THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS—Senate.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The CHAIR presented a communication from the Secretary of the Senate, showing the progress made in the printing of American State papers.

Mr. CLAY gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to repeal the Sabbath business act.

Mr. POMEROY gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to abolish the franking privilege.

Mr. HAMMOND's resolutions were taken up.

Mr. HAMMOND's first and fifth amendment, thinking one slavery equally necessary with the other, if modification were required to prevent similar outrages, he did not think the Southern people could be induced to remain in the Union. Let all traitors hang. Threats have been made for thirty years that, in certain events, this Union would be dissolved. It is no small matter to dissolve the Union. It means bloody revolution or it means a halter. It means a successful overturning of this government, or it means the fate of John Brown.

The Senator from Virginia wants to know where John Brown's money came from? Why in Canada there were 40 000 fugitive slaves, and twenty cents a head would have been sufficient without charging it on the Republican party. As to the statements in the Democratic papers, filled with Government advertisements, it is a villainous press hired to do dirty work, and it does it faithfully.

Mr. DOOLITTLE challenged Senators to produce one Republican paper throughout the Northwest which ever justified or sympathized with the act of Brown at Harper's Ferry. They might sympathize with death in an individual as any man under sentence of death might receive sympathy for personal qualities.

Mr. CAMERON said that the propriety of the Revolution was so manifest, and its immediate adoption so necessary, he had not believed there was a solitary man on the floor of the Senate, who would oppose it yet this amendment seemed for the express purpose of frustrating and defeating its force. He hoped it would be withdrawn or voted down. He spoke at some length in regard to the rights of the South, and interference with them by Republicans, and read extracts from the speech of Mr. SEWARD in March, 1858, where he spoke of free labor invading Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

After some further discussion, the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

Mr. KELLOGG rose to a privileged question and caused to be read from the *New York Tribune* despatches dated the 5th inst., as follows:

"The country must not hold the Republican side of the House responsible for the cowardly performance of to-day. It was the act of a few fossil Whigs, who are only varnished with Republicanism sufficiently to get into Congress. Mr Ohio STANTON's motion to adjourn was voted down, 150 to 113, only one Republican voting with him. Mr. Illinois KELLOGG's motion to adjourn, which prevailed by the help of the entire Democratic and South American vote, was condemned by two-thirds of the Republicans, but could not be beaten. The absentees were for a Democrat and a South American who, as counting against a choice amounts to the same thing. The Democrats, of course, commenced agitating the negro question, as they always do, in order to waste time and enable their absentees to come in. Mr. Bingham was not in his seat, and allowed Missouri CLARK to ventilate his ignorance and stupidity with regard to HELPER's "Impending Crisis," and then insisted on calling the roll, and so persevered till midnight if necessary, Mr. SHERMAN would pretty certainly have been chosen Speaker on the third ballot. Now the election may be made to-morrow, and it may not this month. Mr. CLARK was allowed to utter the most egregious, though, I presume, intentional falsehoods with regard to HELPER's book—such as that it recommends treason, rape and murder—without a word of refutation. He was not even required to read the passages on which his charge were based. This was probably well; but the schoolmaster most shameful. I trust the indignation freely expressed by a great majority of the Republicans will prevent a repetition of to-day's necromancy. If so, the present evil will work out great ultimate good. The first ballot stood as follows: BOCOCK, 88; SHERMAN, 66; GROW, about 45. The rest were scattering." "H. G."

Mr. KELLOGG wished to show the false position Mr. GREELEY holds to the Republican party. When his (KELLOGG's) constituents complain of him, then it would be time for the gentleman from New York to complain. If the Republicans have any regard for their own dignity they will rebuke those who are trickery prepare papers for others to sign. When the struggle in Illinois commenced, Mr. GREELEY and others met in the parlor of Senator DOUGLAS, plotting and planning to sell Illinois and Missouri too. He (KELLOGG) knew it and could prove it. He never loved a traitor. The idea was to make Mr. DOUGLAS Senator—to re-elect him—and it was done. Mr. DOUGLAS, in the meantime, was declaring that he was a Democrat. When the battle had been fought, Mr. GREELEY did say that Mr. DOUGLAS was a Free Soiler, good enough for him. He (KELLOGG) had no knowledge or recollection that he signed the recommendation for the Helper book. He never saw it. There was not a man in his district who would trample on the constitutional rights of the South. The North was becoming less anti-slavery Democratic, and the South stronger and stronger Democratic, and the time would soon come when a great majority of the people would be Republican.

Mr. McCLERNAND replied that if such a consultation occurred, how came his colleague (KELLOGG) to know it? If the consultation was private, he, as an individual, would have scorned to reveal what was said. It was strange that such a charge should now be made, after it was known that Mr. GREELEY had endeavored to defeat Mr. DOUGLAS' re-election, employing unscrupulous means to that purpose. Money, too, to that end was raised in New York, whether by Mr GREELEY's influence or not he could not say. Mr. GREELEY not only used his press but his private influence to defeat Mr. DOUGLAS. Illinois has always been Democratic. She is for the Union, the whole Union, and the rights of the South and North. He condemned Mr. SEWARD's sentiments. The Republican movement had been prolific of the most deplorable consequences, which he proceeded to detail. Towards the conclusion of his remarks he said the question was whether they should elect a Speaker standing on a national or sectional platform. He was for the former.

Mr. KELLOGG, in reply, said he was not at the conference, but what he had stated was the fact. He was pleased with the remarks of his colleague, Mr. McCLERNAND, who, it had been said, was not in full communion with his party.

Mr. WHITE said the Republicans were anxious to organize the House. He off red a resolution, which was adopted, to invite the clergymen of the city to open the session of the House with prayer.

Mr. MORRIS, of Ill, wanted to know his colleague's authority for his statements alleging an agreement between DOUGLAS and GREELEY, such as has been the ged.

Mr. KELLOGG did not think proper to make the declaration.

Mr. MORRIS replied, that if he had been in a private parlor, he should not have detailed private conversation. This was the first time he had heard that charge. He believed that there was not one iota of truth in it. Mr DOUGLAS was elected by the Democracy of that State, which had adopted him as its man. Herald a few more such scenes as those of yesterday, and we should hear the crack of the revolver, and see the gleam of the burnished knife.

Mr. GARNETT regretted that any personal affairs should have entered into this discussion, and that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KELLOGG) should have resorted to any game of strategy to gain a temporary advantage by supporting the resolution of Mr CLARK. He had a higher motive. He wanted to know at the threshold what are the purposes and sentiments of the North. He spoke of those who sigled the recommendation for the circulation of HELPER's compendium in terms of condemnation, saying that the infamous creature HELPER was taken into FRANCIS P BLAIR's confidence. He alluded to the meetings at the North, sympathising with Mr. BROWN and his schemes for invading Virginia to run off slaves, and render slaves valueless. When Gen. WALKER got up his expedition to invade Nicaragua, gentlemen appealed to the neutrality laws to prevent him, but here you invade a sister State and nothing is done to prevent it. If you wish to preserve the Union, you must go home to the North, and put down Abolitionism; you must do for us what we do for foreign nations.

Mr. EDMUNDS, in the course of his remarks, said the correspondence brought to light shows that SEWARD is implicated in the proceedings to excite servile insurrection, the object of which is to precipitate the South as a bleeding victim at the feet of the northern power. [Applause.] We will, he said, have explicit avowals on this and other subjects [Applause.] The gentlemen from New York (Mr. PALMER) remarked on Monday that they would put the negro out. Let us see you do it. [Applause.] He then argued that the Constitution protected slavery, and made it a part of the federal government, as it is an important element of the federal power.

Mr. KELLOGG, in response to an inquiry of Mr. LAMAR, said, namely, that Slavery is a State, not a national institution, beyond that it has no warrant in the Federal Constitution. As Slavery is a great moral, political and social evil, he would resist by all constitutional power its extension to the Territories.

Mr. LAMAR asked, are you not in favor of exerting the power of Congress to exclude slavery from the Territories in order that there may be no more Slave States?

Mr. KELLOGG—Before my country and God, I declare the blighting curse of Slavery shall never extend beyond its present limits. (Applause.)

Mr LAMAR asked whether he believed the exclusion from the Territories by law of Congress was the constitutional way?

Mr. KELLOGG—I do.

Mr. LAMAR—Silence, ye gods, these dumb Republicans, and cause them speak their sentiments. (Applause and laughter.)

Since a member said, one speaker at a time. (Excessive laughter.)

Mr. LAMAR—I am exceedingly glad to hear that ludicrous remark. (Protracted laughter.) As the gentleman from New York (Mr. CLARK) yesterday said, there is no Abolitionist at the North. I would recommend to him a sentiment from the Bible, namely, "Know thyself." (Excessive laughter.)

Mr. NELSON favored Mr. GILMER's substitute, proposing to ignore the agitation of the slave question. While no man would go farther than he in denouncing HELPER's infamous pamphlet, he would not give it gravity and importance by discussion. He agreed not with extremists either at the North or South, and proceeded to show the progress of nullification in South Carolina, and abolitionism in the North. He eulogized ex-President FILLMORE, and spoke of his patriotism and ability, which remarks called forth applause from all parts of the House. In conclusion, he made an eloquent and stirring appeal to the patriotism of members, to make sacrifices on the altar of the country, which was frequently applauded

Mr WINSLOW asked the House informally to pass over the pending question, and have a vote for Speaker.

Cries of "agreed," "vote."

On motion of Mr PHELPS, there was a call of the House, and all the members were found to be present, except Messrs ADAMS, of Kentucky, ADRAIN, of New Jersey, STALLSWORTH and LANDRUM, of Alabama, and SMITH, of North Carolina.

Mr FOSS replied to Mr NELSON. He thought the remarks of the latter was, after his remarks and declaration that he was a slaveholder, likely to lose the respect of slaveholders.

Mr NELSON—I have no apprehension from you. (Sensation).

Mr. FOSS—I am not to be disturbed by anything you may say or dare to do. He then proceeded to say that Mr NELSON had endeavored to put the South in a position they would not sustain. The gentleman from Tennessee had said the House he loved the Constitution, but his language, above all others, was calculated to hurry on an inevitable catastrophe.

A long running debate ensued between Messrs. FOSS and NELSON, which threatened once or twice to become personal. Each endeavored to prove himself the greatest friend of the South.

Several gentlemen asked questions of Mr. NELSON, which he pertinently and good humoredly answered. Mr NELSON repelled, as a foul calumny, the charge that he had any political association with Republicans

Mr. FOSS said he would scorn himself to be involved in any personal altercation. He on his responsibility reaffirmed what he had said of Mr. NELSON; namely: That Mr. NELSON was, whether willfully or not, he was virtually intimately in alliance with the Republican opposition.

Mr NELSON replied he was responsible to his constituents for his sentiments, and again denied such an association as was charged.

The House then proceeded to vote for Speaker, and the following was the result:—SHERMAN 107, BOCOCK 88, GILMER 22, Scattering 14. Whole number of votes 231. Necessary to a choice 116.

Senate.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Mr SLIDELL gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill making an appropriation to facilitate negotiations for the acquisition of Cuba

Mr. JOHNSON, of Tennessee, gave similar notice of a Homestead Bill.

Several other notices were given, including one for the construction of a railroad in Pennsylvania avenue, Washington.

Mr. MASON's resolution came up, when Mr TRUMBULL resumed his remarks, showing the importance of an inquiry relative to the sacking of the arsenal at Liberty, Missouri. The seizure of an arms recently is regarded as a matter of great importance, yet the President in his message, never alluded to the seizure of the arsenal in Missouri. A resolution was adopted in March, 1856, calling on the President for all the information in the Department relative to the affairs of Kansas, yet the report of Capt. LEONARD has never been sent to the Senate. He proceeded, in reply to an inquiry by Mr. YULEE, to lay down the principles of the Republican party, reading their platform, and defending the doctrines as therein enunciated.

Mr. BAYLESS inquired if the constitution gave power to establish Slavery there?

Mr TRUMBULL said it was a constitution of freedom and not Slavery. The word slave don't occur in it.

Mr YULEE stated that it appeared then that the whole object of the Republican party was to exclude Slavery from the Territories. He desired to know whether the exclusion did not apply to the District of Columbia, and all the forts and arsenals which were under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government? How was it in the new states of the Union? For a logical sequence his argument would be that slaves are now illegally held in Louisiana and Missouri, and every other new state. He wanted light on these matters, for it was a serious question. The doctrines of the Republican party plant the seeds of revolution—that is a platform on which it is impossible for the country to stand. The Trojan horse has been introduced, out of which will issue armed enemies of the institutions of the country.

Mr TRUMBULL thought the gentleman entirely mistaken as to the principles and views of the Republicans He would endeavor to enlighten them in a calm and candid manner. He did not like to hear them use the word South in this matter. Not more than one-twentieth of the people of the South are slaveholders, and that class should not arrogate to themselves that they are the South. The exclusion of slavery from the territories operates on all alike. Northern man will have no more right to carry slaves there than Southern man. The Republican party had its origin in the question of slavery in the territories. This territorial question was not settled, and the Democratic party unsettled it. He went on to allude to the term Black Republican, which had been used.

Mr. YULEE said the Republican name having been conceived by the framers of the union, the sectional party had not the right to appropriate it without some qualification. He would not call them "black," but would leave it to themselves to supply the designation.

Mr. TRUMBULL replied they call themselves Republicans because they advocate the principles of JEFFERSON. If his party had made any departure from those principles, he would condemn such departure. The fathers of the old Republican party were their models, from whom their principles were taken. The very words in their platform, to which the Senator from Florida objected, were written by the hand of JEFFERSON.

Mr. YULEE—To cease, and not destroy free government.

Mr TRUMBULL—Yes, and we perpetuate free government by maintaining the principles we advocate. The other party call themselves Democrats, when their legislation is all shaped for the interests of the slaveholding aristocracy, comprising only one out of sixty of the inhabitants of the United States.

Mr. CLAY—Do you recognize the right to reclaim fugitive slaves in the Territories?

Mr TRUMBULL—I do under the act of Congress, but not under the Fugitive Slave law, unless it is made applicable

Mr. CLAY—How do you reconcile the obligation in your platform to give all men freedom with the contravening right to reclaim fugitive slaves?

Mr. TRUMBULL—That obligation is merely a repetition of the doctrine enunciated in the Declaration of Independence Our fathers did not undertake to carry out their principles perfectly, as every government is an encroachment, more or less, upon the natural rights of men. They were men who had fled from the despotism of the old world, and enunciated the general principles of carrying them out as far as circumstances permitted.

Mr CLAY—Explain how you can reconcile, as consistent with the personal integrity of the framers of the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution, then holding them as slaves, retaining them as slaves, and distributing them by their last will and testament among their descendants, with the declaration that all men are entitled to life and liberty.

Mr TRUMBULL—Under the circumstances, they did not regard it as a crime to hold slaves.

Mr. CLAY—Are there any circumstances under which crime can be justified, excused or tolerated?

Mr. TRUMBULL—I don't call it a crime in the citizens of the South to hold slaves.

Mr CLAY—Is polygamy a crime? Your platform classes slavery and polygamy together.

Mr. TRUMBULL—It is a crime under some circumstances. I take it that it is not a crime in Turkey.

Mr. CLAY (interrupting)—I thank you for that concession in this Christian country.

Mr. TRUMBULL—We regard it as a crime, but other nations do not regard it so. I don't regard holding slaves as a crime as they are often held in the Southern States. I think it is a wrong, but it is better to endure a wrong than undertake to right it by a greater evil.

Mr. FOSS asked if he spoke for his party or for himself alone.

Mr. TRUMBULL said he spoke for himself, and explained the principles of the Republican party, as understood by the people of the North West, who are a conservative, union loving and law abiding people.

Mr. DAVIS referred to the fact that Mr. TRUMBULL had not only introduced an amendment to embarrass the resolution, but made a long speech on the general subject of slavery, at the time when the importance of speedy action was apparent to everybody. Mr. TRUMBULL complains that the President did not send the information he wanted; but why did he not call for it again? It is not true, that a large number of arms were taken at Liberty, or that a large number of them were kept. Only enough were taken to arm about one hundred men and three light pieces of field artillery. They were not kept two weeks, and when they were returned, the whole amount of expense for repairs and losses was only four hundred dollars. This is the transaction held up as a parallel to the recent foray into the State of Virginia. The Senator had said more lives were lost in consequence of taking the arsenal at Liberty than at Harper's Ferry. He did not know as these arms were ever used. The department had no information that they were. They were taken for the purpose of preserving order and to harm no one. Neither had any one engaged in that transaction been rewarded with a federal office on account of the part he took therein. It was becoming in the Governor of Pennsylvania to offer assistance to the Governor of Virginia, and equally becoming of Mr. WISE to decline it.

Mr. MASON—There was no offer made, and of course it could not have been declined.

Mr. DAVIS—I saw it so stated in the newspapers.

Mr MASON appealed to both sides of the senate to let a vote be taken without further debate. If the amendment should be adopted, he would wash his hands of the whole matter, being satisfied that it could result in no good

Mr. WILSON said some remarks made the other day demanded a reply, but he had no wish to embarrass the investigation. He saw no particular emergency requiring haste; action and negroes commanded a good price, and this was an evident attempt to get up a panic that sentiment, for the purpose of calling out gentlemen at the north, of the 5th avenue stripe, who have long purses, and make large contributions. He proceeded to reply to Mr. IVERSON's remarks relating to public sentiment in the north, and declared that freedom of speech did not exist in the south, illustrating to several cases where people had been expelled or mobbed, for expressing obnoxious sentiments. During his remarks, a colloquy occurred, in which Mr. IVERSON said they would tar and feather every one in the south who preached sedition. (Applause in the galleries).

Messrs. BROWN and BRAGG participated in the colloquy.

Mr. WILSON had no defence to make of the action of the Massachusetts Senate, and spoke in severe terms of Gov WISE, whose whole life, he said, had been one of agitation. He believed that an investigation would show that he (Wise) and his confederates had formed a plan, in case FREMONT was elected President, to seize the city of Washington and Harper's Ferry, the very act for which he has hung Brown.

The Senate then adjourned till Monday.

House of Representatives.

The House was opened with prayer.

Mr. DAVIS of Miss. rose to make a speech.

A running discussion ensued on the pending proposition, whether it was relevant to make speeches, as the previous question had heretofore been demanded and seconded, to cut off discussion on Mr. CLARK's resolution, and Mr. GILMER's substitute.

The Clerk subsequently rose to put the question as had been proposed, whether it was competent for him to decide questions of order, pending the election of a Speaker.

Mr. MILLSON objected to a private citizen elected by a former House as its subordinate officer, presiding over this body.

Mr. GROW agreed with Mr. MILLSON, and would not favor a violation of the express law of Congress.

Mr. MAYNARD differed from both these gentlemen. The points of order were then withdrawn.

Mr. DAVIS (Miss.) was in favor of a continuation of harmony. He believed the Government wanted saving. He was not a Democrat per se, and would make as many sacrifices as any man to preserve the Union. But notwithstanding his devotion to the Union, there are evils greater than the Union itself. He insisted on a strict observance of the constitution, in order to secure every section of the country its just equality and rights. It was the duty of all conservative and patriotic men to rally to the support of the Democracy, the only national party, to put down the abolition spirit. There was, notwithstanding what had been said to the contrary, great cause of alarm to the country We should act instantly, or it will be altogether too late. He quoted from the speeches of Mr. SEWARD to show that dangerous sentiments were avowed to distract the country, and accomplish the overthrow of the South. To say that the latter of these sentiments were conflicting and irreconcilable, was a declaration of war, and hence the South were alarmed, and look to their defence. He earnestly appealed to all patriots to put down treasonable designs. In alluding to remarks heretofore made by Republicans, he said that armed men had been sent to the South to kill their people, and deprive them of their property. Could the South be patient under these circumstances, and could they be blamed for being on their guard against the foe? We of the South want peace. Let the North stand by the compact of our fathers. He said SEWARD is a traitor and deserves the gallows. (Applause on the Southern side). Virginia has hung the traitor Brown, and if they get hold of SEWARD they will hang him. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. MORRIS, of Pennsylvania, said that, occupying a perfectly independent position, he was at liberty to vote on all questions according to his sense of duty to his country. He was opposed to all unnecessary agitation of the subject of Slavery, and did not wish to discuss it unless it came before them in a legislative way. This wicked Administration countenanced every act of violence and fraud on the people of Kansas, and brought into Congress a constitution fraudulent from the beginning to the end, and which would not stand the test of examination. His friend (Mr. SHERMAN) here stood nobly firm for the rights of the people against the Government, standing up for his own, or any other section. He wished for this the gentleman should have his vote so long as there was any probability of his election. He knew the gentleman was a friend to protection of domestic industry and would so organize the committees as would secure the fair consideration of that question. He was a man of just temper and mind, and incapable of perverting the rules into an instrument of despotism. An objection has been urged against Mr SHERMAN signing the recommendation of Helper's book. He (MORRIS) did not sign nor had he read the book So far as he understood, it was written by a native of a Southern State It was almost exclusively addressed to Southern men, and showed the experience of Southern men as to the value of Southern labor. Gentlemen magnify the book and make it a formidable engine of mischief to the peace of this country. Had not his friends declared that it was against that book as far as it contemplated an infringement on the constitutional rights of the South? What had the House to do with Helper's book? Were they as a college of Jesuits to expurge the literature of the book, and were they to act as censors of every incendiary work? It was a most extraordinary proceeding, and lifted HELPER into a consequence he never dreamed of obtaining. Who repealed the Missouri compromise and broke the bonds of peace? The Democratic party. Who gave up the Kansas-Nebraska bill? The Democratic party. Who refused to carry out the provisions of the Kansas bill, deluding Kansas by saying she should have a free expression of her will, and then denying it? The Democratic party, and yet gentlemen were to sit in this hall, and have the whole north accused of acts of conspiracy against the southern States. Was it fair? Was it honorable and fair dealing that the proceedings of small bodies in the north should be taken as indicies of all those living in that section? He (MORRIS) was ready to condemn such outrages, and he would not be made *particeps criminis*, and it was libel and calumny to hold them and the North responsible for the actions of a band of bad men. It might as reasonably be charged that the whole South were responsible for the ordinances passed by South Carolina, nullifying the laws of the United States, and providing for armed resistance. The man who was then President was a citizen of Tennessee, and in his course in that subject, met a hearty response not only from the East and West, but from the South.—The proceedings of the Nashville Convention, too, fell dead on the loyal heart of the South. He would never despair of making the Constitution and the Union perpetual, and hoped that they would all live together as a band of brothers But they never could live peacably as long as gentlemen come into this House and impugn the motives of others and involve innocent people in the acts of criminals.

Mr. MOORE, of Alabama, in reply to Mr. MORRIS, said that such charge as the gentleman mentioned, had never been made by the South on the entire people of the North. He knew there were men in the North as true to the constitution as in the South. But when it was said that in the North, there was no sympathy for John Brown, it was a libel. The papers of Illinois were full of demonstrations of sympathy, and some were in mourning for John Brown.

Mr. GREELEY, a prominent organ of the Republican party, said in his paper that in future time, Brown's name will be held in glory and honor. So far as he knew the sentiments of those he represented, he but expressed his deliberate conviction when he said that the success of a purely sectional party would virtually be dissolution of the Union. If the Republican party could be defeated, the Union would be preserved But if such a party were to succeed, the sooner the Union is dissolved, the better. The South were on the defensive, and if they could not get their rights in the Union and under the constitution, they were prepared to have their rights out of it.

Mr. COMWIN suggested that the House should take the course resorted to in the House when the New Jersey contested election case prevented prompt organization. On that occasion the Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS was elected as Chairman, until a Speaker was elected It had been his fortune to witness here every one of the crises to which reference had been made in the debate. He was here during the Nullification times, and in 1850. If gentlemen could now summon to their aid the calm and wise course which animated gentlemen in those times, all unpleasant feelings would be removed. (Applause.) He had heard with infinite pain the repeated threats that if the Republican Party were successful in the Presidential election, the South would be willing to encounter the fatal consequences of a dissolution of the Union.

Mr LAMAR.—Did not Ex-President FILLMORE make that very threat?

Mr. COMWIN replied that he dared say that such an assertion was made prior to Mr. FILLMORE's election as Vice-President. He did express in a formal manner every opinion held by the Republican party at this day, but it was found, when he succeeded to the Presidency, that he so administered the government as to secure the approbation of every conservative man North and South for his impartiality. So would it happen to every conservative man who comes into the Presidency. No matter what speculations he may have previously expressed, he will execute his constitutional powers. He did not think it fair to judge the Republican party by what Mr. SEWARD or any other man had said He had never read the speech of that Senator which was so repeatedly quoted from. There were hundreds of thousands of men who vote with the Republicans who had never read it, for there were men in that party who do not consider themselves the worshipers of any idol.

As to the charge that Mr. SEWARD was implicated in the conduct of John Brown, Mr. COMWIN said no man could be convicted on such questionable testimony as was sought to be produced. He thought that this mode of criminating men ought to be put away He doubted not, if they would trace the history of our country, they would all find something they would be willing to forget. If every man would examine himself, he would find something to regret, and it is so of parties and governments In the course of his remarks, he said the principles of the Republicans were those of the framers of our institution, and for this he held himself responsible, but only as a lawyer (Laughter.) He differed from some men who voted with that party As to Helper's book, he did not believe it would change the opinion of a single man, woman or child on the face of the earth

Mr. COMWIN resumed, and in the course of his remarks said that the South were entitled to a good law relative to fugitives, and such was his belief concerning the people of Ohio His speech was somewhat discursive, and much that he said left the House in exceeding good humor. He thought there was no occasion to quarrel

Mr Cox argued that the doctrines of the Republicans of Ohio were subversive of the Constitution. Out off the western reserve and it would be as strongly Democratic as any State in the Union. He said that Mr COMWIN was supporting men and a platform which had no affinity with the Fugitive Slave Law the perpetuity of the Union, or the sanctity of the federal compact. He asked Mr. SHERMAN whether he believed in the Fugitive Slave Law. Mr. SHERMAN declined, as he did the other day, to reply to any interrogatories, and referred to his public record for the last four years. He did not expect the support of gentlemen on that side of the House. (Applause.)

Mr. COX said that Mr SHERMAN had an opportunity to manifest his love for the Free States when the Oregon bill came up, but he went out of the door so fast that you could have sat on his coat tail. (Laughter.)

Mr. SHERMAN said he was engaged with a special committee at the time.

Mr. COX replied that all the members of the special committee, with the exception of Mr. SHERMAN voted, and concluded by exposing what he called the mania of the Republican Party in Ohio.—Adjourned.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The Senate is not in session.

House of Representatives.

Mr. MORRIS, of Illinois, rising to a privileged question, claimed to be freed from the rebuke implied in the remarks of Mr. KELLOGG, that two years ago Mr. GREELEY was plotting and conspiring with Senator DOUGLAS in the parlor of the latter, to re-elect him Senator by holding out the politicks of Illinois.

Mr. MORRIS also claimed to be freed Mr. GREELEY's publication, denying the truth of the charge, and while defending Mr. DOUGLAS's doctrines, admitting his pluck.

Mr. KELLOGG replied, that but for the fact that he had been personally assailed in the infamous article in the TRIBUNE, he would not have said a word, as he was anxious for an organization. He said that Horace GREELEY and Judge DOUGLAS had been put on trial, and gave notice that he should hereafter prosecute the issue.

Mr. CLARK, of Missouri, was called out by a remark of Mr. KELLOGG, that a report had prevailed that according to arrangements the Missouri Senatorship was to be given to Mr. BLAIR.

He believed this charge against Mr. DOUGLAS was falsehood, but he did not attach importance to the statement of GREELEY, whom he believed to be of a character unworthy the notice of a gentleman in or out of Congress.

Mr. KELLOGG repeated that as an issue had been made he would meet it fairly. He disclaimed having made any attack on DOUGLAS. He dealt with GREELEY.

Mr. LOGAN said the charge was made to injure Mr. DOUGLAS, who is the candidate for the Presidency of the great North West. The effort was to depreciate Mr DOUGLAS in the estimation of the South, by associating him with Mr. GREELEY. From this time, he would never again notice his colleague, who shrinks from the responsibility of bringing forward proofs in support of his charges. When he, (LOGAN,) made a charge in the Legislature of Illinois, and was called on for proof, he did not, like a coward, stick into a corner.

At this point Mr. KELLOGG, who was sitting near Mr. LOGAN, advanced to carry him, as if with hostile intention. LOGAN perceiving the movement, put himself in an attitude for combat. Gentlemen at once sprung to the scene, some aiding LOGAN, and others controlling KELLOGG. There was very much excitement, and members all over the Hall were in agitation.

The clerk, amid the din and stirring events, loudly called to order, and requested gentlemen to take their seats, and soon the two Illinois gentlemen were widely separated by distance.

Mr. LOGAN resumed. He said he was perfectly cool.

Mr MORRIS, of Pa., called for the sergeant-at-arms. Order was after a while restored.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Louisiana, said it was time such proceedings should cease. (Applause.) The time had arrived when this species of discussion, which could lead to nothing but irritation, should terminate, and the representatives of the people should proceed to an election quietly and decently. They should have some competent person to preserve order.

Mr. LOGAN said he had yielded the floor only for a moment. Gentlemen need have no apprehension of a difficulty between his colleague and himself. (Hisses.)

Mr. TAYLOR said they should have an organization, and then there would be an opportunity to discuss all these matters in order. The interruption at first quieted, would have terminated in a permanent interruption, and perhaps in an adjournment, if it had not been for the interposition of the friends of the respective gentlemen from Illinois. (Applause)

Mr LOGAN remarked if he was to be hissed, he would merely say that he had as many rights here to be respected as any one else. (Applause)

Mr. FARR said that the applause should be made to cease by the clearing of the galleries.

Mr. GROW hoped they would first stop it on the floor.

Mr. BURNETT remarked that when it was charged that the galleries were responsible, he said that the responsibility rested with those who by the hisses on the floor. (Applause in the galleries). He wanted the responsibility to fall where it belonged.

Mr. FARNSWORTH did not want this hall converted into a bear garden.

Mr. MAYNARD said there were no means to prevent the applause and hissing until a presiding officer was elected.

Mr. LOGAN resumed his remarks, and eulogized in high terms the character of Mr DOUGLAS, and pronounced the charge against him false in every respect.

Mr. McCLERNAND produced a letter from Mr. DOUGLAS, who branded the charge as false.

Mr. LOGAN commented on the action of the Republican party in Illinois in terms of reprobation. He alluded to the fact that in Chicago a meeting had been held sympathising with John Brown, and no Republican raised his voice against it. In conclusion, he addressed a few remarks to the Anti-Lecompton Democrats, urging them to act with the Democratic party, and let the past issues be buried in oblivion.

Mr. CLARK, of New York.—Will the gentleman inform me whether he approves the territorial policy of the present administration?

Mr. LOGAN—I repeat, let past issues be buried in oblivion. You know the position taken by Mr. DOUGLAS, in Illinois, and you know he was triumphantly elected. That is enough.

Mr. CLARK—Will the Democratic nominee for Speaker, if elected, so organize the committees that Kansas shall be admitted without restriction?

Mr. LOGAN—I never asked him that question. It never entered into my mind. I have entire confidence in the Democratic nominee.

Mr. HARRIS inquired whether in case the Charleston Convention should adopt a platform in opposition to the views of Mr. DOUGLAS, and if that Convention endorsed and approved the conduct of this Administration, as well with regard to its Kansas policy as all other matters, he would support the nominee of that Convention?

Mr. LOGAN replied that he was about twenty-eight years old, and had lived long enough to discover that the Democratic party never does wrong. (Laughter). He had never known the Democratic party in national convention to endorse a platform that was not consistent with his view. Hearing that convention, he would not anticipate what they might do, but would say that he would vote for the nominee of that convention anyhow. (Expressions of delight on the Democratic side of the House.)

Mr. HARRIS—I will not. I will ask another question. Does the gentleman believe that the territorial Legislature of Kansas could exclude slavery or abolish it?

Mr. LOGAN—I profess to be a Democrat, neither Lecompton nor anti-Lecompton. As I have said, I know and I speak for the rank and file of the Democrat. I am for STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, for President of the United States, first, last, and all the time. If he is not nominated, I am for the next man, that is the man who is nominated. [Applause.]

Mr HARRIS asked whether he would sustain the nominee, if the platform resolved to protect slavery in the territories?

Mr. LOGAN—Wait till the Democratic platform does that, and I will tell you.

Mr. HARRIS said at the last session of Congress, the Republican members of the House put themselves squarely on the anti-Lecompton platform. He was in favor of the organization of the House, and had opposed all this rambling debate. He held in perfect abhorrence the appeals made to him to come to the support of those who sustain the infamous policy of this Administration, with reference to the admission of Kansas. He would never vote for any man for Speaker, who voted for the Lecompton policy of this administration, or who approves of its its corrupt action, and its proscription as well in Illinois as elsewhere. Mr. HARRIS, in reply to a question whether he would vote for the Republican candidate, said he would vote for any gentleman on this side the House, who came nearer to my platform than the gentleman on the other side who voted for the Lecompton Constitution. I say further, I will do all in my power to prevent the organization of this House, by the election of the Administration candidate.

Mr. LOGAN said he came here a Democrat, and expected to support a Democrat. He had differed from childhood from the Republicans, and would never affiliate with them.

Mr. HARRIS—If this Republican side of the House affiliated with me, I shall be most happy to receive their support. I come here an independent man, with no collar round my neck. If the Republicans put themselves on the popular sovereignty doctrine, which I believe in, opposing the infamous extravagance and gross corruption of this administration, I would sooner cooperate with them than with those who go with the gentlemen of the South in supporting a fraudulent constitution for the purpose of bringing a Slave State into the Union.

Mr. FLORENCE, of Pa., said he would take occasion at another time to answer his friend in regard to the corruptions of the administration of which he had spoken.

Mr. STANTON, of Ohio, obtained the floor, but was willing to yield it if the House desired to proceed to the immediate election of a Speaker, provided he had could subsequently have the floor.

Mr. WINSLOW, with that view, moved that the House now proceed to the election of a Speaker. Agreed to.

The result was—

Whole number of votes	231
Necessary to a choice	116
Mr. SHERMAN had	110
Mr. BOCOCK had	88
Mr. GILMER had	20
Scattering	1

Mr. HICKMAN, of Pa., offered a resolution for the adoption of the plurality rule, which was declared out of order at this time.

Mr. WINSLOW moved an adjournment till Monday,

Negatived by 25 majority.

A motion was made to adjourn till to-morrow, and defeated by the same vote.

Mr. HICKMAN again attempted to offer his resolution.

At twenty minutes past four the House adjourned

Continued on the inside.

From the River Plate.

A correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* writing from Buenos Ayres, Oct. 21, says:

The first great event of the existing war occurred on Oct. 15, at the island of Martin Garcia. That island is opposite Buenos Ayres, and within musket-shot of the Uruguayan shore, and the channel of the Rio Plata lies close by the island. Buenos Ayres, since the declaration of war, has fortified the place with a small garrison and about 20 guns, and there are always lying there small craft, having about 10 guns more. A part of the fleet of the Confederation, which was all purchased and fitted out below that fortification, has long been hesitating whether to attempt to pass or not. On Oct. 14th, they made the effort at 9 o'clock in the morning. The three steamers approached, having in tow two sailing vessels, and with this impediment they proceeded under full steam, receiving, for the space of two miles, the fire from the shore. In the channel they had to pass in single file, and as the guns on shore were arranged, they had to pass one succession of streaming grape and ball, at a distance of not exceeding ten yards. The action, on both sides, was one of great coolness and bravery, the men often fighting with sabres, and throwing cannon balls by hand, over the sides of the ships. One small sailing vessel, belonging to the island lost six men, and every man besides was wounded, when the stern being cut off by a passing steamer, she was forced on shore. The loss to Urquiza's fleet must be considerable; but how great it is, etc. as yet be only conjectured. The garrison had about 50 men.

Two days before this event, there arrived into the city Don FRANCISCO SOLANO LOPEZ, son of the President of Paraguay, on a mission of congratulation. He was received with military honors, conducted by the General Commandant of Garrison, in the coach of the Governor, which was drawn by four white horses. Thousands gathered on the wharf to see him. Lopez to give emphasis to his welcome, Gen. LOPEZ has formally offered his mediation, which has been accepted, and he has proceeded to ask a suspension of hostilities, to which both armies, after being drawn in sight of each other for a month, will most likely accede.

While the last week the fleet of this country anchored off Rosario, and from a safe distance fired for nearly two whole day upon the batteries of that city, dismounting some guns, and killing, it is said, about twenty men. The city has since been declared under martial law. The vessels received no damage in return. The government organ of this city declares that Gen. URQUIZA's retirement to private life is the first and absolute condition of a peace. As his term of office expires in November, and as the elections are progressing through the provinces, thus far unanimously indicating Vice-President DERQUIS as the next President, there will be no doubt of his retirement.

With the termination of December, the constitutional period for the adjournment of the Argentine Congress arrives, and the closing message will be delivered by the Vice President.—Gen. URQUIZA being in the field with the troops.

The U. S. Minister, Hon. A. G. YANCEY, presented his commission to the Confederation, to take effect Sept. 27th, and next day conferred for the United States, with Lendon and Paris, at Montevideo he said his fourth, at Rio Janeiro, Gen. T. SHARPE, Esq., who proceeds at once to Paraguay, to fill the duties of Secretary, and, in the absence of the Minister, to act also the duties of Charge.

The latest accounts from the exploring expedition under the command of Captain PAGE, U. S. N., are dated at Villa Maria, Brazil, a little town upon the river Paraguay. They expected to proceed thence down and fifty miles higher to Diamantina, the region of diamonds. No disaster or disappointment had occurred, except the accidental death of Mr. MARTIN, one of the hands, who, in hunting birds, carrying his gun through a thicket, received the contents in his head, and died in a few minutes.

The Last Days of Washington Irving.

N. P. WILLIS, in the *Home Journal*, after giving an account of the last days and funeral of WASHINGTON IRVING, says:—

Mr. IRVING had been for some time aware of the unc