

Western Kansas World.

Yearly Subscription, \$1.50.

STOCK FARMING THE BASIS OF OUR INDUSTRIES.

Givier & Crooks, Props.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR.

WA-KEENEY, KANSAS, SATURDAY AUGUST 15, 1896.

NUMBER 24.

BATTLE OF FINE WORDS.

Now Being Waged Between Salisbury and Olney.

At Present the American Secretary is Ahead—Failure of the Conservative Party in British Politics—The Cuban War for Freedom.

[Special Letter.]

After reading the Venezuela correspondence between Great Britain and the United States a European diplomat pronounced it the "most important international collection of letters published in ten years." When Secretary Olney addressed his first communication to Lord Salisbury, protesting against the seizure of Venezuelan territory in violation of the Monroe doc-



SECRETARY OF STATE OLNEY.

trine, his lordship replied in a supercilious tone and attempted to read a lesson in manners to Uncle Sam. Even after President Cleveland's message had been sent to congress, the British statesman sneered at American lack of dignity and essayed to ridicule the appointment, by the president, of a commission to fix the lawful boundary between Venezuela and British Guiana. The government at Washington, however, paid not the least attention to English insolence. President Cleveland appointed the boundary commissioners and congress instructed them to proceed with their labors, entirely independent of trans-Atlantic influences. When the dull-witted English bureaucrats saw that the American press and people did not care for their sneers or threats, they changed their line of action and became excessively polite and accommodating. They admitted that there might be something to arbitrate, after all, and that perchance the London foreign office might not be in the exclusive possession of all the geographical and diplomatic wisdom of the world. And they furthermore admitted that Mr. Olney, our secretary of state, although not trained in the little niceties of diplomacy, was shrewd enough to take advantage of every weak point in the Salisbury letters. And then John Bull began to hedge.

Olney Makes a Strong Case.

Of course, so experienced a statesman as Lord Salisbury would not be guilty of openly conceding any point. Hence, when circumstances and the justice of the American demands compelled him to make overtures, he aimed to minimize the importance of the Venezuelan affair and substituted a proposition for the creation of a permanent arbitration commission for the settlement of all disputes which might now exist or hereafter arise between Great Britain and the United States. He knew that such a proposition would receive a hearty response from Englishmen and had reason to suppose that it would please the American public. Secretary Olney was in sympathy with the plan and invited the submission of a scheme which would be acceptable to both countries. The answer came in the form of a treaty consisting of six articles, three of which provide for the appointment of arbitration tribunals and specify the character of disputes that shall be referred to them, and which were perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Olney. But to the fourth and fifth articles our secretary of state objected, because "under them the parties enter into arbitration and determine afterward, when they know the result, whether they will be bound or not." Under the proposal made by the United States the parties enter into arbitration, having determined beforehand that they will be bound. "The latter," says Mr. Olney, "is a genuine arbitration, the former is a mere imitation. The plan of Lord Salisbury is that all the forms and ceremonies of arbitration shall be gone through with, but with liberty for either party to reject the award if not to its liking. It is respectfully submitted that a proceeding of that sort must have a tendency to bring all arbitration into contempt; that each party to a dispute should decide to abide by an award before entering into an arbitration or should decide not to enter into it at all, and once entering into it, should be irrevocably bound."

Arbitration Will Supplant War.

The logic of the American position is unassailable, and is admitted even by the tory press of London. It has been hinted that Lord Salisbury framed the proposition in ambiguous terms for the sole purpose of obscuring the Venezuelan issue, but in view of the fact that in other documents he speaks favorably of the Monroe doctrine and its application it may be taken for granted that he is sincere in his desire to perpetuate friendly relations between the great English-speaking nations. He does not hesitate to admit that the Venezuelan misunderstanding is not im-

portant enough to risk a war, and virtually admits that it is not a question materially affecting the honor or the integrity of British territory. England feels confident that the present negotiations for a complete system of international arbitration will terminate in the conclusion of a treaty; and although Secretary Olney has at present the better of the diplomatic argument it is reasonable to predict that Lord Salisbury will revise his opinions in conformity with the American secretary's argument. From now on the subject of general arbitration will take the place of wearisome correspondence about a number of minor disagreements; and before long the Venezuela dispute and the Alaska boundary squabble will be submitted to tribunals appointed by the two governments. Never has the prospect of war between England and the United States seemed so distant as now; and just because honorable reasoning has supplanted jingoism and brag.

Salisbury's Government a Failure.

But, leaving aside this arbitration proposition, Lord Salisbury has not added any laurels to his reputation during his present administration. The parliament will close its session on the 14th of August without having accomplished much of anything. With a majority of over 100 in the house of commons, the conservatives have made a failure of everything they touched as a party measure. Ridicule has been heaped upon the ministry, whose members failed to work together harmoniously; and it is not surprising to hear that A. J. Balfour will retire from the government leadership of the house and take a seat among the lords, before the next session opens. In this case Joseph Chamberlain would become the real head of the conservative party, and such leadership would be equivalent to disintegration and dissolution. Chamberlain's failure in South Africa, the Boer episode and his silly threats in the Venezuela matter will not be forgiven by the English public in case it should be given a chance to record its opinion at the polls. A change in administrations would not interfere with the negotiations for international arbitration, however, and consequently the little trestle which is now brewing in the British political teapot is of but insignificant interest to the American people.

The Cuban Struggle for Liberty.

The renewed activity of the Cuban patriots who, under Gen. Antonio Maceo, recently defeated the Spaniards in the province of Pinar del Rio in a pitched battle, inflicting a loss of 300 killed and severely wounded, is declared to be the beginning of the end of the great struggle for liberty and freedom. American sympathy, which has always gone out to the "rebels," is aroused to such a pitch that, before long, the government at Washington must take some official action. The rebellion has now reached its maximum strength. In all parts of the island the patriots are winning victories, while the Spaniards waste their means, time and strength in perfecting the "trocha"—or line of fortifications—which is supposed to protect the city of Havana from all rebel attacks. The in-



GEN. ANTONIO MACEO.

urgent army is numerous enough to defy the Spanish troops, but an insufficiency of arms and ammunition would render a general attack foolhardy. In a conversation with an American correspondent Gen. Maceo expressed himself as able to capture Havana provided he could secure 26,000 cheap Remington rifles; 1,500,000 cartridges, 10 cannons and 100,000 rounds of artillery ammunition. At present the republican army consists of 60,000 men, stationed in the eastern, central and western parts of the island. Ten thousand of these are armed with infantry and cavalry Mauser rifles; 20,000 with infantry rifles of the Remington pattern; 15,000 with short Remington carbines, and 15,000 with miscellaneous arms of every conceivable pattern and make, from American repeating rifles down to oldtime flint-lock guns. With 20,000 additional men and plenty of ammunition, Gen. Maceo could sweep a path through Weyler's ridiculous "trocha" and join the armies of Gomez and Garcia; and the united forces could take Havana in spite of the entire Spanish army. But quite as effective—more so perhaps—than 20,000 rifles would be the recognition of the revolutionists by the government of the United States; and to secure this Thomas Estrada Palma, minister plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba to the United States, is straining every nerve. Spain is about to send 40,000 additional troops to the island, and these, the Cubans think should be met not only by armed patriots but also by the official disapproval of the greatest nation on earth.

G. W. WEIPPERT.

Dried beef, smoked and otherwise, was sent abroad to the amount of \$21,673 pounds, valued at \$73,569.

MAJ. CARROLL'S SCOOP.

Great Feat Performed by a War Correspondent.

He Sent News of the Battle at Pittsburg Landing Three Days in Advance of the Official Reports.

[Special Washington Letter.]

Regular readers of newspapers are familiar with the fact that modern enterprise is nowhere better exhibited than by daily newspapers in their efforts to gather all of the news of the world. Each newspaper tries to get more news and better news, and in better form, than any of its rivals. When an important item of news is secured by one newspaper only, none of the others having received it, that successful enterprise is called a "scoop" on all of the other newspapers.

There are two great press associations in this country, and their agents are gathering news in every village, as well as in all of the great cities. Full reports of the conventions of the great political parties are sent to all of the newspapers in the country by the press associations. And yet, in addition to those full reports, the leading newspapers print special reports from their own special correspondents.

When President Garfield was at Elberon, N. J., slowly dying from the effect of the bullet of the assassin Guitau about 200 special correspondents were there on the seacoast, daily and hourly making inquiry concerning the condition of the distinguished sufferer and sending telegrams to their newspapers, because all eyes were turned towards Elberon and our entire people were anxiously reading every item of news from that point. Tom Bivins, a splendid newspaper man, was almost sleepless for nearly a week because he learned from the surgeon in charge, Dr. Bliss, that the president could not survive and that his death was but a question of days or hours. Bivins was a stenographer and telegraph operator as well as a newspaperer, and he often sent telegrams by the hour for the regular telegraph operators at that place. Thus it happened that when Bivins rushed into the telegraph office one night and grasped the key of the instrument he was allowed to send his messages to his newspapers conveying to the world the first information of the fact that President Garfield had breathed his last, shortly after ten o'clock that night.

Naturally, the newspapers represented by Bivins were elated with his achievement, and his reputation as a faithful and successful newspaperer was soon known throughout the entire country.

The war correspondents have always endured hardships and many of them have been actually under fire, together with the soldiers, in order that they might furnish late and reliable information for their papers. During the war between China and Japan, during the Franco-Prussian war, and during the war of the rebellion in this country the newspaper workers were diligent and faithful; and particular interest was taken by the people in the dispatches marked "special." Previous to our civil war the greatest special work ever done was by the correspondent of the London Times, who sent his paper and had published an account of the battle of Waterloo and the downfall of Napoleon, on the very day that the offi-



TOM BIVINS AT THE KEY.

cial reports were received in London from Lord Wellington. In those days, when there were no facilities for the rapid transmission of news, that was a remarkable feat in journalism. For half a century the London Times claimed credit for that work, and no other newspaper approximated the achievement.

But during the civil war in this country the London Times' famous report was excelled by the New York Herald, when that paper printed the first account of the battle of Pittsburg Landing, the battle which almost caused the star of Grant to set forever. That report was put on the wires and transmitted by Maj. William C. Carroll, for many years recently a clerk in the pension office in this city. Maj. Carroll's story of the great battle was printed 48 hours in advance of all other reports, and that achievement stands to-day without parallel as the greatest "scoop" in the history of war correspondence. The Carroll report was printed in the Herald, transmitted to Washington, and sent to congress by President Lincoln in an official message three days before

the war department received official reports concerning the decisive and sanguinary engagement.

Maj. Carroll had been at Island No. 10 on the Mississippi river, where the federal forces under Maj. Gen. John Pope had been slowly but successfully driving the enemy from his stronghold. Grant had fought the successful battle at Fort Donelson, and gained his first national reputation by sending his famous message demanding "unconditional surrender." as a result of which the newspapers used his initials in laudation, calling him "Unconditional Surrender Grant." Col. John A. Logan had been wounded in that engagement, and received a commission as brigadier general; and on his way to the rear, had met with Maj. Carroll at Island No. 10, and attached him to his staff, ordering him to report to Gen. Grant, at Savannah, Tenn. Grant's army was located there, and he was preparing for an aggressive campaign, when the enemy surprised him on Sunday, April 6, 1862, and almost drove him into the river before nightfall came, and with it the reinforcements which were so sadly needed. It is matter of history that, with the aid of Buell's army of the Ohio, Grant retrieved himself on Monday, and won a victory over his powerful foe. On that Sunday morning Grant was at his headquarters at Savannah when the battle began, and he at once embarked on his boat to go to the scene



AN INTERVIEW WITH LINCOLN.

of battle, and find out what caused the firing which was growing constantly in volume. Maj. Carroll had arrived that morning, he reported to Adjt. Gen. Rawlins, and he received permission to accompany Gen. Grant and staff. Thus it happened that he was early on the scene of action.

Maj. Carroll has said upon numerous occasions that Gen. Buell was not in accord with Gen. Grant. He had conversations with Buell and with his staff officers, and they claimed all credit for the victory. Maj. Carroll reported what he had learned to Gen. Rawlins, Gen. Hilyer and Gen. Logan, and told them that if Buell's war correspondents should send reports of the battle they would undoubtedly give Buell all credit for the victory. Commodore Graham gave Maj. Carroll one of his transport steamers, and the major steamed away to Fort Henry, for the purpose of sending his dispatches. Telegraphic communication with the north was established at Fort Henry, and Maj. Carroll was the only newspaper man in the army who knew that fact. He still held his commission as the Herald correspondent, and wrote his account of the battle while the boat steamed down the river. He paid the telegraph operator ten dollars for his immediate attention, and immediately the news began to go over the wire. All newspaper matter was subject to censorship, and very soon the operator told Carroll that the commanding officer at Fort Donelson wanted to know who was sending that long dispatch. It happened that the commanding officer was Gen. Logan, and when the operator sent word that it was Carroll he authorized the report to go ahead. Thus it happened that Maj. Carroll sent the first news of the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and by doing so he not only accomplished the greatest feat ever performed in war correspondence, but at the same time gave the world a report which fairly represented Gen. Grant, thereby forestalling the reports which were sent later in the interest of Gen. Buell. Consequently, during his entire lifetime Gen. Grant was a warm friend of Maj. Carroll, and took occasion to demonstrate his appreciation.

Maj. Carroll then secured leave of absence, went to New York, and afterwards to Washington where he saw Senator Washburn, and personally gave him a correct account of the battle, giving credit to Grant for his splendid efforts, and correcting many misapprehensions which existed. It will be remembered that Gen. Halleck gave credence to Gen. Buell's report, and relieved Grant of his command, humiliating the great soldier to such a degree that, but for the warm friendship and urgent advice of Gen. Sherman and Gen. Rawlins, Grant might have resigned from the army. Senator Washburn took Maj. Carroll to the white house, where he had an extended interview with President Lincoln, to whom he gave valuable information concerning the Illinois soldier who was at that time being roundly abused and vilified from many sources.

SMITH D. FRY.

There are 47 Chinese temples in America.

A Basis of Calculation. She arose, smiling, from the dentist's chair.

"How much do I owe you?" she asked.

"Three dollars and a half," was the reply.

"Are you sure that's right?" she inquired, suspiciously.

"Quite sure."

"Well, it seems a good deal. The time I was here before you only charged me two dollars, and you hurt me ever so much more than you did this time."—Washington Star.

Forgetfulness. The man who beats the lottery forgets that he's been poor. The chap whose aching tooth is out remembers it no more. The victor, crowned, forgets the strain it took to win the laurel. The lovers, after all's made up, forget their bitter quarrel. Likewise the ice-man honest is, when he puts up the price, He forgets the chilly winter, with its overplus of ice! —Indianapolis Journal.

NOT SLANG EITHER.



Sick Man—Write me up a policy. Insurance Agent—Not on your life.—N. Y. World.

Explicit Directions. Young Tutter (who has been invited to call)—I hope I won't have any difficulty in finding your house, Miss Calloway.

Miss Calloway—Oh, no; I don't think you will, Mr. Tutter. You can tell the house in this way: Just before you get to it, on the first corner, is a florist's establishment.—Bay City Chat.



Little Marie—Mamma, when I grow up may I marry a Dutchman? Mamma—Why a Dutchman, dear? Little Marie—So I can be a duchess, mamma.

Weary Waggle, Diplomat. Tramp—Wot a beautiful baby that is, miss. Your little sister, ain't it? Looks just like you.

Mrs. Gulling—No, that's my little daughter. Poor man! You look as if you had walked a long way. Do you take sugar and milk in your tea?—Cleveland Leader.

Safety Assured. Mr. Winks (solemnly)—A noted physician says that deadly bacteria lurk in bank notes, and many diseases, especially smallpox, are spread that way.

Mrs. Winks—Mercy on us! Give me all you have right off. I've been vaccinated, you know.—N. Y. Weekly.

Any One of the Sex. Mrs. Wickwire—These clairvoyants' advertisements are so ridiculous. Here is one that begins: "Mme. X tells everything." The idea.

Mr. Wickwire—Fells everything? Any woman can do that.—Indianapolis Journal.

Answers. Ebbs—"Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" asks the poet.

Hebbs—Oh, the undertaker usually comes in and buries the bone of contention.—Town Topics.

Willing to Divide. Prestidigitateur (during his grand gold-piece act)—I could take \$20 gold pieces from your pocket all night.

Seedy Individual—Go ahead, pard; I'll give ye half.—N. Y. Weekly.

Tardy Penitence. "Why won't mamma's little boy tell mamma what he's been stuffing himself with?" anxiously asked the maternal parent, bending over the couch.

"You have been in the pantry, Johnny, eating too much of something you ought not to have eaten at all, and you won't tell me what it is. It makes me sick at heart!"

"It makes me sick o' tart, too!" moaned Johnny, turning his face to the wall.

But mamma did not catch on.—Chicago Tribune.

Strictly Personal. She—How is it you were not at Kiedel's party?

He—I stayed away for a personal reason.

She—May I know what it was?

He—If you will promise to maintain it a profound secret.

She—I give you my promise.

He—I was not invited.—Neckarzeitung.

A Passionate Lyric. "Is it true, my daughter, that you and Charles have separated, and that he has sent you an abusive poem?"

"Yes, father; we have parted forever. I don't mind that so much, but his poem was simply awful. He must have been very angry when he wrote it."

"H'm, no doubt; one of those 'poems of passion,' eh?"—Up-to-Date.

A Possible Reason. "When Twilkens gets anything on his mind," said the busy man, "he is always speaking of it as 'the question of the hour.' I wonder what makes him do that."

"I don't know, unless it's because he expects to take up an hour a day of your time explaining it."—Washington Star.

As to the Journey. Mr. Ferguson (who has been ready to start to the theater an hour or more)—Laura, if you had to take a train for heaven you would get left.

Mrs. Ferguson (buttoning her gloves)—I don't know whether I would or not, but if I did catch it I know I would have to travel without any escort.—Chicago Tribune.

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