

DINGLEY TREASURER

The Place Was Offered Him and He Accepted.

IT IS ROBINSON CRUSOE ISLAND NOW

McKinley Said to Favor the Calling of a Monetary Conference in the Spring.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—A Tribune special from Washington says: Nelson Dingley, jr., will be the next secretary of the treasury. He has been offered the high position under the McKinley administration, and has accepted it.

This highly important information comes from a gentleman who is eminently in a position to know whereof he speaks and it can be trusted implicitly. He is a member of the present and next house of representatives and is authority for the statement that Dingley will not be chairman of the ways and means committee in the next house—a position which has been conceded to him from the start—because he is to be secretary of the treasury.

PERPETUAL MOTION.

The Clever Device of a Minnesota Inventor.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 31.—J. G. Kaller, of Mankato, Minn., has applied for a patent for an invention which he says will take the place of steam engines and electric motors.

The device is called a hydraulic motor, and the principle upon which it works is the natural one which causes lighter substances than water to rise to the surface. An endless chain of small air-tight tanks is placed over two sprocket wheels in such a manner that on one side it will pass upward through a large tank of water.

As each air tank enters the water tank from below through a water-tight valve, it will be forced to the surface by the superior weight of the water and in this way the chain will be kept in perpetual motion, revolving the sprocket wheels to which shafts are attached.

Thus, if the claims of the inventor are true, the motor will run on indefinitely without fuel. He claims that the first cost will be less than that of a steam engine, while the operating expenses will be so small that all other motive powers will be driven out of use.

Hydraulic motors to furnish any horse-power required can be constructed.

McKINLEY IN EARNEST.

Favors Calling the Monetary Conference Early in the Spring.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—A Washington special to the News says: Congressman Mondell of Wyoming, who arrived today direct from Canton, where he interviewed President-elect McKinley, said: "Major McKinley is in earnest on the subject of an international agreement. He is in accord with the spirit of Senator Wolcott's resolution, and believes action should be taken at once. He favors calling the conference early in the spring. He says it is idle to talk of postponing action until after the tariff is disposed of, because, if anything is accomplished, the preliminary steps have to be taken at once."

Western Republicans in congress were much interested in the word brought from Canton by Mr. Mondell. Said Congressman Cooper of Wisconsin: "I am glad the president-elect takes the pledge for bimetalism contained in the platform seriously. The large majority of the Republicans in the Western and Middle Western states voted the Republican ticket because they accepted the platform pledge in good faith."

SPOILS A 'FRISCO FAKE.

Crusoe's Vanished Island Is Resurrected and Rechristened.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—President Erezuis will soon make a trip to Sandy Point to personally inspect and study the necessities of the people in the far-off Chilean province.

Hereafter the island of Juan Fernandez will be known as Robinson Crusoe island. It has been decided to give it that name.

The Chilean government purposes establishing a penal colony on St. John's bay to keep convicts sentenced to long terms. It is intended that these convicts shall engage in fishing and canning shellfish, which are abundant in the bay.

THE ATTACKS ON WEYLER.

May Result in a Spanish Cabinet Crisis.

MADRID, Jan. 1.—Dia, referring to the attacks of the Herald and Imparcial on Captain-General Weyler, says it is possible they may result in a cabinet crisis. Many people believe there will be a change of policy.

A meeting of the Spanish generals was held last evening to consider these newspaper articles, the full text of which was not allowed to be telegraphed abroad. It is persistently asserted that a decision has been reached to relieve Weyler, but the premier suspended the order. All the ministers met at the premier's residence last evening to discuss the matter.

A feeling of general public indignation prevails. It is asserted the soldiers are suffering from hunger, exposure and lack of medical care, while nobody seems to know what becomes of the money sent from Spain.

Judge Field's Condition Serious.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Justice Stephen J. Field, of the United States supreme court, is ill. Persons who called at his house today to extend the compliment of the season, were informed he was very feeble. Justice and Mrs. Field announced in yesterday's paper that they would not receive callers today, but those who asked about the Justice obtained the impression that there was great anxiety about his case.

A Trans-Mexican Road.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 4.—It is stated that C. P. Huntington has a corps of engineers in the field making a preliminary survey for a railroad from Port Alvarado, south of Vera Cruz, to the port of Salina Cruz, on the Pacific, and that, if he can secure advantageous routes, he will ask the government for a concession for the purpose of operating the line in connection with Pacific Mail steamers, doing away with the Panama route.

Senator Palmer Is Ill.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 2.—Senator Palmer is confined to his bed, and threatened with pneumonia.

North Dakota Bank Closed.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 4.—A Devil Lake, N. D., special to the Dispatch, says: The Merchants' National bank closed today, pending action by the controller of currency. The bank was organized in 1887, with \$50,000 capital stock. Several years later Fashley Mears bought a controlling interest and increased the capital to \$100,000. In 1892, when the Mears string of banks went down, affairs were put in the hands of John A. Percival, the stock being reduced to \$50,000. The last statement showed \$47,000 deposits.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

—Three copies of the Bible, written on leaves of the fan palm, are in the British museum.

—A codfish recently caught off Flamborough Head, England, had inside of it 59 fish hooks.

—A floating island in the Sabine river, 50 acres in extent, and covered with water hyacinths, floated for a week up and down the stream, near Orange, Tex.

—Two mischievous boys in Haskell, Me., touched a match to a squirrel's tail to see if it would burn. The animal ran under a house, and the blazing tail set it on fire.

—Some regard for decency is displayed by the proprietor of a restaurant in Asburn, Ore. A sign on the wall reads thus: "Gentlemen are requested not to swear when ladies are present."

—The servant girls in Decatur, Ill., have formed a union to regulate wages. One of the laws is that when a girl is employed in a family which is increased by the addition of a "little stranger," the wages of the servant must be advanced one dollar a month.

—The four great tunnels of the world are cited as an illustration of the marked diminution of the cost of engineering works during the past quarter of a century. The Hoosac tunnel, the oldest of the four, cost \$500 a foot; the Mount Ceniz, the next in date, \$475; the St. Gothard, \$300; and the Arlberg, the most recent, only \$200.

—Superintendent Hubbard, of the Clackamas hatchery at Oregon City, Ore., is to send to Washington specimens of young salmon which have died in large numbers at the hatchery of a strange disease, the only manifestation of which is a white spot on the fish's belly. Half the 2,000,000 fishes brought from the Salmon river have been killed by it.

—The making of artificial ears seems to have reached scientific perfection within the last decade. Made of a specially prepared rubber, flesh-colored in the rough, they are painted by hand in exact imitation of the remaining ear of the unfortunate customer, and as carefully "touched" and marked over as an artist's picture. The maker gets \$100 apiece for them.

Notice.

Bids will be received until Thursday evening, January 7th, for the keeping of the county poor. Bids should be filed with the county clerk at the court house, before that time. By order Board County Commissioners. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved.

A. M. KELSBY, Clerk.

ORDERED TO FLORIDA

The Vesuvius and Dolphin to Suppress Filibustering.

SHE IS THE FASTEST BOAT AFLOAT

The Government Has a Surplus of Receipts for December, the Second Surplus of the Year.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The dynamite cruiser Vesuvius and the armed dispatch-boat Dolphin have been ordered to Florida waters to reinforce the already numerous fleet of government vessels now engaged in an effort to suppress filibustering expeditions bound for Cuba.

The Dolphin is at the Washington navy-yard, and probably will sail as soon as she can get aboard the necessary stores and ammunition. Her captain, Commander Clover, was at the navy department today consulting the officials regarding the program for the movements of his ship. Though a dispatch vessel, technically, the Dolphin would be a formidable craft to a filibuster, not so much on account of her speed, which is about 15 knots, as because of her machine guns, her main battery and active crew. She carries two 47-millimeter Hotchkiss guns, several six pounder guns of the same type, and two four inch rapid-fire rifles. From his experience as chief of the hydrographic office, Commander Clover is well fitted to navigate his ship safely in the narrow channels and passes of the Florida coast.

The Vesuvius should be particularly useful in patrol duty, on account of her speed. Twenty-one knots is her record on the trial, and there is nothing afloat on the Atlantic coast in the shape of a merchantman or private vessel that could escape her in a fair run, with the possible exception of the yacht Vamoose, and it is said it would be a "toss-up" between them, with the odds in favor of the dynamite vessel, owing to her superior ability to endure a long run.

Besides the dynamite guns, the Vesuvius has a small but effective battery made up of three-pounder Hotchkiss guns, enough to stop anything short of an armored boat, within a distance of three miles. She draws only seven feet of water, and therefore will be able to follow the small filibustering craft into shallow water.

The Vesuvius is now at the League island navy-yard, fitting out rapidly for service, after being out of commission for nearly two years. It is expected she can go into commission on the 12th, under command of Lieutenant-Commander Pillsbury, who has been detached from the naval war college.

The question was asked of treasury officials today what more in the way of restraining the department of vessels with arms for Cuba could be expected of a dozen warships than of one, as long as the Cuban boats are permitted to clear regularly and according to law. No satisfactory answer could be returned, but it appeared that the officials are acting under the belief that the clearance scheme is really intended for a blind, and the purpose of the Cubans is to have one or more relief boats slip away while the authorities are looking after the departure of vessels for which clearance papers are sought.

SURPLUS IN DECEMBER.

Government Receipts Larger Than Expenditures.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The monthly comparative statement of the government's receipts and expenditures shows the total receipts for December to have been \$25,857,114; expenditures, \$23,812,664, which leaves a surplus for the month of \$2,044,456. For the six months of the fiscal year, however, the deficit is shown to be \$37,902,397. This is the second time within a year receipts have exceeded expenditures.

The surplus this month is largely accounted for by partial receipts from the recent sale of first mortgage bonds for the Pacific railroads belonging to the Central Pacific sinking fund, which appears in the statement as a repayment to the civil and miscellaneous expenditures. The independent, board transactions surplus would have been about \$500,000. Receipts from customs in December amounted to \$10,779,412, an increase for the month of about \$800,000. Internal revenue receipts aggregated \$53,198,998, a nominal gain over November.

TO SAVE THE SEAL HERDS.

Recommendations Made by Expert Stejneger.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—An important official contribution to the seal question is the report compiled by Expert Leonard Stejneger, of the national museum, on "Russian seal islands," just issued by the United States fish commission.

The report is based upon two investigations, one made during the palmiest days of the fur-sealing industry, and the other when Stejneger was sent as a special attaché of the commission to inquire into the recent decline of the seals and to compare conditions of the past thirteen years.

The report says the 30-mile zone stipulated in the Russian-British agreement of 1893 has been found utterly valueless as a protective measure against pelagic sealing.

Three causes have been assigned for the decline of seal life on the seal islands of Behring sea and the North Pacific ocean. Excessive driving of male seals, raids on rookeries and pelagic sealing. The report scents the first two theories and places the whole blame on pelagic sealing. The Commander island seal herds are being killed off so rapidly that in a season or two it must become utterly unprofitable to hunt the animals in the open sea.

These radical recommendations are made: Total and absolute prohibition of pelagic sealing in the North Pacific ocean and the Behring sea at all seasons for at least six years, and after that time total prohibition at all seasons in Behring sea and the Pacific ocean west of the 175th deg. of east longitude and north of the 52d deg. of north latitude, or, if preferable, within a zone of 150 nautical miles from islands.

Total prohibition of killing on land for one year; after that time bachelor seals to be taken on land not later than August.

This scheme would involve supporting the natives for one year and the extermination of sledge dogs on the Behring islands.

THE BLIZZARD RAGES

Northwest States Engulfed in Whirling Snow.

THE TRAIN SERVICE IS CRIPPLED

Business in Many Towns Suspended—Stock in Open Country Perished—No Loss of Life.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 4.—A blizzard has been raging throughout the Northwest yesterday and today, and as a result train service is considerably crippled. In a number of towns business was about suspended. Devil's Lake reported no trains for 36 hours, and Grand Forks makes a similar report, adding that the schools are closed and wires down to the west of there.

In South Dakota there was more snow and the storm was more severe. Huron reports drifts fifteen feet high, and the storm still raging. Vermillion states that all business has been suspended. Mitchell reports no trains since the storm began on Sunday, and streets deserted. Brookings closes it as the worst blizzard known in years, and all business suspended.

Yankton reports many trains abandoned. Watertown fears that the stock will suffer.

Throughout Wisconsin and Northern Minnesota the storm has been severe. Glendon reports trains snowed up in drifts ten feet deep. Detroit says the railroads cannot do much toward opening the tracks before tomorrow. Moorhead discovers some sign of abatement in the storm, which is the worst that has visited that place, winds blowing 59 miles an hour, and the snow drifting badly. Barnesville, in the same part of the state, reports all business suspended.

FLOOD AND BLIZZARD.

Terrible Weather in Mississippi Valley States.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—From all parts of the West, reports of damage by flood and storm during the last twenty-four hours are coming. In Illinois, heavy rain has fallen, streams are flooded, making the roads impassable and damaging winter wheat. Joliet is threatened with one of the worst floods in its history. Hickory and Spring creeks are out of their banks, and the Desplaines river and the lower level of the canal has raised sixteen inches today. Families are moving out of their houses and lowlands are flooded. Water is sweeping through the lumber yards, and the Rock Island track is submerged in the vicinity of Lacon. Wheat has been damaged badly by the twenty four hours' rain, and the roads are impassable. The Sangamon river is rising, threatening destruction to thousands of bushels of corn. It has rained sixty hours, and it is still raining, but growing colder.

In Northern Michigan the rain is also severe. Near Menominee, it has rained for forty-eight hours. Logging has been suspended. Ice gorges at Fisher and other points on the Menominee river threaten serious consequences to Menominee and Marinette.

In Minnesota a blizzard raged all day with alternating rain and sleet.

South Dakota suffered a severe snowstorm, which prevailed all day. The snow drifted and a railroad blockade is feared.

Nebraska is suffering from the worst blizzard it has experienced for years. Snow was twelve inches on the level to night, and the wind piled great drifts six and seven feet high. Trains are delayed in the vicinity of Hastings. Tonight a blinding snow is falling and a sharp wind blowing. At Grand Island there are several feet of snow in the Union Pacific yards.

A Probable Suicide.

CORVALLIS, Or., Jan. 4.—James Elgin, a liveryman, has disappeared under circumstances which make probable the theory that he drowned himself in the Willamette river.

Elgin had driven to Albany in a buggy Friday night, and at 1:30 o'clock Saturday morning started home, being preceded by a young man from his stable, who drove another buggy. The latter arrived at Corvallis in due time and waited at the stable for his employer, who, however, did not come.

At about 5 o'clock Elgin's team arrived at the stable, minus both buggy and driver, whereupon a search was instituted for the missing man. The buggy was found near the city water works in a damaged condition and an examination of the surrounding ground showed boot tracks leading down to the river. As there were no returning tracks, the conclusion was reached that Elgin must have deliberately committed suicide.

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ROYAL
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Absolutely Pure.

Celebrated for its great leavening strength and healthfulness. Assures the food against all forms of adulteration common to the cheap brands.
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The total result, considering Spain's outlay in life and treasure, is far from satisfactory.

Too much may have been expected of Weyler; just as the reaction was too great in the case of Campos. Still, the one great requirement, success, has not been fulfilled, and Weyler has consequently fallen in official esteem in Madrid.

WARM, WET WEATHER.

Three Days of Rain and Wild Breezes at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—The weather in Chicago for the past few days was the warmest and wettest ever recorded for the first three days of a new year, the average temperature being above 50 deg. and the total rainfall 2.56 inches.

The total precipitation in the month of January, 1896, was only 1.12 inches, including snowfall. The month of December just passed was the driest December ever recorded here, the total being only .16 of an inch, which is 2.19 inches below the normal.

Last December had the least precipitation of any single month in Chicago since the organization of the weather bureau, except the month of February, 1877, when the total precipitation was only .06 of an inch.

Shows Signs of Abating.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—The storm, which has been raging for the past twenty-four hours in the Northwest, has not increased in severity, save perhaps in Iowa; and the signal service office in this city, which runs affairs generally in the Northwest, is upon record as declaring that within a short time the storm will "probably abate." The wind has been high throughout the storm, and in some instances has shown remarkable persistency in clinging to the high figures, it having for thirty-six hours kept up a 52-mile-per-hour gait at Huron, S. D.

The falling temperature is general in the lake region and Upper Mississippi valley, but there has been no heavy fall of snow east of Iowa. In Iowa, the fall of sleet and snow has been very heavy, and reports tonight indicate lower temperature and more snow. In Western Kansas there has been much trouble by snow packing on the tracks, and trains have been held at eating stations until the tracks can be cleared.

The storm is practically over in this locality, and the sky is clearing.

Nebraska has had about the same experience, and is under drifts anywhere from two to ten feet high.

Was Interred in a Barrel of Whisky.

CYNTHIANA, Ky., Jan. 4.—Charles Bramlett, aged 80 years, died January 2. He owned several plantations in Harrison county, and had been a prosperous man all his life. At a low estimate he was worth \$100,000. He was peculiar in nothing but ideas of his own burial. He was a great reader, and perhaps drew his notions of his own interment from the histories of ancient Egypt.

About 15 years ago he hired a stonemason to make him a sarcophagus of blue Kentucky limestone, which is more durable than the hardest marble. At the same time he bought a barrel of the best old Bourbon the state could produce and ordered that at his death the whisky should be poured upon his body, after it was placed in the stone coffin. The sarcophagus was then to be hermetically sealed and placed in a grave near his residence.

All his directions have been followed and he is to be buried today. It will take a number of strong horses to carry his body in its heavy receptacle.

Crocery Dealers Fail.

QUINCY, Ill., Jan. 4.—The wholesale and retail grocery store of H. Ridder & Co. failed today. Assets, \$40,000; liabilities, \$30,000.

Hot clam broth every day at noon at Ad Keller's.

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