

STORY OF THE WEEK

Brief Notes Chronicling All Events of Interest.

CLIPPED, QUILLED AND CONDENSED

Record of the Most Important Happenings of the Last Seven Days Put in Small Space and Arranged with Regard for the Busy Reader.

The American commission to investigate the Chinese massacres has arrived at Chong Tu and was received by the highest officials with great honor. Their mission will probably be successful.

Employees of the Canadian Pacific railway have received notification that their wages will be increased 15 per cent on Jan. 1. Last summer their salaries were reduced 15 per cent owing to the depression.

Articles of incorporation were filed at Albany forming the Cramp-Hoadley company with a capital of \$1,000,000.

The navy department is informed of the arrival of the United States cruiser San Francisco with Admiral Soltis aboard at Smyrna.

The small steamer from the northern coast of Newfoundland reported freighted ravages by recent gales. The schooner Victory and her crew of 22 have been lost. Four other vessels are missing.

Damaged vessels continue to arrive at St. Johns, N. F., and they report encountering hurricane weather. The schooner Beta had two men washed overboard and her gills, rigging and bulwarks were swept away. The schooner Gold Finch with a crew of 14 people is supposed to be lost.

It is beginning to be openly admitted at Havana even in official quarters, that the Spanish cause is becoming exceedingly precarious.

The court of appeals met at Albany and adjourned until Jan. 6. Judges Packham and Finch sat for the last time.

The financial article in the London Times predicts that the evil effects of President Cleveland's action in the Venezuelan matter on the financial position of America will be serious and protracted, while the depletion of the treasury's gold will continue for a long time.

Judge Dwight, who was designated as one of the judges of the appellate division of the New York supreme court, having been compelled by ill health to retire from that position, Governor Morton has assigned Judge Rumsey, who is of the division of the fourth department to duty in the first department.

A petition was filed in the United States court at Milwaukee praying for the appointment of a receiver for the Central Wisconsin Street Railway company. The company located at Oshkosh, where it owns valuable franchises.

In response to a request from many members the president of the New York chamber of commerce has decided to call a meeting of that body to take some action in regard to the Venezuelan question.

A portion of the barracks at Buenos Ayres collapsed with disastrous results. Twelve soldiers were killed, and 80 were injured.

The Cincinnati chamber of commerce, by unanimous vote, adopted resolutions condemning the action of President Cleveland in the Venezuelan matter.

Miss Grace Ireland, a resident of Lyons, N. Y., has died at the home of her parents from an overdose of laudanum, which she is supposed to have taken during the night to ease a headache.

A dispatch from Constantinople says: The porte has ordered Mustapha Reis Pasha to attack with 10,000 troops and two batteries the city of Zileton, and to burn and destroy it and to massacre the 12,000 Armenians in the city.

The jury in the Cronin arson case at Rochester has brought in a verdict of guilty in the third degree. Cronin was indicted by the grand jury in the first degree on the charge of burning the parochial school at Charlotte.

The loss of \$3,400,000 in gold for export Saturday leaves the true amount of the gold reserve \$9,284,000.

The impression is growing that Harry Hayward, the prince of liars in life, left his masterpiece of falsehood to follow after his death in the remarkable cause mortua.

The Newfoundland schooner Victory, Captain Robert T. Bradbury, has been lost with all on board.

At a revival near Harrisonville, Mo., a neighborhood feud developed into a riot, in which Denver Kent and Harvey Bonnets were stabbed probably fatally and three or four others were less seriously wounded.

At Koss, Tex., fire destroyed seven brick business blocks with stocks of 17 firms. Loss, \$75,000; insurance, \$30,000.

H. A. Wood of the City of Mexico, general superintendent of the Inter-American railway, was murderously assaulted by a discharged station agent, but escaped with a cut on the head.

Judge Speer in the district court of Monroe has decided the entire license law of the state to be unconstitutional. An appeal will be taken to the supreme court.

The North German Lloyd steamship *Weser* was towed of Wighton ledge near Trindall bay, Isle of Wight, upon which she was run on Thursday last apparently capsized.

C. L. Smith, one of the largest stockmen in Lincoln county, Wash., has telegraphed President Cleveland that he would furnish the government 5,000 cavalry horses free of charge in case of war with England.

General Whitton, a prominent wealthy citizen of Piermont, N. Y., shot and probably fatally wounded a young man named John Clancy. It is believed that Whitton was armed with a pistol.

The Dutchess (N. Y.) county grand jury voted unanimously against indicting Conductor James McFerran of Albany for violation of labor laws in his connection with the Hudson River steamboat.

G. Vanier, a trustee of the Liverpool Express company at Liverpool, N. Y., committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. He was 37 years old.

An explosion, W. Va., resulted in a loss of \$10,000, one man's life and the injuries of several others. A new brick structure was damaged at Elizabeth, N. J., by an explosion of gunpowder. It was caused by a spark from a smoking cigarette.

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FINANCIAL LEGISLATION

House Completes a Measure for Relief.

IT INCLUDES A REVENUE BILL

Issue of Bonds Provided for to Furnish Gold for the Reserve—House Will Probably Pass It in Short Order—Senate in Doubt.

BEDLAM BROKE LOOSE.

Attempts to Denounce the President's Message Provoke an Uproar.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The house Republicans will introduce on the day after Christmas and pass within the week two bills in response to President Cleveland's message of appeal for help to the treasury. One of these will be a tariff bill to increase the revenue; the other a financial plan to maintain the gold reserve and prevent alleged existing trouble with the greenbacks.

This plan has been prepared by two meetings of the Republican members of the ways and means committee, the first held Saturday night with the cooperation of Speaker Reed and other leaders, the second yesterday afternoon.

Although strong efforts were made to preserve secrecy concerning the details of the plan, its features have been obtained from unquestionable authority.

The tariff bill will be entitled: "A Bill to Increase the Revenue and to Prevent Deficits in the Treasury," will go into effect when signed by the president if he signs it, and will remain in effect until April 1, 1888, when, by its provisions, its operations will cease.

It itemizes:

A duty on wool of 60 per cent of the McKinley law rate.

A compensatory duty on woolen goods of 60 per cent of the McKinley act rate.

A duty of 10 per cent of the rate of 1880 on lumber, which will be from 10 to 15 per cent ad valorem.

An increase of 15 per cent from the Wilson-Gorman act rates on cereal products, dairy products and live stock including poultry.

A horizontal increase of 15 per cent from the Wilson-Gorman rates on all other schedules, with the proviso that in no case shall the duty exceed the McKinley rate, except where the Wilson-Gorman rates exceed those of the McKinley law.

The second bill will provide for two issues of bonds. The first will be an unlimited amount of the 8 per cent 5-year coin bond to protect the gold reserve, with the provision that the currency demanded by the proceeds shall not be paid out for current deficits in the revenue unless the expenses of the government are in excess of the revenue (which it is expected they will not be) in the first bill is in operation.

In addition the second bill will provide for 10 years' 5 per cent treasury certificates of indebtedness, not to exceed \$50,000,000 in amount and to be disposed of at the discretion of the secretary of the treasury to meet current deficits in the revenue. These are to be offered for sale at the sub-treasuries and depositories of the government.

It is possible also that there may be added to this bill a plan to increase the currency by authorizing national banks to issue circulation to the par value of all the government bonds deposited by them with the government as security for their notes.

The lenders are assured that both bills will pass the house without material opposition, and there are strong hopes that the senate will act upon them favorably. Saturday night's meeting showed a general sentiment in favor of incorporating the whole plan into our bill, but reasons were advanced yesterday which led to the adoption of the tariff and bond schemes.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

An Urgent Appeal to Congress for Financial Legislation.

Following is the message sent to Congress by President Cleveland:

To the Congress:

In my last annual message the evils of our present financial system were plainly pointed out and the means proposed for the protection of government gold were explained. I have thereto stated that after all the efforts that had been made by the executive branch of the government to protect our gold reserves by the issuance of bonds amounting to more than \$102,000,000, such reserves amounted to but little more than \$70,000,000, that about \$10,000,000 had been withdrawn from such reserves during the month next previous to the date of that message, and that quite large withdrawals for shipment in the immediate future were predicted.

Such a contingency then faced him reached him and the withdrawal of gold from the commonwealth referred to, and others not yet foreseen, is inevitable, threaten such a depletion in our government gold reserve as brings us close to face with the necessity of further action for its protection. This condition is intensified by the prevalence in certain quarters of sudden and unusual apprehension and timidly in business circles.

We are in the midst of another season of perplexity caused by our dangerous and fatalistic financial system. These may be expected to occur periodically so long as there is no amendment in our financial system. In this particular instance our predicament is at all influenced by a recent insistence upon the position we should occupy in our relation to certain questions concerning our foreign policy, this furnishes a signal and impressive warning that even the patriotic sentiment of our people is not an adequate substitute for a sound and financial policy.

Of course there can be no doubt in any thoughtful mind as to the complete insolvency of our nation nor can there be any just apprehension of a general bankruptcy within our borders. We should not overlook the fact however that around fear is unreasoning and must be taken into account in all efforts to avert public loss and the sacrifice of our people to public law.

The red and sensible cure for our recurring trouble can only be effected by a complete reorganization of our financial scheme.

Pending that the executive branch of the government may make its efforts not abandon its determination to have an international credit, nor will there be any hesitation in exhibiting its confidence in the resources of our country and the constant patriotism of our people.

In view however of the peculiar situation now confronting us I have ventured to hereby express the earnest hope that the congress, in default of the inauguration of a better system of finance, will not take a recess from its labors before it has by legislative enactment or executive decree done something not only to remove the apprehensions among our people but the resources of this government and a considerable regard for human dealing afford a

high government official.

Europe has never acquiesced in the Monroe doctrine. Mr. Cleveland's theory of interference is a quiet way to do it, but other nations do not seriously think so.

Count Von Knecht, the Austrian foreign minister and the author of the famous iron monopoly scheme, remarks: "The United States seems to be trying to do right. She might get her hands full."

Herb Lester, the People's party leader, adds: "I suppose it is an election trick of President Cleveland's." But it is doubtful if England will back down.

Horace Von Puttkamer expressed the opinion that: "The whole thing looks like an American political joke."

Horace Von Koehler, who recently resigned the portfolio of Prussian minister of the interior, made the following statement: "Germany does not see any reason for taking sides in this quarrel."

Horace Dechant Schodien, member of the Reichstag, said:

"It is time to bring about an international definition of the oft quoted Monroe doctrine, and the present occasion may accomplish it."

The Berlin Post, during the course of an editorial, has this to say:

"We must not forget that a presidential election campaign is near, and in America the means resorted to on such occasions cannot be too drastic."

The Vossische Zeitung admits that "the president's demands are such as to attract the attention of other powers besides Great Britain."

The Koenigs-Zeitung says: "President Cleveland to our great surprise, has allowed himself to be drawn into taking up which would have been thought impossible. He has thereby diminished the credit of his second administration in the eyes of history and has given reason to catch a few votes of Democracy."

Great Britain has the following material right to have a strong hand and to continue the struggle so passionately commenced against her.

VIEWS OF THE FRIEND.

PANAMA, Dec. 19.—The Republic of France says: "It is in every way a big affair which has arisen into Lord Salisbury's hands. They would not be sorry in London to draw the United States into a quarrel in view of our frontier troubles with Brazil. But they must not imagine that we shall hasten to play upon this occasion the game of diplomacy of Great Britain, who is situated in the East and Far-East. We shall be curious and anxious to see what steps she will take respecting this ill-tempered Brother Jonathan, in view of her policy of independent action."

In Paris, according to President Cleveland's message, remarks: "The United States will obtain complete satisfaction by their vigorous attitude. Great Britain is only strong with the weak. She is prudent with them who are determined to defend the dignity of their country. This affair will be a great lesson to all nations."

La Libre Prensa says: "A controversy is proceeding between the two peoples of the same ethical origin, who are accustomed to big words but whose cold passion does not go even so far as a letting of blood after it is only a false alarm and will certainly be arranged."

WVIEWS FROM CANADA.

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—Regarding Cleveland's message, The Evening Star says, editorially:

"Canada is intensely interested in the result. The question involves the right of Great Britain to own in America Canada as a part of her possessions in the Western world, and so long as the old flag flies and stands, and free governments exist on the continent, Canada will remain a portion of Great Britain, or at least an ally of the mother nation, and if she has war with the United States every able-bodied man in the Dominion will feel inclined to do his part."

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