

THE STATE HOUSE.

The Finance Committee reported unfavorably on the premium bond bill, and the report was accepted without debate.

Mr. Stamps made a motion to take up the Pacific railroad bill section by section, and on some objection being raised, the roll was called on it.

Mr. White said that he had been informed that printed bills had been placed on members' desks, and that a sergeant-at-arms had unaccountably taken them away.

Mr. Detigo asserted that he was certain that the bill had not been placed on his desk, as he had been in the Senate Chamber ever since ten o'clock.

Mr. Wharton was positive that the printed bills had been placed on the desks.

Mr. Alexander said that he had found one on his desk and read it through.

Mr. Dumont asked Mr. Alexander how he stood on the bill—for or against it.

Mr. Alexander declared himself in favor of it, whereupon Mr. Dumont expressed himself as not in the least surprised on hearing that the document was on a favorable Senator's desk.

Messrs. Cago and Detigo said they were in favor of railroads, but they must hear the bill section by section.

Mr. Allain said that he had not heard a single objection to the bill, but had heard considerable quibbling; he asked for all objections to be explained.

Mr. Weber—it is unusual for legislative bodies to enact or pass bills of any nature or kind unless they be read. I am called on to vote for or against this bill, and I am debarred of the right to know its features.

Although in favor of railroads, I shall be compelled to vote against the bill; first, because I do not know what the bill is; second, because it is not the bill that the original incorporators of the Pacific Railway Company want; third, because the bill has been changed by the committee so as to make the road run from Mansfield to Shreveport, and from Shreveport to Marshall, a distance of seventy-five miles, while in the original bill the incorporators of the Pacific Railway Company, and those immediately interested, demanded that their road should run in a direct line from Mansfield to Marshall, Texas, a distance of only forty miles. I am of opinion that the road run from Mansfield to Marshall would cost less money to be built—would give the country and its people quicker transit and cheaper rates. For these reasons I vote nay.

Mr. Blackburn said that he did not like so much talking; there was too much quibbling and too little fighting.

Mr. Stamps insisted on the bill being read section by section, and declared his determination to stand by his reasonable request, and he gained his point.

Mr. Blunt was opposed to one portion of the bill, because it did not let the track pass through Natchitoches.

On a vote the bill finally passed.

The resolution giving the mileage and per diem of the late E. L. Pierson to his family passed without debate. Mr. Kidd presented his report from the conference committee. Mr. Meredith introduced an appropriation bill for the mileage, per diem, contingent expenses, etc., of the General Assembly, and Mr. Matthews a general appropriation bill, which went to the Ways and Means Committee. The Senate bill proposing to Congress that the money to be appropriated to refund the cotton tax be applied to the levees was referred to the Committee on Lands and Levees. Other matters were called up, but are set forth fully in the journal, nothing causing discussion except the bill relative to the blockade of the second ward of New Orleans by the railroad depots.

Mr. Hammond, in advancing the bill, called the attention of the House to the fact that the whole front of the second ward, with the exception of Julia street, its lower boundary was so blocked as to a "voluntarily" shut off the access of the residents to the river. He urged the House to pass it notwithstanding the unfavorable report of the Judiciary Committee. He yielded to Mr. Booth.

Mr. Booth said the condition of things in that ward was such that it might be said the people had lost the right of eminent domain. They certainly had the natural right of access to every water course in the United States, but by the evil course in the Mississippi river, they could not reach the Mississippi river. They should have immediate access to the highways of travel. It was useless for them to go to the courts as the law is at present. Here was a broad street (St. Joseph) intended when created as a highway from the New basin to the river cut off from connection with the latter. In the face of this intention a railroad company had blocked it, and property there was depreciated fifty per cent. The Mayor of the city has always done his best. It was an impost on the streets, and commerce was at its mercy. A few years since a small street was blocked by a building of a charitable institution which was highly esteemed. The street seemed small and unnecessary, but "it was a street," and it was restored because the public had made it and insisted on it. The public is not made for the court, but the court for the public. This bill gives preference to cases of this kind, and that is a right to which the people are entitled. Mr. Booth concluded by an appeal to the House to pass the bill and then let the courts decide.

Mr. Hahn said he had noticed this railroad had been considered a nuisance. One thing to be considered was that trains on railroads in the city stopped on crossing streets. This bill will prevent that. It is not a proper bill. He would do his utmost to give justice to the people of this section, but this bill would not do it. Its title was defective. Besides, its effect will be to abolish all charters of railroads coming into Orleans. Where shall a train stop if not on a street at a crossing? In a house? This

bill makes it an offense to be punished by fine to stop anywhere.

Under this bill, the Mobile trains must stop at Pearl river, and those of the Jackson road up at Carrollton. Besides that, here is a man who owns a railroad, who has been the greatest philanthropist, who has founded and endowed more public charities and universities than any fifty citizens Louisiana ever knew, whom this bill will strike down. He is the illustrious Charles Morgan, and only the other day this Legislature honored him by changing the name of a little city for his benefit. Now it is proposed to tear all this up. It is cruelly indeed; it is striking him in the house of his friends. The bill has many defects. It gives these railroad cases preferences. What equity is there in this? Cases of contest for office should have preference, because they are of public interest, but mere actions of contract are not.

Mr. Wiltz spoke in favor of the bill, and urged its passage as one of the most important to New Orleans that had been presented. As Mr. Hammond had stated, the streets were blockaded. Both Democratic and Republican Mayors had endeavored for the third, fourth and even the fifth time to remove the obstructions, and failed. The bill had been up before, and was well drawn.

Mr. Dupre said he was the only member of the Judiciary Committee who was not a lawyer. He had naturally deferred to the legal opinion of his colleagues that the bill was defective. But since he had heard the discussion he was satisfied relief should be given to remedy this peculiar oppression.

For example, Morgan's railroad was on Delta street and he had raised his track two feet above the street, and although required by law, had never seen fit to raise the rest of the street to that level. He had, in discussing another question, referred to the fact that large monopolies could easily crush small enterprises. This subject seemed to him analogous. He was satisfied legislation was necessary to remedy the evil and proposed to vote for the bill.

The bill finally went to the Committee on City Affairs, on Mr. Hammond's suggestion, Mr. Hahn agreeing.

ARRIVEMENTS.

Victoria C. Woodhull.

The subject of the lecture of Victoria C. Woodhull, on Sunday night, at St. Patrick's Hall, will be "The Human Body, the Temple of God," which subject she has handled with such great ability as to excite the plaudits of the country. The following extracts will be found pertinent to the subject.

The Inquirer, Cincinnati, November 7, 1875, said:

Cincinnati enjoyed a novel last evening at Robinson's Opera House, Victoria C. Woodhull, the most generally known woman in America, appeared upon the stage of a lecture hall, and for one hour warmly listened to a lecture which in their hearts the people of the house were ladies of the best families, too; ladies who were not too cowardly to come out to a public place and listen to a lecture which in their hearts they long since had a desire to hear. We venture to say that they went away well pleased with themselves as having had the "grit" to go.

The Opera House was crowded long before the curtain rose at eight o'clock. Every available seat found an occupant early, and the late comers were forced either to stand or find seats in chairs brought in, or more unfortunate still, to stand. And the character of the audience was good—away above the average collections which usually fill our theatres during the run of a popular drama. The major part of it were men in the middle and mature periods of life—men who came with an expectation that they were to hear something uttered by this wonderful woman which would furnish them with food for thought through many a day. They were not disappointed. One-fourth of the people in the house were ladies of the best families, too; ladies who were not too cowardly to come out to a public place and listen to a lecture which in their hearts they long since had a desire to hear. We venture to say that they went away well pleased with themselves as having had the "grit" to go.

The lecturer did not lose any time in needless courtesies or superfluous smiles. She advanced directly to the footlights and opened her mouth. From that instant till ten o'clock she kept up a constant flow of words. Her manner through it all was easy, her gestures graceful, her voice strong, her articulation perfect, and the expression of her face was so good—away above the average of her subject, great almost spiritual.

In this style of argument, improving as she went, and culminating in a grand climax of thought, the lecturer proceeded for two hours. Much of what she said was wildly applauded, and not a person left the hall until she had bowed herself from the stage at the close of the lecture.

Impeachment in Mississippi.

On Tuesday, the House of Representatives in Mississippi, by a vote of 89 to 9, preferred articles of impeachment against Lieutenant Governor A. K. Davis, for having received a bribe for the pardon of one Bartentine, while acting Governor. The articles were presented in the Senate Wednesday, and rules of procedure adopted for the trial.

On Wednesday in the House, the report of the majority of the investigating committee, recommending the impeachment of Superintendent of Education T. W. Carzo, on ten different counts, was passed by a vote of 101 to 4, and a committee appointed to prepare articles.

Illness of Judge Hawkins.

To the great regret of suitors, and the attorneys representing them in the Superior District Court, the serious illness of Judge Hawkins has prevented the trial of any case. Judge Lynch has opened and closed court each day, but of course can not be expected to preside during the usual hours, while his own court claims his attention. All cases have therefore been continued, with preference.

Although Judge Hawkins' sickness is considered serious, still there is no ground for apprehension, and it is hoped he will soon appear in his accustomed seat.

Senator Bruce and Senator West.

The following dispatch from Senator Pinchback will serve to allay the apprehensions of some of our readers who have paid attention to dispatches from Washington indicating the existence of an unpleasant feeling between Senators Bruce and West:

WASHINGTON, February 17, 1876. Reports that Senator Bruce attacked Senator West, and charged him with treachery to me, are untrue. P. B. S. PINCHBACK.

The Temperatures.

The thermometer at Louis Frigero's, No. 50 Chartres street, stood as follows February 17: At 8 A. M., 53°; at 2 P. M., 59°; at 6 P. M., 57°. Lowest point during the night of February 16, 49°.

Knights Templar Parade and Ball.

The Sir Knights of Indivisible Friends, Jacques de Moly and Orleans Commanderies have been directed to assemble at Masonic Hall this morning at nine o'clock, to parade as escort for the officers of the Grand Commandery, which body opens the session of its annual convocation to-day.

Sir Knight Joseph H. De Grange, grand commander of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, presiding. The grand officers will be escorted from the St. James Hotel by a route down Magazine street to the north side of Canal, out Canal to Rampart, to south side of Canal, to Camp, to Camp to Delord, to St. Charles, to Poydras, to Carondelet, to Common, to St. Charles, and up St. Charles to Masonic Hall.

In the evening, a grand reception and ball will be given at St. Patrick's Hall. A long programme of dances has been arranged, and the promenade music will be performed by the band of the Thirteenth Infantry. The grand officers, for whom the reception is held, will appear at ten o'clock in the evening, and immediately thereafter the Sir Knights will drill and perform the several evolutions of parade and fancy drilling peculiar to the knightly order. With ample space in the large hall, and a full turnout of the Knights in show uniforms, the occasion will be one of interest to all who may be fortunate enough to obtain invitations to the entertainment.

Masonic.

The sixty-fourth annual grand communication of the Most Worthy Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons, commenced in this city Monday at Masonic Hall. It was attended by a large number of delegates hailing from at least a hundred different subordinate lodges. Routine business and election occupied the session yesterday. The following named officers were all re-elected for the ensuing year:

John G. Fleming, of New Orleans, most worthy grand master; William K. Whitaker, of New Orleans, senior grand warden; Julius Liso, of Coushatta, junior grand warden; A. W. Hyatt, of New Orleans, grand treasurer; J. C. Batchelor, of New Orleans, grand secretary.

The twenty-first assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Louisiana also occurred yesterday, when were elected C. B. Wheeler, most wise grand master; Claudius Mayo, thrice illustrious grand master; Andrew Hero, Jr., principal conductor of work, with other officers, and duly installed by Past Illustrious Companion S. M. Todd.

Peace and harmony prevailed at the meetings of the grand bodies, and general prosperity of subordinate lodges and chapters was reported.

The Ferdinand Dudenhefer Case.

Eleven of the jurors in the case of the United States vs. Ferdinand Dudenhefer, charged with embezzlement from the Germania National Bank, received from Judge Woods a reprimand yesterday which they will no doubt remember to their dying day. As Judge Woods' remarks are presented in full below, it is needless to call attention to any of the facts presented in the case. It might be noticed, though, that an eminent lawyer said that the verdict in that case left the money of any depositor at the mercy of any bank official who could lay his hands on it.

Yesterday morning all but one of the jurors were called before the bar, and Judge Woods read the following:

The verdict rendered by you yesterday in the case of the United States vs. Ferdinand Dudenhefer was so extraordinary that I can not let it pass unnoted. In all my experience in courts of justice, running over a period of over twenty years, I have never known a verdict rendered so utterly in defiance of the law and the evidence.

An antipathy that it is impossible to administer the law and to dispense justice even handedly with a jury capable of rendering such a verdict. I therefore order that you be discharged from any further attendance as jurors in this case.

Court Items.

The Garvey and Earle case has been fixed again for trial on the twenty-fourth instant. This will be the fifth trial. The first trial ended with an unequal verdict of guilty; the second with a qualified verdict; the third and fourth in a mistrial. At the last trial, about two months ago, eleven jurors stood for an unequal verdict of guilty, while one held out for an acquittal.

The case of Joaquim Flores, who on the seventeenth ultimo murdered his wife Marie Louisa at No. 133 Bourbon street, was fixed for trial yesterday, and was continued until Monday next.

Appointments.

Governor Kellogg yesterday appointed, and the Senate confirmed, Colonel Frank Powers and A. J. Reynolds, Esq., administrators of the Jackson Insane Asylum in East Feliciana.

Another Democratic Clerk.

A Washington special to the Chicago Inter Ocean says:

Martin I. Townsend, of New York, declares to act on the House Committee on Revolutionary Pensions as long as the present clerk is employed by that committee. A few days ago Mr. Townsend went to the room of that committee with some lady friends to show them the view of the Potomac from the window, when the clerk, who is the correspondent of a prominent Democratic paper, ordered him out. Townsend, who is an old man, protested that he had as much right there as the clerk for whose appointment he had voted. The reply of the clerk was: "You may come here when the committee is in session, but not at any other time. You are a damned old rascal." Mr. Townsend reported the matter to the committee this morning, and declined to act while the man is retained as clerk. The cause of the insult was Mr. Townsend's speech on amnesty. If some action is not taken by the committee Mr. Townsend will report the matter to the House. The clerk was formerly in the employ of the State Department of the Southern Confederacy.

Explosion of the Keely Motor.

A Philadelphia dispatch says:

The Keely motor proved that it was something more than a myth by producing an explosion on Friday evening in the building on Twentieth street, above Master, put up last summer for conducting experiments with the "new force." The large cylindrical iron receptacle to which the power is transmitted after its generation in the "multiplier" burst with a loud report and knocked a hole through the brick wall of the building. Nobody was hurt, but the residents of the neighborhood were excited and anxious to see the Keely go some where else with his machine.

LETTER FROM SENATOR PINCHBACK.

The following letter appears in the New York Herald of the fourteenth instant:

WASHINGTON, February 12, 1876. To the Editor of the Herald:

Appreciating the value of your great journal as a medium of information to the people, and believing it to be your policy to do justice to all, of whatever race, color or political faith, I ask the use of your columns for the publication of a letter in which I personally attack upon me and legitimate characterization of the policy illustrated by it. I shall do this with the plainness of speech demanded and justified by the rights of the citizen, and that the full appreciation of my part that such is the public sentiment of the country that language emanating from a white man, which would be considered appropriate and manly when uttered by me, one of a proscribed race, would be deemed impertinent and turbulent.

For some time I have been fully aware that efforts have been industriously made to prejudice the sentiment of the nation, and declarations intended to impress the country, and especially Senators, that I was personally a corrupt and dishonorable man, but the character of the attacks were secret and irresponsible, and I was brave enough to endure the cowardly assaults in silence, believing that my general good deportment and the patient endurance exhibited by me in the face of such attacks would be a sufficient protection against these machinations of my enemies. But when a Senator of the United States rises in his place and declares to the Senate and which can be regarded as pretty good authority, that at that time he was in the Penitentiary or workhouse of Louisiana for the crime of burglary, longer silence on my part would be impossible. The imputation that I was arrested for any other cause than that of a personal rencontre is utterly false, as appears from the papers submitted by Senator Jones to the Senate, and which have been corroborated by living witnesses. And I confess to both surprise and indignation that at this stage of my contest, and before the Senate had acquired the full extent of the facts, a Senator should so gratuitously and without evidence attempt to cast so much discredit upon my name, and to have been in a position to defend myself, when I have heard it stated, on what was not in a position to defend myself, and when I have heard it stated, on what was not in a position to defend myself, and when I have heard it stated, on what was not in a position to defend myself.

Mr. Pinchback's Letter. The following is from an editorial in the New York Herald of the fourteenth:

We willingly allow Mr. Pinchback to be heard in our columns in defense of his personal character, which, we believe, has been unjustly assailed on the floor of the Senate. It is our duty to give him a fair hearing, and we are sorry that he should have been obliged to do so. We are sorry that he should have been obliged to do so. We are sorry that he should have been obliged to do so.

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AN UNFORTUNATE SET OF MEN.

Who Would be a United States Senator—Persecuted by Office-Hunters.

The doors of the Senate were closed on Thursday in executive business, a lively and interesting discussion, which was entirely unanticipated, sprung up.

Mr. Hemin, who has been in the Senate, on and off, for a full session, is a great stickler for traditional customs. He complained that a custom was growing up by which unprivileged persons were constantly gaining access to the floor of the Senate, and that the Senators, in the retiring rooms, and interfering with the comfort of Senators, until, he said, "we are getting so bad as that mob at the other end of the Capitol, that the President's official President pro tem, Mr. Ferry, very severely, and said he was responsible in admitting people on the floor who had no right there; that he should not be assuming prerogatives which were his alone."

Mr. Ferry demurred, and said that he had only followed the precedent set him by former occupants of the chair.

Other Senators followed, and said they were persecuted to the verge of distraction by bunnies and office hunters, male and female; that many of these people pursued them even into the Senate Chamber, and if they desired to put their noses outside they were surrounded and badgered so that they did not know where to turn.

Mr. Conkling said that recently he had taken account one day of the number of cards brought to him, and had ascertained that if he responded it would have given him just about five minutes of the whole day's session.

General Kansom, whose seat is near one of the doors, said that he was made a messenger; that men and women poked their heads in; that they asked him to call this or that Senator.

Mr. Conkling retorted to the fact that the late Senator Sumner made it an imperative duty to refuse to see visitors while he was engaged in official duties. When a card was brought to him, he said, "I am busy, and will see you later," and the card was on his table, and he was in session.

Senator Cameron remarked that he was much annoyed by these office hunters, and that he was on his feet, and he was in session.

Finally, on motion of Mr. Merrimon, the Committee on Rules were instructed to prepare a rule which would prohibit Senators to Senators occasioned by the sending of visiting cards while the Senate is in session.

The reception room of the Senate was crowded with Senators, and many of them were waiting to interview Senators, most of them after place, and the persistence which they show, especially the females, would scarcely be credited by those who are not eye-witnesses.

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