

for the smaller places, because the followers of each candidate for speaker have usually made up a slate of all the offices, often merely setting up some poor fellows as candidates for no other purpose than to trade votes. The canvass may grow livelier towards the end of the week, but at this writing it is as quiet as a private graveyard.

If Senator Hill wishes an excuse to make war upon President Cleveland the latter has certainly given him one in the three federal appointments just made for New York—the collector and appraiser at New York city, and the collector at Plattsburg—all of whom are outspoken enemies of Senator Hill, and the last named is said to be especially distasteful to Senator Murphy, inasmuch as it is in a section of the state in which he expected to be consulted about, if he did not actually control the appointment. The anti-Hill Democrats in Washington are delighted with these appointments and the Hill men are laying low, like Br'er Rabbit, and saying little. Whether Senators Hill and Murphy could get enough votes in the Senate to defeat the confirmation of the nomination is a question just about as easy to answer as whether they will try. Shrewd politicians express the opinion that they will have to make the attempt or lose prestige at home.

Senator Stewart was in Washington Saturday, and he said he had been misrepresented in recent newspaper interviews, purporting to give his opinion about the financial action of Congress. Just before leaving for Chicago to attend the silver convention, he said: "There will be no filibustering in the Senate on the part of the silver men, but the proposal to repeal the Sherman law cannot be acted on without discussion, and I consider that it will be doing well if a vote is reached in four or five months." The senator also intimated that he would have something to say in the Senate about the action of the treasury department in refusing to buy the full amount of silver which the law says shall be purchased each month.

It is amusing to watch the expression of the average Congressman's face when he is asked how long Congress will be in session, before the inevitable answer, "I don't know" is returned. The I-don't-know fellows are in a big majority among the Congressmen who have arrived, and it is evident that they are waiting to get a cue from President Cleveland's message. I do not mean that they are waiting because they desire to blindly follow whatever recommendation the message may make, but they are waiting to see what the message contains before declaring themselves for or against the President. Some cling to the belief that Mr. Cleveland will suggest some sort of compromise that can be accepted by men of all shades of opinion, but the majority appear to believe that it is bound to be a fight to the death between the advocates of a single gold standard and those of the free coinage of silver.

President Cleveland, Speaker Orlep and the other big guns will all be in Washington this week and then we shall see the clash of wits begin, and it promises to repay being closely followed.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

The names of certain municipal officials are again associated with a peculiar piece of business. This time the transaction is of such a character that the public will demand and insist upon a full and complete explanation.

Grave charges are made by one W. D. Druce, formerly an employee in the city waterworks department. The circumstances connected therewith are highly sensational, and would afford sufficient material for almost any number of racy newspaper articles.

It is a matter of record that on July 17 of last year Superintendent of Waterworks Ryan, J. A. Shafer, a waterworks employee, Councilman P. J. Moran, and John L. Hoke, assistant superintendent of city waterworks, located a mining claim in the Hot Springs mining district, about six miles from the mouth of City Creek canyon. They christened their new prospect the Mogul and it is known by that euphonious title today and is looked upon as a bonanza by its owners. Considerable development work has been done under the supervision of Mr. Ryan and a shaft sunk to a depth of about one hundred and twenty-four feet. Startling statements are made as to how and by whom the work was done. The claim is set up that men in the service of the city, paid at the City Hall out of the municipal treasury at the end of the week have been working in the mine. According to sworn statements the scheme was worked on this wise: A camp was maintained within three hundred or four hundred feet of the mine. Sometimes the men would rake loose rocks off the road, trim brush and remove rubbish from the creek for a few hours in the forenoon and work in the mine the remainder of the day. Then again it is stated that they would work day about for the city and mine owners. Concerning this W. D. Druce today made the following affidavit:

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,
August 2, 1893.

I, W. D. Druce, testify that I am a resident and citizen of Salt Lake City; that on June 12, 1893, I was engaged by James A. Shafer, a foreman in the employ of W. H. Ryan, superintendent of the Salt Lake City waterworks; that I worked in City Creek canyon with the aforesaid Shafer part of the time in clearing the roadbed and creek. The remainder of the time we were engaged in sinking a shaft in the Mogul mine, eight miles from Salt Lake City, located and owned by W. H. Ryan, J. A. Shafer, (Councilman) P. J. Moran and J. L. Hoke.

I further testify that I worked thus for twenty-two days and that I received \$2.50 and board per day, and was paid by the city upon signing the regular municipal pay roll; that I was never offered nor did I ever receive a single cent of money from either of the owners of such mine, and was paid in no other way than by signing the sworn pay rolls of the city as a regular employee of the waterworks department.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of August, A.D. 1893.

JAMES M. SMITH,
Notary Public.

My commission expires April 27, 1895.

An inspection of the pay rolls today disclosed the fact that Druce had signed them on June 23rd and 30th and on July 7th and 14th. On the pay

rolls Druce is designated as a "City Creek tunnel" workman.

In addition to making the above affidavit Mr. Druce suggests that Mr. Ryan tell the public where the lumber came from to timber the mine.

The answer in part is given to this by another man who knows whereof he talks. He says that it was hauled there by a teamster named J. E. Stevens, in the employ of the waterworks department and adds that in case an investigation is held, that the latter would make an interesting witness, especially in relation to where the lumber came from. He says that probably he could also tell who hauled the groceries and provisions to the camp and give a good many details on the mysteries of mining work in City Creek canyon by municipal officials.

J. A. Shafer, one of the men charged with working the Mogul mine at the city's expense, hid himself down from the mountains Thursday and in the evening swore to the following affidavit, which appeared in the morning paper:

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 3, 1893.

I, J. A. Shafer, a resident of Salt Lake City, and the Territory of Utah, depose and say that I am an employee of the Salt Lake City waterworks department and that my business has been to run tunnels, prospect for water, clean out springs and remove decayed matter from the water sources supplying Salt Lake City with water through the pipes. In view of the fact that one W. D. Druce has made statement to the public under oath that certain dishonest labor has been performed by me and him, therefore, to place before the public the circumstances under which W. D. Druce has been influenced to make his sensational affidavit.

On the 16th of June, 1893, under instructions from W. H. Ryan, the superintendent of the Salt Lake City waterworks, I was moved with a camping outfit to a point in City Creek canyon about eight miles from Salt Lake City, or three-fourths of a mile from the forks of said creek, where snowslides had washed the dead stumps and decayed matter from the mountains, to put the road in a passable condition and to remove all foreign and decayed matter from the creek, with these instructions on the 16th of June, 1893.

I employed one W. D. Druce to assist me in the performance of said work. My instructions from W. H. Ryan were to work eight hours each day for the said Salt Lake City, and to be paid for the same at \$3.25 per day, and that the said W. D. Druce was to receive \$2.50 per day for his services. Out of each and every twenty-four hours, I worked eight hours and no more. After this work was done for said city, I made an arrangement on my own account with W. D. Druce to do a little prospect work on the Mogul mining claim in the Hot Springs district, for which he received his board.

This claim was located and owned by W. H. Ryan, J. A. Shafer, J. L. Hoke and P. J. Moran, and the timber used and supplies of all character were bought and paid for by private funds for which I have receipted bills. The condition of the mine is such that only about two to two and a half hours' work could be done each day, as the smoke from blasting would require the rest of the day to clear out.

The sensational accusations of W. D. Druce are without semblance of foundation, and in every particular incorrect.

JAMES A. SHAFER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of August, 1893.

LILBURN P. PALMER, Notary Public.