XLIVTH CONGRESS—2D SESSION.

REGULAR REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

SOUTHERN AFFAIRS—REDUCTION OF REPRESENTATION WHERE INTIMIDATION IS—MR. HEWITT'S INVESTIGATION RESOLUTION ADOPTED—THE COMMITTEE TO VISIT SOUTH CAROLINA—A MEMBER WHO IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN "COUNTED IN."

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1876.

The interest manifested by the public in the opening proceedings of the Senate to-day was not so great as that in the House, though the galleries of the chamber were well filled at 12 o'clock. Many Democratic Senators were in their seats before the Senate was called to order, but the Republican members being in caucus did not occupy their seats till a few minutes prior to the hour of noon. Upon the floor of the Senate and in the adjoining offices the usual activity preparatory to the opening of the session was noticeable. A change in the arrangement of the desks, to accommodate the new Senators from Colorado, and to give Senators who occupied seats immediately under the gallery more desirable ones, was made by placing three desks on either side of the chamber on the fourth or last platform, which heretofore has not been used for desks. The seats on the Republican side were assigned to Mr. Blaine, Messrs. Chaffee and Teller, the new Colorado Senators, and on the Democratic side to Mr. Price, the new Senator from West Virginia; Mr. Jones of Florida, and Mr. Randolph.

Precisely at 12 o'clock Mr. FERRY, President pro tem., entered the chamber and the Senate was called to order. The Rev. Dr. Sunderland, the Chaplain, offered a long prayer, in which he returned thanks to Divine Providence for preserving the lives of the Senators and bringing them together to resume their serious labors; that in the midst of the momentous political contest so much of right sense and good idea had prevailed among the people, and said: "Now that we, this whole nation, are in the midst of this vital business, which is yet to be concluded, we beg Thee to remember those who have any part to take in these affairs." He prayed that Congress might have special wisdom and understanding, that they might be able to do what is right, and in furtherance of the welfare of all the people. He appropriately alluded to the death of the late Mr. Kerr and Vice-President Wilson, and prayed that their united voices, speaking from the grave, might give tender counsel to all the living. In conclusion he invoked Divine Providence to be merciful to this people, and not forsake us before the eyes of all nations in such a time as this.

The PRESIDENT pro tem. then took his seat and said: "This being the day prescribed by the Constitution of the United States for the annual assembling of Congress, the Senate will now come to order."

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the certificates of election of Jerome B. Chaffee and Henry M. Teller, United States Senators from the State of Colorado.

Mr. DAVIS (Dem. W. Va.) presented the credentials of Samuel Price, appointed United States Senator from West Virginia, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Hon. A. T. Caperton.

The new Senators, together with Mr. Blaine of Maine, whose appointment was laid before the Senate last Summer, advanced to the desk of the presiding officer and were sworn in by him, Mr. Price taking the modified oath.

Mr. HITCHCOCK (Rep., Nev.) submitted a resolution that the two Colorado Senators now draw for the long and short terms respectively, as prescribed by the act of May 14, 1789. Agreed to.

Two papers, containing the length of each term, were then placed in the box, when Mr. Chaffee drew the long term, ending March 4, 1879, and Mr. Teller the short term, ending March 4, 1877.

Mr. ANTHONY (Rep., R. I.) submitted a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of two Senators to join such committee as may be appointed by the House of Representatives to wait upon the President and inform him that a quorum of each House of Congress has assembled and are ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

The CHAIR appointed Messrs. Anthony and McCreery as such committee.

On motion of Mr. ANTHONY, it was also ordered that the hour of meeting of the Senate be 12 noon, until otherwise ordered; and also that the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate has assembled and is ready for business.

On motion of Mr. THURMAN (Dem., Ohio), the Senate then took a recess for three-quarters of an hour.

Upon reassembling, Mr. EDMUNDS (Rep., Vt.) submitted the following resolution, which was read, ordered to be printed, and lie on the table:

Whereas, It is provided by the second section of the XIVth article of the Amendments of the Constitution of the United States that representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed; but when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being 21 years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens 21 years of age in such State; and

Whereas, It is alleged that in several of the States, and particularly in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi, the right of male inhabitants of said states respectively, being 21 years of age and citizens of the United States, to vote at the late elections of the electors for President and Vice-President of the United States and for Representatives in Congress, and for executive and judicial officers of such States and for members of the Legislature thereof, has been denied or greatly abridged; therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Privileges and Elections when appointed be, and it is hereby instructed to inquire and report as soon as may be, first, whether in any of the elections named in said amendment in said States in the years 1875 or 1876 the right of any portion of such inhabitants and citizens to vote as aforesaid has been in any wise denied or abridged; second, to what extent such denial or abridgment has been carried, by what means such denial or abridgment has been accomplished; fourth, by whom has such denial or abridgment been effected; fifth, with what motives and for what purposes has such denial or abridgment been carried on; sixth, by what authority or pretended authority has such denial or abridgment been exercised.

Resolved further, That the said committee has power to employ such number of stenographers as shall be needful and to send for persons and papers, and have leave to sit during the sessions of the Senate and to appoint sub-committees with full power to make inquiries aforesaid, and to report the same to the committee.

Resolved further, That the said committee, in order to the more speedy performance of its duties, have power to provide for the taking of affidavits on the subjects aforesaid before any officer authorized by the laws of the United States to take affidavits, and to receive and consider the same.

Resolved, further, That the said committee be and is hereby instructed to inquire into the eligibility to office under the Constitution of the United States of any persons alleged to have been ineligible on the 7th of November last, or to be ineligible as electors of President and Vice-President, to whom certificates of election have been or shall be issued by the Executive authority of any State as electors, and whether the appointment of electors, or those claiming to be such, in any of the States have been made either by force or otherwise, otherwise than in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States and the laws of the respective States; and whether any such appointment or election of any such elector has been in any wise unconstitutionally or unlawfully interfered with; and to inquire and report whether Congress has any constitutional power, and if so, what extent thereof, in respect of the appointment of or action of electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, or over returns, or certificates of votes of such electors; and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers, and to employ a stenographer, and have leave to sit during the session of the Senate.

Mr. INGALLS (Rep., Kansas) introduced the following joint resolution, which was ordered to be printed and lie on the table:

A joint resolution recommending a convention to revise and amend the Constitution of the United States.

Whereas, Article V. of the Constitution authorizes Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States; and

Whereas, It is apparent that there are important defects in the system of the Federal Government which render the stewardship of the United States at this time delicate and critical, calling for an exertion of the combined virtue and wisdom of all the people; therefore be it

Resolved, etc., First: In the opinion of Congress a convention of delegates from the several States should be held for the sole and express purpose of revising the Constitution of the United States, and reporting such alterations and amendments in the nature of an amendatory instrument as shall, when ratified as provided in said Article V., render the Federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of the Government and the preservation and support of the Union.

Second: That, in the opinion of Congress, each State should be represented in such convention by as many delegates as it is entitled to Senators and Representatives in Congress; two of said delegates from each State to be chosen by the Legislators thereof, and one to be elected from each Congressional district by the qualified voters thereof, at such time and places as the Legislature may prescribe, and that no person holding an office of honor, trust or profit under any State, or under the United States, should be eligible as a delegate to said convention.

Third: That, in the opinion of Congress, said convention should be held at Columbus, State of Ohio, on the second Monday in May, 1877, and without unnecessary interruption till its deliberations are concluded.

Fourth: That, in the opinion of Congress, the Chief-Justice of the supreme Court should be the presiding officer of said convention, and that each delegate should receive compensation at the rate of $20 per day, with mileage at the rate of 20 cents per each mile necessarily traveled in going to and returning from the place of meeting, and that all expenses of said convention be defrayed from the Treasury of the United States.

Fifth: That in the opinion of Congress the revised and amended Constitution should be reported to the President of the United States upon the adjournment of said convention, and that it should thereupon immediately be submitted by the President to a convention of delegates chosen in each State by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its Legislature, for its assent and ratification.

Sixth: That it is recommended to the Legislatures of the several States of the Union to apply to Congress without delay to call a convention as aforesaid, as provided in Article V. of the Constitution.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary thereof inclosing a statement of the receipts and expenditures of his office. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

Also a communication from the Sergeant-at-Arms giving a list of the property belonging to the United States in his possession. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

Also a communication from the Court of Claims showing the amount and nature of the judgments rendered by that tribunal. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

The Senate then, on motion of Mr. WRIGHT, at 1:15, adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The opening of the session of the House was witnessed by an immense concourse of spectators. There were very few absentees among the members of the House. The Speaker's chair was draped in mourning in respect to the memory of the late Speaker, Mr. Kerr of Indiana, whose death occurred during the recess. There being therefore no presiding officer, the House was called to order at noon by Mr. Adams, its Clerk, who thereupon proceeded to call the list of members. The call of the roll showed the presence of 249 members, the whole number on the roll being 288. As soon as the roll was finished Mr. HOLMAN (Dem., Ind.) rose to offer a resolution for the election of a Speaker, but Mr. BANKS (Ind., Mass.) interposed as a question of superior privilege, the right of the member elect from the new State of Colorado to have his name placed on the roll so that he might participate in the election of a Speaker. He sent up the credentials of the Colorado member.

A discussion ensued on the question of precedence, Mr. HOLMAN and other Democrats contending that the organization of the House was necessarily the first business in order; while Mr. BANKS and other Republicans contended that all the members had a right to participate in the election. In that same connection Mr. FRYE (Rep., Me.), claimed the same right for a colleague of his, elected in the place of Mr. Blaine, resigned. Finally the Clerk decided that the resolution offered by Mr. Holman took precedence of the other, and from that decision an appeal was taken by Mr. BANKS, which appeal Mr. COX (Dem., N. Y.) moved to lay on the table. The appeal was laid on the table by Yeas 165, Nays 84, and then Mr. HOLMAN'S resolution came up for action, and it was adopted without opposition. It was as follows:

The House being informed that since its last adjournment the Hon. M. C. Kerr, who at the commencement of the present Congress was elected Speaker of the House, has departed this life, creating a vacancy in the office of Speaker, it is therefore ordered that the House do now proceed to the election of a Speaker *viva voce*.

Samuel J. Randall (Dem., Penn.) was nominated by Mr. COX (Dem., N. Y.), and James A. Garfield (Rep., Ohio) by Mr. McCRARY (Rep., Iowa).

Messrs. Clymer (Dem., Penn.), Banning (Dem., Ohio), Banks (Rep., Mass.), and Wilson (Rep., Iowa) were appointed tellers. The vote resulted as follows:

Whole number of votes cast	216
Necessary to a choice	124
Samuel J. Randall received	161
James A. Garfield	82

Chas. G. Williams (Rep., Wis.) received one vote, given by his colleague, Mr. Magoon; Wm. R. Morrison (Dem., Ill.) received one vote, given by Mr. Potter (Dem., Mich.); and Geo. F. Hoar (Rep., Mass.) received one vote, given by Mr. Seelye (Ind., Mass.)

The announcement of the result was received with applause from the galleries.

The Speaker-elect was escorted to the chair by Mr. Cox and Mr. McCrary.

ADDRESS OF MR. RANDALL.

Mr. RANDALL'S speech was as follows:

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: Called to this position because of the death of the late Speaker, Mr. Kerr of Indiana, I only express the universal sentiment in saying he was a good and great man, whose public and private life was characterized by purity, patriotism, and unswerving integrity. Nobody can more completely appreciate than I do the high honor of presiding over the deliberations of the representatives of the American people, and for this mark of your esteem and confidence I return my profound and heartfelt acknowledgment. In the discharge of the important duties confided to me I shall endeavor to be absolutely fair and impartial while enforcing the rules and upholding the constitutional prerogatives of the body. I shall, at the same time, protect each and every member in the rights and privileges to which he may justly be entitled. In the exercise of the parliamentary powers of the Chair, it will be my duty and my pleasure to give true expression in the appointment of committees to the opinions and wishes of the House upon every question presented, believing myself, as I really am, no more than the voice of the House itself.

We stand in the presence of events which strain and test in the last degree our form of government. Our liberties, consecrated by so many sacrifices in the past, and preserved amid the rejoicings of an exultant people to our centennial anniversary as one among the nations of the earth, must be maintained at every hazard. [Applause.] The people look confidently to your moderation, to your patient, calm, firm judgment and wisdom, at this time fraught with so many perils. Let us not, I beseech of you, disappoint their just expectation and their keen sense of right, but by vigilance prevent even the slightest departure from the Constitution and laws, forgetting in the moment of difficulty that we are the adherents of a party, and only remembering that we are American citizens with a country to save, which will be lost if unauthorized and unconstitutional acts on the part of the executive officer be not frowned down at once with relentless and unsparing condemnation. (The closing words were delivered with great force and emphasis, and were loudly applauded on the floor and in the galleries.)

The oath of office was then delivered to the Speaker by Mr. HOLMAN, who, in the absence of Mr. Kelley (Rep., Penn.) is the oldest member in consecutive service.

Then the oath of office was administered by the SPEAKER to Mr. STEPHENS (Dem., Ga., who had not presented himself last session, and who remained in his seat while taking the oath), and to the following members elected to fill vacancies: Mr. WARNER (Conn.), Mr. FLYE (Me.), Mr. HUMPHREY (Ind.), Mr. CARR (Ind.), and Mr. STANTON (Penn.)

Objection was made to the swearing in of Mr. BUTTZ (Rep., S. C.), and Mr. BELFORD (Rep., Col.) In relation to the latter, Mr. SPRINGER (Dem., Ill.) offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire and report at as early a day as possible whether Colorado is a State in the Union, and directing that until such report is received no person claiming to be a Representative from Colorado shall be sworn in as a member.

Mr. BANKS argued in favor of the immediate swearing in of the member from Colorado, and sent to the clerk's desk and had read the proclamation of the President, in compliance with the law, declaring Colorado a State in the Union.

Mr. HOAR characterized Mr. Springer's proposition as utterly idle and futile, and pointed to the fact as matters of history, that the territorial government had ended, and that the State Government, Legislative, Judicial, and Executive, had taken its place, and that the Senators from that State had already taken their seats.

Mr. HURLBUT (Rep., Ill.) argued to the same effect, and held that there would be as much right to challenge the statute of Illinois as that of Colorado.

After further argument and some preliminary votes the question was taken on Mr. Springer's resolution referring the credentials of the Colorado member to the Judiciary Committee, and it was adopted—Yeas 142, Nays 98.

The Republicans voted solidly against it, and also the following Democrats: Messrs. Blount, Cox, Durham, Hartzell, Holman, Kehr, Le Moyne, Morgan, Neal, O'Brien, Rea, Savage, Stevenson, Watterson, and Wells (Mo.)

Mr. McCRARY presented the credentials of Mr. Buttz (Rep., S. C.), remarking that as the decision of the question (opposition being made) would consume time he offered to yield the floor for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. HOLMAN was about to make the motion to adjourn, but at the request of Mr. HEWITT (Dem., N. Y.) he withheld the motion to allow a resolution which that gentleman desired to offer to be read for the information of the House.

The resolution was read. It provides for the appointment of three select committees, one of 15 members to proceed to Louisiana, one of 9 members to proceed to South Carolina to investigate the action of the returning or canvassing boards as to the recent elections in those States, and to report all the facts essential to an honest return of the votes for electors of President and Vice-President, and to a fair understanding thereof by the people, and whether the electoral votes of those States should be counted. The committees are to have power to send for persons and papers, to take testimony, to appoint subcommittees with like powers, and to employ stenographers, clerks, and messengers.

Mr. McCRARY objected to the resolution being considered.

The SPEAKER asked Mr. McCrary whether he would yield to have the resolution offered.

Mr. McCRARY said he would not.

Further discussion ensued, and the House proceeded to the consideration of the question of admitting Mr. Buttz of South Carolina to his seat, the point against his admission being that he has been "counted in" by the Returning Board.

Mr. MORRISON (Dem., Ill.) presented a memorial and protest signed by citizens of the district against the admission of Mr. Buttz, and moved the reference of the question to the Committee on Elections. Mr. Morrison's motion was adopted—142 to 89.

Mr. HEWITT then asked unanimous consent to offer his resolution for the appointment of three select committees.

Objections were promptly made on the Republican side of the House.

Mr. HEWITT then moved to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution.

Further objection was made that motions to suspend the rules were not in order on Mondays until after what is technically known as the morning hour, during which States are called for bills and resolutions.

The SPEAKER overruled the objection, basing his decision on the point that the rule on the subject says that "after the reading of the journal" the morning hour shall begin, and that, as there had been no journal to be read to-day the rule did not apply, and there could be no morning hour.

After further discussion Mr. Hewitt's motion was adopted; Yeas, 156; Nays, 78—the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative.

The announcement was hailed by the Democratic side of the House with loud demonstrations of applause. It was a party vote, except that George A. Bagley (Rep., N. Y.), and Messrs. Pierce (Rep., Mass.) and Seelye (Ind., Mass.) voted with the Democrats in favor of the motion.

A committee, to join a like committee on the part of the Senate, to wait on the President of the United States and inform him that Congress was ready to receive any communication he desired to make, was ordered, and Messrs. Wood, Clymer, and Hoar were appointed.

The SPEAKER announced the appointment of the South Carolina Committee as follows: Messrs. Sayler (Dem., Ohio), Abbott (Dem., Mass.), Stenger (Dem., Penn.), Eden (Dem., Ill.), Jones (Dem., Ky.), Phipps (Dem., Mo.), Banks (Ind., Mass.), Hale (Rep., Maine), and Lawrence (Rep., Ohio).

Mr. HOAR (Rep., Mass.) stated that Mr. Hale was not in the city, and that, therefore, putting him on the committee was to deprive the Republicans of one member.

The SPEAKER said that such was not his wish, and appointed Mr. Lapham (Rep., N. Y.)

The House then, at 7:30 o'clock, adjourned.

THE ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE.

The Art Students' League was organized in this city in the Fall of 1875, its purpose being the attainment on the part of its members of a higher development in art culture, for the encouragement of a spirit of friendship in the way of mutual help in their studies, and also for the accumulation of works and books on art subjects for the benefit of the members. Prof. L. E. Wilmarth, N. A., was elected its President, with an efficient Board of Control. During the past year the league has been conducted in such a manner that its students have realized very substantial benefits in the several departments of art, and it now enters upon the second year of its history under most favorable auspices. At a recent meeting of the league, held at its rooms, No. 108 Fifth-ave., the officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, L. E. Wilmarth; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Julia E. Baker and Charles Y. Turner; Recording Secretary, Joseph A. Kernan; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Annie B. Folger; Treasurer, F. Waller; Board of Control, Frederick S. Cauren, Mrs. M. W. Hall, Miss Elizabeth E. Foote, and William F. Koester. Before the organization of this society, for the general advancement of students in art studies, no similar one existed. The plan adopted in the schools of the league is based upon the Parisian ateliers, so that the students have the full advantage of drawing in all the higher branches in technique—life, portrait, and sketch classes. As now organized and conducted, the league affords unwonted facilities and advantages for a student to practice and develop in art studies, and to acquire a solid education in the several departments.

A reception is to be given at the rooms of the league this evening for the pleasure of the members and their friends. One of the features will be an exhibition of the works of well-known artists, and also of the students themselves.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

The schooner Theodore Dean, from Port Johnson for Salem, with coal, ran into the schooner Kate E. Rich, from Boston for Philadelphia, early yesterday morning in Vineyard Sound, and both vessels put into Vineyard Haven badly injured. On the previous Monday the Kate E. Rich was in collision with the schooner Mary Pickard off Cape Cod.

The ship Proteus, Capt. Hall, from St. John, New-Brunswick for Hull, struck on Blonde Rock, Seal Island, on the night of Dec. 1, but subsequently floated off, and the next day was at Liverpool, N. S., waterlogged. No lives were lost.

The schooner Cherub, Capt. Fletcher, with clay, from South Amboy for Gardiner, encountered a heavy squall from the north-east on the night of Dec. 2, about two miles north-east of the station at Highland Light. The decks were swept and the cabin filled with water, after which the vessel was abandoned, and it is believed it subsequently sunk. The captain and crew were landed at Life Station No. 7.

INTERCOLLEGIATE CONTEST.

THE COMING EXAMINATIONS.

HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION—GIFTS FROM WEALTHY FRIENDS—THE EXAMINERS.

The examinations which are annually held under the supervision of the Intercollegiate Literary Association will take place on next Wednesday at the University of the City of New-York on Washington-square. The association was organized about three years ago. It had been suggested by Col. Higginson in one of the magazines that the establishment of intercollegiate scholarships would be a great inducement to higher education in this country. Popular education, he argued, has always been the chief object of praise in this country, but the universal desire to make money and, in fact, the almost universal necessity of so doing have prevented many promising young men from entering the fields of higher literary enterprise. It was held that intercollegiate scholarships, founded on intercollegiate examinations, would not only serve as a standard of measurement between colleges, would not only instill a desire for distinction in science and letters among undergraduates, but also would induce the best students in the colleges to devote their time after graduation to that department of study which best suited their tastes. Col. Higginson's suggestion met with general approbation. President McCosh, Chancellor Crosby, and others, approved of his views, and while the matter stood in this inchoate form before the college public the Intercollegiate Literary Association was founded. Three undergraduates at Princeton College and three at Williams College joined their names upon a circular about the subject, directed to the members of the American colleges, calling a convention to meet at Hartford. About a dozen institutions responded. The question as to the admission of young women into the contests was wisely decided at the beginning by the six subscribers to the circular, they sending a copy of the invitation to Vassar College. Although this college has not yet yielded to the inducements held out to it, there is no reason to suppose that its students will continue unpersuaded much longer.

Col. Higginson was present at the first convention and guided its proceedings. It was determined for the first year to have competitions in oratory and essays only. The object was to make the contests popular from the beginning, and this object could not have been attained if mathematics or the dead languages had first been introduced. The idea, also, was not to undertake too much, but by gradual advances to secure a permanent institution. Of course the full design of scholarships was not immediately fulfilled, but it has been always held in view. It was deemed best for the first few years to offer such prizes as might be within the power of the association, and in the mean time to attempt to secure a permanent fund. The first contests in oratory and essays proved to be a great success. Many persons were interested in the undertaking. Mrs. Astor set a praiseworthy example by a generous gift, which has been twice renewed; while Mrs. John Taylor Johnston and Mr. Dwight H. Olmstead gave equally hearty and substantial support to the project. For the second year, examinations in Greek and mathematics were added, and, while the contests in speaking and composition were again most successful, the additional competitions did not in the least fail behind them in this respect. There have been added for the present year, the third of the association, two more examinations, viz., in Latin and mental science. The scope of these contests has thus gradually and naturally reached very respectable proportions. The essays have already been handed in, and are in the possession of the judges, who have kindly undertaken upon their duties for the third time. They are Col. Higginson and Messrs. James T. Fields and Richard Grant White. The oratorical contest will take place in the Academy of Music on the evening of Jan. 3, 1877. The four examinations in Greek, Latin, mathematics, and mental science will be held as has been stated, next Wednesday. The prizes in these examinations are a first prize of $300, and a second prize of $100 in each. The expenses of the association this Winter in prizes alone will be $2,025. Thanks to its generous friends the amount will be forthcoming. Mr. Levi P. Morton has recently become interested in the association, and placed himself prominently among the contributors to it, and Mrs. Astor from the beginning has aided it, and continues to aid it. The colleges now members of the association are Princeton, Williams, University of the City of New-York, Rutgers, Hamilton, Syracuse, Cornell, North-Western University of Illinois, St. John's of Fordham, and the College of the City of New-York. The only requisites for admission are the acceptance of the constitution and the payment of an annual fee of $50. All these colleges except Syracuse University will send representatives to the contests. Princeton was earlier instrumental in introducing the examinations in mental science. This study is a specialty there, and it is expected that their representative, Mr. Thomas D. Jones, in this branch will prove to be a formidable antagonist for the other competitors. He was graduated from that institution at the last commencement. He is the present holder of the Chancellor Green Mental Science Fellowship.

Mr. Henry Veghte, who represents Rutgers College in Latin, carried off the second prize in Greek last year at the intercollegiate contest. It was ordered at the last convention that no prize man should enter a second time in the same department; so Mr. Veghte has been precluded from seeking the Greek prize again. Rutgers will be represented in Greek by Mr. C. H. Polhemus, an excellent student. With regard to Rutgers it may be said that the intercollegiate contests have stimulated to greater exertions her students, and have had a beneficial influence on the standard in the various departments. It is expected that definite arrangements will soon be made with one or more of the best colleges in the land to provide free post-graduate courses for successful competitors in the examinations and perhaps in the other contests. This plan will doubtless meet with approbation, and will be a strong inducement to the best students. This and other matters of interest may come before the next convention, which will be held in the city on the 4th of January, 1877. A list of the examiners this year is appended. In Greek the examiners are the same as last year, viz: Dr. T. W. Chambers, Mr. Charlton T. Lewis, and Prof. Wm. R. Dimmock. In mathematics the same examiners have consented to act—Profs. C. H. Davis, Simon Newcomb, and F. S. Mesic. In Latin the board is composed of Profs. G. F. Peabody, J. H. Morse, and Mylton Maury; in mental science, of President Noah Porter, and Profs. Henry B. Smith and C. F. Kraauth. Prof. Peabody has recently stated his inability to serve.

THE SCOTCHMEN'S ANNIVERSARY.

Thanksgiving Day, the 30th of November, was also the feast of St. Andrew, for which reason the annual dinner of the St. Andrew's Society, usually given on that day, was deferred until last evening. The dinner was furnished by Delmonico in his new banquet hall, at Twenty-sixth-st. and Fifth-ave. Over 200 guests sat down to dinner at 7 o'clock.

After thanks had been returned by the Rev. Dr. Taylor, the President, James Brand, addressed the company. He then proposed the first toast of the evening, "The day an' a wha' honor it," to which William S. Leggat responded by singing "Scotland Yet." Telegrams from sister societies in Chicago, St. Louis, and Halifax, were read by the president. The second toast, "The Queen," met a response in the singing by the whole company of "God Save the Queen," followed by hearty cheers. The next toast, "The President," also elicited cheers from the guests. "The land o' cakes" brought forth an eloquent and witty response from the Rev. Dr. Taylor. Mr. William Wood responded to the toast, "The land we live in," in a long speech, in the course of which he said: "The world has never witnessed such a spectacle as is presented to-day by the United States—50,000,000 of people calmly waiting for the decision of the law, and prepared to accept as Chief Magistrate the man whom the law declares elected." Chauncey M. Depew responded to the toast, "The State and City of New-York," and Gen. Horace Porter to "The Army and Navy." Among other toasts were "Our New Members" and "Our Sister Societies."

ALBERT GARNIER'S DOMESTIC TROUBLES.

Albert Garnier, well known as a billiard player, has applied for a divorce from his wife. Last May he discovered that she was on intimate terms with a man named James Gottendorf, and he sent her to France. When she returned in September he believed her protestations of penitence and took her to his home, but about the middle of October she left him, taking their child with her. It was found that Gottendorf and she were living together in Bayonne, N. J., and on Saturday the husband and a detective went to the house. The door was opened by Mrs. Garnier, who was affrighted at seeing her husband, and divining at once his purpose, she ran into a back room and took the child up in her arms, defying them to take it from her. This they did, however, without any rough treatment. Her cries attracted the attention of a policeman, by whom they were arrested and taken before a justice of the peace, who, on hearing the story, promptly discharged Garnier and the detective.

OFFICIAL VOTE OF OREGON.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—A Salem, Oregon, press dispatch says that the official vote of the State was canvassed to-day by the Secretary of State, in presence of a number of prominent Republicans and Democrats. The Republican majority is 1,165.

A protest was filed, signed by Senator Kelly and eight other Democrats, against the issuance of a certificate as Presidential elector to Watts, and in favor of giving it to the elector who has the next highest vote on file. The Governor gave notice that he would hear argument on the subject to-morrow. The Republicans will not argue the matter before the Governor, claiming that he has no jurisdiction. The decision of the Governor will be given on Wednesday.

HOME NEWS.

THERMOMETER YESTERDAY AT HUDNUTS, IN BROADWAY.

9 a. m., 28°. Noon, 34°. 3 p. m., 36°. Midnight, 26°.
Highest during the day, 36°. Lowest, 26°
Average, 29⅞°. Same day, 1875, 35¾°.

PROMINENT ARRIVALS.

Brevoort House—Chancellor John V. L. Pruyn of Albany....*Fifth Avenue Hotel*—The Hon. J. A. Bentley, United States Commissioner of Pensions; Senator D. B. St. John of Newburgh, and William L. Scott of Erie, Penn....*Windsor Hotel*—Elisha Atkins, Vice-President of the Union Pacific Railroad Company; Oliver Ames, and F. Gordon Dexter of Boston....*Hotel Brunswick*—Senator Stephen H. Hammond of Geneva, N. Y., and Robert C. Winthrop, jr., of Boston....*Astor House*—Theodore N. Vail, Superintendent of the Railway Postal Service....*St. Nicholas Hotel*—Joshua Nye, Insurance Commissioner of Maine, and Capt. Samuel Brooks of the steamship City of Richmond.

NEW-YORK CITY.

Commodore Vanderbilt's condition was slightly improved last night.

The Board of State Charities will meet at the Fifth Avenue Hotel at 10 a. m. to-day.

Shakespearean tragedy will be well presented this week: a blossoming time, to use the French critic's phrase, of "Sweet Williams."

The schooner R. H. Wilson went ashore on the bar north of the steamboat wharf at Fort Hamilton yesterday afternoon, but will probably come off at the next high water.

Cardinal red noses are the latest feature in street costumes; they are far from ornamental, but will be generally worn while these cold North winds continue to bite so shrewdly.

A pineapple artistically made of butter ornaments the window of a Fifth Avenue restaurant; this is very nearly a literal realization of a dead statesman's "buttered watermelon."

"Love and Skates," that most delightful of Theodore Winthrop's stories, ought to be popular just now, as it is a pean in honor of skating, the tender passion, and life in the open air.

Even "the Islanders" have fallen victims to the newly-awakened mania for skating, and have petitioned Commissioner Brennan to flood the stone bath and make them a miniature rink.

A new reading of January and May: A truck-load of shivering Italian immigrants, fresh from their sunny Southern home, moving up Broadway yesterday in the teeth of the bitter wind.

Gov. Tilden's window is still decorated with the Presidential chair made of flowers, but this empty show of the bauble of vaulting ambition is now more withered than the last rose of Summer.

The fourth and last wire cradle rope was drawn up at the Brooklyn tower of the bridge and started on its way across the river yesterday. This part of the wire was delayed a few days by the cold weather.

The first social reception of the Rev. O. B. Frothingham's Independent Society will take place at the Union League Club Theater on Tuesday evening, Dec. 6. Arthur Sullivan's operetta, "Cox and Box," will be sung.

Lager beer saloons have been remarkably numerous on the east side of the city during past years, but many are now selling out, and grocery stores are taking the place of the halls formerly devoted to the followers of Gambrinus.

The managers of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society (Five Points Mission) acknowledge with warmest gratitude the receipt of $637 50 from members of the New-York Stock Exchange by the hands of J. D. Slayback, as a Thanksgiving offering.

The Rev. Dr. Henry C. Potter, rector of Grace Church, denies the truth of the rumor which has been started that it was the purpose of that church to make its seats free. There is no likelihood of anything of the kind being done at the present time.

The receipts of specie at this port during last week amounted to $1,149,260, of which $729,975 gold, came from Liverpool, and $161,320, gold, from Hayti. The total amount of silver coin and bullion included in the above mentioned receipts was $7,217.

Salmon Skinner, a dentist, who sued Henry Ward Beecher a short time ago for teeth furnished to his father, was brought before Judge Kasmire yesterday morning at Washington Place Police Court for being drunk and disorderly and was held in $400 bail.

Capt. Byrnes of the Fifteenth Precinct Police, accompanied by Detectives Slevin and Dolan and three officers, last night made a descent on the disorderly house at No. 13 Beecker-st. and arrested the proprietor, Bertha Miller, the bartender, and three women.

Park Commissioners Martin and O'Donohue failed to file their answer to the Mayor's office yesterday to the charges brought against them by Jackson S. Schultz and others. It is believed that they will submit to the Mayor their answer and accompanying documents to-day.

The Grand Jury in the Court of General Sessions was impanneled yesterday, with David M. Turnure as foreman. Judge Sutherland in charging the jury called their especial attention to the necessity of a strict enforcement of the laws prohibiting lotteries and obscene literature.

In the emigrants' quarter which encircles the offices at Castle Garden is posted this notice: "Seats for Daly's Fifth Avenue Theater may be secured at this office." The demand for choice reserve seats among foreign noblemen entering the country in disguise is said to be very great.

The sale of A. Snider-Pelligrini's collection of oil paintings, water colors, etchings, and drawings was begun last evening at Miner's Art Gallery, No. 845 Broadway, and will be continued this evening and to-morrow. The attendance was meager and the bidding slow. Engravings, water colors, etchings, and drawings were offered, but the prices obtained were very small.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction held yesterday morning it was resolved that Dr. Ordronaux, State Commissioner of Lunacy, be requested to examine the testimony in the case of Mrs. Gleason and confer with the board, with a view to ascertain whether any wrong has been done, and if so, to recommend such revision of the rules as will prevent its recurrence.

A spectacular entertainment consisting of scenes in the Orient, with representations of the manners, customs, religious rites, festive and mourning scenes, superstitions and pastimes of Eastern countries, illustrative of Bible times, will be given on Friday evening, Dec. 8, in the Church of the Strangers, the Rev. C. F. Deems, D. D., pastor, for the benefit of the Sunday-school connected with the church.

Superintendent Walling yesterday morning received a notice from Sheriff Young of Livingston County, N. Y., of the escape of two notorious convicts, named John Lockington and Henry Gale, who on Nov. 30 broke jail in Geneseo, Livingston County, and made their escape. He offers a reward of $125 for the recapture of each of the prisoners. A general alarm, containing description of the convicts, was sent to all stations.

A fair for the Sanitarium for destitute sick children is to be held at the Academy of Music on Dec. 11. Six teams, composed of six young ladies each, representing England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, and America, will shoot at a gallery especially arranged for the purpose. Six gold medals are to form the prizes. Another fair, to aid the Church and Orphan Asylum of Saint Vincent de Paul, is being held in the basement of the church on Twenty-third-st., between Sixth and Seventh-aves.

A reward of $300 has been offered for the recovery, dead or alive, of Cordineio C. Palmer of Auburn, N. Y., who suddenly and mysteriously disappeared in this city. He left No. 200 West Twenty-third-st., at 9:20 p. m., on Saturday, Nov. 21, to go to Broadway, and was last seen in the Wall-Street Ferry-house, 30 minutes later. He was formerly employed as an officer in the Auburn State Prison, and it is feared that he has been waylaid by some of the released convicts in revenge for some real or fancied wrong.

Early yesterday morning Arthur Bayne was found, at Bayard and Chrystie-sts., insensible and suffering from a dose of laudanum which he had taken to end his life. He had been out of employment for some time, and had become despondent. Antidotes were administered, and he was removed to Bellevue Hospital. About the same time Samuel Wagner, who had been locked up in the Fifty-ninth-Street Police Station for intoxication, was discovered by Doorman Worden hanging from a strap which he had fastened to the cell door. Wagner was immediately cut down, but he was resuscitated with great difficulty. He was also sent to Bellevue Hospital.

The Executive Committee of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, held its final meeting for the year yesterday. President Bergh, in a few eloquent words, referred to the death of the Hon. John M. Bixby, who was up to the time of his death a member of the committee, and a warm friend of the society. Suitable resolutions of condolence were passed. The presentation of a new drinking fountain by Mrs. Matilda Bergh was reported. The fountain is located opposite the new Post Office, facing the south. A lady residing in the vicinity of Washington Square presented to the society 50 double sparrow houses, to be placed on the trees in Washington Park.

BROOKLYN.

The De Kalb Avenue Railroad Company is laying a switch in Washington-st., opposite the Brooklyn Theater, for the benefit of theater-goers.

An informal meeting of the Supplies Committee of the Board of Supervisors was held yesterday. It was decided to advertise for supplies at once.

Dennis King, a laborer, 64 years old, living at No. 515 Kent-ave., fell dead at No. 199 Schenck-st. last evening.

During the month of November stolen property to the value of $3,237 59 was recovered by the police. Of this quantity, articles worth $2,317 91 were restored to their owners.

At the meeting of the Common Council yesterday the Mayor's recommendation of J. L. Jensen as Assessor was confirmed. Augustus Kurth was also nominated as Assessor, but was rejected by the board.

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