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GRESHAM MAY RESIGN

Rumors of a Possible Cabinet Vacancy.

WILL RESUME HIS POSITION

Cares of the Office Weigh Heavily Upon Him, and He Will Take a Much-Needed Rest.

NEW YORK, April 2.—A morning paper has the following special from Washington: Another vacancy in the cabinet, it is rumored, may occur within the next few weeks. Secretary Gresham is the official who is slated for voluntary retirement. The report comes from several of his close friends to whom, it is said, he has more than once expressed his desire to return to the practice of law, if not to the bench. Judge Gresham, it is stated, has not found the state department as congenial to his tastes as he had expected, and Mrs. Gresham has not been altogether pleased with the breaking of home ties made necessary by her removal to Washington. Both the secretary and his wife have told intimate acquaintances of their mutual desire to return to Illinois.

The rumor of Mr. Gresham's retirement, however, is not based alone on these exchanges of confidence, but on more direct statements regarding his intentions within the near future. Judge Gresham's relations with the president have been, so far as known, of the pleasantest. No member of the cabinet has been more trusted by Mr. Cleveland, so that his desire for retirement from office in the near future cannot be ascribed to any friction with his chief. It is hinted, however, that Judge Gresham has felt somewhat aggrieved over the disinclination of the cabinet to support him in the vigorous foreign policy which he believes would win for him great popularity, and possibly make him a favorite for the presidency. It may be that extinguished hopes in this direction have had a strong influence on him in reaching the conclusion that he would prefer to retire, but this idea is scouted by his friends, who assert that Judge Gresham has not been moved by any such considerations. They say that he has simply consulted his wife's pleasure and his own tastes in concluding to leave Washington within a short time.

Gresham's Friends Say He Will Not Leave the Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—A vigorous denial is made in administration circles of the story that Secretary Gresham is about to resign. The secretary himself will not be interviewed, not caring to dignify the report by a denial. It is a fact that the secretary has been in ill-health for some time, and a recent attack of neuralgia of the stomach left him much debilitated. He has been unable to secure a rest in Washington owing to the frequency with which delicate and embarrassing diplomatic questions have been forced upon him, and it is probable he will yield to the solicitations of his family and friends so far as to take a short leave of absence and go to his farm in Indiana, and, perhaps, stop for a time in Chicago.

Going to Lakewood.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Gresham will shortly go to Lakewood, N. J., to recuperate from the effects of the grippe, which he suffered during the winter, and which has left him too weak to stand the strain resulting from the diplomatic incidents which have recently arisen.

The War in Manchuria.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 2.—Advices have been received by the steamer Rio Janeiro, from the Associated Press correspondent at Tokio, under date of March 17, as follows:

The plan of the latest campaign in Manchuria is now clearly explained, though few important facts are added to those previously reported. For the first time since the capture of Ping-Yang, the movements of the Japanese troops are directed by a soldier skilled in the science of modern warfare; and the same leader that won the earliest of the series of victories now conducts the operation in the valley of the Liao river.

General Nodzu, promoted to the highest grade of the army, assumed control in February of the first division, commanded by Lieutenant-General Yamaji, in addition to his own—the fifth and the third, of which Lieutenant-General Katsura is the chief. His scheme was to divide the attention of the Chinese armies in Manchuria, and keep them as far apart as possible, while he concentrated

his forces upon the several points of attack.

Lieutenant-General Yamaji was first ordered to take the field. About 8000 of his division marched from Kalping on February 24, seized a strong Chinese position some 12 miles southeast of Ying Kow, and by their threatening attitude, prevented General Sung from sending northward any large number of his troops encamped at the mouth of the Liao river.

On February 28 Lieutenant-General Katsura, with 8000 of the third division, started from Hai-Cheng to drive the Manchuria forces of General Ito toward Liao Yang. For two days General Ito retreated in much disorder, and when at a distance of 18 miles from Hai-Cheng, General Katsura suddenly turned and led his men southward again, but by another road, which brought him to Old New Chwang on the 4th of March. Meanwhile, General Nodzu had crossed from Hai-Cheng to New Chwang, in a straight line, at the head of 7000 of the fifth division. A combined assault on the position was made on March 5, and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon the northern half was in the hands of the Japanese.

Several thousand of the defenders, belonging to the army of General Wu, fled through the southern gates toward Ying Kow and Tien-Chwang-Lei. They would have been followed by the entire body, had not the line of retreat been blocked by a cavalry regiment. The Chinese were now a disorganized rabble. Apparently unaware that they might save themselves by surrendering, they ran into the houses and kept up a persistent fire upon the Japanese until late at night, when they were brought to submission by blowing up many of the buildings in which they had barricaded themselves. Nearly 2000 were supposed to have been killed and an equal number wounded or taken prisoners.

The spoils were of great value. Thousands of horses were found, more than enough to satisfy the needs of the whole invading army. One foreigner, a missionary, still remained in the city and his safety was duly provided for.

A Girl Evangelist's Story.

MILLERSBURG, Ky., April 2.—The great revival that has swept eastern Kentucky had among its most successful evangelists a pale but very bright girl. She is filling the largest churches here, and the story of her life is far from ordinary. Her name is Mollie Meriman, a daughter of D. H. Meriman, a circuit-rider in the M. E. church, south.

When 3 years old an attack of scarlet fever left her apparently dead. She was prepared for the grave and the coffin had been lowered, when the frantic mother refused to be quieted until she saw her baby once more. When the coffin was opened, the physician, who was present, noticed something unusual in the appearance of the supposed corpse. It was taken out and found to be alive. But never afterwards was the girl free a day from violent pain. Scrofula existed in its most repulsive form for years. When she was 16 scarlet fever again attacked her, and she once more apparently died and would have been buried but for the mother. After six days she was resuscitated.

At the age of 18 she was thrown from a carriage and sustained a sprained ankle, when she went into convulsions. She sometimes had as many as 150 in a single day. While in this condition she was taken ill with congestion of the lungs, and from May to August was unconscious. The first day that she was able to walk she fell and threw the sprained ankle back into place, and then felt that she must preach the gospel. Since last September 1000 persons have been converted through her efforts. Her height is just 4 feet ten inches, and she weighs 72 pounds. She holds as many as four services a day, traveling 60 miles on horseback and talking again at night.

Ugly Insultations.

PARIS, April 2.—As an indication of the strained relations between England and France, Matin and other newspapers persist in insinuating that the collision on March 3d off Messina island, between the two British steamers, the Alvah and Brinkburn, the latter chartered by the French government as a transport to take French troops and munitions of war to the island of Madagascar, was due to England's malice, and that the nation capable of such an action, should be made to regret it. The Alvah was sunk and the Brinkburn seriously damaged, but she succeeded in making the harbor of Messina.

A Presidential Pardon.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The president has pardoned John Hopkins, sentenced in Utah to three months in jail and \$500 fine for unlawful cohabitation. The sentence has expired, and the pardon is granted to restore citizenship.

GOODBYE TO BISSELL

Wilson Sworn in as Postmaster-General.

ASSUMES HIS DUTIES TOMORROW

Walking Stick Out From the President's Grounds at Woodley—Will Leave Tonight.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Contrary to expectations, W. L. Wilson took the oath of office as postmaster-general today. Bissell received the employes of his department this afternoon and ends his official labors today.

Mrs. Fuller, wife of Chief Justice Fuller, and Miss Wilson, the daughter of the new postmaster-general, were present at the ceremony. Bissell and Wilson conferred, and saw some heads of bureaus. Then John Parson, president of the Letter Carriers' Association of New York, presented the retiring postmaster-general with engrossed copy of resolutions commending the administration of Mr. Bissell, his enforcement of the eight-hour law and his extensions of the civil service law.

Secretary Gresham sent Bissell a hickory walking stick, which he himself cut on the grounds of the president's summer home at Woodley, and trimmed. Shortly after these preliminaries the employes of the department were introduced to Wilson, and said good-bye to Bissell.

Wilson will enter the active discharge of his duties tomorrow. Bissell leaves for New York tonight to attend to private business.

The Income Tax Returns.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Income tax returns are coming in far beyond the expectations of officials. To save time and avoid complications, collectors were instructed to certify and send returns the 10th of each month, and, therefore, no reports have been received of a date later than March 10. Nevertheless, 10,000 returns have already been received and are being verified and recorded. It is estimated that returns made to collectors prior to March 10 represent at least \$1,500,000 income tax, and the actual amount returned to April 1 will aggregate \$15,000,000. It is not expected that returns to any considerable number will be made before the 8th or 10th of April, five days before the time limit expires, hence the showing is exceedingly gratifying to those having the matter in charge.

Another matter of congratulation is the little difficulty being experienced by tax payers in filling out blanks. All things considered, the work of collecting the tax is going forward with very little friction. It is expected that at least \$20,000,000 income tax will be collected by June 1, the close of the fiscal year. Officials do not express any doubts that the supreme court will sustain all the important features of the law, if not the entire act, as it stands, and are pushing the work as rapidly as is consistent with accuracy.

Cleveland's Brother Not Wanted as Pastor by His Flock.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., April 3.—By a vote of 28 to 1, at an exciting session of the congregation of the Presbyterian church at Chaumont, this county, last evening, it was decided to ask Rev. Wm. Cleveland, brother of President Cleveland, to tender his resignation. It is reported that politics have been the disturbing element, although Mr. Cleveland took no part in politics. Cleveland will appeal to the presbytery.

Escaped the Lynchers.

ST. LOUIS, April 3.—Sheriff Archer and a deputy from Steelville, Mo., reached St. Louis this afternoon with A. M. Green and the latter's five sons, having narrowly escaped a mob gathering to lynch the prisoners. Green and his sons are charged with the murder of David Hildebrand, in Crawford county. After the murder the body was burned. Today it was decided that it was unsafe to let the prisoners remain longer at Steelville, as threats of lynching were heard on every side.

Dead Before Her Mirror.

CINCINNATI, O., April 3.—Annie Shannon, a young married woman living at 45 Baum street, was found dead in front of the dresser in her bedroom yesterday morning. From the appearance of the body she had evidently been posing before the mirror when death overtook her. She was leaning on the dresser and her head was turned coquettishly to one side. Her eyes were wide open and were staring full at the mirror. The body was discovered by a young girl who called

at Mrs. Shannon's room. Her knock was answered by Mrs. Shannon's 4-year-old child. When the girl entered the room she saw Mrs. Shannon, as she thought, preparing her toilet. She spoke pleasantly, but was surprised at receiving no reply. She walked over to the mirror and laid her hand on the woman, and then it was that she discovered that she was dead. She gave the alarm, and in a short time the neighborhood was aroused.

Coroner Haerr was hastily summoned, and the body was not disturbed until his arrival. A score of people crowded into the room, gazing in awe-struck silence at the silent figure in front of the mirror. Dr. Haerr pronounced the case one of the most remarkable on record. He says the woman had been dead several hours. How it happened that she did not fall to the floor, is what is most surprising. The doctor is of the opinion that the woman was posing before the mirror when she was stricken with death. She was of a prepossessing face and figure.

An Extraordinary Career.

NEW YORK, April 3.—Rev. James J. Kane, D. D., late chaplain of the Brooklyn navy-yard, is reported to be dying of pneumonia in England.

Rev. Mr. Kane has had an extraordinary career. He first won fame in the navy during the civil war. After the war, while his ship was quartered in Jamaica, he caught the yellow fever and died, so far as appearance went. He was placed in his coffin, but although apparently dead, he saw and heard everything that passed. After eight hours in the coffin he sat up, to the terror of the colored man whose duty it was to keep watch over him.

Some years later, while in Norfolk navy-yard, of which he was chaplain, he appeared to die the second time, and remained in a cataleptic state 48 hours. When he recovered or was resuscitated he left the navy-yard, and completing his studies, joined the church.

Mr. Kane obtained leave of absence this time last year and soon after was placed on the retired list. He has quite a number of medals for bravery in battle.

The Results Mixed.

ST. LOUIS, April 3.—Of 44 municipalities in Missouri heard from, the democrats were successful in 25, republicans in nine and the citizens' ticket in five, while in five other cities there was a mixed result. Among the larger cities in which democratic tickets were elected, are Springfield, Mexico, Independence, Nevada, Moberly, Joplin, Centralia, Paris, Poplar Bluff, Salem, Monett, Carrollton, Fayette, Neesho, Gallatin, Richland and Bowling Green. Sedalia, Macon, Carthage, Lebanon and St. Joe are the principal republican cities.

Progressing Towards Recovery.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The Japanese legation has received official notice by cable that negotiations of the peace envoys have been resumed. The renewal indicates that Li Hung Chang is progressing toward recovery. When the envoys were last together the main question was as to the armistice, but now that is granted, the envoys must deal with the main question of the final terms of peace.

Smallest in the World.

Key West, Fla., April 3.—A woman appeared here yesterday who is said to be the smallest person in the world. She is Miss Isabella Pinder, of Spanish Wells, in the Bahama islands, and she is 35 years old, 36 inches tall, and weighs less than 50 pounds. Her physical development is perfect. She is on a visit to a cousin here, "General" Abe Sawyer, who is 31 years old, 41 inches tall, and weighs 55 pounds.

No Fighting Reported.

LONDON, April 3.—A Shanghai dispatch says that no fighting in Formosa has been reported, and it is believed to be the intention of China to surrender the island as a part of the peace program. The prospects for peace are promising.

The Negro Defeated.

ST. LOUIS, April 3.—Full returns of yesterday's election show Moses Craven, a negro, reported last night as elected, to the lower house of the municipal assembly from the 15th ward, was defeated and George Sissel, a white democrat, was elected.

Generally Went Republican.

MILWAUKEE, April 3.—Returns indicate that Judge Winslow, of Madison, is re-elected justice of the supreme court over Judge Clementson, of Lancaster, the republican nominee, by a majority of 10,000. The cities and villages went republican.

First Republican in Thirty Years.

WINONA, MINN., April 2.—This city elected a republican for mayor yesterday for the first time in 30 years. Addison B. Youmans is the mayor-elect.

SLANDER IS CHARGED

Latest Developments in the Spreckels Family Row.

DAMAGES ASKED FOR BY A SON

New Suit Mainly Brought to Clear Himself of the Charges Made by His Father.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 4.—The row in the Spreckels family has reached a somewhat sensational stage. Young "Gus" Spreckels filed a complaint in the superior court this morning charging his father Claus Spreckels, with slander. This charge grows out of the suits recently begun by the two younger Spreckels brothers against their father and two older brothers to recover valuable stock in the Spreckels Hawaiian sugar business and Oceanic Steamship company.

The suit involving the Oceanic Steamship company was recently brought by Gus Spreckels, who inaugurated mandamus proceedings to compel the directors of the company to call an annual meeting. He alleged that by refusing to do so they were keeping him out of his representation on the board of directors.

After this suit was filed Claus Spreckels, in a newspaper interview, said some very rough things about his younger sons. He practically charged Gus with the embezzlement of \$250,000 in 1891, while managing the Spreckels sugar refinery in Philadelphia. The father also charged that the suit against the Oceanic Steamship Company was simply "a piece of blackmail," by which the younger brothers were trying to beat him out of \$2,000,000. The father also alleged that Gus had wasted his money, would soon be a bankrupt, and "would die in the gutter."

As a result of all this alleged defamation, young Spreckels complains that his reputation and business prospects have been damaged many thousand dollars. In his complaint he recites that he has actually been damaged to the extent of \$2,000,000, but that it is not money that he wants. He therefore sues for \$300 damages, a nominal sum, as his desire is simply to clear himself of the charges which his father has so publicly made against him.

Nicaragua Canal Commission to Begin Work at Once.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—It is expected the Nicaragua canal commission will start for Nicaragua within two weeks, as it is realized the time at its disposal is short when the work to be done is considered. Major Ludlow probably will be president of the commission by virtue of his brevet rank of colonel. He is in London on duty as a military attaché of the American embassy and it is believed his thorough acquaintance with the British view of the canal project will be of value to the commission.

He will be instructed by cable to take the first steamer to the United States and come to Washington. The commission will organize an outline of its plans of operations, then go to New York, where a thorough examination will be made of the details for the survey of the canal, with the purpose of saving time and work in the field. Returning to Washington the commission will receive formal instructions from the secretary of state, then proceed to Mobile and sail on the United States steamer Montgomery for Greytown, at the eastern terminus of the canal.

The season will not be well suited to field work, as there is always an abundance of rain to be expected in the summer months, and the party will have to rough it principally on the east side, where swamp jungles are impassable on horseback and there are no roads. The canal company, however, is doing what it can to facilitate the labors of the commission and has already sent orders to Greytown to put laborers at work chopping away the jungles from the canal route. It is believed that with average weather the commission can complete the route to Nicaragua in about two months, and be back in the United States ready to begin the compilation of its reports which must be ready by next November.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

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FURTHER DETAILS.

How the Rock Island Robbery Was Executed.

HENNESSY, Okla., April 4.—Two robbers boarded the engine as Rock Island train No. 1 was leaving Dover at 11:30 last night, and covering the engineer and fireman, commanding them to stop about 200 yards from the water-tank. The engineer, who was a little excited, went about a fourth of a mile before stopping. One of the robbers fired at him just missing him, and the ball went through the cab window.

Conductor James Mack, not having heard the shot, started to find out what was wrong, and was covered as he approached the engine and told to climb in the engine. They robbed him, and were then joined by the others, who had come up to the train.

A demand was made for Express Messenger Jones to open his door. This was refused, and a fusillade followed, in which the messenger was wounded in the wrist. He attempted to escape from the opposite side of the car, but was captured by the guard on that side and made to crawl under the train. An attempt was then made to open the safe, but nothing could be done.

Then the robbers proceeded to rob the passengers.

When the train arrived at Kingfisher, Sheriff Burch and United States Marshal Madsen were notified and carried to the scene of the hold-up by a special train. They found the trail about four miles west of Dover, where Cimarron river had been crossed, and are still following it. The robbers are supposed to be led by Dickey Eager, an outlaw, who has headquarters in the Cheyenne country. If the posse comes up with the robbers a fight will probably occur.

Train Robbers Again.

CHICAGO, April 4.—At the headquarters of the Rock Island road it is said that at 11:50 last night, 20 rods west of Dover, train No. 1 was held up by five mounted men, who ordered the baggage man to open the door of the baggage car. He refused, and the robbers fired twelve shots through the door, wounding the baggage man in the wrist.

The robbers then broke down the door with a sledge, but did not get any plunder from the baggage car. They hurriedly proceeded through the smoker and one of the day coaches, securing about \$300 from the passengers, six revolvers and a number of watches and rings. Passengers in the sleepers were not disturbed.

The robbers were last seen from the train going west from Dover, all mounted, the leader being upon a mettlesome gray horse.

A posse has started from Kingfisher, the next station in pursuit of the bandits