

to report at the next census, means by which the expenses of the Government can be reduced.

The bill was reported by the Committee on the Treasury Department that the simple extension of the Treasury Note Law for one or two years, and authorizing the release of the nearly twenty millions redeemable next July, would be sufficient to relieve the Treasury.

Mr. Taylor (La.) expressed himself strongly against any extension of the law at the present time. He believed that it was due to the Democratic party and to the country to postpone proceedings until a general meeting of the Members of the House could be called to consider the subject.

Mr. Stewart (Md.) made an ineffectual motion to table them. Mr. Reagan (Texas), Mr. Phelps (Min.), Mr. Craig (N. C.) and others participated in the debate.

The resolutions finally were adopted nearly unanimously. Mr. George Taylor was opposed to this action at the time. He thought it premature and calculated to place gentlemen in a false position before the country.

Although evidently a majority of the House is in favor of the passage of the Senate French Spoliation bill, its necessary reference, under the decision of the Speaker, to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, may be regarded as conclusive of its defeat.

The House Committee on Territories to-day agreed to report a bill for the establishment of the Territorial Government of Jefferson, including the Pike's Peak country.

Messrs. Fryer & Heiss, in 'The States to-day,' memorialize Congress to give them a share of the advertising, and complain that the Executive has crowded them out.

The Interior Department has received information from the Commission to survey the Texas and New-Mexican boundaries. They have succeeded in approaching the line, and are marking the same, and were marking the base line, with the hope that in a few days they will be able to inform the Department of the fixing of the initial point.

The progress of the survey has been retarded by extreme cold weather in the Valley of the Rio Grande. The party has been three or four days without a good chance of making its way, so the Senate may afford to take up and act on this bill, the more so as the agricultural, of all interests, is the least fostered by this Government.

The bill was taken up (Yeas 30, Nays 26) and discussed. Messrs. GWIN and STUART offered amendments to the bill, after which Mr. PUGH moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Public Lands, but before coming to a vote on the question the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GROW (Penn.) called up his motion to reconsider the vote by which the Homestead bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. STEPHENS (Ga.) thought the present land system ought to be changed, but was opposed to this bill. Mr. MILLSON (Va.) was of the opinion that the bill should not be passed without discussion.

Mr. GROW replied that it had been discussed for eight years, more or less. Mr. GROW's motion was agreed to. The bill passed the House, it must go to the Senate, where it will be discussed, to the delay of the public business.

Mr. GROW replied that it had been debated there. Mr. JONES (Tenn.) said that, if it did delay the public business, the bill ought to pass. Mr. HUGHES (Ind.) moved to table the bill. Negatively against 113.

The bill was passed by 120 against 76. It provides that any person who is the head of a family, and over twenty-one years of age, and a citizen of the United States, or has filed an intention to do so, shall be entitled to a quarter section of any vacant or unappropriated land, and hold the same on condition of actual settlement and cultivation.

The French Spoliation bill from the Senate was taken up. Mr. BURLINGAME (Mass.) said, inasmuch as the bill is covered by the bill had been discussed for the last fifty years, he had risen, not to make a speech, but to motion. Twenty-six reports have been made in favor of these claims, and the bill has passed the Senate five times and the House twice. The bill has been twice vetoed, once because of the presence of Executive order, and once because of a misapprehension of the facts. Twelve States, through their Legislatures, have recommended the passage of the bill. He moved the previous question.

Mr. LETCHER (Va.) raised a point of order, and Mr. BURLINGAME reminded the gentleman of the fact that Mr. Buchanan, when a Senator, not only consented, that the bill be reported, but voted for its passage. As the Washington Union, the President's organ, this morning published Mr. Webster's speech in favor of it, it was to be presumed that the President is in favor of the bill.

Mr. LETCHER replied, did the gentleman pretend to bring here the opinion of the President as a power sufficient to control members of the House? Was he not a member of the House? He said that he had been told over and over again, that Mr. Buchanan, as a Senator, reported the bill from the Committee, and voted for it, was that any reason why the House should depart from its rules and refuse to consider the bill in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union?

Mr. BURLINGAME desired to withdraw his suggestion, that the President may be in favor of the bill. The way things went yesterday, when the motion was made to introduce the Loan bill, was so disastrous that the suggestion would not aid the passage of the bill.

Mr. LETCHER replied, the gentleman need not think to help his original position by that shift. In reply to a question of Mr. Davis, (Md.) he said the President and Secretary of the Treasury, whenever there was a surplus fund, should apply it, under the provisions of this bill, to the redemption of the redeemed stock of five millions. He said that he had not at fault, Mr. Buchanan was a member of the Cabinet each time the former French Spoliation bills were vetoed, and he supposed Mr. Buchanan must at those periods have been consulted as a member of the Cabinet.

Mr. HUGHES moved to table the bill. Negatively, 5 against 106. The SPEAKER, for reasons which he stated, decided that the bill makes an appropriation, and must be considered in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. FLORENCE (Pa.) appealed from the decision of the Chair. On motion of Mr. SICKLES (N. Y.), the appeal was tabled, 128 against 50.

The bill was then referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. SICKLES called up the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill relative to settlers on the New-York Indian Reservation in Kansas, pending which the House adjourned.

Municipal Election. LANCASTER, Pa., Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. At the municipal election in this city, yesterday, Frederick (Dem.) was elected Mayor over Barrows by 7 majority, in a heavy vote.

Fire at Concord, N. H. CONCORD, N. H., Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. The Passenger Depot building of the Concord Railroad was nearly destroyed by fire this morning. The books and papers of the Company were saved. Loss about \$25,000. Insured.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE

SENATE.—ALBANY, Feb. 1, 1859. The bill authorizing the Harlem Railroad to lay a double track in Fourth Avenue and Madison Avenue and to run locomotives from Forty-second street, New-York, was debated in Committee of the Whole.

The time of using steam was reduced to 30 years, and progress reported on the bill. The bill was reported by the Reformatory Asylum and for the relief of the State Insane Asylum were reported favorably.

Mr. PRATT introduced a bill to provide for reports every year, from the Governor of the State, of the number of pardons granted, together with all the documents in each case, and the number of pardons refused.

Mr. ELY introduced a bill to vest in the City of New-York the title to the land under the Thirtieth Avenue, New-York, between Fourteenth and Thirty-first streets.

ASSEMBLY. The House, in Committee of the Whole, took up the bill extending the exemption law from \$150 worth of property to \$250 worth.

A discussion here arose as to whether the bill accomplished the object for which it was designed, or whether it did not practically lessen the amount of the exemption.

Progress was then reported, and the bill laid over. The bill to repeal the law, authorizing parties to suits to be witnesses, was considered in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. MILLER moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill. Mr. SCHOLEFIELD advocated the motion. He had heard, and believed, that the object of repealing the bill was to defeat certain cases now pending, in which the testimony of one party thereto was important.

HUTCHINSON advocated the defeat of the bill. It had not been fully tried, but its benefits were generally admitted thus far.

Mr. MORRIS warmly advocated the bill. He believed the act as now existing induced perjury, litigation and the disagreement of juries. He had never known a case where such testimony by opposing parties to a suit had not been directly influential.

After debate by Messrs. SPENCER, FIKKINS, BINGHAM, and JOHNSON, the motion to strike out the enacting clause prevailed by an emphatic vote.

The bill to amend Building Associations in Kings County was amended so as to include Erie and New-York, when progress was reported upon it.

State Anti-Slavery Convention. ALBANY, Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. The State Anti-Slavery Convention is now in session here. Aaron M. Powell of Columbia is the President.

Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Powell, Wendell Phillips, Lloyd Garrison, and others, in support of the doctrine of State Independence and Disunion.

The addresses were listened to attentively, and elicited considerable applause. Resolutions were introduced, which quote as a preamble the language of John Quincy Adams, Wm. Ellery Channing, Josiah Quincy, &c.

Resolved, That in advocating a dissolution of the Union, the Abolitionists are justified by every precept of the Gospel, every principle of justice, and every dictate of humanity.

Resolved, That the Union is a covenant with death, and ought to be annulled—an agreement with hell, which a just God cannot be supposed to stand by, and is the paramount duty of all to seek its immediate overthrow.

The resolutions then go on to quote the language of Wm. H. Sewall respecting an irrepressible conflict between free and slave States, and found on that a resolution declaring that any party is unworthy of confidence, no matter what its professions may be, if it refuses to attack the institution of Slavery itself.

The resolutions were debated at length by Messrs. Powell, Garrison, Pillsbury, and others, and finally adopted. The attendance this evening was small.

FROM WASHINGTON

DELAY OF BUSINESS IN CONGRESS.—PRIVATE CLAIMANTS. FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1859. "How not to do it" seems to be the problem which Congress, and especially the Lower House, is always trying to solve. For instance: A Government like ours, operating over a vast territory, acting through all sorts of agents, and coming constantly in contact with private interests, will necessarily damnify a good many persons in the course of every year. It is right that the Government should rectify its wrongs, and remunerate those whom it has damaged. Inasmuch as injured, or, it may be, ruined parties, cannot sue the Government, it is natural that they seek relief from its Legislature.

Recognizing this principle, Congress created a Court of Claims, giving it jurisdiction over a defined description of cases. This Court sits all matters before it with scrupulous care. But, so far from treating its decisions as final, Congress requires that tribunal to report its adjudications to a committee, which, unless it suppress the matter altogether, reports on the cases either adversely or by bills granting relief to the parties. These bills are referred to the Committee of the Whole, and entered on what is called "the Private Calendar." But, as the jurisdiction of this Court is limited to a narrow range of cases, many other cases where the claimants must apply for relief directly to Congress. These cases are referred to committees, who report thereon either adversely or by bills, which bills are also referred to the Committee of the Whole, and entered on the Private Calendar.

The House, by rule, is bound to devote Friday and Saturday of each week to private bills. On every alternate Friday the objection of a single member throws a bill over the day. Two days in each week would seem to be sufficient to dispose of this class of business. But, in fact, the House often adjourns over Saturday, while many of its Fridays and Saturdays are consumed by "special orders" or "unfinished business," or "bum-bacon" speeches, or even the Private Calendar is taken up by perverted "filibustering."

The Private Calendar of Friday last before me, it contains nearly 400 bills. I am told that most of them were on the Calendar at the last Session, and that many of them have been before Congress for years. I am not aware that I ever heard of a single name on this Calendar, except that of Chas. J. Ingersoll, ex-Member of Congress from Philadelphia. A considerable share of the bills are to give effect to decisions of the Court of Claims. A large part of the others are reported from the Committees on Invalid Pensions, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, Indian Affairs, Revolutionary Claims, and Private Land Claims. They cover a vast range of subjects; and the documents accompanying them, doubtless exhibit some of the most curious, amusing and touching incidents in the annals of the country, from its ante-revolutionary period down to the latest Indian outrage in our Western wilds.

A good many of the bills are for relief to soldiers invalidated in the service. A large proportion of the remainder are based on claims for all sorts of private property purchased, or seized, or used, or destroyed, in time of war and in time of peace, by the military and naval forces, by the civil officers or Indian agents of the Government. Many of the original parties died long ago, leaving these claims to their widows and children. The sums involved are generally small, and the claimants often needy. On "private-bill day," it is not unusual to see a dozen or more of aged females in the gallery of the House, each with a printed calendar in her hand, House, each with a printed calendar in her hand, eagerly watching the progress of the bill, and, if they are passed upon the Committee—said Jones, who is a very much such a Member of Congress as Abigail Fuller would be, deeming himself a great economist, and sure of a reelection, if he can, by badgering the House all day at an expense of \$10,000, table a bill appropriating \$100 for a widow's horse taken for the public service by one of our officers in the War of 1812. In the last four days, when private bills were considered, the House disposed of only about a dozen cases; while in the same period more than fifty were added to the Calendar. Members talk everything to death—even time. For instance, the bill to pay Charles J. Ingersoll his per diem and mileage while contesting the seat in the Southern District, was introduced by one of Charles Taylor, some twenty years ago, by a been discussed more elaborately at each one of a dozen sessions than the House of Commons would debate a serious proposition to dispose of the whole of British India to France.

Now, I do not say that the Congress ought not to review the decisions of the Court of Claims, nor that it should enact all the bills on its Private Calendar, or a single one of them. But I do say, that it ought to act upon and dispose of them all. When Henry Brougham took the Great Seal, he found the Court of Chancery choked by the business which had not been done by that "everlasting doer," Lord Eldon. The mercantile law-reformer tumbled up his gown, and went at this mass of rubbish, the accumulation of a quarter of a century of hesitancy and delay, with a determination to clear it off. In this doing, he set on the principle that it was better for suitors that their cases be decided wrong at once than not decided at all. He cleared the calendar, and left a *carte blanche* to his successor. So should it be with Congress. It would be better for claimants that their cases be briefly considered and summarily dismissed from the Capitol, than that parties be kept here in suspense, session after session, while members soar aloft on the wings of bombast and the American Eagle.

The Utah Mail. LEAVENWORTH, Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. The Utah mail, with dates to the 4th ultimo, has arrived here. The news is unimportant. There had been a review of all the troops by Gen. Johnston, and they were represented to be in a high state of discipline.

Funeral of Wm. C. Bond. BOSTON, Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. The funeral of Prof. Bond took place at Grace Church, Cambridge, to-day, the Rev. Nicholas Hopkin officiating. The attendance was large.

The Bark Brunette. LONG BEACH, N. Y., Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. The bark Brunette, which was ashore at this place, got off at about 8 o'clock this morning, and is now on her way to New York in tow.

The Philadelphia at New-Orleans. NEW-ORLEANS, Tuesday, Jan. 31, 1859. The steamship Philadelphia, was ordered from New-York by Havana, with the California mails of the 9th via Panama.

Non-Arrival of the Kangaroo.

SANDY HOOK, Tuesday, Feb. 1-11 p. m. There are no signs of the steamship Kangaroo, from Liverpool 19th ult. The weather is cloudy, with a fresh wind from south-west.

Further from Hayti.

BOSTON, Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. Palmer's News Room has additional advices from Hayti, received by Brig Montecello, at Tarpaubin Cove, from Port-au-Prince 9th instant. But few collisions had taken place thus far between the Imperial troops and the insurgents. Souleuvre had advanced as far as Mro, and was meditating a march upon St. Marc. A conflict had taken place between the two contending parties, but there was no reliable information as to which side was victorious.

About forty of the Emperor's troops, wounded, had arrived at Port-au-Prince. A republican movement was pending at the latter place. The Emperor had called for more troops, but could not raise a hundred men. Reports were current that Jemal and Anx Cayes had declared for the Republic. The Emperor's forces do not exceed 3,000 men. It is the general opinion that Gouffard will be successful. Business was nearly suspended both at Jemal and Port-au-Prince, an embargo having been laid on all coasting vessels.

Boston Weekly Bank Statement. BOSTON, Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1859. The following are the footings of our Bank Statement for the past week:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Capital Stock, Loans and Discounts, Deposits, Specie, and other items.

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Among those admitted as patients during the past year were 47 Housekeepers, 28 Farmers, 1 Reporter, 1 Printer, 2 School-boys, 4 School-girls, 10 Seamstresses, 3 Students, 3 Macinists, 6 Merchants, 3 Lawyers, 15 Common Laborers, 17 Farm Laborers, 1 Physician, 3 Teachers, 5 Clerks, and 4 with no occupation.

The receipts of the institution, of all kinds, including \$19,536 30 on hand at the commencement of the past fiscal year, have been \$116,529 40, and the expenditures \$103,534 61.

Connected with the institution is a garden which is cultivated mainly by the inmates, and among the products of the garden were about 1,600 bushels of turnips, 1,143 quarts of strawberries, 1,157 quarts of currants, 600 quarts of gooseberries, 300 quarts of raspberries; also, considerable quantities of apples, pears, plums, &c.

The Assembly seems to be anxious to get through with the legislation of the session as early a day as possible, and without resort to the abominable "Grinding Committee," which has been for some years past a part of the machinery used at the close of each session for rushing through, without due consideration, many bills that ought and might have been passed earlier in the session, and many more which never ought to have passed at all, and would not if they had been fairly discussed.

To avoid the evils referred to, the Assembly has passed an order for meeting in future at 10 o'clock instead of at 11, as heretofore, and for Evening Sessions twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays. An Evening Session was held yesterday, at which Mr. Lindley Murray, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, introduced a bill to amend the Divorce Laws. Mr. Morris's bill authorizes divorce for absence for three years next preceding the application; and also where, for one year previous to application, there has been cruel and inhuman treatment, so as greatly to impair the health or endanger the life of the applying party. The law is not to apply to persons not having been a resident of the State for five years. Specifications 1, 2 and 3 of original section 38, of article 3, of title 1, of chapter 8, part 2, of the Revised Statutes, shall apply to these causes for divorce, as they now apply to the causes of adultery. The other provisions of the Revised Statutes, relating to divorce for adultery, and regulating the form and manner of proceedings, shall be applicable in the proceedings under this act, as far as applicable.

The Assembly exhibited its good sense to-day, by killing the bill introduced by Mr. Johnson of Delaware, to repeal the act allowing parties to suits to be witnesses. The bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole, Gen. DURVEY in the Chair, when Mr. MILLER moved to strike out the enacting clause. Messrs. SCHOLEFIELD and HUTCHINSON ably advocated the motion. Mr. MORRIS opposed it at some length. Messrs. BINGHAM and FIKKINS advocated the motion. Mr. TOMLINSON desired delay, that the bill, which was an important one, might be thoroughly considered. Mr. JOHNSON was opposed to the motion (to strike out the enacting clause), and made a plausible argument, considering he was on the wrong side of the question, but when he had concluded the motion to strike out the enacting clause prevailed by a strong vote.

Quite a large delegation of New-Yorkers are up here looking after various "little bills," and perhaps some big ones. Among others I notice that "most excellent and upright Judge" A. D. Russell, whose ermine is supposed to be in danger from a bill noticed in my letter of Saturday, for the repeal of the act creating the office of City Judge for the City of New-York.

The regular monthly meeting of this Society was held last evening, at the hall of the Society, Second Avenue. The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH presided.

The Rev. Dr. OSBORN announced the reception of the following contributions to the Society: A copy of the "Conquest of Mexico," a subtle, scarce perceptible, yet all-pervading warmth underlies the style of the whole work, running through every sentence from the first to the last. The plastic power of the author in molding crude and unorganized and forbidding materials into a clear and united and absorbing narrative has cost; but the result is a perfect model of the art of narration. Every statement is the result of most elaborate research, and yet, as he passes from court to country, from valley to mountain ranges, from Spain to the Levant, among Moors and Turks and Christians and corsairs from Barbary, his descriptions are so clear and so graphic that the humming-bird as it roves after honey among the flowers of Summer; and his pictures of battles are as vivid as though the sun had taken them in its brightest colors at the very moment they were raging.

In his writings of Prescott, the individual character is never lost sight of in the admiration of his greatness; as should ever be the case in a true work of art, it appears only in glimpses, or as an abstract from the whole. Yet his personality is the source of the charm of his style, and all who knew him will say, he was himself greater and better than his work. While his historical prose limns, it felt that he had his time to the service of mankind, everything about him marked him out to be the most beloved of companions, and the life and joy and pride of society.

His personal appearance itself was singularly pleasing, and won for him everywhere an easy and winning acquaintance, as if some conscience had something that brought to mind "the beautiful disdain" that hovers on that of the Apollo. But, while he was high-spirited, he was tender and gentle and humane. His voice was like music, and one could never hear his name. His characteristics were his gentleness, and could speak earnestly and profoundly; but he knew not how to be ungracious or peevish. In truth, the charms of his conversation were unequalled, he so united the rich stores of memory with the ease of one who is familiar with the world.

His friendships he was most faithful, true to them always; true to the least; never allowing his confidences to be so much as ruffled by the noisy clamors of calumny, or by rivalry, or by differences of opinion. In the management of his affairs he was prudent and considerate in his expenditures, and was largely generous, having an open hand, but doing good without observation. His affections rested early and happily on the congenial object of his choice, and the rosy light of his youth, never dimmed by a cloud, went with him all his way through life.

As a member of the Historical Society, I see among you those who knew Prescott as a friend; we join the cultivated world in honoring his memory, we mingle our tears with those of his family. Standing as it were by his grave, we cannot recall anything in his history, his character, his endowments, or his conduct, that we could wish changed. If he had faults, his associates loved him too well to find them out. We none of us know of his writing one line that he could wish to blot, or uttering a word of which the echo he would suppress. Those of us who are growing old are; bear in mind that he has given us a grand legacy; he has given us a young man, charging you to emulate him in the culture of intelligence and the practice of virtue.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted. The President then announced that his lectures next Monday evening will be delivered by Herman Melville, author of 'Typee,' 'Omoo,' &c., on "The South Sea Islands," and the meeting adjourned.

A GOOD PRESENTMENT.—A Coroner's Jury at Ravenwood, Long Island, after investigating the cause of the death, a day or two ago, of one Tobias Dietz, a very temperate man, although five years ago sober, steady and promising, mentioned in the verdict that a death of this kind, although not directly murder or suicide, still partakes in a measure of both, and the jury believed that this case further shows the wisdom and humanity of laws to restrain the sale of liquor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—The Sunday School connected with the Oliver Street Baptist Church, held its forty-second annual last evening. Addressed by Mr. J. Joseph Horne, ex-Superintendent, were Mr. Robert Lowry, and Lucius Hart, and a large number of well-remembered relations and songs were on the programme. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity, and the audience seemed universally to be inspired with good cheer. Prizes were distributed at the end of the evening's performance.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—A young lady named Jenny Tyler, residing with her brother, at No. 95 Livingston Street, attempted to commit suicide yesterday afternoon, by jumping into the dock, foot of Houston Street. She was rescued by some sailors, and taken to the State-L House, where she was restricted.

Among those admitted as patients during the past year were 47 Housekeepers, 28 Farmers, 1 Reporter, 1 Printer, 2 School-boys, 4 School-girls, 10 Seamstresses, 3 Students, 3 Macinists, 6 Merchants, 3 Lawyers, 15 Common Laborers, 17 Farm Laborers, 1 Physician, 3 Teachers, 5 Clerks, and 4 with no occupation.

The receipts of the institution, of all kinds, including \$19,536 30 on hand at the commencement of the past fiscal year, have been \$116,529 40, and the expenditures \$103,534 61.

Connected with the institution is a garden which is cultivated mainly by the inmates, and among the products of the garden were about 1,600 bushels of turnips, 1,143 quarts of strawberries, 1,157 quarts of currants, 600 quarts of gooseberries, 300 quarts of raspberries; also, considerable quantities of apples, pears, plums, &c.

The Assembly seems to be anxious to get through with the legislation of the session as early a day as possible, and without resort to the abominable "Grinding Committee," which has been for some years past a part of the machinery used at the close of each session for rushing through, without due consideration, many bills that ought and might have been passed earlier in the session, and many more which never ought to have passed at all, and would not if they had been fairly discussed.

To avoid the evils referred to, the Assembly has passed an order for meeting in future at 10 o'clock instead of at 11, as heretofore, and for Evening Sessions twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays. An Evening Session was held yesterday, at which Mr. Lindley Murray, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, introduced a bill to amend the Divorce Laws. Mr. Morris's bill authorizes divorce for absence for three years next preceding the application; and also where, for one year previous to application, there has been cruel and inhuman treatment, so as greatly to impair the health or endanger the life of the applying party. The law is not to apply to persons not having been a resident of the State for five years. Specifications 1, 2 and 3 of original section 38, of article 3, of title 1, of chapter 8, part 2, of the Revised Statutes, shall apply to these causes for divorce, as they now apply to the causes of adultery. The other provisions of the Revised Statutes, relating to divorce for adultery, and regulating the form and manner of proceedings, shall be applicable in the proceedings under this act, as far as applicable.

The Assembly exhibited its good sense to-day, by killing the bill introduced by Mr. Johnson of Delaware, to repeal the act allowing parties to suits to be witnesses. The bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole, Gen. DURVEY in the Chair, when Mr. MILLER moved to strike out the enacting clause. Messrs. SCHOLEFIELD and HUTCHINSON ably advocated the motion. Mr. MORRIS opposed it at some length. Messrs. BINGHAM and FIKKINS advocated the motion. Mr. TOMLINSON desired delay, that the bill, which was an important one, might be thoroughly considered. Mr. JOHNSON was opposed to the motion (to strike out the enacting clause), and made a plausible argument, considering he was on the wrong side of the question, but when he had concluded the motion to strike out the enacting clause prevailed by a strong vote.

Quite a large delegation of New-Yorkers are up here looking after various "little bills," and perhaps some big ones. Among others I notice that "most excellent and upright Judge" A. D. Russell, whose ermine is supposed to be in danger from a bill noticed in my letter of Saturday, for the repeal of the act creating the office of City Judge for the City of New-York.

The regular monthly meeting of this Society was held last evening, at the hall of the Society, Second Avenue. The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH presided.

The Rev. Dr. OSBORN announced the reception of the following contributions to the Society: A copy of the "Conquest of Mexico," a subtle, scarce perceptible, yet all-pervading warmth underlies the style of the whole work, running through every sentence from the first to the last. The plastic power of the author in molding crude and unorganized and forbidding materials into a clear and united and absorbing narrative has cost; but the result is a perfect model of the art of narration. Every statement is the result of most elaborate research, and yet, as he passes from court to country, from valley to mountain ranges, from Spain to the Levant, among Moors and Turks and Christians and corsairs from Barbary, his descriptions are so clear and so graphic that the humming-bird as it roves after honey among the flowers of Summer; and his pictures of battles are as vivid as though the sun had taken them in its brightest colors at the very moment they were raging.