men began business. One of the incidents which Mr. Dodge was wont to relate about this period of his career indicates how strongly even then was developed in him that union of enterprise and helpfulness which was so marked an element in his character till the end. Three Connecticut pedlers coming in the store with their packs, he, to the scandal of his partner, invited them to make the store their headquarters for the shipment of purchased goods, writing of letters and examination of bills, agreeing to ship their purchases whether made at his store or not. The offer was accepted, the pedlers became excellent customers of the new business, and grew up to fill prominent places in commercial and social circles, one becoming a New-England bank president, another an extensive Connecticut manufacturer, and the third one of the public-spirited men of Ohio.

About the year 1830 Mr. Dodge married the second daughter of Anson G. Phelps, Daniel James, the father of D. Willis James, having married the elder daughter. Mr. Phelps had founded the manufacturing towns of Ansonia and Birmingham, and with Elisha Peck had built up a very important business in the importation of metals. The firm in New-York was known as Phelps & Peck; in Liverpool the style was Peck & Phelps. The firm had just built a new store at Fulton and Cliff sts., when in March, 1833, the foundations gave way, the building fell, and seven persons were crushed to death. Among them were two bookkeepers and a confidential salesman, whose loss crippled the firm's working force. Mr. Phelps then turned to his sons-in-law, and Mr. James and Mr. Dodge were invited into the office. There they remained a year or more, when the business was reorganized, and the house of Phelps, Dodge & Co. was established. Mr. James went to Liverpool and took charge of the English branch, known as Phelps, James & Co. The partners were Anson G. Phelps, William E. Dodge, Daniel James and James Stokes. The business of the house, already of some magnitude when the change was made, thrived under the keen, wise and energetic policy of Mr. Dodge, and for a long time it has been one of the largest firms in the country. Mr. Dodge was the last of the original partners to die, and he retained an interest in the house until January 1, 1881. Mr. Stokes, like his young colleague, was a son-in-law of the senior partner, and though the number of partners has since then for a period numbered nine, they have all been sons and grandsons of the original members.

The old firm was dissolved on January 1, 1879, but Mr. Dodge remained associated with the present partners, D. Willis James and William E. Dodge, jr., as special partner for two years thereafter. During all the years of his active commercial life he was almost daily at his office, being found usually at his desk as early as 8 o'clock in the morning. Energy, clearness of purpose, directness of method, order and grasp of detail were among his characteristics as a business man. He handled vast interests, but always had time to devote to the multitude of religious and philanthropic works in which he was interested.

More than forty ago Mr. Dodge bought a tract of timber land on Pine Creek, Penn., and built a sawmill at Jersey Shore. This was the beginning of his operations in lumber, which he extended into Michigan, Wisconsin, Georgia, Texas, West Virginia and Canada, in all of which he owned tracts ranging in extent from 100,000 to 500,000 acres. He was for twelve years a director of the Erie Railroad, in the early period of the history of that road, and originated many enterprises of equal magnitude. In a letter written in 1875 Mr. Dodge described the circumstances under which he assisted in the organization of the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, as follows:

My recollections of the early efforts of the Messrs. Scranton, which resulted in giving character to what is now the flourishing city of Scranton, are very vivid. I was then a director of the Erie Railroad, and the supply of rails for the Delaware Division, then almost inaccessible, was a very serious problem. The Messrs. Scranton then had a small furnace and rolling mill at what was then generally known as "Slocum's Hollow." They made a proposition to the Erie Railroad to furnish the rails for a part of the road at a given price and distribute them along the line, provided the company would advance them $100,000 to enable them to enlarge their works, offering as security a mortgage on some 7,000 acres of land, part of which were coal lands. Mr. Benjamin Loder and myself were appointed a committee to visit the property and report. We made a journey there, taking three days, passing over the old "Dunker Turnpike" and found a little village of some 300 inhabitants, consisting mainly of workmen. We were greatly pleased with all we saw and particularly with the prospective value of their enterprises, but concluded they could not arrange their works in time for us; and fearing a disappointment the proposition was declined.

Having then formed the acquaintance of Messrs. George W. and Selden T. Scranton, and seeing the importance of their location and the value of their property, I invited them to come to the city; and having arranged a plan for enlarging their works and increasing their capital, I invited some thirty gentlemen to come to my office, where the plan was presented and the proposed amount was subscribed that day, and the new company formed under the name of the Lackawanna Iron an Coal Company, my late partner, Mr. Anson G. Phelps, heading the list, followed by myself, and the full amount was made up by the names of Messrs. Loder, Dater, Miller, Sprague, Sturges, Buckley, Phelps, Rogers, Howland, Blair, Murdock and others. The present extensive iron works tells the rest.

A few years later Colonel Scranton undertook to secure the capital to build the Leguett's Gap road to extend from Scranton to Great Bend; again I invited some fifty gentlemen to meet at my office to consider the project; most of the gentlemen interested in the iron company were present, who with others at once started a subscription, which, as before, was headed by Mr. Phelps. This secured its success, the iron company taking a large amount of stock and also furnishing the rails.

Soon after this was under way a plan for a road from the New-Jersey Central to Scranton was started by Colonel Scranton, he having secured an old charter in Pennsylvania and Mr. Blair having also secured that of the Warren road. A meeting was called and his great importance to the city was set forth in one of Colonel Scranton's very best addresses. The result was the commencement of the Delaware and Susquehanna Railroad, which was subsequently made the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, which has more than met the most sanguine predictions of its early projectors.

Mr. Dodge was elected a trustee of the Atlantic Mutual Marine Insurance Company in 1847. He was one of the founders of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, becoming a trustee in 1850, and for years was a trustee of the United States Trust Company. He was a member of the boards of direction of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the New-York, Lackawanna and Western, the Morris and Essex, the Oswego and Syracuse, the Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley, the Cayuga and Susquehanna, and the Syracuse, Binghamton and New-York railroad companies, and the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company.

Mr. Dodge's wealth at the time of his death was estimated at about $5,000,000. On this point an intimate friend said yesterday: "Mr. Dodge's holdings in railroad properties have been heavy at times, but I do not believe that they will be found to form an important part of his estate. His interest in Delaware, Western and Lackawanna and its kindred properties was small at the time of his death. He was not interested in other railroads when he died, and he never held heavy amounts of bank stocks or other securities. I estimate his wealth at between $3,000,000 and $5,000,000. His property consists principally of pine lands in Georgia and the lands in Canada which he took when he settled the affairs of his son's firm after it failed. The land in Georgia is in Dodge County, named after him."

In politics Mr. Dodge was a Republican. He was a member of the Union Defence Committee, organized by the Chamber of Commerce early in the war. He was a delegate to the Peace Convention at Washington in 1861. In 1865 he claimed the election to the XXXIXth Congress, although the certificate of election was given to James Brooks. Mr. Dodge contested the seat and the House decided on April 6, 1866, that he had received 8,378 legal votes, against 3,362 for James Brooks. Mr. Dodge took his seat on the next day. He served on the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In the Congressional debates on reconstruction, he opposed the original Reconstruction bill and the impeachment movement as dangerous to the business interests of the country, and asserted that a partial paralysis of those interests would follow the passage of the bill. He was appointed an Indian Commissioner by President Grant.

Mr. Dodge was a rigid Sabbatarian and temperance man. He left the direction of the Erie road as soon as it began to run trains on Sunday; he unloaded $130,000 of New-Jersey Central stock on the market in 1873 for the same reason, and recently he publicly said that he would at once close his connection with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western if ever it should run trains on Sunday. In personal appearance he was tall, erect and well preserved. He wore side whiskers, which, like his hair, were tinged with gray. Although nearing eighty years of age, his youthful manner, earnest conversation and freshness of feature made him appear younger than many men do when sixty. On his last public appearance, at the Cooper Union meeting last week, his short address was delivered without notes, after a hard day's work, but without showing any fatigue. His voice was strong and full, and his remarks were heard with distinctness in every part of the hall. His manner was always genial, and when in conversation his voice was pleasing and sympathetic. Mr. Dodge went to Europe first in 1844, and several times afterward. On one occasion he extended his journey to the East. He also travelled a great deal in this country, and recently returned from a trip to California, in which he was accompanied by his wife, who was intimately associated with him in all his works of benevolence.

His summers Mr. Dodge passed at Tarrytown, where he had a handsome residence overlooking the river. In the winter he lived at his house in Madison-ave., where also his sons, Norman W. and the Rev. D. Stuart Dodge, have resided since the death of their wives. Mr. Dodge leaves five sons besides these two—William E., jr., Anson G. P., General Charles C., George E., and Arthur M. Dodge. Norman, George and Arthur are members of the firm of Dodge, Meigs & Co., lumber exporters, at No. 72 Wall-st. Mr. Dodge celebrated his golden wedding on June 24, 1878, at his country house in Tarrytown.

The expressions of sorrow over the death of Mr. Dodge were general throughout the city, especially among those with whom he had been associated. The flags at the Young Men's Christian Association Building and at the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad office were put at half mast, and Samuel Sloan, president of the railroad, ordered the depots along the line to be draped in mourning. He also called a meeting of the directors for to-day, for the purpose of taking proper action. A meeting for a similar purpose will be held by the Chamber of Commerce at 10 a. m. to-day.

MR. DODGE'S BENEVOLENCE.

The contributions of Mr. Dodge to religious, charitable and educational institutions were very extensive, as were also his lesser gifts to individuals. It has been estimated that there have been years in which his benefactions averaged $1,000 a day throughout the year, while frequently the sum given away by him amounted to $250,000, and at no time within several years did it fall below $200,000. He became in early life a member of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, when the society was supported by the Congregational, Presbyterian and Reformed Dutch Churches. In 1857 he became a corporate member, and in 1864 he was elected a vice-president. Although a Presbyterian by birth and education, he did not withdraw when the two schools of the Presbyterian Church united in 1870 and left the American Board. The office of vice-president of this board he held until his death, being re-elected for seventeen years. His annual contributions to that board varied from $3,000 to $10,000; but this regular subscription in no manner represented the amount which he gave to the society. Special needs called forth special contributions. At the annual meeting in Portland, Me., last spring the statement was made that an additional subscription was needed this year to take the place of a legacy that had been expended. Mr. Dodge rose on the platform the next morning and said that he had been troubled during the night because of this needed money, and in order to raise it he offered to double his annual subscription. In a moment another man on the platform agreed to do the same, and in a few minutes the amount needed was subscribed.

Mr. Dodge became a director of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions soon after the reorganization in 1870, and gave large amounts to it. He took an especial interest in Syrian missions, and in 1872 while on a visit to the East he laid the corner-stone of the Syrian Protestant College at Beyrut. His son, the Rev. D. Stuart Dodge, was later a professor in the college. The Rev. Dr. Henry H. Jessup, for many years a missionary in Syria, and the president of the college, married a niece of Mr. Dodge. While in Syria in 1872 Mr. Dodge visited Jerusalem and many mission fields. He was a trustee of the college in Beyrut, and a principal supporter of Robert College, in Constantinople, to which he gave considerable money. Liberia and the Liberian University received a share of his benevolence.

While a great friend to the foreign mission cause, which received his money freely, Mr. Dodge also believed in the charity which seeks to build up one's own land. The Union Theological Seminary in this city, of which he was a director since 1856, has been enriched by his gifts. He gave money for the library, for the professorships, and for the new buildings now in process of erection. Auburn Theological Seminary, at Auburn, N. Y., received a new library building from Colonel Morgan and Mr. Dodge. The president's fund at Williams College was established by Mr. Dodge. At Yale, Amherst, Hamilton, Middlebury, Lafayette, Grinnell, and other colleges Mr. Dodge founded professorships or scholarships, or contributed in some other way. In many of the Eastern colleges he had scholarships which he gave to young men whom he considered worthy of assistance. For a long time he had ten such men every year in different colleges, and provided some of them with money besides giving them a free tuition. The president of Grinnell College, in Grinnell, Iowa, which was destroyed by a tornado last year, came to this city, received several thousand dollars from Mr. Dodge, and letters from him to other wealthy men by which he was enabled to raise the amount needed to rebuild the college. The Rev. Dr. Bartlett, president of Maryville College, in Tennessee, came to this city on a similar errand. He told Mr. Dodge that his college needed $100,000, and at once received a subscription of $25,000 on condition that the rest was raised. With this generous gift heading the list of subscriptions, Dr. Bartlett easily procured $50,000 more. Recently, it is said, Mr. Dodge withdrew the restriction under which he had given his subscription.

For many years Mr. Dodge manifested a deep interest in the freedmen. The Slater Fund was given only after several consultations with him, and the committee having it in charge was formed in his library. He had intended to attend a meeting of this committee in Atlanta, Ga., next month. He was a trustee in Lincoln University for colored young men in Pennsylvania. To this institution he contributed largely. He was also interested in Biddle University, another institution for colored youth, and both it and its students have been the recipients of his generosity. He had several students in Hampton Institute whose expenses he bore alone. The last addition to the list at this school was a little girl from Africa. There were also colored children in Atlanta who were dependent on Mr. Dodge's charity for their educations. After he had been an Indian Commissioner he decided to give some Indian children an education, and they are now at Carlisle Institute in Pennsylvania. The Colonization Cause had a warm supporter in Mr. Dodge. He built many churches and schools in the South and West. Home missions generally, and especially those connected with his own denomination, were sure of an earnest friend in him, and the secretaries and missionaries never applied in vain to him for aid. The Sunday-school cause attracted his attention, before such schools were as popular as now, and for twenty years he was a superintendent. A colporteur has been employed by him for a long time in the Southwest in this cause. The whole expense of salary, travel, books, etc., Mr. Dodge bore alone.

Mr. Dodge was converted when only twelve years old, in Bozrahville, Conn., and to the time of his death was deeply interested in revival meetings. He was a member of the committee which bore the expense of the meetings held in this city by Moody and Sankey, and he attended many of the meetings held by the evangelists. When he came to New-York, in 1818, he united with the Laight Street Presbyterian Church, of which the late Rev. Dr. Cox, his uncle, was the pastor. Later he attended the Second Avenue Presbyterian Church. He afterward became a founder and an elder of the Fourteenth Street Presbyterian Church at Second-ave., of which the Rev. Dr. Asa D. Smith was pastor. Dr. Smith later became president of Dartmouth College and Mr. Dodge united with the Madison Square Church, where he was also an elder, under the pastorate of the late President Adams, of the Union Theological Seminary. He did not remain there very long. He helped to build the Church of the Covenant, at Park-ave. and Thirty-fifth-st., with which he united in 1866. His religious life was never weakened by his prosperity, and as he became more wealthy he associated himself with more religious societies. The City Mission, Phelps's Mission in East Thirty-fifth-st., the Presbyterian Hospital, of which he was a trustee, the Christian Home for Intemperate Men and Women, the American Bible Society, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Sabbath Committee, and many similar societies and institutions in this city received aid from him. He was a manager of the American Bible Society for twenty-five years, and aided its work liberally. He gave $12,000 toward the new building of the Christian Home for Intemperate Men, of which he was president, and $1,000 a year for its support. He gave an equal amount toward the Gospel services in the Cooper Union, and $25,000 toward the building of the Young Men's Christian Association. As president of the Chamber of Commerce he was a manager of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, at New-Brighton, Staten Island. He was a vice-president of the American Tract Society and the president of the American Branch of the Evangelical Alliance. In his gifts to individuals he never made the impression that he was giving as an act of charity, but rather that he esteemed it a privilege to be able to help another. Many college students received aid from him and invariably he accompanied the gift with a kindly grasp of the hand and said that the money was not to be considered as a loan, as he did not wish any of his friends to "wear the shackles of a debt," but when the student felt able to return the gift it would be received and transferred to another one.

The National Temperance Society was formed in 1865 in the office of Mr. Dodge in Cliff-st. He became its first president and held the office from that time. He was anxious that there should be a working capital of $100,000, toward which he gave $20,000. Very often he would send a library to the South, and he paid for large quantities of temperance literature which was scattered among the freedmen. Many times he went before the Congressional Committee of Inquiry in regard to the liquor traffic. It was expected that he would entertain Governor St. John, who is to attend a temperance meeting to be held at the Cooper Union on Monday night. On Thursday one of his sons wrote that the physician had forbidden his father to go out of the house for a week, and that it would be impossible for him to entertain Governor St. John as he had intended to do. Mr. Dodge resigned from the Union League Club in 1877, sending his resignation to John Jay, president of the club, in the following terms: "At the meeting of the club to be held to-morrow please present my resignation as a member. While interested in much that is doing, I cannot consistently be connected with any association who derive their support in any part from the sale of intoxicating drinks." In 1880 he read a paper on "The Church and Temperance," before the Pan-Presbyterian Council in Philadelphia.

The news of the benevolence of Mr. Dodge crossed the sea before he did, and when he went abroad in recent years he received much attention from English philanthropists. Two years ago, on the occasion of his last visit to England, he made an address at the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society in London. He was compelled to refuse many invitations to speak at other meetings. He dined with Mr. Gladstone, Lord Shaftesbury, Sir Harry Vernet and other prominent gentlemen.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR ESTERBROOK.

Inspector Esterbrook, of the Bureau of Buildings, yesterday submitted to the Fire Commissioners his report for 1882. After reviewing the many difficulties under which he and his few assistants labor, Mr. Esterbrook says that there appears to be no remedy for them except through the action of the Legislature. Tables accompanying the report show that the year 1882 was one of great activity in building. The work of the Bureau was increased by the discovery of many violations of the Building laws. "Owing to the great and increasing value of lots," Mr. Esterbrook continues, "owners of property are induced to erect much higher buildings than formerly, and the question arises whether some limit should not be placed to the height of buildings, say in proportion to the width of the street on which they front. Sanitary reasons alone would seem to require it, and some provision should be made to enable firemen to reach the top of such buildings, if their erection over a certain height be not limited by law."

A large number of fire-escapes were placed on old buildings in 1882, in spite of much opposition on the part of property-owners. One case is cited in which the courts practically annulled the law, and permitted a builder to alter a tenement-house without erecting necessary fire-escapes. The courts, however, sustained the Inspector in his efforts to make furnace-flues safer. In regard to his inspection of theatres and the notices sent by him to owners after the burning of the Park Theatre, the Inspector declares that there is no good reason why such buildings should not be made perfectly safe as to strength, and so constructed that the rapid spread of fire would be impossible.

What is needed is a law that states plainly what is required for safety in every theatre, and if these requirements are not complied with, the Mayor of the city should be required by law to refuse a license.

In conclusion, the Inspector recommends a prompt and unrelenting prosecution of persons who persistently violate the Building laws. Comparisons are made in the accompanying tables between the work of the old Department of Buildings and that of the present Bureau, to show that more is being done now, with less expenditure of money, than was accomplished then. The following figures are taken from the tables:

	Amount of appropriations.	Violations reported and complaints received.	Cost of new buildings and alterations.
1871	$181,800	6,664	$46,937,372
1872	129,000	4,507	30,673,949
1881	$30,000	89,913	$47,533,370
1882	36,000	10,029	49,060,367

The number of cases forwarded to the attorney for prosecution in 1872 was 107, and in 1882 the number was 1,022. In the former year 398 old buildings were made safe and 38 unsafe buildings were torn down. In 1882, 1,373 buildings were made safe and 205 taken down by order of Mr. Esterbrook.

MARRIED FIFTY-ONE YEARS.

Fifty-one years ago yesterday Thomas McElrath, afterward so long and favorably known as the publisher of THE TRIBUNE, was married to Miss Elizabeth Price at the home of her father, in the Seventh Ward of this city, by the Rev. Dr. John M. Krebs. After their more than half-century of wedded life this honored couple, still young in heart and vigorous in health, are enjoying the evening of their days surrounded by troops of admiring and affectionate friends. Both retain their ardent interest in every good and useful work. A year ago their golden wedding was celebrated by a delightful gathering, at which some appropriate verses, written for the occasion by the Rev. Dr. H. N. Powers, of Bridgeport, Conn., were read. It may not be out of place to recall those verses at this time:

Who come, with garlands white and festal lay,
This golden wedding day,
To greet the happy pair?
Never so dear before,
Never so dear and fair.
Not we alone—one's trembling lips are weak
To breathe the blessings that we fain would speak,
But shining throngs whom vanished years restore,
These congratulations pour,
What eager brows! What gracious speech!
What thrilling pressure of the hands they reach!
They bring the benediction of old friends
We meet no more,
And salutations sweet
From daisied lane and busy street,
And cosey nooks within the fireside glow,
The miracle of loving deeds they show;
How generous household graces grow;
How self-devotion serves with single eye;
How far the deeds of simple kindness fly;
And so the wreaths they bring,
And so the strains they sing,
Enrich our feeble offering
As stars enrich the sky.
What do they leave and what retain,
Bridegroom and bride, as on they go
Into the sunset's golden glow?
They leave of earthiness the stain;
They leave care's long-corroding chain,
Their weary vigils, and the road
Where sorrow staggered with its load;
All this they leave, but fondly keep
Their household feelings warm and deep,
The love that ripened in the stress
Of toil, and trust, and watchfulness,
And the child-heart whose simple sense
Is life's bright shield and recompense.
What is our bride's and bridegroom's dower?
What but the spirit's golden flower?
Ah! picture all that makes their way
Grow brighter toward the perfect day,
And consecrates sweet human life
In noble husband, blameless wife,
And I will celebrate the gain
That crowns to-night this happy twain—
Untarnished honor, virtues tried,
In loss and suffering sanctified,
Wisdom that learns in love its lore,
And love by giving growing more,
And Peace, white blossom of the breast
Where Christ, the Master, is the guest.
And what their vision now, while fold
The curtains of their honored age
About their lengthened pilgrimage?
See; what a light of mellow gold
Is on their faces, as they turn
Where sunset's splendid roses burn,
It touches all they love, and lies
On grateful souls and happy eyes;
What golden stairs slant through the glow!
What dear ones smile above, below!
What greetings heard! responses given!
Till earth seems but a step from Heaven.

BUSINESS MEN EMBARRASSED.

Sumner, Reed, Williams & Co., wholesale dealers in cloths at No. 107 Grand-st., made an assignment yesterday, giving preferences for $12,548. They are the surviving partners of John Mott & Co., and succeeded to the business in July, 1877. They paid off the obligations of the old firm in full. They claimed a capital of about $27,000, but this was lately regarded as not sufficient for the business. The liabilities are estimated at about $40,000.

Henry Wilson, trading as W. Wilson & Co., wholesale dealer in wines and liquors at No. 22 Beaver-st., made an assignment yesterday to Charles H. Morgan, giving preferences for $12,711. The business was established several years ago by William and Henry Wilson. The former died and the latter continued the business, in which he has since met with considerable competition.

William Maupai, a brewer at No. 168 Ewen-st., Brooklyn, has become financially embarrassed and asks an extension of six months. His total liabilities are reported at $38,000.

SPECIAL QUESTION BEFORE TEACHERS.

A meeting of the special teachers in the public schools was held at Grammar School No. 47, in Twelfth-st., yesterday afternoon, G. W. Pettit, presiding. A resolution was passed thanking the Board of Education for what it had done. Miss Coman, a teacher of drawing, said: "The Board has decided to allow us to remain till the end of the year, but I have been informed that a committee has been appointed to go around and visit each school to find out what special teachers can be dispensed with. The question before us now is, What can we do to be kept in the schools?"

The following committee was appointed to look out for the general interests of the teachers: Adam E. Schulte, Francis Melville, G. W. Pettit, Miss Anna Constantine and George Batchelor.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

ALMOST THROUGH COMMITTEE.

THE SENATE'S DILIGENT WORK ON THE TARIFF BILL—OBSTRUCTION BY DEMOCRATIC LEADERS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The Senate worked faithfully upon the Tariff bill to-day, and read and acted upon a greater number of pages than ever before since the debate upon the pending bill began. It was the purpose of Senator Morrill to sit until midnight, or later if necessary, and report the bill to the Senate before adjournment, and this purpose would have been accomplished had an unpaired quorum remained, or had Senator Beck been less obstinate. No Senatorial privilege would have been abridged by hasty action upon the sections remaining after the schedules were disposed of, as every opportunity would remain for amendment and for unlimited discussion in the Senate, but much time would have been gained by the successful prosecution of the plan. The usual course of legislation gives two opportunities, one in the Committee of the Whole and one in the Senate, for debate and amendment upon every measure which passes. Inasmuch as the Internal Revenue sections were debated and passed upon in Committee of the Whole at the last session, it might have been admitted by the most exacting stickler for formalities that one reading and one debate upon them were sufficient. But the Democrats would not have it so. Senator Bayard had absented himself and had left a request with Mr. Beck not to permit the bill to be reported to the Senate, as he (Bayard) had several amendments to offer.

The greater part of the day was devoted to a consideration of points in the schedule which had been passed over without final action at the first reading, or in respect to which the privilege was reserved of proposing amendments at a later period. In this way the provision in respect to mineral waters which are upon the free list was enlarged to lover the bottles and jugs in which they are imported. The carpet schedule, upon motion from the Finance Committee, was reduced in respect to the ad valorem rates from 35 to 30 per cent in each case, and the rate upon mats not exclusively of vegetable material, screens, hassocks and rugs, was reduced from 45 to 40 per cent ad valorem. That part of the woollen schedule relating to women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloths and goods of like description, known as worsted stuffs, was stricken out and the following, reported from the Finance Committee, was substituted: "Women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloths and goods of like description, composed in part of wool, worsted, hair of the alpaca goat, or other animals, valued at not exceeding 30 cents per square yard, 5 cents per square yard and 35 per cent ad valorem; valued at above 30 cents per square yard, 7 cents per square yard and 40 per cent ad valorem; if composed wholly of wool, worsted, hair of the alpaca goat or other animals, or of a mixture of them, 9 cents per square yard and 40 per cent ad valorem; all such goods with selvages made wholly or in part of other material, or with threads of other material introduced for the purpose of changing the classification, shall be dutiable at 9 cents per square yard and 40 per cent ad valorem; provided that all such goods weighing over four ounces per square yard shall pay a duty of 35 cents per pound and 40 per cent ad valorem."

Senator Bayard moved that the whole woollen schedule be stricken out and the following be inserted: "All wools, hair of the alpaca goat, or other articles valued at 15 cents per pound and over, 30 per cent ad valorem; under 15 cents per pound, 20 per cent ad valorem; all manufactures of wool, or of which wool shall be chief component, 50 per cent ad valorem." A long discussion followed the introduction of this amendment resulting in its defeat by a vote of 19 to 30. Upon the motion of Senator Aldrich, from the Finance Committee, the rate upon the materials for making and ornamenting hats, not specially enumerated in the act, was reduced from 30 to 20 per cent ad valorem. The rate upon bonnets, hats and hoods for men, women and children, composed of chip grass, palm leaf, willow, straw or any other vegetable substance, hair, whalebone or other material not specially enumerated or provided for in the act, was reduced from 35 to 30 per cent ad valorem.

The most earnest contest of the day's session was in regard to salt. Senator Vance moved that it be placed on the free list, and the free trade Democrats made speeches in support of his proposition. It was lost, however, by a vote of 22 to 24, only one Republican voting in the affirmative and one Democrat in the negative. Senator Allison then moved that a drawback of 80 per cent on salt used in packing might be given to importers, and Senator Vest proposed to extend the provision to include that used in packing fish of all kinds, and to allow the salt to be used in bond. Senator Vance moved that section 3,022 of the Revised Statutes be repealed. This section gives the masters of licensed fishing vessels the right to purchase for use at sea, free of duty, the salt necessary for the preservation of their catch. His motion was lost, whereupon he moved that the section be amended so as to cover the salt used in curing the fish taken in any way from the sea or from the tide waters and rivers of the United States. His motive, as he describes it, was to place the fishermen on the Southern coast upon an equality with those of New-England. This motion, together with those of Senators Allison and Vest, was referred to the Finance Committee, and final action upon the salt section was suspended.

In the chemical schedule lead chemicals were increased to conform with the rates upon lead in the metal schedule. The rate upon brown acetate of lead was made 4 cents; upon white acetate 6 cents; white lead when dry, or in pulp, 3 cents; ground or mixed in oil 4 cents per pound; litharge 3 cents per pound, orange mineral and red lead 3 cents per pound, and nitrate of lead 4 cents a pound. The provision relating to opium was made to provide that opium containing not less than 9 per cent of morphia shall come in at $1 a pound, and opium containing less than 9 per cent of morphia shall not come in at all. This completed the consideration of the schedules with the exception of the provision respecting salt. The reading of the bill after the free list was proceeded with and a few minor amendments of little importance were made. The section relating to the duties of naval officers was passed over, Mr. Beck having moved to strike it out in order to leave the present law in force.

The sections of the Tariff bill covering forty printed pages following the free list are substantially those which form a part of the existing law providing the machinery for the Collectors of Customs and some general features relating to them. After reading and debating them for an hour Senator Edmunds moved that they all be stricken out with the exception of four lines which provide for the repeal of sections 2,907 and 2,908 of the Revised Statutes. Section 2,907 relates to the ascertainment of the dutiable values of merchandise, and section 2,908 provides that all additions made to the entered values of merchandise for charges shall be regarded as a part of the actual value of such merchandise. Senator Edmunds's motion was carried. It has the effect of leaving the present law covering the points referred to in force with the exception of the two statutes repealed.

The following amendment was then passed as an additional section of the bill:

That the repeal of existing laws, or modifications thereof, embraced in the act shall not affect any act done, or any right accruing, or accrued, or any suit or proceeding had or commenced in any civil cause before the said repeal or modifications, but all rights and liabilities under said laws shall continue and may be enforced in the same manner as if said repeal or modifications had not been made; nor shall said repeal or modifications in any manner affect the right to any office, or change the term or tenure hereof. Any offences committed and all penalties or forfeitures as liabilities incurred under any statute embraced in or modified by this act, must be prosecuted and punished in the same manner and with the same effect as if this act had not been passed. All acts of limitation, whether applicable to civil causes and proceedings, or to the prosecution of offences, or for the recovery of penalties or forfeitures, embraced in or modified by this act, shall not be affected thereby; but all suits, proceedings or prosecutions, whether civil or criminal, for causes arising or acts done or committed prior to the passage of this act, may be commenced and prosecuted within the same time as if the act had not been passed.

The Internal Revenue sections, which form the first part of the bill but which were passed over without action when the debate upon the bill was begun in January, were then taken up, and the first section was read through. Its last provision makes the tax upon snuff and manufactured tobacco twelve cents a pound. Senator Beck moved to make the rate eight cents a pound. Senator Edmunds appealed earnestly to the Senator from Kentucky to allow the reading to proceed so that the bill could be reported to the Senate before adjournment. Mr. Beck was obstinate, however, and insisted upon his amendment. It was manifest that no quorum was present, and that a vote would formally disclose the fact and prevent all further proceedings. The vote was taken, and twenty-seven Senators only responded. The point was made that no quorum was present, and the Senate then adjourned.

TARIFF LEGISLATION IN THE HOUSE.

AN EFFORT TO REMOVE PARLIAMENTARY DIFFICULTIES—DEMOCRATIC EFFORTS TO RETARD THE PROGRESS OF THE MEASURE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Mr. Kasson offered a resolution this morning which if adopted will remove most of the parliamentary difficulties which beset the future pathway of tariff legislation, and which if not got out of the way will probably prove fatal. The resolution provides that during the remainder of the session it shall be in order on any day, after the morning hour, to move to suspend the rules so as to consider in the House any regular appropriation or revenue bill which shall have been reported by a committee and may then be in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, or which may be on the Speaker's table, and such motion shall be decided by a majority of votes. Should this resolution be adopted the House by a majority vote could discharge the Committee of the Whole from further consideration of the Ways and Means bill and bring that measure at once under the operation of the previous question and insure a final vote upon it within a reasonable time. The same course might be taken with the bill now before the Senate, if it should reach the Speaker's table, thus bringing the Senate tariff amendments to an immediate vote on the question of concurrence or non-concurrence.

Mr. Kasson admits that the remedy proposed is a heroic one, but thinks that it is wholly justifiable in the present emergency. There is probably not a man on either side of the House who believes that there is a ghost of a chance for the passage of the Ways and Means bill, unless it can be driven out of its snail-like pace. Mr. Kasson's resolutions was referred to the Committee on Rules. Whether it will be favorably reported is a matter of some doubt. Mr. Reed, a member of the committee, is reported to have remarked to-day that no Tariff bill that puts lumber on the free list will be likely to get his vote. If he should become convinced that the adoption of the Kasson rule would result in the passage of the Senate bill with its free lumber provision he might vote against it. There is some reason to believe that Mr. Randall, who is a member of the Committee on Rules, regards the Kasson proposition with favor. Mr. Kasson himself evidently has in view the Senate bill which he hopes to get into the hands of a conference committee as the basis of tariff legislation.

"Will a majority of the House consent to allow this to be done? is the question, and it will probably be answered in the negative," said a very prominent and influential Republican Representative to a TRIBUNE correspondent to-day. "It amounts to just this: It is proposed to let Senator David Davis and Speaker Keifer revise the tariff through a conference committee of six men to be appointed by them, the basis of action to be the Senate bill, which has never been and is not to be considered in the House, and about which not one in ten of the House knows anything. A conference report with such a basis is to be prepared during all the hurry and turmoil of the closing days of Congress, and we are to vote for it or against it as a whole without knowing what it contains. The proposition is a very serious one, and, while I do not say that I am against it, I certainly cannot say that I favor it. I do not believe that the people of this country demand of Congress an unintelligent, unconsidered revision of the tariff, such as we might have made had it not been for the systematic opposition of the Democratic party in both Houses. The House certainly ought not to play the part of a bull in a china shop in regard to this great subject."

No better progress was made with the bill to-day than heretofore, although it must be said that there was considerably less vagrant and irrelevant discussion than on yesterday, and Chairman Kelley appeared to be more ready than usual to confine the debate within reasonable limits. As usual the Democrats sought to waste time, and, so far as they could, to retard the bill, and they were measurably successful. They begin to realize that in order to strangle the bill in its cradle it is not necessary for them to resort to violent methods, and therefore the bushwhackers are kept as far in the rear as practicable. Several amendments were adopted, all reductions of the rates fixed by the bill. Boiler, or other plate iron, skelp iron and sheet iron, common or black, not thinner than No. 20 wire gauge, was put at 1 2-10 cents per pound, instead of 1 3-10; between No. 20 and 25 wire gauge at 1 3-10 cents instead of 1 5-10 cents; between Nos. 25 and 29 at 1 5-10 cents instead of 1 7-10 cents and thinner than No. 29, including all common or black taggers iron, at 30 per cent ad valorem instead of 1 9-10 cents per pound. There was a long and brisk discussion on tin plate which resulted in a reduction from 1 1-10 cents to 1 cent per pound and the striking out of a provision imposing a duty of 1 9-10 cents per pound on corrugated or crimped sheet iron or steel. When the paragraph imposing a rate of 1 4-10 cents per pound on iron and steel cotton ties or hoops for baling purposes, not thinner than No. 19 wire gauge, was reached, at least a dozen Southern Representatives were on their feet making the hall resound with their clamors for recognition. Foremost among them was the diminutive General Wheeler, whose last onslaught upon the tariff was an attempt to put cotton seed oil on the free list. He was greatly excited to-day and as he waved his written amendment in the air, and bobbed up and down like one of the little figures in a Punch and Judy show, his comical appearance excited great merriment. Despite General Wheeler's frantic agility he failed to catch the eye of the chairman, and Colonel Mackey, of South Carolina, was recognized to offer an amendment changing the rate to 35 per cent ad valorem and making it apply to all ties not thinner than No. 20 wire gauge. No vote was reached.

THE GRANT RETIREMENT BILL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The friends of the Grant Retirement bill are very uneasy on account of the situation of that measure. Chairman Henderson, of the House Committee on Military Affairs, drew up a report in favor of the bill, evidently expecting that it would receive the support of a majority of the committee. To his great surprise and disappointment the report was rejected on a yea and nay vote of 5 to 3, Messrs. Henderson, McCook and Spooner voting in the affirmative, and Messrs. Bayne, Spaulding and Steel, Republicans, and Upson and Wheeler, Democrats, in the negative. Colonel Davis, of Illinois, who was absent, would have voted for the report, and Messrs. Bragg and Sparks, who were also absent, would have voted against it. It is understood that one of the Republicans who voted against the favorable report proposed an amendment virtually adopting all the encomiums upon General Grant which it contained, but giving reasons, in view of which an adverse report should be made. This amendment, which would probably have been adopted had it been pressed to a vote, was withdrawn. The three members who voted for the report signed it as the "views" of the minority. There the matter rests.

It was expected that a motion to reconsider the vote would be made at the meeting of the Military Committee this morning, but that was not done. Chairman Henderson feels very uncomfortable on account of the action of his committee, but it is understood that he will bring the subject before the House, even if he is obliged to do so only as the representative of a minority. Some of those who voted against him fully appreciate his position, and intimate a willingness that the vote shall be reconsidered, and the report prepared by the chairman be allowed to go to the House, they reserving the right to oppose it there. Members of the committee who favor the bill have little hope that it will pass the House at this session.

A SPEECH WHICH WAS NOT DELIVERED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—In *The Record* of yesterday was printed a speech purporting to have been delivered in the House last Saturday by Mr. Beltzhoover. In point of fact, the speech was not delivered on that or any other day. It is an argument in favor of the transfer of the Signal Service Bureau to the Interior Department, and contains severe criticisms upon the present administration of the Bureau. In an appendix appears what purports to be