

WHITE HOUSE CHATTER.

WASHINGTON'S GAY SOCIETY CIRCLES AND LEGISLATIVE HALLS.

Entertaining Royally—Mrs. Harrison Not to Be a "Reformer"—Mills' Committee Scores a Victory—Controversy with Germany Becoming Serious.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 20.

The social tide has reached its full, and surges and swells with high teas, dinners, receptions, and cotillions. To miss a single entertainment now before Lent is suicidal to the career of a society belle, and already fagged steps and hollow eyes tell how severely their strength and time are being taxed. As illustrative of this, a Chicago girl, who sprained her foot on an icy pavement recently, wrenched it back again, exclaiming, "I can't take time for a sprain now."

The official entertainment of the week was the state dinner given by the President and Mrs. Cleveland to the diplomatic corps, it being respondent with all the glamour of lights, flowers, and brilliant costumes incidental to such an occasion.

Mrs. Don Dickinson rather divides the honors with Mrs. Whitney as entertainers of the Cabinet and their parlors are always filled whenever the occasion presents. A number of New York ladies in conversation with the latter recently spoke of the pleasure that New Yorkers felt in the prospect of having Mrs. Whitney once more with them. "Ah, my dear," said she, "I am going to lead a quiet life after I leave Washington, easy chairs, hammocks, and horseback riding are to be features of my next year's life. Ah, I dream of it." Yet those who



MRS. GEN. HARRISON.

saw her enthusiastically leading the ger- man for three long hours recently would hardly imagine her capable of enjoying quiet times.

Secretary and Misses Bayard gave the first of their card parties this week, but there were so many other entertainments which demanded the presence of their guests that the parlors were filled scarcely ten minutes at a time during the evening. A laughable incident occurred through the absent-mindedness of the Persian minister. He attended wearing his left glove on his right hand and vice versa.

Among the Senatorial entertainments, which were unusually numerous and gorgous this week, Senator and Mrs. Hearst's ball, in honor of Miss Head, of California, was a notable affair, the young lady appearing in the costume in which she was recently presented at court in London. It was of white mouseline de soie, the overdraperies embroidered in pearls in a Louis XVI. border three or four inches deep. Down the left side, caught with bows of white satin ribbon, were rich clusters of white Scotch heather and harebells intermingled with green leaves. The low neck bodice was filled in with a tucked or mouseline de soie at the V-shaped opening, on either side of which the material was laid on in full, soft folds which crossed over the bosom. The bodice was finished in front with a pointed enclosure of silk embroidered with pearls.

Inclement weather had no effect on the crowds that gathered at Mrs. Cleveland's second public reception, unless, perchance, it was to make them doubly anxious to catch a smile from the fair lady of the White House, who, though genial and pleasant, showed signs of fatigue before the day was over.

As oft as each recurring inaugural claims the attention of the people so often are the inconveniences and inelegance of the White House as a residence canvassed and recan- vassed. Washingtonians in general and reporters in particular are again airing the threadbare topic. Mrs. Cleveland jokingly remarked recently that she believed she would send a message to Congress before March 4, written and signed with her own hand, asking for an appropriation for a new Executive Mansion, as she was sure Mrs. Harrison would appreciate some one taking the initiative in that direction.

Everybody is just now interested in Mrs. Harrison's New York shopping expedition, and the contemplated change of leader only adds a feverish liveness to the whirl of entertainments. A New York reporter gives assurance that the bustle will still hold its own under the new reign, and dresses are cut sufficiently decollete now to make ample amends for any revolutionary efforts attempted in this line. Mrs. Harrison will not, however, pose as a reformer, as she takes the ground that the lady of the White House is not exactly a leader of fashion. She argues that her personal views regarding the use of wine, the wearing of the bustle, the morality of the dance and such like topics should have no weight with the public simply because her husband happened to be elected President.

Once again we have enjoyed the rare treat of a night's session of the Senate, the first which has been held in nearly two years. There is no such magnificent sight in Washington as the great Capitol dome flashing out its myriad electric sparks upon the stable curtains of night, and thousands of gas-jets twinkling upon the snow and ice of the Capitol Park. The gay assemblies that congregated in the galleries to listen to the tariff debate were amply rewarded by the flow of wit, wisdom and repartee that fell sedately from the lips of America's Solons under the stimulus of the lights and brilliant throngs, notwithstanding the dryness of the topic under discussion.

The Senate tariff bill is now in the hands of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and Mr. Mills will take another whack at it, much to the disgust of the Senate, which insisted upon a conference in relation thereto and hoped to secure it immediately upon returning the measure to the lower house.

Meanwhile the Southern Democrats are having a sorry time over their tobacco-tax measure. The Republican leaders deem it unwise to take any action in the matter during this Congress. As a result, Cowles' Republican assistants have suddenly discovered that it is a breach of legislative etiquette for such a bill to be considered by the Appropriation Committee, and committee has assumed gigantic importance in their estimation all at once, which leaves the internal-revenue bill in the same condition it was before being referred to Mr. Randall's committee.

Interest is fast growing in the Samoan affair, and although the island is, comparatively speaking, little more than a heap of earth in mid-ocean, four thousand miles from our coast, it has created a "bit of a fuss" between two great nations that promises to become highly entertaining. Uncle Sam doesn't propose to be imposed upon, and Bismarck is stubborn, and not accustomed to making graceful apologies. That is about the way the matter now stands, pending the early action of Congress.

The army would no doubt be gratified for any break in the dull monotony of a quarter of a century of peace and welcome a bit of fighting as a sort of legitimate boom.

By-the-by, Secretary Endicott's contemplated order to restrict leave of absence to thirty days a year is creating no little comment in blue coat circles. Thirty days a year is the time allowed by law. If the thirty days are not used up each year the war secretary contends that they should be forfeited and no one be allowed to absent himself from duty for a longer period of time.

Congressman Frank Lawler has secured an appropriation of \$50,000 for repairing the Chicago postoffice, although Randall was pitted against him. From Mr. Lawler's concurrent resolution directing that the Public Printer hereafter drop the letters "ue" at the end of such words as "epilogue," and the letters "me" at the end of such words as "programme," the letter "e" at the end of such words as "hypocrite," the letters "te" at the end of such words as "coquette," and substitute "f" for "ph" in such words as "phantom," it is readily inferred that he is more proficient in oratory than etymology.

Mr. Springer's omnibus bill has sadly failed to meet the Senate's idea of perspicuity in language, a committee of that august body having instructed its chairman to write a new territorial bill that would be "clear and precise." The objection chiefly urged to the Illinois Congressman's bill is centered in New Mexico. It is being claimed that her admission is sought in the interest of railroads. Not openly, of course, but it is averred that two railroad men would be sent to the Senate from New Mexico in case she were entered among the sisters of the Union.

Final vote on the Oklahoma bill was deferred by the adjournment of Congress in respect to Congressman Joseph Nelson Burns of Missouri, who was stricken to death so suddenly; and Mr. Weaver's good looks and filibustering have availed him nothing so far.

A pet scheme of the ladies, under the auspices of the Woman's National Bureau, to have a portrait of Mrs. Cleveland hung in the White House, a project that would receive universal commendation, has been crushed by the following:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1889.

Mrs. M. D. Lincoln:

DEAR MADAM—Responding for Mrs. Cleveland and myself to your note in relation to procuring her portrait for the White House, and fully appreciating the kindness intended, I have to say that both of us are opposed to the project that you could not show us greater consideration in this matter than by an entire abandonment of the scheme. Yours, very truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

The menu is out for the inaugural supper; not so the cabinet selection. Senator Allison begins to waver in his resolution not to accept the Treasury portfolio; while Wanamaker's visit to the President-elect upon the special invitation of the latter seems susceptible of but one conclusion. It is said by Harrison's Indianapolis friends, however, that this may not be indicative that the Philadelphia merchant has been tendered a place in the cabinet. Perhaps Harrison called Mr. Wanamaker off from his contemplated Paris trip to apologize for having purchased his wardrobe in Chicago.

Morton has rented a house and returned to New York. Blaine is holding a continuous levee at the Normandie, Quay in Florida threatening revenge on any intruding politician, and Harrison is at Indianapolis wrestling with the office-seekers, of whom he says he never saw so many. What will he think when he reaches the White House?

MORSE.

BUSINESS OF THE ATCHISON.

Report for the Year 1888—An Estimated Deficit of \$1,409,001.

Joseph W. Reinhardt, Comptroller and General Auditor of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Road, has submitted advance sheets of the full report for eleven months ending Nov. 30, 1888, which show the following results:

Mileage, Atchison system proper, 3,019.78 miles; gross earnings, \$14,297,468; expenses, 67.7 per cent., \$9,673,725; net earnings, \$4,623,693; receipts from interest on bonds of railroads owned by Atchison and used as collateral, \$508,892; total net earnings, \$12,323,583; direct fixed charges, interest on bonds and notes, taxes and sinking fund requirements, \$4,512,124; net profit, \$619,339; receipts from other sources, \$446,660; total profit, \$1,065,999; dividends, \$2,625,000; deficiency, \$1,559,001; gross debt originating in the period, \$8,643,304; offsets, \$3,457,412; net floating debt, \$5,185,890; supplies on hand as an offset to future operating expenses, \$1,523,118.97. Of the debt above shown \$5,183,891 was due and payable prior to July 1, 1889.

Upon a query notes subscribed for, in amount \$7,000,000, there had been called to Nov. 30, 1888, \$700,000, leaving \$6,300,000 not called nor paid in. The total income surplus Dec. 31, 1888, was \$7,940,622. The deficiency for the eleven months ending Nov. 30, 1888, made the net general income surpass to that date \$6,381,622, but the addition of various sundry surplus accounts swelled this amount so that the total general surplus Nov. 30 was \$9,509,633. The estimated net profit from operations, after all charges for the month of December, is \$150,000. The total net deficiency of the company for the period of twelve months to Dec. 31, including actual figures of Nov. 30 and December estimated, is \$1,403,001.

From actual statements to Nov. 30 and approximates for December the auxiliary roads of the Atchison system, inclusive of those owned jointly, will show that they have failed to earn fixed charges of all descriptions by about \$3,000,000. Of this they have contributed about \$1,800,000, the remainder having been advanced by the Atchison company.

The Boston *Advertiser* says regarding the report, that it is unsatisfactory because out of a mileage of about 7,104 miles the report only covers about 3,020 miles; also that the statement varies from that published Jan. 2, 1889, in that gross earnings for the eleven months are \$97,362 larger, expenses \$55,710 larger, and net earnings \$18,357 smaller.

STRANGE what queer languages are spoken in this country. A Western paper in a local item recently told of "a regular old razzooper, who, having got a skate on, indulged in a glorious razzle-dazzle."

JOHN W. ALEXANDER, the young portrait painter, does all his work with his left hand. He is thought to bear a striking resemblance to Vandyke, with his pointed beard and up-curling mustache.

"It is the greed for gain which is responsible for four-fifths of the crime committed," said a Chicago clergymen, and then he accepted a call for \$500 more per year.

WORKINGWOMEN'S PAY. GERMANS DECLARE WAR

CONDITION OF FEMALE TOILERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Honesty and Virtue to Be Found Where Wages Are Very Meager—Arrangements Being Made for the Inaugural Ceremonies

[Washington (D. C.) special.]

INDUSTRIES in twenty-two cities have been investigated by Carroll D. Wright, Commissioner of the Department of Labor, and his report, relating entirely to working-women in great cities, has been submitted to the State Department. The report shows that the working-women in the great cities are practically girls. The average age in all cities comprehended is 22 years and 7 months. The highest average age is found in Charleston, S. C.—25 years and 1 month; the lowest in St. Paul—21 years and 5 months. It is found, however, that the concentration is greatest at the age of 18, there being of the whole number interviewed 1,569 of that age.

Of the whole number 14,120 are native born. In the foreign born Ireland is most largely represented, and Germany is next, having 775. Of the native born 12,904 are foreign born fathers and 12,406 foreign born mothers.

A great majority of the women comprehended in the report are single, the number being 15,387. Only 745 are married and 1,038 widowed. "The working-women," says the report, "are as rule single women, fighting their industrial fight alone. They are not only supporting themselves but are giving their earnings largely to the support of others at home. Of the whole number under consideration 9,813 not only work at their regular occupations but assist



AFTER A WEEK OF TOIL.

in the housework at home, the total number living at home being 14,918—that is to say, a very large proportion of the working-women in the great cities are under home influences. More than half of the whole 8,751 give their earnings to home life. 4,267 pay board at their own homes, and only 701 receive board at the hands of their families. The average number of persons in the families of the working-women is 5.25, each of which has on an average 2.48 workers."

The report shows that of the 17,426 who reported their health conditions at the time they commenced work, 16,360 were in good health, 883 were in fair health, and 183 in bad health. The changes in health condition is illustrated by the fact that 14,554 are not in good health, 2,345 are in fair health, and 489 are in bad health.

The tables upon earnings and lost time show that of the 13,822 who reported 373 earn less than \$100 per annum, and that this class lost an average of 86.5 days for the years covered. The largest number earn \$200 and under \$250 per annum, losing 37.8 days; 2,377 earn from \$250 to \$300, losing 31.5 days. As earnings increase the lost time decreases, as, for instance, 398 earn from \$450 to \$500 a year, and this class lost but 18.8 days. These earnings are actual earnings, and are not statements derived from computations based on the rates of wages. The average weekly earnings by cities is given as follows: Atlanta, \$4.05; Baltimore, \$4.18; Boston, \$5.64; Brooklyn, \$5.76; Buffalo, \$4.27; Charleston, \$4.22; Chicago, \$5.74; Cincinnati, \$4.50; Cleveland, \$4.63; Indianapolis, \$4.67; Louisville, \$4.51; Newark, \$5.10; New Orleans, \$4.31; New York, \$5.85; Philadelphia, \$5.34; Providence, \$5.51; Richmond, \$3.93; St. Louis, \$5.19; St. Paul, \$6.02; San Francisco, \$6.91; San Jose, \$6.11; Savannah, \$4.99. All other cities, \$5.24.

Upon the subject of "character of the working-women" the Commissioner says: "From all that can be learned one need not hesitate in ascertaining that the working-women of this country are as honest and as virtuous as any other class of our citizens. The social standing of working-women is becoming better and better. The honest working-woman engaged in honest labor is entitled to the respect of all honest-minded people. She should be welcomed in the churches of the cities, and should be drawn into the best associations, where social and moral surroundings would aid her in cultivating her own self-respect. At least it should not be possible to class her as the forgotten woman, for her struggle is too heroic, her hardships too painful, her lot too dreary for Christian people to thoughtlessly pass her by."

THE INAUGURAL.

Gen. Beaver Will Divide the Procession Into Five Divisions.

[Washington (D. C.) telegram.]

HE arrangements for the Presidential inaugural are rapidly being perfected. Gen. Beaver, the Grand Marshal of the parade, has decided to divide the inaugural procession into five divisions.

The first division will consist of the United States Army Corps and National Guard of the District of Columbia, comprising about 500 men. The Pennsylvania National Guard,

about 8,000 strong, will comprise the second division and be under the command of Major General Hartranft. The third division will comprise all the remaining military organizations, about 8,000 men. The fourth division will be the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic and camps of the Sons of Veterans under command of Gen. William Warner, of Missouri, Commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. The fifth will comprise all civil organizations, including the political clubs, social societies and citizens' delegations, to be under the command of Colonel M. M. Parker.

Company F, Fifth Regiment, National

Guard of Illinois, Capt. F. H. Wedey com-

manding, has informed the committee of its intention to take part in the inaugural

parade.

THEY WILL NOW PROCEED TO MAKE THINGS HUM IN SAMOA.

President Cleveland's Message to Congress—Strong Talk in the Senate, in Which It Is Argued that Uncle Sam Should Act Promptly—Bismarck's Views.

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An Auckland telegram states that Samoa advises say that the Germans have declared war against King Mataafa and that probably all the Samoans will join against the Germans.

President Cleveland sent to Congress additional correspondence relative to Samoa affairs, accompanied by the following message:

To the Congress:

I had the honor on the 15th inst. to communicate to your honorable body certain correspondence and documents in relation to affairs in the Samoa Islands, and having since received further dispatches from the Vice Consul at Apia and the commander of the United States naval vessel *Albion* in those waters, I lose no time in laying them before you. I also transmit here with the full text of instructions from Prince Bismarck to Count von Arco Valley, which was communicated to me on the 28th inst. This appears to be an amplification of prior telegraphic instruction on the same subject, communicated through the same channel, and which, being set forth in the note of the Secretary of State to Count von Arco Valley, the German Minister, of the 12th inst., was duly laid before Congress with my last message.

It is also proper to inform you that on Monday, the 18th inst., the occasion of the communication of the note of the Prince Chancellor, the Secretary of State was given to understand by the German Minister that a proposition from his Government to that of the United States for a conference on the Samoa subject was on its way by mail, having left Berlin on the 29th inst., so that its arrival here in due course of mail can be looked for in a very short time. In reply to the note of the Secretary of State whether the proposition referred to was a renewal of the joint conference between the United States, Germany, and Great Britain, which was suspended in July, 1887, or for the consideration of Samoa affairs ab novo, the German Minister stated his inability to answer until the proposition which left Berlin on the 29th inst. should have been received.

I shall hereafter communicate to the Congress all information before me in relation to the Samoa status.

GRANGER CLEVELAND.

The correspondence accompanying the message gives an amplified account of recent events in Samoa. It opens with Vice Consul Blacklock's account of the maltreatment of natives and the beating of the marshal of the Consul's office by 150 drunken sailors from a German man-of-war on Dec. 15 and 16. On Dec. 20 and 22 the Consul arranged a meeting of the three Consuls at the German consulate, but nothing could be done, as the German Consul said he had lost so many men he must now take the matter in his own hands and revenge their losses.