

IT IS THE EAGLE'S TURN TO LAUGH.



THE NEXT CONGRESS.

SOON TO CONVENE; MUCH TO DO.

The Cuban and the Hawaiian Questions Likely to Be the First and Most Important to Come Up for Consideration—Republicans Control the House but Not the Senate.

(Washington Letter.)

In about a fortnight the Fifty-sixth congress of the United States will be in session with a Republican working majority in the lower house, but with a minority in the senate. It is unfortunate that the party in control of the executive branch of the government is not in a majority in the senate as well as in the house, as questions of great importance are to be considered and the responsibility for action or inaction will be laid upon the shoulders of the Republicans, even though they may be powerless to fully carry their points in the upper branch of congress.

Matters of great interest and concern will undoubtedly be presented and discussed at an early date after convention of congress. They will affect this country's relations with Spain and Japan, and are national and international in character, rather than partisan in any sense, so that their adjustment will be closely watched by foreign nations.

The most difficult question to be dealt with is that relating to Cuba. It has been intimated from time to time that congress, when convened, would not stand the indefinite and procrastinating policy pursued by Spain in connection with this government's inquiries relative to Cuba, and even that Spain's attitude toward the United States in the matter has not been satisfactory to the President. It is generally thought that one of the first questions to come up after congress convenes will be Cuba, and the state department correspondence, which has been accumulating to a certain extent, will be published and the whole situation placed before the country, as well as congress. Then it remains to see what action will be taken as to the recognition of belligerent rights in that island. It is known that the President is strongly in favor of a peaceful solution of the problem if that be possible, but that it is not the desire of the administration that Cuba shall be devastated and destroyed by the continuance of Weylerism. There is no question but that the people of the United States are, by a large majority, in sympathy with the Cubans and desire to see, in some way, the freedom of the island accomplished.

Then there is the almost as important question of the annexation of Hawaii. It is safe to say also that the people of the United States, by as great a majority, favor the annexation of the islands in a territorial form of government. The annexation treaty was proclaimed by the President comparatively early in the administration and has been ratified by the Hawaiian congress. Our own senate will undoubtedly take reasonably prompt action upon it after action upon the Cuban matter.

Neither of these questions are party questions, and neither will divide congress on party lines, but nevertheless it is unfortunate that the Republicans have not a majority in the senate. The foreign policy of the Republicans has always been clear and vigorous, the Democrats being the conservatives and the liberals, and, as above stated, the Republicans, although not in a majority in the senate, will have to bear the burden of responsibility for whatever action is taken, so that to secure their best results they should have no obstructive opposition. In any case action of some sort is probable very early in the session on these two questions.

steadily gaining week by week, and now, according to the treasury figures, they are larger than they were a year ago. The prediction that the new year will see a wiping out of monthly deficits seems likely to be fulfilled. "It is simply a question of time, greater or less, which cannot be told exactly," said a treasury official, "when the new law will get into normal working order and will produce a surplus instead of a deficit. It is doing remarkably well considering the way it was handicapped by excessive importations, many of which are still in the country."

According to Attorney-General McKenna, the Government will be as fully protected in the matter of the Kansas Pacific Railroad as was the case in the Union Pacific transaction. The ownership of the Kansas Pacific is part of the scheme of the reorganization committee. The committee holds certain liens on the road which it is bound to protect. It can only protect them by getting possession of the road, and this can only come through its making bids which will clear the road of all indebtedness to the Government. The Government is master of the situation and everybody who knows anything about the facts knows this, none better than the reorganization committee. The same vigilance and intelligence will be displayed in the management of the branch road as was shown in the sale of the main road, which everybody now concedes redounded to the credit of the officials managing the sale. GEORGE H. WILLIAMS.

Uncle Sam's Turn Will Come.



John Bull laughs now, but Uncle Sam's turn will come when Congress passes a law for the protection of American shipping.

No Prosperity for Him.—"The long and short of this business is that we are no nearer prosperity than we were two years ago. The only benefits which have come to our people since the election of McKinley were the result of the disasters to wheat crops in foreign lands by what the law calls a "visitation of God."

Thus the Cincinnati Enquirer, whose anxiety just now is centered upon the political complexion of the new Ohio legislature. Everything depends upon that. There can be no real, simon-pure, copper-bottomed, all-wool, yard-wide, sure enough prosperity visible in the Enquirer office until John McLean succeeds in breaking into the United States Senate. Pending that consummation, civilization is a failure and progress is played out!

It Unsettles Many Theories.—"As a matter of fact," says the Lancaster Courier, "certain industries have been carried in America to a decidedly more advanced stage of development than that which they have as yet attained in the old country." Precisely so; and these American industries are increasing so rapidly in number and importance as to attract the attention of the civilized world to the results of protection in the United States. No country more than England feels the effect of America's marvelous industrial strides. It is a shock in more ways than one, this triumph of protection, for it not only tends to unsettle English faith in free trade theories, but it is hurting English trade all over the world.

REPUBLICAN OPINION.

The Democracy is rapidly losing its grip on the South. Look at the senate of the United States. Maryland is now to have two Republican senators; West Virginia has one and is likely to have another; Kentucky has one Republican and one other who refuses to co-operate with the Democrats on the currency question; Louisiana has one Democrat refusing to join with his party on the tariff; South Carolina has one and Georgia two who kicked over the traces on the tariff; North Carolina has no Democratic representative, one of her Senators being a Republican and the other a Populist; one Texan Democratic senator refuses to support free silver. In fact, the number of Southern senators who follow time-honored Democratic doctrines is becoming extremely small.

Now that Mr. Bryan has finished his attempt to "bury Mark Hanna," he can go to Mexico and congratulate the people of that country on the fact that their dollar has fallen 20 per cent in value in the past year.

The balance in favor of the United States in its trade with England was greater last year than at any time previous during the last fifteen years, if not than any previous year.

Mr. Bryan declared that he didn't see any evidence of prosperity while in Ohio. Probably the smoke of reopened factories injured his eyesight while in the state.

With two Republican senators and a Republican delegation in the house, the old state of Maryland will not be able to recognize herself in the political mirror.

Railroad earnings are at a high figure, and the bank clearances of the country were 22.2 per cent higher last week than in the corresponding week of last year.

The farmers of Ohio, Iowa, Maryland, Kansas and South Dakota showed by their votes in the recent election that free silver has no more charms for them.

People who really want to pay their debts in depreciated dollars should remove to Mexico. The silver dollars of that country have fallen 20 per cent in value in the past year, and the man who owed \$1,000 a year ago can pay it with \$800 worth of silver now. This is a condition that would delight the people who last year were insisting upon an opportunity to pay debts in depreciated dollars.

Mr. Bryan did not call on ex-Gov. Boies during his recent trip through Iowa.

The twelve counties of Ohio in which Mr. Bryan made speeches in the campaign just ended gave 997 more Republican majority than they did in 1896. Considering that Mr. Bryan ostentatiously announced that he "came to bury Hanna, not to praise him," this result is rather amusing—to everybody except Mr. Bryan.

"In spite of less active trade during October in most sections of the country, and the virtual stoppage of business at the South as a result of the yellow-fever scares and quarantines, the aggregate total for that month exceeded even September's immense total, and marks the heaviest month's total since January, 1893. This result was accomplished, too, with the same number of business days in the month as in September."—Bradstreet's.

With Arthur P. Gorman beaten, Mark Hanna as good as re-elected, Republican gains in Kansas, free silver again repudiated in Ohio, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and New York, the Democrat who can extract comfort from the result of this year's elections must be a veritable political Mark Tapley.

What has become of that trio of silver advocates who went to Japan to find evidence that the "gold powers had forced the Yankees of the Orient into action recently taken in favor of the gold standard? They have been gone nearly four months and not a sound has been heard from them.

The talk of co-operation of a few Ohio Republicans with the McLean Democrats of that state in the approaching senatorial election is pronounced by Ohio men of both parties the merest "moonshine." It would be political suicide for any man who would undertake it or attempt to profit by it.

With ex-Governor Altgeld organizing a paper-money party, ex-Governor Bois denouncing the 6-to-1 proposition, Senator Stewart telling the people that they may as well fall in with prosperity and drop the silver issue, it looks as though the white metal would have few friends left by 1900.

The circulation of the country is, in round numbers, \$80,000,000 greater than it was one year ago. Yet the country didn't get free coinage, and Bryan said that the only way to increase the circulating medium of the country was by the adoption of free silver. An error in judgment.

The 55th Congress had a larger number of Republicans from the South than was ever before elected to any Congress from that section. And now the 56th Congress is to have an addition to the Southern Republican strength by another Republican senator from Maryland.

The conclusions are that it was an "off year" for Hanna in Ohio.

A GREAT ARTIST GONE

JOHN SARTAIN FLOURISHED FOR HALF A CENTURY.

His Engravings Known to All Lovers of the Beautiful—Born in London in 1808 and Came Here in 1836—His Best Production.



JOHN SARTAIN, the famous artist, engraver and critic, died at the home of his daughter, Emily, in Philadelphia, the other day. Mr. Sartain was 89 years old, and he passed out of life painless. The wonderful brain that accomplished and thought so much for the best part of a century simply came to a stop. News of his death has been cabled to Europe, where his works were almost as well known as they were in America. Mr. Sartain's life compassed three generations of art, and saw the birth of a fourth. He was engraver par excellence, and some of the works of his hands are familiar to every one who has looked into the windows of picture stores and to many who have never been off the farms they were born upon. He was born in London in 1808. His boyhood's years were spent in the service of a London pyrotechnist, and in following that occupation he met and knew many of the actors that were famous seventy-five or eighty years ago in England and America. At 14 he began to learn engraving, and at the end of a year he was so proficient that he was entrusted with most important work. He became exceedingly adept in the practice of mezzotint, and brought that art to the United States in 1830, when he came hither with his bride. In 1843 Mr. Sartain bought out Camp-

supplies, would print on dearer stamps than those which were exhausted the price of those which were asked for. For instance, a three-penny stamp becomes a half-penny one and a four-penny stamp a two-penny one. A stamp thus altered in value is said to be "surcharged," and a rush is made for this by the dealer. These find their way into collections at 50 or 100 per cent over their value. A Paris dealer is said to have kept a sum of £1,000 "placed" at different postoffices with instructions to local postmasters to send on specimens of that value whenever a new stamp or fresh surcharge was made. A London dealer one day received a remittance of 12s. 6d. in half penny postage stamps from some one in Fiji who was in debt to him for that amount. The stamps, being all surcharged, were sold for about £15. It will be remembered that the republic of Liberia, on the west coast of Africa, not having ready cash to pay the expenses of its delegate to the Chicago exhibition, gave him a supply of postage stamps to sell to the best advantage. It appears that this negro republic depends largely on the sale of stamps for paying its way, and the stamps, beautifully engraved in London, are largely sold to stamp collectors. When the North Borneo company issued a finely engraved stamp in 1894, in six weeks the wholesale dealers turned over £2,000 worth of them. One dealer went in for £300 worth, another £400, and two for £1,200 between them.

HAS A VAST FORTUNE

Sir George Stephen Wants an Heir to His Title and Gold.

Sir George Stephen, Lord Mount Stephen, the announcement of whose wedding with Miss Gian Tuffnell is creating much talk in Canada, is not a member by birth of the British peerage. He is the first lord of his title, and the title itself is derived from a mountain in British America, called



JOHN SARTAIN.

bell's Foreign Semi-Monthly Magazine and turned editor. Meanwhile he continued his profession of engraving and established Sartain's Magazine in New York. His most noted plates are "Christ Rejected," "The Ironworker," "King Solomon," "Civil War in Missouri," "Homestead of Henry Clay" and "The Battle of Gettysburg." For sixty-seven years he lived in Philadelphia, and was one of its most honored citizens. For twenty-three years he was director of the Academy of Fine Arts and an officer of many institutes. He was chief of the bureau of art at the Centennial Exposition, and his decorations and medals number nearly thirty, all of them representing high honors. His great knowledge of architecture caused him to be consulted upon many important enterprises. He had forty-six Masonic degrees. Mr. Sartain's children inherit their father's genius. His eldest son Samuel is a great engraver of portraits, and his next son, William, is a prominent New York painter and president of the Art Club of that city. His daughter Emily is an artist and art critic of note and was a member of the International Jury of awards of the Columbian Exposition at Chicago.

SURCHARGED STAMPS.

Irregular Profits of Public Officers in Dealing with Collectors. Three years ago the Times drew attention to the subject of surcharged stamps in a lengthy article, says Chambers' Journal. Lord Ripon had caused a circular to be sent from the colonial office in order to put down the abuses connected with the sale of "surcharged stamps," which had proved a temptation to postmasters and treasurers and other public officers, by making irregular profits in dealing with stamp collectors and others. The remedy for this state of matters is to keep a sufficient number of stamps on hand, and then there would be no necessity to practice "surcharging." It appears that when in certain cases it became known that a stamp was getting scarce agents of the stamp dealer would at once buy up the stock and ask for more. The colonial postoffice, in order to get over the delay involved in procuring fresh

Mount Stephen, in honor of his present lordship, George Stephen was a poor lad in Scotland, and his parents were of the common people. He learned the trade of a draper, but was not content to stay at home and slave. He crossed the sea to Canada, started in the cloth manufacturing business and grew rich. He was elected the governor of the Bank of Montreal. He was part of the beginning of the great Canadian Pacific railroad, and it was largely to his genius that was due the successful carrying out of the project. He was the first president of the railroad, and in 1866 the queen created him a baronet of the United Kingdom in order to show the appreciation the government felt for the building of the matchless imperial military highway across the continent. Lord Mount Stephen was married many years ago to a Canadian lady, but he has had no children, and his coming marriage



SIR GEORGE STEPHEN, may bring him an heir for his title and his vast fortune.

Paper Underwear Tested. During the war between Japan and China the Chinese soldiers were underclothing made of paper. Experiments made with these goods in the Prussian army proved unsatisfactory, as they were found to last only two or three days. An unprofitable apartment house may be considered a fat failure.

An American geography book of 1812 contains this interesting information: "California is a wild and unknown land, covered throughout the year by dense fogs, as damp as they are unhealthful. On the northern shores live anthropophages and in the interior are active volcanoes and vast plains of shifting snow, which sometimes shoot up columns to inconceivable heights." The book adds that some of these statements would seem incredible were they not so well authenticated by trustworthy travelers.

ODDS AND ENDS.

The trade between Japan and Formosa has more than quintupled since 1895.

About 2,000,000 canary birds are annually bred in Germany and sold for \$3,000,000.

The perpetrators of no fewer than seven recent murders in the London district are still at large.

A bit of waste land at Cape Town bought five years ago for \$3,000, has just been valued at \$150,000.

The prison chapel at Sing Sing will soon have a fine organ. It is being built by one of the convicts.

One of Yale's football players is a theological student who preaches to a suburban congregation every Sunday.

In the Illinois district of the Cherokee Nation, a tract forty miles long by twenty miles wide, there have been fifty-one murders during the past two years.

Several efforts to re-establish the beaver in Great Britain have been made within the present generation, but in each case have eventually been unsuccessful.

Birmingham, England, turns out every week 300,000,000 cut nails, 100,000,000 buttons, 4,000 miles of wire of different sizes, five tons of hairpins, 500 tons of nuts and 20,000 pairs of spectacles.

Professor Roentgen says if X rays could be rendered visible the appearance would be that of a room filled with smoke and lighted by a candle, they emanate in all directions from the air irradiated by them.

Down on his knees he fell and begged that she would accept his hand. When she looked upon that hand and saw the size of it, no wonder that she exclaimed: "Really, this is more than I expected."—Boston Transcript.

An observer in one of the down-river Connecticut towns predicts a warm winter, from the small crop of walnuts and chestnuts in the woods. Squirrels find their winter food so scanty that they are harvesting pine cones.

"Well, prisoner," said the judge, "if you have anything to say, the Court will hear you." "I'd rather be executed, your Honor," replied the prisoner. "If I said what I'd like to say, I'd be committed for contempt of court, and I've got trouble enough without that."—Harper's Bazar.

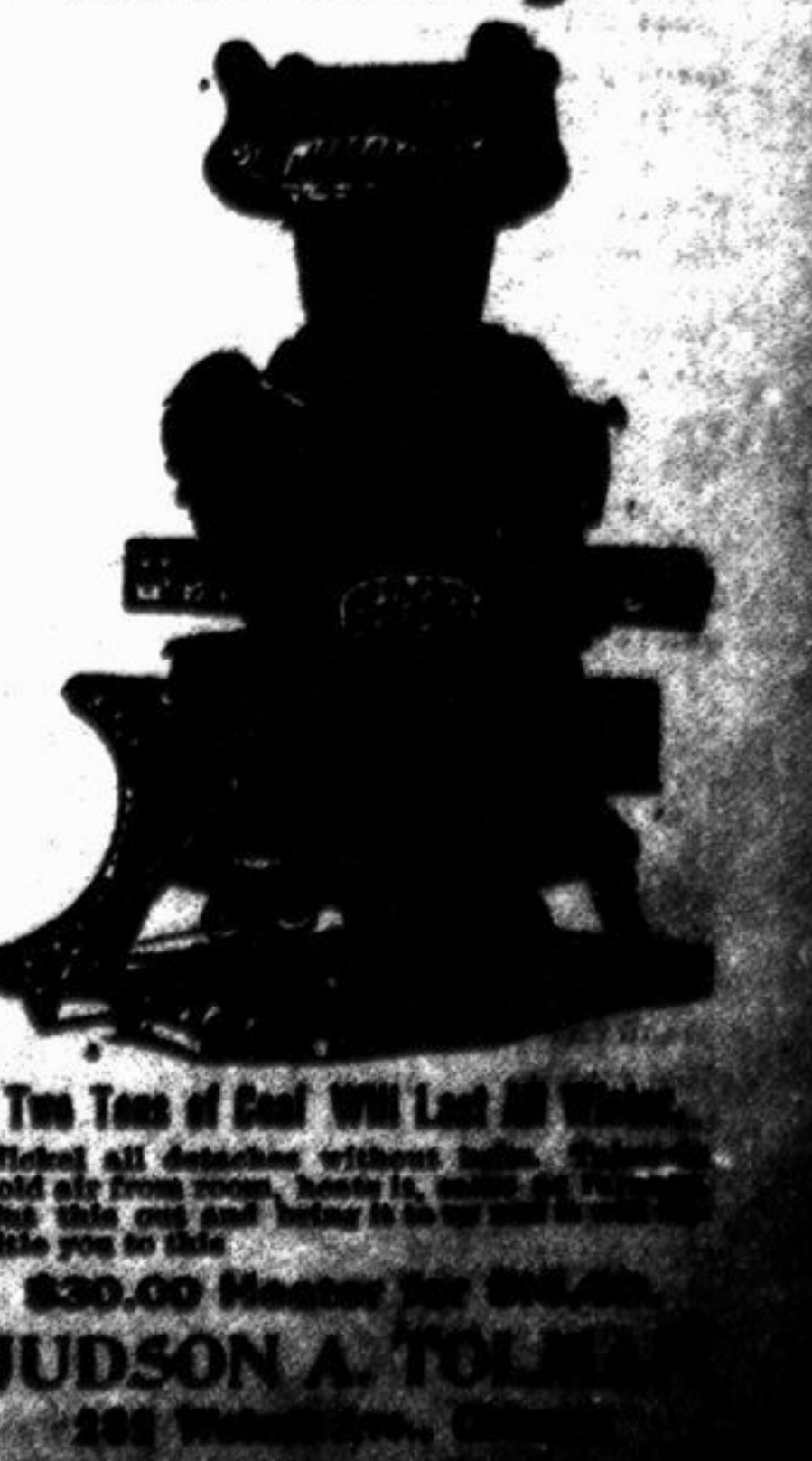
The grand canyon of the Colorado will be invaded by the trolley, a line being proposed from Flagstaff to the very crest of the canyon; 30,000 horsepower, supplied by several waterfalls, is available. At present a hundred-mile stage ride must be endured by canyon tourists.

Paris has, apart from two places where paupers can spend the night, fourteen asylums for the homeless, which last year lodged 144,027 persons, of whom 15,567 were women and 2,606 children. Among the lodgers were 246 professors and teachers, 13 students, 5 authors, 5 journalists, 120 actors and singers, 30 musicians and 16 music teachers.

There are 110 mountains in Colorado whose peaks are over 12,000 feet above the ocean level. Forty of these are higher than 14,000 feet, and more than half of that number are so remote and rugged that no one has dared to attempt to climb them. Some of them are massed with snow, others have glaciers over their approaches, and others are merely masses of jagged rocks.

There are 1,500 people upon the German emperor's list of employes, including 350 female servants, who are engaged in looking after the twenty-two royal palaces and castles that belong to the crown. Their wages are small. The women receive not more than \$13 a month, and the men servants, who number over 500, from \$15 to \$25 a month.

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