

BEFORE THE BATTLE

The Impending War Between Gold and Silver.

SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS

Uncertainty as to What Will be Done. The Drift of Opinion at Washington. Capsules of Both Democrats and Republicans.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—For the twelfth time in the history of the United States Congress will at noon to-day be convened in "extraordinary" session.

As soon as notice is received by the Senate that the House has organized the proper committee will be appointed to wait upon the President and notify him that Congress is ready to receive any communication he may have to make. This will call forth the message explaining the President's reasons for convening Congress in special session and suggesting legislation to cure the ills for which the country is suffering.

The torrid heat of the capital at this time does not incite to active exertion so that the Senators are not likely to sit many hours daily, nor to hold daily sessions at the beginning. If, however, the Senate is disposed to go earnestly to work from the start, it has before it the privileged question of the right to seats of Senators Mantle, of Montana, Beckwith of Wyoming, and Allen of Washington. Should the Republicans insist upon a disposition of these cases nothing else can be done until they are passed upon.

Another privileged motion pending is Mr. Hoar's resolution touching Senator Roach's character, with Mr. Gorman's substitute, and still another is Mr. Chandler's resolution of similar nature concerning Senator Power. So far no line of policy has been defined by either party upon these subjects and it is probable that in both the Senate and the House the parties will caucus during the week to agree upon their respective plans of campaign.

The House will be called to order by Clerk Kerr, who has been selected by a caucus of his party for re-election, but who would nevertheless have performed that duty, under the law, as the holding over of the House, even if he had not been chosen for re-election.

There will probably be little done in the House the first week owing to the non-existence of committees. The organization of the House will take but a short time and the programme for the remainder of the day will depend entirely upon such intimation concerning the message, as may have previously come from the White House. If the precedents are followed, Speaker Crisp will be sworn in by Representative Charles O'Neill of Pennsylvania, who is the oldest member in point of service and the "father of the House."

The usual resolution notifying the Senate that it has been organized and is ready for business, will be sent to that body, and three members on the part of the House will be named to act as a joint committee to wait upon the President. It is not likely that the message will be sent in to-day. The afternoon will probably be occupied in the biennial drawing for seats.

It is only by authority of the rules of the House that the Speaker appoints the committees. The usual custom therefore will be followed of adopting, temporarily, the rules of the previous Congress.

No bills, under the rules, can be introduced until the committees have been named, but the desire of Representatives to keep pace with the Senate in this respect will probably cause a resolution to be passed suspending the rules so as to permit the introduction of bills for reference to the appropriate committees when appointed.

After the message is read both House and Senate will probably adjourn for three days.

GOVERNMENT MESSAGES.

Uncle Sam Fixes Rates for His Own Telegraphing.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Postmaster-General Bissell has issued an order fixing the rate to be paid to telegraph companies for transmitting Government messages (not including those passing over circuits established by the Weather Bureau) during the year ending June 30, 1894, as follows:

For day messages containing not more than 20 words, exclusive of place and date, 20 cents, not exceeding 1,000 miles, and one cent for each additional word. One quarter of this rate is to be added for each 300 miles or fraction thereof, but no rate on a message of 20 words to be more than 40 cents, nor on any additional word more than two cents. Territory or the points in any State, Territory or the District of Columbia shall be 20 cents for 20 words and one cent for each additional word.

For night messages not exceeding twenty words, exclusive of place and date, 15 cents for any distance within 2,000 miles, and for greater distances 25 cents; in each case 1 cent for each additional word.

It is further provided that if during the year any telegraph company charges the public less for ten words than is here fixed for twenty words, the Government rate shall be reduced to the rate charged to the public.

Reading's Employees.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM, Pa., Aug. 5.—The conference between Vice-President Voorhees, of the Reading Railroad, the general superintendents and division superintendents of the Lehigh Valley road and the grievance committee of the latter line's employees was ended yesterday. Chairman Hughes of the employees committee made a rather indefinite statement which says the men were granted all that many rules reasonably expect and that their advantage adopted which will be to their advantage. Nothing further as to the outcome has yet been learned.

A Colorado Smelter Shuts Down.

LEADVILLE, Col., Aug. 5.—The Arkansas Smelter has closed down for an indefinite time. This is partly the result of the recent strike among its employees and also the low price of silver. The smelter will not resume until silver is high enough to warrant a reopening.

THE QUARANTINED STEAMER.

Passengers Transferred to Hoffman Island and Every Precaution Taken.

New York, Aug. 7.—All the passengers of steamer Karamania were transferred at six o'clock yesterday to Hoffman Island. As soon as the last passenger stepped aboard the transfer barge a gang of the ship's crew were put to work under the directions of a Quarantine officer demolishing all deck houses, closets and hatch coverings which will be burned in the ship's furnace. The vessel will undergo thorough cleansing without delay.

When the Karamania arrived on the night of Aug. 2, with a history of deaths at sea, Health Officer Jenkins, after some thought, arranged to transfer the passengers to Hoffman Island for bathing and the disinfection of their effects and subsequently remove them to Swinburne Island where they would be lodged for a period of five days. Hoffman Island was occupied by men who were putting up the observation building and making certain repairs for the improvement of the plant. These men were required to remain in that portion of the island where the work was in progress and one building was set apart for the isolation of the immigrants during their temporary stay on the island. Before a single passenger was landed the workmen deserted in large numbers.

Dr. Jenkins had only selected Swinburne Island as a place of detention because he desired that the improvements be continued without interruption on Hoffman Island so that the facilities for accommodation would be greatly increased. There was ample accommodation for the Karamania's passengers and if the new building could be finished the capacity would be increased so as to locate fully 2,500 people on Hoffman Island.

GREAT ROWING SOME DAY.

Preliminary Work of Getting English and American Oarsmen Together.

New York, Aug. 7.—Frank F. Pratt, of the Chicago Navy, who went abroad last June to secure foreign entries for the World's Fair regatta at Lake Geneva, and also to arrange a race between the English "varsity eights and Harvard or Yale, returned on the Germanic without having accomplished either mission. Mr. Pratt was seen by a reporter.

He said he was satisfied with his trip and although none of the English or French crews are coming over this year he claims to have agitated the question so well that there is every possibility that we shall have some aquatic visitors next season, and, unless all signs fail, an international inter-collegiate eight-oared race between the winner of the Oxford-Cambridge race on the Thames next March and the winner of the Harvard-Yale race at New London in June.

PUGILISM HARD HIT.

Pennsylvania Judge Knocks Out Two Boxing Clubs.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7.—Judge Gordon, sitting as a committing magistrate, in the Court of Quarter Sessions Saturday, gave a knockout blow to boxing exhibitions by holding James H. Shoemaker, Lessee, and Henry Pincus, manager, of the Winter Circus, and Jack Fogarty, manager of the Ariel Athletic Club, in \$3,000 bail each to keep the peace and "be of good behavior," and an additional \$1,000 bail each for appearance at the next term of court to answer charges of keeping disorderly houses.

A dozen pugilists and their seconds were held in \$900 bail to answer charges of assault and battery and prizefighting. A warrant was issued for Stanton Abbott, the English Champion light-weight, but he is outside the State.

Drowned by a Cloudburst.

SHARPTOWN, Ind., Aug. 7.—This neighborhood was visited Saturday by the most disastrous storm known for years, doing great damage to crops and farm property. A cloudburst flooded the land to a depth of 18 inches. Johnson Fork was swollen beyond its banks. Scores of cattle were washed away and drowned, and hundreds of acres of corn were blown flat by the wind. Several barns were struck by lightning and destroyed with their contents and implements, and many farmhouses were inundated.

The Blue Fleet Won.

LONDON, Aug. 7.—The umpires in the naval contest between the Red fleet, commanded by Vice-Admiral Fairfax, and the Blue fleet, under the command of Rear-Admiral Fitzroy, have decided that the Red fleet, which was assumed to be that of an enemy, failed in its objects, and have awarded the victory to the Blue or defensive fleet. This is the first time in the history of British naval maneuvers of this kind that the defensive fleet has won.

A Monetary League.

New York, Aug. 7.—The World's City of Mexico special says: "A project is on foot for forming a union of all Latin American states into a monetary league for mutual aid in defending themselves against a European combination which it is believed intends to force payments in gold at the present high rate of premium of all obligations contracted when gold was at lower prices."

Cat in Wages.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Aug. 7.—The blast furnace owners of the Mahoning and Shenango valleys have made a cut of 15 to 20 per cent in wages. Five hundred men are concerned. The prices were reduced to what they were in 1896, the lowest point in seven years. The manufacturers say that under the present condition of the market they had no other alternative.

A Relic of St. Clair's Expedition.

GREENVILLE, O., Aug. 7.—Eight miles north of this city John Neff found a cannon captured from St. Clair's soldiers by Indians during the retreat from Fort Recovery to Greenville in 1791. A derrick was used to extricate it from a hole 11 feet deep. It is a brass six-pounder, six feet long.

Straggling East.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 7.—About 400 of Denver's unemployed straggled through this city yesterday, coming in on the \$5 tickets offered by the railroads and continuing east on freight trains as a rule. Many of them tell pitiful stories of hardship and of families left behind.

DEATH AMID DARKNESS

A Horrible Crash on the Lake Shore Railroad.

THREE KILLED AND MANY INJURED

Collision Between a Passenger and Freight Train—Ghastly Scenes Among the Dead and Dying—Three Sleeping Cars Totally Wrecked.

CLEVELAND, O., Aug. 7.—A special from Fremont, O., says: A terrible wreck occurred late Saturday night at Lindsey, a small village eight miles west of this place, on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern. An engine and three sleepers were badly demolished and three people killed outright, while fully 25 were more or less badly injured. The wreck was caused by the collision of a West-bound passenger train and an East-bound freight. Passenger train No. 9, the Pacific express due at this place at 9:30 o'clock, left here about ten minutes late. The train consisted of an engine, baggage car, two express cars, three coaches and five sleepers. The coaches and sleepers were all well filled with people, many of whom were on their way to Chicago.

At Lindsey, the next station west of this place, the train passed a local freight, No. 74, which had been side-tracked to await the passing of train No. 9. The train was running at full speed and passed safely until the sleepers neared the switch, close to the freight, when the first three sleepers jumped the track and ran into the engine of the freight. The engine was wrecked and the sleepers crushed like egg-shells.

As the sleepers were filled with passengers, it seems a miracle that all were not instantly killed. The scene that followed the collision was heartrending. The screams of the dying, the shrieks of the injured and the hissing of escaping steam combined to add horror to a sight that will long be remembered by those who witnessed it. Work was at once begun to render aid to the injured, and those who were imprisoned in the ruins. The disaster was immediately reported and an extra composed of an engine and coach was made up at this place. Doctors William Caldwell, F. U. Hilbish, M. Stamm and R. B. Meek had in the meantime been summoned, and the party at once proceeded to the scene of the wreck. The sight that greeted them was terrible. The track for some distance was covered with debris, beneath which several persons were imprisoned. Legs, hands and arms protruded here and there from beneath the ruins. It was later learned that the dead were engineer Edward Lafferty of the local freight; Charles Spaul, a brakeman on the same train, and porter Robertson (colored) of the sleeper Erie of Chicago.

On the arrival of the medical party the injured were at once taken care of, with the united efforts of the physicians of this city, and Drs. Wolland and W. L. Stewart of Lindsey. About 15 of the injured who had received wounds of a less dangerous character, after receiving surgical attention, proceeded on their westward journey on that part of the passenger train which had escaped damage. The others who had received serious injuries were taken to the hotel Nichols and private residences where they are now receiving the best of care.

The seriously injured are as follows: Prof. Emerson, of Amherst College, Gloucester, Mass., chest crushed, will die. J. A. Hamilton, of Pittsburg, injured internally, perhaps fatally.

Porter Stevens, (colored) of New York, extent of injuries not known.

Porter Pelham, (colored) of the sleeper Orinoco, Chicago, injured internally, very serious.

A. H. West, of Chicago, badly cut, not serious.

Centerfield Ryan, of the Chicago baseball club, badly cut.

Catcher Kittridge, of the Chicago baseball club, cut about head and body.

Those killed outright were: Ed Lafferty, engineer of local freight No. 74; residence, Elyria; married and leaves a widow and four children.

Charles Spaul, brakeman on freight; residence, Clayville, N. Y.

Porter Ferguson, (colored), of the sleeper Erie; residence, Chicago.

About 8 o'clock in the morning the wrecking train arrived at the scene and began the work of clearing the tracks for the passage of trains. About 6 a. m. the bodies of the three railroad men were reached and taken from beneath the ruins. They were taken to the morgue of John Boyer and then put in shape for transfer to their different homes. The bodies were in horrible condition and presented a most sickening sight. Arms were cut off, legs torn and mangled and heads smashed out of all semblance of human shape.

At noon a special train arrived from Toledo containing the officials of the road, and an examination and investigation was at once instituted. The wreck was cleared up so that evening trains can pass over this division.

Prof. Emerson and Porter Pelham are now in an unconscious condition and their deaths are momentarily expected. During the day thousands of people have driven from all parts of the county to visit the scene of the disaster.

The Victoria Victims.

LONDON, Aug. 7.—The Duke of York has announced that it is his desire that the money collected by seamen and marines of the British navy and presented to him and Princess May on the occasion of their wedding be added to the fund for the families of the victims of the Victoria disaster. If the money is not needed for the Victoria fund, it is to be invested for the benefit of the widows and other relatives of naval men dying in the service of their country.

THE COPIERS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—It is stated at the Treasury Department that there is no likelihood of the resumption of the issue of gold certificates until the free gold stands from seven to ten millions above the reserve. Their increase can only be authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, who has not yet given instructions in that direction. The free gold is now about 100,000,000.

SAVAGE WAR IN SAMOA.

Human Heads Thrown About Like Base Balls.

APRA, Samoa, July 19, via San Francisco Aug. 5.—War broke out between Malletoa's and Mataafa's forces but warships of the three powers intervened and stopped the fighting. Mataafa and his chiefs have surrendered. Mataafa's loss was 30 killed and 20 wounded.

Malletoa's army consisted of about one thousand fighting men armed with rifles, axes and long knives. This army with martial music, consisting of whistles, cornets, horns and drums, started on the morning of July 8 toward the seat of war. Malletoa's army was far more powerful than Mataafa's having plenty of arms and ammunition and many more warriors. Mataafa also had the advantage in securing the aid of tribes which Mataafa had counted upon to back him. Although Mataafa had been disappointed in not securing allies, he would not surrender.

When the attack came, Mataafa's forces being short of ammunition, retreated. Mataafa, seeing no hope of success and having lost his nephew, who was killed and decapitated, ordered 19 boats to lie off Mulund, Malletoa's residence and stronghold, for the purpose of drawing attention, while in the meantime darkness setting in, he lowered his ensign, cut down his flagpole, and set fire to Maile. This town was formerly the King's residence and was beautifully laid out in Samoan style. The houses were well built, but rather than have the town fall into the King's hands Mataafa preferred to see it go up in smoke. Mataafa's strategy with the boats being successful in keeping the army off, he departed with his followers for the island of Savai, another of the Samoan group.

That afternoon the conquerors, Malletoa's warriors, returned to Apia with the spoils of victory. These spoils consisted of the bleeding heads of human beings. Each man who had the luck to cut off the head of an enemy marched through the streets of Apia with it. They walked up the streets yelling like fiends, with eyes starting from their sockets with excitement and throwing the severed heads about like baseballs, blood dripping all over the bearers. Many heads were brought in this manner and after being exhibited about the town were presented to Malletoa as trophies of war. The King graciously received them and they were then thrown in a pile on the ground.

Mataafa lost 16 killed and seventeen wounded. Malletoa's loss was four killed and twelve wounded. Malletoa's excited friends marched to and fro through the town, clearing everybody out of the way. The white people took refuge on the verandas of houses while the warriors held the streets. The whites were at the mercy of the excited natives, who were crazed with victory and blood and if there had been any clash would probably have been massacred.

The fact of his surrender has already been started. Mataafa and 28 chiefs went on board the British warship, while the natives' arms were brought and piled on deck. United States Vice-Consul Blacklock was on board the Katoomba and remained to see the final surrender. Until it is decided what shall be done with the prisoners they will probably be kept on warships.

AN UNPROFITABLE SUNDAY.

Lighter Attendance Than Usual at World's Fair.

CHICAGO, Aug. 7.—The gates of the World's Fair were thrown open yesterday but the turnstiles failed to click as merrily as on former Sundays. People who did attend the Fair were either strangers in the city for a limited stay or city people who strolled out to pass a day in the cooling shades of wooded islands. The buildings were open, but the majority of exhibits were hidden beneath a stretch of canvass. The places on the Midway Plaisance were open and here the larger portion of the crowd congregated.

Director General Davis will return from a fishing trip early in the week, and it is likely that the matter of the resignation of Theodore Thomas, musical director of the Fair, will be brought before him for action. Mr. Thomas, it is asserted, has offered his resignation to the Music Committee, but it is powerless to act, so the matter will be referred to Mr. Davis for his action. However, this will not in any way interrupt the carrying out of the regular programme of music already planned.

DISGRACEFUL DANCING.

The World's Fair Authorities Investigate an Oriental Attraction.

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, CHICAGO, Aug. 5.—The pressure brought to bear on the Council of Administration to take some action in regard to the objectionable oriental dances on the Midway Plaisance, resulted in the issuing of instructions from that body to the Director General to immediately conduct a thorough investigation of the dances in question and report to the Council.

Major Pangborn, President of the Associated American Exhibitors, called the dances the "scum of the brothels of the Orient" before the National Committee and the Lady Managers yesterday placed themselves on record as being shocked by the immorality of the performances. Some of the ladies had been to see the dancers, as a matter of duty only.

Lumber Camp Burning.

BRADFORD, Pa., Aug. 5.—The lumber camp of Keshuqua, two miles east from the Kinzua bridge on the Erie railroad, is burning. Kane's big saw mill and boarding house and several tenements have already been destroyed and the fire has communicated to the lumber yards which contain millions of feet of lumber. Assistance was asked for from here and a steamer and hose company have left for the scene. The loss will be \$100,000, covered by insurance.

Poor Peach Crops.

LANCASTERVILLE, N. J., Aug. 7.—Two hundred and fifty replies out of 300 inquires sent out to the largest peach growers of Hunterdon county, substantiate the report that unless rain comes soon, not half of the usual amount will be shipped. During a full crop Hunterdon county yields 1,500,000 baskets.

THE SILVER PROGRAMME

Bland Will Introduce a Free Coinage Bill.

THE SHERMAN ACT IMPERFECT

Contestants for Seats Arrived at Washington—Republican House Caucus To-Night. Need to Be Nominated for Speaker. Where is All the Small Currency?

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—As soon after Congress meets as it becomes practicable Mr. Bland, the leader of the silver forces in the House, will introduce a bill embodying the views of the silver men. It will provide for the repeal of the Sherman purchasing act and substitute therefor the free coinage of silver at the present ratio of 16 to one. "That," said Mr. Bland, "will be the ground upon which we will make the fight, although there has been no definite plan agreed upon."

He recognized that men could honestly differ as to the ratio, but that was a matter that should be settled in the party itself. Upon the use of both gold and silver as money at a parity the Democratic party could not differ. If a compromise measure increasing the ratio was reached, he said he saw no reason why the present dollar should not be kept in circulation as now. He proposed, however, with all his power to resist any increase in the ratio.

The attitude of the Treasury Department in refusing to buy silver was arbitrary and uncalled for, Mr. Bland said, but there was no ground for the talk that the Secretary could be impeached. The law gave him the discretion he was exercising and that was one of the mistakes of a law that was, as he looked at it, full of mistakes. He had warned the friends of silver on this very point when the bill came up for consideration in the House.

The land-allison act was superior in that respect in that it did not give the secretary this power but required him to purchase a specific amount. If the United States, Mexico and South American countries together with the countries of Asia on our west, were to agree upon a common ratio, Mr. Bland thought we would have all the trade we wanted and would thereby force Europe to come to the use of silver as money.

Mr. Bland said that he had not seen the Speaker, and when it was suggested to him that some of his friends in the East would be glad to see him off the committee on coinage he only smiled and replied that they could not at any rate run him off the floor of the House. The champion of silver declared that there would be a bitter fight against any attempt to change the ratio so that a clause provision might be incorporated.

Contested Seats.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—One of the first of the contestants for a seat in the House has arrived in Washington in the person of Mr. Belknap, Republican, of Michigan. Mr. Belknap is a contestant for the seat for the Fifth Michigan district and asserts that he was elected by the narrow margin of 19 votes. He has the certificate of the State court and claims that Mr. Richardson, his opponent, should have been required to make the contest but the clerk of the House has placed Mr. Richardson's name on the rolls and that puts the onus of the contest on Mr. Belknap. The latter, however, expects to have an objection entered when Mr. Richardson comes forward to take the oath of office and thus throw the case immediately into the hands of the committee on elections or a special committee appointed to deal with the matter.

The canvass for the nomination for the two contested places in the House organization was resumed again yesterday afternoon with renewed vigor by the candidates, the incoming of personal friends putting more life into the fight than has yet appeared.

Mr. Hurt, for the first time, is out with the positive statement that he will win in the race for floorkeeper, while Mr. Smith appears to be as sanguine as ever. Amos Cummings is doing some energetic work against Mr. Turner, of his State. The friends of Turner say that Mr. Cummings' opposition is due to personal reasons, and that it will not affect his canvass.

In the contest for sergeant-at-arms, Mr. Outwaite and three other Ohio members, it was said, would repudiate Mr. Yoder's nomination, and fight him in the general caucus even to the extent of losing the State the place it held during the last Congress.

Small Currency.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Treasury officials state that the Treasury is prepared to supply all the small currency wanted and the lack of such currency in certain sections of the country is accounted for by the supposition either that all money is scarce or that the banks have failed to procure of the Treasury the small notes needed for home consumption.

At no time in recent years has so much small money been sent to New York and the lack of small notes there cannot be accounted for here except on the theory that much of it is being hoarded by those who receive it, thus withdrawing it from active circulation.

New Postal Cards.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Postmaster-General Bissell has awarded to C. C. Woolworth, of Castleton, N. Y., the contract for supplying the Department with postal cards for the next four years. The contract price for the single cards is .3287 per thousand and .6374 for the double cards. These are material reductions from the present prices and the saving for the four years is estimated at \$290,000. The present quantities of the cards are to be maintained.

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