TOWN TALK IN LONDON.

HARCOURT'S SPEECH—WHISTLER AND TOM TAYLOR.

SATIRE AND INVECTIVE OF THE BEACONSFIELD SORT TURNED UPON THE MINISTRY—JOHN BRIGHT ADVISED BY PHYSICIANS TO GO ABROAD—A BOATING MAN IN PARLIAMENT FROM OXFORD—WHISTLER AND TAYLOR TAKE EACH OTHER BY THE EARS.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

LONDON, Jan. 16.—If the anger of opponents be a measure of success, Sir William Harcourt's speech at Oxford on Tuesday has proved very successful indeed. The Jingo organs attack him in chorus: *The Times* alone devoting two leading articles to him. But now, as on some recent occasions, the style of answer attempted is peculiar. Sir William Harcourt's speech is an arraignment of the Ministry on specific charges. It contains both the indictment and the evidence. The Jingo answer is not that the evidence is untrue, but that the accusations are incredible. They took a similar line when charges of prevarication and disingenuousness were fastened on leading members of the Cabinet They said: "Can anybody believe that such things are true of English gentlemen?" But they were true, unhappily. Not only the accused but the accusers were English gentlemen, and it is at least as difficult to conceive dishonesty on their part as guilt on the part of the defendants. Sir William Harcourt is not a man to lay more stress than it will bear on the purely moral side of a dispute, but he says: "The utter impossibility of placing any reliance on statements, however explicit, or accepting denials, however formal, by the Ministers of the Crown—this is a state of things hitherto unknown to the public life of England, which has sapped the foundations of public confidence."

It has sapped, I may add, private confidence also. Two or three months ago, it used to be my fate to hear a very eminent Englishman—not a politician, but a man of wide political knowledge and decided Radical views—say that he would vote for the Tories whenever a dissolution came; so disgusted was he with the spectacle of Liberal discords and indecision. I had the pleasure to meet him again more recently; the exposure of Lord Cranbrook's ninth paragraph and of Lord Salisbury's amazing self-contradictions on Afghan policy having meanwhile been made. Said he: "I told you I would vote for the Tories, but I shall not vote for them. The lying is *too* strong."

The proof of it supplied by Sir William Harcourt is elaborate and—in one case at least—painfully complete, but I am not going to follow him into details. The whole speech is sufficiently interesting and powerful to reward anybody who will read it through. It is amusing as well as able. Like the Scarborough address last November, it sparkles with epigrams. Sir William Harcourt has sometimes been spoken of as a pupil of Lord Beaconsfield. They have never been on the same side in politics, but there may be a resemblance in their method of treating public questions on the platform. Neither of them ever preaches. They both have a talent for smart sayings, for apt illustrations, for anecdotes and for contemptuous invective. Sir William Harcourt quotes Mr. Brassey's testimony that Cyprus, having no harbor for a fleet, cannot be converted into a naval station, but may perhaps be used as a coaling station, and exclaims: "Shade of Aphrodite! Paphos a coaling station? You would suppose that Venus had jilted the God of War and returned to the legitimate and sooty embraces of Vulcan." That is quite in Lord Beaconsfield's manner; or in one of his manners. So is some of the chaff which Sir William addresses directly to the great Tory chief. "The Eastern Roumelia of Berlin is just one of those ingenious pieces of political clock-work which have every merit except that they will not go. I sometimes doubt if Lord Beaconsfield himself believes in his own Eastern Roumelia—whether it is not like the celebrated checks on household suffrage, which were only a scaffolding to educate his own party." So is his description of Sir Garnet Wolseley, after the sending away of almost the whole force of troops from Cyprus, as "Generalissimo over half a regiment;" and of Cyprus itself as "the residuum of all their quixotic braggadocio, an island of which Sancho Panza would have been ashamed." He depicts the Afghan war as a conflict carried on mainly with hill-tribes, whose homes have been invaded without cause; "and when they resist—not, perhaps, an unnatural thing—we find it necessary to cut their throats and extermination their villages." He adds: "To my conscience, this sort of thing, though it may be very scientific, is not altogether comfortable or pleasant; but I suppose I am wrong. I find that the Bishops approve and vote for it. One of them, I think, has said that it is the best way of propagating the Gospel."

This is, after all, only the ornamentation of a speech which is solidly put together in every essential part of its fabric—a speech not less remarkable for knowledge and for argumentative vigor than for the lighter qualities of which I have given an illustration or two.

It will interest rowing men to know that the chosen Liberal colleague to Sir William Harcourt in the representation of Oxford City is Mr. Chitty, whose fame as an umpire in the yearly University Boat Races on the Thames is almost as great in America as in England. Mr. Chitty, though a young man—say five and forty—is one of the recognized leaders of the Chancery Bar. Like so many other strong lawyers, he is going into political life, and will stand for Oxford whenever there is an election. His early devotion to rowing and continued interest in it have done him no more harm at the bar than they did Mr. Denman, who was stroke of First Trinity and is now one of her Majesty's Judges of the Common Pleas.

It was hoped that the Parliamentary vacation would be enlivened by a speech from Mr. Bright, but this is not to be. A note from Birmingham says that he has been for some time suffering from a severe cold, and has been advised to go abroad for a few weeks. He will not, therefore, be able to address his constituents before the meeting of Parliament, but it is understood that he will speak during the Easter recess.

Mr. Whistler, whatever he may think of critics, is surely one of the best advertised artists living; and it is the critics—that is, writers on the public press concerning themselves with art—who advertise him, and advertise him gratis. Ever since the famous trial, in which Mr. Ruskin was defendant, the papers have had articles either about the trial or about the pamphlet which Mr. Whistler wrote respecting the trial, and which is already in a fifth edition. And now comes a correspondence between Mr. Tom Taylor and Mr. Whistler, printed at full length in a weekly journal of society. The author of nocturnes and arrangements sent a copy of his sparkling pamphlet to the critic of *The Times*, who had figured as one of the witnesses against him in court—with the inscription *Sans rancune*. Mr. Tom Taylor acknowledged the receipt of it in a letter wherein he complains that the artist-author had "garbled" the article in which Mr. Taylor is made to appear as a harsh critic of Velasquez. In a postscript, he reserves to himself the right of publishing his letter; little dreaming that Mr. Whistler would be more eager than he to print both that and the ensuing correspondence. Mr. Taylor's critic is penetrated with his own sense of the importance of his opinion; with a conviction that it does really matter what he thinks about Velasquez; with a persuasion that the fame of the great Spaniard depends in some measure on what he, Tom Taylor, prints concerning him. Whereas, it is probable that the majority of picture-lovers will go on admiring the great qualities of Velasquez whether Mr. Tom Taylor admire them or not. Mr. Whistler has a comfortable faith that neither Mr. Taylor's opinion nor anybody's else much matters, and that the only people who make a mistake of consequence are those who take the world, or any part of it—Taylor, Velasquez, or himself—too seriously. So he laughs out:

> Dead for a ducat, dead! my dear Tom; and the rattle has reached me by post.
>
> "*Sans rancune*," say you? Bah! you scream unkind threats, and die badly.
>
> Why squabble over your article? You did print what I quote, you know, Tom; and it is surely unimportant what more you may have written of the Master. That you should have written anything at all is your crime.
>
> No; shrive your naughty soul, and give up Velasquez, and pass your last days properly in the Home Office.
>
> Set your house in order with the Government for arrears of time and paper, and leave vengeance to the Lord, who will forgive my "garbling" Tom Taylor's writing.

But Mr. Tom Taylor will not laugh, nor even willingly be laughed at, and retorts bitterly:

> Pardon me, my dear Whistler, for having taken you *au serieux* even for a moment. I ought to have remembered that your penning, like your painting, belongs to the region of "chaff." I will not forget it again; and meantime remain yours always.

To whom Whistler:

> Why, my dear old Tom, I never *was* serious with you, even when you were among us. Indeed I killed you quite, as who should say, without seriousness, "A rat! a rat!" you know, rather cursorily.
>
> "Chaff," Tom, as in your present state you are beginning to perceive, was your fate here, and doubtless will be throughout the eternity before you. With ages at your disposal, this truth will dimly dawn upon you; and as you look back upon this life, perchance many situations that you took "*au serieux*" (art critic who knows, expounder of Velasquez, and what not) will explain themselves sadly—chaff! Go back!

I fear the resources of your composing-room are not equal to reproducing at a moment's notice the autograph monogram which our American symphonist appends to his letters. Buyers of Mr. Whistler's pictures may have seen it on his frames. *The World* has had it done on a block, with the addition in this case, and for Mr. Taylor's behoof, of a dragon-sting, curvilinear and menacing. In its more peaceful form, Mr. Whistler's device resembles in part the signature of the Mikado, and in part an Egyptian scarabeus, crossed with a butterfly, and "arranged" in black. G. W. S.

THE TAMMANY INJUNCTION.

SUMMING UP THE CASE.

ARGUMENTS OF A. J. VANDERPOEL AND EX-JUDGE PORTER—A NICE DISTINCTION ABOUT THE TIME OF SUNSET.

The argument of the motion to continue the injunction against the admission to full membership in the Tammany Society of the 147 members elected December 31, 1878, was continued yesterday before Judge Barrett, in Supreme Court, Chambers. The room was crowded with politicians of every degree. Mr. Vanderpoel, in the closing argument for the defence, claimed that this was only one of the many disputes between the "ins" and "outs" in the society, and not the first one in which the courts had been called on to interfere. He examined briefly the by-laws, and claimed that all which had been done was strictly in accordance with them, and that the complaint and plaintiff's affidavits themselves showed no departure from them. The by-law required the meeting to be called half an hour after the setting of the sun. The complaint said the meeting was between 5 and 6. Well, it was sunset before 5 o'clock in the short December days. It was said that custom made the sun set at 7, but the by-laws were anterior to the custom. The by-law required that a publication be made in a newspaper. These gentlemen only looked in *The Star* and *Express*. Only after the fact did they search the other daily papers. Who was to decide what was a newspaper?

But granting that all the charges of the plaintiff were true, he had wholly mistaken his remedy. The election or removal of a person from a franchise must be tested by a legal proceeding, either by mandamus or quo warranto. This was so settled in regard to officers of corporations as to need no discussion, and in a case where membership involved a franchise, as here, the same rule applied to corporators as to officers. If the 147 attempted to exercise their rights, then the Attorney-General might be asked to inquire into the basis of their rights. This he had not done so, and, perhaps, never would do so. The proceeding was, therefore, at least premature. The case was this: The plaintiff was "afraid that if the new members come in they will vote against Mr. Thompson for Grand Sachem, and he and his fellow-scribers ask the Court to prevent this possible vote." Mr. Vanderpoel cited a number of cases to show that where a by-law was express no usage could be set up against it. It was only when the constitution and by-laws were silent or ambiguous that usage was allowed to supply or interpret them.

After recess ex-Judge John K. Porter replied for the plaintiff. He argued that each member had rights as sacred as those of the Grand Sachem, and he was not bound to wait until the wrong was consummated by the admission of illegally elected members before acting. The transaction was admitted, but it was claimed that the by-laws were followed. The paper in which the notice was published was not even in the directory of this year. Would it have been right to publish the notice in a Spanish paper? Judge Porter argued that the plain meaning and intent of the by-law was that the notice should be published where it would give notice, not where it would be unseen. These men, he said, were elected at a meeting where the corporators were disenfranchised. The Court in equity could restrain and control the action of a corporation, and present the request of a single stockholder the alienation of his franchise, the right to vote was an integral part of the franchise, and the plaintiff was deprived of it by the secretary. Neither quo warranto nor mandamus would redress that wrong. It was of no importance that the secretary assumed the responsibility. The plaintiff demanded rights and a state of affairs where he could assert those rights.

The Sachems were guilty of no fraud, but they adopted the secretary's fraud and were willing to profit by it. A custom of twenty-five years standing was violated to carry it out. Half an hour after sunset was judge-made to mean half past 7, though not in the by-laws. The meeting was closed before that hour. The Sachems acted in good faith, but mean men may be got to do for great men what great men would scorn to do for themselves. Judge Porter urged in conclusion that the proofs of fraud were so plain that the injunction should be continued for the sake of the society itself.

A subsidiary motion to strike out some parts of the complaint was not opposed by the plaintiff's counsel, as it did not seriously change the case. Decision was reserved.

BRILLIANT BILLIARD PLAYING.

LARGE RUNS MADE BY SLOSSON AND SCHAEFER.

The billiard tournament now in progress at Cooper Institute has become remarkable on account of the unusually large runs made by some of the players. In a tournament at St. Louis, about a year ago, Jacob Schaefer scored 429 points in a single run, and made an average of 66 in the game. This was the best record until the present tournament. Last Wednesday evening, Geo. F. Slosson, while defeating William Sexton, made a run of 441 points. On Monday evening he defeated Albert Garnier in eight innings, making an average of 75, thus beating the record of Schaefer at St. Louis. The large runs made by both Slosson and Schaefer are due to the practice known as "nursing"—keeping the balls close to the rail of the table, tapping them gently and moving them slowly along, while the points are counted rapidly.

Schaefer met Maurice Daly last evening and defeated him by most brilliant play. The game opened slowly enough, but in the sixth and seventh innings Schaefer rolled up a score of 124 points. He gathered the balls again in the twelfth inning and made 140 points. Daly, who had counted only 59 thus far, added 9 more to his string, and then Schaefer won the game with a run of 311. He was cheered heartily, and as he turned to put up his cue there were loud calls for him to go on. He proceeded in his count until the balls had made a complete circuit of the table. They broke, but he gathered them again and counted 400. The excitement grew intense, and the applause was deafening. He turned a corner successfully when he had counted 416. As he reached Slosson's best run, he was compelled to wait until the storm of applause had subsided. The balls were in good position for further "nursing," but Schaefer broke them, and after executing some fancy shots, closed with a run of 448 points. He will be allowed to go on record for only 341 points, however. His average was 47.

Thomas J. Gallacher defeated John R. Heiser in the afternoon, by a score of 600 to 444. Fifty-three innings were required to complete the game. Heiser will play Albert Garnier this afternoon, and a lively game is expected between William Sexton and A. P. Rudolphe this evening. Following are the scores of the recent exciting games:

Slosson—0, 0, 8, 0, 61, 12, 403, 113—600.
Garnier—21, 7, 2, 175, 2, 4, 44—255.
Schaefer—0, 0, 9, 0, 0, 43, 72, 6, 19, 0, 0, 140, 311—600.
Daly—13, 1, 15, 3, 1, 1, 5, 4, 1, 0, 15, 9—68.

THE ARTISTS' FUND SALE.

Leavitt's Art Rooms at No. 817 Broadway were crowded last evening at the concluding sale of the Artists' Fund collection. Seventy pictures were sold. The bidding was not very brisk. Mr. Whittredge's "Twilight on the Plains" was knocked down at $75, just as a gentleman who wanted the picture entered. He called out in time to arrest the auctioneer's attention, who put the landscape up again, while several persons loudly demurred. It was finally sold for $200. The following are among the pictures that brought the best prices:

Beard, W. H.—"The Connoisseurs"	$150
Bristol, J. B.—"In the Berkshire Meadows"	145
Brown, J. G.—"I see Dad"	270
Casilear, J. W.—"Meadow Brook"	170
Dewey, F. O. C.—"Going Shares"	160
De Haas, M. F. H.—"View on Long Island Sound"	160
Fuechsel, H.—"Catskill Mountains"	130
Gifford, Sanford R.—"A Shoreless"	350
Hennessey, W. J.—"The Good Friends"	90
Hicks, Thomas.—"Knitting and Thinking"	350
Johnson, Eastman.—"Winter Time"	470
Johnson, David.—"Sunday Afternoon at Fordham"	350
Morgan, William.—"A Stubborn Fact"	135
Parton, Arthur.—"On Lake Champlain"	225
Quartley, Arthur.—"Afternoon off White Island, Isle of Shoals"	495
Silva, Francis A.—"The Twilight Hour"	300
Tait, A. F.—"The Old Pioneer"	250
Whittredge, W.—"Twilight on the Plains"	200
Wiggins, J. C.—"Gathering Seaweed"	310

EMBARRASSMENTS IN NEW-BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Jan. 28.—The shareholders of the Stadacona Insurance Company held a meeting today, and passed a resolution favoring the winding up of the company. A writ of attachment in insolvency has been issued against the estate of Driscoll Brothers, lumber merchants. A writ of attachment has also been issued against J. B. Murray & Co., retail dry goods dealers, of Kingston, at the instance of Gould Brothers, of Montreal.

FIRST COLORED OFFICE HOLDER IN KENTUCKY.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 28.—J. D. McLead, colored, has been appointed Government Storekeeper at Covington, Ky., being the first man of his race who ever received an appointment of the kind in that State.

THE DAVENPORT INQUIRY.

FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE.

A TEDIOUS DAY'S TESTIMONY RELIEVED BY A FEW SHARP BITS OF REPARTEE—AN INQUIRY INTO MR. DAVENPORT'S PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

The Congressional committee appointed to investigate the charges against John I. Davenport, Supervisor of Elections, met yesterday at the Post Office Building. One of the original members, Julian Hartridge, of Georgia, has died since the appointment of the committee, and William H. Forney, of Alabama, has succeeded him in the Judiciary Committee, of which this is a sub-committee. The two other members of the committee are Representatives William P. Lynde, of Wisconsin, and William P. Frye, of Maine, the latter being the only Republican on the committee. Mr. Lynde, who acted as chairman, is stout, with a large round face, a heavy double chin and a thick, tawny moustache. Mr. Forney sat at the right of the chairman, and Mr. Frye, who did not seem absorbed in the proceedings, occasionally amused himself by drafting curious designs on the paper before him.

The charges against Commissioner Davenport are illegal interference with the electoral rights of voters at the last election, and the arrest of persons who claimed to hold naturalization papers issued in 1868. General George W. Wingate represented the complainants, and Mr. Davenport appeared in his own behalf. At the beginning of the session, Mr. Frye declared that, under the powers of the resolution, the committee could inquire into the conduct of Mr. Davenport as Supervisor of Elections, but not as United States Commissioner. The other members of the committee held a different opinion.

Edwin J. Denning, superintendent in the store of A. T. Stewart & Co., testified that his papers, on which he had voted previously, had been taken from him by an inspector at the last election. By his counsel's advice he had obtained duplicate papers, but on attempting to vote on them on election day he had been arrested. He was taken before Commissioner Davenport, who released him on his promise not to vote. Henry H. Rice, counsel for A. T. Stewart & Co., confirmed his testimony.

The examination of Stephen Mosher, a clerk of Mr. Davenport, was long and searching. He was questioned at great length in regard to the issue of complaints and the surrender of naturalization papers. His knowledge of the irregularities in the records of the Superior and Supreme Courts was gained by his attendance as a clerk of Commissioner Deed before the Committee on contested seats. He had learned that many naturalization papers had been obtained in the Superior and Supreme Courts on fraudulent applications. During the examination of the witness it was admitted by Mr. Davenport that 3,100 complaints had been made in October by the witness, and 2,000 in the previous Spring and Summer. An attempt was made on cross-examination to ascertain the statements on file by persons who surrendered their papers, as to the manner in which they had been obtained. The witness testified that he had never heard any directions given by Mr. Davenport to the supervisors of election other than those contained in the printed instructions. He knew that Mr. Davenport has been requested by many politicians to return some of the surrendered certificates, but did not know of any instance when the request had been complied with.

United States Commissioner Deed testified that he was also Deputy Clerk of the United States Circuit Court and that he held court on the day of election, and that about 200 cases had been brought before him. He sat from 8 a. m. until after 9 p. m., and disposed of every case brought before him. A long examination of the Commissioner followed, in regard to his action in these cases. He remembered the case of Wheeler, who was brought in a second time, having voted after a promise not to do so. The general Commissioner had no discretion, but was compelled when examination was waived to hold the prisoners who had been discharged upon their own recognizance.

"Do you remember the case of Michael Lawless, whose warrant you tore up?" asked General Wingate.

"I tore up no warrant."

"Yes, you did."

"I am positive that I destroyed none."

"Well, I'll not put my judgment against yours."

The witness was asked about the discharge of John D. Quincy, a lawyer, who had been arrested.

"Of course he discharged him," said Mr. Frye. "Who ever heard of a lawyer being?"

After cross-examination, a warrant was handed to the witness by Mr. Davenport, who asked: "It has been intimated that you tore up the warrant of Michael Lawless; is that the warrant?"

"It is, and bears my return."

The witness knew of no discrimination between persons holding certificates issued in 1868, on account of political or social reasons, and no complaints had ever been made to him as to the execution of a warrant. He had been present on several occasions when Mr. Davenport has been requested to return surrendered papers, but his invariable answer had been an emphatic refusal.

"Do you know how much from Mr. Davenport's large private fortune was expended in collecting information in all these cases?"

"I do not, but I think a large sum."

The witness then testified in regard to the fees, complaints and warrants. After some calculation, General Wingate said: "Mr. Davenport's emoluments on the 9,100 cases in the Spring and Summer, and the 3,100 in the Fall together amount to about $18,375. Did the amount expended exceed these fees?"

"I do not know what sums Mr. Davenport has received." Mr. Davenport interposed the remark that he had received "less than $3,000 so far."

When pressed for an answer the witness said that he believed the majority of those arrested were Democrats.

"Oh! I will a little that," said Mr. Frye laughing.

"Do you not know," asked General Wingate, "that the arrests were a surprise to the Democratic party?"

"I do not think they were, for that party knows too much of Davenport. I judge also from the array of counsel seat down by Tammany Hall."

In reply to an inquiry from Mr. Davenport, the witness said, "I knew of the appointment of a committee by Tammany Hall to sit with Commissioner Davenport in consideration of the 1,868 cases. Dennis Quinn was one of the committee and Henry D. Purroy was another member, but I forget whether Cantor was the third or not. I think I do not remember who the third man was."

The hearing will be continued to-day.

BUSINESS TROUBLES.

STOCKHOLDERS ASSESSED 95 PER CENT TO MAKE UP DEFICIENCIES.

SARATOGA, N. Y., Jan. 28.—The directors of the First National Bank have made a call on the stockholders for 95 per cent on each share to make up all deficiencies and contingencies consequent on the previous mismanagement, to be paid within twenty days. The directors say if the call is not responded to they fear the bank will have to go into the hands of a receiver, which will probably use up all stock and require assessments to satisfy the depositors. The stockholders are called to meet next Saturday to consult and decide whether the bank is to be wound up by a receiver or the assessment met. Cashier Leake, whose alleged mismanagement brought disaster on the institution, has resigned.

A SAVINGS BANK TO BE CLOSED.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—It is stated that the directors of the Needham Savings Bank have decided to close that institution, owing to a lack of business. From the time of its organization in 1871 to January, 1878, the deposits steadily increased over the withdrawals, but for the last year the current has been setting in the opposite direction; not from any fear of the safety of the bank, which has been well managed, but simply because the depositors need their money to use. Last year the amount received was some $3,000, while the withdrawals amounted to about $10,000. The bank is perfectly solvent, and no fears need be entertained by the depositors.

FAILURE AT ALLENTOWN.

ALLENTOWN, Penn., Jan. 28.—M. J. Kramer, for many years the largest dry goods merchant in this city, had his store closed by the Sheriff, and will be sold out on Saturday. His indebtedness is about $15,000, due mostly to Philadelphia and New-York firms.

SUSPENSION OF A NATIONAL BANK.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 28.—The First National Bank of Granville, Ohio, has suspended. The depositors will be paid in full. Holders of the bank's paper will be losers.

BANK TO GO INTO LIQUIDATION.

OSWEGO, N. Y., Jan. 28.—The stockholders of the National Marine Bank, owing to the low rate of interest and high taxation, have resolved to go into liquidation. The bank is solvent.

AN INSOLVENT GROCERY FIRM.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 28.—A dispatch from Loudonville, Ohio, says the store of P. J. Black & Co., grocers at that place, was locked up by the sheriff, on the 23d inst., and all valuable property was put under levy, on a judgment in favor of the Loudonville Banking Company. A fight is now on hand by the other creditors to defeat this priority. The firm is insolvent. Liabilities about $25,000; assets, $15,000. The creditors are chiefly farmers.

FRAUDULENT BANKRUPTS ARRAIGNED.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—Albert C. Andrews and James W. Coltman were arraigned to-day, charged with conspiring to defraud their creditors, and were each held in $5,000 bail for trial.

NAVY ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Commander M. L. Johnson is ordered to hold himself in readiness for the command of the Ashuelot, Asiatic Station. Lieutenant-Commander John C. Rich is ordered to the Navy Yard, League Island; Lieutenant Franklin Hanford is ordered to ordnance duty at the Navy Yard, New-York; Master James H. Bull is ordered to temporary duty at the torpedo station; Surgeon E. S. Matthews is ordered to the Lackawanna, Pacific Station; Assistant-Engineer Jno. D. Sloan is ordered to the Plymouth, at Boston; Lieutenant W. W. Gilpatrick is detached from the Coast Survey Steamer Hassler and placed on waiting orders; Passed Assistant-Engineer Jno. G. Brosnahan is detached from special duty at the Navy Yard, New-York, and ordered to the Marion; Passed Assistant-Engineer George S. Gates and Cadet Engineers G. H. T. Babbitt, F. N. Elmendorf and A. D. E. Ruise are detached from the Marion and ordered to proceed home and await orders.

REDUCING A BANK'S CAPITAL STOCK.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—The voting upon the the motion to reduce the capital stock of the National Bank of Commerce of this city from $2,000,000 to $1,500,000, which was begun last week, was concluded today, and resulted in the adoption of the resolution.

THE FRAUDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE DEMOCRATS OFFER EVIDENCE TO BELITTLE THE PROOF OF FRAUD AND VIOLENCE, BUT IT DOES NOT MEET THE CASE.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 28.—Before the Teller Committee to-day William Riley (colored), Republican, from Barnwell, testified that the night before the election he was taken from his house by a band of white men and colored men. He was tied to a tree and severely beaten because he was a Republican.

Carolina Hopkins, colored Republican, from the same county, testified that he was surrounded at the polls by white and colored Democrats, and all the Republican tickets taken from him. The colored Democrats were worse than the white ones, and some of them told him he ought to be hung or drummed out of the country.

Fred Nox, a colored Republican from the same county, testified that the Democrats prevented him from holding precinct meetings to organize his party; at the meeting at Blackville on October 11 he was assaulted by Democrats, who insisted on a division of time; and that a colored Democrat fired at Congressman Smalls, who was also prevented from leaving the place that night.

On the other side, Thomas H. Moses, a colored Democrat, testified that a majority of the colored people in the strongest colored sections of the county were Democrats.

J. E. Steedman, a white Democrat, testified that there was no disturbance at the Blackville meeting; that Congressman Smalls consented to the division of time; and that on election-day everybody voted freely.

L. J. Izlar, Mayor of Blackville, confirmed this testimony, and testified that the Republicans indorsed the Democratic ticket with the exception of two candidates for the Legislature.

J. Bellinger, a colored Democrat, testified that William Riley was a notoriously bad character, whom he would not believe on oath; that he had been charged with an assault upon a colored orphan of whom he was guardian, and if he had not an alibi, was beaten for that offence. At the polls in Hampton County, at which witness was present on election day, most of the colored people voted the Democratic ticket.

Orangeburg County was next taken up.

Sandy Kead, colored Republican and Deputy Marshal, testified that Republicans were delayed in voting by opposers; that he saw a Democrat stuff Democratic tickets into the box, and that he was arrested for insisting on entering the polling-room to witness the count. After the election he had been assaulted, and is afraid to go back home. Hundreds of colored men had been turned off by their employers because they did not vote Democratic.

L. A. Wunder (white Republican) testified that two Republican meetings were broken up by the Democrats, and that at the election the Republicans were more united than ever before.

Two colored supervisors testified to an excess of tickets in the boxes and to the solidity of the colored vote.

R. Ryan (colored) testified to the threats of colored Republicans against colored Democrats. One Democrat, he said, was severely beaten for distributing circulars.

Testimony was then taken as to the opening of the polls at improper hours, the obstruction of colored voting, and the voting of tissue tickets at Mount Pleasant in Charleston County, and as to the absence of a poll at Edisto Island. W. L. Daggett (white Democrat) testified that he had printed different kinds of Democratic tickets for the election, including several thousand tissue tickets.

The committee adjourned until to-morrow, when the investigation will probably be closed.

A TRAGEDY IN MAINE.

AN AGED MAN AND HIS WIFE KILLED BY A MANIAC—THE MADMAN KILLED IN SELF-DEFENCE BY A NEIGHBOR.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—Additional particulars of the tragedy at Montville, Waldo County, Me., on Saturday evening last, state that the grandfather of Joan McFarland was not killed. The victims were John McFarland and his wife Salina, each about seventy years old, and George Rowell, about forty years old. The place where the murder occurred is about eighteen miles from Belfast. McFarland and wife and Rowell and wife and two children lived together, Rowell having married the widow of McFarland's son. On Saturday evening Rowell had some words with McFarland, during which he struck him and threatened to take his life. McFarland and his wife and the two children left the house for a neighbor's. As they were leaving they were met by Alonzo Raynes, a neighbor, who was coming to McFarland's house. As he neared the house he was fired upon by Rowell, who was in the house, but was not hit. Turning, Raynes ran back home, passing McFarland and his wife, who were walking through the snow. Rowell followed with the empty gun in his hand, and overtaking the old couple, killed them both in the road with the loaded gun. Leaving his victims in the road, Rowell hurried on in pursuit of Raynes, who, with the children, had entered his house, closed the doors, and armed himself with a double-barreled shot-gun. Rowell burst in the panels of the door and received a charge from Raynes's gun, striking him in the groin, and inflicting what proved to be a fatal wound. Raynes bound Rowell with a rope, and with a lantern hastened to learn the fate of the old couple, finding them both dead a short distance from his door. On his return to the house Rowell was also dead. Rowell was undoubtedly insane at the time of committing the deed. He had been considered square enough for several years, but was a quiet and secretive dangerous individual. He was a large and powerful man, and very dangerous in such a condition. At the Coroner's inquest to-day the verdict was that McFarland and his wife came to their death by the hands of George Rowell, and that Raynes killed Rowell in self-defence.

THE FORTHCOMING PLAY AT WALLACK'S.

Soon after the theatrical season opened, those who believe in the "American drama" and are engaged in producing it, felicitated themselves that a good opening had been secured at Wallack's Theatre. Mr. Wallack began with his old "standbys," the English comedies. Their success met every anticipation, and preliminary to setting before the public examples of the American drama in Steele Mackaye's "Thro' the Dark," and Bartley Campbell's "Fairfax," he tempted the public with "Ours." This was so favorably received that Mr. Wallack did not feel justified in cutting short the life of a certain success for an uncertainty. Then Dion Boucicault appeared with a new play, which would take precedence of the American drama. Both Mr. Mackaye and Mr. Campbell saw that their plays must necessarily be relegated to the end of the season, if indeed, they should come in for representation before another year. Mr. Wallack offered to release them from their engagements, and both availed themselves of the opportunity to withdraw their plays. Mr. Mackaye will take his "Thro' the Dark" to the Fifth Avenue Theatre, where Manager Harkens is getting ready to produce it.

Rumor falsely stated that "Thro' the Dark" was withdrawn because Charles Coghlan had refused to assume the part assigned to him. On the contrary, Mr. Mackaye, when he determined to take his play elsewhere, was writing a part especially for Mr. Coghlan, and Mr. Boucicault's new play, which will follow "Ours" at a date not yet fixed, will be called "Spellbound." It is an entirely new version, drawn from the original sources, a French novel, of the story embodied in the play of "Pauline," produced several years ago at Wallack's Theatre. Charles Coghlan will not be in the cast, the principal parts being taken by Lester Wallack and Miss Rose Coghlan. "Spellbound" is intended to stir the most sluggish blood. The hero, a Count (Mr. Wallack), stays a tiger, with a knife, to gratify a whim of the heroine. The scene of this act is laid in India. His next exploit is to take a rifle from out the hands of a would-be deliverer, and shoot a wild bear, just as the brother of the heroine is placed at the mercy of the savage animal. The scene is partly in France, and one of the chief incidents is a duel fought over a drawing-room table.

A SEARCH FOR A CURATE.

A vicar of the Church of England, who signs himself "An Old-fashioned Vicar," writes to *The Times* (London) in a good-natured way of the troubles he has had in a search for a curate. One young man who went to him was "a very young man, born long after I took orders," and expressed himself as much opposed to the surplice in the pulpit, "as being the first step toward Ritualism." He was willing, however, "to overlook" this if the vicar would preach a certain special doctrine which he would lay down, and concluded by requesting the vicar to send him one of his sermons that he might judge if he were "a thorough Evangelical." Another young man asked to be satisfied on certain points, numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., questions 4 and 5 being these: "Are you very particular to use none but the purest wine at the Holy Sacrament? Among pure wines I do not include either tent or port." "Do you make a conscience of carefully rinsing the sacred cup after Holy Communion, and of yourself drinking the contents before leaving the altar?" A third applicant the vicar describes as "a really good and clever fellow," who besides sending his portrait said he was "ready to undertake to preach a thoughtful sermon in the morning, a children's sermon in the afternoon, and a popular sermon in the evening."

BALTIMORE SUGAR TRADE.

From The Baltimore Sun, Jan. 25.

The bark St. Lawrence, one of the vessels in the regular line of packets between Baltimore and Demerara, reached this port yesterday with 180 tons of sand ballast. It is stated that the difficulties which the importers of Demerara sugars have encountered through the charges of artificial coloring made by special agents of the United States Treasury, have practically put an end to shipments from that colony to Baltimore. The St. Lawrence and the other vessels of the line of packets had for years carried away domestic products to Demerara and returned with cargoes of sugar. The Baltimore importers seem to be at present turning their attention to Louisiana as a market from which to get their saccharine products. A vessel arrived here yesterday from New-Orleans with 1,700 barrels of molasses and 150 hogsheads of sugar. Another similar cargo was reported as in the bay, and several more are on the way here. The Government, of course, will get no revenue from this trade, but Louisiana will be benefitted in finding a ready market so near home.

This is the proper time to plant coparceners.—[Burlington Hawkeye.

XLVTH CONGRESS—IIID SESSION.

REGULAR REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

THE SENATE DISPOSES OF THE WARREN-MITCHELL WAR CLAIM—THE EDMUNDS RESOLUTION TAKEN UP—THE HOUSE PASSES THE ANTI-CHINESE BILL.

SENATE.....WASHINGTON, Jan. 28, 1879.

In the Senate to-day a petition was presented from citizens of Newcastle, Del., asking an appropriation for the erection of a Court House and Post Office in that city. Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

Mr. BAYARD (Dem., Del.) presented a petition of shipowners, pilots and others of Lewes, Del., setting forth the necessity of an appropriation for the removal of certain wrecks from the harbor formed by the Delaware Breakwater. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. ANTHONY (Rep., R. I.), from the Committee on Printing, reported favorably on the resolution to print 30,000 copies of the special report on insects affecting the cotton plant. Agreed to.

Mr. DAWES (Rep., Mass.), from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported adversely on a number of memorials referred to that committee, among them one of the Missouri Legislature asking the removal of the National Capitol to a more central portion of the Union, and others from various labor organizations protesting against the violation of the eight-hour law. The committee was discharged from their further consideration.

The following were reported and placed on the calendar:

To enable the Secretary of War to purchase land to enlarge and protect the Arsenal at San Antonio, Texas.

For the relief of citizens of Montana who served in the war with the Nez Percés Indians.

To extend the time of preemptors on the public lands.

Senator DAVIS (Ind., Ill.) presented a memorial asking Congress to provide for an Industrial Bureau, whose duty it shall be to obtain and collate accurate statistics of all the country's interests, whether agricultural, mining, manufacturing, carrying, building, or whatever else may employ labor; and classify, condense and compare product one with consumption; and, also, facts concerning the number and condition of the employed and unemployed. The facts and statistics obtained to be generally distributed by periodical publication, and embodied in semi-annual reports, with such recommendation as will best conserve the general welfare. The memorial further asks that in the census for 1880 statistics be collected with reference to employment and labor. As a preliminary step a special commission is asked for, whose duty it shall be to examine into and ascertain to what extent machinery and labor-saving processes have entered into the production and distribution of the great products in general use and consumption by the people to the displacement of muscle, as a basis to determine what legislation, if any, is required, so to regulate the use of muscle and machinery as that a demand shall be created for the employment of the muscle now idle, and the building and employment of new machinery, until every man and woman in the land who will work shall find a demand for his or her services, at a compensation that will yield at least a comfortable subsistence; that such commission be required to press the examination without delay, and make daily reports of the facts obtained, to the end that Congress may at once shape the legislation that is needed to restore the great market of consumption by the people. Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor.

In presenting the memorial, Senator Davis called attention to the fact that it was signed by 3,190 business houses, firms and individuals; some of the highest officials in the country and a large number of the clergy, as well as by mechanics and laborers. The first signature is that of Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, of New-York, whose name is familiar from her philanthropic agency in starting the recent yellow fever investigation. Among those that follow are the names of Governor Talbot, of Massachusetts, and other members of the State Government; the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, Wendell Phillips, J. G. Abbott, Mayor Ely, of New-York; the Mayors of Trenton, Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore; George William Curtis, of New-York; and many distinguished citizens of Washington.

The VICE-PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the testimony of James E. Anderson, in relation to Senator Matthews, given before a Committee of the House. It was referred to the select Committee on that subject.

Bills were intro