DAILY RECORD-UNION

CITY OFFICIAL PAPER.

FRIDAY.....JANUARY 14, 1887

The RECORD-UNION *is the only paper on the coast, outside of San Francisco, that receives the full Associated Press dispatches from all parts of the world. Outside of San Francisco it has no competitor, in point of numbers, in its home and general circulation throughout the coast.*

SAN FRANCISCO AGENCIES.

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NEWS OF THE MORNING.

EASTERN.—Michael Davitt declares that Henry George has injured his own cause by his attack on the Catholic Church..... Two men have been arrested for wrecking a railroad train near Omaha.....The Republicans in the Illinois Legislature yesterday nominated Charles B. Farwell to succeed Logan in the United States Senate .....In the Senate, yesterday, Evarts declared the interstate commerce bill unconstitutional.....San Diego, Cal., is among the list of customs ports sought to be abolished.....Leading Catholics in the East vigorously denounce Henry George..... Several small factories in Brooklyn have had to close down for want of coal.....Senator Fair has taken his seat in the Senate ..... The Indiana Democrats have, in caucus, nominated David Turpie for United States Senator.....Silver in New York, 102.

FOREIGN.—Brigands attacked a monastery near Narbonne, France, on Wednesday evening, but were driven off by the monks.....Henry M. Stanley was accorded a brilliant reception in London yesterday. .....The steamer Celtic Monarch was abandoned at sea January 2d, but all the passengers were saved.....The late Lord Addesleigh will be buried on Tuesday..... Silver in London, 46 15-16d.

PACIFIC COAST.—The Democratic majority in the Arizona Legislative Council has repealed the anti-Mormon test oath..... Hurley, who shot one Johnston at San Gorgonio, has been arrested for murder..... An attempt was made yesterday to burn the Santa Rosa Hotel.....The Biddle will case, at San Luis Obispo, has been closed. .....Fresno is to make an exhibit of her products at Los Angeles.....The residence of Mrs. Acklin, near Cottonwood, was destroyed by fire yesterday.....Promising coal discoveries are being made in Sonoma..... The Mackay telegraph line has reached Redding.....H. H. Klingel has skipped from Victoria after victimizing a number of creditors.....It is said that the injury by frost to the Riverside oranges will not exceed 5 per cent.

WHISKY CRIME—WHAT IT MAY LEAD TO.

Gardiner has escaped just deserts for the brutal and unprovoked murder of young Guindon. A merciful jury has saved his neck through the means of a verdict of murder in the second degree. As murder of the first degree must be willful, deliberate, etc., and all other murder is of the second degree, the jury virtually say that Gardiner did not willfully, or deliberately, or premeditately kill young Guindon. We can well understand therefore, why the defendant's counsel should at once move for a new trial. For they have maintained that Gardiner was guilty either of murder in the first degree, or of manslaughter, which is a killing (voluntary) upon a sudden quarrel or in heat of passion; or (involuntary) in the commission of an unlawful act not amounting to felony, etc. If Gardiner was insane at the time of the killing, and not momentarily so; insane, as contended before and after, and for a long time, indeed, then he could not have willfully and premeditatedly killed Guindon, and so should have gone free. If he killed him upon a quarrel, or in heat of passion, the homicide was manslaughter. If he was crazed by drink voluntarily taken, it did not excuse him, and could not shield him from the results of his act. Such was the charge of the Court. Under the circumstances, it is by no means merely speculative to forecast the result—that a new trial will be granted, and eventually the man will go free of the law. It is possible that the jury is to be justified in its verdict on the theory that it could not agree upon a conviction of murder in the first degree. That is the charitable view to take of it. It remains that the whisky-stimulated brain of a dyspeptic impelled the hand of a morose man to take as bright and promising a young life as there was in the State, for no offense whatever, and that it is now impossible for the murderer to be punished save in an apologetic manner.

We renew our suggestion that the legislators of the State rack their brains to evolve a law that will hold constitutional water, to make the fact of a crime committed under the influence of strong drink such aggravation as to augment the severity of the penalty. If rum is to continue going about the country cutting throats and blowing out brains, and excusing its slaves in Court for the sake of itself, the only safe procedure for sober citizens will be to arm against the possible assaults of intoxicated men, since in seven cases out of ten of whisky murders the poor wretch had no malice against his victim, and sober would embrace rather than kill him. There is neither heat nor exaggeration in words—we simply express the thought of nine out of ten decent citizens, that whisky-crime is becoming dangerously frequent, and more still that whisky clearances are more so. A half dozen cases can be recalled in this city within a few weeks in which the pleas in defense for crime, from sneak-thievery to assaults upon life, have been, "I was drunk," and, strange to say, in most cases the plea serves the purpose of the criminal. It may be that bad whisky—or good, for that matter—is slandered by these things; that much crime is shouldered upon both of which it is innocent; that it is made a convenient scape-goat—such is a possibility, and we have known cases where it was verity. But it remains that such has become the frequency of rum murders, whisky assaults and alcoholic crime generally, that it will not be surprising if the practice develops, on the part of sober citizens, of "drawing" and shooting on the spot drunken ones they meet who act belligerently and fumble about the hip pocket, or that such blotting out of whisky lunatics should be backed by a strong-approving public sentiment, the natural result of the record of alcoholic crime that burdens the daily news. With perfect coolness of judgment it may be stated as a fact that a tiger of the jungles would be a less dangerous foe in the streets of an American city to-day than an armed drunkard; with the first, men would know precisely how to deal; as to the second, they are in doubt, and hence it is that so few drunken criminals have due punishment meted out to them. We repeat, the hour draws near when a law is necessary making crime committed in a state of intoxication subject to severer punishment than crime committed in sobriety.

A NEW OBJECTION TO THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE BILL.

In the United States Senate yesterday one of the most distinguished of statesmen opposed his trained judgment and great legal knowledge to the interstate commerce bill. It will be seen by the dispatches to-day that he holds it to be unconstitutional, since it will tend to make the Union of States less perfect, disestablish justice and insure domestic discord, instead of promoting the opposites of these ills, as the Constitution commands. Excepting only Sections 4 and 5 (the first relating to long and short hauls, and the latter to the pooling of freights of competing roads), he holds the bill to be one to regulate commerce, but the two sections indicated depart from the province of law-making in attempting to lay down rules of transportation not recognized by the laws of commerce. This is a new view of the bill, and one full of grave suggestion. If its effect will be to cripple—as is just as certain as any untried policy can be forecast to be—rather than aid commercial interchange and comity between States, and the people of the several States, then it is in contravention of the constitutional duty of Congress to conserve the commercial relations of the States, and to strengthen the bond of union between the States. In doing so it clearly is the duty of the Government to conform to the commercial laws approved by the people, and which form the basis of their systems of interchange. It may be well said that this is touching the spirit of the Constitution to the quick—testing a proposed law by the very soul of the purpose of the existence of the organic law, rather than estimating the new scheme by the mere letter of the compact of unity of States. Concerning the pooling system, the eminent speaker declared it conducive of uniformity of rates in transportation, and asked protagonists of the bill if they were prepared to say that they were opposed to the equalization that produces such uniformity. He expressed the thought of those who have most deeply entered into the consideration of the question of the commercial relations of the States, when he declared that commerce is best conserved and most promoted by being least impeded between the States.

DASTARDLY OUTRAGES.

Last night the miscreants who pose as the friends of the car-strikers in San Francisco, again resorted to dynamite, destroyed property and wounded people; one it is feared to her death. When the strikers put omnibuses on the streets in opposition to the car lines, they pursued a lawful and a business course. But now that they again resort to murderous bombs, there remains only one of two things to do, to turn over the city to their tender mercies, or line every yard of the whole route of the two roads, from end to end, with police and soldiery, and preserve the rights of the people, even if it bankrupts the city. If now the citizens of the metropolis fail to rise in their majesty, they will deserve the contempt and execration of all men. Thus far they have not even had the courage to protest, or so much as assemble and "resolve" for order and the law. The bomb that nearly killed Mrs. Hildebrandt, like that in the Haymarket at Chicago last May, was thrown from Russia; aimed not against an autocratic monarch, but against free institutions. The question is, will freemen preserve the heritage of liberty, or yield it to ruffians?

A MAN named Evan Sproule was executed at Victoria recently, for murder. He was an American, and died vehemently protesting his innocence. It will be remembered that the United States Government asked for a reprieve in his case, and that it was denied. Now comes the news that it can be proven that Sproule could not have committed the crime for which he suffered death, because at the time he was in a place distant from the scene of the homicide. It is shown, too, that the man was executed while an order, issued in the light of the fact that an alibi could be proved, existed for the suspension of the execution, and that the Sheriff disobeyed it. If these facts are clearly established, the claim of the brother of the innocent man against the Province for damages, will very likely receive aid in the form of sympathetic interest by our Government, and possibly of material aid.

THE telegraphed statements of artillery and naval experts, favoring the new plan of fortification—artillery pits—are backed by reason. The idea is to abandon all raised works for heavy guns in coast defense. In place of such costly structures, sink pits, in which place heavy guns to be raised for firing and lowered for loading. The cost of such sunken casemates would be less than a third of surface fortifications. They would afford the least possible target area to an assailant's guns; only plunging shots could be sent into them, and such can only be fired from long distances, and even against these the pits can be largely guarded by shell-proof shields. The "idea" would seem to go a long way toward solving the coast defense question. The one thing necessary to be assured of would be ease and speed in lifting the guns—but to such tasks mechanical science ought to be equal.

IN the perfect flood of "bills" that has deluged the Assembly, we cannot discover one, by title, that proposes a law to have hung up by the heels and flayed alive all County Clerks who have wit enough to draw their salaries, but not enough to obey plain and simple directions of the statutes concerning the making out and sending up of election returns, certificates, etc. Let some ambitious legislator immortalize himself by becoming the author of a measure to meet the need. It should apply to all duties of Clerks relating to elections, for of this class of officials some at every election provoke the patience of saints and the wrath of sinners by their stupidity, pig-headedness and general lack of brains. Let the Legislature supply them so far as a law can be made to do so. A sharp penalty for neglect of duty is a wonderful stimulant to activity.

GOVERNOR OGLESBY, of Illinois, defends the right of workmen to strike. In his annual message he treats the subject at length. The strike, according to the Governor, is the natural and rightful protest of the wage-winner. But the Governor stops short there and takes all the life out of his defense of the strike, by saying that no violence or menace of any kind can be justified to make the strike effective. When any infringement of another's right is entered upon in a strike, then it becomes unlawful and must be put down. The Governor had quite as well said nothing about it. His opening and his closing amount simply to this: "One man may cease working for another when he chooses." Whoever denied it?

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION—NINTH DAY.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, January 13, 1887.

The Senate was called to order at 11 A. M. by Lieutenant-Governor Waterman. Roll called and quorum present. Journal read, corrected and approved.

The Committee on Contingent Expenses and mileage reported as follows as to the mileage of the Lieutenant-Governor and members of the Senate: Senators—Abbott, 178 miles, $17 80; Boggs, 184 miles, $18 40; Bewers, 1,382 miles, $138 20; Briceland, 354 miles, $35 40; Byrnes, 202 miles, $20 20; Caminetti, 118 miles, $11 80; Chandler, 76 miles, $7 60; Clunie, 168 miles, $16 80; Conklin, 256 miles, $25 60; Crandall, 256 miles, $25 60; Commins, 168 miles, $16 80; Dixon, 242 miles, $24 20; Dray, no miles; Gesford, 122 miles, $12 20; Goucher, 312 miles, $31 20; Hall, 60 miles, 86; Haynes, 624 miles, $62 40; Hinshaw, 276 miles, $.7 60; Jones, 156 miles, $15 60; Langford, 96 miles, $9 60; Lenahan, 168 miles, $16 80; McCarthy, 168 miles, $16 80; Mcfudden, 124 miles, $12 40; McDonald, 168 miles, $16 80; Meany, 228 miles, $.2 80; Moffitt, 182 miles, $18 20; Murphy, 168 miles, $16 80; Patterson, 710 miles, $71; Pinder, 168 miles, $16 80; Rose, 956 miles, $95 60; Roth, 466 miles, $46 60; Sargent, 372 miles, $37 20; Spalacy, 168 miles, $16 80; Steele, 586 miles, $58 60; Sullivan, 168 miles, $16 80; Vrooman, 182 miles, $18 20; Walrath, 142 miles, $14 20; White, 956 miles, $95 60; Wilson, 168 miles, $16 80; Yell, 410 miles, $41; Lieutenant-Governor Waterman, 1,176 miles, $117 60.

The report was adopted.

Bills introduced out of order:

By White—Amending Section 616 of the Code of Civil Procedure, relative to the administration of the estate of non-resident decedants, dying intestate.

Also, amending Section 739 of the Political Code, relative to salaries of officers connected withe the Supreme Court.

Also, (by request) in relation to the care of orphan and abandoned children.

Also, authorizing corporations and associations to make mortgages and leases on real estate of decedants.

By Clunie (by request), amending Sections 419 and 420 of the Civil Code, relative to insurance.

Also, two other bills amending sections of the Code, relative to insurance.

Also, making appropriation for rent of Insurance Commissioner for thirty-eighth fiscal year.

Also, appropriating money for the deficiency in thirty-seventh fiscal year.

Also, an Act amending Section 3468 of the Civil Code.

Also, to repeal Section 451 of the Civil Code, relative to mutual life insurance companies.

Also, relative to life, casualty and assessment plan of insurance, and the conducting of the same.

Also, authorizing and regulating actions against the State of California.

Also to pay for printing ballot amendment No. 1 to the Constitution for election in 1886.

Also, regulating the labor of street car drivers and gripmen.

Also, to regulate the hours of labor of street railroads connected under the laws of the State, pertaining to counties of over 100,000 inhabitants.

Also, an Act creating and maintaining a relief and pension fund in the police department of this State.

[This is drafted under Section 6 of Article 11 of the Constitution, and is intended to apply to San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockton, Oakland, San Jose and Los Angeles, being the same as now in operation in New York.]

By Boggs—To establish an asylum for insane criminals of the State.

By Bowers—To prohibit assessment or collection of any tax or license for the manufacture or sale of native wines of the State.

By Sergeant—Relative to the boundary of San Benito county.

By Langford—Providing for the formation, management and control of irrigation districts.

By McCarthy (by request)—To pay the claims of Jesse A. Gallant, Thomas Curtain, J. F. Gothorne, and Edwin F. Smith.

By Caminetti—To amend Section 170 of Code of Civil Procedure, relative to disqualification of Judges.

By Sullivan—For the relief of George Nitingale and others, whose property was destroyed by the blasting and excavating of Telegraph Hill, San Francisco.

By Gesford—Relative to the preservation of game and fish.

By Wilson—Authorizing corporations to act as executors, etc.

By Moffitt—Relative to the powers of Boards of Trustees of the fifth class.

On motion of Mr. Boggs, the special order set for the day, relative to appointments made by Governor Stoneman, was taken up out of order and these appointees confirmed on roll-call:

Charles H. Randall, Director of the State Insane Asylum at Stockton.

Pilot Commissioners for the harbor of Humboldt Bay and Bar, Peter Belcher, H. Kingston and William Carson.

D. M. Delmas, Regent of the University of California.

William H. Thornby, Commissioner of Immigration.

Thomas J. Sherwood, Fish Commissioner.

Robert T. Devlin, member of State Board of Prison Directors.

I. W. Hellman, Regent of the University of California; and W. T. Wallace, Regent of the University of California.

Frank McCoppin, Harbor Commissioner.

Directors of the State Insane Asylum at Napa, W. F. Henning, J. C. Martin and George N. Cornwell.

David W. Weldt, Pilot for the Port of Wilmington.

Eugene Lohe, of Stockton, Brigadier-General Third Brigade, National Guard of California.

Upon the question to confirm the appointment of Theodore A. Lord, Trustee of the Asylum for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, Mr. Clunie made a motion to refer it to the Judiciary Committee, stating, as a reason therefor, that he was in receipt of correspondence from different parts of the State petitioning that his confirmation be rejected, and thought the matter should be investigated.

Mr. White wanted to know the character of the objection.

Mr. Clunie then sent to the desk petitions from the Anti-Chinese Non-Partisan Committee and the State Assembly, Knights of Labor. The petitions recited that Mr. Lord, by his testimony in the Lord-Woolsey case, was shown to be in favor of Chinese, and as Trustee of the asylum sanctioned the employ of an alien Chinese cook in preference to white labor, the same being in violation of the Constitution of the State, and he, therefore, being unfit to be such Trustee.

Mr. Meany stated he also had heard certain charges.

Mr. Vrooman thought there was nothing whereon to found a charge against the integrity of a State officer to warrant an investigation; as to the act of defiance to the Constitution, he thought there was nothing in that instrument prohibiting a gentleman from expressing his views upon that subject in a lawsuit. But, if any offense was committed, he thought there were two other members of the Board who were equally guilty, and if an investigation was to be had, they should be included. He had talked with Governor Stoneman upon the subject, and was informed by him that he considered this one of the best appointments that he had made during his administration. He admonished the Senate to be careful about ordering an investigation unless there is some specific charge.

Mr. Briceland read some portion of a private correspondence he had received, relating to this matter, as follows: "He is a gentleman of the highest integrity—of the most sensitive honor, and of the most unselfish purpose, being a man who would not raise a finger to maintain his appointment." He was in favor of voting now for his confirmation.

Mr. Clunie said he had nothing against Mr. Lord, personally, but considered it his duty to make the motion, from the matter that was in his hands, and which he had presented to the Senate. Taking occasion to say that the Senate had approved appointments of gentlemen of whom they had no knowledge, and considering the Senate responsible for the appointments, he thought this matter should be looked into, even if there was nothing in it.

After considerable discussion, the matter was referred to a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Rose, Dixon and Chandler, to report as soon as practicable

Recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon Session.

Mr. White introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, By the Senate, the Assembly concurring, That when the houses of the Legislature adjourn to-day, said adjournment be until Tuesday, January 18th, at 11 o'clock A. M. Adopted.

The Committee on Contingent Expenses reported that, finding no law to warrant the payment to Thomas Coleman as an officer of the Twenty-sixth Extra Session, for mileage of $16 80, that it be not allowed. Adopted.

A message was received from the Assembly, notifying the Senate of the appointment of a committee of three on the part of the Assembly, and requesting the Senate to do the same. On the part of the Senate Messrs. Langford, Jones and Vrooman were appointed.

The following bills were introduced out of order:

By Moffitt—To provide for the analyzing of mineral, mineral waters and other liquids and medicinal plants, food and drugs and to prevent the adulteration of the same.

By Goucher—To provide for the payment of D. Jordan ($79,000) for work upon and materials furnished for the building of the State Prison at Folsom.

By Murphy—For the removal of the mineral cabinet from the State Library.

By Yell—An Act to amend part 1, title 9, of Chapter 8 of the Political Code. [This makes 89 bills thus far introduced.]

At 2:45 P. M. the Senate adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.

The House met at 11 A. M., Speaker Jordan in the chair. Quorum present. The reading of the journal was dispensed with.

Weber, chairman of the Committee on Mileage, reported the following amounts due members of the Assembly, and moved that the Controller be instructed to draw his warrant for the same:

Adams, $6; Alexander, $18 20; Atherton, $21 60; Bailey, $18 40; Barry, 16 80; Barton, $119; Bost, $22 80; Brierly, $100 40; Britt, $16 80; Brooks, $78 40; W. A. Brown, $16 80; J. B. Brown, $16 80; Brusie, $9 40; Burnett, $16 80; Butler, $47 20; Callaghan, $16 80; Campbell, $63; Carr, $6; Carroll, 10 cents; Cohen, $16 80, Colbert, $16 80; Cooley, $18 20; Coombs, $12 20; Cope, $41; Currey of Solano, $5; Curry of San Francisco, $16 80; Davis, $8 40; Ellsworth, $18 20; Ewing, $16 80; Gould, $105 40; Grainger, $15 60; Grunwell, $38 80; Handy, $54; Hart, $16; Heath, $76 20; Henry of Butte, $20 80; Henry of San Joaquin, $13 60; Hotchkiss, $30 60; Hyde, $18 20; Jordan, $18 20; Knox, $95 60; LaBlanc, $16 80; Lawrence, $16 80; Lewis, $16 80; Mahler, $12 20; Martin, $16 80; Mann, $16 80; Matthews of Tehama, $24 60; Matthews of San Benito, $40; McClenahan, $14 60; McDonnell, $26 20; McGowan, $62 40; Mitchell, $16 80; Morgan, $39 60; Morris, $75 80; O'Grady, $13; Ohleyer, $11 20; Price, $19 20; Regan, $16 80; Rucker, $25 60; Remnison, $42 80; Seary, $16 80; Shanahan, $32; Sherburne, $21 80; Sims, $14 20; Smythe, $22 80; Spurgeon, $102 20; Sykes, $13 40; Taylor, 10 cents, Toner, $16 80; Variel, $27 20; Venable, $58 60; Vincent, $35 60; Weber, $25 60; Windrow, $16 80; Wilcox, $27 20; Williams, $66; Wright, $15 40; Young of San Diego, $125 20; Young of San Joaquin, $9 60. Total, $2,455 50. The report was unanimously adopted.

Bills were introduced as follows:

By McDonnell—Amending Section 626 of the Penal Code, relative to fish and game, by striking out the close season for quail, making it lawful to hunt, pursue, take and kill that bird at any season of the year.

By Wilcox—To appropriate money for the support of the California home for the care and training of feeble-minded children.

By Brooks—Amending Sections 55 and 68 of the Civil Code, and to repeal Sections 57, 75 and 77 of said Code, relating to marriage. [It will make Section 68 read as follows: "Marriage must be licensed, solemnized, authenticated and recorded as provided in this article, but non-compliance with the provisions respecting the certification and recording does not invalidate the marriage."]

By Carroll—Authorizing the establishment and maintenance of a manual training school in cities of over 30,000 inhabitants. [The schools are to be organized under the public school laws of the State, for the instruction of pupils in the arts, trades and manual occupations. The Governor is authorized to appoint a Commissioner of Manual Training Schools, who shall visit the schools and report regarding the same. He shall receive a compensation of $250 per month.]

By Martin—Providing for the payment of D. Johnson for work performed at the State Prison at Folsom.

By Carroll—Providing for the payment of the employes and attaches of the State Constitutional Convention.

Callahan—Providing for the relief of George Knightingale et al.

Coombs—To establish an asylum for the insane criminals of the State.

Adams—Amending the Codes, relative to the service of summons.

Brierly—To regulate telephone rates, and fixing penalties for excessive charges.

RESOLUTIONS OFFERED.

By Ewing—That the pay of committee clerks date from the day of their appointment, and not from the first day of the session. Adopted.

By Venable—Joint resolution, relative to the construction of a breakwater in the Bay of San Luis Obispo.

By Granger—Asking for the appointment of a special committee of three to inquire into and investigate that portion of the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction relating to work schools. Mr. Granger called attention to the fact that Governor Bartlett, in his inaugural address, spoke favorably of the report. The resolution was adopted, and Messrs. Granger, Sims and Davis were appointed the committee.

By Butler—That the Speaker be instructed to add two members to the Committee on Labor and Capital. Carried.

The Speaker named for the positions Messrs. Davis and Mahler.

By Brown, J. B.—That Mrs. K. J. Troy be appointed Copying Clerk of the Assembly. Referred to the Committee on Attaches.

Ewing—That the Chairman of each committee be instructed to inform the author of each bill of the time when the same will be considered. Adopted.

Venable—That the House Committee on Rules be instructed to act in conjunction with the same committee in the Senate, and make rules governing both houses. Carried.

Carroll—That Wm. A. Douglas be appointed porter to the Committee of Ways and Means, at a per diem of $4. Referred to the Committee on Attaches.

Carroll—That Richard Parker be appointed porter to the Committee on Judiciary, at a per diem of $4. Referred.

Carroll—That R. J. Fletcher be appointed porter of the Committee on Corporations, at a per diem of $4. Referred to the Committee on Attaches.

Gesford of Napa said he was paralyzed at the manner in which two of the members from Sacramento, Messrs. Carroll and Taylor, were making inroads on the State treasury. In order to save a little something out of the wreck he introduced a resolution that the Committee on Attaches be instructed to report adversely on all resolutions relating to the appointment of persons to positions. The resolution was adopted, and it nipped in the bud the operations of the said members from Sacramento city and others, whereby an army of place hunters were being imposed upon the State's expense, without any need of their services whatever, and only to place them upon corpulent pay for sitting with folded hands.

At 12 M. the House took a recess until 2 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The House reconvened at 2 P. M.

Davis, Chairman of the Committee on Rules, reported against the resolution creating a Committee on Banks and Banking. Report adopted.

Curry, Chairman of the Committee on Attaches and Employes, reported back the resolution making the San Francisco delegation a committee and giving them a clerk, and recommended that it do not pass.

Lawrence of San Francisco made an argument in favor of the original resolution. It created much discussion, and was attacked by several of the members.

Gould offered to amend by constituting the delegation of Alpine, Inyo and Mono a committee and giving him a clerk. He represented a territory thousands of times larger than the insignificant peninsula of San Francisco. If the city that sat beside the Golden Gate was to have a clerk for her committee, then Alpine, Mono and Inyo, rich in their gold and silver, whose lofty peaks, tipped with the snows of countless winters, kissed the morning sun while the wicked city was hopelessly lost to view in an impenetrable fog, should have half a dozen. The amendment was voted down.

Brusie, the youngest member in the Assembly, thought if any one needed a clerk 'twas he. He made an eloquent appeal for a clerk for the Amador delegation. He "got left" also, as did all others who offered similar amendments.

At last Matthews of Tehama took compassion on the San Francisco delegation and addressed the House on their behalf. He said the delegation from that city had a poor, little, insignificant and needy Democrat for the position, and he thought the Republicans ought to allow it. The Republicans had nearly a hundred attaches in the House, and were clamoring for more, and he thought they might make room for this one Democrat. With this explanation the vote carried and the clerk was allowed.

The Senate sent in a concurrent resolution adjourning both houses to 11 A. M. on Tuesday next. The House promptly sat down upon it. Taylor moved its adoption, but it was lost by a vote of—Ayes 1, noes 79.

At 3 P. M. the House adjourned.

THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Retrenchment in the Assembly promises to be one of the most important of the present Legislature.

When Matthews of Tehama found that one committee clerk had drawn twelve chamois skins from the supply department, he made up his mind that some radical change was necessary, and he introduced on Wednesday the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That requisitions upon the Secretary of State for stationery and other supplies by employes of the Assembly and of Assembly committee clerks, be first submitted to the Committee on Retrenchment for approval.

The Committee on Retrenchment is a good one, composed as follows: Gould (Chairman), Wilcox, Morgan, Matthews and Toner.

At the close of the session yesterday afternoon the committee met in the Supreme Court room and organized for business. They were called upon by the clerk of the Committee on Attaches and Employes, who said she was desirous of drawing a few necessary articles, and submitted the following requisition, properly signed by the Chairman of her committee. The requisition is verbatim, except the price of the articles, which are supplied by a well-known dealer in this city:

REQUISITION FOR STATIONERY, ETC.

OFFICE OF COMMITTEE ON ATTACHES AND EMPLOYES,
SACRAMENTO, January 13, 1887.

W. C. Hendricks, Secretary of State—DEAR SIR: You will please furnish the following-named articles and oblige yours, respectfully:

One ream legal cap paper, $4 80; 1 ream note paper, $1 80; 1 ream letter paper, $3 60; 2 minute books, $6; 2 minute files, $3; 2 bill files, $2; 2 boxes falcon pens, $1 50; 1 box 404 pens, 60 cents; 1 box fine stub pens, 75 cents; 1 bottle writing fluid, 75 cents; 1 bottle red ink, 75 cents; 1 brush and comb, $2 50; 2 dozen pencils, Faber No. 2, $1 50; 1 feather duster, $2 50; 1 bottle mucilage, $1; 2 boxes rubber bands, $1; 2 ink stands, $4 50; 1 whisk broom, 25 cents; one-half dozen pen-holders, 50 cents; 3 rubber pen-holders, $1 50; 3 towels, $1 50; 2 dozen thumb tacks, $2; 2 pair shears, large and small, $3; 1 box novelty fasteners, 75 cents; 2 Mark Twain scrap-books, $4; 2 paper clips, $1; 3 steel erasers, $3; 1 box Magill's paper fasteners, 75 cents; 2 waste-baskets, $1 50; 2 flexible rulers, $1 50; 2 drinking goblets, 50 cents; 2 octagon rulers, $3; 1 water pitcher, $1; 1 ream newspaper, $3; 1 box toilet soap, $1; 1 package blotters, 25 cents; ½ gross matches, 50 cents; 1 box large envelopes, $1 50; 1 box small envelopes, 75 cents. Total, $71 30.

Before the Clerk had finished reading a twentieth part of that requisition there was an expression of horror on the face of each member of the committee present. Gould said he had lived in Bodie, and he thought that a tough place, but he was desirous of getting back to Mono and Inyo as soon as possible. That was entirely too much for his nerves. He asked the Clerk to examine closely and see whether or not there was a washing machine or a piano in the list that had been overlooked.

Matthews of San Benito said he had served in the halls of legislation in several States, but he have notice there and then, that his political life was at an end; he would stay to the close of the session, but after that he should go into respectable private life.

Wilcox said he had been fighting codlin moths and various kinds of scale-bug, but he had run against something here that no kind of spraying would exterminate. If the tree was as badly affected as it appeared to be, he was in favor of cutting it down. That such a requisition could be made out in this "glorious climate" was more than he could understand. Even if the requisition was filled, he did not believe there was a room in the Capitol building that would hold all the articles enumerated.

The committee determined to take the bovine by the horns, and do their duty, so they ordered the clerk to make out a requisition as follows: ½ ream of paper, 1 dozen pencils, 6 common pen-holders, 1 small bottle of ink—about $1 50 worth all told. This was handed the clerk, who took it and left. A moment after their adjournment the Chairman of the Committee on Attaches and Employes, a committee which, by the way, has performed all the duties which will be imposed upon it at this session, met the Chairman on Retrenchment and asked why his requisition was not allowed. He was not at all pleased with the presumptuousness of the Committee on Retrenchment, and stated that he would bring the matter before the House. Will he do it? The Committee on Retrenchment is very anxious that he should. If a committee that has no use for supplies requires $71 20 worth, what will be required by a committee to whom one or two bills may be referred? If the other forty-one committees draw even this "small amount" of "necessary supplies," it will take $2,923 20 worth to supply them. The second draft is always larger than the first, and the Tehama statesman, by his timely resolution, has no doubt saved the State $10,000.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

It has been floating about in the political atmosphere for two or three days past, as an open secret, that twenty-six Democratic members of the Senate have agreed to act throughout the session, upon all matters of legislation, as well as upon political topics, under caucus dictation, and that certain bosses and lobbyists have arranged with fourteen out of the twenty-six named to control all caucuses, and thereby, with fourteen votes, which are a majority of the whole number of Democrats in the Senate, control legislation at will upon all bills before it. As no bills can be passed without the Senate's approval, and as the fourteen votes would control the Senate, if supported by caucus authority, it follows that such a combination would place in the hands of the fourteen unscrupulous members who would consent to be a party to such arrangement, the power to levy tribute to any extent the gang might fix, upon every measure that came up, before it would be allowed to pass. This is a startling proposition, and one which if put into successful operation would simply turn the Legislature into an ambuscade, for levying blood-money through the State's own machinery, and in an improved highwayman style. With a view to ascertain what truth there might be in the report, a RECORD-UNION representative has interviewed some of the leading Democratic Senators upon the subject, and obtained the following expressions:

Senator Boggs said: I have heard of this before, but it has not been broached in caucus, and I do not believe it will be. Such a proposition would be so monstrous that no honorable man would for an instance listen to it. If any attempt to thus control the Legislature is manifested, it will be the duty of every honest Senator, not only not to be bound by caucus dictation, but also to oppose every movement in that direction to the bitter end. While I am a Democrat, I am here in the interest of the whole people, and I cannot believe that any such course as reported to be on foot, will be attempted within the Democratic party. If it is, it will certainly fail.

Senator Briceland said: I have always been perfectly independent of the caucus power, and always intend to be, except in such matters as relate to organization, election of officers, etc., which are purely political matters. The caucus for these purposes is well enough, but when it shall extend to interfere with general legislation it becomes pernicious, and I do not think the Democrats will for a moment attempt to do any such thing, but if they do, they cannot control me.

Senator Meany replied as follows: So far as I know, there has been nothing whatever done tending to bring Democrats into caucus, upon matters of legislation. There has been caucusing upon organization and patronge and United States Senatorship, but not of the matter you speak of. If there is any attempt of any thing of this kind it will fail, and I shall do every thing in my power to make it fail. Upon matters of legislation there will probably be no party lines, and there should not be upon general subjects.

Senator Haynes said: No one has approached me upon any such proposition, and if such approaches should be made, I would have nothing whatever to do do with a caucus upon matters of legislation, nor be bound by any caucus action. Caucuses are well enough in party matters, but party matters must not interfere with legislation which is for the whole people.

The views of Senators Sargent, Hinshaw, Langford, Caminetti and Roth are said to be strongly in accordance with the views above expressed.

The Assembly voted yesterday to give the San Francisco delegation a clerk. Several other delegations thereupon asked for clerks. Some of these, consisting of one member, were persistent in the demand. Of course this was sarcasm on their part—but well directed. A motion to reconsider the vote giving the San Francisco delegation a clerk has been noticed. It ought to prevail, and the scheme have the life choked out of it. The theory of the system of legislation never contemplated clerkships for delegations. Assemblymen represent districts, one to each; there is, therefore, no more need for a clerk for one than another. Nothing is referred to delegations now, since all legislation must be general—with few exceptions. Under such exceptions large "delegations," better than small ones, can do their own clerking, for there are more members from among whom to choose to "keep minutes." The San Francisco delegation in the last Legislature was accorded a clerk, and a man elected for the place, never seen thereafter except on pay days. If the Assembly men from one city are to have a clerk, let the bowl go round to all alike; unite the treasury purse and let the ducats roll, it's everybody's funeral and the people pay the bills.

TO OUR LAW-MAKERS.

An Appeal from a Butte County Woman for Protection of Homes.

EDS. RECORD-UNION: I have read the RECORD-UNION ever since it had an existence. Its clear sounding tones of loyalty to all that is best in the land; its noble advocacy of the right for all classes; its clear, good type, are things that have made this paper a household necessity with us. And so, RECORD-UNION, in view of these things, I have ventured to write you this letter. I feel that in you the defenseless have a friend.

There exists to-day a law in the statute book of California that is a shame and disgrace to the State. You are inviting families to come over and settle up its broad acres; and while you are doing this I have come to ask you if you will not also aid in defending the homes already established here?

All homes built upon all lands in this State, excepting U. S. homestead lands, belong wholly and entirely to the husband. No matter how faithfully the wife has toiled through all the best years of her life to help make that home, no matter how much time she has given to its inward and outward adorning, she has no legal right to it whatever. Her husband can convey it away from her and their children, without her knowledge or consent, and leave them dependent upon the world. Shame on you, law-makers of California for such a law as this!

Not many months since I stood by one poor toiling woman, whose home had been lost to her for three years, and she had just been informed of the fact. Interest had been added to principal. Youth and strength had long since left her. A look of anguish and dismay had settled upon her face that will haunt me while memory lasts.

Looking out from that fair valley home, and to the encircling hills beyond, she queried thus: "What can I do to release from the grasp of that legal robber this home that is rightfully mine?" Nothing could be done. All was gone! Irretrievably gone.

Other women have seen who have been thrust out from their homes, attended by small children, to gain a living as best they could. And so I say to you law-makers now assembled at Sacramento, that unless this law is changed, you will soon have an array of pioneer pauper women in your midst that will be pitiful to behold. Too old to build anew, hope and ambition gone, they will eke out an existence as best they can, and sink at last into unmarked graves. This is no fanciful picture; it is truth.

These women came to California in the long ago by sea and land—came with youth and health upon their brows. They have given all their middle life to the building of homes that are now the delight of all Eastern tourists; but what is California doing for these aged pioneer women? Thrusting them out from these homes under sanction of law. Great Heavens! Let us pray!

Yes, my toiling sisters, throughout the length and breadth of California, let us pray! Let us go to our law-makers, and, on bended knees before them, plead with them for the total extinction of this cruel and unjust law. Let us entreat of them, in the name of all that is holy—in the name of mother, wife and sister, to deal justly with us.

Let us tell them that this law is a great injury to the best interests of this great and growing State; that it is sowing the seeds of discord in many homes, leaving dark shadows upon many thresholds that time will never obliterate. We will tell them the State homestead law to which they refer us has never been heard of by one-half the women of the State, and when heard of by those whose homes have been stolen from them, it is too late then to seek its protection; that its application to any home brings with it distrust and alienation.

But we will implore them to make during the present session of this Legislature a law that will give to all women throughout the State a legal title to their homes, whether built upon railroad, school or mineral land. Let the law so read that all such homes located upon these lands shall not be conveyed away from the wife, either by assignment or mortgage, without her consent and signature. We shall find among these law-makers young men who, during the months preceding the autumn election, passed among our mountain pines, seeking legislative honors, and glorying in the title of Native Sons. They threw out these inspiring words to other young men, who caught the inspiration and gave them the coveted prize. Can these Native Sons forget the Pioneer Mothers?

And now, dear RECORD-UNION, we make with you our closing prayer. If I have read your words aright these many years, you will say that the lowliest woman in the land should have a legal title to her home and earnings.

Can you not, from your exalted position, reach the hearts of our legislators, some of whom have families that may one day need the sympathy of those around them? Will you not plead with them to make, during this present session of the Legislature, a law that shall give to the women of California a legal title to their homes and firesides.

A BUTTE COUNTY WOMAN.

TELEPHONE VS. T