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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C. June 21, 1880.

The voice of the statesman is again hushed in the land, and the capitol is once more as deserted as the sepulchres of the Egyptians in the old city of Thebes. The Senators, or nearly all of them, have left for pleasanter, and perhaps cooler scenes. Conkling still lingers here, however, as he was seen riding down the avenue this afternoon, picking his teeth and with his hat well down over his eyes as though seeking to avoid recognition.

The two great events of the week have been the adjournment of Congress and the reception tendered to Gen. Garfield upon his return to Washington. The first was accomplished in a very quiet and proper manner. Instead of having a long, wearisome night session on the 15th, Congress convened early on the 16th, rushed through all the bills they possibly could until the gavel of the Vice-President in the Senate and Speaker in the House announced that the 46th Congress had ceased to exist, when with all dispatch they "folded their tents and stole silently away." It may be of interest to the general reader to know what amount of work has been accomplished during the session just terminated. In the Senate 1,197 bills and joint resolutions were introduced, while 4,288 bills and joint resolutions were introduced into the House of Representatives. At the time of adjournment on the 16th inst., in addition to the large number of measures not yet reported from the several committees, there remained about 800 bills and joint resolutions on the House calendar which have been reported with committee recommendations for passage, all of which will have to take their chances in the next Congress. The amount appropriated by the present session of Congress aggregates about \$185,000,000. Owing to the close of the session being so near at hand, the Senate did not have time to reconsider the Deputy Marshal bill which had been returned by the President with a veto.

General Garfield had rather an enthusiastic reception upon his return to this city. Instead of going directly to his residence, he took up his quarters at the Riggs House, it being more convenient of access, and his family being away his presence was not required at home. On Wednesday evening the National Veteran Association gave Garfield a serenade, which gave a number of politicians an opportunity to "shoot off" a little of their admiration for the Chicago nominee. Attorney-General Devens made a classical speech with artificially-rounded sentences, fragrant of Harvard law school, and laudatory of Republican principles. General Garfield avoided politics, and made complimentary allusions to the War Veterans, representatives of which stood before him. Gen. Geo. A. Sheridan, Register of Wills for the District of Columbia, made the most telling speech of the evening, it being strictly and purely a partisan stump oration of the first water, and was highly appreciated by the concourse of government employes and others assembled in the vicinity.

The society of the Army of the Cumberland on Thursday evening gave a banquet to Garfield, at which Secretary Sherman, Secretary Schurz, Secretary

Thompson, Postmaster-General Key, Attorney-General Devens, Secretary Ramsey and many minor lights in the political world were present. Garfield was applauded to the echo in all his sentiments. H. G.

CANNING FRUIT.

As small fruit must now be put up, we give some hints about it this week; it seems to some to be more difficult to make these delicate kinds of fruit keep, but if the jars are kept in the dark they will come out better.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS:

Glass jars are the best for fruit, and the most economical, since they can be used year after year by occasionally getting new elastics when the old ones grow loose. Be sure that each jar is perfect, the elastic tight and firm, and the cover in good working order. The fruit must be fresh and mature, but not dead ripe. Sugar is not a necessity in canning, but fruit put up without it is only fit for making pies; even for that purpose I think it better to add a little at the time of canning. Sugar helps to preserve the form and color of the berries; without it they are liable to become soft and mushy in cooking; especially if that process is carried on too long. Use the granulated sugar, common grades are not so pure, and will injure the flavor. The usual proportions are a quarter of a pound of sugar to each pound of fruit, which answers very well for the sweeter varieties; for the more acid, the quantity may be increased or even doubled, making a half pound of sugar to every pound of fruit, which is the greatest amount ever used in canning.

When the fruit is properly cooked, and when still boiling hot, place a folded cloth in a pan and saturate it with cold water; on this put the jar to be filled, with a silver table spoon in it. Fill the jar to the very brim, adjust the elastic, wipe it and screw on the top without a moment's delay; as the fruit cools and the glass and metals contract, the top must be repeatedly tightened, until it can be moved no further. Keep in cool, dry place, and, unless it is dark as well, wrap the jars in paper before putting away. The action of light affects the color, and sometimes causes fermentation. Good fruit, put boiling hot into perfect cans, that are filled full, and sealed while the contents are still boiling hot, will be as fresh when the can is opened as when it was sealed; but these conditions must be strictly complied with, and so you see fruit cannot be canned with any certain success by simply pouring boiling water over it, without heating it clear through, neither should a can remain unsealed any longer than is absolutely necessary. If you use glass with the self-sealing top, it takes only an instant to put it in place. If you use tin, set the cans on the stove to keep hot until you are ready to seal a number at once.

CANNED BERRIES.

If they require washing, let it be done as expeditiously as possible, and the water well drained off; after which look them over carefully, and place in preserving kettle with alternate layers of sugar in whatever proportion has been decided on. Heat slowly to boiling, then cook rapidly until the fruit is heated through, which will be in from five to fifteen minutes, according to its character; then can as before directed. If there is a surplus of syrup, it can be bottled separately and used to make pudding sauce and fruit blancmange.

Never put away a jar partly filled; it will be almost sure to spoil.

The fire for canning should be steady; absolute boiling is necessary to the preservation of the fruit, and unless this is brought about quickly after there is sufficient juice to prevent burning, much of the delicate flavor is driven off in steam, and the fruit also loses its fine color.

Persons who are particular as to the appearance of their fruit, will prefer to can the small, soft varieties, with as little handling as possible. For this reason, and also because the flavor is better preserved, they cook the fruit in the jars.

CANNED STRAWBERRIES, RASPBERRIES AND BLACKBERRIES.

Make a syrup by melting five pounds

of sugar in four quarts of water, unless you want the fruit richer, in which case use less water. Allow a pound and nearly a half of fruit for each quart jar, shake it down gently and cover with the hot syrup. Put the tops on loosely and set the jars in the wash boiler with cold water enough to come within three inches of their rims; the boiler must have a false bottom made of narrow slats of wood to keep the jars from resting directly on the metal heat to the boiling point, and cook from five to ten minutes longer, or until well heated through; fill all the jars up from one, and seal without delay.—*Willamette Farmer.*

WILLIAM H. ENGLISH.

William H. English, of Indiana was born August 27, 1822, at Lexington, Scott county, the son of Major Elisha G. English, a Kentuckian by birth, who emigrated to Indiana in 1818, and during a long and honored life filled several positions of important trust in the gift of the people and the Government. William, after obtaining such educational advantages as the common school of that newly settled region afforded, took three years' course of study at South Hanover College, studied law and was admitted to practice in the Circuit Court at the early age of eighteen. Politics, however, had more attraction for him than his profession, and early engaged his attention, for while in his teens he was a delegate from Scott county to the Democratic State Convention at Indianapolis—and in the famous "hard cider and log cabin" campaign of 1840 he took a very active part as a stump speaker. Under Tyler the young politician obtained his first office—the postoffice of his native village Lexington. In 1843 he was chosen Clerk of the Indiana House of Representatives, and after the election of Polk, spent four years in the Treasury Department at Washington. Democracy, it may be said, was hereditary in the English family. The father and uncle of Mr. English were Vice Presidents in the National Convention of 1848, and two other uncles delegates, all four brothers being members of Legislature in different States.

In 1850 Mr. English was elected Secretary of the Constitutional Convention. A year later he was sent to the first Legislature that met under the provisions of the constitution then adopted, where a signal honor awaited him. In the Democratic caucus on the Speakership Mr. English received 22 votes to 31 for John W. Davis, who had been Speaker of the twenty-ninth Congress, and when a few days later Mr. Davis resigned, owing to a disagreement with the House, his young rival was chosen as his successor, and discharged so well the duties of his office that, though it was the first session held under the provisions of the new constitution, not a single appeal was taken from his decisions. In 1852 Mr. English was elected to Congress, defeating John D. Ferguson by 488 votes; being re-elected in 1854, defeating Judge Thomas C. Slaughter by 588 and again in 1856 and 1858, his majority on the last occasion that he consented to run being 1,812.

The eight years during which Mr. English sat in Congress were crowded with important events, and he had his full share in the work of making history. As a member of the committee on Territories at the time of the introduction of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, he submitted a minority report containing the "popular sovereignty" idea which Mr. Greeley says in his "American Conflict" could not have been defeated but for the parliamentary maneuver which cut off all amendments but the substitution of the Senate bill. Mr. English, it may be added, was one of the three or four members from the Free States who survived the storm that decimated the supporters of the bill. The committee was composed of Mr. English, Mr. Alexander H. Stephens and the late W. A. Howard, of Michigan, on the part of the House, and of Senator Greene, of Missouri R. M. T. Hunter and Seward. The conference resulted in the adoption of the Kansas compromise measure, commonly known as "the English bill," which finally passed both Houses of Congress and became a

law. "I consider," wrote President Buchanan to its author, "I consider the present occasion one of the most fortunate of your life. It will be your fate to end the dangerous agitation, to confer lasting benefits on your country and to render your character historical. I shall remain always your friend."

On the eve of the Democratic split of 1869 Mr. English, who was a member of the National Campaign Committee, though not a delegate to the Charleston Convention, made an earnest appeal for harmony and concession. But the rupture came, followed by secession, and he retired from political life, declining a re-nomination to Congress to engage in private business. He was offered the command of a regiment by Governor Morton, but declined it, though he was throughout the war a firm and consistent supporter of the Union cause.

Since 1864 Mr. English has taken little active part in politics, though his deep interest in the subject has never abated. He presided over the ratification meeting at Indianapolis four years ago, when he made an earnest plea in favor of sound financial doctrine. His own views on the financial question were thus expressed in a recent interview:

I am for honesty in money, as in politics and morals, and think the greatest material and business interests of this country should be placed upon the most solid basis and as far as possible from the blighting influence of Demagogues. At the same time I am opposed to class legislation and in favor of protecting and fostering the interests of the laboring and producing classes in every legitimate way possible. A pure, economical, constitutional Government that will protect the liberty of the people and the property of the people without destroying the rights of State or aggrandizing its own powers beyond the limits of the Constitution, is the kind of Government contemplated by the fathers, and by that I think the Democracy propose to stand.

The humanitarian sentiment and philosophy which have ripened into a short-sighted policy with the rulers at Washington, have totally extinguished the practical statesmanship which comprehends the philosophy of dealing with the settlements of a new country, and protecting those settlements with its power. The district of country lying between the head of Camas Prairie, in the county of Alturas, and Salmon City, in the county of Lemhi, embracing within its scope a mineral-producing belt of over two hundred miles in length, by more than one hundred and forty in width, has been for years past but the recruiting field for hostile bands of Indians. A section of country so vast in its natural wealth and so susceptible to settlement and population, as well as in the production of the precious metals, should surely prove an object worthy the notice and generous care of the executive and legislative power of our government in the protection of its people.—*Ex.*

FISH LAWS.

We notice that the citizens of Walla Walla have taken commendable steps to suppress the custom of destroying the fish that frequent our streams, out of season. Every lover of piscatorial pursuits, every observer of law is interested in doing everything to abate and remove the custom of setting traps for the fish. We understand that in the Walla Walla and Umatilla rivers, this pernicious custom prevails unchecked. Our Walla Walla neighbors have organized a society, elected their officers, and now offer \$10 reward for such information as will lead to the punishment of parties guilty of violating law in this respect. Their example is worthy of imitation here, and we would counsel our citizens to take early action in the matter.

The steamship Gulnare, which is to convey Captain Howgate's polar expedition to Lady Franklin Bay, left Washington last night.

In the house of lords, a bill legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister, was rejected, 101 to 61.

The British House of Commons has adopted a local option bill.

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