SENATOR ELKINS DEAD AT AGE OF 69

Passes Away at Washington After Long Illness.

WAS IN SENATE SINCE 1894

Served as Secretary of War Under President Harrison—Leaves an Estate Amounting to $30,000,000.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Senator Stephen B. Elkins of West Virginia, son-in-law of Henry Gassaway Davis, Democratic candidate for vice-president in 1904, and himself a Republican leader of the senate, died early today at his Washington home after an illness of nearly a year.

Doctor Sowers, who attended the senator, announced the cause of his death as septisimia. All the members of his family were at the bedside when the end came, as his demise had been expected for several days.

No arrangements have been made for his funeral, but it is probable it will be held at Elkins, W. Va.

Senator Stephen Benton Elkins was born in Perry county, Ohio, September 26, 1841. He received his early education in the public schools of Missouri and graduated from the Missouri State university at Columbia in the class of 1860. He was admitted to the bar in 1864, and in the same year went to New Mexico.

He made his debut in politics as a member of the territorial legislative

Senator S. B. Elkins.

assembly of New Mexico in 1864-5, where his commanding presence and magnetic force gained him many friends.

In 1867 he became attorney general for the territory, and a year later was made the government's attorney for New Mexico by Andrew Jackson.

He continued in that capacity through the presidential administration of General Grant. While holding this position he was instrumental in passing and enforcing a law against "peonage," a form of slavery in New Mexico.

Amasses Large Fortune.

It was at this period of his career that he commenced to amass his great fortune. In 1869, at the age of twenty-eight, he was elected president of the First National bank of Santa Fe. His investments prospered to such an extent that his name became a byword in financial circles.

In 1873 he went to congress as territorial delegate. While at Washington he married the daughter of Senator Gassaway Davis, from West Virginia. Mr. Elkins was re-elected to the Fourty-fourth congress while on a trip to Europe, and at the same time became a member of the Republican national committee, on which he serve for three presidential campaigns.

At the end of this period he left congress and moved to West Virginia, where he devoted himself to business affairs, making lucrative investments in the neighboring coal lands.

On December 17, 1891, he was appointed secretary of war and served in that capacity till the close of President Harrison's administration.

In February, 1894 Senator Elkins was elected to the United States senate, and was re-elected in 1901 by a unanimous vote of the Republican members of the legislature, giving him a majority of 46 on a joint ballot. He was again unanimously re-elected in 1907. Mr. Elkins during his senatorial career has always been a strong advocate of protection. His action during the recent tariff revision aligned him in the ranks of the most ardent protectionists.

He was regarded [illegible] the biggest, broadest, brainiest men at Washington, known throughout the financial and political world as a man whose word was as good as his bond.

As a financier his success has been equalled by few, his estate amounting to upwards of $30,000,000.

In his public career, his keen business sense rendered valuable aid to the country in many a crisis.

New York Broker Ends Life.

New York, Jan. 5.—After a [illegible] for the past [illegible] years a member of the New York Stock Exchange and head of the [illegible] committed suicide at Boston [illegible]

"Great Corn Century Times"

[illegible]

FLYER HELD UP BY BANDITS

TWO LOOT MAIL CAR AND SHOOT DOWN CLERK.

Robbers Board Northern Pacific Train at Seattle—Make Away With Unknown Amount of Loot.

Auburn, Wash., Jan. 5.—Two masked bandits entered the mail car on the Northern Pacific railroad just as the train was leaving the King street depot, Seattle.

As soon as the first robber got in the door he leveled his revolver at Mail Clerk Harry O. Clark and ordered him to throw up his hands, and then fired before Clark could obey the demand. The bullet struck Clark in the mouth, ripping out the teeth on one side.

As soon as Clark fell the two robbers turned their attention to the other clerk, C. E. Reid, and covered him.

Both Clark and Reid were then locked up in a closet in the end of the car and were not discovered until the train reached Auburn.

A large consignment of Tacoma and south mail is transferred to this train at Auburn.

The train does not stop between Seattle and Auburn, but the robbers got off at Kent, where the train slows up for the city limits.

According to Reid the two robbers wore masks over the lower part of their faces.

The mail pouches and registered mail were scattered in the car, but it could not be learned what had been taken.

TROOPS SLAY 18 BANDITS

Heavy Fighting at San Felipe, Mexico—Large Quantity of Ammunition and Supplies Captured.

Mexico City, Jan. 5.—Eighteen bandits and three soldiers were killed in a fight at San Felipe, state of Tabasco, Sunday, according to official dispatches which reached Mexico City. The telegrams were sent by messenger to a telegraph office 50 miles from the scene of the fight. The report stated that ten soldiers and many bandits were wounded. For several weeks a band of 300 men has been making trouble for the authorities in Tabasco. They claimed to be revolutionists, while the government authorities say they are not connected with any revolutionary movement, but organized themselves into a clan to plunder.

The troops were ordered to attack them Sunday at San Felipe, where a sharp engagement lasting two hours and twenty minutes occurred. Sixty bandits surrendered at the close of the encounter, the others scattering in all directions to the mountains pursued by soldiers. The troops captured a large quantity of ammunition and a number of horses and guns were left in the town by the members of the band.

BANK HAS RECORD SURPLUS

Union Trust Company of Pittsburg Has $27,500,000—Stock Quoted at $1,834.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 5.—The Union Trust company of Pittsburg, in which Secretary of State P. C. Knox, H. C. Frick, A. W. Mellon and Henry Phipps are directors, has announced the addition of $1,000,000 of last year's profits to the bank's surplus, making a surplus of $27,500,000—perhaps the largest of any bank in America. In addition to this, this bank paid out dividends of $1,000,000 on earnings for the year 1910. The bank's stock is now quoted at $1,834 for each share par value of $100.

ASKS FRANCHISE FOR WOMEN

Gov. Baldwin of Connecticut, in Inaugural Address Takes Stand for Equal Suffrage.

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 5.—In an inaugural address that contained sweeping recommendations for reforms, Judge Simeon E. Baldwin, the new Democratic governor of Connecticut, surprised and startled his audience by declaring himself unequivocally in favor of suffrage for women.

"There has been a revolution in property relations between husband and wife," he said, "and it seems to me without representation does not seem to be in harmony with our republican institutions."

CARDINAL LOSES HIS APPEAL

French Court Rules Damages for Letter Prohibiting Use of Certain School Books Proper.

Paris, Jan. 5.—The Court of Appeals today confirmed the decision of the civil tribunal at Orleans, which ordered Cardinal Ludovic Lucon archbishop of Rheims, to pay $700 damages to the Public School Teachers' Association. The cardinal was convicted on Feb. 7, 1910, of attempting to injure the public schools by signing an episcopal letter forbidding the use of the schools to certain text books [illegible]

Woman is a Pensioner [illegible]

[illegible]

TAKING AN INVENTORY

HUNDREDS KILLED BY ASIATIC QUAKE

Vyerny, in Russian Turkestan, Is Devastated.

FORTY BODIES RECOVERED

Shock of Disturbance Which Destroys Inhabitants and Wrecks Cities Felt Throughout World—Czar Sends Aid to Stricken.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—Reports of the effect of the terrific earthquake that shook Russian Turkestan are beginning to be received here from the stricken districts by the government officials, and all tell tales of death and destruction.

Forty bodies have been recovered from the ruins of the city of Vyerny, where the shake was most severely felt. Vyerny is a fortified town, capital of Somiryetchensk territory, situated at the northern foot of the transIlli Ala-Tau, about fifty miles from the river Illi, and about the same distance from Lake Issyk-Kul, and from the reports received was the center of the disturbance, which was felt around the world.

Great Fissures Opened.

At Vyerny great fissures opened in the ground, and in some cases entombed entire houses before the occupants could escape. A gigantic crack several feet in width extends across the entire market place of the city. From this apparently radiate other cracks which, according to the frightened natives, opened wide enough to consume the houses and then closed to their present size.

The terror-stricken inhabitants gathered around the governor's house and united in praying for deliverance. With each succeeding shock their terror increased. Men, women and children were speechless with fear and stood rooted to the ground with fright.

At Tashkeut, capital of the general government of Russian Turkestan, the shock was so severe that a number of buildings collapsed, burying a number of people in the ruins. The exact loss of life is not known.

Communication Cut Off.

Telegraphic communication with Vyerny is cut off entirely and the only information that can be received is by messengers from the stricken city to the neighboring towns, from whence it is possible to send messages to this city.

Preparations are being made here to send aid to the destroyed district, for what with the intense cold and the lack of food the suffering must already be intense.

Earthquake shocks are not unfamiliar to the residents of Turkestan in the vicinity of Vyerny, as it was badly damaged by a disturbance of the earth in 1897.

Tremors Recorded in America.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Earthquake shocks of unusual intensity and duration were recorded by seismographs in this city, New York and Cleveland.

Tashkeut, capital of the general government of Russian Turkestan, is an important trade center, with a population of about 157,000.

Vyerny, which appears to have suffered most, is a fortified town situated at the northern foot of the trans-Ili Ala-Tau about fifty miles from the River Ili, and about the same distance from Lake Issyk-Kul. It was badly damaged by an earthquake in 1897.

London Feels "Gigantic" Shock.

London, Jan. 5.—An earthquake of gigantic proportions was recorded by the seismograph at the observatory here yesterday, apparently 2,000 miles or more distant to the east and south. The disturbance was so violent that the pencils of the instrument were broken.

EIGHT DEAD IN RAIL WRECK

NORTH COAST LIMITED HITS BURLINGTON COACH.

Trainmen and Passengers Are Seriously Injured in Accident on Northern Pacific Near Spokane.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 5.—In the Northern Pacific yards in Cheney, North Coast limited No. 2 struck the rear car of Burlington passenger train No. 42, east-bound. Three coaches were wrecked.

Eight are believed dead and a number of trainmen and passengers seriously hurt.

The engineer and fireman of No. 2 and the express and mail clerk are missing and are believed to be dead in the wreckage. The Burlington train was taking the siding to let the limited pass.

A relief train with physicians and nurses left Spokane at once for the scene.

Five dead have been found, and it was reported that eight more bodies were in the wreck. The known dead are:

—— Starr, Seattle, express messenger.

G. L. Warren, superintendent Spokane orphans' home.

W. Mason, porter.

—— Oliver, porter, Chicago.

One unidentified man.

A Pullman porter, name unknown, is injured fatally.

A traveling bag was found bearing the name of O. E. Brown, 2504 H street, Omaha, Neb., with instructions to notify R. A. Cavanaugh, secretary Illinois Commercial association, Chicago.

CELL FOR GAYNOR ASSAILANT

James J. Gallagher Is Sentenced to Twelve Years at Hard Labor for Assault.

New York, Jan. 5.—Twelve years at hard labor in the prison, "and thence until the cost of prosecution is paid," was the sentence pronounced on James J. Gallagher, who shot Mayor Gaynor, in the court of oyer and terminer in Jersey City.

Having been adjudged sane, Gallagher was put on trial on the charge of atrocious assault on Street Commissioner "Big Bill" Edwards on board the liner Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse on August 9 last. The verdict was returned in 40 minutes.

No testimony was offered in the defendant's behalf. Attorney Simpson resting his case with the request that the charge be dismissed on the ground that no intent on Gallagher's part to kill Edwards had been shown.

ROB 30 BANKS IN 90 DAYS

Kansas Bandits Loot One Every Third Day, and No Thief Is Caught.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 5.—Bank robbing appears to be one of the most profitable industries in Kansas. Figures made public here show that in the last three months 30 banks have been robbed in the Sunflower state. These robberies have netted the robbers $100,000.

And the industry appears no less safe than it is profitable. Not one robber is in jail as a result of all these raids.

J. N. Dolley, state bank commissioner, says there are two bands of these robbers, one with headquarters in Nebraska and the other in Oklahoma. These bands appear to understand each other, as one does not infringe on the territory of the other.

Hang American Pensioner at Cork.

Cork, Ireland, Jan. 5.—William Scanlan, an American army pensioner, was hanged for the murder of his sister-in-law. The crime was committed in 1908, and Scanlan, who had three trials, was convicted on purely circumstantial evidence.

ILLINOIS SENATE OUSTS HOLSTLAW

Colleagues Vote to Expel Confessed Bribe Taker.

LORIMER CASE TO BE PROBED

Charles Adkins Is Elected Speaker of House and Is Supported by Twenty Members Who Bolt Party Caucus.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 5.—Expulsion of Senator D. W. Holstlaw of Iuka, self-confessed bribe taker, from the senate of Illinois was the feature of the convening of that body.

This action was expected to go far in the precluding of an extended investigation by the senate of the Lorimer scandal, in which Senator Holstlaw confessed he received $2,500 for his vote, although a resolution was later adopted naming certain senators to conduct an inquiry into charges of bribery and corruption. Holstlaw also confessed receiving $700 from the alleged "jack pot."

Oglesby the Moving Spirit.

Expulsion of Senator Holstlaw was engineered by Lieut. Gov. John G. Oglesby. When the name of the senator was reached on the roll call of the hold-over senators, the lieutenant governor, as presiding officer of the upper house, directed that it be omitted. The reading clerk hesitated for a moment as a sudden hush fell upon the senate.

With hardly a second's hesitation Chairman Oglesby handed to the clerk the formal resignation which Senator Holstlaw had sent to James A. Rose, secretary of state, from his Iuka home, when his confession added fuel to the big legislative scandal last summer. As the reading of the resignation was finished Senator Douglas W. Helm was on his feet with a resolution declaring vacant the seat which Senator Holstlaw had occupied.

The chair ruled that the resolution lie on the table for one day.

Will Lose His Salary.

Expunging the name of Holstlaw from the senate roster means that the Iuka banker will not collect the $2,000 salary which will be paid to each of the other 50 senators before he leaves Springfield this week.

Stanton C. Pemberton of Oakland, involved in the furniture scandal and under indictment in Sangamon county, added to the sensation by reading a statement asking that he be excused from all participation in the senate's activities until a committee can investigate the charges.

Asks a Bribery Inquiry.

Senator Dailey of Peoria offered a resolution calling for the appointment of a committee "to investigate the charges of bribery and corruption made against certain members of the senate who have been indicted for or confessed to the crime of bribery, to consider the facts relating thereto and report to the senate their findings and conclusions with respect to such matters and as to whether such senators or either of them should be unseated or expelled from the senate."

The motion was adopted.

Henry M. Dunlap of Savoy and Frank W. Burton of Carlinville, the respective nominees of the Republican and Democratic caucuses, were the two nominees for president pro tem. of the senate. The party vote was 34 to 16 in favor of Senator Dunlap.

Adkins Made Speaker.

Representative Charles Adkins ofEment was elected speaker of the Forty-seventh assembly when that body convened. The vote was 84 for Adkins, against 54 for George W. Alschuler, the Democratic choice.

The Republicans united on Adkins after 48 hours of wrangling filled with bitterness. The 20 Shurtleff men who bolted the party caucus came into camp on Adkins. The consolation they receive is in the assertion that it was their bolt which forced the selection of Adkins.

George W. Alschuler of Aurora was the Democratic caucus nominee for speaker, by virtue of which he was made the minority leader.

Adkins Wins in the Caucus.

On the fifth ballot in a caucus of 62 state administration Republicans Representative Adkins was made the caucus nominee. He was one on a list of men credited as acceptable to the Shurtleff men who bolted the caucus of Republicans.

After the fourth ballot in the caucus all withdrew except Adkins, Hamilton, Provine and ApMadoc. The latter two had been receiving one vote each in the previous ballots. Roll call on the fifth ballot showed that Adkins was elected by a generous majority before the result was announced. Hamilton thereupon withdrew in his favor.

CLAIMS HE IS RESURRECTED

Iowan Asserts He Promised the Lord to Devote His Life to Religious Works.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 5.—Mark Fitzgerald, a farmer near Truro, claims he has been raised from the dead. He declares that while his soul was in heaven he promised the Lord if permitted to return to earth he would devote his entire time to religious works. He is selling his stock and preparing to devote himself to religious work as he promised. He is forty years old, prominent and wealthy.

STEAMSHIP TRUST IS SUED

THIRTEEN ATLANTIC CARRIERS ACCUSED OF PLOT.

Government Alleges $55,000,000 a Year in Steerage Business Is Tied up by Pact.

New York, Jan. 5.—The federal government brought suit in the United States circuit court under the Sherman anti-trust law against 13 of the principal transatlantic steamer lines, which are estimated to control 90 per cent. of the steerage traffic, worth to them $55,000,000 a year.

Twelve officers of the defendant companies, all resident in America, are named as co-defendants.

These 13 companies, the government charges, entered into an illegal contract on February 5, 1908, in London, by which they constituted themselves the Atlantic conference, with power to apportion all traffic pro rata, impose heavy fines on members of the conference for violation of any of the articles of agreement, and wage competition against all lines outside the conference.

As a result, it is alleged, the Russian volunteer fleet, plying between New York and Libau, was driven out of business, and the Russian-American line was forced to make terms with the conference and enter its membership.

Suit was brought by Henry A. Wise, United States district attorney, acting under instructions from United States Attorney General Wickersham.

In its petition the government prays the court to "enjoin the defendants from further agreeing, combining, conspiring . . . to injure or destroy the business of any person or corporation engaged in the business of carrying steerage passengers between points in the United States and Europe."

FINE ROADS FOR REBATING

Federal Judge Holland Assesses Reading and Lehigh Lines and Bethlehem Steel Company $40,000.

Philadelphia, Jan. 5.—Fines of $40,000 were imposed on the Philadelphia & Reading railway, the Lehigh Valley Railroad company and the Bethlehem Steel company by Judge Holland in the United States district court for unlawful rebating.

The government charged that the railroads remitted demurrage charges on the freight cars used by the Steel company. The defendants will appeal the case to the Supreme court.

THE MARKETS.

Grain, Provisions, Etc.

Chicago, Jan. 4.

FLOUR—Steady. Winter wheat, patent, jute, $4.40@4.50; straight, jute, $4.10@4.25; clear, jute, $3.40@3.60; spring wheat, special brands, wood, $6.20@6.35; Minnesota hard spring, straight, export bags, $4.50@4.70; first clears, $3.40@3.60; second clears, $2.70@2.80; low grades, $2.50@2.60; rye, white, per bbl., jute, $3.80@4.00; dark, $3.60@3.75.

WHEAT—Advanced. May, 97⅝@98⅝c; July, 94⅛@95¼c.

CORN—Higher. May, 48⅝@49⅝c; July, 49⅝@50¼c.

OATS—Quiet. May, 34¼@34⅝c; July, 34⅛@34⅝c.

BUTTER—Creamery, extra, 29c; price to retail dealers, 31½c; prints, 32½c; extra firsts, 28c; firsts, 25½c; seconds, 23c; dairies, extra, 27c; firsts, 25c; seconds, 23c; ladles, No. 1, 21c; packing stock, 19c.

EGGS—Miscellaneous lots, cases included, 19@22c; cases returned, 19@22c; ordinary firsts, 28c; firsts, 30c; prime firsts, 32c; extra, 34c; No. 1 dirties, 18@19c; checks, 13@17c.

POTATOES—Choice to fancy, 43@45c; fair to good, 38@42c.

SWEET POTATOES—Illinois, per bbl., $2.25@2.50; Jerseys, hampers, $1.00@1.15.

LIVE POULTRY—Turkeys, per lb., 17c; spring turkeys, 17c; chickens, fowls, 12½c; roosters, 9c; spring, 12c; ducks, 14c; geese, 13c.

New York, Jan. 4.

WHEAT—Firmer, light business; No. 1 northern, spring, $1.20⅝; No. 2 red, 99¼c; No. 2 hard, $1.05½; No. 1 macaroni, $1.06; No. 1 Manitoba, $1.06; May, $1.03¾; July, $1.01½.

CORN—Easy, fair business; steamer mixed, 51¾c; new No. 2, 52½@57c; May, 57⅛c.

OATS—Steady, inactive; No. 2 white, 39c; No. 3 white, 38½c; standards, 39c; natural and clipped white, 38½@41c.

BARLEY—Malting, steady; 89@92c.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 4.

CATTLE—Market strong; prime steers, $6.60@6.75; butcher grades, $3.00@6.25.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market active and higher; choice lambs, $6.60@6.80; cull to fair, $5.25@6.50; yearlings, $5.00@5.25; sheep $3.00@4.25.

HOGS—Market active and higher; Yorkers, $8.70@8.75; pigs, $8.60@8.65; mixed, $8.60@8.65; heavy, $8.50@8.60; roughs, $7.00@7.50; stags, $6.50@7.00.

Live Stock.

Chicago, Jan. 4.

CATTLE—Choice to prime steers, $6.60@7.10; medium to good steers, $5.60@6.50; inferior to fair steers, $4.60@5.50; fat cows and heifers, $3.40@6.15; canning cows and heifers, $2.25@3.35; native bulls and stags, $3.00@5.40; feeding cattle, 600@1,100 lbs., $3.60@5.65; fair to fancy veal calves, $7.75@9.25; heavy calves, $3.00@5.00; export steers, $5.50@6.35; milkers and springers (per head), $30.00@70.00.

HOGS—Bulk of sales, $8.10@8.20; heavy butchers, 240@300 lbs., $8.05@8.25; light butchers, 190@230 lbs., $8.10@8.25; light bacon, 160@190 lbs., $8.00@8.20; light light, 130@155 lbs., $7.90@8.15; heavy shipping, 250@350 lbs., $8.10@8.25; heavy packing, 200@250 lbs., $8.05@8.20; mixed packing, 200@250 lbs., $7.95@8.15; rough, heavy packing, $7.85@8.00; light mixed, 175@200 lbs., $7.95@8.15; poor to best pigs, 60@135 lbs., $7.50@8.30.

Omaha, Jan. 4.

CATTLE—10c higher; native steers, $4.75@6.60; cows and heifers, $3.00@5.25; western steers, $5.50@6.75; Texas steers, $3.25@5.85; cows and heifers, $3.00@4.75; canners, $2.50@3.00; stockers and feeders, $3.50@5.65; calves, $4.00@8.50; bulls, stags, etc., $3.25@5.00.

HOGS—5c higher; heavy, $7.75@8.00; mixed, $7.80@8.05; light, $8.00@8.10; pigs, $8.00@8.05; bulk of sales, $7.85@8.00.

SHEEP—10 to 15c higher; yearlings, $4.75@5.25; wethers, $5.00@5.50; ewes, $5.00@5.60; lambs, $5.40@6.25.

RULES WITH A ROD

Picturesque Career of Porfiro Diaz, President of Mexico.

Originally a Revolutionist, for Thirty Years This Remarkable Man Has Governed the Republic With Autocratic Power.

City of Mexico.—President Porfiro Diaz, who has been inaugurated president of Mexico for the eighth time, for years has been forming about him a system that makes him one of the most powerful and autocratic sovereigns of any country in the world.

The 28 states of Mexico are governed by 28 men of President Diaz's personal choice. The 226 prefects are also his appointees, who have the power to make arrests, judge and execute prisoners. In Mexico a man who commits a misdemeanor instead of serving his time in jail must serve it in the army. Officers of the army are privileged to kill any subordinate who disobeys a command. The result is that President Diaz, to whom all military officers are responsible, rules with an iron hand.

President Diaz was born in Oaxaca in 1830. His mother was a full-blooded Indian belonging to the large and powerful tribe of Zapotee in the state of Oaxaca. His father was a Spaniard, who died in 1838, leaving his widow with no other property than five healthy children, of which little Porfiro was one.

He studied law under Benito Jaurez, who subsequently became president of the republic, and was the first man against whom young Lawyer Diaz raised his hand in rebellion. Diaz fought against the Americans invading Mexico in 1847 and 1848. For the next 11 years he was frequently in revolutions for or against some favoritee candidate of the republic.

In 1860 Diaz, who had now become a colonel, was sent to congress where he asked the president in the name of his people in the State of Oaxaca to make them such concessions as he well knew would not be granted. Upon the refusal Diaz raised an army of 1,000 Indians and started another revolution. It was quickly quelled and Col. Diaz and his followers fled for their lives and for several years lived in the mountains, making frequent raids in the lowlands. He made overtures to President Jaurez for amnesty for himself and his band of followers. It was granted.

In 1863, when Napoleon III sent his troops to take Mexico with the object of making it a French dependency, Col. Diaz was made a brigadier-general in the regular army. He subsequently visited his home town and was married to Mrs. Delfina Sanchez y Ortega.

Col. Diaz was defeated for the presidency in 1870 and he started another revolution. He was defeated and fled to Texas.

In 1875 Diaz, after many adventures, smuggled himself back to his native state, Oaxaca.

In 1877 both Sebastian Lerdo De Tejada and Diaz claimed to have been elected president. Diaz raised the biggest army in support of his claim and Tejada fled to the United States. Since then Diaz has been president of Mexico.

From the moment he seized the reins of government he has worked to surround himself with a corps of faithful subordinates. An astute and skillful soldier himself he has made the government a military one. Every governor must have a military standing for the laws of Mexico require every officer and soldier to swear allegiance to his superior and as the president is the commander in chief of the army, every member of his vast army has taken a personal oath to obey him.

For thirty years President Diaz has been building up an army which at present, active and reserve, numbers almost 2,000,000. As stated, every man who commits a crime must serve his time in the army. At the end of his term, he is released a finished soldier. From the time of his release he must report at regular intervals to his captain and be subject to service at a moment's notice.

Petrified Trees.

Billings, Ariz.—A petrified forest of 100 square miles exists near here. Thousands and thousands of petrified logs strew the ground and are colored in beautiful shades. One of the stone trees spans a gulf 40 feet wide.

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