New-York Tribune.

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EDMUND KIRKE

COMMENCES

ON THE BORDER,

A TALE OF THE GREAT REBELLION.

IN THE

NEW-YORK WEEKLY,

NOW READY, AND FOR SALE EVERYWHERE.

THE

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(THE BEST STORY AND SKETCH PAPER PUBLISHED.)

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NOW READY.

Such a variety of reading matter seldom appears in a single issue of any publication. The contents have been selected with the view of pleasing the most diverse tastes; and the cheerful, the reflective, the lively—in fact, every person, whatever may be his or her disposition, will find at least one article that will be especially interesting to that individual. As proof of this, a brief allusion to the contents will be convincing.

"THE HOUSE OF SECRETS"—A Story of many family mysteries, as its title implies. "There is a skeleton in every closet," according to the adage, and the family that has not its secrets, either trifling or important, is rarely to be found.

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"THE LUCKY SHOT"—A Story for Boys. By Edward S. Ellis.

"THE WIFE'S ERROR."—This domestic sketch, by Helen Forrest Graves, graphically portrays the domestic misery that may result from the attempt of a wife to conceal from her husband a little secret which it was his right to know. Wives will learn from it that although subterfuge may answer for a season, in the end truth must prevail.

"TRAVELS OF A FIVE-CENT STAMP."—Showing the many hands through which it passes, the many incidents of which it was a witness, and accurate descriptions of the ruling characteristics of its various owners.

"MARIE THE PAUPER."—In this historical sketch, Harry Hazelton gives a well-drawn picture of the strength of a sister's love—what dangers it will dare to save the life of a brother.

DOESTICKS'S LETTER.—Another button-bursting, rib-tickling, jawsnapping, side-aching production from that prince of humorists, Q.K. Philander Doesticks, P. B.

"A BRAVE SAILOR."—An exciting nautical sketch, by Roger Starbuck.

"MARVELS OF SOMNAMBULISM."—These papers accurately relate incidents from real life, and show the many odd and often dangerous freaks that have been indulged in by persons while in a somnambulistic state.

NELLIE HOWE'S STORY.—This sketch, by Mary Kyle Dallas, contains a wholesome moral: That love which is born of self-interest may prosper for a time, but only in unselfish affection can true and lasting happiness be found.

"THE BEAVER DAM."—By Alfred B. Street.

THE BILBERRY PAPERS.—Another spicy production from the talented authoress of the "Grinder Papers."

POEMS.—"THE AUTUMN MONTHS," by the favorite poet, A. J. H. Duganne; "THE SONG OF THE BRAVE," by the gifted William Ross Wallace; "FRIENDSHIP'S OFFERING," by Louisa Searl; "THE EVENING PRAYER," by Wm. D. Shaw; "THE LOVE CHAIN," by May Marston; "THE HOPEFUL ORATOR," by Edward F. Underhill; "UNLOVED," by R. F. Hughes.

With the Pleasant Paragraphs, Items of Interest, Knowledge Box, Editorials, &c., &c.

With such a list of contents, who can wonder that the

NEW-YORK WEEKLY

is universally conceded to be

THE BEST STORY AND SKETCH PAPER OF THE AGE.

It is "for sale by every news agent throughout the United States and in Canada."

WASHINGTON.

CONGRESS SUMMARY—COMMITTEES ON THE NEW-ORLEANS MASSACRE AND THE SOUTH-CAROLINA MURDERS—REASONS FOR THE ADMISSION OF NEBRASKA AND COLORADO—THE CONVERSION OF SEVEN-THIRTIES—REPORT FROM THE BUREAU OF REFUGEES AND FREEDMEN—SECRETARY SEWARD VISITING THAD. STEVENS.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 6, 1866.

The Senate had a very brief session to-day, terminating at 12:40 p. m. Mr. Trumbull reported back the House bill to repeal the President's amnesty power, and asked immediate action, but Hendricks wanted to debate the question, and it went over. Mr. Edmunds introduced a bill directing the Commissioners appointed under an act of 1864 to report the names of persons in the loyal slave States whose slaves were enlisted, and to fix the amount of compensation due them, to report to Congress instead of to the President or Secretary of War. The bill also prevents the payment of money out of the Treasury for this purpose, until Congress shall order it. It is a measure which affects the late slaveholders of Kentucky and Maryland to the amount of several million dollars. Mr. Poland gave notice that on Monday next he should call up the bankrupt bill, and Mr. Wilson gave notice that early next week he should call up the joint resolutions for the disbandment of militia forces in the late Rebel States. A bill of last session, in relation to the Territory of Utah, was called up for the purpose of reference. It is a very important measure. Under the simple title of a bill to provide for the selection of grand and petit jurors, it proposes really to abolish polygamy. Among other things, it prohibits the solemnization of matrimony by Mormon priests, and commits that office to the Judges of the United States Court in the District. It also annuls a number of laws of the Territory, under which Brigham Young claims possession of lands, water-courses, &c., belonging to the United States. Mr. Howard (Mich.) offered very important amendments to it to-day, and intends to address the Senate at an early day, in favor of such legislation as will lead to the total abolition of polygamy. The Senate Committee on the District of Columbia have instructed Senator Morrill to report his bill to regulate the question of franchise in this city. It provides that every male person, excepting paupers, of the age of 21 years, and upward, who has not been convicted of infamous crime or offense, and excepting persons who may have voluntarily left the District of Columbia to give aid and comfort to the Rebels in the late Rebellion, and who is a citizen of the United States, who can read the Constitution of the United States and write his name, and who shall have resided in the District for the period of six months previous to any election therein, shall be entitled to the elective franchise, and shall be deemed an elector and entitled to vote at an election in said District, without any distinction on account of color. He has also prepared another bill, which will be reported as soon as this one is disposed of, putting the entire management and control of affairs in this District in the hands of three Commissioners, to be selected by Congress. It will provide for the election of delegates elected by the people, to look after the interests of the District in Congress. The first bill will be urged to a passage next week, and the other bill will follow immediately.

It is understood here to-day that a majority of the Finance Committee of the Senate are favorable to the recommendations of Secretary McCulloch as laid down in his report to Congress. The Ways and Means Committee of the House are also disposed to give his recommendations a favorable consideration. The proposition of the Secretary, however, which looks to a resumption of specie payments in 1868 finds no favor with the majority in either House, the suggestion being deemed not only impracticable but impolitic.

The House was in session for about three hours to-day. Very little business was transacted. In accordance with the recommendations of the Republican caucus of last evening it was agreed by the House to appoint a committee of three to visit New-Orleans and investigate the cause of the riots there last Summer, and also a committee to investigate the circumstances attending the murder of three Union soldiers in South Carolina on the 15th Oct., 1865. These committees will be announced on next Monday. Mr. Niblack made a motion to have the New-Orleans Committee visit Indianapolis and investigate the cause of the riots there at the time President Johnson was swinging around the circle in that direction. It was not pressed to a vote, the mover offering it in a spirit of humor. There seems to be a determination on the part of the ruling party in Congress to regulate the appointing power of the President, and prevent a repetition in the future of the abuse of this power in the manner in which it has been prostituted during the recent recess of Congress. Already Stevens, Kelley, Broomall and Williams have bills touching on this subject. To-day a resolution was introduced by Mr. Myers of Pa., calling on the President to furnish the House with a list of all persons appointed to office after having once been rejected by the Senate; also the names of all persons appointed to office where, at the time of appointment, no vacancy existed, and also a list of all appointments made since the adjournment of the last session. The Democrats, of course, opposed the resolution, and insisted on wasting some 20 minutes time in demanding the Yeas and Nays. The present minority in the House is decidedly weak. All they seem to care to do is to frank documents, waste time by demanding a call of the Yeas and Nays on every insignificant motion like a motion to adjourn, and to interrupt legislation by raising absurd points of order. Some of the daily papers censure Speaker Colfax for not delaring out of order Mr. Stevens's motion, on the first day of the session, to postpone the reading of the President's message. For a wonder, no Member on the Democratic side of the House raised any such point of order at the time. The were right for once. Any one familiar with Parliamentary law knows that a member of a body can move to suspend the reading of a document. This very thing was done the other day in the Virginia Legislature, after the reading of a part of Gov. Pierpont's message. On the motion of a member, the reading of the remainder was dispensed with, as the members had printed copies in their hands. The last hour of to-day's session was occupied in the discussion of Mr. Schenck's bill to fix the times for the regular meetings of Congress. The bill provides that the XLth Congress shall assemble for organization at 12 o'clock m. on the 4th day of March next, and shall meet again on the first Monday in January next thereafter, and on the second Monday in November preceding the end of the term for which the Congress is elected. Several amendments were offered to the bill, the principal objection being that, if the XLth Congress should meet on the 4th of March next, several of the States would be without representation. Connecticut, New-Hampshire, and California are among the others who hold their elections after that date. A long debate followed between Schenck, Morrill, Stevens, Garfield, Shellabarger, Brandagee, Bidwell, and Le Blond. The latter gentleman indulged in a few moments' pleasant satire at the expense of Mr. President Johnson, which was enjoyed exceedingly by those present. The House adjourned over till Monday, without taking final action on the bill. By that time some plan will have been arranged, and the bill will be passed immediately.

Immediately on the passage by the House of the resolutions to appoint Committees of inquiry into the New-Orleans massacre, into the pardon of the murderers of the Maine soldiers, and the restoration of forfeited Rebel estates, a pressure for places on each of the Committees sent in on Speaker Colfax from some of the most unfit men in the House, which, if yielded to, would have utterly thwarted the proposed investigations. It is intended that these Committees shall be made of men who can neither be cheated, bought, nor intimidated.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs met today for the purpose of organization. The chairman, Gen. Banks, notified the Committee that he had some important information which he had received from the Secretary of State, relative to the Franco-Mexican question. He handed each member of the Committee a document containing all the correspondence between our Government and France up to the present time, including the cable letter recently dispatched to the Emperor Napoleon. No reply has yet been received to that document from Napoleon. It appears that Gen. Sherman's mission to Mexico was for the purpose of assuring Maximilian and Marshal Bazaine that no difficulty need be apprehended in the withdrawal of French troops by detachments as agreed upon. That he (Sherman), by the authority of the Government, would see that everything should be conducted in a proper way, and that the French troops and French citizens and their property should be protected.

Representative Darling's special committee to investigate the Internal Revenue frauds, will, it is said, proceed to New-York next week in the prosecution of its duties. Representative Pike's special committee to investigate the circumstances attending the murder of three Union soldiers on Oct. 15, 1865, in South Carolina, those convicted of the crime having been released on a writ of habeas corpus, will leave here next week for Charleston. Representative Eliot's special committee of three to proceed to New-Orleans to inquire into the details of the late riots in that city, will also leave here next week for the scene of their investigations. The above-named gentlemen will act as chairmen of their respective committees. Their colleagues upon them will not be announced by the Speaker until Monday. Representative Stevens's special committee to inquire into the relations of the Government with Southern railroads will also commence its duties at an early day.

The Attorney-General, in reply to the House resolution of the 3d inst., requiring the papers in the case of the Rebel Gen. G. E. Pickett, has to-day transmitted them to the President, and they will doubtless soon be laid before the House. The report that Pickett has been pardoned is untrue.

It is stated here that last evening Secretary Seward called on Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, at his rooms, and had a long private interview with him. The statement causes a good deal of comment here, and much speculation is rife to know what it all meant. The above gentlemen have not been on friendly relations with each other for several years. It is rumored that Seward is repentant, like Raymond, and wants to come back into the bosom of the Radical party. Others think that Seward was sent by President Johnson to make overtures of Compromise.

The Statistical Bureau report the population of Nebraska at 88,530, a gain of 60,000 since 1860, and emigration this year more rapid than ever. It is on this basis of population that the Committee on Territories in the House are about to present a joint bill for the admission of Nebraska and Colorado, which can undoubtedly be passed over the President's veto.

The conversion of 7.30s into 5-20 United States bonds engrosses the attention of the Register's office, even to such an extent, to meet the requirements of the public service, as to necessitate an increase of the clerical force of that office. From $150,000 to $250,000 are involved in the daily conversion. Owing to the fact that the interest on the 7.30s has been computed to the 1st proximo, holders are eager for an early conversion of their securities. Hence the great demand.

The Secretary of War to-day sends a communication to the House in answer to a resolution calling for the amount of funds received by the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, from its organization to the 1st of April, 1866, &c. The receipts from various sources were $907,396 28. Total amount expended, $478,363 17. Balance on hand, October 31, 1865, $429,033 11. Deduct amount held as retained bounties, $115,236 49. Balance on hand, October 31, 1865, available to meet liabilities, $313,796 62. The money derived from the miscellaneous sources from which the current expenses of this Bureau were paid, previous to July 1, 1866, is now termed the Refugee and Freedmen's Fund, to distinguish it from the regular appropriation. The statement shows the receipts and expenditures on account of this fund from Nov. 1, 1865, to Oct. 1, 1866, to be $1,020,784 04, and the expenditures $738,400 52. The returned Bounty Fund is $91,223 49. The estimated cost of transportation furnished on requisition or order of the Bureau to date of April 1, 1866, is as follows:

Freedmen, $64,247 60; refugees, $10,455 36; officers and soldiers, $4,642 18; civilian employés, $23,488 04. Total, $102,833 18. The number of acres in possession at last annual report was 768,500, of which 286,122 acres have been restored, and 45 tracts of land besides, of which the number of acres are not reported. By the constant restoration of the lands to the original owners much of the property simply passes through the hands of the Commissioners from other departments of the Government, and the practice of subsisting freedmen upon some of the farms from the produce raised, the larger portion being leased for a share of the crop, render it impossible for the Commissioner to give a fair estimate of the value of the crops raised on all the tracts of land which have been in Government custody. The total rental to Oct. 1 is $104,653. The official documents show the returns of American seamen relieved during the past year to be as follows: Maine, 315 natives, naturalized 6; New-Hampshire, 5 natives; Massachusetts, 224 natives, 9 naturalized; Rhode Island, 49 natives; Connecticut, 1 native; New-York, 42 natives, 2 naturalized; Pennsylvania, 98 natives; Nevada, 13 natives; Virginia, 74 natives.

Sir Frederick Bruce, the British Minister, and the Count de Montholon, Minister from France, find reason to complain of the President's message.

The War Department has published another roll of honor, embracing the names of soldiers who died in defense of the American Union, interred in the States of Arkansas, California, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Nevada; and the Territories of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New-Mexico and Washington. The pamphlet is of 120 pages, and contains at least 7,000 names.

The letters published by *The New-York Herald*, purporting to have been written to one Sanford Conover, charging Judge-Advocate Gen. Holt with suborning witnesses in order to implicate Jeff. Davis with the assassination of President Lincoln, have all been delivered up to the General by the proprietor of *The Herald*, and they are proved to be forgeries. Conover is now in prison, charged with perjury and other offenses. This fully vindicates the character of Mr. Holt in the matter.

At the last session of Congress an appropriation of $117,000 was asked for to give the Capitol building a proper ventilation. It has always been a subject of remark that the building should have been erected almost without any means of ventilation. The appropriation above was considered too great, and Congress refused to grant it. Now Mr. Clark, the architect of the building, has piscovered a plan for a thorough system of ventilation which will cost the Government only $45,000.

Capt. H. C. Wharton of the Regular Engineers has been placed under arrest at San Francisco, Cal., for failing to render the proper returns as an accounting officer of the Government to the Engineer Department.

A Convention composed of the Presidents of the different railroads forming the direct route from Washington to New-Orleans, via Lynchburg and Knoxville, met this evening in this city for the purpose of arranging some concert of action in running fast passenger and freight trains to points forming the termini. Col. Owen, of the East Tennessee and Virginia road, presided. Little business was accomplished owing to certain information which had been requested, but had not been received, and the meeting adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

SENATE.—WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.

Mr. COWAN (Dem., Pa.), absent heretofore this session, appeared in his seat.

INCREASE OF PAY FOR ARMY OFFICERS.

Mr. WILSON (Rep., Mass.) presented petitions from Gen. Jeff. C. Davis and others, for an increase of pay to army officers. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. POLAND (Rep., Vt.) presented a similar petition, which was similarly referred.

NEW LINE OF STEAMERS.

Mr. HARRIS (Rep., N. Y.) presented the petition of the New-York Commercial Navigation Co., for the establishment of a line of steamers between New-York and Bremen. Referred to the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads.

THE PARDON-REPEAL BILL.

Mr. TRUMBULL (Rep., Ill.), from the Judiciary Committee, reported favorably on the House bill to repeal the clause of the Confiscation Act, which grants amnesty power to the President, and asks its immediate consideration.

Mr. HENDRICKS (Dem., Ind.) objected, as he wished to debate the bill, and it goes over.

THE TARIFF—IMPARTIAL SUFFRAGE.

Mr. POLAND introduced resolutions from the Vermont Legislature in favor of protection to American industry. It was ordered to be printed.

Mr. EDMUNDS (Rep., Vt.) presented the resolutions of the Vermont Legislature in favor of impartial suffrage. Ordered to be printed.

SEATS FOR REPORTERS—THE BANKRUPT BILL.

Mr. Sherman's resolution for providing seats on the floor of the Senate for press reporters was taken up and referred to the Printing Committee.

Mr. POLAND gave notice that on Monday he would call up the Bankrupt bill.

THE ADJOURNMENT—MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS SOUTH.

Ordered on motion of Mr. GRIMES (Rep., Iowa), that when the Senate adjourn to-day, it be to meet on Monday next.

Mr. WILSON gave notice that he would, next week, call up the joint resolution to disband and prohibit militia organizations in the Rebel States.

JURISDICTION OF THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

Mr. ANTHONY (Rep., R. I.) introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary:

Be it enacted, That jurisdiction is hereby conferred on the Court of Claims to hear and determine all claims against the United States arising under the grant of land reservations by the eighth act of the treaty between the United States and the Cherokee Indians of Jan. 8, 1817, and the second section of the treaty between the United States and the Cherokee Indians of Feb. 27, 1866; and that so much of the ninth and tenth sections of the act approved March 3, 1863, entitled an act to amend an act to establish a court for the investigation of claims against the United States, approved Feb. 24, 1855, as is inconsistent herewith, be and the same is hereby repealed.

THE COMMUTATION FUND.

Mr. EDMUNDS introduced a bill, which was referred to the Finance Committee, providing that the final report of the Commissioners provided for by the second section of the act of Congress entitled an act making appropriations for certain civil expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1866, shall be made to Congress, and no money shall be paid from the treasury or from any fund therein upon the same or otherwise to any claimant under the provisions of an act to amend an act for enrolling and calling out the militia, approved Feb. 24, 1864, until such report shall be approved by Congress.

The above refers to the Commutation Fund, out of which an act of last Congress proposed to pay the owners of enlisted slaves.

CLAIMS OF LOYAL SLAVE-OWNERS.

Mr. EDMUNDS offered the following resolution, which was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to inform the Senate whether he has appointed the commissions provided for in section 74, entitled "An Act for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1863; approved February 24, 1864; and if so that he report the names and commissions, and whether they have made any report; and if so that he communicate such report.

The above refers to the commission appointed to settle the claims of loyal slave-owners for slaves enlisted in the military service.

DEFENSE OF THE MAINE FRONTIER.

Mr. MORRILL (Rep., Me.) offered a bill to provide for the defense of the North-Eastern frontier, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. It provides that, whereas the State of Maine has appropriated for the use of the European and North American Railroad Company for the construction of a railway essential to the defense of the North-Eastern frontier of the United States the proceeds of all her claims against the United States, arising prior to the year 1860, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has assigned to the State of Maine, in trust for said railway company, the claims held jointly with Maine against the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and required to audit and fix the amount of said claims as follows: $1 25 per acre for the land assigned to settlers under the fourth act of the Treaty of Washington, 1842, and the interest account of Maine under the act March 3, 1851, authorizing the payment of interest with the advance made by the State of Maine for the United States Government for the protection of the North-Eastern frontier shall be completed and paid according to the principle applied to the State of Maryland by the 12th section of the act approved March 3, 1857, entitled an act to provide for certain civil expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1858. The interest of the accounts of Massachusetts and Maine for advances from the United States during the War of 1812 and 1815 with Great Britain shall be audited and stated on the same principle as applied in the aforesaid case of Maryland. The damage to Maine and Massachusetts by reason of loss of timber on disputed territory, in consequence of the suspension of jurisdiction from 1832 to 1839, shall be ascertained and awarded. Section 2 authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to issue and deliver to the States of Maine and Massachusetts, for the use of the European and North American Railroad, bonds of the United States equal to all sums ascertained to be due to said States, as directed to be audited and stated in Section 1; bonds to be delivered to said States for said railroad companies, equal to $1,000 per mile of said road constructed—not to exceed 230 miles—to be delivered upon certificate of the Governor of Maine when not less than 30 miles of said road are in operation, and so that each 30 miles shall be put in operation until all is paid; no delivery to be made until the said railroad company contracts for the free transportation of troops and munitions of war of the United States, and for the carrying of the mails at reasonable rates. Section 3 provides that the bonds issued shall be for $1,000, each payable in 30 years, and bearing interest at the rate of five per cent.

GRAND AND PETIT JURORS IN UTAH.

Mr. HOWARD (Rep., Mich.) offered the following amendments to the amendments reported by the Committee on Territories to the bill of last session to regulate the selection of Grand and Petit Jurors in Utah, and for other purposes: To insert at the end of section 14 the following:

And if any person shall presume to solemnize a marriage in said Territory who is not by this act authorized so to do, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, before any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $500 nor less than $100, or be imprisoned in the penitentiary not exceeding six months nor less than one month, or both at the discretion of the Court.

Section 26 provides that the Probate Courts may try civil cases to the amount of $300, and criminal cases where by law parties convicted cannot be fined more than $100 or be imprisoned more than six months. Section 27 authorizes the Judges of the Superior Courts to alter the time and place of meeting of said court, as well for the District Courts, and also the number of terms to be held annually and the assignment of judges to the same. Section 28 requires the United States District Attorney of the Territory to attend all the Courts of the Territory, and authorizes the same fees for Attorney and United States Marshal as are allowed in like cases under the laws of the United States, to be paid from the Territorial treasury. Section 29 authorizes the Marshal to take possession of any Court-House or other public buildings, for the use of the Courts, at the expense of the Territory, unless the same shall be previously furnished by the Territorial authorities. Section 30 authorizes the imprisonment of persons, so sentenced by the Court, in any jail of the Territory, when the jail in the district in which the prisoner is convicted is not safe or suitable. Section 31 authorizes the Marshal to take possession of any jail or prison for the purpose. Section 32 requires the Governor of the Territory to inspect, or cause to be inspected, the prisons of the Territory and make rules for the regulation and management of the same, and authorizes him to remove wardens and keepers of prisons. Section 33 repeals all acts, whether of the United States or the Territories, inconsistent with this act, and provides that it take effect immediately.

The bill and amendments were ordered to be printed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Senate then, at 12½ o'clock, adjourned to meet on Monday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The SPEAKER presented a communication from the Secretary of State, with an abstract of the returns made by Collectors of Customs, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce. Also a communication from the Secretary of War, with an account of the funds received by the Freedmen's Bureau, how expended, &c. Which was referred to the Committee on Freedmen's Affairs.

EXCUSED FROM COMMITTEE SERVICE.

Several members were excused from service on committees, as follows:

Mr. Allison, on the Committee on Mines and Mining; Mr. Farquhar, on the Committee on Militia; Messrs. Cobb and Hart, on the Committee for the District of Columbia, and Mr. Paine on Committee on Elections.

GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION OF TELEGRAPHS.

Mr. WASHBURNE (Rep., Ill.) offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Post-Office Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of conferring on the Post-Office Department the same jurisdiction and control over the various telegraph lines now in operation, or hereafter to be constructed, that is now exercised over Post-Offices and Post Roads, and to report by bill or otherwise.

Which was adopted.

THE TENNESSEE CONTESTED ELECTION.

On motion of Mr. COOPER (Dem., Tenn.), D. R. Thomas of Tenn., contesting the seat of Mr. Arnell from the VIth Congressional District of Tennessee, was permitted the privilege of the floor during the pendency of the contest.

REORGANIZATION OF THE PENSION BUREAU.

On motion of Mr. TAYLOR (Dem., N. Y.), the Committee on Invalid Pensions was instructed to inquire into the expediency of reorganizing the Pension Bureau, and providing for a clerical force, &c.

THE APPOINTMENT REGULATION BILL AGAIN POSTPONED.

The bill for the regulation of appointments to and removals from office, which was up yesterday and postponed until to-day, was taken up and postponed until Monday next.

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA MURDERS.

The SPEAKER proceeded to the call of committees for reports.

Mr. PIKE (Rep., Me.) offered a preamble and resolutions, reciting that three United States soldiers were murdered in South Carolina on October 5, 1865, under circumstances of peculiar cruelty; that several persons were arrested, tried, and condemned by military commission for said murder; that such persons were subsequently reprieved and sent to Fort Delaware, from which they were taken by habeas corpus and set free; and resolving that a select committee of three be appointed by the Speaker to investigate the circumstances attending the murder, and by whose procurement the reprieve and transfer was made, and the consideration for the same, the reasons whereof, and all the facts connected therewith; the committee to have power to send for persons and papers examine witnesses under oath, and to report to the House such action as it may deem necessary. This was adopted.

THE ELECTION OF CONGRESSMEN.

Mr. DAWES (Rep., Mass.) introduced a bill fixing the time for the election of Representatives and Delegates in Congress for the first Monday in November in 1868, and for the same day each alternate year thereafter. Read twice, referred to the Committee on Elections, and ordered printed.

CONNECTICUT HARBORS.

On motion of Mr. HURBARD (Rep., Conn.), the Committee on Commerce was instructed to inquire into the expediency of making provision for such harbors on the coast of Connecticut as have been surveyed by the General Government during the present year.

SUNKEN VESSELS AT SANDY HOOK.

Mr. DARLING (Rep., N. Y.) offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Appropriations be requested to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the removal of all sunken vessels in the vicinity of Sandy Hook, port of New-York.

Adopted.

ORDNANCE AND SUPPLIES.

On motion of Mr. BROOMALL (Rep., Pa.), the Secretary of War was directed to furnish a statement of all ordnance and ordnance stores now in possession of the Government, and copies of all orders or contracts for purchase or construction of any additional supplies, and those now being furnished.

THE AMERICAN MEXICAN INVASION.

On motion of Mr. THAYER (Rep., Pa.), the President was requested to inform the House whether any portion of the Mexican territory has been occupied by United States troops, and, if so, by what authority and for what purpose.

THE AGRICULTURAL REPORT OF 1865.

On motion of Mr. ANCONA (Dem., Pa.), the Committee on Printing was directed to inquire and report why the Agricultural Report for 1865 has not been printed and distributed to members.

PROTECTION OF LOYALISTS—1812 PENSIONS.

Mr. MILLER (Rep., Pa.) introduced a bill to protect all loyal persons in the insurrectionary States. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee, as was also a bill granting pensions to the soldiers of the war of 1812. The bill provides for $8 a month pension to surviving soldiers of the war of 1812, and the widows of those who are dead, from April 1, 1865. Read twice.

Mr. MILLER moved the previous question on the third reading.

The House refused to second the previous question, and on motion of Mr. PERHAM (Rep., Me.), the bill was referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

INVESTIGATION OF THE NEW-ORLEANS MASSACRE.

Mr. ELIOT (Rep., Mass.) offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three members be appointed by the Speaker, whose duty shall be to proceed, without unnecessary delay, to New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, to make an investigation into all matters connected with the recent bloody riots in that city which took place the last of July and the first of August, 1866; and particularly to inquire into the origin, progress and termination of the riotous proceeding; the names of the parties engaged in it; the acts of atrocity perpetrated; the number of killed and wounded; the character and amount of property destroyed, and whether and to what extent those acts were participated in by members of the organization claiming to be the Government of Louisiana, and report all the facts to the House. And the Sergeant-at-Arms or his deputy, and the Stenographer of the House are directed to accompany the said Committee, and that all the expenses of this investigation be paid out of the contingent fund of the House. the Committee to have power to send for persons and papers, and examine witnesses under oath; also to appoint a clerk, and to report such appropriate legislative action as may be requisite, in view of the condition of affairs in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. NIBLACK (Dem., Ind.) suggested, as an amendment, that the Committee also visit the City of Indianapolis and investigate the riot that occurred while the President was there in September last.

Mr. ELIOT stated that that was another matter, and the gentleman had better have a distinct Committee for that.

The resolution was adopted.

USE OF MONEY IN ELECTIONS.

Mr. GARFIELD (Rep., Ohio) offered the following resolution:

Whereas, it appears that the corrupt use of money to carry elections is becoming prevalent to an alarming degree; therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Judiciary be directed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law to provide more perfectly for the punishment of bribery at elections, and to make any person ineligible to office who shall be found guilty of purchasing votes.

This resolution was adopted.

UNITED STATES COURTS IN ILLINOIS.

Mr. MOULTON (Rep., Ill.) introduced a bill to provide for additional terms of Circuit and District Courts of the United States in the Southern District of Illinois. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

IMPARTIAL SUFFRAGE—THE WOOL TARIFF.

Mr. MORRILL (Rep., Vt.) presented resolutions of the Vermont Legislature in favor of equal and impartial suffrage. Referred to the Committee on Reconstruction. Also, like resolutions in favor of increased tariff on wool. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

DUTIES OF THE HOUSE CLERK—THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE.

Mr. WILSON (Rep., Iowa) offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Judiciary be instructed to inquire whether any legislation is necessary to more fully regulate the powers and duties of the Clerk of the House of Representatives at the commencement of a Congress; also what additional legislation, if any, is required to prevent the reception and counting of electoral votes in the election of President and Vice President, from a committee not entitled to participate in such election, and whether any other amendment of the law concerning the Electoral College is demanded by the interests of Congress, and report by bill or otherwise.

The resolution was adopted.

MARTIAL LAW IN THE SOUTH.

Mr. KASSON (Rep., Iowa) offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Judiciary consider the propriety of providing by law, that it shall be the duty of the President to establish martial law in every county or district of the States lately in rebellion, wherein murders of citizens adhering to the Union shall take place, and where the local authorities do not promptly arrest, convict and punish the murderers, and report by bill or otherwise.

Adopted.

EXCHANGE OF REGISTERED BONDS.

Mr. PRICE (Rep., Iowa) introduced a bill authorizing an exchange of registered for coupon bonds, the parties making application for exchange to pay to the Treasurer one fourth of one per cent, to cover expenses. Read twice, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MERCHANDISE IN BONDED WAREHOUSES.

Mr. DARLING (Rep., N. Y.) offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be directed to inquire into the expediency of determining by law the rates to be charged for storage of merchandise in all bonded warehouses, and also for cartage on the same, and report by bill or otherwise.

Adopted.

THE TAX ON FARM WAGONS.

On a motion of Mr. TROWBRIDGE (Rep., Mich.), the Committee on Ways and Means was instructed to inquire into the expediency of placing farm wagons on the free list in the Internal Revenue law.

SUFFRAGE IN THE DISTRICT.

On motion of Mr. FARQUHAR (Rep., Ind.), the Judiciary Committe was instructed to report an amendment to the election laws of the District of Columbia, excluding from the right of suffrage all persons who voluntarily bore arms against the United States Government, or accepted office from the Rebels during the late Rebellion.

RECORDS OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S BUREAU.

On motion of Mr. COBB (Rep., Wis.), the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for turning over to the State Governments of the several loyal States all books, records and papers of the late Provost-Marshal-General's Bureau appertaining to the subject of recruiting and filling the quotas of troops in such States during the recent war.

THE INDIAN WAR.

Mr. DONNELLY (Rep., Min.) offered the following resolution:

Whereas, Emigration, travel and trade between the States of the Mississippi valley and the States of the Pacific coast have been and are now greatly interrupted by the hostility of the Indian tribes on the great plains, and *Whereas*, it is a reproach to our Government that its citizens cannot travel from one portion of the national dominion to another without danger to life and property at the hands of a few thousand wretched savages, therefore,

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to report to this House what addition to the force of the Regular Army would be required to thoroughly protect communication by the two great routes across the Continent, to wit, a route upon the general line of the Union Pacific Railroad, and a route upon the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad. And that he also be requested to communicate to the House the report of the tour of inspection made during the past season, through the Territories of Dakota, Montana and Idaho, to the Pacific coast.

Adopted.

RIGHTS OF FOREIGN-BORN CITIZENS.

Mr. BANKS (Rep., Mass.) offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into what measures are necessary to secure the recognition by other nationalities of the principle, that naturalization by the United States of any native-born subject of foreign states, except such naturalized citizen from the performance of military duty under any foreign government, and entitles him to all the privileges of a citizen of the United States in foreign lands so long as he does not voluntarily renounce its rights and benefits.

THE REMOVAL OF POSTMASTERS.

On motion of Mr. DRIGGS (Rep., Mich.), the Postmaster General was directed to communicate information as to all Postmasters removed since the adjournment of Congress, the causes of removal, the names of new appointees; whether the salaries have been increased, &c.

Mr. MYERS (Rep., Pa.), offered a resolution requesting the President to communicate the names of all persons re-appointed by him after rejection by the Senate; or the names of others appointed in their stead. Also the names of all persons appointed by him whose names were withheld from the Senate last session. Also all appointments made by him during the recess of the Senate, where no vacancy had occurred, &c.

Mr. NIBLACK (Dem., Ind.), moved to lay the resolution on the table. Negatived 3 to 124.

The resolution was then adopted.

RANK OF CHAPLAINS.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURN (Rep., Ind.), the Committee on Naval Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the laws as to allow Chaplains in the Navy, who served with the land forces of the United States during the Rebellion, to take rank from the date of such service.

KANSAS RAILROAD LAND GRANT.

The Senate bill of last session to amend the act of March 3, 1863, granting lands to Kansas for railroad purposes was taken from the Speaker's table, read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

THE ADJOURNMENT—REGULAR MEETING OF CONGRESS.

On motion of Mr. HOOPER (Rep., Mass.), it was ordered that when the House adjourned to-day it adjourned to meet on Monday.

The bill introduced by Mr. SCHENCK (Rep., Ohio) to fix the times for the regular meetings of Congress, and made the special order for to-day, was taken up. Mr. Schenck explained and advocated the bill. He said that if it became a law it was important that it should be enacted as soon as possible, to afford an opportunity to three or four of the States which had not yet held their elections for members to have extra sessions of their Legislatures to allow elections to be called. He argued that as there was continuity in the Executive Department and the Judiciary Department, there should be like continuity in the Legislative Department, instead of which there was an interval of nine months between the expiring of one Congress and the organization of the next. It was not likely, he thought, that the first session of Congress, which was to meet on the 4th of March, would last more than ten, twenty or thirty days; depending on the exigencies of the country. The bill would give Congress an opportunity to organize by the election of its Speaker; the appointment of its officers and its committees, and, in short, would put Congress in position to have, as it were, command of the situation. If Congress had met in March, 1865, the country would probably have been saved the disagreement between the President and Congress that had led to the present difficulty. Each State that has been in rebellion, accepting gladly the same terms now offered them, or terms very much more severe than those, would have been submissively obedient to the requirements made of it, and would be now represented in Congress. Or, if one were permitted to speculate on the possibilities of the fact, it was not at all certain but that the then Vice-President, considering the exhibition which he made of himself on the 4th of March, would have been so dealt with by