

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Secretary Bayard and the French Republic—The Edmunds and Everts Conspiracy—Another Good Republican Gone Wrong—The River and Harbor bill.

WASHINGTON, May 17th, 1888. Secretary Bayard has endeavored himself to every patriotic American citizen by his manly and courageous instructions to Mr. Melane, our minister to France, in the cases of several naturalized American citizens who have been arrested and compelled to do military duty in France.

It was fully set forth that under French principles citizenship is conferred by parentage and not by place of birth, and that expatriation of the French citizen requires the consent of the French Government. Upon these points Mr. Bayard has instructed Minister Melane to inform the French Government that the certificate of naturalization granted by it to a French citizen is not open to impeachment by the French Government, either in its executive or its judicial branch.

It cannot be admitted that American citizens not charged with any crime should be detained under arrest for even a single day after their proofs of citizenship have been submitted. In cases like this the United States can never admit the propriety of submitting to the ordinary delays of judicial action.

Senators Edmunds and Everts, the two leading Republican members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, to which the nomination of Mr. Fuller for Chief Justice has been referred, are charged with having conspired together for the purpose of delaying a report upon the nomination until after the Presidential election, and should a Republican by accident be elected, to delay it until after his inauguration, that he may nominate a Republican for Chief Justice.

Another good Republican office holder has gone wrong. His accounts are short something like \$10,000. His name is Gen. Jas. W. Ewing, and he was appointment and disbursing clerk of the Department of Justice. He was appointed as a Republican some six or eight years ago, from West Virginia.

The Senate has passed the bill forfeiting all unearned railroad land grants. The House committee on appropriations has reported a bill appropriating \$3,000,000 to meet deficiencies in the appropriation for the payment of army pensions during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

Senator Voorhees, who was confined to his room with a carbuncle on his leg for nearly a week after his recent speech, apologized to the Senate for the language he used in replying to Ingalls' charges.

The river and harbor bill has been passed by the House by a more than two-thirds majority. It appropriates \$20,000,000. The caucus of the Democratic members of the House held on Wednesday evening did not discuss the proposed amendments to the Mills tariff bill, as it was generally supposed it would, but passed a resolution that all amendments proposed to be offered by Democrats should first be submitted to the committee on Ways and Means, to be considered and reported upon to another caucus to be held next week.

New York World: A draft for one cent was received at the Sub-Treasury yesterday in the mail. It was drawn by a national bank at Bridgeport, Conn., and was on the Chemical National Bank of this city. It was sent to the Sub-Treasury in payment of the balance then against the Bridgeport bank.

Hazlett Compton, of St. Joseph, Mo., was 103 years old last Tuesday and the St. Joseph Herald of that day gave a banquet in honor of the event. He is a hale old man, walking erect with a brisk step. He uses neither tobacco nor liquor, having stopped using the first about seven years ago.

Senator Voorhees has apologized to the Senate, as was his duty. The country now awaits an apology from Mr. Ingalls for the use of brutal language about the President.

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