

NEVER SEIGNIORAGE.

BLAND'S BILL PASSES THE HOUSE.

Measure It is Said Will Also Pass the Senate—What Its Fate Will Be in the Hands of the President is Not Known—Opponent to Speak Against the Bill as the Representative of the Treasury Department—Names of the Bond Subscribers Made Public by Secretary Carlisle.

The Seigniorage Measure.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Mr. Bland's bill making the secretary of the treasury the agent for the sale of the bullion purchased by the government and stored in the vaults of the treasury therefor will in probability pass the house with a large majority.

There are great numbers of opponents, especially from the South, who voted for the repeal of the Sherman act, who will eagerly seize the opportunity to vote for this measure, if they may go back to their constituents for re-election as men friendly to the proper recognition of the metal.

Mr. Tracey has conceded almost in advance the inability of the gold standard to withstand the renewed demand of the silver champions in the west, and there is reason to believe the bill will pass the senate.

INCALLS AS A CONVERT.

The Noted Kansas Response to Sam Jones' Call for "Mourners."

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DENOUNCE MORTON.

Farmer's Alliance Has No Use for the Secretary of Agriculture.

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The Right of the Secretary of the Treasury to Issue Bonds Again Discussed.

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THE SEIGNIORAGE DEBATE.

A Tangle Opens the House Proceedings—Mr. Bland Speaks for His Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A tangle, growing out of an error in the roll call by which the house went into committee of the whole on the Bland bill yesterday, opened the proceedings this morning.

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"Well," replied Mr. Bland, "the secretary of the treasury has never so held. The secretary of the treasury has maintained that all that was necessary to keep all classes of our currency at par was to keep the greenbacks at par. They are gold obligations, and therefore interchangeable, and while silver certificates have not been deemed in gold, greenbacks have never been refused for them.

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UNCLE SAM A LOSER.

THE FAMOUS WAR SHIP KEARSARGE WRECKED.

Admiral Stanton and His Crew Reported Safe—The Ship Went on the Rocks at Roncadore Reef—Particulars of the Accident Rather Meager—The Great Fight with the Rebel Cruiser Alabama Off France Recalled—A Thrilling Recital.

The Kearsarge Wrecked.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The United States steamer Kearsarge, the oldest vessel on the active list of the navy and the ship which won renown in the rebellion for her gallant victory over the rebel cruiser Alabama, is a wreck on Roncadore reef, Central America, having gone on the rocks last Friday.

Lieutenant Brainard, who managed in some way to reach Colon to-day, in a cable message this morning announced to the navy department the fact of the wreck and reported that officers and crew were all saved.

The Kearsarge sailed from Port au Prince, Hayti, January 30, for Bluefields, Nicaragua, to protect American interests there in view of the invasion of the military forces of Honduras.

Roncadore reef is a dangerous impediment to navigation, a little over 200 miles from the Mosquito coast off Central America. Between the coast and the reef lies Old Providence island, only seventy-five or eighty miles to leeward of the reef.

It is believed that the navy department that the officers and crew would be able to reach Old Providence without difficulty in case they were in danger of their lives on the reef and it is believed that they would be safe on the reef except in event of rough weather.

Immediately upon receipt of the news of the wreck the navy department sent a cable dispatch to Lieutenant Brainard, at Colon, ordering him to charter a steamer and proceed at once to the relief of the shipwrecked crew.

Some time ago when Warner Miller and officers of the Nicaragua Canal company were on their way to Nicaragua they were wrecked on this same point.

When the New York and Detroit were dispatched to Rio the Kearsarge was made the flagship of the North Atlantic squadron and Admiral Stanton, after the secretary of the navy had acted on the report of the salute of Mello in Rio bay, was ordered to proceed to Port au Prince and transfer his flag to the Kearsarge and assume command of the station.

THE KEARSARGE-ALABAMA BATTLE.

In history the name of the Kearsarge will stand out chiefly in the conflict with the Alabama. This notable fight occurred Sunday morning, June 19, 1864. Early in June, while anchored off Flushing, in Holland, Captain John A. Winslow, commander of the Kearsarge, received word from Minister Dayton in Paris that the Confederate cruiser Alabama, the terror of United States commerce, had anchored off Cherbourg, France. Commander Winslow immediately steamed to Cherbourg, anchoring near the breakerwater. He paid an official visit on shore and there received through Mr. Lials, the United States commercial agent, a challenge to a fight which Admiral R. Semmes of the Alabama had sent to Mr. Binflin, the Confederate commercial agent. Captain Winslow accepted the challenge, and for several days cruised to and fro near the breakerwater waiting for the Confederate vessel.

Sunday morning, June 19, at 10:30 the Alabama was sighted. The Kearsarge had been placed in Sunday attire. The marines were in best garb, the guns were polished and the decks had been scrubbed. The vessel was immediately cleared for action, and Commander Winslow steamed further out to sea that he might not violate the law of nations and sufficiently far to prevent the Alabama from entering neutral waters. The Alabama was escorted by the French ironclad Couronne, which soon after steamed back to Cherbourg. The Deerhound, a small rigged steamer, flying the flag of the Royal Mersey Yacht club, was also with the Alabama. When between six and seven miles from the shore the Kearsarge, thoroughly ready, wheeled at a distance of one and a quarter miles from the Alabama. The latter sheered and a moment later sent a broadside at the Kearsarge, which fell short. The Kearsarge put on increased speed and advanced rapidly, receiving a second and third broadside from the Confederate vessel. The object of the latter was to fight at long range.

When within 900 yards the Kearsarge broke silence with her starboard battery. Each ship was now under a full head of steam, the position being broadside to broadside and traveling in a circular track. The Alabama changed from solid shot to shell. A shot from the Kearsarge carried away the spanker gaff and down came the ensign, while the marines on the United States warship cheered lustily. It was deemed a favorable omen. The battle was now hot and the Alabama was firing both shot and shell rapidly and wildly, while the Kearsarge was dropping terrible missiles into the Alabama with alarming precision and accuracy. The effect soon began to tell and the Alabama began to settle. Cheer after cheer resounded on the decks of the Kearsarge and the enthusiasm grew more intense with every shot.

Seven times round the vessels had passed and they were on the eighth. Suddenly the Alabama left the circle and headed for French waters. The Kearsarge pursued and with well directed aim hastened its sinking condition. Large ragged holes were visible in the sides of the Alabama through which water rushed in torrents. The boat was clearly doomed. Her colors were struck and the Kearsarge ceased firing. Two of the junior officers, however, who declared they would not surrender, rushed to the port guns and sent several shots at the Kearsarge. Commander Winslow ordered another broadside, believing the striking of colors a mere trick. The Kearsarge took a position where it could use grape and canister with terrible effect when a small

white flag appeared over the stern of the rebel ship. For the second time the firing was ordered to cease. This ended the battle, which had lasted one hour and two minutes. Captain Semmes sent away the wounded and those who could not swim in the quarter boats, and then with the remaining officers and men jumped overboard. He, twelve other officers and twenty-two men were rescued by the yacht Deerhound, which was asked to save the men by Captain Winslow. John Lancaoster, the owner of the Deerhound, then steamed for Southampton, and thus it was that the thirty-three men who were properly prisoners of the Kearsarge, and could have been secured, escaped the clutches of the United States government by means of the shelter of a neutral flag.

The Alabama sunk soon after in fifty-five fathoms of water, at a distance of four and a half miles from the breakerwater. "Suddenly assuming a perpendicular position, caused by the falling aft of the battery and stores, straight as a plumb line, stern first, she went down, the jib boom being the last to appear above water. Down sank the terror of merchantmen, riddled through and through, and as she disappeared to her last resting place there was no cheer; all were silent."

The Kearsarge fired 173 shot and shell; the Alabama about twice that many, yet the Kearsarge had only three men badly wounded, one of whom died later. The Alabama's loss was heavy. The wounded of the survivors from the Alabama were taken on board the Kearsarge and the latter's boats and a pilot boat rescued seventy men. The crew of the Kearsarge fraternized with their prisoners, shared with them their grog and their clothes. The Kearsarge received twenty-eight shot and shell, of which thirteen were in the hull. The ships were well matched in size and speed and looked very much alike. The following comparative table explains the relative dimensions:

	Alabama	Kearsarge
Length over all	223 feet	228 feet
Length of keel	210 feet	198 1/2 feet
Beam	32 feet	33 feet
Depth	17 feet	18 1/2 feet
Two engines and shaft power each	2,400	2,400
Tonnage	1,040	1,031

The old stern post of the Kearsarge, containing a shell imbedded in it, now rests in the ordnance museum at the Washington navy yard. When the boat was repaired at Boston a shell was found boxed in where it had remained for months. The Kearsarge was not much damaged in the engagement. Its battery then consisted of seven guns, two eleven inch pivots, one twenty-eight pound rifle and four light thirty-two pounders. The Alabama had eight guns. Both ships made thirteen knots an hour when under full head of steam; during the battle the Alabama made ten knots. The engagement was witnessed by more than 15,000 spectators on the heights of Cherbourg, on men of war rigging and on the breakerwater.

ELECTION LAW REPEALED.

The Senate Passes the House Bill by a Vote of 39 to 28.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The bill repealing in toto all federal laws regulating the control of congressional elections, has passed both houses of congress and only awaits the signature of President Cleveland to become a law. After several weeks of discussion the senate yesterday finally came to a vote on the house bill repealing the federal election laws, and it passed by a vote of 39 yeas to 28 nays. Numerous amendments were presented by the Republicans, but they were voted down regularly and methodically, the Democrats not even taking the trouble to join in the debate on the amendatory propositions. Senator Stewart of Nevada voted with the Democrats on every proposition, giving as his reasons that he thought the power of the executive was already too great, and that the centralizing tendency of the age should be checked at once if the republic is to survive. The three Populists, Senators Allen, Kyle and Peffer, also voted with the Democrats on every amendment, as well as on the main bill. The measure as it passed the senate is identical with the bill as it passed the house, no committee amendments having been proposed.

THE SILVER FIGHT RENEWED.

Mr. Bland Seeking to Secure Action on His Seigniorage Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—When the house met to-day Mr. Bland moved to go into committee of the whole to consider the silver seigniorage coinage bill. It failed for lack of a quorum—105 to 6—and a roll call was ordered. Thus the second day of the second silver fight began.

Mr. Reed sought to challenge the right of the house to pass the resolution to arrest absentees which was carried just before adjournment yesterday, on the ground that the last call of the house showed a quorum. The question as to whether a quorum was present on the call was disputed as it did not appear in the journal and Mr. Reed moved to amend the journal so as to make this fact appear. This motion was lost. He then made the point of order that the only thing in order was the report of the sergeant at arms, who, when the house adjourned last night, was given warrants for 164 members.

No Oklahoma Statehood at Present.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The meeting of the house committee on territories held to day was inconclusive, only two persons appearing. One of them, Mr. McAdams, was opposed to the admission of Oklahoma to statehood without the lands of the tribes. A poll of a majority of the members of the committee established the truth of the statement that the committee would not favor the admission of Oklahoma as at present constituted, and that on the other hand it would not favor the arbitrary method of annexing the Indian lands proposed by the McKee bill.

Coughlin Not Put on the Stand.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—A large crowd gathered at the Coughlin trial to-day in expectation of testimony by the defendant. Coughlin's attorneys asserted, however, that he would not go on the stand to-day and the session was devoted to work on the alibi.

WON BY MRS. LEASE.

THE SUPREME COURT DECIDES IN HER FAVOR.

The Decision Marked by Unanimity—Gov. Leawelling Exceeded His Authority When He Removed Her From the State Board of Charitable Institutions—Mrs. Lease Now in a Condition to Make It Rather Warm for the Populist Administration.

Mrs. Lease a Winner.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 9.—Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Lease has won her fight for her official head and is once more a full member of the state board of charities, while J. W. Freeborn is out of a job and the governor is far from happy.

It is the unanimous judgment of the supreme court, by a decision rendered this forenoon by Chief Justice Horton, that Governor Leawelling exceeded his authority in his arbitrary removal of Mrs. Lease from her place on the state board of charitable institutions, and that J. W. Freeborn, who was commissioned in her place, is a usurper and must retire.

The court held that the demurrer filed by Freeborn's attorneys was not well taken, and that the plaintiff's petition was full and complete enough and the technical points raised against it were trivial. Whether or not there was a vacancy at the time of the governor's appointment of Mrs. Lease in March, 1893, and whether or not if there was a vacancy, her appointment lasted only until April, 1893, were not questions for consideration, as Mrs. Lease continued to hold the place after that and had been officially recognized by the governor and other officers of the state government as a member of the state board.

To remove a member of the board, the court says, or any other appointive officer whose tenure of office is fixed by law, the governor must assign a cause and give the officer a hearing. It makes no difference whether or not the statute creating the board expressly says this. Mrs. Lease was appointed for a term of three years as the law provides, and confirmed by the senate, and the law stands behind her and protects her in her position until she be removed for cause and after a hearing.

The opinion closes with the formal direction that a writ of *oustur issue* against J. W. Freeborn.

Mrs. Lease was seen at her hotel immediately after the decision was announced. She had a moment before had a consultation with Eugene Hagan, her attorney, and she declared that it was her purpose to resume her place on the board at once. "I have just telephoned out to the asylum," she said, "that I will attend the meeting of the board there this evening and preside as usual. The board has already visited most of the institutions in the state this month, so there will be very little for it to do until next month."

"Principle is what I fought for. I cared nothing for the crumb there is in the office. It costs me more every month than the office comes to. Will I resign? That's a question. I had intended to, but when I heard yesterday, almost directly from the state house, that if they lost this case they would immediately prefer charges and remove me for cause, I made up my mind to stay and give them all the fight they wanted."

"They say," Mrs. Lease continued, her eyes snapping and her teeth set until they gave forth a grating sound, "that I have been guilty of taking bribes from the grocery houses which have furnished the institutions of the state with supplies. Now, I want them to prove it."

"I tell you," the female Populist leader almost shouted as she walked the narrow space in her room, "that I am on the board to stay so long as I choose, and I defy them to bring any charge, no matter what its nature, against my official or private character. When they cease their libelous publications, when they stop their malicious scandals about me, I may see my way clear to retire from the board, but for the present and indefinitely I shall remain. Indeed I rather like the excitement. The Irish in me makes me belligerent—that is, when I am attacked."

ABOVE THE MARK AGAIN.

The Treasury Balance Once More Good, Thanks to Bond Receipts.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The treasury balance yesterday was \$117,115,325, the first time it has been above the hundred million dollar mark for several months. This is an increase of \$34,500,000 over Tuesday and is accounted for solely by the payments of the subscription for the new 5 per cent bonds. Of this increase \$28,656,294 is in gold and \$5,863,140 in currency.

The name of Oliver Wendell Holmes in the list of contributors to the February Atlantic Monthly is a reminder of Autocrat's unbroken connection with the magazine. Francis Parkman is the subject of this latest poem by Dr. Holmes. Two more significant names in American letters could hardly be brought together. A valuable portion of the same number is devoted to H. C. Merwin's article on Tammany Hall,—a clear, dispassionate statement of the great political machine's methods and achievements. Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller provides a study of nature. "In a Pasture by the Great Salt Lake." Two papers of American biography—not the result of research by a third party sort that is related at first hand—are Senator Dawe's "Recollections of Stanton under Lincoln," and J. C. Bancroft Davis's reminiscences and estimate of Hamilton Fish. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

Cut Straw and Eggs.

An old farmer who secures eggs all through the winter, when asked for his secret replied that he gave his hens plenty of cut straw. For while there was much belief in the reply, as it was supposed that the farmer was feeding cut straw to his hens (according to his statement), but when the facts came out it appeared that the cut straw was really the secret, but it was used four inches deep on the floor of the poultry house, in which millet seed and wheat were scattered, the hens thereby being provided with a warm place to work. The cut straw gave them a scratching bed, and it kept them in exercise, prevented disease and promoted the appetite.

It will pay better, if the matter of profit from returns is considered, to use straw in the poultry houses than in the cows' stalls. Many sold poultry houses can be rendered comfortable with straw, cut to three inch lengths, on the floor and if the hens are warm and can exercise, the cost will be less and the number of eggs greater.

Homeseekers Excursions.

On February 13th, March 13th, April 10th, May 8th, the Missouri Pacific Railway will sell round trip tickets to all points in Texas at one fare for the round trip. On Feb. 13th, also March 20th and April 24th, will sell round trip tickets to points in Southwest Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama. Tickets limited to 30 days to make the trip. Stopovers allowed on the going passage. For further information, rates etc., write or call on your nearest agent or depot 15th and Webster streets, or company's offices northeast corner 13th and Farnam streets, Omaha, Neb.

THOS. T. GODFREY, P. and T. Agent.

J. O. PHILLIPS, A. G. F. and P. Agent.

A beggar in a buggy is causing much mystification to the people of Knox county, Me. He is a typical tramp in appearance and demeanor, and has been for a week or two driving about the country begging food at the farm houses. The farmers have not yet made up their minds whether he is a thief or a lunatic.

Go South Via the Washab.

Tourists' tickets now on sale to all points. Homeseekers' tickets at half fare on excursion dates, Dec. 12th, Jan. 9th, Feb. 13th, March 18th, April 10th and May 8th. For rates or folders giving full description of lands, climate, etc., call at Washab Ticket office, No. 1502 Farnam Street, or write GEO. N. CLAYTON, N. W. P. Agt., Omaha, Neb.

A white lie soon loses its creamy complexion.

Go to California.

This is our Sleeping Car Rate on the Phillips-Rock Island Tourist Excursions from Chicago to Los Angeles or San Francisco, via the Seaside Route and Ogden. You can go with Phillips, the best of all Excursion Managers, for he has each party accompanied by a special agent who goes the entire trip with patrons. These personally conducted Excursions leave Chicago twice a week, Tuesday and Thursday. We have also a daily tourist car service, via our Southern Route, through the beautiful Indian Territory and Ft. Worth to Los Angeles and San Francisco. The Tourist car rate via this route, the same apply at Rock Island ticket office, 104 Clark Street. JNO. SEBASTIAN, G. P. A., C. R. L. & P. Ry. Chicago.

Weakness on both sides is, as we know, the trait of all quarrels.

Now is the Chance.

The Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf R. R., will run a series of "Home Seekers Excursions" from Kansas City to Neosho and points south in Missouri and Arkansas, at the rate of one fare for the round trip; tickets good going on date of excursions, and good returning 30 days, with privilege of stop-overs at pleasure.

These excursions will leave Kansas City February 13th, March 23rd, April 24th and May 8th.

This will be a good opportunity to see the greatest fruit, grain and livestock country in the world, situated along the line of the new Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf R. R.

For further particulars, address, JAMES DONOHUE, General Passenger Agent, Kansas City, Mo.

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IF SO MAKE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS TO GO VIA THE

BIG FOUR ROUTE.

Whether in pursuit of health or pleasure, no portion of the country offers so many and varied attractions at this season as the Sunny South. The Orange Groves of Florida, redolent with the perfume of sweet blossoms, wave their branches in hearty welcome to the tourist from the Snow-clad Northland and the mellow breezes of the Southern Sea woo the invalid from the Blizzards of the Frozen North. There is one line to Florida—"The Big Four Route" which on account of its excellent train service, perfect connections in Union Depots and absence of transfers, forms the "Tourists' Ideal Line to Florida." From all points north of the Ohio River the Big Four Route, in connection with the Through Car Lines from Cincinnati, will be found to offer the Best Time, Best Service and Best Equipment to all Southern Points, and if you desire to travel with comfort and ease be sure your tickets read via the Big Four Route.

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