

JUNKET EXPENSES

WHY A PULLMAN WASN'T USED BY ONE COMMITTEE.

Republicans Counting on a Successor to Senator Turpie Before Their Eggs Are Hatched—Nicholson Indifferent to Temperance Legislation—“Jim” Watson's Little Scheme—Populist Members and the Bills They Have Offered—Other Legislative Gossip.

Special Correspondence.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 8.—Junketing trips have been the order with the legislators during the last few days. These delightful outings have come to be a source of royal entertainment to the solons. They are out nothing financially, as the railroad corporations furnish passes and the overburdened people of the state pay for the cigars and other luxuries that go to make the trip a pleasant one. When the joint committee on benevolent institutions took its tour to the institutions at Logansport, Fort Wayne, Richmond and Knightstown they went in state. The arrangements for the occasion were left to an informally designated committee of which Senator Collett, chairman of the senate committee on benevolent institutions, was chairman. The committee actually made arrangements for a Pullman palace car, which was to cost at the rate of \$45 a day. The corporations would furnish passes but they could not afford to contribute Pullman palace cars, and this extra expense was, of course, to come off the state. The scheme would have gone through had not the lieutenant governor heard of it. According to the story, he sent for Senator Collett and said to him:

“Great Scott, man, this idea of a Pullman car must be abandoned. Don't you know that if you go skylarking over the state in a Pullman car there will be a howl from the people that will doom the party for years to come?”

He not only nipped this scheme in the bud, but he also issued strict orders to Doorkeeper Pelzer, who chaperoned the party, that no drinks or needless luxuries were to be bought on the trip, and that expenditures of that kind were to be confined to cigars. His calling down had some effect, as the total expenses of the trip were confined to \$186.

Already the politicians are beginning to figure on a probable successor to David Turpie in the United States senate. The record that the present legislature is making, the periodical turn in public sentiment, which is growing more and more every year to be a feature of our state and national political life, and every other reliable indication points to the likelihood that the legislature will be Democratic two years hence. In that event either Senator Turpie, ex-Governor Matthews, John G. Shanklin, John W. Kern or B. F. Shively will be the people's representative. Senator Turpie has been a hard student all of his life and his declining health is probably due in large measure to this fact. During the last year he has been inordinately afflicted with a nervous affection which keeps him in continuous worry and precipitates at frequent intervals, especially while he is speechmaking, a shaking of the head that seems almost to border on St. Vitus dance. He is still a student, and while in this city is rarely seen on the streets, spending most of his time in his pleasant but unpretentious library, walking with quick, nervous step back and forth while he dictates to a stenographer or attempts to solve in his own mind some abstruse problem of government. If he is forced by failing health to quit the senate he will leave a record for scholarship and classic lore rarely equaled. The Republicans are talking of several candidates, notably J. Frank Hanley, F. B. Posey, Colonel R. S. Robertson, W. R. McKeen and H. H. Hanna of this city. The latter was the prime mover in the recent monetary conference.

Representative Babcock is willing to bring down upon himself the wrath of dog fanciers by his bill to curb the roaming propensities of canines. Mr. Babcock is a farmer who raises more sheep than any other man in Lagrange county. During the spring he and his son, he declares, take it “turn about” sleeping in the sheep field in order to guard the fold against viciously inclined dogs. Mr. Babcock says that there isn't a canine on earth that cannot kill sheep all night and be found the next morning on the front porch lying curled up as innocent as a lamb. Mr. Babcock has already reaped some fame as the author of a legislative apportionment bill that is attracting a good deal of attention. He is a short man with a chin beard, which he is fond of caressing, and side whiskers of the mutton-chop variety. He has an inordinate propensity to speak to about every question that is raised, but takes all the drubbing that he gets good naturedly. Aside from his large landed interests, he owns one of the biggest grain elevators on the Lake Shore road.

The republican joint committee on political legislation is scheming in every way to reapportion the state for legislative purposes so as to give republicans a majority in both houses. It is said that they had their bill prepared at one time but were compelled to do their work over again, as in their eagerness to get an advantage of the democrats they had created districts for 101 representatives instead of 100. The democratic minority in the house is so large and so able that it will block any radical changes in the apportionment, and this may induce the republicans to play reasonably fair. They are very anxious to amend the election law, and here again the large democratic minority will stand as a bulwark for the people as against any republican juggling.

Louis L. Ludlow.

SECRETARY OF STATE

AN OFFICE MONOPOLIZED BY CERTAIN OF THE STATES.

Southwestern and Southern States Never Had a Representative in That Position. The Only High State Office an Ohioan Has Never Filled.

The office of secretary of state, established in 1789, of which Thomas Jefferson was the first incumbent, is as old as the government itself; but, unlike other cabinet posts, it has not been equitably allotted among the several states, but has been monopolized in fact by a few, or, rather, the presidents in seeking their constitutional advisers have not deemed it prudent, or perhaps desirable, to go outside of a limited number of states for the officer whose guidance is sought in matters relating to federal relations with other countries.

It may surprise a good many persons ordinarily familiar with American politics to know that there has never been a secretary of state from Ohio. This is, in fact, the only office of great honor or emolument, it might almost be said, that no Ohio man has ever felt himself called upon to fill. There has never been a man from any of the states of the Pacific coast who has been secretary of state, either though a very large share of the foreign business of the country is done through the medium of the Pacific states and relates to matters in which they have the closest interest, such as our relations with China, Japan, Hawaii and other Pacific islands.

In the early days of the republic American diplomacy had much to do with Spain and France, and in the period of the nation's history preceding the civil war there were many negotiations; but, though southern men have been freely recognized under all administrations in appointments in the foreign service of the United States, with a single unimportant exception, the southwestern and gulf states have been wholly unrecognized in appointments to the head of the state department.

The following states have never been called upon to furnish secretaries of state: Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee and Missouri. The one exception is the state of Louisiana, which for a brief time, two years, had in Edward Livingston as secretary of state under the administration of Andrew Jackson. Mr. Livingston was, however, in no true sense a Louisiana man, for he was born in Columbia county, N. Y. (the same county as Mr. Tilden), and he was elected congressman from New York not long after the close of the Revolutionary war and became mayor of New York city at the beginning of the century. He moved temporarily to New Orleans, where he engaged in business, and while there was appointed to succeed Martin Van Buren as secretary of state. He retired, after the close of his official service, to his home in Rhinebeck, where he died three years after the expiration of his term of office as secretary of state.

The political gossips in this city, or rather a few who are on the inside, have it from what they regard as a pipe source that Alvin M. Higgins of Terre Haute will draw a consulate to Switzerland under the new administration. The information has not become generally public yet and it will doubtless create a good deal of surprise when it becomes thoroughly known. It is all the more remarkable from the fact that the appointment will, it is said, come from an anti-McKeen source. Higgins was popularly supposed to be one of McKeen's strongest lieutenants in the race for United States senate. He is a bright young lawyer and as ex-president of the state league of Lincoln clubs he had a wide influence.

On the night of the senatorial caucus at a late hour an editorial was written in McKeen's headquarters in this city charging Higgins with being a traitor to McKeen's cause and attributes the latter's downfall in a large measure to Higgins' alleged machinations. The editorial created a great sensation when it appeared in print in Terre Haute the next day. Higgins has stoutly denied the charge of treachery all along, but the news of his probable appointment will be destined to set tongues wagging once more.

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INAUGURATION SOUVENIRS.

Tasteful and Handsome Design to Commemorate the Event.

The souvenir that will accompany the invitations to the inaugural ball is considered a very handsome design. The front page of the cover contains a clear and striking engraving of the pension building as it will look on the night of the ball to observers outside. The windows show the brilliant illumination with a silver moon sail in the heavens over it.

At the lower left hand corner of the cover is an engraved view of the interior of the pension office court while the ball is in progress, showing the columns that support the massive roof and the crowds on the floor. In the lower right hand corner, in gold letters, are the words, “Inaugural Ball, March 4, 1897.”

The back of the cover contains a striking effect, a dazzling American flag emerging to view from the midst of a cloudburst. The inside pages of the souvenir were designed and executed by the bureau of engraving and printing.

The first page is devoted to portraits, which are particularly strong and characteristic likenesses of President Elect McKinley and Vice President Elect Hobart. The portraits are arranged on either side of an erect figure of Liberty, holding in her right hand the national standard, whose staff rests upon the ground. On the lower part of the page are engravings of the White House and the United States capitol building.

The second page is devoted to a beautifully executed engraving of a large tablet, printed in terra cotta tints, which contains the names of the officers and members of the inaugural executive committee. On the right hand lower corner of the page is a beautiful woman representing the allegory of music, and on the left hand side is a vase, from which spring a palm and laurel boughs.

The last page is particularly appropriate in its design for the occasion, it will commemorate. In the center is a coat of arms of the United States, flanked on either side by the coats of arms of Ohio and New Jersey. Altogether the production is by far the most artistic and striking souvenir of an inauguration ball yet designed.

A WONDROUS WATERFALL.

A Cataract With a Thousand Foot Plunge Discovered in the Olympic.

The Olympic mountain of Washington have produced another attraction, the beauty of which is not excelled on the western slope. What is said to be a grand waterfall, coming from the snow capped peaks above the clouds over a bluff, falling a perpendicular distance of over 1,000 feet and disappearing in the bosom of a beautiful plain, has just been discovered near Lake Sutherland, a few miles from Lake Crescent, by two ranchmen. Their description of the scene would exceed anything of similar character in the Yellowstone park.

From the snow on the crests of the Olympics, where white men have never visited, comes a little stream, which rapidly grows in volume until it reaches the edge of a perpendicular cliff overlooking a beautiful plateau of 800 acres 1,000 feet below. For centuries the water has poured over the precipice until it has cut a smooth passage, something like a large pipe split in half, in the side of the mountain. Here and there it strikes an obstruction, and out of the mountain's side spout other falls. Standing alongside of the cliff a short distance away, the scene is beautiful and looks as though there were half a dozen rivers bursting out of the mountain.

The huge volume of water disappears in a wild looking cavern and becomes an underground river. It flows beneath the plateau for a distance of two miles and then again bursts out of its imprisonment in the shape of an oval bridal veil and dashes over the rocks and cascades down to Lake Sutherland and out to sea.

The country is very rough, wild and hard to penetrate. There is an abundance of wild game isolated around the falls. The discoverers of the falls killed 9 elk in half an hour and said there were 100 more in sight. —Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Ex-Queen May Stay at Washington. There is just a possibility that ex-Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii may take up her permanent residence in Washington. She is at present located very comfortably at the Shoreham hotel and is having a real nice time, with the exception that the reverence that royalty expects is not paid to her to the extent she desires. The fact is, she is referred to as Mrs. Lydia Dominis, and except from a few women and toadies who persist in calling at her rooms she never receives the title of “her majesty.” Mrs. Dominis has given no intimation of when she proposes to return to Hawaii, and this has led to the rumor that she finds Washington so much to her fancy that she will take up her residence there. She has quite a little retinue with her, the principal functionary being one Julius M. Palmer of Boston. —Philadelphia Press.

In Victoria's Empire. During the former famine period in India—1877-8—about 5,500,000 persons perished, and it was subsequently estimated by medical experts that at least two-thirds of those deaths could have been prevented if the government had acted when the scourge first appeared. Perhaps not as many will be killed by the famine this year, but the proportion of deaths attributable to government delay promises to be quite as large. —Providence Journal.

Two New Revenue Cutters. Captain Shoemaker, chief of the revenue cutter service, has completed plans and specifications for the two new cutters authorized to be built by the act of June 11, 1896. The vessels are to be 305 feet over all, with 32 feet beam. They will be modern, and the construction will be first class in every particular.

They will be provided with steam steering apparatus, steam windlass and capstan, steam machinery, with Scotch boilers and triple expansion engines of 2,600 indicated horsepower. They will be duplicates and are expected to cost about \$185,000 each. It is the intention of Captain Shoemaker to have them ready to go into commission on the great lakes in the spring of 1898.

Returned Home After Thirty-six Years.

Thirty-six years ago Wash Morgan of Leslie county bade his wife and 9 children goodby and told them he was going to Covington, Ky. He returned Monday, having been in California. On leaving, Morgan had 9 children. He now has 86 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

American Women and Royalty.

“During the Prince of Wales' tour through Canada I had attributed the strange conduct of the ladies to an excess of loyalty. As soon as the prince had left a hotel they would rush into his room, seize all sorts of articles, from a furniture button to a soiled towel, as souvenirs, and even bottle up the water with which he had just washed his face,” writes Stephen Fiske in The Ladies' Home Journal. “But in the United States the women were equally curious and syphilitic.

The luggage of the royal party was carried in small leather trunks—a trunk for every suit of clothes—and whenever the train stopped the crowds would beg that some of these trunks might be handed out, and women would fondle and kiss them. I need not say that the trainmen were never too particular as to whose luggage was subjected to this adoration, and I have had the pleasure of seeing my own portmanteau kissed by mistake.

Before the prince arrived at Richmond his room at the Ballard House was entered by the ladies, and the pillows and white coverlet were so soiled by the pressure of hundreds of fingers that they had to be twice changed by the chambermaids. When he attended church on Sunday, the whole congregation rose as he departed and climbed upon the seats to get a better view of him.

Took the Law Literally.

A very ignorant but well to do citizen from the backwoods was elected coroner of a small county. A few days after his election he amazed the ordinary by asking that functionary to point out his duties for him.

“Why,” said the ordinary, “when a man drops dead, or is killed by an engine, or blown up with dynamite, you simply impanel a jury and sit on him and then render a verdict.”

“That's just what I done two hours ago,” said the coroner, “an the citizens air kickin'!”

“Kickin' about what?”

“The man what I set on.”

“Well?”

“Well, you see, hit wuz this away: He drapped by the railroad than an holered out, ‘Boys, I'm dead!’

“Well?”

“I wuz standin' within three feet of him, an as he hollered them words I jumped him.”

“Jumped him?”

“I mean set on him, jest like the coroner air required by law, an, as I weigh right smart, he kep' purty quiet after I landed.”

“But he was dead before you reached him, wasn't he?”

“That's whar the question comes in. Ain't but one thing erbout it that's shore an certain, an that is he wuz dead when I got up!”—Atlanta Constitution.

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