

The Democrat.

From our regular correspondents.
WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16th, 1899.

President Harrison has made an attempt to recover the ground he lost with the G. A. R. by the dismissal—that's the proper word—of Pension Commissioner Tanner by tendering the appointment to ex Representative Warner, of Missouri, who is ex-Commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. Warner is here, but he has not accepted the appointment, and there seems to be considerable doubt as to whether he will. Tanner's friends are bringing all the pressure they can control to bear on him to persuade him to decline.

If this Tanner business does not form a boomerang for President Harrison I shall be very much mistaken. Little is publicly said by republicans here, for all those not in office hope to be, but privately the opinions expressed of President Harrison are anything else than complimentary to him and they do not augur well for his getting the nomination again, and that he is ambitiously looking forward to that has already become plain to the political student. Tanner has, so far, refused to be placated. He refused to accept a U. S. Marshalship in New York, and it is stated upon seemingly good authority that he will be tendered the position of Recorder of Deeds in this city, notwithstanding the President's promise to the citizens here that no outsider should be appointed to a local office. Tanner's friends don't want him to accept anything more from the administration. How strong this feeling is may be judged from the fact that a prominent merchant of this city, a republican of course, told your correspondent that if Tanner would refuse to accept office he would contribute towards a fund for his support.

It has been openly hinted for some time around Washington that there was a growing feeling of jealousy between Senator Sherman and Representative McKinley of Ohio, and the fact that Mr. McKinley took no part in the reception tendered the Senator upon his return from Europe last Friday night, makes it look very much like there was some foundation for the hints. It was given out that Mr. McKinley went to New York to meet the Senator and missed him. That story may do for some people, but it will not go down with the politicians. If McKinley missed Senator Sherman it was because he wanted to. Perhaps he has got wind of that plot to "down" Foraker.

The South is solidly in favor of Washington as the place for holding the great World's Exposition in 1902, and the rest of the country is rapidly following into line. In less than a year from now New York and Chicago will be ashamed of having ever said anything about it.

Memorial services in honor of the late Representative S. S. Cox, were held in the Jewish Synagogue here Saturday.

Senator Voorhes has been quite ill at his residence in this city, but is now somewhat better. As soon as he is able to travel he will go to Indiana to remain until Congress meets.

Republicans are criticizing Secretary Noble quite severely because he declines to make public the report of the commission that investigated the Pension office, which is completed and in his possession. He also refuses to give out his correspondence with Tanner which is said to be very icy. If Mr. Noble does not steer very carefully he will find that the faction of the republican party which he has angered will make it so warm for him that he will have to follow Tanner. It is needless to say that to democrats, the present situation is highly enjoyable.

The Virginia democratic association of this city has turned itself temporarily into a campaign club and invited democrats from everywhere to join it in downing Mahoneism in Virginia. Senator Barbour, who last Thursday held a conference with the state committee, says that things are in excellent shape and that a rousing victory is certain to be won in November.

There's going to be lots of fun when Pension office matters begin to be discovered in congress, and somebody will enjoy it, but it will hardly be the republicans.

Ex-Speaker Kiefer, who was in Washington last week, nearly paralyzed a poor newspaper man by telling him that he would not accept the position of commissioner of Pensions even if the salary were double what it is. Of course the president did not offer the position to Mr. Kiefer, but the fact that Kiefer would decline anything in the shape of an office was too much for Washington. It set the town to laughing.

General Benjamin F. Butler, in a two column interview in a Washington paper, vouches for "Corporal Tanner." But who will vouch for Butler?

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A MUGWUMP SUMMARY.

The first six months of President Harrison's term are ended and what are the most conspicuous developments of his policy? What topics connected with him are most discussed in the press? First, there is Tanner and his course in the Pension Bureau. That is by common consent a national scandal of such serious proportions that leading newspapers of the President's party are calling for Tanner's removal as the only thing which can save the administration from disgrace and the National Treasury from possible bankruptcy. Second, there is the choice by the President of "Tom" Platt, "Matt" Quay and Mahone, of Virginia, as the men to whom he prefers to hand over the patronage of the government to be used by them in building up a political machine. Third, there is an increase of over \$7,000,000 in the public debt during the last third of the six months, though for the corresponding period in every one of President Cleveland's four years there was an average decrease of about \$10,000,000. Fourth, in removals from office without cause the President has surpassed all previous records and has so completely broken not only the pledges of his party's platform, but his own personal pledges as well, that there is a formidable movement in the Republican party for the unconditional repeal of the civil service law. The net result of this six months work is a lower moral tone in politics than the country has shown since 1872.

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