UGH! MUCH TALK, BIG PROMISE.

Sioux Indians Hold a Powwow with Secretary Noble to Little Purpose.

THEIR COMPLAINTS CUT SHORT.

Grievances and Tales of Starvation on One Side, Evasions and Vague Pledges on the Other.

SOLDIERS CAUSED THE TROUBLE.

Another Conference To Be Held on Monday, but Little Hope of Satisfying the Red Man.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HERALD BUREAU, CORNER FIFTEENTH AND G STREETS, N. W., WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1891.

The Sioux Indian Chiefs who have come to Washington to explain to the Great Father their grievances and the cause of the late unpleasantness at Pine Ridge between the Sioux and the Great Father's representatives held a "pow-wow" or "big talk" with Secretary Noble at the Interior Department to-day.

The scene was a dramatic one; the untutored sons of the prairies, lacking perhaps in chicanery, in ability to deal with wily politicians, but full of a sense of outraged justice, and with a vivid recollection of promises unfulfilled and pledges broken, argued their case with eloquence born of the righteousness of their cause. They were given a limited audience, and when a few had spoken, the Secretary of the Interior replied.

Result:—More promises, vague and general.

Seated around the room were a dozen of the ablest warriors of the Sioux nation. The emblems of the war path were discarded, however, and each Indian was dressed in "store clothes," *sans* blankets and feathers. An interpreter for the Indians was called, the Rev. Mr. Cook, a half breed Indian missionary, filling the rôle.

Secretary Noble began by assuring the Indians that he was their friend, that the Great Father was their friend and that everything would be done for the Indians' good.

Secretary Noble then intimated that only a limited talk would be permitted, which caused opposition, and he was told the red men had much to say and wanted to say it. No attention was paid to the protest, however, and John Grass was invited to speak.

INDIANS STATE THEIR GRIEVANCES.

Grass is the representative of the progressive element among the Indians, and is regarded intellectually as the leading man in the Sioux nation. He spoke in a quiet, reserved manner, standing with his hands clasped behind him. He spoke several sentences and then they were interpreted. Grass voiced the sentiments of the better class of Indians by expressing their wish to go in the right way, till their farms and send their children to school. But at the same time the Great Father should carry out the promises made to the Indians and help them when they are starving.

American Horse was the next speaker. He said the Indians at Pine Ridge, throught the destruction of their property, had been put back fifteen years, and he said that the Indians desired to have these losses made good. The government, he said, made mistakes in its attempts to civilize the Indians. A remedy for a good many of the troubles would be for the government to go back to the treaty of 1868 and redeem some of the promises then made.

Chief Hump then took the rostrum. He said the farmers at the Cheyenne Agency had failed to realize crops for three years, and therefore the government should give them the rations promised them. Cheyenne River Agency had suffered much in this trouble—about three hundred of the people had been killed—and there should be some consideration shown the survivors. He suggested that a little money from the Secretary would be acceptable.

Hollow Horn Bear, one of the most prepossessing looking of the chiefs, told of the Wounded Knee massacre. One man (referring to the affair at Wounded Knee) wanted to fight; the others did not. That man fired his gun, and then the soldiers shot men, women and children. He was somewhat lost, but he was going to try to do right, as he had always done, but he had to say that only the white man had broken the mutual promises. He told of some of his people who were badly wounded, and characterized the conduct of the military as cruel. The soldiers were the cause of all the trouble. He had some things he wanted to tell, but he thought it might shock the ladies present; still, if they did not mind, he would tell the story.

Secretary Noble said he might reserve such matters until Monday.

Medicine Bull, one of the veteran chiefs of the tribe, made a long and eloquent speech, full of picturesqueness of Indian oratory. He proclaimed himself a friend of the white man and said there was no blood on his hands. Very feelingly did old Medicine Bull call the Secretary's attention to the fact that when the Indians shook their pockets there was nothing in them that would rattle. The Secretary laughed a little, but he did not commit himself.

Several others among the assembled chiefs wanted to talk, but Secretary Noble was not inclined to hear them, and the Indians were then invited to listen to what the Secretary had to say.

SECRETARY NOBLE MAKES BIG TALK.

Secretary Noble began by recalling to the Indians what the government had done for them in years past. It was much pleasanter for him to remind the Indians what had been done than to speak of what had not been done that should have been. He sprung a lot of statistics upon them showing how much beef had been issued. He did not contrast the statistics, however, with the figures of how much beef had been promised.

He painted in glowing colors the humanity and liberality of the government toward the Sioux, but his efforts failed to enthuse the chiefs, who probably detected the vein of sophistry running through the string of glittering generalities.

He spoke of the great care taken in inspecting the rations issued, but carefully refrained from dwelling upon the amount issued. It was a mere accident that $100,000 should have been cut off the Sioux appropriation immediately after the agreement with General Crook. It would have been the same if there had been no agreement. These things should convince the Sioux that the government has been trying to do what was right for the Indians.

In conclusion the Secretary advised the Indians to think over the many things the government had done for them, to look at the promises made by General Crook and to have confidence in what he said. The Secretary said he wanted the Indians to make up their minds to do the best they could to educate or to have educated their children, and never to let their young men dream that they could ever get anything by force from the United States.

Then the powwow broke up. There were visible signs of dissatisfaction among the Indians. They felt that they had been blarneyed.

Nothing definite had come out of the interview. No assurances of more beef and flour had been received. In a general way they understood their condition was to be investigated, but it had not been explained how.

"Much talk, big promise; ugh!" exclaimed one of them as they filed out of the room.

POSITION OF THE HOUSE DEMOCRATS ON THE SILVER QUESTION DEFINED IN CAUCUS.

The caucus of democratic members of the House called for to-night at the suggestion of Representative Bland, of Missouri, was very slimly attended, only sixty-one members being present. Representative Holman, of Indiana, presided, and Messrs. Blanchard, of Louisiana, and Wilson, of West Virginia, acted as secretaries. The Silver bill was the sole topic of consideration, and after several resolutions had been offered and withdrawn the following resolution, offered by Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee, was unanimously adopted:—

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this caucus that the Senate silver bill which was referred by the House to the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures nearly one month ago being in our opinion an important public measure, deserving due consideration by the House, we earnestly request the committee to which the same was referred to report it to the House without delay."

REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE RAUM INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

The views of the minority of the Raum Investigating Committee, which were formally presented to the House this morning by Messrs. Lewis and Goodnight, the democratic members of the committee, are, in brief, that Commissioner Raum was the president of the refrigerating companies organized to introduce a worthless patent, the character of which he and the majority of the committee refused to have investigated; that Bradley Tanner, his private secretary, devoted considerable of his time to the advancement of the enterprise, and that he and General Bussey were stockholders in the subordinate company; that the commission lightened Tanner's duties and promoted him; that Commissioner Raum, with the advice of his deputies, refused to grant the request of Attorney Lemon that an order be made to advance cases out of order; that the Commissioner afterward changed his mind and made the order as urged by Lemon; that the next day Lemon signed the Commissioner's notes as surety for the $12,000; that by the adoption of the order Lemon was able to secure consideration of many thousand of his claims out of order.

The minority offers as a substitute for the majority resolution the following:—

"Resolved, That the evidence herein establishes that the present Commissioner of Pensions has degraded the public service by using official position to promote his private enterprises and personal gains; and that a wise, efficient and faithful administration of the Bureau demands his removal."

ENDING THE FARCE ON THE EIGHT HOUR BILL—WHAT THE G. O. P. HAS DONE FOR LABOR.

True to its instincts the, Senate majority has adopted an amendment which practically makes the Eight Hour Adjustment bill a nullity, by excluding all laborers and workmen and mechanics from its benefits who cannot prove to the satisfaction of the accounting officers of the Treasury Department that they obtained their employment, and held the same under duress, in each case where a longer period of labor than eight hours per day was exacted. The amendment provides that where an express or implied contract existed the bill should be inoperative.

As there is an expressed or implied contract in each case where labor is performed for the government or for any other employer, the benefits of the act will be conferred only on those whose employment and retention was conditioned on a longer period of service per day than eight hours. As such conditions were not openly made by the executive officers of the government (the Eight Hour law being on the statute books), except in rare instances, the beneficiaries of the act will be practically confined to the Rock Island arsenal, where a few men openly protested against the violation of the Eight Hour law and continued to work for longer hours after filing their protest.

In speaking of this proviso, the Legislative Committee of the Federation of Labor in their memorial to the State Senate:—

"The bill may as well be ignored or defeated as to be passed with that proviso. We know by experience what to expect from antiquated judges seeking laboriously to discover implied contracts to bar claims growing out of the violation of the Eight Hour law. The presumption that men who are entitled to a day's pay for eight hours' service, voluntarily gave the government two hours more work every day 'for the fun of it,' seems irresistible to many of these high officials, but it is pure poppycock to workingmen not learned in the law."

With the Alien Contract Labor bill already killed and withdrawn, the Eight Hour Back Pay bill nullified the general Eight Hour bill, hopelessly smothered on the calendar the Postal Telegraph bill, pocketed in committee beyond resurrection—ends the lingering hope of organized labor for alleviating legislation from the Fifty-first Congress.

For consolation they have the memory of the illuminated cover of the republican campaign text book issued last fall "with all the labor bills passed," and within the platform pledging the same. For protection they have the McKinley bill, which increases the price of everything they consume and decreases their wages in every case where a change has been made in the scale.

The mutilation of the Adjustment bill deprives over four thousand men, who have been employed in the Brooklyn Navy Yard since 1868, of the extra pay to which they were entitled for extra work done for the government.

CUTTING DOWN THE EXTRAVAGANT SALARY LIST OF THE WORLD'S FAIR MANAGERS.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Payson, of Illinois, in the chair) on the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill. The Chair decided in favor of Mr. Mason's point of order, raised against Mr. Candler's amendment.

Mr. Wilson, of West Virginia, offered an amendment fixing the salaries as follows:—President, $5,000; vice president of executive committee, $4,000; secretary, $3,000; clerks, stenographers, &c., $8,000. In all $20,000.

Mr. Butterworth offered an amendment to the substitute fixing the salary of the director general at $7,500. Agreed to—ayes 67—and the Wilson substitute as amended was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Candler, of Massachusetts, an amendment was adopted striking out the appropriation of $15,000 for the expenses of one meeting of the commission in 1892.

On motion of Mr. Frank, of Missouri, an amendment was adopted striking out the appropriation of $15,000 for the expenses of one meeting of the Board of Lady Managers in 1893. The World's Fair clause was then passed.

GOVERNOR HILL TAKING HIS TIME IN PRESENTING HIS CREDENTIALS AS SENATOR.

The credentials of Senator-elect David Bennett Hill, of the State of New York, if sent to the Senate during the present session of Congress, would be signed by him as Governor of the State of New York. So long as the credentials are not signed and forwarded to the Senate the Secretary of the Senate will have no official knowledge of the fact that Governor Hill is the Senator elect. If he was to forward his own certificate before March 4 this condition would exist after March 4, unless he should resign before that date. The Senator elect from New York would still be Governor of New York and drawing the pay of the State Executive. He would also be the recognized Senator elect from the State of New York on the books of the Senate and from March 4 next would be entitled to begin drawing pay as Senator.

Governor Hill undoubtedly wishes to remain in his present position, and the understanding here among his personal friends is that he will do so until required to take his seat in the Senate. At the present time there is not the shadow of probability of a called session of the Senate. There is a possibility of the failure of some necessary appropriation bills that might compel an extra session of Congress.

Until that emergency arises the Governor's friends say there is no reason why he should not remain at Albany and continue his duties as Governor. He was elected to that office and is entitled to draw the salary as long as he discharges its duties. When the time comes for him to give it up and draw his pay as Senator he will then be entitled to draw the amount due from March 4 next. He can turn it all into the Treasury, give it to some public institution or not draw one dollar of it. Whatever he does it is said he will make it public and plain that he has not received one cent from the government for his own use while holding the office of Governor of New York.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The President has signed the act making an apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States under the eleventh census.

The Senate will during the rest of the session meet at eleven A. M., sit till six P. M., and then take a recess till eight P. M.

Representative Fithian, of Illinois, to-day introduced in the House a bill to provide for a graduated income tax to meet expenses for pensions and the army and navy.

A bill which passed the House this morning on a conference report ratifying the agreement with the Sac and Fox Nations of Indians and the Iowa tribe of Oklahoma opens to settlement 616,716 acres of land.

Senator Sherman to-day reported an amendment to the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill which contemplates the division of the Central American Mission into two missions; one to include Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador, and the other Honduras and Guatemala.

Representative Candler, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill to-day authorizing the Postmaster General to contract with any persons or companies operating telegraph lines for the transmission of telegraphic correspondence at rates to be agreed upon.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SMALLPOX.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 7, 1891.—Dr. Wickershaw, the Commissioner of Health, calls attention to the danger of an epidemic of smallpox in this city on account of the intimate trade relations between this city and the Southern States, especially Texas, where the disease is prevalent at this time. All those not yet vaccinated are requested to have themselves attended to at once.

THE SCOURGE SPREADING IN KANSAS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ARKANSAS CITY, Feb. 7, 1891.—Smallpox is spreading rapidly east of here. Twenty-four cases and two deaths are already reported.

SLAYED A GENEROUS FOE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

GREENVILLE, S. C., Feb. 7, 1891.—A dispute arose last night between Major W. A. Williams, a lawyer prominent in political and social circles, and J. B. Williams, a saloon keeper, over a game of cards. The Major drew a knife, but upon his opponent protesting he was unarmed, threw it away and prepared to settle the dispute with his fists. J. B. Williams suddenly drew a revolver and fired, killing the Major instantly. The murderer then rushed into the darkness and disappeared. The affair has caused the greatest indignation and a number of persons are in pursuit of the fugitive.

DURLAND'S BOLD FRAUDS EXPOSED IN COURT

Judge Maynard Vigorously Assails His Insurance Swindle Before Justice Edwards.

THE PEOPLE MUST BE PROTECTED.

A Weak Explanation Made by the Chief of the Bogus Insurance Concern.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1891.—Durland's insurance swindle had its inning before Justice Edwards, at Hudson, this afternoon, and was well battered. The HERALD's expose had evidently been well read by the lawyers in attendance at the court, as many waited after their own cases had been heard and were interested listeners to the proceedings.

One remarked as he left the room after argument:—"It's a mighty good thing to show up such frauds as this, and the newspaper that does it deserves the thanks of the people." Subsequently I learned that the speaker had relatives who had come close to being swindled by the scheme or one very near like it.

When Judge Maynard rose for the State to ask for a temporary injuction Durland shifted uneasily, but finally settled down to close attention. The argument for a restraint to be placed on the company's business was short and forcible.

JUDGE MAYNARD'S ARGUMENT.

Judge Maynard went at once to the point as to whether the Mutual Savings and Distribution Fund Association was doing business in accordance with the provisions of the act of 1851, under which it was incorporated. It was a matter of law, he said, not of fact, that he argued. The HERALD had already informed the people of the transparent frauds of which the company is guilty, and the law was all that was needed.

Judge Maynard referred to the scorching given Durland's scheme by the report of the State Insurance Department examiners.

The figures of the report, as already published in the HERALD, were commented on as showing conclusively the fraudulent nature of the scheme. The company in the short space of fifteen months has taken in thousands of dollars and the greater part of the $84,000 paid out has gone into the pockets of the officers or their relatives. It has no reserve fund to speak of, but has issued thousands of dollars' worth of "certificates," which are worthless to any but the favored few.

HOW IT IS WORKED.

The plan of the association, he said, is so arranged that the officers have already managed to get all there is out of it and to perpetrate a gross fraud on the too confiding public.

"No mathematical reasoning is required," said Judge Maynard in conclusion, "to show the Court how outrageous is this company's scheme, and how necessary it is for the protection of the people that all further business of the kind be promptly stopped."

A murmur of approbation followed the close of Judge Maynard's speech. It was followed by one of surprise as a Mr. Brett, who said he represented counsel for the company, rose in its defence. He said he had not had time to prepare a brief on such short notice, but would do so and submit it by Wednesday next. Then he launched into a weak defense of the company. It was plain, he said, that there was no justice in the insurance examiner's report. The Court must see that the report was biased in the worst way and that it was based on malice. The State officials were, he thought, suspiciously active in the matter, and inasmuch as some of them had purposely given the substance of the report to the newspapers in advance, it was plain the case was prejudiced. He promised to satisfy the Court of the injustice of it all in his brief.

DURLAND MAKES A STATEMENT.

Promoter Durland had the audacity to make a statement in his own behalf. It was a bold attempt to put as good a front on the fraud as possible, but though given in his blandest manner plainly had a poor effect. He addressed the Court with the air of a public benefactor, and evidently disliked to hear the Judge refer to the family fund company as a fraud.

"I have been in the insurance business for twenty years," said Durland, "and the plan on which our society is operated is a practical modification of all the other plans now in operation."

In reply to a question he had the assurance to say:—"We try to conduct our business on the same plan as that of the Mutual Reserve Fund of New York." He explained the little matter of big payments to the officers by saying:—"Of course ours is a new business and we could only get contributions by contributing first ourselves. So we had some certificates made payable to ourselves and that is why we apparently got such large sums."

Justice Edwards informed those present that he considered the case one of great importance and would take the papers and reserve his decision.

DON'T WANT MAXWELL REMOVED.

INSURANCE MEN DO NOT APPROVE OF GOVERNOR HILL'S LATEST DEAL.

The deal that was laid bare in yesterday's HERALD, through which Governor Hill proposes to substitute ex-Senator James F. Pierce, of Brooklyn, for Robert A. Maxwell as Superintendent of Insurance, was something of a surprise to the majority of the insurance fraternity in this city.

Since two years ago, when Governor Hill endeavored to oust Superintendent Maxwell without the latter's knowledge and was only prevented through the intervention of the Superintendent's friends in an appeal to the Governor, insurance company officers have been ready for anything. The insurance people desire no change in the administration of the department at Albany, and if Governor Hill sends Pierce's name it will bring forth many protests from officials of insurance companies.

Superintendent Maxwell has administered the affairs of the Insurance Department in a fearless and conscientious manner during his term of five years. As an underwriter of years' experience stated yesterday, when a company was examined or expressed a desire to be examined, no "ante" has been a requisite.

Governor Hill has endeavored for the past three years or so to effect a deal with Tom Platt, if I am correctly informed. Another man besides Platt has labored assiduously for ex-Senator Pierce's nomination, viz:—A. C. Field, superintendent of the supply department of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, and Mayor of the town of Dobbs Ferry.

Pierce is the junior member of the firm of Sewell & Pierce, lawyers, who have offices in the Mutual Life Insurance Company's building and are the legal lights of that corporation.

The investigation of the conduct of George W. Miller, the Superintendent of Insurance, by the Committee on Insurance, which made its report April 19, 1872, was certainly interesting so far as Sewell & Pierce were concerned. Stephen English, editor of the *Insurance Times*, swore it was currently reported that Miller had received $50,000 through Sewell & Pierce for an examination of the Mutual Life Insurance Company.

I called at the office of A. C. Field, No. 48 Liberty street, yesterday, and was informed by a youthful clerk that his employer had gone out.

Third Vice President George T. Patterson, of the German-American Fire Insurance Company, said that he saw no reason for a change in the Insurance Department, as Mr. Maxwell was entirely satisfactory to the companies and enjoyed the confidence of everybody.

President Eugene B. Magnus, of the Broadway Insurance Company, No. 158 Broadway, was of the opinion that Mr. Maxwell was the right man in the right place. He presumed that politics was the motive that led the Governor to make the change.

Elijah H. Kennedy, of the firm of Weed & Kennedy, No. 50 Pine street, is the chairman of the Committee on Laws and Legislation of the Board of Fire Underwriters. He knows ex-Senator Pierce very well indeed. Mr. Kennedy said that it should be understood by the public that so far as the fire insurance companies are concerned they had taken no part in having the present superintendent superseded by ex-Senator Pierce.

$10,000 FOR ROSE ANN'S AFFECTIONS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

PITTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 7, 1891.—Rose Ann Henderson, aged sixty, has sued Alexander Johnston, seventy years of age, for $10,000 for a breach of promise to marry. Johnston, she claims, has transferred his affections to a lady of fifty summers.

A HUSBAND TOO FOND OF FISH.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

LOCKPORT, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1891.—David C. Bernard, a former resident of this city and a man over fifty years of age, has eloped with Miss Emma Fish, a young woman twenty-eight years of age, who has lived in his family for some time. The family moved to Dayden, N. Y., a year ago. Mrs. Bernard has returned to her friends here with her daughter, a young lady, and tells a sad story of abuse and desertion. Bernard took all his wife's property and other available funds with him. Mrs. Bernard will probably sue for a divorce. She thinks her husband has been intimate with Miss Fish for some time. Lately he had taken to drink, to which is attributed his actions. News of the elopers has been received from Elmira.

AMERICAN QUESTIONS IN FRANCE.

THE TARIFF BEFORE THE CHAMBER—FRANCE AND THE CHICAGO FAIR.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

PARIS, Feb. 7, 1891.—In an interview to-day with M. Marie Albert Viger, one of the Deputies from Orleans and reporter of the Tariff Committee of the Chamber, M. Viger said that he was satisfied that the Chamber would adopt the tax of twelve francs per 100 kilos on American pork, which the committee recommends instead of a ten franc tax, as urged by the United States Minister, Mr. Whitelaw Reid. This question will come before the Chamber at the end of March. Mr. Reed informed the Associated Press correspondent that the French butchers proposed to the committee a duty of ten francs, saying that they were unable to handle American pork at a profit beyond that limit of duty.

M. Herrison, the Minister of Commerce in 1883, when the decree was momentarily reported, when informed of the statement made by M. Viger as to the twelve franc duty, said:—

"It means exclusion. I have always felt that the obnoxious decree would be removed in this fashion. The Deputies are protection mad."

M. Jules Ferry, the new chairman of the Senate Tariff Committee, in an interview said recently that the protection spirit in the United States had advanced the cause of protection in France. The temper of the Chamber and Senate, he added, is more in favor of protection at the present time than it was in 1880, when the existing tariff was adopted.

EFFECT OF THE M'KINLEY TARIFF.

M. Berger, director of the late exposition in this city, and now a member of the Chamber of Deputies, referring to the World's Fair of the United States, said that he would be unable to go to Chicago to give his advice to the fair organizers, as M. Roustan, the French Minister at Washington, had urged him to do. M. Berger added, however, that the Associated Press correspondent could tell the citizens of Chicago that he was entirely at their disposal here. Continuing, he said that the correspondent could also assure the Chicagoans that, when the invitation is received, favorable action upon it is certain, and that the Chamber is sure to vote the sum of money necessary for France to be worthily represented at Chicago.

The only difficulty, according to M. Berger, is the apathy of merchants and others who would be considered likely to become exhibitors. The McKinley Tariff act, according to the same gentleman, had chilled the zeal of French merchants in regard to sending exhibits to the Chicago Fair. "But," he added, "the feeling is changing. Our exhibition cleared over 9,000,000 francs net. The United States' invitation should give in detail the amount of space which will be at the disposal of foreigners, and the freight charges from the seaboard to Chicago; in fact, all the details which it is possible to procure in order to assist Frenchmen who may contemplate becoming exhibitors in calculating the expenses of such a venture." It is believed that M. Berger will be at the head of the French delegates who will be sent to Chicago. He said himself that he would like to go.

COLONIAL RECIPROCITY.

NEWFOUNDLANDERS ANGRY BECAUSE CANADA PREVENTED A TREATY AGREEMENT.

HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 7, 1891.—The *Telegram*, organ of the Newfoundland government, publishes a fierce attack on Canada and England in connection with the collapse of the reciprocity negotiations between that colony and the United States. It says:—

"A treaty was agreed to between Mr. Blaine and Mr. Bond which only awaited the signature of the British Minister." The *Telegram* continues:—"It seems that the mischief has been wrought at London, not at Washington. Canada has no influence with the American government—not a particle, but with the imperial government it is different. Sir John Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper, who are in effect the Dominion government, have managed to persuade the imperial authorities that a treaty between the United States and Newfoundland would be detrimental to the interests of Canada, and so Her Majesty's assent is withheld."

A CANADIAN PROTECTIONIST WEAKENS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

MONTREAL, P. Q., Feb. 7, 1891.—Sir Donald Smith will again seek re-election in Montreal West as a supporter of Sir John, but his platform is now greatly altered to what it was five years ago, when he came out as a straight protectionist. Now he favors the closest trade relations with the United States so long as this does not discriminate against the mother country.

FREE TRADERS AROUSED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

KINGSTON, Ont., Feb. 7, 1891.—Alexander Gunn has accepted the liberal nomination and will oppose Sir John Macdonald. The fight will be vigorous. Many of the chieftain's supporters are deserting him and promising to support the party which will do the utmost to secure the freest trade possible with the United States. The farmers are also aroused and are opposing the tory government for destroying their natural market in the United States.

THE NEGOTIATIONS AT WASHINGTON.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1891.—Sir John Macdonald, as the despatches show, intends to revert to the machinery of a commission to conduct the proposed reciprocity negotiations. No objection will be raised to any number of persons he may send to Washington for conference, but no official recognition will be accorded them, collectively or individually. Mr. Blaine and Sir Julian Pauncefote will be the only persons officially known in the proceedings, and their only official act of importance will be to formally agree that the conferences undertaken by them are to be purely of a consultive and voluntary character, committing neither side in act or expression.

A commercial treaty with Canada could not be made operative without legislation. The Dominion has none of the articles on which to base a reciprocity treaty under the provisions of the Tariff act. Reciprocity treaties based on the Tariff act do not require ratification by the Senate.

THREW TWIN BABES IN A WELL.

FRIGHTFUL CRIME OF AN UNNATURAL MOTHER IN KENTUCKY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HENDERSON, Feb. 7, 1891.—The people of this city are thoroughly aroused over the double crime of an unnatural mother. Martha Irwin, a white woman about thirty-six years old, was to-day arrested charged with infanticide. Evidence before the Coroner's jury brought out the fact that she gave birth to twins last night, which were this morning found in an old well near by, she having thus disposed of them.

A BELLAMY KITCHEN FAILS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 7, 1891.—Another Bellamy co-operative scheme has gone up, this time in South Evanston, where a number of families clubbed together and inaugurated a central kitchen and dining room. Meals were to be furnished at $3 25 per person per week, but it was found that the cost rather exceeded $4, necessitating special assessments.

"JACK THE HUGGER" THIS TIME.

HE GLOSSLY INSULTS WOMEN ON MADISON AVENUE.

Mr. John S. Richards, a broker, of No. 273 Madison avenue, called at the West Thirtieth street station house last evening and made complaint of a scoundrel who, he said, made a practice of lying in wait for unprotected females and hugging them.

Mr. Richards said his wife had witnessed the scoundrel's conduct on one occasion, and a gentleman who accompanied him said his wife, too, had been insulted by the man.

Captain Reilly at once summoned his detectives and sent them to Madison avenue to hunt for the man. He was described as of medium height, good looking and as wearing an ulster reaching to his feet.

RAY HAMILTON IS ALIVE IF THIS STORY BE TRUE.

A. O. Howard, an Old Classmate, Makes Some Strange Revelations About the Missing Legislator.

FEIGNED DEATH TO SHIELD FRIENDS.

Eva Mann Got Hold of State Secrets and Threatened to Use Them Against Big Politicians.

THEN HAMILTON WAS "DROWNED."

Now Matters Have Been Arranged It Is Alleged He Is About to Return Home.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 7, 1891.—A. O. Howard, until recently an officer in the Coast Survey, well known in this city, and who was the playmate, schoolmate and college mate of Robert Ray Hamilton, in an interview with a *Times* reporter on Tuesday, January 27, used this language:—"Robert Ray Hamilton is alive and in good health. He is beginning life anew there under an assumed name. He has cast behind him the past and is looking hopefully forward to the future."

At Mr. Howard's request his name was not used in connection with the interview. At a subsequent meeting with the reporter he said:—

"I have here in my pocket" (producing a bundle of letters) "several letters from my old friend Ray Hamilton. They were written after I went West. The last one that I received from him is dated at San Francisco, Cal., Friday, October 3, 1891.

Hamilton was supposed to have been drowned on August 21.

"In this letter Mr. Hamilton apprised me of his intention of going to Japan, and thence to Sydney, New South Wales. I have received no communication from him since that time, but allowing for leisurely travelling, delays, sightseeing, &c., I would say that he has reached Australia by this time. His adoption of an assumed name is only to avoid notoriety and to keep his whereabouts a secret."

THE LETTER CAREFULLY CONCEALED.

"Would you object to my reading the letter?" asked the reporter.

"I most assuredly would. When I first mentioned the fact that Mr. Hamilton was alive I had no idea that you would print what I said or that the interview would provoke so much controversy. The letters that I have in my pocket are of a personal nature and were written solely for my eyes. Robert Ray Hamilton and I have been friends for years. I am the custodian of many of his secrets, to reveal and publish which would result in no good to him and would be of no public interest."

"Will Mr. Hamilton make Australia his permanent home?" was asked.

"The settlement of that matter rests solely with him," was the answer. "He may or he may not. I cannot say positively, but I think that before many months he will return to New York."

Mr. Howard asked that this interview be withheld from publication until his return from New York. This morning Mr. Howard passed through this city on his way West. His destination he refused to disclose. By appointment the reporter who interviewed him met him at the Broad street station, and in response to numerous questions he made this statement:—"When I said to you in the latter part of January that Robert Ray Hamilton was alive and in Sydney, New South Wales, I only partly spoke the truth. Mr. Hamilton is alive and well. He is not in Australia, however, and if matters which are of vital importance to him move along in the groove which he has marked out he will return to New York within three months. His exact location I cannot make public. At least six of Mr. Hamilton's friends know where he is and are in constant communication with him. My visit to New York was to arrange some matters of business in which he is interested.

WHY HE FEIGNED DEATH.

"During our previous interview you asked me why Robert Ray Hamilton would feign death and under an assumed name bury himself in the antipodes. In answer that question it will be necessary for me to go back several years, beginning with his first acquaintance with the cunning and unscrupulous woman who, in a great measure, is responsible for his social, political and moral downfall. I think I made the acquaintance of Eva Steele, Brill, Mann or Hamilton at about the time that Mr. Hamilton first met her. Hamilton seemed to be infatuated with the woman. She accompanied him to Albany, and they lived together. Hamilton introduced her to his legislative friends, and their house was the resort of many of New York's leading statesmen. There were frequently disgraceful orgies enacted there. When men are under the influence of liquor they say things which would otherwise remain unsaid. Eva Mann became acquainted with many State secrets, and being a scheming woman she hoarded up this knowledge to use for her own advantage. Eva Hamilton had in her possession letters and other documentary evidence which if made public would humble to the dust the heads of many New Yorkers. I know she used this information to coerce Hamilton into making her his wife. It was because of a threat of Mrs. Hamilton to make certain disclosures that would affect the prospects of a prominent New York politician that Ray took her to Lower California the February after they were married.

TRYING TO HIDE DISGRACE.

"No man knows how keenly he felt the disgrace that was brought upon him, and it was to seek oblivion that he went to the lonely ranch in Nez Perces county, Idaho. While he was there he was, of course, in constant communication with his friends and with his attorney. Through them he learned that Eva Hamilton had threatened to make things hot for him and certain others high in New York politics as soon as she was released from the New Jersey State Prison. It was in a moment of desperation that the simulation of death was thought of and carried out. Of course, his friends and relatives were prepared for the thing beforehand. It was the fact that they did not show the surprise nor evince the grief that would be natural under the circumstances that first led newspapers and afterward the general public to question the fact of Mr. Hamilton's death.

"The purpose for which he simulated death has been accomplished. He was afraid that when brought face to face with Eva Hamilton in court she would either make a startling revelation herself or have questions put to him when he should take the stand that would add further to his own disgrace and bring disgrace upon others. He desired to save his friends. He has done so, and they know it. It is probable now that the whole wretched scandal will die out. Arrangements have been made within the last few days which will eventuate in a settlement of the difficulty to the satisfaction of all parties. It may be possible that Mr. Hamilton will for some time remain in his present hiding place. He may come back to New York, mingle with his friends and trust to time to live down the scandal."

WHAT WILL MR. GREEN DO?

"It is said that Mr. J. O. Green, son of Dr. Norvin Green, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, who is now in Europe, will make affidavit that the body found by him in Snake River, Idaho, was Mr. Hamilton," said the reporter.

"He will do nothing of the kind," was Mr. Howard's emphatic reply. "Mr. Green is a gentleman of the very highest character, and he will not perjure himself. I am sure that he never said that he had positively identified the body as that of Robert Ray Hamilton. Anyway, you can say from me that it was not his body."

"Whose body was it?"

"That question I decline to answer; but it was not Robert Ray Hamilton's."

STORY OF HAMILTON'S DROWNING.

J. O. Green, a son of President Norvin Green, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, was the first to announce the death of Robert Ray Hamilton. He telegraphed from Helena, Mont., that Hamilton's body had been found by him and a party of ranchers on Snake River, six miles below Lake Mary Mere, on the Yellowstone Park road, Idaho. The body, he alleged, was found floating in the river, in a condition which led the party to believe that it had been in the water several days. His story was corroborated by Cassim Moore, a friend of Hamilton's, and John D. Sargent, the latter's ranch keeper. Beyond the statements made by them no effort has been made to prove for a certainty that Hamilton is dead.

The story of the causes that led to Hamilton's death is very circumstantial, however, and its details have all appearances of truth. Hamilton purchased the ranch on Snake River shortly after his marriage to Eva Mann, and went there to live immediately after the scandal at May's Landing, N. J., became public property.

Hamilton left the ranch alone to hunt antelope on August 19 in the vicinity of South Landing, a point about thirty miles away. To go there and to return he was compelled to ford Snake River.

GOT ACROSS SAFELY.

On his way to South Landing he forded the river safely and spent one night at the camp. The following morning, August 21, he started for home.

Young Mr. Green arrived at the ranch from Helena, Mont., on August 23, and when informed of Hamilton's continued absence he organized a posse and began a search for the missing man.

They rode over the Sheridan trail, the one taken by Hamilton. At the Snake River ford the party found Hamilton's horse, with the saddle and hind quarters of an antelope swinging under it from the girths.

Hamilton was not in sight and calls and the frequent firing of guns failed to elicit a response. The party then divided. One half went up the stream and the other portion, under Green, went in an opposite direction.

THE BODY FOUND.

About three miles below the spot where the horse had been found Mr. Green saw a dark mass, partially covered with twigs and other floating debris, in the river. The limbs of a tree held it near the bank and prevented the current from sweeping it away.

It was Ray Hamilton's body. The ranchers carried it up the bank and deposited it on the ground. His personal effects were found intact, and by his watch, which had stopped at a quarter past nine P. M., the rescuers concluded that Hamilton had been drowned while attempting to ford the river at night. The spot, they said, at which the unfortunate young man had attempted to cross is about eighteen feet deep and is choked with river grass. This weed had evidently become entwined around Hamilton's limbs and pulled him beneath the surface of the river.

The body was returned to the ranch and buried, according to the narrative, on Seton Mountain, at a spot overlooking Lake Mary Mere.

"He told me," said Ranchkeeper Sargent in a letter to General Hamilton, "that it was the prettiest spot he had ever seen and to bury him there if he died.

"I laughed at him then, but I respected his wishes when his body was brought back to the ranch."

The spot where the ranch is located and where the alleged drowning is said to have occurred is isolated from railroads and telegraph stations. That fact accounted for meagre reports at first, but friends wonder why fuller ones have not reached here.

MILES AFTER M'KEEVER'S SCALP.

HE WANTS THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL TRIED BY COURT MARTIAL.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

HERALD BUREAU, CORNER FIFTEENTH AND G STREETS, N. W., WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1891.

General Nelson A. Miles is on the warpath for the scalp of General McKeever. He wants a court martial ordered to try the latter on charges which he will file, that while acting adjutant general of the army General McKeever has been guilty of talking about his brother officers in a way that is unbecoming an officer and contrary to regulations.

DID M'KEEVER SAY IT?

General Miles claims that he has learned that it was General McKeever who said some weeks ago that he (Miles) was manufacturing an Indian scare for the purpose of working up a boom for the Presidency. General Miles has hinted to General Schofield that he would be glad to receive an order to report in person at Washington. He has told intimate friends that as soon as he came here he would at once institute proceedings for the court. General Miles, it is said, will probably be in Washington not later than next Tuesday.

HE ADMITS THE BOOM.

General Miles has discussed the subject of a Presidential boom, and has not denied that he has Presidential aspirations, but he insists that an injustice has been done him by exciting the envy and jealousy of some republicans and the hostility of some democrats just at a time when he was doing his best to serve his country by quelling a dangerous Indian outbreak.

General Miles and General McKeever have been enemies for a long time, and the former thinks that General