

THE INDEPENDENT.

"A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE AND BY THE PEOPLE."

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MISS WIFE.

cannot touch his cheek. Nor ruffle with a loving breath his hair; look into his eyes and hear him speak— He never knows that I am there!

Oh, if my darling would but only know That day and night, through all his weary life, whom he loved in the years long ago, Am with him still—his wife!

watch him at his task, When the broad sunbeams first light up his room; watch him till the evening lays her mask Upon the face of Day; and in the gloom He lays his pencil down and silent sits, And leans his chin upon his hands and sighs, Slow well I know what memory round him flits!

I read it in his eyes And when his pencil's skill Has sometimes wrought a touch of happy art I see his face with sudden gladness fill; I see him turn with eager lips apart To bid me come and welcome his success; And then he droops and throws his brush aside: Oh! if my darling could only guess That she is near who died.

Sometimes I fancy, too, That he daily knows it—that he feels Some influence of love pass thrilling through Death's prison bars, the spirit's bonds and seals; Some dear companionship around him still; Some whispered blessing, faintly breathed caress.

The presence of a love no death can kill Brightening his loneliness. Ah, but it cannot be! The dead are with the living—I am here; But he, my living love, he cannot see His dead wife, though she cling to him so near.

I seek his eyes; I press against his cheek; I hear him breathe my name in waiting tone; He thinks—he exclaims his wife—I cannot speak, He thinks he is alone.

This is the bitterness of death! To know he loves me, pines and yearns for me; To see him, still he near him, feel his breath Fan my sad cheek, and yet I am not free To bid him feel, by any faintest touch, That she who never left his side in life— She who loved him, whom he loved so much— Is with him still—his wife. —Justin McCarthy.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1888.

Both houses of congress have distinguished themselves this week, though in different and very unusual ways. The proverbially noisy, turbulent house of representatives has been remarkable for its silence, and the slow moving senate gave itself unreservedly to words, or rather to speech-making.

Beyond settling the Lowry-White election contest in favor of the republican, Mr. White, there is little to report from the house, except an account of its daily routine business. The senate, on the other hand, has had great speeches until it was tired even of eloquence. Senator Platt, of Connecticut, delivered a two-day address on the subject of the tariff, in which he criticised the president's message, charging that while Mr. Cleveland was a free trader, that he tried to evade the issue, and that the recent speeches of Mr. Keena, of West Virginia, and Morgan, of Alabama, showed that he to be protectionists for their own sakes.

The coming tariff fight is some distance off yet, probably not more than a fortnight, but it is impossible to say just when the bill will be completed. Mr. S. S. Cox, of New York, in referring to the fact that the house had been passing a number of minor bills in a quiet way during the past few weeks, said: "We are clearing the decks for the tariff fight," and he is in a position to know the stage reached in the preparation of the measure.

Mr. Carlisle is in the speaker's chair again, looking no worse for his recent illness. He made his appearance for the first time on Tuesday, when the blind chaplain of the house took occasion to render a little thanksgiving for the speaker's recovery.

Senator Riddleberger continues to talk about the British treaty in open session, and to offend some of the other senators, but particularly Mr. Edmunds by his persistent attacks upon executive business and secret sessions. If the Virginia senator's own statement is to be believed, it is a pity for him to champion so good a cause as the abolishment of the "star chamber." He has complained that no motion he has ever made was adopted; no bill he has introduced has ever passed; that he is made the victim of the rules of the senate; and no matter who is in the chair, he is always declared out of order. He once said the surest way to get a bill passed was for him to oppose it, and the most certain way to defeat one was for him to give it a demonstration of support.

It seems that many people throughout the country have gotten Senator Hoar's joint resolution confused completely with a joint resolution presented to the house by Representative Crain, of Texas,

GENERAL NEWS.

Ship Saulsburg, laden with 780,000 feet of lumber from Port Discovery, was abandoned at sea last week. She encountered a heavy storm and became water-logged. The crew was taken off by the Scirelwyn.

At Spokane Falls last week, Dennis Hone shot at a chicken, but missed it and hit Wm. Spencer. The wounded man was living at last accounts but may die.

Clackamas county has not only the best but the handsomest court house in the state. It is currently reported over the state that the cost was \$60,000. Hon. W. L. White informs us that these figures are much above the actual cost, which did not exceed \$55,000, including the furniture and all improvements about the grounds. As the new furniture purchased cost over \$1200, and the stone wall and iron fence no small sum, the actual cost was about \$53,000.—Oregon City Enterprise.

The coal famine throughout the coast has at last reached Victoria. Dealers have advanced the price to \$15 per ton. It is claimed that this step is taken by them in consequence of the dearth of coal in the city, and the probability being that a supply cannot be had for some weeks to come. Cordwood has advanced to \$5 per cord.

The late lamented legislature of Washington territory voted away for various measures over \$500,000 of the dear people's money.

Six boys and three girls, from the Siletz Indian reservation, were added to the Training school at Chenaeva last week.

Ida M. D. Link has been appointed postmaster at Neer, Columbia county, Or., to succeed Wm. McIntyre, who has resigned. A. D. Chamberlain, postmaster at Taylor, Multnomah county, has resigned, and J. S. Stevens is appointed to take his place.

Some of the young people of Cairo, Ill., had a candy-pulling the other evening, and every body was having a jolly time until suddenly the house cat slipped from a shelf above the stove and fell into the boiling molasses. He put such a damper on the entertainment that the party broke up.

The Oregon Pacific railroad company has begun suit in the New York courts to restrain the Florida Steamship company, from disposing of its promissory notes for \$115,000, and the Farmers Loan and Trust company from parting with its negotiable bonds worth \$58,000, both given by the plaintiff in payment last February for the steamer then called the City of Palatka, but now known as the Eastern Oregon. The Oregon Pacific purchased the steamer on the guarantee that her speed was thirteen miles per hour and she could carry 1000 tons of freight. They now claim her speed was misrepresented and she was not in a good condition and suitable for sale. They began suit to have the sale laid aside and recover their notes and bonds, with \$50,000 damages.

Geo. T. Reed, the well-known salmon keeper at North Front and N streets, has on exhibition a black coyote. A coyote of this color is a rarity, and this one therefore attracts a great deal of attention. —Portland News.

The value of the yearly output from the John Wilsand Brewing Company in San Francisco, is \$3,000,000. The brewery has a capacity of two million barrels a year.

Texas is probably in the soundest financial condition of any state in the Union. There is a cash surplus of \$1,000,000 in her treasury, and the already low rate of state taxation may be further reduced.

Captain Smith Cook, of Shelby county, Ky., is said to be the tallest native-born American. There are only three men in the world whose height is known to exceed his. One is an Englishman, another an Arabian, and the third a Chinaman, Captain Cook is 29 years old and stopped growing when he was 22. He wears a 13 1/2 shoe. He is now a candidate for doorkeeper of the Kentucky house of representatives.

The Mikado of Japan is described as a dark featured, black-haired, thick-lipped man, dressed in the uniform of a European general and with nothing remarkable in his make-up or appearance, although he is the absolute monarch of 36,000,000 people.

The total value of property held in trust by the Portland, Oregon, fire commissioners is \$173,350.21, of which \$100,000 is placed in real estate and improvements and the remainder in horses, apparatus, furniture, tools, stores, etc.

Gov. Eugene Semple, of Washington territory, is of higher birth than any executive in the country. He was born nearly 9,000 feet above the level of the sea, in the city of Bogota, South America, where his father, who was once a senator from Illinois, was United States minister to New Granada, now the United States of Columbia.

The Seattle Press says: It is related that when the Hon. Eliasha P. Ferry was governor of the territory some of the weak-kneed members of the legislature went to him and proposed that they pass the suffrage bill and let him veto it. The governor is said to have promptly replied: "Gentlemen, if you pass the bill I shall certainly approve it." This is the situation as regards Governor Semple in a nut shell. The majority of the members of the legislature who voted for it expected he would veto it but his answer was as in the above instance. Therefore place to the responsibility where it belongs—to the legislature.

THE PEOPLE AND BY THE PEOPLE.

which has been favorably reported from committee. Mr. Hoar's amendment looks to the change of "inauguration day" from the 4th of March to the last Tuesday in April. Mr. Crain's resolution proposes to substitute the 31st of December for the 4th of March as the commencement and termination of the official term of members of the house. It is designed to do away with the election of members between sessions, so that those who are chosen in November shall take their seats on the first Monday in January immediately following, instead of the first Monday of December of the next year. There is nothing in Mr. Hoar's resolution, which passed the senate by an unanimous vote, relative to the meeting of congress, or the election of members.

The question now is, how to harmonize these two amendments so as to enable an early ratification by the state legislatures which are now in session, or which are to convene the coming fall and winter.

Another feature of the Crain amendment is that the speaker can be appointed within ten days after his predecessor's term expires; congress will be at work within sixty days after the election, and the short session will be done away with, by a fixed constitutional termination. Mr. Hoar's amendment simply extends the short session two months, and changes the day for the inauguration. Both positions are popular.

A Great Writer Dies.

TOLEDO, Feb. 15.—D. R. Locke, editor of the Toledo Blade and author of the renowned "Nasby" letters, died of consumption early this morning, aged 55 years. He leaves a wife and three sons.

David Ross Locke was born at Vestal, Broome county, New York, September 20, 1833. He learned printing in the office of the Cortland Democrat. He was successively editor and publisher of the Plymouth, Ohio, Advertiser; the Mansfield, Ohio, Herald; the Bucyrus Journal, and the Findlay, Ohio, Jeffersonian, and for many years of the Toledo Blade. In 1860 he began to publish his Nasby letters in his paper, and several series of them have appeared in book form. He was also the author of many political pamphlets and several books. He was one of America's brightest journalists.

A Case of Hydrophobia.

A Shelbyville Indiana dispatch says: William Wilman, a man about twenty-three years of age, who has been working for John Metzler, eight miles east of here, is suffering from a terrible attack of hydrophobia, which results from a bite inflicted on his leg by a dog sixteen years ago. For a long time after he received the injury his leg troubled him, but finally the wound healed up, and as he grew to manhood it was forgotten. The other day he began to show all the symptoms of hydrophobia and was finally put to bed, and it is but the question of a few days when he will end a life of horrible agony.

Sale of Trotting Horses.

LEXINGTON, Ky., February 14.—W. R. Brassfield's sale of trotting horses began this morning. Sixty-seven head brought \$38,385. Among the sales were the following: Nannie Smith, b. f., foaled in 1886; to Robert Campbell, of California, for \$2555; Red Wilkes, jr., b. h., foaled in 1882 by Red Wilkes, to M. Satters, Kentucky, for \$2500; Nobleman, b. c., by Nutwood, record 2:18 1/2, the dam by George Wilkes, with a record of 2:22, to Dr. Ollun, of Tennessee, \$1700.

Rich Find.

LONGVIEW, Texas, Feb. 19.—A child playing in the yard of a barber named George Tibbet, yesterday discovered a one dollar silver piece buried in a mound of earth. Excavation was made, and one thousand silver dollars in addition were found. Tibbet is under arrest, charged with complicity in the murder of D. C. Hill, treasurer of Carthage county, who was found dead in his office, with his head severed from his body, a few days ago.

Pilot Malcolm who went over to Gray's harbor last week to look after the body of Charles Johnson, the unfortunate pilot of the Abercrombie, returned on the Canby and says the body of Johnson was given decent interment by the people living near there, and will probably be brought to this city soon. The remains of the captain and twenty-one of the crew were buried in one grave on the beach, which will long be marked as a reminder of one of the most awful disasters which has happened on this coast for many years.—Astorian.