

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

[SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.]

WASHINGTON, D. C. Jan. 15.

The present has been a week of talk in the Senate but more of it has been about the Philippines and expansion than about the Financial bill, which, according to the programme, is the regular talking subject of that body. The most interesting speeches for and against expansion were made by Senators Beveridge and Hoar, members of the same party, but representatives of the most extreme opposing ideas so far as the Philippines are concerned. Senator Beveridge calmly ignored the unwritten rule that a man must be a Senator at least a year before making a set speech, and everybody admits his success as a speech-maker, whether they agree with his sentiments or not. Like the late Henry Ward Beecher and Robert G. Ingersoll, Senator Beveridge has the gift of holding and interesting his hearers, regardless of what they think of his opinions, and he can always be sure of a large and attentive audience whenever he gives advance notice of a speech in the Senate. Senator Hoar, who is the leader of the anti-expansionists in the Senate, if they can be said to have a leader, and who replied to Senator Beveridge, lacks most markedly the gift of oratory, but he holds attention, notwithstanding his squeaky voice, by his earnestness of manner. He says the devil is tempting the American people with the commercial advantages of expansion.

One entire day was given up by the Senate to eulogies of the late Vice President Hobart, and the House eulogized the late Representative Greene, of Nebraska. The House has been killing time all the week, only meeting every other day and holding very short sessions, waiting for the committees to report some business.

The Senate committee on Elections has devoted the entire week to hearing Montana witnesses in the Clark bribery case, but very little of importance has been brought out.

A letter was read at a meeting of the Washington branch of the American Auxiliary of the Cuban Provisional Red Cross Society, which was organized a short time ago to help the young Cubans and teach them to become self-supporting, from Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone, president of the society, who is now in Cuba, showing the need for this sort of work. For instance, Mrs. Rathbone wrote: "It nearly breaks my heart to have civil governors write to me and come to me and beg me to come and help them, and not to be able to do it. I have now before me several letters pleading with me to come to various parts of the island. From Santiago de Las Vagas, only twelve and one-half miles from Havana, I have just this morning had an interview with a messenger sent from the alcade of the town, beseeching me to come and help them in the hospital and with the children. Two hundred orphans are on the streets of this town of 11,000 people yet with the amount of money I have I cannot do it." Mrs. McKinley is one of the contributors to aid the work of this society.

There is a possibility that the Roberts committee may after all take a junket to Utah. The House has adopted a resolution instructing the committee, after it gets through with the Roberts case, which it will do next week, to investigate the charge of polygamy which has been made by Roberts, and others, against two Utah postmasters.

Congress is beginning to hear the grumbling of the publishers of small newspapers on account of the

increase in the price of printing paper—an increase which is charged to trusts—and to get many letters asking that wood pulp and printing paper be put on the free list, and as this is election year Congress may do something for the publishers.

A number of gentlemen have been in Washington this week for the purpose of telling the House and Senate Committees which are considering several bills providing for a Pacific cable how much better it will be for this government to make a contract with a private corporation, binding itself to pay something like eight or ten million dollars for use of the cable for the next twenty years, than to go ahead and lay and own the cable itself. These gentlemen are not philanthropists, advising Congress solely for the good of the country, and paying their hotel bills out of their own pockets. They are representing those who wish to lay and operate that cable, for the purpose of making money for themselves, and who are anxious to get a few millions of Uncle Sam's money promised them, as there would be no difficulty in floating bonds of their company.

Another illustration of the danger of the hair-trigger-statesmanship was given in the Senate this week, when Senator Hale offered a resolution asking what steps had been taken by the administration about the American flour seized by England and asked for its immediate consideration, which was prevented by the objection of Senator Lodge. Within three hours from the time the resolution was offered the official news that the flour seized had been released was in Washington. A little patience is a good thing to have, either in public or private life.

HAVING A GREAT RUN ON CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

Manager Martin, of the Pierson drug store, informs us that he is having a great run on Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He sells five bottles of that medicine to one of any other kind, and it gives great satisfaction. In these days of la grippe there is nothing like Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to stop the cough, heal up the sore throat and lungs and give relief within a very short time. The sales are growing, and all who try it are pleased with its prompt action—South Chicago Daily Calumet. For sale by Emery J. Eastman, Gold Hill or Ben Haymon, Rock Point.

At a Mexican execution soon to take place an admission fee is to be charged all who desire to attend, the money so received to be given to the widow of the chief figure in the function. Our neighbors to the southward don't need, apparently, to take any points from us when it comes to matters of practical business.

The meat sales of Swift & Co., one of the great packing firms, were upward of \$160,000,000 in 1899, and the net profit was \$2,552,065, or 1.41 per cent. That was not more than a reasonable profit, but just imagine a business of that magnitude in that line! The firm employs 25,000 persons, and pays in wages annually \$8,000,000.

Gov. Geer, Secretary of State Dunbar and State Treasurer Moore, acting jointly, have fixed the state tax levy at 6.3 mills, which, upon a valuation of \$120,282,889, will raise \$757,782.18. Last year the tax was 5.7 mills, and upon taxable property valued at \$133,533,577 the sum of \$761,143.39 was raised.

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Those artificial oysters made in Paris that can't be told from the genuine should be taken with a grain of salt.

The longest tree in the world lies broken and petrified at the end of a defile in California. It is said to be 666 feet long.

The Philadelphia mint made 11,387,000 pennies last month, most of which the ladies have saved up for street car fare.—Ex.

If a committee of congressmen is to be sent to the Philippines, it should consist entirely of antis. The others are needed to make laws.

The U. S. senate committee on inter-oceanic canals has agreed unanimously to report favorably on the bill for the construction of the Nicaragua canal.

The question as to whether or not prosperity is here, has been settled beyond controversy. A country editor was held up in Chicago the other day and robbed of \$262.

The populist paper of Oregon City shows its faith in the efficacy of advertising by carrying a big double-column advertisement in the columns of its republican contemporary.

Remember the Mask Ball of the A. O. U. W. in the Brick hall on February 14.

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Cures Impotency, Night Emissions and wasting diseases, all effects of self-abuse, or excess and indiscretion. A nerve tonic and blood builder. Brings the pink glow to pale cheeks and restores the fire of youth. By mail 50c per box; 6 boxes for \$2.50; with a written guarantee to cure or refund the money.

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