NATIONAL CAPITAL.

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OFFICE IN THE SENATE.

REFORM IN THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Some Unfortunate New York Congressmen -The Way Cleared for the Canal-Civil-Government for the Philippines-Progress of the Financial Bill.

The new sergeant-at-arms of the Benate finds the office in much bettercondition than his predecessor found it on assuming his duties seven or eight years ago. Up to the time when Col. Richard J. Bright was appointed the Senate was honeycombed with sinecures. The contingent fun had for years been used to furnish pay to friends of Senators for services never rendered. The old reports show, for instance, that one wealthy man, who and for years been connected with the newspaper gallery, was paid a monthly salary as laborer in the Senate blacksmith shop. Another was paid \$1,000 per annum for "wheeling and storing fuel," and still another received a like amount for "oiling and polishing furniture." The amount maid out occassibly for mheeling and storing fuel was greater one year



than the cost of fuel itself. In fact the manner in which the contingent fund was expended was a source of contant scandal. Senators whose com- cratic members of the foreign affairs mittee work required more help chan the rules provided for were compelled to resort to all sorts of questionable ing the retention of the islands. The practices to secure the necessary help. Stenographers employed legitimately were recorded as "folding 100,000 documents" and mossengers were put down as laborers in the Senate's sta-**Clea**

Colonel Sright began as soon as he was inducted into office to clean these Augean stables. He insisted that every man who drew pay for any work must perform that work and that each individual on the rolls of his ofBrosius, of Pennsylvania, of the banking and currency committee, Republicans, and Representative Cox, of Tennensee, the senior Democratic member of the baking and corrency committee. However, as this is to be a Republican measure the real conferees will be

the four Republican named. The Democrats will only be called into conference after the others have perfected the bill and then only as a matter of courtesy.

As near as can be ascertained at the present time, the bill will not remain long in conference. There are no radical differences between the Republicans of the two Houses on this measure and as the Senators are so carnest in their support of their bill the odds are decidedly in favor of the House conferees yielding and accepting the Senate bill. It is the history of Congress that the House yields to the Senate nine times out of ten and history will probably repeat itself. In fact. the Senators by holding out will compel the House to yield. The Clark Investigation.

The contest against Senator W. A

Clark, of Montana has taken a most unexpected turn, and one which indicates weakening on the part of those who have been conducting it. The memoralists practically closed their case, when it was fully expected by the Committee on Privileges and Elections and all connected with the contest that a large number of additional witnesses would be heard. It was at least expected, quite naturally, that they would make some show of attempting to prove the main charges, but up to date nothing of the kind has been done. In the memorial upon which this contest is based it is alleged that some forty members of the Montana Legislature who cast their votes for Mr. Clark received specified

sums of money, yet proof has only been offered concerning four of these votes.

The Foreign Policy.

The Democrats of the House continued their assaults upon the Philippine policy of the Administration during the general debate upon the diplo-Two epecohes were made by Demo-

committee Dinemore of Arkansas, and Mr Champ Clark of Missouri, opposspeech of Mr Clark which lasted al-



THE COLORED MAN. occupation. Fishing gives employment THE UPLIFTING OF THE NEGROES IN

THE SOUTH. Conditions of Life in the Virginia Countries -The Influence of the Hampton Institute Studied Scientifically-Negroes of the

Great Dismai Swamp. Uncle Sam has been co-operating largest building and loan associations with the negro training schools in vancus parts of the Southern States in the study of the conditions of life among the negroes and how they can be improved. Having done this work jointly among the negrees in the regaborhood of the Normal and Agcutural Institute in Tuskegee, Ala., a the head of which is Booker T. Washington, and of the Agricultural and Mechanical College in Aubu n, Ala, the same investigations have

Leen taken up in Virg.nia. Dietary sudies have been made among the n-groas living in the reg on bordering the Great Dismal Swamp in Franklin county, Va., and also in Elizabeth City



Great Dismal Swamp Home.

county, in which Hampton and its comego are situated. The negrous of men, and, peculiarly enough, the con. Fanklin county are beyond the pale testants have brought these very men of the influence of the Hampton Inhere as their own witnesses, yet each st luty. In Elizabeth City county there went upon the stand and denied hav. at pour nigroes, too, but there also ing received one dollar from Mr. are many thanks to the work of the Clark or any one representing him or institute, that are well to de. And yet from any source whatever for their chamical analysis of the food caten by the negroes in the two counties show that there is about as much nu-

triment derived at a lower cost in the lood of the regroes in Franklin county as there is in that of the negroes of Elizateth City ounty. Still, matic and consular appropriation bill. that isn't all tiere is of life and making the most and best of it.

> Great Dismal Swamp. The negroes who live in the region be dering on the Great Dismal Swamp are especially subject to malaria, as may be imagined from the low and swampy condition of the soil. Their houses are small, two or three roomed board cabins, lighted in the evening as a rule only by the open freplace. It, is an exceptionally favored family that has lamps or even candles. The



This is the chief animal food, and la

called "white meat." Little milk or

butter is used in the family, most of

it going to town to be exchanged at

the store for groceries. These people do not, as a rule, like bread-"it is so

tasteless." Instead they eat "how cake," made of cornneal and water,

or biscult made of wheat flour. Those

families that do eat bread usually buy

the hotels and institutions, as well as

for Northern markets, is the insual

to many negroes for three-fourthm of

the year. In the town of Hampton

are many negro boys and young men

Home of a Hampton Graduate.

the economy to bake it themselves. What Hampton training does is shown in the illustration of the house his ng of these people is obtained from 200 a year. He and his wife are gradthe sul The usual size of a farm is uates of the institution. They own that which goes locally by the name of their seven-roomed house, and their a "one-mule farm." the amount of influence radiates out emong their nd that can be worked by one mu'e.

to own 100 acres. Truck familing for the extensive local markets afforded by

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ENNSYLVANIA R.P. Northern Central Railway.

Best Routs from Roonsster to Philadal-phia, Beltimore, Washington, and all Points, South and Southwest.

On and after November 19, 1990 Trains leave NEW YORK CENTRAL STATION as follows: Stat A. M. except Sunday, for all points South arriving at Dimire 518 A. M. Phile South a size J. M. New fors size P. M. Baltimore 6100 F. M. Weshington Till E. M. Burtet partor on: Rounesets to Phile-Selling and New fors are private to Reining Contracting Section Stat A. M. Souther State Baltimore 6100 F. M. Weshington Till E. M. Burtet partor on: Rounesets to Phile-Selling and New fors are for Phile-Selling and New forse are faryfelling by A. M. State and New forse are for Phile-Selling and New forse are for the former and the selling are selling and New forse are for the selling and the selling are selling and New forse are for the selling are selling and New forse are selling and the selling are selling and New forse are selling and the selling and the selling are selling and the selling are selling a On and after November 19, 1800

are many negro boys and young man who prefer a trade to farmwork. So they earn a living as painters, carpen-ters, shoemakers, blacksmiths, wheel wrights, masons and plasters. In the professions are negro doctors, lawyers, ministers and seachers, and one of the fargest building and loan associations of the State is run by negross of Hampton. Some of the families that bask in the heareficient influence shad from the Hampton institute live hapdity and comfortably, and are prosperous. In other families, though there may he much untidness and ignorance and a continual struggle to provide the com-meal which forms a large part of the dealy focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd, yet the first dime same in each which forms a large part of the daily focd he first dime same in each whi

deily food, yet the antat mine entropy for the next weak's gut alde to pay for the next weak's schooling.
Butter's Farm.
The only distinctive negro settle-ment of the county is Butter's Farm, which gets its name from the fact that the school of the county is Butter's Farm, which gets its name from the fact that the school of the cital weak's form the fact that the school of the cital weak's the school of the cital weak's the school of the county is Butter's Farm, which gets its name from the fact that the school of the cital weak's the school of the cital weak's the school of the cital weak's form the fact that the school of the cital weak's the school of t



8100 A. M. succept Sundary areas Now and Diversity Constanting of S ton and Diversity Surdary Areas and Areas Constanting Constant Morris, Burnis and Managerships

fice must report daily his presence in the capitol. Within a month he had abolished the sincrure list outirely. Unfortumate Congres-men.

The New York delegation in the House of Representatives has been particularly unfortunate recently. Some time during the last Congress Represensative Charles A. Chickering was taken ill, and was compelled to go to this home in the northern part of the State, where his malady seemed to increase rather than d-minish. He is back in Washington, but he seems to be unable to shake off the disease, and this old time gayety is missing among his associatos. Representative Gillet. of the Chemung county district in the "southern tier." hurt his leg many wears ago -- in fact, when he was a boy. The injured member troubled mim somewhat during his service in the Union army, but from the close of the war up to last summer he seldom had occasion to remember the old injury. even through a slight twinge. Last summer, however, the old difficulty came back to him and nearoess set in. The surgeons attending Mr. Gillet deeided that amputation would be necessary to save his life, and the result was that on the 20th of November **MA** Gillet parted with a foot.

The Nicaraguan Canal.

The new treaty which has been nomotisted with Great Britain, clears the way for the construction of the Nicaraguan canal by the United States. The treaty promises that the canal shall be free and open in time of war or of peace, to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations. The canal shall never be blockaded, nor shall any act of hostility be committed therein. Prizes shall be in all reexpects subject to the same rules as vescels of war., No belligerent shall embark or disembark troops, munitions of war or warlike materials in the canal, except in case of accidental hintirance of the transit, and in such case the transit shall be resumed with all possible disnatch.

No fortifications shall be erected commanding the canal, or the water edjacent. The United States, however, shall be at liberty to maintain such military police along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and disorder.

To Govern the Philippines.

The appointment of Judge Wim. H Taft, of Cincinnati, to be president of the new Philippine commission. is generally approved. The judge is a man of great learning and ripe expertience. It is stated that the commission will sail for the Philippines early in March, and it's special mission will be the establishment of a civil government for the islands. The appointment of this commission is carrying out the suggestion of the present Philippine commission, which will shortly go out of existence. Some of the members of the old commission, it is said, will be appointed on the new one.

The Financial Bill. Unless the present indications prove unreliable the financial bili will be a law soon. The vote on the bill is to it must go to a conference. In the as usual spent some conference the bill will be perfected in in New Hampshire, but the form that it will become a law. returned without the usual ben-The conferees on the part of the Sen- efit. Why will thee not drive ate will be Senators Aldrich and Al- over here (to Danvers;) or, better still, lison, Republicans, and Senator Vest come to Amesbury, and spend a night or Senator Jones, of Arkansas, Demo- as in the old time? I expect to be crat. The House conferees will be there the first week in October. God Representative Overstreet, of Indiana, bless thee! Think of me always the author of the bill, and Chairman thy affectionate friend.".

Democratic Members Talking Over Administration Foreign Policy.

repiete with unique epigrams, and attracted much attention. No Republican spoke in defense of the Adminis- of the land put an end to prospects of job. We mean well: in a feeble sort of tration policy. Mr. S.bley, of Pennsyl- getting much out of this product. vania, who was elected as a Democrat, but who made a speech last week defending expansion, was goaded into the announcement that the Democrats could consider his seat constructively on the Republican side. Before the debate began, an effort was made to of an expert commission to examine into the question of the pollution of the water supply of cities, but it was defeated. The Chicago members conthe Chicago drainage canal.

Scarolty of Officers.

Few persons appreciate how shorthanded and under officered our army really is. Even in time of peace, when only routine duties have to be done, there are few enough officers to go manded by a non-commissioned officer. because its commissioned officers are absent sick, on leave, or on detached service of some kind. Exactly how | much under-officered the army is appears from the latest number of the 'Army List and Directory." Only three regiments of the army were fully officered on January 20. The field of ficers of the regiments were as numer. ous as they should be; the lists of Captains and of First Lieutenants were generally complete; but only in three regiments was the list of Second Lieutenants filled. The First and Fourth, cavalry had eleven Second Lieutenants: the Third had ten, five regiments had nine each and two had only eight Second Lieutenants. The full list chould show twelve.

Whittier's Love of His Friends.

"No lapse of years dimmed Whittier's steady friendships," writes Samuel T. Pickard, in the Ladies' Home Journal. One of the letters that Whittier wrote to Gail Hamilton is dated September, 1887, when the poet was in his eightieth year: neath.

"I was gladdened last evening by the sight of thy handwriting. If I do not see my dear old friends often I never forget them. In these lonely latter days I love to recall thy pleasant visits to our Amesbury home when Elizabeth was with me. I am getting to be an antiquity. I seem to have pretty much outlived the world. The last be taken as early as possible and then year has gone hard with me. I have weeka have

About half of the produce goes to earn the rent, and on the other half the occupants manage to get a living, with additions derived here and there by doing odd jobs around the country. These farms are known as "dead-tree farms"-that is, the trees are killed by girdling, and, the under-brush being cut away, the land between the evending dead timber is cultivated. Women, of course, as well as the men work the farms. Where help is hired, payment is made usually in rations-that is, in food materials. The staple

c ops are sweet potatoes, cotton and t anuts, and such is the poverty of the most two hours, was a notable effort, soil and the people that the crops in must cases are small. Tobacco used to be raised, but the impoverishment Their Frugal Meal.

Dogs and cats are much more numercus than the available food supplies warrant. The daily meal, year in and year out, is mainly "hog and hominy." Fried side bacon is the pass a bill looking to the appointment principal meat, helped out occasionally with fish from the neighboring Chesapeake bay. If a family keep a cow they usually can get a little milk, but the feed of the cows does not encoureldered that it was simed especially at age a plentiful yield of milk. There is a certain sesson of the year when these people deem anakes a delicious food. Turtles and frogs, of course,

are eaten. Muskrat, oppossum and racoon furnish variations of the diet. The "hominy" part of the daily meal consists of bread made of unbolted commeal, which contains a large poraround, and many a company is com- tion of bran. Bread making is a sim. ple process. The meal is wet, and baked in the ashes, without salt or



Home of the Second Class.

leavening material. Cook stoves are unknown, and all the cooking is done in the fireplace. Drinking water, as might be imagined from the nature of the soil, is stagnant and brackish, and morning most of the cases arise from often muddy. One family that has street accidents, and when evening been studied occupies a house made of comes cases arising from drunken rough boards set on end without rows and deliberate assaults begin to weather stripe. The house stands on come in. Nearly all the domestic piles, and fowls and dogs five unders

Near Hampton Institute.

In Elizabeth City county, Va., many of the negroes have had the advantage of the influence of Hampton Institute, and also are helped out by the employment afforded by the two large hoicls at Old Point Comfort and by the shipyards and industries of Newport News. As this county contains also its. full quota of the exceedingly poor, instructive comparisons can be made between those who might be called the fairly well to do and those who strug. gie through life in a state of almost abject poverty. Many negroes in this county own from one to three acres of land: two or three own forty acres or more, while one negro has raised himself so far show his neighbors as

water.

The Man Who Works.

"The man that is so far advanced that he likes the work he is doing?" said Mr. Stoggleton, "has reason to feel hopeful of nimself. I suppose that the very great majority of us go through the work we have in hand the easiest way we can and get through it, skoping the haid places when poss. uie, and thinking we'll be glad when its finished; but the next job will be just the same; there will be ' just J. B. HUTCHISON, JAS. R. WOOD, Gen'l Manager, Gen'l Pass, Apr. about so many hard places in it, and then we'll be wishing just the same

Western New York and Pennthat we could get through that job. "The fact appears to be that we are always trying to shirk the present. way, and the next thing we tackle we Trains will leave West Avenue Deput Destars (ime), daily except Subley, as are going to do right up to the handlen Colores Colores ris Nunda, Hornellaville, Arres Mt. Mrs. Cals Olass and Intermedials water all P. M. Express for Mt. Marshall and policyille, Cube. Oleas and Conversion stations but when we strike that, when that becomes the present work, don't we try to shirk that, too? We do, indeed. And that's what we do all through life: daily putting off our best endery-

ors till to-morrow. Kind of a misseable thing to do, isn't it? "But occasionally you meet a man who puts in his best licks every day. and refolces in the labor; he doesn't care a continental what the next day is going to bring to him, he can handle it whatever it is; just now here su-gaged with to-day's labor; and he does that up thoroughly and completely, and searches out the last nook and cranny; he isn't trying to see what he can pass by, but what he can root out; and he goes home sitisfied with his work, and he's the one man in a thousand that leads all the rest and his may corresponds with his labors.

Regularly in the Order of Infurion. A queer fact, well known by medical warrant men connected with hospitals, is that Fair, o the doctors can tell with almost absorbing Inte certainty which classes of fatality delivery ties and accidents fit in .while given days and even hours. One of the dottors connected with a leading hospital in the centre of the city said recoully:

"We will begin with Monday. That day furnishes by far the highest pro-pention of misheps to work people." but I must my tast this proportion is rapidly diminishing ... Nearly all the attempted suicides come in during the ivery early part of each day, and the first accident batches early in the day have a large number of men who work

cases-where wives have been assault ed and so on-are late night and Bat-

urday ones. It would take me a long time to group the regular order of accidents as they come in day efter day. -Philadelphia Record.

Four Notes in a Canary's Song. In the song of a canary four notes are recognized by dealers, and they can tell by listening to it for a few minutes whether the bird be German or American. They are the water note, which is a rippling, gurging, at tractive bit of warbling, like the murringing; the whistling note, of the same class but much finer, and the rolling note which is a continuous melody, rising and failing only to the again.

Rochester to Harrisburg Pullman alsopering our Harrisburg to New Yorz, 5:10 P. M. accept sunday accommoder tion for Binnes, arrives Elinities 8:68 P. M. 1:45 P. M. delly for all points South; arrives Elinits 10:8 P. M. Fullsdaiphin 5:35 A. M. New York 5:35 A. M. Saltimete 5:38 A. M. Washington 1:45 A. M. Ou Sundays arrives New York 10:38 A. M. Pulman buffet sleeping car Hochester 58 Washington cody. Fullman alsoping car Hochester to Philedelphie delly. Tor information raistive is return the success P. Palmateer of by passages and ticket agent. 11 Main street east, Wilder building Tamphone MS-A. Where ticket and sleeping car berlin can be secured; also at New York Central scatter. J. B. HUTCHINON, JAS. B. WOOD.

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