer of Leavenworth, Ks., named Chas. Kurzer, who arrived on Saturday with a large sum of money and put up in a disreputable boarding house where he fell in with six ill-visaged men who upon the pretence of showing him the town, knocked him down in the street, secured $1,397 and escaped.

Chicago Lumbermen.

The Chicago Lumbermen's Exchange held its annual meeting today. The President's address contains the startling statement that owing to the enormous growth of the lumber business, it will take only 20 years to exhaust the great pine forests of the country, if the present rate of depletion continues. The receipts of lumber of all kinds at this port during the year 1880 were 1,564,000,000.

Horrible Murder.

ST. LOUIS, 7.—The *Republican's* Little Rock special says: A horrible murder is reported from Jonesboro, Craighead County. Benj. Ishmael went to a mill, a few miles from his home, leaving his daughter, Mattie, aged 18, in charge of the house. On his return he found his daughter dead on the floor, in a great pool of blood, her body being most horribly gashed and bruised, with an axe or club. The object of the murderers was robbery, as Ishmael is wealthy. The house was ransacked, but no money obtained. A number of negroes were arrested, and it is thought that judge lynch may take the matter in charge.

A Young Murderer.

CINCINNATI, 7.—Edward Young, son of a prominent attorney of Georgetown, Ohio, shot and killed George Ashmore, about 10 o'clock on Saturday night, and seriously if not fatally wounded James Ashmore and Clinton Campbell. George and James Ashmore had previously had several quarrels. The two Ashmores and Campbell were drunk and enforced the quarrel.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Harris Boyton and Sheredan, traversers, have reappeared.

Governor Foster's friends are disgusted because he did not get into the cabinet.

The land meeting of 10,000 people was held at Tralee. Several members of the Land League made speeches.

Some 1,000 people met at Mullinger to-day to protest against coercion. J. Sullivan and several Catholic clergymen were present.

An Irish constable has information against Dillon, at Barris Okane, for advising Boycotting in a speech. Dillon is in Dublin.

It has been snowing steadily in Scotland for 70 hours. Traffic is blocked and many shipwrecks are reported on the coast.

The English cabinet council on Saturday settled the terms of peace with the Boers which were telegraphed to General Wood last night.

Captain Robert F. R. Lewis, U. S. Navy, commander United States steamer, *Shenandoah*, who was returning home as an invalid, died at sea, Feb. 23d.

A gig belonging to the *Gerobua*, a vessel stationed at Melbourne for the defence of the colony, has been blown up by a torpedo and five of the crew killed.

J. A. Fay & Co's manufactory of wood working machinery, at Cincinnati, a large five story building, burned this morning; loss $150,000; insured $97,000.

Farrelly, the farmer assassinated near Morvere, had taken a farm from which the previous tenant was ejected. He was shot by two young men. No arrests.

A shooting affray occurred yesterday at Dodge, Texas, between two Spratt and two Cleveland brothers, and resulted in the death of Frank Spratt and Edward Cleveland.

President Garfield and Mrs. Garfield worshipped in the Vermont Avenue Christian Church yesterday. Long before the hour fixed for service, the church was crowded.

The Argentine government is about to send Dean Dillon to Ireland to promote emigration to Lapitta. A special agent is already sent to Germany for the purpose of facilitating emigration.

A jury to-day returned a verdict of murder in the second degree, in the case of Ellen Athey, who some months ago, from jealousy, chopped to pieces a young woman named Mary Seneff.

The loss of life by an earthquake on the Island of Ischia, in the Mediterranean, is appalling. One hundred and two bodies have been found and many others are under the ruins of buildings.

The Baltimore and Potomac railroad wreck is cleared from the track and up to noon to-day, 12 trains, comprising 137 cars, mostly filled with troops and visitors to Washington, passed *enroute* for the west.

It is stated that 500 houses have fallen at Ischia in the Mediterranean. The Italian Government is sending relief. One hundred and ten corpses have been recovered and 67 wounded were sent to the hospitals.

Fifty ladies, members of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, at the Executive Mansion on Sunday, will present President Garfield with a portrait of Mrs. Hayes, to be placed in the White House.

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