

WASHINGTON ITEMS

Some Stories Told of the Deaf Senator from Louisiana.

CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

Remarkably Efficient Service Which Quickly Provides References on Almost Any Subject For the Use of Senators and Representatives.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—A few days ago, Senator Platt, of New York, and Senator McEnery, of Louisiana, met way down in the club basement, and started up in the elevator to the Senate chamber. The Louisiana Senator is very deaf, and both are men over 70 years of age.

"We are nearing the end of our journey, Senator," observed Mr. Platt, for the want of something better to say.

"Yes, I've had a bad cold," replied Mr. McEnery, not catching the drift of Mr. Platt's remark.

The New Yorker interjected no mortuary statement. He was referring simply to the fact that after a long while and a somewhat slow ascension they were nearing the Senate chamber.

A short time ago Mr. McEnery was approached by one of the correspondents representing a Southern paper and asked if the Senator could give him a tip on what had taken place in the Executive session, as a number of important postoffice cases against which opposition had been manifested were supposed to have been called up. In reply to the query the deaf senator replied:

"Yes, it is snowing, isn't it, and pretty hard, too, outside. It's rather trying on us fellows."

Mr. McEnery sometimes carries an audophone which assists him greatly in his hearing, but as a rule he leaves it in his desk in the chamber. Senator Pettus, of Alabama, also is very deaf, but several senators have discovered to their chagrin that the old veteran sometimes hears better than they think, when they make remarks sotto voce with which he does not agree. Senator Pettus when the roll is called, sits with his hand to his ear listening intently until he hears the name immediately preceding his, which is that of Mr. Perkins. The clerk uses an accent on his name that affords Mr. Pettus a cue that he comes next. After Mr. Piles name, immediately following his, has been called, Mr. Pettus settles back in ease.

One of the southern news papers recently came out in vigorous protest against the mistake it seems pretty much everybody has made, in referring to the Senator-elect Davis of Arkansas, as "Jefferson Davis." According to this authority the christian name of the new senator is not that of the late President of the Confederacy, but is "Jeffries," similar to that of a British judge who occupied the supreme bench in the days following the restoration of the Stuarts. This paper seems to have a grudge against Senator Davis, as it attributes to him many of the qualities of the Judge, after whom he is said to be named, and these qualities, history says, were not such as to endear him to the people.

In a little corner off from Statuary Hall, in the Capitol is the opening of a tunnel through which miniature cable railway operates, connecting the Capitol with the Congressional library. Here it is that Senators and Members send for such books as they may wish, the purpose of the tunnel being to make the delivery of books as expeditious as possible.

If strangers were to stand near this corner and hear the messages delivered by the pages, they would be astounded at the class of literature these distinguished men are supposed to read. The other day a page from the Senate rushed up to the attendant and said loudly that Senator Lodge wants a copy of "Scalping Bill, or the Indians Terror." Such reading for a literati like the Senator from Massachusetts, who is the author of historical works of absorbing interest, is hardly creditable, and if some staid old New Englander were to hear this request, his soul would be filled with terror.

Of course, the Senator does not want the book. The page had merely secured the Senator's permission to take books from the library on the Senator's account. In the same way books relating to all sorts of subjects in which particular senators are not interested in, and fiction, the pages of which they would not deign to open, are constantly being carried forth through this tunnel. When the order

does come however, for books it is known the Senators do not want themselves, there is a hustling at the Library and if the books are there they will be started through this little tunnel in an incredibly short space of time.

The system of the library is something wonderful. Frequently Senators in debate find something upon which they want a reference. A note is sent to the Library relative to the subject matter and its particular phase. Back comes within half an hour probably, a stock of books with bits bits of paper stuck between the leaves indicating the very things the Senator wishes. A force of clerks at the Library is detailed for this purpose, and so expert have they become that on matters of ordinary interest in debate, they know precisely where to lay their hands on works dealing with the subject.

INDEPENDENCE SHOOTING.

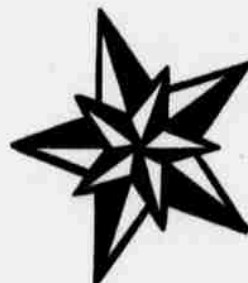
PORTLAND, March, 2.—A special dispatch to the Oregonian from Independence says that City Marshal R. J. Taylor and his son Asa Ttylor were shot but not seriously injured this afternoon by Eph oung, a hop grower. The men quarrelled over a dog, blows were struck and then the shooting, occurred. Young was arrested.

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ENGLAND OVER PARTY TO IT

Volume Entitled "The Ambassadorship at Paris of Baron de Mohrenheim" Contains Interesting Revelations Supposedly From Reliable Sources.

PARIS, March 4.—Very interesting revelations concerning the diplomatic history of the triple alliance are made in a recently published volume entitled "The Ambassadorship at Paris of Baron de Mohrenheim." Morhenheim was for 14 years the Russian ambassador at Paris and conducted the Russian end of the negotiations which resulted in the dual alliance. Jules Hansen the author of the book, claims this information comes from a "sure source." He says that besides the official treaty constituting the triple alliance with its appended military conventions Emperor William and King Humbert verbally engaged their words

of honor to remain true to the alliance and to use every influence should the case arise, to prevent their ministers from dissolving it. Emperor Francis Joseph later joined this part and autograph letters between the three sovereigns consecrating it afterward were exchanged.

When made, Hansen says, the Kaiser was thinking only of France; Emperor Francis Joseph only of the possible aggressions of Russia and the slavs in the Balkans. The military portion of the convention was prepared with the most scrupulous care. It fore saw the possible necessity for the union of Austrian and German forces on the British frontier against France, the union of the Italian and the German fleets in the Baltic against Russia and joint operations of the allied armies and navies in the Dardanelles and beyond. Hansen says:

"This information is absolutely exact and one of the reasons Germany always opposed the publications of the treaty was because it contained as many clauses against Russia as against France and its divergence would only have hastened the conclusion of the dual alliance by dissipating Russia's last hesitations."

But the most curious feature of the "history" is the statement that England was at one time practically a party to it. "In the treaty as it exists before 1902," says Mr. Hansen "there was a clause or rather a reservation inserted by the Italian cabinet whereby in no case could Italy be en-

gaged in a league against England."

Denial of the treaty of 1902, M. Prinetti, "forgot the reserve covering England."

"Great Britain," says Mr. Hansen, "was very prudent and was never more than partially engaged."

The foreign office limited itself to declaring that in the event of war between Russia and Austria or between France and Italy in the Mediterranean it was very probable that Great Britain would intervene against Russia in the one case and France in the other without admitting that this declaration entailed upon England obligations as casus foederis."

FUNERAL WITH DERRICK.

Five Hundred and Twenty Pounded Corpse Buried With Difficulty.

CHICAGO, March 2.—The body of a woman weighing 520 pounds was buried with some difficulty yesterday. It was that of Mrs. William Maurer, 54 years old, wife of Detective Maurer of the West Chicago Avenue police station, who died Wednesday of fatty degeneration of the heart.

A derrick of the kind used in moving pianos was necessary to remove the body from the house. A piano mover superintended the undertaking. The derrick was fastened to the roof of the house.

Morning Astorian, 60 cents per month, delivered by carrier.

Do Not Crowd the Season.

The first warm days of spring bring with them a desire to get out and enjoy the exhilarating air and sunshine. Children that have been housed up all winter are brought and you wonder where they all came from. The heavy winter clothing is thrown away and many shed their flannels. Then a cold wave comes and people say that grip is epidemic. Colds at this season are even more dangerous than in mid-winter, as there is much more danger of pneumonia. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, however, and you will have nothing to fear. It always cures, and we have never known a cold to result in pneumonia when it was used. It is pleasant and safe to take. Children like it. For sale by Frank Hart and Leading druggists.

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