

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1. At noon the Senate was called to order by Vice President Wheeler and prayer was offered by the chaplain.

Anthony and Bayard were appointed a committee, to join a similar committee of the House, to wait upon the President and inform him that both Houses of Congress were ready to receive any communication he might choose to make.

Pending the report of the committee business was suspended until after a short recess was taken.

When the Senate reconvened a message was received from the House announcing that it was in session and that it had appointed a committee to wait on the President.

Business was then suspended for a period. The committee reported that they had waited on the President and very soon after informed him that both Houses of Congress were ready to receive any communication he might choose to make.

The Vice President laid before the Senate the annual report of the Secretary and Treasurer; ordered printed and laid on the table. Business was then suspended for a period.

The committee reported that they had waited on the President and very soon after informed him that both Houses of Congress were ready to receive any communication he might choose to make.

At 1:50 the President's annual message was received and read.

The reading of the message consumed an hour and a half, and on motion of J. Wood, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the committee of the whole and ordered printed. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3. Senator Gordon introduced the following joint resolution:

Be it enacted, etc., That the government of the United States pledge to accept a full and entire protection to the company which shall be granted the concession, by the government of Nicaragua for the construction of said interoceanic canal, and will secure to said company peaceful enjoyment of the rights conceded by such concession.

Wallace offered a resolution continuing for the present session the standing and select committees appointed at the last session, with but two changes, namely, Ferry to take the place of Chandler on the committee on naval affairs, and Baldwin to take the place of Chandler on the committee on commerce; adopted.

Teller offered a resolution calling on the president for information as to whether any money due the Utes Indians under agreement of Sept. 13, 1873, has remained unpaid as claimed by those Indians, and also the nature of the investments made for the Utes under that agreement.

When the appointed time arrived Berran called up his resolution of last session reaffirming the Monroe doctrine in connection with the Darien canal. He said that practically the question was whether the canal should be built under the protection of this or of a foreign government.

Ellis introduced a joint resolution similar to the Senate resolution concerning the Nicaragua canal, which was referred to the committee on affairs.

Price offered the following preamble and resolutions: WHEREAS, Eleven months of trial have demonstrated conclusively that the execution of specie payments on the 1st of Jan. 1879, has been an success and equal to the hopes of the most sanguine friends of that measure; and

WHEREAS, It has been equally well and fully established during the same period that as a nation we have the ability to keep in circulation at par with coin \$350,000,000 in U. S. notes, commonly called greenbacks; and

WHEREAS, Under the operation of these in connection with the collapse of silver dollars, the financial and commercial interests of the country in the last eleven months have attained a degree of prosperity unequalled in any similar period of the last 20 years; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the opinion of the House, sound policy demands and safe legislation requires that no change be made at this session of Congress with regard to and of measure referred to.—That in view of the present prosperous condition of the country financially, we should let well enough alone.

He desired to obtain a vote upon the resolution, but demands for regular order being made on the Democratic side, it was referred.

White introduced a joint resolution proposing constitutional amendments, providing that the general appropriation bills shall contain nothing but appropriations, and giving power to the President to disapprove of any separate item of a bill without thereby defeating the entire bill; referred.

Fort offered the following resolution: Resolved, That any attempt to withdraw or change the legal status and quality of any paper money issued by the United States, or to alter the currency standards established by decisions of the supreme court, and universally adopted, and approved by the people would be injurious and mischievous, and could only result in disturbing business and retarding returning prosperity, and this House is especially opposed to any such legislation; referred.

treasury notes of the United States shall be receivable for all debts to the United States, excepting duties on imports, and shall not otherwise be received as legal tender and any of said notes hereafter reissued shall bear this superscription; referred.

Legalla offered a resolution that in the opinion of the Senate the present volume of United States notes should not be reduced and that said notes ought to continue to be a legal tender to payment of debts.

Adjourned until to-morrow.

The Malheur Agents.

As Reviewed by Sarah Winseton.

This somewhat noted Indian woman gave on the evening of the 3d instant, in San Francisco, a second lecture concerning her tribe (the Pitues) and their relations to the Government through the Malheur Indian Agents, of which the following summary:

The lecture was delivered in a forcible and emotional manner, and contained many notable points. She began her narrative with 1875, when Sam Parrish was Agent. She dwelt at length upon his kindness to "my people;" how he kept faith, built a school house, and taught them to be good and honest.

On the first of January, a school house having been built, Mrs. Parrish, wife of Charles Parrish, was made head teacher, and Sarah assistant, and in five months, said Sarah, some of our children, Indian children, could spell words of two syllables. Think of that! She told how beloved was this Agent to them all, and how the council of her people thanked him for his labor and kindness.

She then, in the most feeling tones and language, that won the sympathies of listeners, told how Parrish had informed them that orders had come from Washington for him to leave them, and that another was to take his place. The regret and pain her people experienced at this news, and how they failed to understand why a good man, and one who had done his best to improve the condition of the Indians and civilize them, should be removed.

She made the same points, and a few others, against Rinehart as before. She told how he (Rinehart) had told falsehoods, abused, ill treated, brutally treated, deceived and cheated them in every way, and how he insisted upon it that they should only deal at his stores. She made complaints against this man and had obtained no redress.

She then described incidents which led to a portion of her people joining the hostile Bannocks. These men decided rather to die in war than to be starved by Rinehart. She spoke of her efforts to prevent them from going to war. She did not think that all of her people should be deprived of their lands or be driven from home to starve because a few had been guilty.

The guilty alone should be punished. The Chinese, she said, sometimes do fearful things and commit horrible murders, but you search for these men for two or three years until you catch them, and when you catch them you punish them. You don't attack all the Chinese who are with you. No, you let them live with you. You take all natives of the earth to your bosom, but the poor Indian who is born of the soil of your land, and who has lived for generations on lands which the good God has given to them, and you may be exterminated. [Three repeated with deep passion, and received with tremendous applause.]

The proverb says the big fish eat up the little fishes; and we Indians are the little fish, and you eat us all up and drive us from home. Where can we poor Indians go? If the government will not help us if your people will help us and have good hearts, and can if you will. She then spoke of the grand results obtained by Capt. Smith at Warm Springs, where, after ten years teaching, the Indians could read, speak, and preach beautiful sermons in their own tongue and were civilized. She praised the efforts of and the results obtained by the Rev. James Wilbur and the white ladies, among other tribes. All these proved that the Indians, especially the children, could be educated and civilized.

As she retired she laughingly said: If I were to take of these things and put on tight, and twist around and caper like this (imitating the ballet), you all would come to see, but as I come to appeal for my people, you don't care to listen to me. A long prolonged outburst of applause greeted this remark and Sarah retired.

Gen. Grant's Mother.

It has passed into an axiom that great men are usually, if not always, the sons of clever women. The following extract from a letter of Gen. Grant's, written to his mother while at West Point in his seventeenth year, may throw some light upon the early influences that helped to form his character. "I have occasionally been called to separate from you, but never did I feel the full force and effect of this separation as I do now. I was so often alone with you, and you spoke to me so often in private of the true aims of life, that the solitude of my situation here at the academy, among my silent books, in my lonely room, is all the more striking; it reminds me more forcibly of home, and most of all my dear mother, of you. I see now in looking over the records here, how much American soldiers of the right stamp are indebted to good American mothers. When they go to the field, what prayers go with them, what tender testimonials of affection and counsel are in their knapsacks. I am struck looking over the history of the noble struggle of our forefathers for national independence, at the evidence of good influence exerted upon them by the women of the Revolution." Perhaps it was from this mother that he learned much of the admirable qualifications which the world is lauding in him to-day. Her teachings evidently have not been forgotten.

The two Misses Longfellow, a daughter of Professor Longfellow, and a daughter of Mr. Arthur Gilman are among the lady students at Harvard.

Living in Hopes.

There is no particular reason why a tramp should wear a polished white shirt, but they had one at Central Station yesterday with a shirt so terribly in want of a soapdash bath that the oldest men on the force gathered around the fellow and declared that they never saw anything like it under the blue canopy of heaven. When asked how long he had worn it without washing the man seemed hurt and replied:

"Give me a chance, won't you? You see, I had this shirt on seven months ago, when I broke my arm. I couldn't get it off then, of course."

"But your arm got well," protested one of the officers.

"Yes, it got well, and then my sister died."

"What of that?"

"Why she made this ere shirt with her own blessed hands, and I kinder thought it was my duty to wear it in memory of her for a while. I'm a hard looking pil, I know, but I loved my sister. Poor Sarah! she's up there where they don't wear clean shirts and never have their hair cut."

"Well, haven't you worn it long enough to ease your sister's spirit?"

"Gentlemen, I should have got this washed some time this week but last night I lost my dog—an animal that had stuck to me three years."

"And what had the dog to do with it?"

"If I should get washed and cleaned up, and seem to be somebody, and should some across my dog, he'd look at my hair, give one sniff at my clothes, and then he'd turn tail and keep up the search till he fell in his tracks. I don't want to go back on my own dog, do I? I don't want to play any contemptible tricks on a canine which has turned to and eaten shining nails and all oyster cans when we was on the tramp, and I couldn't get anything for myself but shelled corn. How I'd look going back on a dog that never laid down beside me at night without hunting around to see where I could pick up turnips for breakfast."

"After you find your dog you can wash up," suggested an officer.

"Well, I shall live in hopes," was the dubious reply. "Life is but a span, you know. We come up like flowers and are cut down; and I tell you I'm not going to run risks or take chances for the sake of having a clean shirt to spit tobacco juice on."—Detroit Free Press.

Foundations Without Scholars.

There are foundations in three universities in this country for professional schools of Chinese and other Oriental languages. Two of these are occupied by professors, viz: those at Harvard and Yale. At the former institute a native Chinese scholar has been installed, but he has not a single pupil, and is not likely to have any. He teaches only the Mandarin or Court dialect, and not that used for commercial purposes. At New Haven, Rev. S. Wells Williams, an ex-Chinese missionary, is the Professor. At last accounts he had no pupils. He is acquainted, we believe, with the Canton dialect, that which is largely used in commercial business. At the University of California there is a foundation for an Oriental professorship, but no occupant. It was thought some years ago that the advantage of understanding one of the Chinese dialects most used in business would be so great that many young men would undertake the acquisition. But outside of the Chinese Empire, few young men have any interest in that direction, while there are fewer still who care anything about the litera of the Chinese, or would undertake to acquire the Mandarin tongue for the sake of reading Confucius in the original, or of looking into the vast stores of learning which are sealed up to European and American scholars.

In China the commercial intercourse, or that relating to buying and selling, is done through "compradors," or natives who can speak "pidgin English," and though a white man could speak a commercial dialect of the community perfectly, yet he could not buy an invoice of tea, silk or any other commodity, without engaging the services of a "comprador." The Chinese merchants will deal in no other way. Except for clerks in foreign houses, a knowledge of Chinese is of little avail even in China; and when a commercial dialect is wanted it can be picked up in that country with more facility than in any other.

A Word to Gentlemen.

We can spare some elaboration of the form, but we cannot safely spare the substance of refined deference. If Romeo is permitted to treat Juliet as hostlers are supposed to treat barmaids, and as the heroes of Fielding and Smollett treat Abigail upon a journey, they will both lose self respect and mutual respect. It was a wise father who said to his son, "Beware of the woman who allows you to kiss her." The woman who does not require of a man the form of respect, invites him to discard the substance. And there is one violation of the form which is recent and gross, and might well be cited as a striking illustration of the decay of manners. It is the practice of smoking in the society of ladies in public places, whether driving, or walking, or sailing, or sitting. There are preux chevaliers who would be honestly amazed if they were told that they did not behave like gentlemen, who, sitting with a lady on a hotel piazza, or strolling in a public park, whip out a cigarette, light it and puff as tranquilly as if they were alone in their rooms. Or a young man comes alone upon the deck of a steamer, where throngs of ladies are sitting, and blows clouds of smoke in their faces, without even remarking that tobacco is disagreeable to some people. This is not, indeed, one of the seven deadly sins, but a man who unconsciously sings false, betrays that he has no ear for music, and the man who smokes in this way shows that he is not quite a gentleman.—Harper's.

The American Career of the Sparrow.

The first attempt, as far as known, to introduce the common house sparrow of Europe to our country was made by a gentleman named Desbouis, in Portland, Maine, during the Autumn of 1858; he brought over a few birds from the continent, and liberated them in a large garden, which was situated within the central part of the city. They remained there sheltered and secure under the eaves of a neighboring church through out the winter; and in the following Spring settled down happily enough to the labor of nest building and rearing their young. Two years later the first pair of finches were set at liberty near Madison Square, New York City; the importation was steadily repeated, the birds being released in the Central Park and at Jersey City. They were first introduced in Boston in 1868 by the city government, and to Philadelphia by the municipal authorities in 1869, and from these small beginnings the house sparrow has spread all over this northern country wherever we have a city east of the rocky mountains, and the fluttering flocks of the robust foreigners enrich the streets thereof in every direction. Their numbers are nearly countless.

The object at first for the introduction of the house sparrow does not seem to have been one of practical suggestion, but rather one in the nature of sentiment. Since, however, the attention of the citizens was called to the great nuisance of the existence of canker and mouse worms in the shade trees of the old cities of the Union, the fact that the house sparrow would remain with us all winter, and feed as energetically upon the worms as any of our own birds—which ways, without exception, led to warmer climates every season—the thought of practical application took the form of the introduction of the English sparrow as a means of relief, more certain than that afforded by any or all of our indigenous fowls, as soon as this became generally understood, the little John Bull was distributed with great industry all over the country for this purpose; and as sure as it became numerous in any town or city a spirited opposition sprang up to it, and exists to day with more or less vitality in every section where the bird is fairly settled. Whole books have been written pro and con, and naturalists have waged unrelenting war upon one another, as they differed in estimating the value and the services of *pergula domestica*; but, in the judgment of the writer, the entire practical bearing of the controversy has not been fully presented by either the friends or the foes of the little fowl, for it must seem clear enough to those who will follow the line of argument in this article that while the house sparrow is eminently fit and wonderfully well constituted for life in Northern cities, yet it is a sad rovery and nuisance in the country; while in the former case it renders admirable service in destroying insect pests that disgrace the shady avenues of city forestry, yet in the latter field it cannot compete with our native birds in entomological service to man, and having given good reason for dislike on the part of the growers of fruit, they are doubly increased because the law will not allow them to shoot, trap or destroy the enemy.—Harper's Magazine.

Waterloo, Iowa, Jan. 25, 1879. I was taken with an acute attack of Rheumatism last fall, and confined to bed. At first employed a physician, without benefit; then sent to Wangler Bros. Drug Store, and obtained a bottle of St. Jacobs Oil, the use of which soon gave me relief, and cured me of the attack. I can safely recommend it to all suffering with Rheumatism. Respectfully, Matt McDermott, I. C. R. R. shops.

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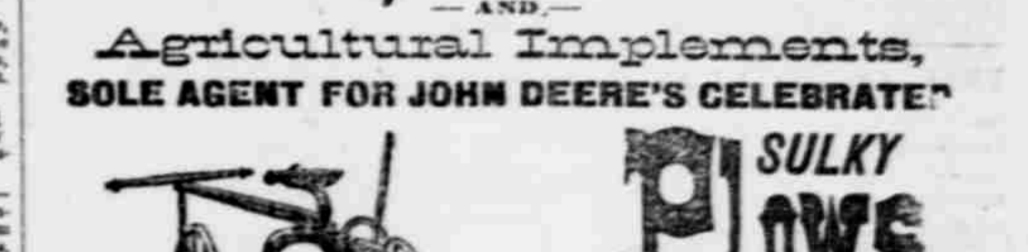
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