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WILLIAM GADSBY

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THE BEHRING SEA AWARD

Secretary Sherman's Exhaustive Instructions to Ambassador Hay.

BRITISH JUGGLERY EXPOSED

Lord Salisbury Has Sought to Suppress the Facts as to the Extirpation of the Seal Herd.

New York, July 14.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

Important instructions have recently been sent by Secretary Sherman to Ambassador Hay for his guidance in dealing with the British government in relation to the preservation of seal life in Alaskan waters. The instructions were prepared as a reply to a recent note from Lord Salisbury, handed to Secretary Sherman by Sir Julian Pauncefote a few days before the British ambassador sailed for London from New York. They show at length England's policy of procrastination, her continued failure and refusal to support this government in its efforts to prevent the extermination of the seal herd and the anxiety of the United States frequently made known to the London foreign office, that steps should be taken to preserve the seals as an obligation imposed by the Paris tribunal. The instructions in part are as follows:

"His excellency, John Hay, London. The British ambassador has handed me a copy of a dispatch to him from her majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, which dispatch constitutes the reply of the British government to the proposals of the president in a note of your embassy for a media vivendi for a suspension of all killing of seals for the present season and for a joint conference of the powers concerned, with a view to the necessary measures being adopted for the preservation of the fur seals in the North Pacific. It will be seen that both proposals are rejected.

"I need hardly say that the president is disappointed at this action, especially when it is based upon such unsubstantiated and inadequate reasons. The president's concern, in view of the depleted condition of the seal herd, was occasioned not alone from an examination of Dr. Jordan's report of 1896, and what he had reason to suppose were the conclusions of Prof. Thompson, but it was based upon a series of observations and statistics covering a much longer period than that treated by these gentlemen, and establishing a state of facts beyond refutation and which is in part set forth in my note to the British ambassador as the same date of my cablegram to you. It is therefore quite surprising that her majesty's secretary should base his rejection of the proposals of this government, so properly presented, on the report of one scientist, whose facts and conclusions are incorrectly apprehended, and the delayed report of another which is for the first time made public concurrently with the receipt of my lordship's note. It would have been gratifying to me and useful to my government in studying this important subject under consideration if Prof. Thompson's report could have been made public with the promptness which marked that of Dr. Jordan. In that case there would have been ample time for both governments to have examined their reports of these two eminent scientists before the opening of another sealing season. But it seems to have better suited the purposes of her majesty's government to withhold Prof. Thompson's report until an opportunity was afforded to effect a mine for that of Prof. Jordan, and thus enable the former to pass the latter in review, criticize its statements, and, as far as possible, minimize its conclusions.

"It is not pleasant to have to state that the impartial character which it has been the custom to attribute to the reports of naturalists of high standing has been greatly impaired by the impotent suggestion of this report to the political exigencies of the situation. It is further to be regretted that the report was so long delayed that no opportunity was afforded this government to examine it before the definite and final rejection of the president's proposals, based mainly upon its conclusions, was communicated to me. This conduct recalls the incident which preceded the arbitration at Paris and which came near rendering that arbitration abortive, when a similar report of a British commission was withheld until after the case of each government was exchanged and the report of the commission was made public. Lord Salisbury asserts that Dr. Jordan's report does not contain any facts warranting the statement that there is a depleted condition and prospective early extinction of the herd.

"The note of your embassy of the 5th ult. does not attribute such a statement to Dr. Jordan, but it is difficult to understand how anyone can read his report without reaching the conclusion that such is the real condition of the herd.

"Here Secretary Sherman quotes freely from the report for the purpose of sustaining this contention. Continuing, he says: "Prof. Thompson's report is plainly

written with a view to minimize, so far as possible, the depleted condition of the herd of Pribiloff islands, and requires a critical examination not possible within the limits of the present instruction, but its general purpose may be briefly stated. It is to be regretted that he should have contracted his study far within the purview of his instructions. He confined his inquiry and refers to the subordinate subject of the number of seals resorting to the island, and particularly to the relative number in 1895 and 1896. The result of his observations and inquiries seemed to be that on some rookeries there was an increase and on others a decrease, but on the whole a possible state of equilibrium for the last two years, although he concedes a diminution as compared with 1892. If all the professor's claims are admitted, it is not militated against the contention that since pelagic sealing became general the decline of the herd has been steady and rapid, since the date of Lord Salisbury's dispatch explicit inquiry has been made of Dr. Jordan as to the relative condition of the herd in 1895 and 1896 and in previous years, and he has furnished the chapter on the decline of the seal herd for the forthcoming final report of himself and associates.

"Although Prof. Thompson has been very careful throughout the report to say nothing likely to embarrass his government in the 'conclusions,' the voice of the very scientific investigator speaks in firm and certain tones. While he regards the alarming statements of the decline of the herd as 'overdone,' he says: 'There is still abundant need for care and for prudent measures of conservation in the interest of all.'

"It is not easy to understand how Lord Salisbury can reconcile his refusal to entertain the proposals of the president with the interests of his own countrymen, to say nothing of the friendly relations which he has been desirous of maintaining with the United States, Russia and Japan.

"The experience had with the scientific commission of 1892, as well as the reports of 1896, just under review, shows that it is difficult through them to reach harmony of views, but we have at hand certain statistics of undisputed authority pointing unmistakably to conclusions which should be controlling.

"Here Secretary Sherman quotes a well-known statistician, showing the decrease of the seals. He says:

"Lord Salisbury attributes this large falling off in Behring sea to 'the stormy weather prevailing,' but does not cite his authority. I am not aware of any purpose to that effect. Captain Hooper, who commanded the American fleet in weather in Behring sea was not materially different the last two years. The Behring sea in 1895 and 1896 reports: 'The point when sealing ceased to be profitable seems to have been reached during the last year. Lord Salisbury informs us that the result has brought many owners of sealing vessels to the verge of bankruptcy.' It thus appears that the condition of things predicted by the government of the United States has already come to pass—the commercial extermination of the seals.

"Here follows a long and exhaustive review written by the secretary, showing the reports made by Secretaries Gresham and Olney to secure a settlement of the dispute. Continuing, Secretary Sherman says:

"The manner in which the British government has discharged its police duty under the award is in marked contrast with its appeal for a strict observance of the five years' period of the regulations. An equal obligation rests upon each government to patrol the waters embraced in the award, in order to see that the regulations are not violated by the sealing vessels.

"The secretary of state here quotes figures to sustain his contention and then says:

"As it is shown that practically no patrol service has been rendered in Behring sea by the British cruisers during the previous year, the inference would seem to be that her majesty's government understood that American cruisers were only to perform patrol duty and the British cruisers to talk over and act upon the validity of the seizure of British vessels. The detailed enforcement of the regulations has further developed on the part of the British government a strange misconception of the true spirit and intent of the arbitrators.

"In this connection Sherman blames the British authorities for giving notice that their government would not renew the arrangement as to the sealing of arms.

"The next paragraph says that the tardy action of the British government in refusing to renew the arrangement of 1894 led to much trouble and inconvenience in connection with the patrol of Behring sea. The complaints of the British government against the severe measures of search resorted to by American cruisers, the resultant lengthy correspondence, the various propositions made by Secretary Olney and the fact that another season had been entered upon without any settlement of the question, are all commented upon by Secretary Sherman.

"The president, therefore, entertains the hope that at even this late day the British government may yet yield to his continued desire, so often expressed, for a conference of the interested powers, and in delivering to Lord Salisbury a copy of this instruction you will state that the president will hold with great satisfaction any indication on the part of her majesty's government of a disposition to agree upon such a conference."

"JOHN SHERMAN."

CONFERENCE IS STILL BLOCKED

Senators Opposed to Speaker Reed's Position on Sugar Schedule.

DEADLOCK WILL LAST A WEEK

Union Pacific Makes Trouble in the Senate—Fession Order of Cleveland Suspended—The Hawaiian Treaty.

Washington, July 14.—The tariff conference found themselves today apparently further apart than at the beginning of the conference. There was no immediate prospect of an agreement and more than one member stated that the entanglement was such that a settlement might be indefinitely prolonged. They stated in a very reserved manner that there are numerous questions of difference, but refused to go into details, even to other senators and members. Nothing can be learned, although there have been partial agreements, until the sugar, lead, and lumber schedules can be disposed of.

The best reports represent the house conferees, with Speaker Reed behind them, as holding out for the house schedule without any change whatever, and the senators are quite determined not to yield to this extent. The house conferees insist that this schedule must be definitely fixed before other questions shall be again taken up. One of the questions of secondary importance, upon which sharp differences have arisen in the senate, is the amendment for a stamp tax on bonds and stocks. The house members oppose the amendment, but the senators, while not wedded to it, insist upon it as necessary for revenue.

The representatives resist strenuously the 20 per cent duty placed upon hides, and at the same time persistently hold out for the restoration of gunny bags, cotton ties, etc., to the dutiable list.

A senator who talked with some of the conferees said: "They are in a deadlock and they are tied up alone the line. It looks as if the situation must remain unchanged for a week."

While this appears to be a correct outline of the situation today, the prevailing impression is that a settlement of one of two of the important schedules would be speedily followed by a complete adjustment of all other difficulties. The senate conferees are disposed to resent the efforts of Speaker Reed to influence the action of the conferees. The senators are inclined to construe the speaker's participation in the proceedings as unwarranted, and are apparently more determined than before his attitude was known to hold out for the senate figures. The contending forces on the wool schedule, carpet manufacturers and wool growers outside the conference, have practically reached an agreement, which it is presumed will be ratified by the conferees. This agreement provides for the restoration of the house rate of 11 and 12 cents respectively on first and second class wools and on the third class article. Two of the men agree to the proposition of the carpet-makers to extend the dividing line from 16 to 12 cents, making the rate on wools of this class worth less than 12 cents dutiable at 4 cents a pound, and those worth more than 12 cents dutiable at 5 cents. This increases the rate on all higher grade wools, which is agreeable to the wool men, and brings carpet wools down to a figure acceptable to the manufacturers.

IN THE HOUSE.

Washington, July 14.—The house, after sending the deficiency appropriation bill to the conference today, adjourned until tomorrow.

Representative Simpson, of Kansas, introduced a resolution directing the speaker to appoint a committee of five to investigate the sugar trust.

HAWAIIAN TREATY.

Washington, July 14.—(Special to the Astorian.)—The senate committee on foreign relations agreed to report the resolution for the ratification of the Hawaiian treaty without amendment.

PENSION ORDER SUSPENDED.

Washington, July 14.—President McKinley has issued an order suspending the operation of ex-President Cleveland's order consolidating the pension agencies of the country.

CAPLES NOMINATED.

Washington, July 14.—(Special to the Astorian.)—The president today nominated John F. Caples, of Portland, Oregon, to be consul at Valparaiso, Chile.

UNION PACIFIC AGAIN.

Washington, July 14.—The senate was in a deadlock for several hours today, with business at a standstill, while calls of the senate, roll calls and other play expedients were resorted to. It was due to the effort to secure action on the resolution of Harris, designed to prevent

the disposal of the government lien on the Union Pacific railway under the terms of an alleged agreement. There were many roll calls on the Harris motion to consider the resolution, quorums appearing and disappearing, and from 12 to 5 o'clock not a final vote on the motion was secured. It finally went over until tomorrow.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

Discussed in Trans-Mississippi Congress—Hugh Craig, Chairman.

Salt Lake, July 14.—When the trans-Mississippi congress met this afternoon a message was received from Hon. W. J. Bryan, saying that he would arrive tomorrow morning. The reading of the message was greeted with applause. Pending the arrival of Mr. Bryan, the congress elected for temporary chairman Hugh Craig, president of the San Francisco chamber of commerce. A number of resolutions were presented and referred to appropriate committees, the principal one being introduced by the California delegation, urging the creation of a department of mines and mining. The regular order of business was then taken up, being the discussion of the Nicaragua canal question.

The first address on this subject was delivered by Hon. S. W. Waterhouse, of the Washington University, of St. Louis. His speech was very lengthy and was an able argument in favor of the construction of the canal by government aid.

ANOTHER AMERICAN KILLED.

Key West Report of the Latest Cuban Outrage.

Key West, July 14.—Another American has been killed in Cuba. Charles Gordon, Captain Mevocal and two soldiers left Soledad camp to join General Gomez. While passing the Damuy river, a guerrilla force attacked them. After some fighting Charles Gordon and the two others were captured. Captain Mevocal said he was an American and wanted a fair trial. The chief of the forces, Braulio Coteron, replied:

"Kill that American; if he goes to Havana Lee will save him."

Gordon was mangled in the most cruel manner. Charles Govin, the American correspondent, and Charles Gordon left the United States on the same expedition and have both been assassinated in a very similar manner, because they were Americans.

"BONNIE BRAE" HIGGINS.

His Death Yesterday Near San Diego, California.

San Diego, July 14.—H. M. Higgins, better known as "Bonnie Brae" Higgins, is dead at his home on Bonnie Brae ranch, ten miles east of this city. Thirty years ago H. M. Higgins was the most noted publisher of Chicago and the Northwest. He was the author of many noted songs, chief among which were "The Old Musician and His Harp," and "Hunt Up the Baby's Socks." These two ballads attained popularity in this country and Canada that has seldom been surpassed, and the composer realized over \$50,000 in royalties.

STRIKE IN THE BALANCE.

There May Be No Coal Famine and No Strike.

Cleveland, July 14.—The fate of the great coal strike depends upon the action of the miners in President De Armit's mines, say local operators. Until the strikers succeed in inducing these men to come out there can be no coal famine, and a failure to close these mines means a loss of supremacy in the districts which the strikers now control.

AN ENTOMOLOGICAL MINER.

Phoenix, Ariz., July 14.—John Stevens, the miner imprisoned by a cave-in in the mammoth cave at Goldfield, is still alive, though the cave-in occurred nine days ago. He answers the signals of the rescuing party. The whole force of the mine is kept at work on the rescue shaft. It is believed the new shaft by Friday will be near enough to the imprisoned man that a drill hole may be sent through to him to supply him with food, water and air.

CROCKER SLIGHTLY IMPROVED.

San Francisco, July 14.—C. F. Crocker is making a hard struggle for life. After watching for four days at the bedside of the vice-president of the Southern Pacific company, the physicians are able to announce that there is a slight improvement in his condition. The fact that Col. Crocker has not suffered a second stroke of paralysis or apoplexy gives the physicians hope.

WATER IN THE YAQUI DITCH.

Sonora, Mex., July 14.—Water has been turned on in the Yaqui ditch, destined to irrigate the hitherto desert lands of the great valley of the Yaqui river. This marks the consummation of a great enterprise, which promises much for the future of northern Mexico and which has been carried on almost entirely with United States money.

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN LEAGUE.

Detroit, July 14.—(Special to the Astorian.)—The National Republican League today elected Leonard J. Crawford, of Kentucky, president. Omaha was selected as the place for holding the next annual convention.

GOLD DEMOCRATS IN CONVENTION

Fifty Thousand True and Tried Men in Kentucky.

SIMMS ON SILVER QUESTION

Carlisle Made Chairman of the Convention—Solid Financial Plank Adopted—Commend the Late Administration.

Louisville, July 14.—The gold standard democratic convention met today. Jas. C. Simms was chosen temporary chairman. In his address Mr. Simms said in part:

"In Kentucky there are today 50,000 true and tried democrats who have never wandered away from the true faith and have never departed and will never in the future bow the knee to agrarianism, populism, socialism, mobism or Bryanism. We are not democrats simply for the reason that our fathers, perchance were democrats but because we believe that the principles advocated by the genuine democracy are best calculated to give us good government, federal, state, county and municipal, and thereby result in the greatest good to the greatest number.

"Our free silver friends seem to have lost entirely their powers of discrimination for they cannot discriminate between wealth honestly obtained and wealth dishonestly obtained. The highest recommendation that a man can possess for complete affiliation with this populist-democratic party is that he is a rolling stone, has gathered no moss, run down at the heel, has nothing, don't want anything and don't want anybody else to have anything. The democracy of the hour for a brave and patriotic manhood. The advocates of free silver in an un-lucky hour, surprised and captured party organization and brought ruin and disaster upon our party.

"By threats and clamor and false pretenses they have deranged all values, frightened all business enterprises, paralyzed all industries and almost brought ruin and bankruptcy upon our people. And they add insult to injury by charging that they are the innocent victims of the authors of their mischief.

"How long is this thing to continue? How far is it to reach? Are we all craven cowards, to be intimidated and bulldozed, or shall we put on our armor and acquire ourselves like men? This decision cannot last. A brave, determined stand is all that is necessary to prevent fallacies, and thus confound it."

Formerly organization was affected by election of ex-Secretary of Treasury Carlisle as chairman. While letters and telegrams from J. Sterling Morton, ex-Secretary of Agriculture, and other prominent men were being read, General Simon Bolivar Buckner made his appearance and was cheered as he marched down the aisle. The convention was then addressed by Senator Lindsay and Colonel Watterson.

At the conclusion of Watterson's speech resolutions, which had by this time been formulated, were read by Hon. W. C. P. Breckinridge. The sentiment revealed in these resolutions found the fullest approbation and unanimous adoption followed with an old-time Kentucky heartiness. The resolutions recite that the national democracy of Kentucky cordially approve the action taken last year, resulting in the Indianapolis convention, and reaffirm allegiance to the principles and policies expressed in the Indianapolis platform.

"The financial plank is as follows: 'We denounce the free and unlimited outflow of silver as inevitably producing silver monometallism, and we advocate a gold standard and the coinage of silver to the requirements of commerce as offering the only means of maintaining bimetallicism, and denounce the attempt to fix the ratio between the metals by an arbitrary law, without reference to their commercial value, as unsafe and dangerous to the public welfare and private interests.'

The resolutions conclude with a general declaration for the enforcement of law and order, and commendation of the late democratic administration.

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