XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—Second Session

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1865.

SHIP CANAL.

Mr. HARRIS presented the petition of Peter Dodger and others of New-York, in favor of a ship canal from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario.

COMMERCE.

Mr. CHANDLER moved to make the bill to regulate commerce between the several States the special order for Thursday next.

Mr. SHERMAN understood that this was a bill in relation to certain railroads, and would provoke a great deal of discussion.

Mr. CHANDLER withdrew his motion.

THE AMENDMENT.

Mr. TRUMBULL called up the resolution introduced by him a few days since, declaring as follows:

Whereas, The Secretary of the Senate has submitted the constitutional amendment to the President for his approval; and

Whereas, Propositions to amend the constitution do not require the approval of the President; therefore,

Resolved, That the action of the Secretary in this case shall not be taken as a precedent for the future.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. SUMNER—I do not wish to interfere with the regular order, but with the indulgence of my colleague (Wilson), I am going to ask the Senate, informally, to take up a resolution I offered yesterday, calling upon the President for information with reference to the late peace mission.

Mr. SHERMAN—I hope that will not be taken up as it will certainly give rise to discussion.

Mr. SAULSBURY—I hope it will not be taken up now. I wish to offer an amendment to it when it does come up.

The resolution was not taken up.

THE ENROLLMENT BILL.

The chair here said that the unfinished business was the bill in relation to the Enrollment bill, which was then taken up.

The pending question was the adoption of the amendment of Mr. Conness, to make the third section read so that substitute brokers, recruiting agents, or other persons who shall for pay or profit enlist insane persons, or persons in a condition of intoxication, shall be punished.

Mr. COWAN moved so to amend the third section as to make persons accused of the crimes above-named amenable to the civil courts instead of courts-martial or military commissions.

This gave rise to discussion, in which Messrs. Cowan, Conness and Howard participated, the two latter speaking against the proposition.

The question on the adoption of Mr. Cowan's amendment was decided in the affirmative by yeas 29, nays 14.

Mr. GRIMES moved to strike out the 1st section which provides that any person liable to draft may be accepted as a substitute for a drafted person.

Mr. WILSON opposed the motion. He (Wilson) had been told by men engaged in enlisting recruits that the clause referred to would be of incalculable value to the service. The country needed men and must have them. If the pending call was filled, no more men would be wanted. We want these men now. If we had three months ago 50,000 or 75,000 men to have sent to Gen. Grant before Richmond, the military power of the Rebellion would have been broken before this. The great trouble was that there were so many different constructions put upon the enrollment bill. There had been all sorts of interference with its execution. Committees had been sent here from cities and states to fill quotas without putting men into the army. The President had, he understood, reduced the quota of one State, and he had no right to do so. Neither the President, the Secretary of War, nor the Provost-Marshal had any right to reduce a quota. Another great evil was the enlistment of insane men, and men in other ways unfit for the service. He (Wilson) had heard on good authority that of those recruits who rendezvoused in New-York harbor, fifty per cent were unfit for the service. The section proposed to be stricken out was advised by Mr. Blunt, who had enlisted 56,000 men since the war began.

Mr. CONNESS inquired if Mr. Blunt was not the man who received fifty thousand dollars for reducing the quota of New-York.

Mr. WILSON said that report was not true.

Mr. GRIMES inquired if Mr. Blunt was not the man who had got a credit of thirty-six thousand naval recruits for New-York city, and had checked over this deduction on the quota.

Mr. CLARK moved so to amend the first section as to make it read that any person drafted may furnish as a substitute a person liable to draft in the same town, city or ward.

Mr. CLARK thought this would have some effect in preventing desertions. In his own town two hundred and fifty men had been enlisted not long ago on high bounties, and in a very short time two hundred and forty of them had deserted.

Subsequently Mr. COWAN withdrew his amendment, and the amendment of Mr. Clark was adopted.

Mr. CONNESS moved to amend the third section, so as to make it an offense to enlist any convict or person charged with crime. Mr. Conness explained that it was a habit in this city and other cities for persons engaged in the bounty-jumping nuisance to come the arrest by the police officers, who are engaged with them, of innocent and unoffending men, whom they drugged and incarcerated in jails, charging them with infamous crimes, and frightening them into the belief that they have proof of the charges, and then inducing them while in a state of stupefaction to enlist, themselves getting all the bounty to which the recruit is entitled. In many instances in the city of New-York it was ascertained that justices of the peace were in complicity in these transactions. The result was that these men found themselves in the army who never intended to go there, and they had no compunctions about deserting whenever they got an opportunity. In addition to this, felons were often taken out of jails and penitentiaries and put in the army, and they, of course, did not make good soldiers.

Mr. RICHARDSON was opposed to the amendment. He thought men charged with crime had as much right to go into the army as other men, and it was just the place for many of them.

Mr. GRIMES hoped the amendment would be adopted. He was opposed to allowing convicts and felons to mingle with the good and brave men who had gone out to fight our battles. He had heard recently of a case in which seventy-two criminals were turned out of the jail of the District of Columbia and enlisted in the army.

Mr. SHERMAN asked the postponement of the further consideration of the enrollment bill, to admit of the passage of the Appropriation bill, and the bill regulating the duty on paper.

Mr. CLARK said it was very important to get through with the Enrollment bill, as the draft was about to take place.

Mr. SHERMAN then withdrew his motion.

The amendment of Mr. Conness was then adopted.

Mr. CLARK moved as an additional amendment to the first section a provision, that the name of the person furnishing as a substitute a person liable to the draft, shall be continued on the enrollment list, and he shall be liable to further calls in the same way and manner as the substitute would have been liable.

Mr. WILSON said such a provision as this was already in force.

Mr. CLARK said he knew that, but he wanted to keep the fact before the people.

Mr. WILSON said the fifth section of the act of February last covered the subject sufficiently, and it was not necessary to reenact it.

Mr. CONNESS was in favor of a provision holding the principal responsible for the conduct of his substitute in case of desertion. This, he thought would do away with a great deal of the abuse of the brokerage system.

Mr. WILSON replied that the sixth section of the original bill reported by him last winter, had in it a provision of the kind suggested by Mr. Conness, but as soon as this proposition was made to the country, the papers denounced it as tyrannical, and he (Wilson) was accused of being a cruel and oppressive man.

Mr. CLARK's amendment was adopted.

Mr. SUMNER offered an amendment, that, in addition to the substitute furnished by a drafted person, every such drafted person shall, before being discharged from draft, pay a tithe of his income for the time for which he has been exempted. Persons with an income or salary of $2,000 a year shall pay five per cent; more than $2,000 and less than $5,000, ten per cent; more than $5,000, twenty per cent—the sums thus collected to be expended by the Secretary of War in providing bounties for persons actually drafted and mustered into the service. Mr. SUMNER said that during the last session he had offered a provision similar to the above, and since that time he had received a great many letters, and especially from the West, approving of it. He was in favor of making rich men pay for their exemption a larger sum than poor men had to pay. It was unjust to charge a rich man no more than the poor man for exemption from military service.

Mr. COWAN said if money was to be the measure of contributions to the service of the country, Mr. Sumner's amendment ought to go further and tax the rich men who were not subject to military duty. He was opposed to the adoption of the amendment.

Mr. JOHNSON argued that the amendment of Mr. Sumner proposed an unconstitutional system of taxation, discriminating as to the rate between the rich and poor. He held that the rich and poor were alike bound to serve the country in time of war.

The yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. SUMNER on the adoption of his amendment. It was rejected; yeas 8, nays 36.

Those voting in the affirmative were Messrs. Anthony, Harlan, Lane (Kansas), Morgan, Pomeroy, Sherman, Skinner and Trumbull.

Mr. LANE (Kansas) offered as a substitute for the first section a provision repealing all acts and parts of acts, permitting drafted persons to furnish substitutes. He did not believe the Senate was prepared just now to adopt this provision. Some time ago he (Lane) made a speech at Benton Barracks. A lot of soldiers were drawn up to hear him, and he was surprised to see with what care they had to be guarded to keep them from running away.

Mr. CLARK—From the speech? [Laughter.]

Mr. LANE—No, they were glad to hear the speech, but had to be kept from running away from the army.

Mr. HALE—I would inquire if they were the soldiers who were arrested by Gen. Scofield for hurrahing for Jim Lane? [Laughter.]

Mr. LANE—I don't know about that, but there were men arrested for that in the State.

Mr. LANE demanded the yeas and nays on the adoption of his amendment.

YEAS—Messrs. Brown, Doolittle, Grimes, Hale, Lane (Ind.), Lane (Kansas), and Ramsey—7.

NAYS—Messrs. Anthony, Buckalew, Clark, Collamer, Conness, Cowan, Davis, Dixon, Farwell, Foot, Foster, Hall, Harlan, Harris, Henderson, Hendricks, Johnson, Morgan, Morrill, Pomeroy, Powell, Riddle, Sherman, Stewart, Sumner, Ten Eyck, Trumbull, Van Winkle, Willey, Wilson and Wright—31.

So the Senate refused to abolish the substitute clause in the original enrollment bill.

Mr. HENDRICKS offered an amendment, exempting the heads of Executive Departments, Judges of the United States Courts, and Members of Congress during their term of service, which was rejected by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Brown, Buckalew, Davis, Hendricks, Pomeroy, Powell, Riddle, Trumbull and Wright—9.

NAYS—Messrs. Anthony, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Conness, Cowan, Dixon, Farwell, Foote, Foster, Grimes, Harlan, Harris, Henderson, Howard, Johnson, Lane (Ind.), Lane (Kans.), Morgan, Morrill, Nye, Ramsey, Sherman, Stewart, Sumner, Ten Eyck, Van Winkle, Willey and Wilson—28.

Mr. MORRILL offered an amendment, which was adopted, that any person liable to draft, who shall remove himself beyond the jurisdiction of the United States for the purpose of avoiding the draft, shall be deemed to have forfeited his citizenship.

Mr. DAVIS offered as an amendment an additional section, that before another draft shall be enforced in any State, there should be a correct enrollment made, and all excesses on former calls shall be credited, and that all exemptions shall be made before the draft takes place.

On the adoption of this amendment Mr. DAVIS demanded the yeas and nays; yeas 11, nays 23, so the amendment was not adopted.

Mr. HENDRICKS moved to strike out the seventh section of the bill, which provides that all who have deserted from the army or navy, and shall not report themselves in sixty days after the passage of this bill, shall be deprived of citizenship, and shall be forever incapable of holding offices of trust and profit in the United States. The amendment was not adopted.

The bill, as amended, was then passed.

OHIO RIVER BRIDGE.

Mr. POWELL moved the postponement of all prior orders for the purpose of considering the bill to authorize the construction of a Bridge over the Ohio River at Louisville.

Pending the consideration of this question the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 7, 1865.

THE FIELD AND KELLEY AFFAIR.

Mr. BEAMAN, from the Select Committee on the subject, made a report accompanied by the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Speaker of the House issue his warrant, directed to the Sergeant-at-Arms, commanding him to take into custody, wherever found, the body of A. P. Field, convicted of a breach of the privileges of this House, in using language of intimidation and bullying to deter William D. Kelley, a Representative from the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, from the free and fearless exercise of his rights and duties as a Member of Congress, in voting and deciding on a pending subject of investigation, and following up said attempted bullying and intimidation by an assault upon the said William D. Kelley, and that A. P. Field be reprimanded by the Speaker.

Resolved, That so much of the resolution granting the privilege of the hall to the claimants of seats from Louisiana as applied to the said Field be rescinded.

On motion of Mr. BEAMAN the report and resolutions were ordered to be printed. He gave notice that he should call up the subject at an early day.

FORTIFICATIONS.

The House then went into Committee on the Fortification Bill.

Mr. WASHBURNE (Ill.) said he understood the amount in the bill was five millions of dollars. He wished to know from the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means if it was absolutely necessary to expend all this money at the present time.

Mr. STEVENS replied that the committee had Gen. Delafield before them an entire morning, and he considered the sum necessary in part to accommodate the forts to the new ordnance.

Mr. BROOKS moved to strike out the appropriation of half a million dollars for the defenses around Washington. He had no idea of a Rebel army again approaching within sight of this Capitol, and hoped the time had come when we might do away with those fortifications—these monuments of civil war, which he did not wish to perpetuate. But if such defenses should become necessary, there was a reserved power to construct or strengthen them. To make the appropriation would proclaim to the world that we did not feel safe from invasion. This impression he desired to avoid, and hence his amendment.

Mr. STEVENS said he not feel as much confidence in the total annihilation of the Rebel armies as did the gentlemen from New-York. He had hoped the recent conference would have produced peace, as some gentlemen here and elsewhere had promised. But those promises had not been fulfilled. So far from there being peace, he understood the war was to be renewed with vigor. He did not expect the South to take the hand of the North, but they might again attempt to invade the capital. He did not suppose a dollar of this appropriation would be expended unless it should become necessary to do so.

Mr. BROOKS did not believe the Rebels would ever again approach the capital. If he had been correctly informed, and he supposed his information came direct from gentlemen intimately connected with the Administration, an armistice was proposed by the Rebel Commissioners, but was rejected; and further, that it was not the intention of the Rebels to enter upon acts of invasion, but to confine themselves to the defense of their own soil. And this was all the Rebels could now do. He repeated he did not expect to see the Rebel flag within sight of the dome of the Capitol. His object was not so much to save half a million dollars, as by striking it out to have a declaration by this House that at last the time had arrived when we had no further need to defend this capital.

Mr. MORRILL remarked that doubtless the gentleman from New-York had more information than he had, but he (Morrill) had been unable to perceive any disposition on the part of the President to consent even to an armistice, nor any disposition on the part of the Rebels to come to peace excepting on the basis of absolute independence; and when the Commissioners separated, as he read the reports, it was understood the war was to be resumed exactly as if the conference had not taken place. His understanding was directly opposite to that of the gentleman. The gentleman seemed to think that to make this appropriation would be a proclamation to the world that we are not safe, and require defense at the capital. But he (Morrill) held that the war will more speedily end if we proclaim here that we are ready, if need be, to fight for twenty years. We should have peace on no other conditions than absolute submission on the part of the Rebels. Instead of this appropriation being an evidence of weakness, it would afford evidence that we intend to prosecute the war in order to secure complete success.

Mr. CHANLER advocated the appropriation because we should be prepared to meet a new danger which threatens the country from abroad. If we proposed to sustain the manly position which we have assumed in the House on the Monroe doctrine, it did not become them to take from the Administration the sinews of war. The Monroe doctrine was to be the principle of our enlightened people. He expressed the hope that the Southern and Northern armies might settle their difficulties, and then unite in putting down European encroachments on the American Continent.

Mr. BROOKS's amendment was then rejected.

The Fortification bill was laid aside to be reported to the House.

ARMY APPROPRIATIONS.

The Committee next proceeded to the consideration of the Army Appropriation bill.

Mr. WILSON offered an amendment to prevent any of the money from being paid for service to such Railroad Companies as have received grants of land to build their railroads on condition that they would transport troops and other property of the United States free of toll. He alluded to the fact that, notwithstanding this agreement, the Illinois Central Railroad had received nearly a million of dollars from the Government.

Mr. J. C. ALLEN thought the amendment was unreasonable. At the time the Illinois Central Railroad Company received their charter no man contemplated such a state of public affairs as now exists. No company on earth would have accepted the grant if the events had been foreseen, on condition of transporting so extensively troops and other property of the United States.

Mr. WASHBURNE (Ill.) said his colleague had failed to meet the point at issue. His colleague had gone into the defense of a monopoly which was grinding out the people of his own State. That company was known only by its oppression and extortion, having increased the rates of local travel to seven cents a mile, and freight in proportion. This road, he said, had received over eight hundred thousand dollars from the Government without warrant of law.

Mr. GRINNELL opposed the amendment, contending that the Government could use the road but it could not be expected the Company would furnish the rolling stock.

After further amendment Mr. Wilson's amendment was agreed to, 67 against 31.

The Committee then rose, when the House passed the Fortification and the Army Appropriation bill.

The House at 4 o'clock took a recess till 7 o'clock, when the time is to be devoted exclusively to speech-making.

EVENING SESSION.

TALKING TO EMPTY SEATS.

This evening being set apart for mere speech-making, there were only seven members present, and twenty or thirty spectators in the gallery.

Mr. BROOMALL expressed his views on the financial question, the President's Annual Message being nominally under consideration.

Mr. LONG (Ohio) expressed himself as against the war as wrong in principle, and must, if continued, result in the ruin and impoverishment of the North and South. War for separation had always been found unsuccessful on the side of those who wished to separate; and it had been found impossible to hold the two parties together in common bonds. The coercion policy had failed, as it ever must fail, under the providence of God, because it was in derogation of law. If any cause cannot survive the truth, it ought to perish. Our armies have done all that brave men can do; and brave as they are, and able as are their commanders, they have not yet overcome the South, because to do so is an impossibility. The war has widened the breach it was intended to heal, and was appropriately denominated in the Chicago platform a failure. He spoke of the late presidential election as a farce, occasioning emotions of sadness, and marking the decadence of the old spirit of our country. There never could be a Union based on the coercion of sovereign States. War in that case was unjustifiable, improper and inexpedient. If it was still further to be prosecuted he preferred it should be under the auspices of those who now conducted its management. He had been strengthened in the opinions heretofore expressed.

Mr. BOUTWELL—Does the gentleman say a State has a right to secede?

Mr. LONG—I do so believe, and there is nothing in the Constitution to prohibit it. It is unconstitutional to coerce a State.

Mr. BOUTWELL—Wherein does the gentleman differ from Jefferson Davis? Does he believe Davis is wrong in trying to get the States out of the Union?

Mr. LONG—I am not here to answer for the opinions of Jefferson Davis. I am not here to say whether he is right or wrong. I am not here to curse or praise him. If abuse would do anything, I should refer the gentleman to Andrew Johnson and Brownlow, leaders of the Republican party, who would curse him out of his boots if that could put down the Rebellion in short order. Mr. Long gave his views on the right of secession, saying the war was extermination; but God would never allow an act of such atrocious vengeance. In taking leave of this House, there was no part of his political life on which he looked with more satisfaction than the efforts he had made to arrest the madness which prevailed, and avert the doom with which the country was threatened.

Mr. DONNELLY (Minn.) spoke at length on the necessity of a complete reform in the Indian policy of our Government. He charged that the degradation of the Indians on the frontier was the result of this policy. He urged that the Government should abandon the system of treaties with the Indians, and legislate for them. It should give no money annuities, but should labor to make the Indians farmers, and place them under the military authorities who should enforce order and protect the industrious from the disorderly. He showed that the total appropriations for Indians since 1798 amounted to nearly ninety millions of dollars, equal to thirteen thousand dollars for each Chief of the annuity Indians. He proposed a system of checks to prevent frauds by agents. He argued that the Indians were capable of civilization, and referred to the former high civilization of Pennsylvania and Mexico as a proof of this. He urged that the red race could not rise above barbarism under such a system, and that justice to the Indians was necessary to the safety of our frontiers.

Mr. COLE (of Cal.) spoke in favor of the bill, previously introduced by him, to establish a mining bureau, as necessary to increase the production of silver and gold, more than one third of our territory being rich in precious metals.

Mr. JULIAN signed that the sickly, inoffensive conservative policy at the beginning of this war had served only to prolong the contest, while the radical men were from the first in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war to the bitter end. They have saved the country from the political damnation to which conservatism would have consigned it; and now emancipation and loyalty are the same thing, just as treason and Slavery are synonymous.

Adjourned.

CITY ITEMS.

THE VANDERBILT GOLD MEDAL.—Mr. S. Ellis, the eminent medalist, has been selected by Secretary Seward to execute the medal lately voted by Congress to Commodore Vanderbilt, in commemoration of his gift of the steamship bearing his name to the Government. Mr. Ellis has made his studies from life, and has produced in bas relief a portrait remarkable as a truthful and expressive likeness and for delicacy of execution and finish. It is unquestionably the finest specimen of low relief portraiture yet produced by Mr. Ellis, and may be favorably compared with any ever executed in the country. The reverse of the medal, now in the hands of the artist, is from a design by Leutze, representing Columbia armed and standing in a defiant attitude, with an eagle at her left hand and the Goddess of the Sea kneeling and presenting the trident on her right. In the background is shown a large ocean steamer. We presume the medal will be on exhibition somewhere. The plaster casts may be seen at his rooms, No. 83 Amity-st., in this city.

LECTURE BY MR. MARTIN.—The Rev. J. Sella Martin will lecture to-night at Cooper Institute in aid of the "sick and wounded colored soldiers." Mr. Martin is an eloquent representative of his people, and the cause in which he speaks should insure him a full house.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOLDIERS' FAMILIES.—The fourth annual reunion of Excelsior Lodge No. 195, F. and A. M., will take place at Irving Hall on Thursday evening, the 16th inst. The proceeds will be appropriated for the benefit of the widows and orphans of soldiers who belonged to the Lodge.

LAW LECTURE.—Prof. Pomeroy, of the University Law School, is giving a course of free lectures on Constitutional Law at the University on Washington-square, on Wednesday evenings of each week. All persons are invited who may be interested in the subject.

The soldier boys now at the New-York State Depot, Howard-st., have been invited, through the kind-hearted liberality of Mr. Wood, to spend Wednesday evening at his theater, on Broadway. They will assemble on the stage, and will go through with some of their drill, for the gratification of the audience, and as some slight return for politeness extended them; and on Thursday evening will exhibit and drill with their guns at the Soldiers' depot. The public are generally invited to attend, free of charge, on the latter occasion.

BULLS HEAD.—There have been received this week of beef cattle 5,291 head; of sheep, 19,721 head; of swine, 4,615 head; of calves, 543 head, besides 126 milch cows. This shows that there is no famine, notwithstanding some of the meat eaters look upon the present as famine prices. Beef cattle never sold as high as they did early Monday morning, running generally over 20c. per lb. for all first-class stock. It afterward eased off a trifle. Sheep are a cent a pound lower than a week ago, the best selling Tuesday at 12@12½c. per lb., live weight, which makes the meat worth about 16 cents wholesale. Live hogs are worth 14@14½c. per lb. live weight, or 17@17½c. dead weight.

[Advertisement.]

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[Advertisement.]

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[Advertisement.]

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LOW PRESSURE STEAM HEATING BAKER, SMITH & Co., No. 1812 CENTRE-ST.

MARRIED.

DEPEW—GANSON—On Wednesday, Feb. 1, at St. Paul's Church, Buffalo, by the Rev. Dr. Pitkin, William B. Depew, esq., of Peekskill, N. Y., to Helen S., daughter of John S. Ganson, esq., of Buffalo.

VAN DEUSEN—WESTBROOK—At the Second Dutch Church, in Kingston, N. Y., on Tuesday, Feb. 7, by the Rev. Anson Du Bois of Schenectady, James L. Van Deusen of Rondout, N. Y., and Mary, daughter of the late C. D. Westbrook, D.D., of Kingston.

DIED.

BARTLETT—After a long and lingering illness, on Monday, Feb. 6, Washington A. Bartlett, in the 49th year of his age. Notice of the funeral will be given hereafter.

CLARKE—On Monday night, Feb. 6, of heart disease, G. Douglas Clarke, aged 25 years, son of the late Elijah Clarke. The friends and relatives are invited to attend the funeral at 10 a. m. on Thursday, from his late residence, No. 124 West Sixteenth-st.

His remains will be taken to Bridgeport for interment.

CAULDWELL—On Tuesday, 7th inst., Anna M., daughter of Ebenezer Cauldwell.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral from the residence of her father, No. 11 East Twenty-fourth-st., on Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock, without further notice.

DORSETT—On Tuesday morning, Feb. 7, Ann, wife of John Dorsett, in the 75th year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral from her late residence, No. 49 Dominick-st., on Thursday, 9th inst., at 1 o'clock, without further notice.

Poughkeepsie papers please copy.

GARNISS—At Newark, N. J., on Sunday, Feb. 5, Thomas W. Garniss, formerly of this city.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral from the Central M. E. Church, Market-st., Newark, on Wednesday, at 2 p. m., without further notice. The remains will be taken to Morristown, N. J., for interment.

HILL—On Tuesday, 7th inst., the Rev. Levi L. Hill, aged 70 years, 11 months and 12 days.

The relatives and friends of the family, also the members of Park Lodge, F. and A. M., Union Chapter, R. A. M., and Manhattan Commandery, K. T., and the Masonic Fraternity in general, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 428 West Forty-seventh-st., on Friday at 2 o'clock, without further invitation.

Hudson, Catskill and Kingston papers please copy.

JONES—At Southampton, L. I., on Monday, Feb. 6, after a lingering illness, Wm. Townsend Jones, of this city.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, at Southampton, on Thursday, 9th inst., at 3 p. m.

LAMBERT—On Monday evening, Feb. 6, Eleanor B., wife of John D. Lambert and daughter of the late William Browning.

The friends and relatives of the family are invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 283 West Twentieth-st., on Thursday, 9th inst., at 1 o'clock p. m., without further notice.

RITTER—In Rahway, N. J., on Monday morning, Feb. 6, of lingering consumption, Gilbert C. Ritter, aged 26 years, 1 month and 2 days.

Funeral services on Wednesday at 3 o'clock.

SEELEY—At his residence in New-Brunswick, N. J., on Friday, Feb. 3, of inflammation of the lungs, George Seeley, in the 65th year of his age.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, which will take place from his late residence, on Wednesday, at 3 p. m. Carriages will be in attendance at the depot in New-Brunswick on arrival of the 11:30 a. m. train from New-York, which leaves from Cortlandt-st. His remains will be taken to Greenwood.

THOMPSON—At Setauket, L. I., on Monday, Feb. 6, of apoplexy, Samuel L. Thompson, in the 86th year of his age. The relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, on Thursday, 9th inst., at 1 o'clock p. m.

WILLIAMS—On Sunday evening, Feb. 5, at Newtown, L. I., Mr. Isaac B. Williams, in the 78th year of his age. Friends are invited, without further notice, to attend the funeral services, to be held at the Union Baptist Church, in Grove-st., Jersey City, at 12 o'clock on Thursday, 9th inst.

Special Notices.

Chamber of Commerce.—A special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be held TO-MORROW (Thursday), Feb. 9, at 1 o'clock, to receive a report from the Committee on the completion of the battery extension and wharves and piers of the city. Also, from Mr. Archibald Baxter on his mission to Savannah as the delegate of the Chamber. Mr. Baxter will lay before the Chamber a memorial from the merchants of that city on the subject of the confiscated cotton and the reopening of trade.

JOHN AUSTIN STEVENS, jr., Secretary.

A Meeting of the First Assembly District Union Association will be held THIS (Wednesday) EVENING, at ½ o'clock, at No. 5 Frankfort-st.

JOSHUA O. ABBE, President.

D. H. PRENTUP, Recording Secretary.

American Institute Annual Election.—An election for Officers and Standing Committees of this Institute for the ensuing year will be held at its rooms in the Cooper Union Building, on THURSDAY, the 9th of February inst. The polls will be opened at 4 o'clock, p. m., and close at 7 o'clock, p. m. By order of the Trustees.

JOHN W. CHAMBERS, Secretary.

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Weber Piano-Forte.

The directors of the National Piano-Forte Association take this opportunity to announce to the public that, after a thorough and familiar comparison of the relative merits of the various pianos which have been allowed a place in their warerooms, consisting of Webers, Steinways, Chickerings, Bradburys, &c., &c., besides a careful comparison with all other makers pretending to excel, a candid statement of the result compels them to say that the

WEBER PIANO-FORTE

is pre-eminently

THE BEST PIANO IN AMERICA,

and, therefore, not excelled by any in the world.

While the Steinway piano is justly celebrated for its sweetness of tone, the Chickering piano for its brilliancy and the Dodge and other pianos for their power, the Weber piano combines all these desirable qualities in the highest degree, and is the only known instrument of which it may with truth be said that in it are united the six great qualities of a perfect instrument, viz., great power