

THE GAZETTE.

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SUSPECTED A TRAGEDY.

A Case in Which a Middle-aged Neighbor Causes Lots of Trouble.

"It's the simplest thing in the world," said the friend of the family; "just chloroform her."

"But will chloroform kill her?"

"Certainly, and without suffering."

"Have you ever tried it?"

"No. But I have heard of its being successfully done."

"How much chloroform will it take?"

"I haven't any idea."

"Will she suffer long?"

"Judging you are too tender-hearted. I'd cut her head off if I was in your place, and make quick work of it, too."

An excited individual who overheard this dialogue from the landing outside of the half-closed door, made a dash for the nearest drug store.

"Don't don't sell anybody any chloroform if it is called for unless you want to be accessory to a murder! I'm going to the police station to make a complaint," and he darted out of one door of the drugshop as a pleasant appearing young man appeared at the other.

"How much chloroform does it take to kill a cat?"

"No you don't," said the druggist, "where's your prescription?"

"Prescription? Didn't I tell you it was a cat?"

"Shoot the cat!"

"I haven't any gun. Besides—"

"No prescription, no chloroform," and the druggist closed the discussion.

The owner of the cat went to other drug stores in the immediate neighborhood, but he seemed to be suspected, and they all had the same objection, refusing to sell him any chloroform, and regarding him with distrust.

When he reached his flat the patrol wagon stood at the door.

"Anybody sick here?" asked the officer in charge.

"Not in my part of the house," was the ready answer.

"Who are you going to chloroform?" inquired the officer.

"Oh, ha, ha! How did you know that I was going to chloroform anybody? Have you seen my elum?"

"Seen nothing. But you've been complained of, and you'll have to come to headquarters to explain."

"Much obliged, I'm sure. If you'll come in I'll show you the innocent victim. She's one of the family, too."

He led the way to a rear room in the building, where a barrel stood in a corner.

"There she is," he said, giving the barrel a tilt. "She's been ailing for a year, and I concluded it would be a kindness to have her mercifully removed. Poor kitty! Whew!"

The officer stooped and looked into the barrel. There was nothing there. The cat had escaped. Like the neighbor who had complained, she may have overheard the dialogue. But it cost a week of investigation on the part of the law and the settlement for a case of assault and battery with the over-officious neighbor. And the cat never came back.

The Steamer Aquilla.

The steamer Aquilla, which was nearly the cause of a quarrel between Chili and Argentina during the civil war in Chili, and which finally remained the property of the Santiago government, was offered for sale recently. The vessel was used as a Chilean transport, and the government refused to sell it to the Brazilian rebels or to President Peixoto, as it desired to remain strictly neutral between the rebels and the regular government at Rio de Janeiro.

They Know It's Flat.

Sturdy antagonists of the concavists of Chicago, the Koroshan angels, have arisen in London. The society of Pianists of that city has gained in numbers and strength sufficiently to publish a monthly magazine called the Earth Review, through which medium they hope to convert the great body of "Globoarists," who think the earth is round, to the creed of the pianists, who know it to be flat.

No Common Clay About It.

Policeman, discovering young mother tying an elaborate box tied with ribbons to lamp-post—An "what air yer doin' there, mum?"

Young Mother—Why, you see, sir, we've got to send a whole lot of replies to letters of congratulation on baby's first anniversary, and I don't want to put them in the same box that everybody uses.

APPROPRIATION BILL.

BEING CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

There Being no Quorum the House Adjourned—The Congression Made by the Democrats to the Louisiana Senators. The Senate Talks Tariff.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—Some routine business was transacted at the opening of the session of the house Saturday. Mr. Lockwood of New York reported back from the Pacific railroad commission the resolution calling upon the attorney general to inform the house whether the stockholders of the Central and Union Pacific railroads are liable in any manner to the United States for reimbursement for bonds issued under the various acts of congress authorizing the issue of bonds in aid of said roads. The house then went into committee of the whole, Mr. O'Neil of Massachusetts, in the chair, and took up the army appropriation bill. The bill carries \$23,368,281, or \$657,355 less than the appropriation for the current fiscal year. During the debate on the bill the roll was called under the rule, and no quorum being developed, the absentees were reported to the house, and then, at 3:53, the house adjourned.

It Came Too Late.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Twenty-one private pension bills passed, tell the story of the day's work in the house yesterday. The beneficiary of one of the bills is an old lady of 95, totally blind, the widow of a soldier of the war of 1812, and had died since her bill was reported from last Friday night's session. When it was read and about to be placed upon its passage Mr. Taylor of Indiana interrupted: "Never mind, Mr. Speaker," said he, "that bill can be laid aside; the old lady is dead." The members who had been chatting and laughing stopped. There was a moment of silence. The relief for which the old lady had been striving so long was at hand, but like many another congressional claim, it came too late; congress could no longer give her relief. The clerk paused and then went on reading the next bill. The remainder of yesterday was devoted to the consideration of private bills, but only one—that to reimburse Harry Johnson and some other Tennessee war claimants—was disposed of, and it was re-committed for further investigation. One other bill was taken up, a bill to refer an Alabama cotton claim to the court of claims. It met with strenuous opposition, however, on the ground that it would open the way to other cotton claims, aggregating \$120,000,000, and was not voted on before the recess. The evening session was devoted to pension bills.

Sugar Congression.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The Democratic senators who have been engaged in preparing a tariff compromise considered the sugar duty especially Saturday and decided, besides fixing a tariff of 40 per cent ad valorem on all sugars and 1/2 of a cent additional on refined sugar, to impose a further duty of 1-10 of a cent on sugar imported from countries paying a bounty to sugar producers. This last provision is supposed to be aimed especially at Germany, where a bounty is paid on beet sugar. It is agreed also to extend the time when the sugar schedule shall take effect until January 1, 1895, which will insure the bounty under the McKinley bill for this season's crop. It is understood that these two provisions have been inserted in response to the earnest solicitations of the Louisiana senators.

Considered Tariff.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The joint resolution authorizing the secretary of the treasury to make partial payments on vessels constructed and repaired under the control of the treasury department to the extent of 75 per cent of the value of the work done, was passed Saturday; and then Mr. Harris at 11:30 o'clock moved to take up the tariff bill. Mr. Allen asked permission to consider the calendar. Mr. Harris stated that the tariff bill was more important than all the bills on the calendar put together, and he therefore felt impelled to insist on his motion. The yeas and nays were demanded and the motion was agreed to—31 to 19.

Details Not Known.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The details of the agreement between the quarreling elements of the Democratic party in the senate are not given, but there is no one here that believes that on the final outcome there will be three Democrats who will vote against the bill. In fact, it is thought by the best informed, that when the time comes every Democrat, including Hill, will cast his vote for the bill. The only question now among Democrats is when the vote can be had.

Tariff Commencement.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—The principal changes to be made in the tariff bill in accordance with the agreement made yesterday by the Democratic senators are in the income tax and sugar schedule. The sugar men have been from the first clamorous for an ad valorem instead of a specific duty, and that change has been conceded. The details have not been absolutely fixed, but there is little doubt that the sugar schedule will be entirely supplanted by a new one, which will provide a uniform duty of 40 per cent ad valorem, with an addition of 1/2 of a cent for refined sugar. The principal change in the income tax is a provision for the limitation of the time that the law shall remain in operation. This is another matter of detail which has not been absolutely agreed upon, but the principle having been conceded the senators who have the compromise in hand do not consider there is any possibility of failure on account of the period. It will probably be about five or six years. There has been no change in the rate of taxation, which will be left at 2 per cent on amounts in excess of \$4000. A number of changes in the rate of duty will be made in the iron schedule, in which there will be a slight advance over the rates fixed by the pending bill. Carpets also secure an advance. In many cases the rates fixed in the house bill will replace those of the bill reported to the senate by the finance committee. Another material concession which will be made to the disaffected senators will be the restoration of the specific system in many places where the finance committee changed the house bill by the substitution of an ad valorem duty. The manufacturers have made complaint of the ad valorem system because of the opportunity which, they say, it offers for fraud. Their senators have supported them in this representation, and the finance committee, while still retaining their confidence in the fairness of ad valorem methods, has yielded the point in many instances for the sake of harmony and with the hope of securing the support of the united party in the senate. There will be no change in the rates fixed on iron ore, lead ore or coal, and wool will remain on the free list. The whiskey tax as reported by the finance committee will also be undisturbed.

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