

ARE THESE BRIBES?

UNHEARD OF STATE OF AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

Special Correspondence
Washington, Jan 12—Three recent events in Washington have taken away the breath of the statesmen whose political memories go back to the days before the Hanna ideas of politics came into vogue. Possibly they both appear significant merely through an incidental coincidence, but, if so, it reflects nearly as much on the tact and common sense of the administration as it reflects on its sense of decency if they arose through design. They are the nomination of James S. Harlan of Illinois, son of Justice Harlan of the supreme court, to be attorney general of Porto Rico; the sudden and unwarranted promotion of Capt. F. B. McKenna, son of Justice McKenna of the supreme court, to a staff position and with higher rank; and the urging of a bill by the administration spokesmen in congress to raise the salaries of the justices of the supreme court by about 50 per cent.

At an ordinary time, of course, neither of these facts would excite any comment other than favorable. But the present is not any ordinary time. The great colonial cases now pending in the supreme court if decided one way, will bring honor and credit on the practices and judgments of the president and his advisers; if decided the other way, they will bring the Republican party to the verge of ruin, compelling it to reverse all it has done and revoke all its conduct toward the island possessions and admit that it violated the constitution and the laws. A such a moment, to offer what might easily be construed as bribes to the members of the court is either a colossal piece of insolence or else a piece of unheard of lack of tact and sense.

The universal respect with which Justices Harlan and McKenna are regarded by the American people, and the absolute confidence they have in their integrity, have prevented open press criticism which would surely have been incisive and vigorous under other circumstances. Probably no one for a moment thinks of connecting the personality of the two great jurists with the matter. It is evident on the face of things that they have been thoughtlessly placed in a position of embarrassment by the president, whose past reputation for tact and delicacy renders his conduct in this connection truly surprising to the country.

How Mr McKinley could fail to realize that the appointment of the sons of the supreme court justices to high places, while the case of the administration against the constitution of the United States was before that august tribunal, would excite criticism and resentment, it is difficult to understand. The public know that the struggle is a desperate one to obtain a construction of our organic law, which, if given, would destroy the constitution as the broad and sole base of government, and lay the territories open to a system of executive absolutism. President McKinley could not be oblivious to this widespread opinion. Knowing it to exist, it appears strange that he should permit himself to do anything which might justify a suspicion, no matter how unwarranted, that he would, or as an honest officer could, attempt to influence the judgment or decision of the supreme court, or of any of its members.

Further, the move by agents of the administration in Congress to pass the proposed bill to increase the salary of Supreme Court Justices to fifteen thousand dollars a year, before a decision in the Porto Rican and Philippine cases can be banded down, is even more amazing. Never has anything more calculated to injure the highest tribunal in the land in the eyes of the people been conceived in American history. It is not that anyone would think for a moment that the proposed beneficiaries had the remotest connection with the project—the purity of our greatest bench is not, never has been, and probably never will be open to the slightest question. But the inevitable deduction will be that the administration and its trusted allies believe that patronage and emolument might bright a result in the constitutional cases at issue other than that which would be dictated by sound reasoning, and a just construction of our fundamental law.

These acts become all the more scandalous when it is recalled that skillful observers of the cases now in the court believe that that body is divided 5 to 4 against the government's contention in regard to the colonies.

Brave Men Fall
Victims to stomach, liver and kidney troubles as well as women, and all feel the results in loss of appetite, poisons in the blood, back ache, nervousness, headache and tired, listless run-down feeling. But there's no need to feel like that. Listen to J. W. Gardner, Idaville, Ind. He says: "Electric Bitters are just the thing for a man when he is all run down, and don't care whether he lives or dies. It did more to give me new strength and good appetite than anything I could take. I can now eat anything and have a new lease on life." Only 50 cents at J. F. W. DeLoorme's Drug Store. Every bottle guaranteed.

This May Not Be True.

Lord Kitchener Reports a Vile Act of the Enemy.

London, Jan 13—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener:
Pretoria, Sunday, Jan 13.
"About 1,400 Boers crossed the line, attacking both Zuurfontein and Kaalfontein stations, but were driven off. They were being pursued by a cavalry brigade."
Lord Kitchener reports also several skirmishes at different points, with trifling British losses, and adds:
"Three agents of the peace committee were taken as prisoners to DeWet's laager near Lindley, Jan 10. One was a British subject, was flogged and then shot. The other two, burghers, were flogged by DeWet's orders."

INDIGNATION IN LONDON.

London, Jan 14, 4 30 a. m.—The brief report of the fate of the three members of the peace committee who were sent to see Gen DeWet excites the deepest indignation on all sides. One or two papers express a hope that Lord Kitchener has been misled by false Kaffir reports; but it is generally felt that he would not have reported the matter to the war office without undoubted evidence.

The Daily Mail heads the report with the word "murder" and disclaims any further attempt to coax the enemy into submission. "DeWet has placed himself outside the pale of humanity," says The Daily Mail "and no proclamations but large reinforcements must be our watchword."

The Morning Post says: "This marks the point where the guerrilla phase ends and the bandit phase begins."

All the papers appeal strongly to the government to hurry forward reinforcements, since it is evident that the Boer leaders have now become desperate and conciliation is quite useless.

The Pretoria correspondent of The Daily Mail announces the return to Pretoria of Mr Pretorius, a former President of the late South African republic, from a futile endeavor to persuade the Boer leaders to surrender.

Details of the attack upon Kaalfontein and Zuurfontein, stations show that there were only small garrisons of about 125 men at each station. The British had excellent trenches which enabled them to withstand the attacks until the Boers, having ascertained that reinforcements were coming to the garrisons, retired. At Zuurfontein a party of Boers in khaki succeeded in capturing a British patrol of eight men whom they subsequently liberated. The railway and telegraph lines will be speedily erected.

No further news has been received regarding the invasion of Cape Colony. Sir Alfred Milner writes to a correspondent in England, saying: "It will be useless for me to notice the wholesale lies that are spread about concerning me. If I attempted to do so, I would have no time for anything else."

THE ATTACK DESCRIBED.

Pretoria, Saturday, Jan 12—The Boers cut the wires between Irens and Olifantsfontein stations last night. Early this morning 800 Boers, under Commandant Beyer, invested Kaalfontein station. A hot rifle fire and shell fire, with two field pieces and a Maxim, was maintained for six hours.

An armored train and reinforcements were sent from Pretoria but before they had arrived upon the scene the garrison had driven off the Boers, who retired unmolested with a transport train half a mile long. The Boers blew up the line beyond Kaalfontein, compelling the mail train to return here.

It is supposed their object was to obtain supplies, a great quantity of which is stored at Kaalfontein. The British had no casualties.

Our New Possessions.

It is said that the supreme court is divided on the question whether the "Constitution follows the flag" in distant possessions.
Calhoun and Webster differed in many things, including their theories of State's rights, but on one thing they were ever agreed.
Says Calhoun:
"It is our policy to increase by growing and spreading out into unoccupied territory and regions, assimilating all we incorporate; to increase by accretion and not through conquest and addition of masses held together by the cohesive power of force."
Mr Webster, regarded in the North as the great "exponent of the constitution," expresses the same idea thus:
"Arbitrary governments may have distant possessions, because arbitrary governments may rule by different laws and different systems. Russia may rule her provinces by different codes. We can do such things. They must be part of us, else strangers."
Very few persons ever supposed that the supreme court would be unanimous in its decision of the great constitutional question it has now under consideration.
We do not recall any instance in which the supreme court has agreed on any question involving the interpretation of the constitution.—Atlanta Journal.

Cuba is Independent.

Supreme Court Renders Important Decision in Neely Case.

Washington, Jan 14—The United States supreme court today announced its decision in the case of C. F. W. Neely of Indiana, charged with embezzlement of the public funds of Cuba while acting as financial agent of the department of posts of that island, holding that Neely is subject to extradition and must be surrendered to the Cuban authorities.

The court held that Cuba is foreign territory, our only purpose in the war with Spain being to free the Cubans from Spanish dominion. The decision was based upon the act of June 6, 1900, which act was held to be constitutional.

Justice Harlan handed down the court's opinion, which was unanimous. An order was issued requiring that the mandate in the case be issued at once.

The opinion embraced a complete review of the case. Justice Harlan said that there was no dispute that on the 6th of June, 1900, when the act under which this proceeding is brought became a law Cuba was "under the control of the United States," and "occupied by this government."

The court said the question of Cuba's status was not difficult of solution and cited successive steps in and affecting the case. It said:

"The facts above detailed make it clear that Cuba is foreign territory within the meaning of the act of June 6, 1900. It cannot be regarded by any constitutional, legal or international sense, a part of the territory of the United States. While by the act of April 25, 1898, declaring war between this country and Spain, the president was directed and empowered to use our entire land and naval forces as well as the militia of the several states to such extent as was necessary to carry the act into effect, that authorization was not for the purpose of making Cuba an integral part of the United States, but for the purpose only of compelling the relinquishment by Spain of its authority and government in that island and the withdrawal of its forces from Cuba and Cuban waters. The legislative and executive branches of the government by the joint resolution of April 20, 1898, expressly disclaimed any purpose to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over Cuba, "except for the pacification thereof," and asserted the determination of the United States, that object being accomplished, to leave the government and control of Cuba to its own people. All that has been done in relation to Cuba has had that end in view and so far as the court is informed by the public history of the relations of this country with that island, nothing has been done inconsistent with the declared object of the war with Spain.

"Cuba is none the less foreign territory within the meaning of the act of congress, because it is under a military governor appointed by and representing the president in the work of assisting the inhabitants of that island to establish a government of their own under which, as a free and independent people, they may control their own affairs without interference by other nations. The occupancy of the island by troops of the United States was the necessary result of the war. That result could not have been avoided by the United States consistently with the principles of international law or with its obligations to the people of Cuba. It is true that as between Spain and the United States—indeed, as between the United States and all foreign nations—Cuba, upon the cessation of hostilities with Spain, and after the treaty of Paris, was to be treated as if it were acquired territory. But as between the United States and Cuba that island is territory held in trust for the inhabitants of Cuba to whom it rightfully belongs and to whose exclusive control it will be surrendered when a stable government shall have been established by their voluntary action.

"When the United States required and enforced the relinquishment by Spain of her sovereignty in Cuba and determined to occupy and control the island until there was complete tranquility in all its borders and until the people of Cuba had created for themselves a stable government, it succeeded to the authority of the displaced government so far at least that it became its duty under international law and pending the pacification of the island to protect in all appropriate legal modes the lives, the liberty and the property of all those who submitted to the authority of the representatives of this country. That duty was recognized in the treaty of Paris and the act of June 6, 1900, so far as it applied to cases arising in Cuba, was to aid of that treaty and in discharge of its obligations. The power of congress to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution as well the powers enumerated in section 8 of article 1 of the constitution, as all others vested in the government of the United States or in any department or the officers thereof, includes the power to enact such legislation as is appropriate to give efficacy to any stipulations which it is competent for the

president by and with the advice and consent of the senate to insert in a treaty with a foreign power. No crime is mentioned in the extradition act of June 6, 1900, that does not have some relation to the safety of life and property. And the provision of that act requiring the surrender of any public officer, employe or depositary fleeing to the United States after having committed, in a foreign country or territory occupied or controlled by or under the control of the United States, the crime of embezzlement or criminal malversation of the public funds have special application to Cuba in its present relations to this country."

The court declined, Justice Harlan stated, to enter upon the question as to what the obligations of the United States would have been in the matter of protecting life and property in Cuba if not required to do so by the obligations of the treaty of Paris. The contention that the United States recognized the existence of an established government known as the republic of Cuba, but is now using its military or executive power to displace or overthrow it, is without merit. The declaration by congress that the people of Cuba were of right and ought to be free and independent was intended only to express the thought that the Cubans were entitled to enjoy—as stated by the president's message—that "measure of self-control which is the inalienable right of man, protected in their right to reap the benefit of the exhaustless treasure of their country."

"From the beginning to the end of the war the supreme authority in all military operations in Cuba and in Cuban waters against Spain was with the United States and those operations were not in any sense under the control or direction of troops commanded by Cuban officers."

The final conclusion of the court was announced as follows:

"The act of June 6th, 1900, is not in violation of the constitution of the United States and this case comes within the provisions of that act. The court below having found that there was probable cause to believe the applicant guilty of the offense charged, the order for his extradition was proper and no ground existed for his discharge on habeas corpus.

"The judgment of the circuit court is, therefore, affirmed."

Success of the Dispensary.

Columbia, January 12—Chairman Williams, as the committee of one designated for that purpose, has completed the annual report of the State board of dispensary directors to the General Assembly, through the Governor. It is as follows:

To His Excellency, M. B. McSweeney, Governor of South Carolina: We are pleased to have the honor to submit to you, and through you to the General Assembly, our report of the financial transactions of the dispensary for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 1899, and ending November 30, 1900, a period covering eleven months.

You will see, by examination of the data hereto attached, that our total purchases amounted to \$1,460, 236 78, and that our total gross sales for the eleven months were \$2,421, 340 22.

The total net profits to the State on account of the school fund are \$176,012 18. The total net profits to the counties and towns are \$298, 166 28, making a total net profit to the towns, counties and school fund, \$474,178 46.

The latest Dispensary Act, approved February 19, 1900, made our fiscal year close on November 30, which makes it necessary that this report only covers eleven months; but should we consider December also, and reckon a whole year, you will find that the total net earnings are, for twelve months, \$568,868 79, which is an increase over last year's profits of \$152,686 95.

We do not attribute this phenomenal increase in earnings to any increase in consumption of liquors, but think that a better feeling towards the dispensary law has turned the trade to the dispensaries. Respectfully submitted.

L. J. Williams, Chairman, A. F. H. Duke, H. H. Evans, Board of Directors.
The members of the board feel that in the showing above made they have much cause for congratulation, inasmuch as Senator Tillman, at the time of the inception of the institution, enthusiastically predicted that the net profits would aggregate \$500,000 annually, whereas the profits for the past year, as will be seen above, amount to the sum of \$568,868.79.

Lynching in Barnwell.

Blackville, Jan 14.—About 10.30 o'clock this morning news was received of an outrage of the usual kind about six miles from this place near Eiko. The negro entered the house and attempted to ravish the wife of Mr. Melvin Hair.

The negro, Charles Lang, was caught this evening about three miles from Blackville and carried back to the scene of his crime. Upon being confronted by his victim he confessed to having committed the deed.
The party of men which had him in charge immediately carried him a short way from the house and, after swinging him up to a tree, riddled his body with bullets.

The General Assembly.

SHORT SESSION OF THE HOUSE SATURDAY.

Columbia, Jan 13—The house was in session yesterday only a short time, adjourning at 11 o'clock to meet at 12 o'clock Monday.

The only bills of importance introduced were:

By Mr. Efrid. A bill proposing an amendment to the constitution providing for biennial sessions of the legislature. The bill authorizes the subject to be submitted to the votes at the next general election.

By the Aiken Delegation. To regulate the employment of children in factories.

Columbia, Jan 14—The senate met at 8 o'clock p. m. and was in session only a half hour.

A concurrent resolution offered by Senator Dean directing the committee on privileges and elections of the two houses to consider the matter of relocating the congressional districts of the State and report by bill or otherwise was adopted.

Several new bills of no particular importance were introduced.

THE HOUSE.

The house of representatives met early today and got through with its work before the dinner hour.

To judge from the number of bills introduced today there will be no let up in the work until the speaker's gavel falls for final adjournment. There was a perfect avalanche of new measures.

The disposition seems to be to have special committees take hold of the larger questions and report back such bills as may be necessary. Such a course has already been adopted as to the salaries of county officers, as to all laws as to roads, bridges and ferries, as to the fish and game laws and other matters.

Mr. Thos G. McLeod was appointed to represent Sumter County on the committee on laws relating to roads, bridges, etc.

Two hundred bushels of potatoes remove eighty pounds of "actual" Potash from the soil. Unless this quantity is returned to the soil, the following crop will materially decrease.

We have books telling about composition, use and value of fertilizers for various crops. They are sent free.

GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau St., New York.



PARKER RYE
NONE PURER. NONE BETTER.
ASK FOR IT AT ALL DISPENSARIES.

SASH! - DOORS! BLINDS! ETC.

I am agent for a reliable Sash, Door and Blind Factory in the State, and am prepared to fill such orders with promptness and dispatch.

You can save money by giving me your orders.

Respectfully,

A. D. HARBY.

Leave all orders at H. Harby's Stable.

Dec 12—3m.

Mrs. L. Atkinson MILLINERY.

She has the largest and finest collection she has ever exhibited, including scores of rich novelties in Imported Round Hats, Toques and Bonnets, as well as a choice variety of handsome designs from her work-room.

The assortment is large enough and varied enough to insure a perfect choice to every one, while the prices will be found more than attractive.

In the Untrimmed Hat Department we are showing a most extensive assortment of the newest and best shapes and colors—at reasonable prices. In this department we are showing a particularly attractive assortment of Ready-to-Wear Turbans and Toques in Velvets, Felts, Panné Velvets and Tucked Silks.

A choice variety of Children's Trimmed Hats, for school and dress wear, at moderate prices.
Oct 3

CONSPICUOUS BEAUTY



Without the least touch of vulgarity, is a feature of every model in our display of

Trimmed Hats

Many novelties are shown in material, ornament, shape and mode of trimming.

We offer a line of Hats which are both beautiful in conception and development and rich in material. They cannot be duplicated at the money.

Miss McDonald.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SUMTER,

STATE, CITY AND COUNTY DEPOSITORY, SUMTER, S. C.

Paid up Capital - - - - - \$5,000 00
Surplus and Profits - - - - - 25,000 00
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Total protection to depositors, \$175,000 00
Transacts a General Banking Business.
Special attention given to collections.

'SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

Deposits of \$1 and upwards received. Interest allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, on amounts above \$5 and not exceeding \$300, payable quarterly, on first days of January, April, July and October.
R. M. WALLACE, President.
L. S. CARSON, Cashier.

TAX RETURNS FOR 1901.

OFFICE OF COUNTY AUDITOR, SUMTER COUNTY, SUMTER, S. C., Nov 21, 1900.

Notice is hereby given that I will attend, in person or by deputy, at the following places on the days indicated respectively, for the purpose of receiving returns of personal property and poll taxes for the fiscal year, commencing January 1st, 1901.

At office, Sumter, S. C., at all other times up to Feb. 28th, 1901, inclusive.

- Tindall's Store, Wednesday, January 2
- Privateer (Jenkins' Store), Thursday, January 3
- Manchester (Geo T. Gedding's), Friday, January 4
- Wedgfield, Saturday, January 5
- Stateburg, Monday, January 7
- Hegood, Tuesday, January 8
- Rembert, Wednesday, January 9
- Smithville, Thursday, January 10
- Gaillard's X Roads, Friday, January 11
- Gordon's Mill, Saturday, January 12
- Mayesville, Monday, January 14
- Scottsville, Tuesday, January, 15
- Shiloh, Wednesday, January 16
- Norwood's X Roads, Thursday, January 17
- Lynchburg, Friday, January 18
- Magnolia, Saturday, January 19
- Reid's Mill, Monday, January 21
- Bishopville, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 22 and 23
- Mannville, Thursday, January 24
- Bossards, Friday, January 25.

The law requires that all persons owning property or in anywise having charge of such property, either as agent, husband, guardian, trustee, executor, administrator, etc., return the same under oath to the Auditor, who requests all persons to be prompt in making their returns and save the 50 per cent. penalty which will be added to the property valuation of all persons who fail to make returns within the time prescribed by law.

Taxpayers return what they own on the first day of January 1901.

Assessors and taxpayers will enter the first given name of the taxpayer; in full, also make a separate return for each township where the property is located and also in each and every case the Number of the school district must be given.

Every male citizen between the age of twenty-one and sixty years on the first day of January, 1901, except those incapable of earning a support from being maimed or from other causes, are deemed taxable polls, and except Confederate soldiers 50 years of age, on January 1st, 1901.

All returns must be made on or before the 20th day of February, next. I cannot take returns after that date and all returns made after the 28th day of February are subject to a penalty of 50 per cent.

J. DIGGS WILDBER, Auditor Sumter County.

Nov 21.