

WASHINGTON NOTES.

From the Washington Star, Oct. 22—

The commissioner of Indian Affairs declines to grant the request of agent Tonner, of Arizona, for an investigation of the charges made against him by one of the Arizona papers. The Commissioner in his letter says the flippant and reckless form in which the complaints are presented does not invite a serious denial.

Several members of the Committee on Ways and Means decided that they would devote a portion of this fall to a consideration of the tariff, with a view to attempting to prepare some plan for a general revision and certification next winter. Mr. Dawes has already begun his part of the work, and has written to the Secretary of the Treasury asking for information as to the articles which may be placed upon the free list without damage to the revenue. A reply is now in course of preparation. The custom officers, without consulting themselves as to the advisability of any change on the tariff, state that 100 to 150 articles could be placed upon the free list without serious impairment of revenue.

The Secretary of the Treasury is in receipt of numerous letters from Senators and Representatives importuning him to reinstate clerks discharged under the rule adopted by him allowing but one of a family in his department. Thus far these appeals have been without avail, the Secretary being determined that the government patronage, so far as he is concerned, shall not be monopolized by a few favored individuals. In this weeding out process, the Secretary has been ably seconded by the new Assistant Secretary, Mr. Conant, who has been indefatigable in his efforts to relieve the large number of destitute soldiers' and sailors' widows that daily besiege the different departments for employment. There has never been a time in the history of the government when there were so many petitions on file for positions as at present.

The board to report upon the proposed Inter-Oceanic Ship Canal routes will hold a meeting in this city during the latter part of November. The board consists of General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers, United States Army; Commodore Daniel Ammon, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, United States Navy; and Capt. P. C. Patterson, Superintendent of the Coast Survey. Major McFarland, of the Engineer Corps, who was sent out last spring to personally examine the various routes proposed, is now engaged in writing his report. General Ammon accompanied Major McFarland on the trip at the invitation of Secretary Robeson, and he has made a written report to the Secretary, in which he takes strong grounds in favor of the route through Lake Nicaragua.

From the New York Tribune.— Mr. Saville, the late chief clerk of the Treasury department, did not have a too modest appreciation of his services to the old syndicate. In settling his accounts in the treasury it was found that he charged a handsome sum for his work and a liberal allowance for expenses. His salary per quarter of three months was \$1,000. In addition he received per day, for expenses, the sum of \$25 and for the same time his mileage was not far from \$1,000 a month, or more than any civil officer receives under the government excepting the President and a few foreign ministers.

Vermont seems to be in a very bad way as regards its schools. Over 700 of its school-houses, or one third of the whole, are reported as unfit for use, while cheap teachers are everywhere sought for, the ordinary wages being \$1.50 to \$1 a week for women—who constitute a majority of the teachers—and \$4 and upward for men. There is no high school system, and it is optional with towns whether to maintain a graded school or not. In the rural districts the number of school children is decreasing every year, and the population has drifted from its old localities.

We don't see why a Washington Judge should dispense with the services of a juror found drunk in the jury box. He certainly was in a condition not to have "formed any opinion on the case."—Ex.

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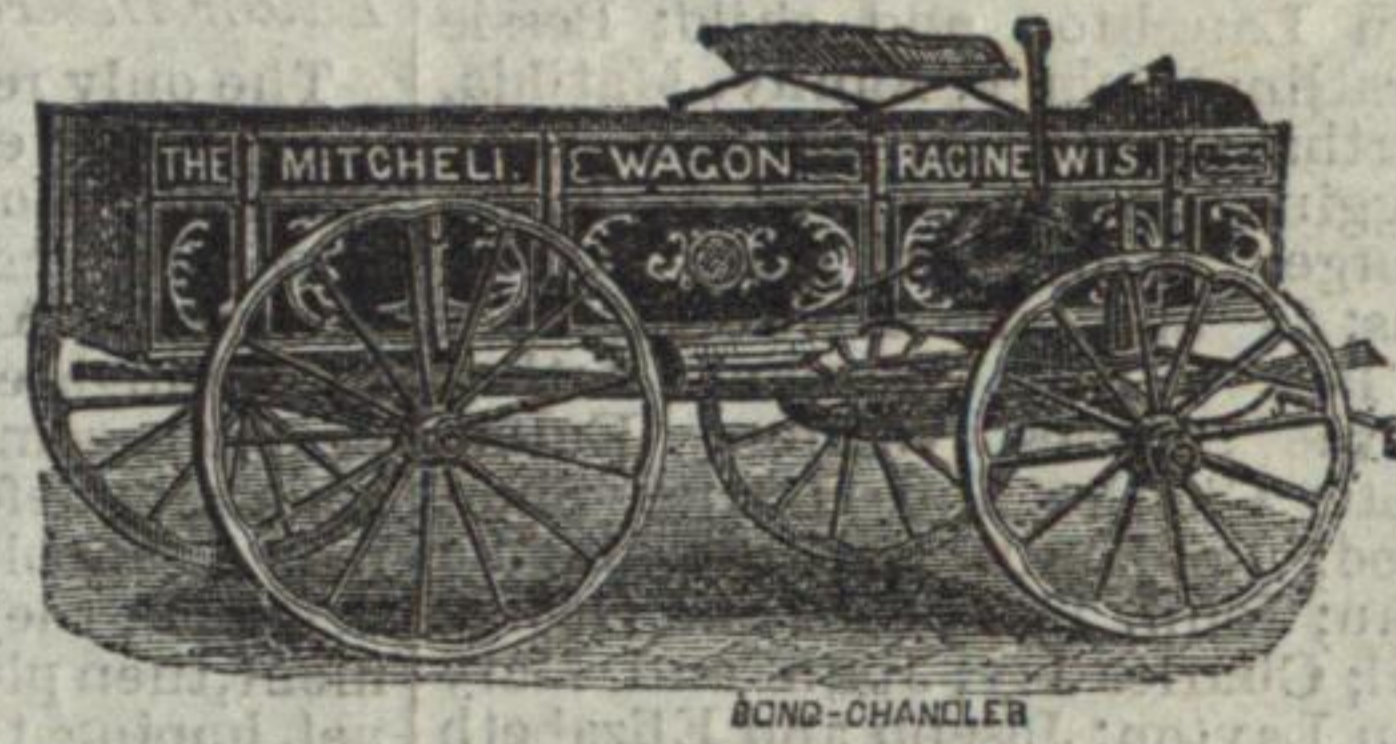
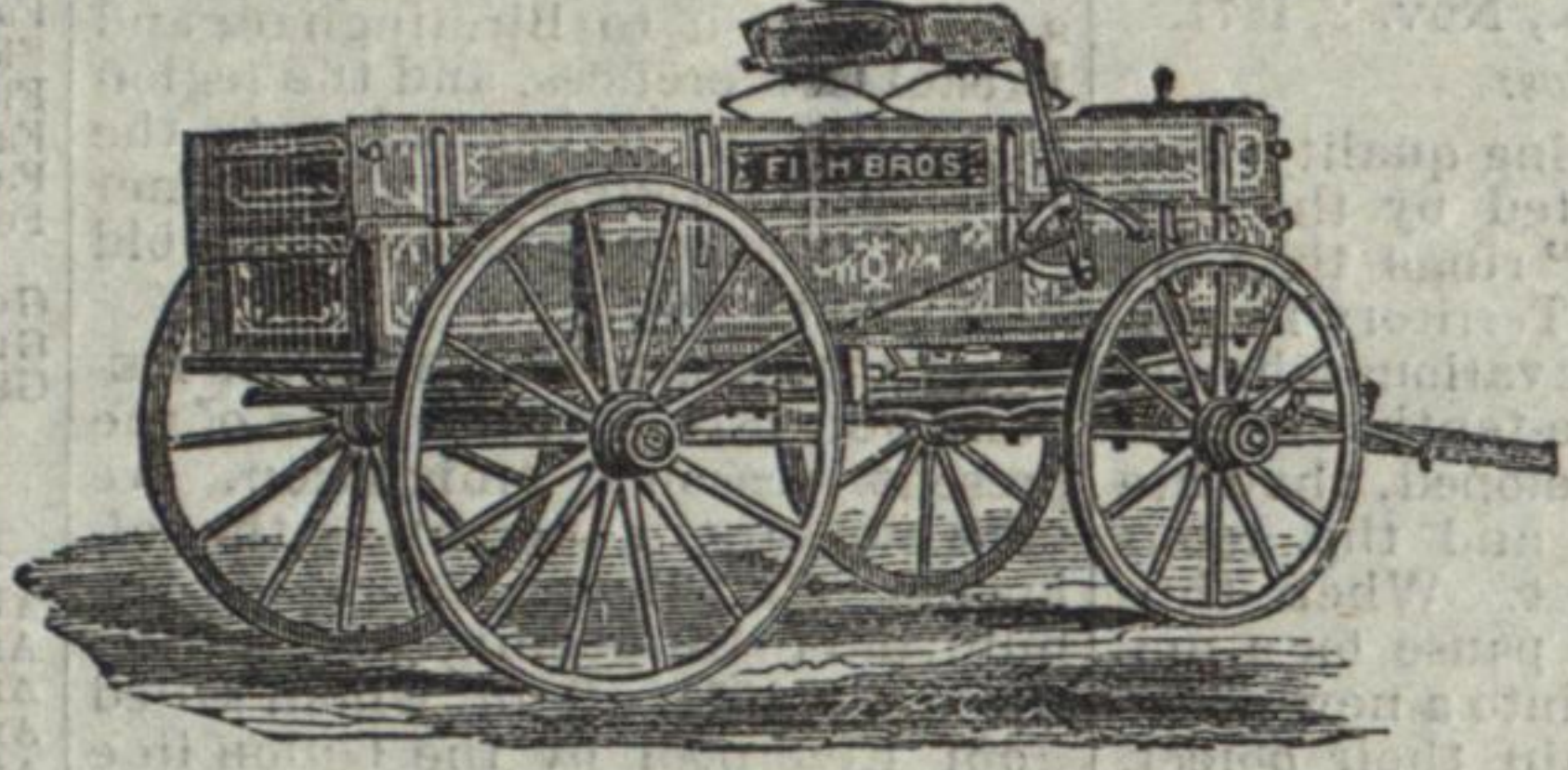
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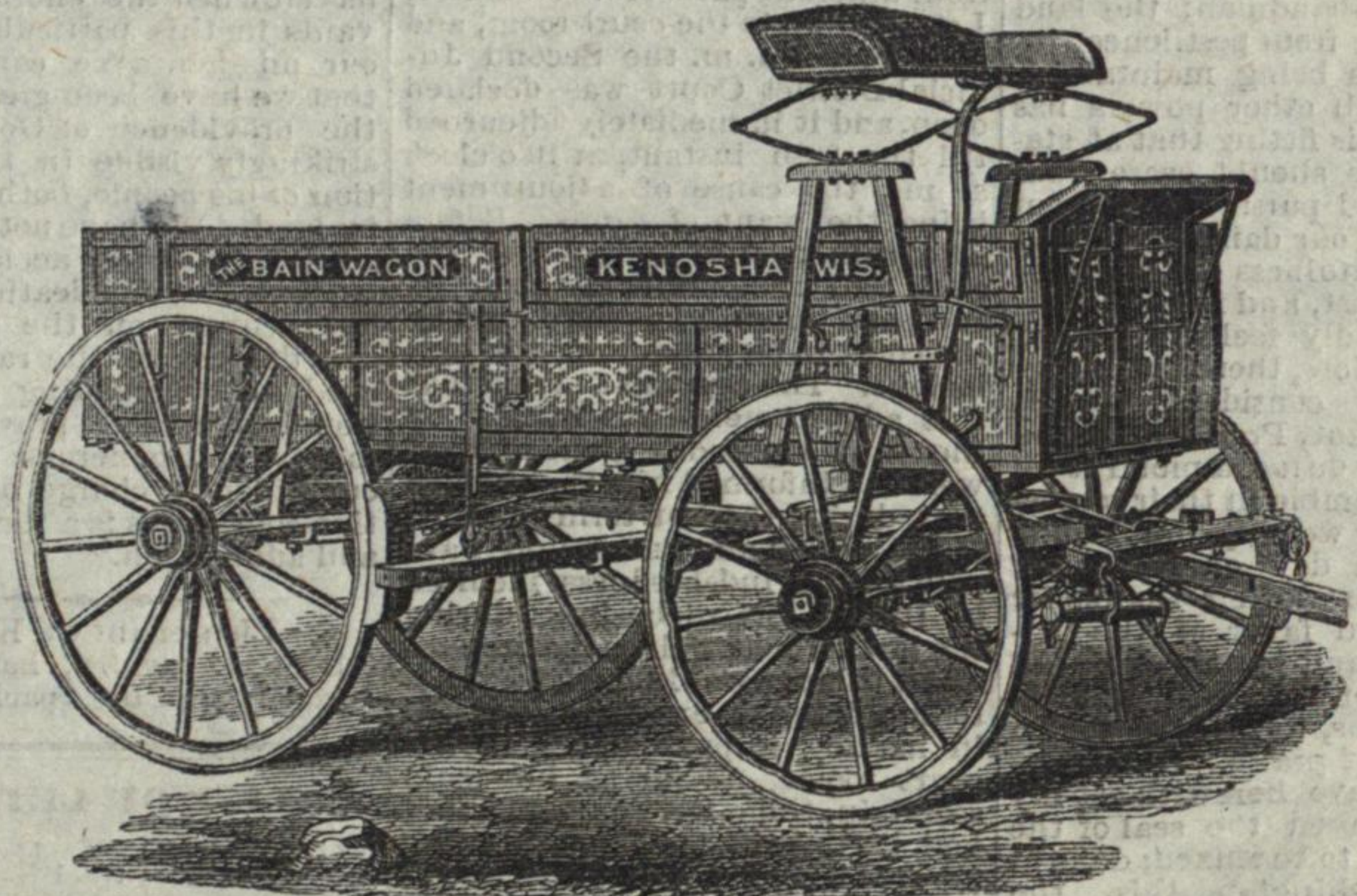
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