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CANALS ARE POPULAR.

The great waterways of this country are capable of a wonderful growth and improvement. The recent disasters upon the Mississippi should be guarded against as much as circumstances will allow. And, speaking of the Mississippi, the day is not distant when its northern arm will be connected with our inland oceans and a ship may sail from New Orleans to Chicago. Then will come the Nicaragua canal, by which that same vessel may proceed directly into the Pacific and down the western coast of South America. There is no doubt that a ship canal will be cut from the lakes to the Atlantic. Congress has already been asked to provide for surveys and make estimates, and when Brother Jonathan gets so far the end is assured. Canada is enlarging those waterways which would admit British war vessels from the St. Lawrence river to these lakes, and at present we have no avenue of approach. Under these conditions, in a few years from date, the greyhounds of the ocean will traverse lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan and Superior, anchoring in Chicago and Duluth. A direct connection via the enlarged Erie canal and the Hudson river will open up another stream for traffic to New York. Talk of ship building and revived maritime interests! What will people behold who live another fifty years? That not only railway but naval supremacy belongs to this republic, and that supremacy will entail a commercial importance which today is only feebly shadowed.

The litigation between lawyer Goode and Alex Berry of Condon, still boils with unabated fury. Berry moved to Marion county about three weeks ago, taking along a few head of horses on which Goode claims to hold a mortgage. Last week he had Berry arrested on a charge of larceny by bailee, and Constable Carlisle went down to Salem and brought him back to Arlington. The Globe says Berry demanded a trial, and as Goode did not appear to conduct the prosecution, Squire Zeigler dismissed the case and Berry was turned loose. Thus poor old Gilliam is "in for it" again to the tune of several hundred dollars unnecessary expense. It would be a grand thing for the country if the law compelled prosecuting witnesses in such cases to give bonds for the costs.

Speaker Crisp is out in an interview in which he declares for an extra session of congress and states his reasons, which are much the same as those of other democrats who favor an extra session. Why an extra session should be held is not of as much importance as the fact that he comes out squarely for it. It is said that Speaker Crisp will be able to manipulate the present house so as to force an extra session if he so desires. Whether he will do so or not is another question.

Congress has adjourned for the holidays, and will not reassemble until the middle of the first week of January. While not a great deal has been accomplished thus far, the arrangement of the appropriation bills is said to be well under way, and their passage will be the principal work with which congress will deal until its adjournment with the incoming of the new administration. More than this is not expected, as congress at the short session rarely finds time for general legislation.

At a fire at the residence of Gen. Floyd Aspinwall, in New York on the 22d, the crowd which gathered soon had the opportunity to see Mrs. Aspinwall, a handsome woman, perched on the roof of a bay window at the third story, attired in a wrapper, calmly hugging a jewel case containing jewels valued at \$50,000. She was finally rescued, nearly dead, but will survive.

Enough has leaked out in relation to the proposed new tariff sheet of the Great Northern to inspire much enthusiasm in Spokane. That city is to have rates which will enable her to hold a field distinctively her own. Where she had controlling competition before she will in future have practically exclusive sway; and where she has had no opportunities in the past, she will now have a free field of competition.

It was thought the extraordinary measures taken by the authorities would prevent another outbreak of cholera in the spring at Hamburg, but indications now point to a recurrence of the disease in epidemic form when warm weather sets in.

It may be interesting for local members of the order to know that the Pennsylvania Odd Fellows pay on an average \$46 every day in the year for the relief of their members, widows and orphans.

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