WHAT CONGRESS IS DOING.

THE NEW CURRENCY BILL PASSED BY THE SENATE.

Adding to the River and Harbor Appropriations. The Debate on Civil Service Reform Continued in the House.

WASHINGTON, June 12.—Senator Carpenter (Rep., Wis.) from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, reported adversely on the Senate bill to further protect the polls in elections for President, Vice-President, and members of Congress, with a written report, and the committee was discharged from a further consideration of the subject.

Mr. Stockton (Rep., N. J.), by request, introduced a bill to construct a tunnel under the East river, between New York and Brooklyn, and under the Hudson river, between New York and Jersey City. Referred to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. It proposes to authorize the New York Tunnel Company and associates to construct a tunnel or tunnels under the Hudson and East rivers, to connect New York city with Brooklyn and Jersey City.

Mr. Sargent (Rep., Cal.) introduced a bill relating to mail contracts. It provides that the Postmaster-General, if good cause is shown to his satisfaction, may extend for thirty days the time for filing bonds for the performance of contracts for mail service, provided this extension shall not be beyond the date for the commencement of the service.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of unfinished business, being the report of the conference committee on

THE FINANCE BILL.

Mr. Sargent opposed any compromise on this question, and said the history of all compromises should teach the Senate that no good grew out of them. He referred to the pledges of the Republican party, and the inaugural address of President Grant, to pay every dollar of the public indebtedness in gold, and contended that Congress had no right to violate these pledges.

The Chairman (Mr. Ingalls) announced that the question was upon agreeing to the report of the committee of conference. No Senator taking the floor, he directed that the roll call proceed.

A violent rain storm was prevailing at the time, and the noise upon the metallic roof was so great that a Senator could not be heard across the chamber; therefore business had to be suspended for a short time.

Mr. Stewart (Rep., Nev.) took the floor and said it was very evident that the Chairman was not heard by the Senators when he directed the roll to be called. He then proceeded to oppose the bill as perfected by the committee, and said the produce of the country was now being robbed by the printing machine in making greenbacks. He did not favor any compromise, and said the bill was in the interest of expansion. It was so framed that no one would understand it, and it would cost millions and millions of dollars to interpret it, as all kinds of constructions would be put upon it. He thought the bill must have originated in a wind storm or a mud storm. It consisted of a lot of phrases put together, which meant nothing. He opposed the eighth section of the bill in regard to the redemption of legal tenders in bonds in 1878, and said it would be better to fix the time for redemption in 1880, and then return to actual specie payment and not redeem in bonds.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

Mr. Chandler (Rep., Mich.), from the Committee on Commerce, reported with amendments the River and Harbor Appropriation bill. Placed on the calendar, with the understanding that he would call it up for consideration on Monday next.

The report recommends the insertion of the following items: $25,000 for the improvement of the Detroit river, $25,000 for the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers, Georgia; $10,000 for the Appalachicola river, Fla.; $5,000 for the Choctawhatchee river, Ala.; $5,000 for Elk river, and $5,000 for Chester river at Kent, Md.; $10,000 for the harbor and pier at Newcastle, Del.; $10,000 for Lewes, Del.; $10,000 for Fall river, Mass.; and $5,000 for Milford, Conn. The committee recommend striking out the entire second section of the bill, which directs surveys and examinations to be made at a large number of specified points throughout the country, and striking out the appropriation of $55,000 made by the House for this purpose. They also strike out the items of $60,000 for the improvement of White river above Jacksonport, and $25,000 for Black river. Most the item of $50,000 for the Falls of St. Anthony is made applicable also to the improvement of the Mississippi river above them.

MONEY PLENTY.

The consideration of the currency question was resumed.

Mr. Morrill (Rep., Me.) referred to the fact that money was plenty, and said in the money centers of the country it was stagnant. He reviewed the action of the Senate in 1873, and denied that it was a black currency. He did not think it would hurt the American people to pause awhile. If less money be invested in useless railways and unprofitable enterprises during the next two years, it would be better for the country. He would be sorry if the impression prevailed by which the financial question could be settled, and which in its practical operations would be beneficial, but he could not see his way clear to vote for it.

Mr. Hager (Dem., Cal.) said he had always voted against any measure not calculated to bring about specie payment. He could not do any thing in the part of the majority in attempting to make any concessions which would result in specie payment.

THE BILL PASSED.

At half past 4 o'clock the vote was taken, and the report was agreed to—yeas, 32; nays, 23, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alcorn, Anthony, *Howard*, Boutwell, Buckingham, Conkling, Dennis, Flanagan, Freling-huysen, *Frelinghuysen*, Gordon, Hamlin, Hamilton (Texas), Hitchcock, Ingalls, Jones (Nev.), Kellogg, Lewis, Morrill (Me.), Morrill (Vt.), Norwood, Patterson, Ramsey, Sargent, Sherman, Stewart, Stockton, *Thurman*, Wadleigh—32.

NAYS—Messrs. Bogy, Dennis, Lewis, and Windom, who will have voted for the report, were coerced into voting against it by Wadleigh, and *Stevenson*, who would have voted against it.

On motion of Mr. West, the Post Office Appropriation bill was taken up.

The Senate then, at 4:35 P. M., went into executive session, and afterward adjourned until to-morrow.

House of Representatives.

Mr. Hale (Rep., Me.), from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill appropriating $50,000 to enable the Secretary of War to execute the acts of April 23, 1874, and May 28, 1874, for the relief of persons suffering from the overflow of the lower Mississippi river, of the Tombigbee, Warrior, and Alabama rivers, and of the Tennessee river, the authority of the Secretary to expire on the first of September next. Passed.

Mr. Butler (Rep., Mass.) moved to suspend the rules and make in order to the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill a section directing preference in appointments to office to be given to soldiers and sailors and their dependant relatives, to diminish and stop the expense of carrying on examinations by boards of commissioners of others travelling around the country at the public charge, and to do away with the detailing of clerks of the departments to sit in judgment on their fellow clerks, exercising thereby the appointing power which is by the Constitution vested in the heads of the several executive departments, who ought to be men of sufficient discretion to appoint their own clerks without being tied up by rules and regulations imposed upon them by boards composed in whole or in part of those very clerks themselves.

The rules were suspended, and the amendment was made in order—yeas, 155; nays, 67.

Mr. R. R. Hoar (Rep., Mass.) moved to suspend the rules and make in order to the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill an item of $25,000 to the Home for the Aged, under the charge of the Little Sisters of the Poor, for the completion of their building, as a home for the aged in the District of Columbia. Agreed to without dissent.

The House then, at 12:45, went into Committee of the Whole on

THE SUNDRY CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL.

The debate on the civil service reform was resumed, being limited by the House to 25 minutes.

Mr. Starkweather (Rep., Conn.) opened the discussion by an indignant protest against the criticisms on the President yesterday. It would be found when the history of these times was considered that the President would not a offer in comparison with any of the gentlemen who had criticised him. Who were the President's accusers? Men with hungry stomachs and diseased imaginations who wanted to get back to power. The people had discussed this question in 1872, and had decided it in favor of the President and of an honest administration, and they would do it again. These accusations were heavy things that would cause the people to vote again to endorse the Administration, and they would do it whenever they got a square issue at the polls.

HOW ABOUT CONNECTICUT?

Mr. Fox (Dem., N. Y.)—They did not do it in Connecticut yesterday. The issue in Connecticut was rum, whiskey, and when the Democrats found that out they looked around in their collars.

Mr. Nibback (Dem., Ind.) regarded the efforts at Civil Service reform as a complete and total failure, because, instead of giving the clerks and employés of the Government a secure tenure of office, it simply embarrassed the President in making his appointments.

Mr. Potter (Dem., N. Y.) agreed with Mr. Nibback as to the failure of the experiment. He believed that the evil in the civil service were the necessary result of the existing condition of things, and that they would not be peculiar without a change in the Constitution which would localize appointments, and thus aid in the speedy realization of power.

Mr. Kasson (Rep., Conn.) spoke in support of his proposition for the carrying out of the civil service rules.

Mr. Garfield (Rep., Ohio) said that the question was not whether the civil service examination was wise or just, and the best thing that could be done. It was whether the Government would any longer try to do anything to better the civil service. He hoped the gentlemen would make that issue fair and square, and would meet it. If no further effort was to be made, if the whole matter was to be abandoned, let it be said that it was plain and square work.

Mr. Kelloggs amendment was then rejected by 48 to 108.

Mr. R. R. Hoar (Rep., Mass.) offered his amendment appropriating $25,000 in aid of the building undertaken by the Little Sisters of the Poor in Washington. He advocated the amendment, stating that the charity of the Little Sisters was exercised without regard to the religious faith of those aided by them. After discussion it was rejected.

The next item, being one of $25,000 for the Women's Christian Association of Washington, was struck out of the bill on a point of order.

THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

Mr. Chipman, Delegate from the District of Columbia, moved an appropriation of $300,000 for continuing the Washington monument, and contended, in opposition to a point of order, that there was authority of law for it in an act of the last century providing for a monument to Washington.

Mr. R. R. Hoar said that that law had been twice executed—in Greenough's statue in the East Capital Park and in Clark Mills's equestrian statue in the circle.

Mr. Chipman replied that these were statues, not monuments.

The Chairman (Mr. Dawes) ruled that the unfinished Washington monument was not a work of the United States heretofore authorized by law, and consequently the amendment was not in order.

On motion of Mr. Hooper (Rep., Mass.) an item of $40,000 was inserted for a lightship near the entrance of New York harbor to mark the site of the wreck of the steamship Scotland. Also, for a fog bell near the entrance of New York harbor.

A motion of Mr. Lamison (Rep., Ohio) to strike out an item of $40,000 for a lighthouse and beacon at Mathias Point, Va., was discussed for some time.

Mr. Sener (Rep., Va.) made a speech against striking out, in which he asserted that the motion was made on the basis of some observations made by members of a pleasure trip, the expenses of which were paid by the Government. Mr. Lamison stated that the lighthouse at Mathias Point was of no earthly use, and that there were enough lighthouses on the Potomac to supply the whole country if they were fairly distributed.

Mr. Sener suggested that Mr. Lamison had "seen double" on that occasion.

Mr. Lamison retorted that Mr. Sener never drank too much unless the liquor was supplied by somebody else. [Laughter.] A man might be drunk when he made a recommendation for that lighthouse, but he would be inexcusable if he insisted on it after he got sober. [Laughter.]

Mr. Sener had the last word, and suggested that before that famous trip down the Potomac in a Government cutter Mr. Lamison had never seen a lighthouse. After a further discussion, the motion to strike out was adopted—87 to 70.

MORE LIGHTHOUSES.

Mr. Platt (Rep., Va.) moved to insert an item of $15,000 for a lighthouse at the mouth of York river, Virginia. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Parker of Missouri the jurisdiction of the Lighthouse Board was extended over the Western rivers.

An item of $20,000 was inserted for a lighthouse at the mouth of Thunder Bay river, Michigan; also, an item of $10,000 was inserted for a fog signal on Yerba Buena Island, San Francisco.

The item of $70,000 for Gatling guns for fortifications was struck out.

On motion of Mr. Wheeler (Rep., N. Y.), a paragraph was inserted declaring the northern part of Woodlawn cemetery, at Elmira, N. Y., occupied by soldiers' graves, a national cemetery as far as concerns the renewal and care of soldiers' headstones and graves.

On motion of Mr. Coburn (Rep., Ind.), an appropriation of $15,000 was made to begin the publication of the "Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, both of the Union and the Confederate armies."

An item of $25,000 was inserted for converting certain buildings in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, into a military prison; also an item of $4,000 for the erection of the military telegraph from Prescott to Camp Verde, and Camp Apache, Arizona.

Having disposed of thirty-nine of the fifty-four pages of the bill, the committee rose and the House adjourned.

ANOTHER CREDIT MOBILIER.

The Central Pacific Railroad Contract and Finance Company.

WASHINGTON, June 12.—Mr. Luttrell of California argued this morning a second time before the House Committee on the Pacific Railroads to show why a special committee of Congress should be appointed to investigate the affairs of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, and especially the transactions of the Contract and Finance Company of that road. Very early in the session he introduced a resolution looking to this end, backed up by a memorial from the Legislature of his State, which were referred to the above committee. For nearly six months he has in vain sought to procure action. After many delays and postponements he was accorded a hearing, and he demonstrated to the entire satisfaction of every sensible man who heard him that Congress was being asked for that which he sought; that the Contract and Finance Company had robbed the stockholders of the Central Pacific and the United States out of many more millions than were perhaps ever handled by the Credit Mobilier; that land and money were fraudulently taken out of their famous operations which were oppressive to the whole people of the Pacific coast, and in fraud of the general public. The most credible testimony was adduced on these points.

Then came the other side, the side of the railroad interest, represented by Pratt, an ex-member of Congress, who is paid $20,000 a year by the Central Pacific Company to watch their interests in Congress, to stave off investigation, and warn his clients of any dangers that arise at the capital. Franchot argued against allowing an investigation, which he would not have done were the company innocent of the frauds charged against it. He abused Mr. Luttrell and instigated attacks upon him by the railroad organs of the Pacific coast and the venal press of Washington, especially Murtagh's *National Republican*. These newspapers have kept up a continual fire upon Luttrell, because he endeavored to discharge an obligation to his constituents, they having demanded his best efforts toward securing the desired investigation, and he having pledged himself to that end.

On the other hand, the press on the side of the people have sustained Luttrell throughout, and he has received a letter from the Governor of his State commending his course in the strongest terms. The committee have at last become aroused to the necessity for some action on their part, and to-night hold a special meeting for the purpose of considering the question. If they report to the House recommending the appointment of a special committee to sit during the recess their report will unquestionably be adopted, and it will then behoove the Speaker to consider well before he selects the men for this important service.

The Servility of the Troy Times Fitly Rebuked.

From the New York Times.

A voice comes to us from Troy, saying, "You mare our party." Gratitude is so uncommon a virtue that we are half inclined to look with indulgence even on a diseased manifestation of it. In this case, gratitude for a foreign mission seems to have paralyzed the judgment. "Speak in a becoming manner," says our friend—that is, do not speak above a whisper. He is so amazed at the condescension which bestows on him the office for a foreign mission that, as they say in the East, he is perpetually raising the eyebrows of astonishment and bending the knees of submission.

Servility Illustrated.

From the Troy Times.

The nomination of J. C. Bancroft Davis as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Berlin is one of the most satisfactory that could have been made.

Significant Queries.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR: THE SUN is quoted throughout the land as a journal bearing the title of fearless and independent; therefore I ask you to submit to the Commissioners of Charities and Correction the following queries:

1. Why was a contract for supplying meats awarded without advertising for proposals, thus enabling all the members of the Board, who is the law provides, "No contract shall be given until proposals have been advertised for?"

2. As the profit named in said contract was not to exceed one half cent per pound, is it right for the purchasing agents to buy meats at three and four cents per pound, to sell them to the Department of Charities and Correction at six and one-half cents per pound?

An answer to these queries will be a source of satisfaction to a TAXPAYER.

M. Rochefort's Lecture.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR: Will you have the goodness to insert the following account of the recent lecture of M. Henri Rochefort at the Academy of Music, on the 5th inst., for the benefit of the exiles of New Caledonia?

Receipts	$1,274 50
Expenses	552 25
Net profits	$722 25

This sum has produced the amount of 3,822.40 francs in a bill of exchange purchased of Messrs. Cayliac, de Fleyres & Co., 57 Beaver street, who have kindly undertaken to see that the money shall reach its destination.

For the committee, A. FLAURAUD, 487 Broadway.

A Vessel Sunk by an Iceberg.

QUEBEC, June 12.—Captain Harris of the Newport reports: On May 24 fell in with two boats containing the crew, seventeen all told, of the Norwegian bark Henrietta, Capt. C. Bull, from Barrow for Bridgewater, N. S., and took them on board. The captain of the Henrietta reported having been in collision with an iceberg on May 20. All hands took to the boats, and the Henrietta sank twenty minutes after the accident. On May 25 sighted the Norwegian bark Fourth November, bound for Quebec, who kindly supplied them with water, and took them on board. The captain, his wife, and four seamen of the Henrietta.

MAKING IT A CONSPIRACY.

WHAT PROMPTED THE DETECTIVES TO PURSUE A PRISONER.

The Line of Defence in the Great Bond Forgery Case. Judge Brady's Embarrassment—The Testimony of Mrs. Roberts.

The trial of Andrew L. Roberts, indicted for complicity in the great railroad bond forgeries of last summer, was resumed in the Over and Terminer yesterday. District Attorney Phelps announced that the prosecution rested. Ex-Mayor Hall then said that the counsel for the defence had asked the District Attorney to elect upon what count or counts of the indictment a conviction would be asked. Mr. Phelps having replied that he would rely on all the counts, Mr. Hall moved that the Court should withdraw from the consideration of the jury the issue presented by the second count, on the ground that there was no evidence of the uttering or publishing by the prisoner of the forged New York Central bond recited in the indictment, nor any evidence of any uttering or attempt to utter any forged bonds whatever. He also moved to strike out the third count, on the ground that the omission of the pleader to mention the fact that the alleged forged bond bore what purported to be the seal of the railroad company rendered this count nugatory. Both motions were overruled by Judge Brady.

Assistant United States District Attorney Purdy made the opening speech to the jury in behalf of the prosecution. He said that the case was of great importance, not only to the community at large and to the prisoner, but to the principal witness for the prosecution and the persons who had in civil suits attached property belonging to the prisoner and others amounting in value to more than $100,000.

THE WIFE OF "SPENCE" PETTUS,

in addition to pecuniary benefits, had before her as an inducement the gratification of her revengeful feelings, excited by the refusal of the prisoner to buy her husband out of the Massachusetts State Prison. Olmstead, the engraver and seal maker, testified under the coercion of threats of extradition of a connection with a gang of counterfeiters, whose willing tool he had been for many years. Smith, the convict witness, knew that if he did not tell a story satisfactory to the detectives who were pursuing the prisoner his reincarceration in Sing Sing, on one of the two indictments for forgery held *in terrorem* over his head, would speedily follow. Finally, the private detective agency which had, by the aid of the real forgers, concocted and organized the conspiracy against the prisoner, were working and testifying under the double motive of hatred for him, that they falsely accused the prisoner of the Adams Express robbery in Connecticut about two years ago, and by the subornation of perjury secured his conviction and sentence to State Prison. But subsequent events satisfied even the prosecuting attorney that

A GREAT WRONG

had been done, and, on the motion of that attorney, now dead, the prisoner was pardoned by the unanimous vote of the State Legislature. This partial failure of this iniquity had the effect of embittering the detectives, and they were ready for another attempt upon the liberty of the prisoner at the first opportunity. Now they were additionally stimulated by the hope of securing the $25,000 offered by subscription among the victims of the real forgers, who, in turn, wished to make good their attachments of property alleged to be the proceeds of the forgeries.

After commenting at length upon the weakness and improbability of the testimony for the prosecution, according to his views, Mr. Purdy declared that he would now outline the purpose of the defence. They intended to prove that the former conviction in Connecticut was a grave error; that "Spence" Pettus and his gang, several of whom were in prison awaiting trial, were the real forgers whom the courts ought to be trying instead of Roberts; that all the proper course between Roberts and Pettus, Olmstead, the engraver, Smith, the felon and self-confessed perjurer, and other suspected persons was purely casual; that the genuine bonds and money attached were the product of honest toil, and could be shown to have been used for purposes for investment in the open market, and generally that the prisoner was a deeply injured and much persecuted man. The speech occupied an hour and a half.

Mrs. Lydia J. Roberts was the first witness called for the defence. She testified that she was the widow of Samuel W. Roberts, the prisoner's brother, who died in August, 1871. She lived then at 207 Tenth avenue, and owned individually the house bearing that number, then and now. On the 15th of August, 1872, she removed to 206 West Twenty-first street. She has always lived in Western New York, and had lived with herself and husband continually from their marriage, having no wife or family of his own. He was in Europe in June and July, 1872, whither he went, thinking the voyage might restore his health, which was then failing. She joined him in Paris, and returned with him when the prisoner was arrested last fall. She resided the conviction of the prisoner in Connecticut for

THE ADAMS EXPRESS ROBBERY,

and was at the hearing of an application for a pardon before a committee of the Legislature of that State. She recollected the testimony then given by Mr. Chapman, the attorney who had prosecuted him.

Without a word the witness was asked to state what the testimony was, and what reasons induced the committee unanimously to report a resolution for the pardon of the prisoner. Mr. Phelps objected. He argued, first that this was not the proper way to prove the facts, and secondly that testimony of the record was probably inadmissible because it was immaterial to the issue presented by the Court in the indictment on this subject.

Judge Brady, after a counter argument by Mr. Purdy, sustained the objection of the District Attorney, and the witness was excused, and the counsel for the defence announced that they would present the same question in a different form.

Mrs. Roberts, continuing her testimony, said that her husband at his death left her considerable property in the shape of Government and railroad bonds. In the management of these bonds her brother-in-law, the prisoner, was her general agent. He had performed the same service for her husband during the protracted illness which resulted in his death. The estate was not chargeable with any debts and it was therefore unnecessary to take out letters of administration. Her brother-in-law collected the moneys due on the coupons of the bonds. What amount she owned she could not now tell exactly, but she thought there were $25,000 of Government, and between $21,000 and $23,000 of Union Pacific and other railroad bonds. Altogether the principal sum was near $56,000. The bonds and money found in her box in the Stuyvesant Safe Deposit Company's vaults were partly the proceeds of and partly the original bonds left her by her husband. She had taken it upon herself to attend to the mixing up of her property with that of her brother-in-law. Before that she kept her securities in a small iron safe

SUNK IN THE CELLAR

of her Tenth avenue house. Her husband was a restaurant keeper and liquor dealer. His business was prosperous for a number of years, and he frequently lent money at interest.

Turning to another branch of the case, she said that she became acquainted with Mrs. Pettus in August, 1871, by employing her as a milliner. There was never any quarrel between them, although Mrs. Pettus once stayed all night with her on account of being belated.

At this point the examination of Mrs. Roberts was suspended for the purpose of calling the Hon. Joseph C. Hurlbut, a member of the Committee on State Prisons of the Legislature of that State which pardoned the prisoner. After the necessary preliminary questions had been asked and answered, Mr. Phelps objected to a question as to the reasons for the pardon. A warm discussion followed, Mr. Phelps insisting upon the immateriality of the testimony, and Mr. Hall and ex-Recorder Smith urging in strong language that to allege a former conviction against a man on trial for a felony, and then to preclude him from proving that that conviction had been rescinded by a pardon, not from clemency but from full and complete proof of the wrongfulness of the conviction, was

MONSTROUS INJUSTICE.

Judge Brady said that the question embarrassed him very much. His instinct prompted him to admit the testimony, but he could not shut his eyes to the fact that to do so was to permit a virtual attack upon the record of a court of competent jurisdiction by proof of an *ex parte* proceeding before another and differently constituted tribunal. He pressed to adjourn at once he must exclude the testimony, but he would do so reluctantly, and suggested that the jury should be dismissed while the witness was examined *de bene esse*, and he could thus have time to examine authorities on the subject. When pressed on the subject Mr. Hurlbut said he would, though at great personal inconvenience, return next Monday.

Mrs. Roberts was then recalled and examined as to all the material features of Mrs. Pettus's testimony relating to her. She emphatically contradicted Mrs. Pettus's story about dropping a roll of bonds in the presence of the latter, and about an application made to her for $100 by the prisoner, and her refusal, and afterward telling Mrs. Pettus that she had received $10,000 from the prisoner the night before, but didn't give him the $100 for fear that he might spend it. Her visit to Olmstead's house on Staten Island, she said, was in consequence of his desire to sell it to her. As soon as she saw it she decided that it would not suit her, and she did not get out of the carriage. She and her brother in-law drove away a few minutes afterward, and the story told by Olmstead and Mrs. Pettus in relation to this fact had no truthful foundation. Before her examination-in-chief had been concluded the Court adjourned until Monday.

J. W. Johnson, 260 Grand street, New York, offers men's pepperelli underwear, sizes 28 to 48 inches, at 50c. a half; men's medicated gauze under-shirts, 50c., 75c., and $1 each; white cure shirts of Wamsutta muslin and fine linen, at $2.25 each; British ½ hose, good quality, 25c. per pair.—*Adv.*

The "Elastic Truss" sold at Pomeroy's, 744 Broadway, for $4, is warranted the best made.—*Adv.*

Weekly or monthly payments. Furniture, carpets, bedding. B M Cowperthwait, 155 Chatham st.—*Adv.*

TAYLOR'S SHOT AT A GROUND HOG.

A Trout Fisherman's Joke on a Man who Carried a Revolver—Something Stronger than the Balm of a Thousand Flowers.

MILFORD, Pa., June 4.—George Taylor of the New York City Press Association and Ed. Cahill of 17 Park row came to this place on Saturday last to fish for trout. They were joined here by Ed. Quick and Bub Wells, two profes ional rod swingers. On Monday they started for Dingman township to cast the fly. On the way Taylor tried his $25 revolver on every chipmunk he saw. Pretty soon Cahill shouted: "Blazes! see that ground hog! Let him have it, Taylor!"

"He's a beauty!" said Wells, and Quick cried, "Sweet Christmas, but ain't he fat?"

The animal was jogging along leisurely across a field. Taylor acted upon Cahill's suggestion and got out of the wagon to shoot it. In his hurry he forgot to put down his fish pole and carried it in his hand. In his other hand was his revolver, ready cocked. He gave chase to the ground hog. His companions sat watching him from the wagon, waiting to see him kill the animal. It was a pretty one, all over white and black spots. Taylor was bound to have its hide. When he got within shooting distance, he stepped in a bog hole, and down he went. His fish pole ran about a foot in the ground and broke off. His pistol went off and blew the whole roof out of a brand new straw hat he had purchased for the occasion.

He was soon on his feet again, but the ground hog had got clear to the other side of the field and sat by the side of a hole, evidently waiting for the anxious sportsman. Taylor caught up to within a few feet of his game and raised up to fire. The ground hog suddenly turned his white tail toward Taylor, and disappeared in its hole. Taylor that instant knew he hadn't brought enough Florida water with him from the city. He knew he hadn't struck a mint patch, nor yet a bed of roses. He felt that it wasn't good to be there, and he wanted to go home. In short, it came across him by degrees that the boys had played a skunk off on him for a ground hog. Taylor started to the wagon, and remarking that the ground hog was too quick for him, got in. Ed. Cahill put his handkerchief to his nose. Ed. Quick said he guessed he'd get out and walk a way. Bub Wells thought he would too. Cahill said he promised to bring his wife some champagne pool, and as that was a good place to find it, he'd get out and look for some. Taylor wouldn't ride alone, and made up his mind to walk with the rest. Cahill couldn't find any champagne root, and got back in the wagon. Quick and Wells got tired, and jumped in again. Taylor then thought he would ride a while. The boys began to think the joke was as much on them as it was on Taylor.

When they got to the creek Taylor objected to going in the woods for fear he might get lost. Cahill told him to keep half a mile to the windward of them, and they'd be sure to know where to find him. Taylor fished Spring Brook. The trout wouldn't bite. They came to the surface and looked at his fly; but as soon as they got their noses out of water they dove down and rubbed them in the gravel. Taylor got disgusted, and went to find his comrades. He came up to them near Mother Jagger's, where they stopped for dinner. Cahill took Taylor aside and said:

"Say, Taylor, we want to get something to eat here. You mustn't go in with us, or you'll kill the whole thing. We'll eat first; then you come in. See?"

Taylor was hungry, and had to submit.

Mother Jagger got the boys up a nice dinner. They sat at their table, and Taylor sat on a log about a hundred yards from he house and whistled "Bury me under the violets." The boys finished their meal and went out. They told Taylor to go get his dinner. He entered Mother Jagger's kitchen and sat down to the table. Cahill had slipped off, and, kicking the old hound that lay by the stove, ejaculated:

"Git out, Ring! I'll kill thet infernal critter yit. He's allers huntin' skunks!"

Ring "got out." Mrs. Jagger poured Taylor's coffee. Then she sniffed again, and looked under the table and out the door. Taylor fell to eating. Mother Jagger took down her horn spectacles and put them on. She sniffed and looked earnestly at Taylor. Then she squeezed her nose together with her fingers and said:

"Dod rot be,ister, if it ain't you! Jist help yerself; help yerself to eddything you wadt."

And Mrs. Jagger sought the outside of the house.

The party fished all day. They got back to Milford about tea time. The piazza at Dimmick's was full of ladies. They all rushed out to see the trout. One by one they went back, remarking how beautifully bulin laden the zephyrs were that morning. Taylor's wife said, "Oh, aren't they beauties! but what makes them smell so, George?"

George said, "The creek in which they were caught is strongly impregnated with—ahem!—wild bergamot, which gives them a peculiarly pungent flavor, but it is destroyed by cooking. Cooking knocks it."

Strangers who visit Milford hereafter may see a mound in the Dimmick Hotel garden. Beneath it is a suit of clothes. It belonged to George Taylor. He buried a dead hog in it and destroyed its usefulness. And so he laid it away.

BROOKLYN EXCISE TRIALS.

The Boy "Freddy" Producing the Tell-Tale Bottles.

In the trial room at the Brooklyn Police Headquarters yesterday morning thirteen liquor dealers were arraigned before Commissioners Jourdan and Briggs for alleged violation of the Sunday liquor law. The notorious Freddy English, the boy whiskey detective, and his mother appeared against the liquor sellers. The boy had a big basket filled with little bottles of whiskey that he had purchased. On each bottle was a label. On each label was the name of the saloon keeper where Freddy alleges that he bought the liquor. The mother and son were reinforced a short time after their arrival by half a dozen crusaders. Freddy is a lad of rather unprepossessing appearance, arrayed in a gray suit and a blue necktie. His mother sat by his side and frequently adjusted his clothing. They were flanked on either side by the temperance women.

John Hickey, who keeps a saloon at Grand avenue and Fulton street, was first called and pleaded not guilty. Freddy then testified that he had purchased a small quantity of brandy from Hickey himself on three day mentioned, and exhibited the bottle which he swore contained the identical liquor purchased on that occasion. Mr. Hickey admitted that he used to keep his place open on Sundays, but positively denied that he had sold any liquor to Freddy on the particular Sunday referred to (April 12). He had not sold any liquor to Freddy during the past year. He felt positive that he could prove an alibi with satisfaction to the Commissioners, as he was attending a funeral on the day mentioned.

The next case was that of Owen & McCue. The evidence was almost identical with the foregoing.

The hearing of some of the cases was adjourned, and in all the others the Commissioners reserved their decisions.

A Lion Hunt on a Steamship—Four Lions Shot from the Deck.

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

Lion hunting on board a steamship is certainly a novelty, yet the passengers and crew of the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company's vessel City of London seem to have had a most exciting and successful lion hunt on the 19th of March last.

From the account given by a correspondent of the Times it appears that on the morning of that day, when at the junction of the two rivers Euphrates and Tigris, where the rivers had overflowed the embankments, three full-grown lions were seen walking along the shore in the water about a mile ahead of the steamer. On reaching the beach one of the lions died while trying to swim toward the ship. The launch was manned to pick up the carcass, and the steamer pursued the two others, who turned round to charge the vessel.

After many shots had been fired at them, one was struck dead by the commander, and the other was shortly afterward despatched by a bullet from a Snider. The steamer then approached the bank, and the dead lions, or rather lionesses, for such they proved to be, were taken on board. About ten minutes later a large male lion was observed crouching down on a small tract of ground surrounded with water, and waving his tail, perhaps as a signal of distress. On being fired at he gave a tremendous roar, and with his mane standing on end, advanced to charge the ship, when a fresh volley laid him low. He, too, was carried on board when thoroughly dead, and his dimensions were as follows: Length from head to end of tail, 9 feet 6 inches; length of body, 6 feet 7 inches; height, 3 feet 9½ inches; weight, 420 pounds. The hide of this incident, it is stated, had never occurred before in that part of Mesopotamia.

Another Idea of Massachusetts.

From the Utica Observer.

Mr. Curtis begins by burning incense to Massachusetts, which he declares "wrought the miracle of America. This is the Massachusetts which drowned the witches, slit the ears of the Quakers, and banished the Baptists; the Massachusetts which furnished no great soldier to the Revolution, and no great statesman to the first councils of the republic; the Massachusetts that connived for twenty years for the slave trade under the Constitution that her thrifty people might line their purses before they paraded their philanthropy; the Massachusetts that has proved herself always a toad to England and a snake to the South, originating credit mobiliers and furnishing thieves for Senators' seats in the reconstructed States. The miracle of America is this, that the wings of Liberty were large enough to cover a people whose idea of hell (to quote Channing) was a place where man could have his own way.

The True Independence of the Press.

From the New York Times.

Tweedism is Tweedism wherever it may be found; and, for our own parts, we shall leave journals like the *New York Herald* to defend it—we wash our hands of it altogether.

GEN. SHERMAN'S REMOVAL.

ESCAPING WASHINGTON'S DEMORALIZING ATMOSPHERE.

Why the General of the Army Goes to St. Louis—Soldiers Made Worthless—A Conspicuous Example at the Capital.

From the Chicago Post.

Reporter—In the course of his remarks against the bill to reduce the army, Gen. Hurlbut said some strange things yesterday. He said you gave no orders to the army nowadays; that the Secretary of War did everything.

Gen. Sherman—Well, everything he said was true. The Secretary of War does give all the orders. I suppose he thinks it is not necessary to consult me during these times of peace. Anyhow, he does not. He directs every movement of the army, and that without saying a word to me.

"Do you not protest?"

"No. I do not protest. I never protest."

"Is there any warrant of law for the Secretary's course?"

"None whatever. The act authorizing the President to appoint a General of the Army gave him power, as Commander-in Chief, to select some officer to superintend and direct the army. Formerly the General did that work, but of late a practice has grown up for the

PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF WAR

to give their orders direct. I suppose that the Secretary thinks the President, the Commander-in-Chief of the army, is right here, and he might as well take his orders direct from him as to have them come through me."

"You propose to remove your headquarters to St. Louis. Have these facts anything to do with the change?"

"Oh, well, I've always expected to make St. Louis my home. During the war I thought that I should go to St. Louis and settle down when my military career was ended. Now that Congress proposes to cut the army down to nothing, I see a gradual reduction that will bring the command below the dignity of my rank. I think I shall take advantage of the opportunity to do as I have long desired—settle down in St. Louis."

"There are other reasons assigned for the change, General?"

"Oh, yes. I have a great many other reasons."

"Has the course of the Secretary of War anything to do with it?"

GETTING OUT OF SIGHT OF IT.

"Well, I think perhaps when I get out there, I shall not see so much of this thing. It will not be right under my eye and not quite so vexatious."

"You said a few moments ago that the officers and privates of the army were good men. Do you really believe so?"

"Yes, sir. They are all good, brave men."

"The reason I had for asking, I hear it often charged that they are not so good as formerly."

"It is not true. They are active and efficient—as good an army as we have ever had."

"I have heard their private character much criticised. It is said they have lost much of that honor which in old times characterized the men of our army."

"That is not true. I know it is said so, and I think you gentlemen of the press have much to answer for in that respect; you have made this an era of scandal. A great many men of high rank are now believed to be corrupt, while they are really high-minded and honorable."

WHAT THE GENERAL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR.

"I think you have no right to complain, General. I believe no newspaper has ever dared to utter a word against you."

"No. I have escaped. I have tried to avoid any possible chance to attach scandal to my name. Yet I have never asked any favor of the journalists, nor have any dealings with them. I think that those men who have lived so have made failures of it. I know some. I have some in my mind's eye now, who, during the war, tried to build up newspaper reputation, and I find they are the first to be hit by the papers."

HOW FRED. GRANT LOAFS IN WASHINGTON.

"And yet all of the strictures upon the army are not false? I think at this moment of a lieutenant who has been lying about Washington for months, when he should have been with his regiment."

"I have no doubt of it. I don't want to know who he is, but I'll tell you how it comes about. That young man has an uncle or aunt interceding for him, and the influence is potential. To his uncle and aunt I delay enlistment he is given a leave of absence when he should be on the frontier."

"I judge you are unwilling to be responsible for such cases?"

The Prohibitory Liquor Law.

From the Boston Gazette.

We at length reached the hotel again, and I proposed a glass of brandy and water. My friend looked at me and then at the landlord; and then the landlord looked at my friend and then at me. Perplexity overspread the countenances of both.

"Such a thing as a drop of liquor is not to be had in the place," said the landlord.

"Bought, you mean," retorted my friend.

"Bought, I mean," was the answer.

Then a doubtful look overspread his face.

"Does anybody give it away?" I inquired, greatly puzzled by the mystery that appeared on both their countenances.

"Not exactly. You see the State constables would be after me in no time if I sold liquor," explained the landlord. "Do you want some very badly?"

I could not explain how badly I wanted it, and could only give vent to my feelings in a sigh.

Without a word the landlord disappeared within the recesses of a small room behind the office desk, and presently came forth with two empty tumblers in his hand. These he placed upon the desk.

"But where is the liquor?" I inquired.

"The liquor is in the room to sell it, he said. "I dare not disclose the law. If you can find any here you are welcome to it," saying which he accidentally turned back the breast of his coat. The neck of a bottle peeped forth from the inside pocket. He winked his eye at me, and I winked my eye at him, after which I drew forth the bottle. He family straightened up to preventing darting the fatal liquor upon which I was bent, but I proved inexorable.

"My private bottle kept for medicinal purposes, and not for sale," he moaned, as he poured out the liquor for myself and the worthy chairman of the parish committee. "How some water, gentlemen?" he added with alacrity.

We drank, and I replaced the bottle in the repository whence I had taken it. Then I put a dollar in his hands.

"What is this for?" he asked,