

NEWS IN GENERAL FROM OUR EXCHANGES.

Congress Called.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 2.—Congress will meet in extra session on August 7, instead of early in September. This was decided on by the President at Friday's Cabinet meeting as a result of the pressure from commercial bodies throughout the country for an early session in view of the present financial disturbance consequent upon the depreciation of silver. The following proclamation was given out at 6 o'clock Friday evening.

THE PROCLAMATION.

Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., June 30.—WHEREAS, The distrust and apprehension concerning the financial situation which prevade all business circles have already caused great losses and damage to our people and threaten to cripple our merchants, stop the wheels of manufacture, bring distress and privation to our farmers, and withhold from our workmen the wage of labor; and

WHEREAS, The present perilous condition is largely the result of a financial policy which the executive branch of the Government finds embodied in unwise laws which must be executed until repealed by Congress.

Now, therefore, I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, in performance of a constitutional duty, do by this proclamation declare that an extraordinary occasion requires the convening of both houses of the Congress of the United States at the Capitol in this city of Washington on the seventh day of August next, at 12 o'clock noon, to the end that the people may be relieved through legislation from present and impending danger and distress.

All those entitled to act as members of the Fifty-third Congress are required to take notice of this proclamation and attend at the time and place above stated.

Given under my hand and the seal of the United States at the City of Washington, on the thirtieth day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and seventeenth.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

The Poisoned Baby.

Belinda Laphame is accused of causing the death of the unnamed female child, aged two days, of Lottie Watson at a lying-in hospital on Geary street near Jones. The trial of Mrs. Laphame on a charge of murder began yesterday in Judge Damgerfield's department of the Superior Court.

Augustus Tilden appeared as special counsel for the prosecution. The prisoner is represented by Robert Ferral and L. Kip.

After finding out what the jurors had heard about the case the attorney for the prosecution asked each, "Are you opposed to returning a verdict of guilty where the penalty of death might be inflicted?"

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ed?" and, "Would the fact that the defendant is a woman influence you in forming your verdict?"

Mrs. Laphame was visibly affected by the proceedings. Every time the word "murder" was spoken she would start as if pricked by a needle.

Two jurors, Joseph Andreas and L. Schnetzler, were sworn to try the case. The selection of the other jurors will be resumed next Monday.—S. F. Examiner, July 1.

Fish That Do Not Spawn.

A prominent Eastern naturalist, in a letter to the editor of the Arizona Citizen several years ago, in view of some exceedingly curious habits of bird and mammal life in Arizona, said:

Hereafter nothing from Arizona will surprise me. The unexpected is always to be expected. Apropos of the foregoing, it may not be commonly known that the native fish in the Santa Cruz river bring forth their young alive. A more remarkable freak in nature cannot be found. The prepagation of all true fish is supposed to be by means of the females depositing their eggs in the water, where they hatch and come forth, but the young of the fish in the Santa Cruz are nearly an inch long at the time of their birth. Each female brings forth about 12 to 15 young at a time. The male adult fish reaches from three to five inches in size, but the adult female is scarcely half as large. In color they are grayish brown on the back with bright, silvery sides. At the present time the females are big with young, and strange appearing. We desire to call the attention of scientists and naturalists to this interesting and curious form of fish life.

M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire has written for Harper's Magazine a short story called "Postes et Telegraphes," dealing with the love of a young French officer for a poor girl, and the obstacles imposed by French customs and prejudices. Mr. Beaurepaire's name is now conspicuous as that of the procureur-general who brought the Panama swindlers to justice. He is known to American readers as "Jules Glouvet," the nom de plume under which he wrote "The Woodman," a successful novel published by Harper & Brothers.

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An Exhibition of Aged People.

As an offset to the perennial baby show Paris is to have an exhibition of aged people of both sexes—a concours devieillardes—from July 15 to July 25. Foreigners as well as native born Frenchmen will be allowed to "enter the lists" of competition, and the resulting statistics and data will be studied by the medical profession from a scientific point of view. It has long been acknowledged that France has more old men in proportion to population than any other continental country. There are known to be 80 centenarians in the republic, the senior of whom is a M. Rives of Taries, who is 123. England could make a very fine exhibit at this show if Gladstone would consent to go, while America might send Oliver Wendell Holmes and Robert C. Winthrop.—New York World.

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