THE FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

ILLUSTRATION OF THE WAY IN WHICH PENSION BILLS ARE PASSED.

The House Lectured by the Senate on the Loose Methods of its New Clerks—Sixty Bills Passed—Speaker Reed's Code of Rules Adopted by the House Practically as Reported by the Committee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Among the bills reported in the Senate to-day and placed on the calendar was one to transfer the revenue marine to the naval establishment.

Mr. Sherman's resolution, offered yesterday, to proceed to-day, after the morning business, to the consideration of bills on the calendar under Rule 8, was taken up and agreed to.

Then the Senate proceeded to the consideration of bills on the calendar under Rule 8. House bill for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the U. S. steamers Trenton and Vandalia and the stranding of the U. S. steamer Nipsic at Apia, Samoan Islands, was passed.

A bill to increase the endowment of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural College gave rise to considerable debate.

Mr. Ingalls said that the bill did not present an equitable claim to his mind. There was no delinquency or omission on the part of the United States. He inquired whether in this school there was any distinction made between colored and white children.

Mr. Gibson—There is.

Mr. Ingalls—Am I to understand that in this school none but white pupils are admitted?

Mr. Gibson—Yes.

Mr. Ingalls—I cannot recognize that doctrine.

Mr. Gibson—But we have another school similar to this which is supported by the State and in which colored pupils alone are taught, and that school is in a very flourishing condition.

Mr. Plumb said that he had supported the bill in the Committee on Public Lands, and he gave it now his unqualified assent. As to the exclusion of colored pupils from this school, he reminded the Senate that a majority of Senators had voted several times for a bill appropriating $70,000,000 that recognized the same distinction. He had voted against that bill, but not on that ground. He took it that in no State, certainly not in Kansas, was the commingling of white and black pupils made a condition precedent for an appropriation of money.

Mr. Ingalls, after further discussion, objected to the bill, and expressed the hope that Mr. Gibson would move to proceed with it, notwithstanding the objection.

Mr. Gibson declined to do so, but asked that the bill be allowed to remain on the calendar without prejudice. Mr. Ingalls had no objection to that. The bill was then laid aside.

While the Senate was acting on other bills on the calendar, that proceeding was interrupted so as to allow a concurrent resolution to be offered by Mr. Vest to amend an error in the enrollment of the Senate joint resolution for the removal of obstructions to navigation in the Mississippi River. The error had been committed by one of the clerks of the House.

Mr. Ingalls commented severely upon the blunder, speaking of it as a case of "legislation being tampered with by inefficient clerks." Eight or ten instances of a like kind, he said, had occurred during the last Congress, and had to be remedied by concurrent resolutions. He was opposed to the repetition of such disgraceful performances. He moved, instead of Mr. Vest's concurrent resolution, that the joint resolution in question be returned to the House of Representatives, with the request that the House send to the Senate a copy correctly engrossed, as it had passed that body. He said that was the way to get rid of the difficulty and to admonish the House and its clerks and employees that there must be more care, more scrutiny, and more attention paid to such matters.

Mr. Vest assented to that disposal of the matter, and remarked that the House had changed all its clerical force and now had a lot of new men who knew nothing about their business.

The Senate resumed consideration of the calendar, and was engaged on pension bills.

One of the pension bills (for a man named David Peterson) having been passed without question and with the usual rapidity of procedure, Mr. Cockrell subsequently inquired what had been done with it; and having been informed by the Vice-President that the bill had been passed, he said that it was a remarkable circumstance that this bill appeared on the calendar as being favorably reported, whereas the fact was that the report was an adverse one, with the recommendation that the bill be indefinitely postponed. The report was read, and it showed that Mr. Cockrell's statement was correct. The action of the Senate in passing the bill was therefore reconsidered and the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Among the bills on the calendar that were passed were the following:

Providing for an Assistant Secretary of War, with a salary of $4,500.

Authorizing acceptance by Dr. W. J. Hoffman of certain decorations from foreign powers.

Defining the positions and salaries of assistant astronomers at the United States Naval observatory.

For the relief of soldiers or sailors who enlisted or served under assumed names.

Appropriating $125,000 for a United States revenue cutter for services on the Pacific coast, with headquarters at Astoria, Ore.

To prevent the obstruction of navigable waters and to protect works against trespass or injury.

Providing for thirty days' annual leave of absence for officers and employees in the customs service of the Government who receive per diem compensation.

Providing for the acquisition of land for town sites and commercial purposes in Alaska.

To provide for the disposal of the Fort Sedgwick Military Reservation in the states of Colorado and Nebraska to actual settlers under the provisions of the homestead laws.

To prevent the introduction of contagious diseases from one State to another.

Appropriating $5,000 for a bronze statue of Spencer F. Baird, late Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

Concurrent resolution to invite international arbitration as to differences between states.

The bill to declare unlawful trusts and combinations in restraint of trade and production having been reached, Mr. Harris said that it could not be considered under the five-minute rule, and suggested that it should go over. The bill was laid aside.

The bill for a building for the Supreme Court of the United States having been reached, Mr. Ingalls objected to its consideration.

Mr. Morrill, who had reported the bill from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, said that a similar bill had already passed the Senate twice.

"It will not pass again," said Mr. Ingalls, "if I can help it."

The bill was laid aside.

Mr. Ingalls said that the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Gibson) and himself had agreed upon an amendment to be adopted to the bill in relation to the Louisiana State University and Agricultural College, and at his request that bill was again taken up and passed, with an amendment providing that the grant in the bill shall be subject to all the conditions and requirements of the Agricultural Colleges bill, and shall not be available until any loss or diminution of the funds heretofore derived has been replaced by the State of Louisiana.

Altogether there were sixty bills passed.

After a short executive session the Senate at 5:15 adjourned un til Monday.

House of Representatives.

Not more than two dozen members were present when the House met at 11 o'clock in continuation of Thursday's session. The debate on the new code of rules was resumed, Messrs. Stewart and Barnes of Georgia and Reilly of Pennsylvania spoke against the adoption of the code.

Mr. Kelley of Kansas defended the Speaker's course, and alluded to the Speaker's reference to the ruling of Gov. Hill when presiding over the New York Senate. The Speaker was a modest man, he said, but if in the course of human events it came to be that the Republican party put the name of Thomas B. Reed at the head of its Presidential ticket in 1892, and the Democratic party in its wisdom put at the head of its ticket the name of David B. Hill, the Democrats would go before the country and claim for David B. Hill the credit for the advance which had done so much good for liberty.

Thursday's session then ended, and the session of Friday was opened with the reading of the journal. The journal was approved—yeas, 151; nays, 1 (the Speaker counting a quorum).

Mr. Candler of Massachusetts, from the Committee on the World's Fair, submitted a report, which was ordered printed and recommitted. The consideration of the rules was then proceeded with.

Mr. Bynum of Indiana offered an amendment providing that when any bill for the increase of pension or for granting pensions not formerly provided for is pending it shall be in order to offer an amendment providing by taxation for the payment thereof.

Mr. Thomas of Wisconsin opposed the amendment, declaring that its object was to bury all pension legislation in the House.

Mr. Spinola of New York asserted that the Democratic side of the House would be found true as steel to the real interests of the veterans of the country, but believed that a tax should be placed especially for the purpose of paying pensions.

Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio said that the veteran soldiers of the country understood that the pending amendment was the most thoroughly antagonistic and hostile proposition ever made on the floor of the House. It had first been made by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Morrison). Where was that gentleman now? To gentlemen on the other side he would say that they would have to go on record on this amendment, and if they voted for it the trumpet of the political Gabriel would never call them to judgment again.

Mr. Bynum inquired why the Republicans had not put the Democrats on record two years ago on this very proposition, instead of filibustering against a vote.

Mr. Grosvenor replied that there had been no other way to defeat the bitter hostility shown to the soldiers of the country. When hostility to the old veterans was rife filibustering was patriotism. (Applause on the Republican side.)

Mr. Bynum said that gentlemen could not pull wool over the eyes of the soldiers. So far as his record had been made in this House he had been in favor of every pension measure that had been reported to the House from a committee, and he was ready to vote for every such measure, but he proposed that there should be money in the Treasury to pay the pensioners. He did not propose that the River and Harbor bill, the French Spoliation bill, and the Direct Tax Refunding bill should take the money out of the Treasury, and that members should go home and say to the veterans that there was no money to pay the pensions of soldiers. He proposed to say that here was money that could not be used for any purpose but the payment of pensions.

Mr. Bynum's amendment was rejected—yeas, 96; nays, 164.

Mr. Outhwaite of Ohio offered an amendment striking out the clause constituting 100 members a quorum in Committee of the Whole. He also offered an amendment to the clause of rule 23 which provides that "all motions or propositions, originating either in the House or Senate, involving a tax or charge upon the people, shall be first considered in Committee of the Whole." The amendment was to strike out the words "originating in the House or Senate." Mr. Outhwaite argued that the insertion of these words would, by implication and against the Constitution, acknowledge the right of the Senate to originate revenue bills.

The Speaker said there was no such intention on the part of the committee, and at his suggestion Mr. Cannon, who has charge of the code, acceded to the latter amendment, and it was adopted. Mr. Outhwaite's first amendment was lost—yeas, 136; nays, 150.

Mr. Crisp of Georgia moved to strike out the clause conferring upon the Speaker the power to count a quorum. He argued that such a conferring of power was unconstitutional. The amendment was lost—yeas, 126; nays, 156.

Mr. Mills of Texas moved to strike out the clause that no dilatory motions shall be entertained by the Speaker. The motion was lost—yeas, 141; nays, 155.

Mr. Lawler of Illinois offered an amendment providing that no member shall speak more than ten minutes upon any subject until all members who may wish to speak have spoken. Lost.

The hour of 5 o'clock having arrived, the Speaker said that the previous question was ordered on the adoption of the rules.

Mr. Springer inquired whether a motion to recommit with instructions was in order, and received a negative reply. The motion which Mr. Springer wished to submit was as follows:

Resolved, That the code of rules now pending be recommitted to the Committee on Rules with instructions to report to the House on Monday next, immediately after the reading and approval of the journal, the code of rules of the last Congress, with the following amendments thereto, namely:

First—Add to clause five of rule 16 the following:

"Provided, that the motion 'to fix the day to which the House shall adjourn,' and the motion 'that the House do recess,' if made and decided in the negative, shall not be repeated again during the same legislative day, unless seconded by one third of the members present.

Second—No motion shall be entertained by the Speaker until the reading of the journal, unless the reading be dispensed with, and on the motion to approve the journal, but one intervening motion shall be entertained before the question is put thereon.

Third—That on suspension days the Speaker shall entertain motions to suspend the rules at 1 o'clock and thirty minutes on each of said days to the exclusion of all other business.

Fourth—The Committee on Rules may at any time report resolutions to fix the time and manner of considering measures on the House calendar or on the calendar of the Committee of Whole House on the State of the Union, and resolutions so reported shall be subject to debate for thirty minutes, after which the question shall be put on agreeing thereto.

The rules were then adopted by a strict party vote of yeas 161, nays 145. Those absent or paired are as follows:

Messrs. Alderson, Allen of Mississippi, Blanchard, Bigs, Boothman, Carlisle, Forney, Frank, Haynes, Hopkins, McKinley, Morrow, Oates, Phelan, Randall of Pennsylvania, Rogers, Stahlnecker, Turner of New York, Van Schaick, Whitthorne, Wilber, and Wilson of Virginia.

The House then at 5:35 adjourned.

THE DUTY ON SUGAR.

Indications that Congress Will Remove It—The Committee's Action.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—For more than a week past important conferences have been held by the Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee and leading men in the party in and out of Congress on the subject of the make-up of the Tariff bill. The greatest difficulty that has been encountered is the arrangement of the sugar tax, but this matter is now being brought to a head. It is now generally known that Secretary Blaine's deep interest in the question arises from his anxiety to throw a bait to the South Americans in the shape of the entire removal of the sugar tax. Mr. Blaine has held several conferences with Major McKinley and other Republicans on this subject. He gives assurances that if the concession of free sugar is given to the South Americans, they will return the favor in kind and extend to Americans trade advantages of different sorts. Several members of the Ways and Means Committee are inclined to follow the advice of Mr. Blaine, but the influence of the Louisiana planters and the ambitious farmers of Kansas and other Western States is being brought to bear to have the duty retained. The offer of a bounty does not seem to tempt these sugar raisers, and they are insisting on at least some measure of protection on their products. It is safe to say that a majority of the Ways and Means Committee are willing, and even anxious, to remove the sugar duty altogether, despite the protests of the sugar farmers. Some of these members have been in favor of such a course all along, while others have been spurred up to action by the plausible arguments of Mr. Blaine on the question of South American trade. The Secretary is personally and actively applying his powers of persuasion, and the chances are that he will win.

As far as can be ascertained, there has been no organization or lobby of any kind in Washington this winter in the interests of the Sugar Trust, or with the object of preventing a repeal of the sugar tax. Only three or four men have address ed the Ways and Means Committee on the subject, and they did not seem to care particularly whether the tax was removed or not, their anxiety being directed chiefly to securing a rate of taxation that would be equitable as between raw and refined sugar. That is, they did not care particularly what the tax on raw sugar shall be as long as it is kept correspondingly high on the refined article. The men who have addressed the Ways and Means Committee on the subject are E. C. Knight, William W. Frazier, and representatives of C. C. Harrington & Co., all of Philadelphia. Mr. Knight stated in his testimony that he cared very little about what the rate of tax should be so long as there was no discrimination against the refiners, although he thought the rate should not be more than one-half a cent to one cent per pound on raw sugar. Mr. Knight added that his refinery was doing business at present at a loss of about $1,000 per day. Mr. Frazier, after going somewhat into detail, summed up his argument in the following statement: "If the present tariff is rightly arranged, then we maintain that if you are going to reduce the duty on raw sugars below number 13, Dutch standard, to an average of one cent per pound (that is, if you are going to take the cent per pound duty off of our raw material), you should take a cent per pound off the sugar above such a standard."

Since this testimony was given in the committee no representatives of the refining industry have been heard. The opponents of trusts generally have been very active in the way of introducing bills, but not one of them has come before the committee in any way except in the Senate. There, early in the session, Senator Sherman introduced a bill declaring unlawful all sorts of trusts and combinations in restraint of trade and production. The Senate Finance Committee promptly made a favorable report, and the bill is now on the Senate calendar awaiting action. In the House, Representative Lacey of Iowa has taken the lead with a most elaborate bill on the subject, and he has been followed by eighteen others in this line of legislation. These nineteen bills are lying pigeonholed in the Ways and Means Committee room, and there are no indications that any of them are to be taken up for action.

It is said that the only point of difference with the majority of the committee is as to where they shall draw the line in changing sugar from the dutiable to the free list. Under the present law raw sugars are classified by the Dutch standard, and those below 13 pay a certain rate, and those between 13 and 16 another and a higher rate, the latter being 2 75-100 cents per pound. It is believed that the question that is agitating the committee is whether sugars under 13 shall be transferred to the free list, or whether the transfer shall include those up to No. 16. From present indications it is probable that raw sugar will go to the free list on any bill the committee may report to the House. The committee regard this proposed legislation as entirely effective in crushing out the Sugar Trust, and will probably be content with it without acting upon any bill looking especially to the crippling of the trust. Senator Sherman's bill will undoubtedly pass, and if it does the House committee will take it up and act upon it, regarding it as entirely adequate to crush out sugar trusts and trusts of all other kinds. But until the decision of the Ways and Means Committee is known, which will probably be within the next few days, no action of any kind will be had.

Fled From His Creditors.

BRIDGEPORT, Feb. 14.—For several years M. Von Loesecke has carried on the electrical business in this city, but to-day he is missing, and creditors to the amount of nearly $3,000 are mourning his hasty departure. Von Loesecke lived with his pretty young wife and only child, a little girl, in expensive apartments on Main street. It was generally supposed that his business was prosperous, as he drove a stylish team and lived rather extravagantly. A day or two ago he left a note for his wife, saying he was going to leave town, as he could not stand the fast increasing burden of debt. With no show to lessen it. Pretty Mrs. Von Loesecke was left without funds, but as the furniture in the house was in her name she held an impromptu sale of the household goods, and, it is said, has gone to join her husband, who is in a town in Massachusetts. Lyon & Grummon, hardware dealers, and Bayne & Smith, contractors, are among the heaviest losers.

LIVE WASHINGTON TOPICS.

OHIO CONGRESSMEN STIRRED UP OVER THE PROPOSED GERRYMANDER.

A Bill Passed in the Senate to Pay Fees Due to President Harrison's Law Firm—A Fight Over Paymaster-General Rochester's Successor—A Deficiency of $21,500,000 on Account of Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The Ohio Congressmen, both Democrats and Republicans, are much stirred up over the gerrymandering tactics now going on in the Buckeye State and the introduction in Washington of bills in both Houses of Congress to protect the political status of Republican members. Representative Thompson received a despatch to-day informing him that the Democratic caucus had decided upon a plan for redistricting the State which places Mr. Thompson and Gen. Grosvenor in the same district. Should this plan be carried out, the Republicans in Congress will undoubtedly make haste to pass the Hoar and Wickham bills to prevent the creating of new districts. The despatch to THE SUN last night stating that if the present programme is carried out the result will be two sets of members from Ohio and the issuing of certificates to the Democrats, thus giving them a voice in the organization of the House, was read with interest at the Capitol to-day. Several Republicans expressed the opinion that things would not turn out just this way, because of the fact that Clerk McPherson, in making up his list of members of the Fifty-second Congress, would be sure to place the names of the Republicans on the roll and leave the Democrats on the outside. It is not certain that he could do this. The duty of the clerk is to place on the roll the names of members whose certificates are correct on their face. Thus, if the Ohio Democrats presented certificates properly signed by the State officials, there would be nothing for Clerk McPherson to do but to recognize them as members, and this he would probably do, leaving the Republicans to contest the seats.

Mr. McPherson will not state what course he would take in a contingency of this kind, as he sees no necessity for crossing the bridge until he comes to it. The contingency may not arise, either, as it is intimated that the bills of Hoar and Wickham might be so amended as to make clear the duty of the Clerk. Senator Hoar is apparently taking no interest in the matter since he introduced his bill a few days ago, but the Ohio Democrats think that he is at the bottom of the whole scheme to prevent the carrying out of the Ohio gerrymandering. Mr. Hoar is Chairman of the Committee on Elections, and is generally consulted before any movement is made toward introducing legislation on the subject of elections, and he is probably as much interested in the Wickham bill as the author is.

Many old Democrats in Washington are in a state of mind over what they regard as a contemplated slight to the memory of Andrew Jackson. The old military hero is now represented in a bronze equestrian statue in the middle of the square opposite the White House known as Lafayette Park. A statue of Lafayette is on its way to America, and a place must be found in which to erect it. The Commission having charge of this matter have practically decided that the only suitable place for the statue is in Lafayette square. It was at first contemplated to remove the Jackson statue and to place that of Lafayette in the centre of the park, but yielding to a somewhat vigorous public sentiment, the Commission has about decided to place the Lafayette statue at the south side of the park, directly opposite the White House door, leaving Gen. Jackson astride of his horse in the centre of the park, where he now is. Congress will then be called upon to determine whether one park should have two statues. The Commission is of the opinion that it would be a great pity to place one statue or three, so that if the present design to put Lafayette in the park with Jackson is carried out, some day a third statue will be placed on the north edge of the park.

Army officers are on the qui vive in anticipation of the appointment of a new Post Paymaster-General, which will be made at once. Gen. William B. Rochester, who now holds the place, will retire to-morrow, as he will then have reached the age of 64 years. The fight for appointment as his successor has been waxing hotter each day, the principal candidates being Colonels Rodney Smith and William A. Rucker, who are at the head of the list, and Majors William R. Gibson, Charles M. Terrill, and Asa B. Carey. Smith's appointment would be the easiest and most natural selection for the President to make, as Col. Smith is directly in line for promotion. Family connections and social influences are being used in behalf of Terrill and Carey, and the contest between them for preference is quite lively. Major Terrill has the advantage of being a former citizen of Indiana and on terms of friendship with many of the President's close friends. Major Carey has a strong at court in the fact that his business of Secretary Proctor's niece. The friends of both Terrill and Carey are confident of the success of their candidate. Paymaster-General Rochester has been at the head of the pay department for almost eight years, and has made a most creditable record. It is said that his accounts are the most satisfactory of any turned into the Treasury Department by a Government official. Gen. Rochester possesses little personal magnetism, however, and has never been popular particularly with the army, owing to his reserved and retiring nature. As an officer he stands deservedly high.

A bill passed the Senate to-day appropriating $2,500 to pay attorneys' fees due Porter, Harrison & Fishbock. The firm was one of the leading ones in Indiana during its existence, and there is an interesting story in connection with the bill. Toward the close of the war, Gen. Hovey, now Governor of Indiana, then in command of the department, convened a military commission to try certain members of the Knights of the Golden Circle. A number of years afterward, Lamden P. Milligan, one of the persons convicted by the commission, brought suit in the United States Circuit Court against Hovey and the members of the commission for damages. The case was prosecuted for the plaintiff by the late Vice-President Hendricks, and by direction of the Secretary of War and the Judge Advocate-General the firm of Porter, Harrison & Fishbock was retained to defend the members of the commission. Mr. Harrison, now President Harrison, did most of the work in the case for the defence, and the bill passed to-day is to remunerate the members of the firm for its services at that time.

Two pension bills of importance passed the Senate to-day. The first repeals the sections of the Revised Statutes which require that the claim for pension by a State militiaman for disability incurred while serving against the Indians must be filed before July 4, 1874. The other provides that oaths required in pension or bounty cases may be taken before any officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes.

Senator Evarts to-day introduced a bill appropriating $30,000 for the purchase by the Librarian of Congress of Townsend's Library of National, State, and Individual Records, comprising a collection of historical records concerning the origin, progress, and consequences of the late war.

The House Committee on Elections, at its meeting this morning, disposed of three of the contested election cases before it. By a strict party vote the committee instructed Representative Houk to make a report recommending the seating of Featherstone, the Republican contestant for the seat of Cate in the First Arkansas district, and of Mudd, the Republican contestant for the seat of Barnes Compton in the Fifth Maryland district. By a unanimous vote it was decided to recommend that Clarke, the Democratic sitting member from the First Alabama district, be allowed to keep his seat. The committee was of opinion that Threet, the contestant, had not made out his case, although the majority thought he had shown that the election was not entirely free from fraud.

Senator Davis to-day introduced a bill providing for the pensioning, at the rate of $25 a month from March 4, 1889, of all women who were army nurses during the late war, and who rendered six months' service in camp, on the field, or in the general hospitals. Women who now receive pensions as army nurses at a rate less than $25 a month shall have their pensions increased to that amount. The bill also provides that those who now receive pensions as the widows or dependent mothers of soldiers who would be entitled to the benefits of this bill may also receive $25 a month during life as an increase of their present pension.

The preparation of an urgent deficiency appropriation bill has been begun by the House Committee on Appropriations. The largest item in this deficiency bill will be about $21,500,000 on account of pensions. This large deficiency, however, does not indicate such a great increase in expenditures for pensions as would seem to be apparent on the face of the statement, the expenditures for the year ending July 1 next being, with this deficiency appropriation included, about $97,000,000, against $85,000,000 last year. After the appropriation for pensions for the present fiscal year had been made on the basis of the regular appropriation for the previous year, it was found necessary to make a deficiency appropriation of about $8,000,000 for the previous year. Subsequently it was found that even with this deficiency appropriation the expenditures would exceed the appropriation, and the Commissioner of Pensions, waiting until after the present fiscal year had begun, drew on the appropriation for the fiscal year now running for almost $7,000,000 to pay pension claims accruing during the previous year, the effect being really to lessen the appropriation for the present fiscal year by an amount approximating $7,000,000.

The House Committee on Territories has ordered a favorable report on the bill admitting Wyoming to Statehood, and has practically agreed to report the Idaho bill very soon. Both reports are expected to be made as soon as possible now that the new rules are adopted. The new code affords considerable advantage to these Territorial measures, as it provides that bills looking to the admission of new States may be called up at any time. Mr. Springer, the old Chairman of the Committee on Territories, will probably take the floor to antagonize both the Wyoming and Idaho bills. He will take this action in behalf of his own Omnibus measure for the admission of Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, and New Mexico, which he will offer as a substitute for the other bills. He will probably have the support of a majority of the Democrats, but not all of them. Delegate Joseph of New Mexico, for instance, has agreed to make a speech in opposition to Mr. Springer's Omnibus bill. He will take the ground that Wyoming and Idaho are asking to be admitted now, while New Mexico and Arizona are simply asking for enabling acts; therefore they should be regarded as on a different basis.

There is still some dissatisfaction among Southern men here over the junketing trips of the Pan-American Congress, it being claimed that the South has been discriminated against by the State Department. The delegates were made familiar with the resources of the North by a tour through that section, but have been kept in ignorance of the Southwest. It was with this part of the country that the Central Americans, if not the South Americans, have to trade, if any. An effort will be made, however, to organize a tour through the Southern States. There was a great deal of talk about six weeks ago about such a tour to the principal cities of the South, but the preparations were suddenly discontinued. The troubles which fall so thick and fast on the Blaine family are thought to have something to do with the abandonment of preparations. Walker Blaine was at that time mentioned as the probable conductor of the party.

The House Judiciary Committee to-day unanimously decided to report to the House for action an international copyright bill, to be prepared by representative Adams of Illinois, upon the basis of the provisions of the Breckinridge bill. The chief feature will consist of a rearrangement of the sections, together with some unimportant amendments.

In executive session to-day the Senate confirmed the nominations of Charles Emory Smith of Pennsylvania, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia, and J. Fenner Lee of Maryland, Secretary of Legation at Rio Janeiro.

The Treasury Department to-day entered into contracts with Harrison Loring of Boston for the construction of three lightships for the Atlantic coast, as follows: One at Great Round Shoal, near Nantasket; another at Sandy Hook, and a third at Bushes Bluff, Va. The price to be paid for this work is $158,340, or $52,780 for each vessel.

The President has signed the commission of Commander Folger as chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department, and he will assume charge of the office to-morrow.

THE DEBT OF THE PACIFIC RAILROADS.

A Bill to be Reported that it is Hoped Will Secure a Settlement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Within the next week or ten days a bill will be brought into the Senate from the special committee that investigated the Pacific railroads last summer, which will be a practical compromise between the Government, the Union Pacific, and the Central Pacific railroads. A complete scheme for the settlement of the debts of both roads will be made in one bill. Senator Frye is Chairman of the committee, and he and Senator Davis and other members of it have been working hard all winter on this subject of the relations of the roads to the Government, and the question of what legislation is necessary to secure a settlement. Mr. Frye has been especially active, and has put in many weeks of hard work and careful study in the preparation of his bill. C. P. Huntington, representing the Central Pacific, and Charles Francis Adams, representing the Union Pacific, have had several talks both with the committee and with Senator Frye, and the bill, which is now partially completed, is in the nature of a compromise. While it is not entirely satisfactory to the railroads, especially to the Central Pacific, it is probably the best bill that the roads could get, and it is understood that both roads will accept it as a fair proposition for the settlement of the long-standing indebtedness to the Government, and that so far as the roads are concerned no opposition to the bill will be made.

Under the provisions of the new bill the settlement of the Union Pacific indebtedness will be decided on the basis of fifty-year bonds, bearing three per cent. interest. Mr. Adams is disposed to accept this settlement as the best that can be had. Mr. Huntington, representing the Central Pacific, is not so well pleased with the terms upon which his road is asked to settle, but as he knows that he has been treated as liberally as the Union Pacific reasonably expect, he is not disposed to offer any opposition. His proposition, made to Senator Frye in the committee, was to give the Central Pacific 125 years in which to pay up the bonds, to bear an average rate of interest of 1½ per cent. This the committee would not agree to. They have, however, practically consented to give the road an extension of seventy-five years, the interest on the bonds to be computed on a sliding scale, which will in the end make the interest to be paid average about 1¾ per cent. The interest on the first series of bonds is to be at a low rate, gradually increasing until 3 per cent. is reached, and then going down again to 1¾ on the long-time bonds. The Pacific Railroads Committee will have a meeting to-morrow, when it is hoped a vote can be taken and the compromise bill put in shape to be reported to the Senate early next week.

The bill is a most elaborate one, containing in the neighborhood of twenty sections, and provides a scheme for settlement in the most minute detail. Senator Frye and the other members of the committee are confident that there will be no opposition to it. The responsible representatives of the roads interested have been consulted and have substantially agreed upon its terms, which are as liberal as they are likely to get at any time. No bill on this subject has ever been prepared with more care, and no man in Congress has ever given closer study to the subject than Senator Frye. He feels assured that the bill furnishes a plan for the prompt and permanent settlement of the whole controversy. He will call it up in the Senate at an early day after it has been reported, and the Senators generally think that there is a good prospect of this troublesome question being eliminated this session from the list of public questions before Congress.

AN UNWELCOME VANDERBILT.

Mrs. Violet, Young Jake's Wife, Wants to Question Her Father-in-Law.

In Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday Judge Patterson heard some severe allegations against Mrs. Violet Vanderbilt and her husband, "Young Jake" Vanderbilt. The occasion was a motion for the examination of "Captain Jake" of Staten Island, as a witness before trial in the young woman's suit against him for alienating young Jacob's affections. She wants $100,000, and thinks the defendant can help her to get her case against him in shape for trial. Henry W. Sackett, her counsel, said the Captain had forced his son to leave the plaintiff, and that his examination before trial was a matter of necessity.

Col. E. C. James, in opposing the motion, said the Captain was justified in refusing to allow his son to bring his wife to his house, on the ground of her bad record. Mr. Sackett protested against any talk of this kind against his client, saying it was not in the answer. Col. James found a paragraph in the amended answer, and was about to read it, when Judge Patterson told him he needed it.

"Well, it's not necessary to read it," said the Colonel; "it is sufficient to say it is severe. There is no reason whatever for the granting of an order for examination before trial, and it should not be done."

Judge Patterson reserved decision.

Held for a Hotel Bill.

S. H. Hamilton, 52 years old, who says he lives at the New York Hotel, was arrested on Broadway yesterday by Detective Sergeants Kush and Freel and taken to Jefferson Market Court, where he was charged with beating the St. James Hotel out of $128.70 for two weeks board. Hamilton stopped at the St. James Hotel from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31. When he went away he gave Capt. Conner a draft for $2,000 on George W. Noble, Vice President of the Kansas Loan and Trust Co. The draft was worthless, and learning that the Bartholdi held a similar draft against Hamilton, Capt. Conner caused his arrest. Lawyer Fermilye appeared for Hamilton and stated that his client was financially embarrassed at present, but would take up the draft as soon as possible. Justice Hogan paroled him for examination on Wednesday next.

It is said that Hamilton is interested in a scheme for utilizing the power of Niagara Falls to light Buffalo with electricity.

Is H. Newman Dead?

A man about 50 years old was found dead back of the Lutheran Cemetery in Middle Village, Long Island, yesterday. A slip of paper having the address H. Newman, South Orange avenue, Jersey," was found in his pockets. It is thought he committed suicide. The body was taken to Hoff's morgue.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is a peculiar medicine. It is carefully prepared from Sarsaparilla, Dandelion, Mandrake, Dock, Pipsissewa, Juniper Berries, and other well-known and valuable vegetable remedies, by a peculiar combination, proportion, and process, unknown to any other medicine, and giving to Hood's Sarsaparilla curative power not possessed by other medicines.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Has met peculiar and unparalleled success at home. Such has become its popularity in Lowell, Mass., where it is made, that whole neighborhoods are taking it at the same time. Lowell druggists sell more of Hood's Sarsaparilla than of all other sarsaparillas or blood purifiers. The same success is extending all over the country.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Has a record of cures of Scrofula and other blood diseases never equalled by any other preparation. The most severe cases yield to this remedy when others have failed to have the slightest effect. Hereditary scrofula, which clings to the blood with the greatest tenacity, is cured by this peculiar medicine. Its many remarkable cures have won for it the title of "The greatest blood purifier ever discovered."

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Is the best blood purifier before the public. It eradicates every impurity, and cures Scrofula, Salt Rheum, Boils, Pimples, all Humors, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Sick Headache, Indigestion, General Debility, Catarrh, Rheumatism, Kidney and Liver Complaints, overcomes That Tired Feeling, creates an appetite, tones the digestive organs and the nervous system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is peculiar in being the only medicine of which can truly be said, "100 Doses One Dollar," which is an unanswerable argument as to its strength and economy. If you make up your mind to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla, do not allow polite persuasion or argument to induce you to take anything else. Insist upon having

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Has had remarkable success in curing dyspepsia, sick headache, heartburn, sour stomach, and similar troubles. It gently but surely tones the stomach and digestive organs, creates a good appetite, cures sick headache, overcomes drowsy feeling and depression. It also acts upon the kidneys and liver, rousing these important organs to healthy action. Now is the time to take it. Be sure to get

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

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100 Doses One Dollar

THREE ELOQUENT THIEVES.

They Confessed their Guilt, but Couldn't Talk Away their Punishment.

George Wilson, alias Jack Sheppard, George Austin, alias Sport, and Marcus Raymond, three notorious ex-convicts and professional thieves, stole a case of shawls valued at $150 from the hallway of Victor & Acheles's store at Church and Leonard streets on Jan. 11. The stolen goods were found at Raymond's home at 130 Allen street. The three men were jointly indicted. Wilson and Raymond pleaded guilty in the General Sessions, but Austin demanded a trial and got one. Raymond turned State's evidence, and when he got through Austin pleaded guilty.

The men were arraigned yesterday before Judge Martine for sentence. Wilson, in addition to being a clever thief, is an accomplished jail breaker and a graduate of Harvard University. When Clerk Hall asked what they had to say as to why judgment should not be pronounced upon them, Austin said: "Judge, I was all broken up when that old thief (pointing to Raymond) went on the stand there and split on me. I didn't expect anything like that to happen or I wouldn't have put your Honor to the bother of trying me. I hope you won't be too hard on me for taking chances that way."

"I've made up my mind, Judge," said Raymond, dolefully, "that life ain't worth living. I've made up my mind, Judge, to be straight the rest of my life. So I hope, Judge, you'll be easy on me."

"The idea of an old thief and convict like that man," said Wilson, his turn having come, waving his hand scornfully toward Raymond, "at his time of life, twaddling about life not being worth living, and about turning over a new leaf, and determined to be the honest old thing! He has been at his old game for fully twenty-five years, and what else can he do? What are thieves like ourselves to do, any way, Judge? We are hunted down like wild beasts. The police give us no rest. We cannot get honest employment; if we get it, the police drive us out of it. I came here from Boston about a year ago. I had firmly resolved to lead an honest and upright life. But my experience shows that, however well we begin life, if we once take a misstep and fall, we are kept down. I secured employment in a bowery hotel at $6.50 a week. I had been accustomed to spending at times thousands a week, but I lived within my income, and was content. But one of Inspector Byrnes's men—Sergeant Lyman—followed me up, and I had to move on. Then I took advantage of the approach of the centennial celebration, and peddled pictures of Martha Washington. When Inspector Byrnes issued an order that all professional criminals should be taken off the streets and locked up until the celebration was over, I was run in again. I went over to Jersey. When I returned, and tried to renew my efforts to earn an honest living, another of Inspector Byrnes's men got upon my track. This time it was Sergeant Hanlon. He wanted me to play the part of a stool pigeon for him and incite other men to commit crime, so that I might betray them into his hands. I had been a thoroughly bad man, but I was not bad enough for that. So I went back to the old ways, and here I am.

"We stand self-confessed, your Honor, self-convicted thieves. What else can we be? We are social outcasts, pariahs, accursed of all men. I have known what it was to be an honest, respected man. I know what it is to be a thief, and I have known, too, how it feels to be robbed by a convicted thief. I believe in justice to thieves in my day. But what else can we be than thieves, common public nuisances?"

"I am not entirely indifferent to what you have said, Wilson," said Judge Martine. "I am inclined to believe some of your statements true. I believe your statements are to your desire to reform, and of the difficulty of building up the standing among honest men that you and other men like you shatter when you commit your first crime. If all men who are inclined to violate the law could hear your story, I believe that a great number of them would be restrained. If I sat here as a man, rather than a Judge, perhaps I might be inclined to show more leniency than, under my oath, I can show. The law must be enforced, and the community must be protected against those whose lives show that they are determined to prey upon it. Under your plea the minimum penalty that I can impose is imprisonment in State prison for five years. That is the sentence of the Court, Wilson, in your case. I sentence you, Austin, for four years and six months. Though I believe, Raymond, that you instigated the crime of which you and your associates have pleaded guilty, yet, in view of the assistance that you gave the people in the trial of Austin, I shall be more lenient to you. I sentence you to the penitentiary for three years."

Prison Employees Do Not Profit by the $2 a Day Bill.

ALBANY, Feb. 14.—The 170 officials employed by the day in the three State prisons cannot profit by the $2 per day law. The Fassett Prison bill became a law just after the $2 per day measure, though both were passed at about the same time. This fact, taken in connection with the special nature of the Prison act, led to the decision of the Attorney-General that the Prison act was independent of the $2 per day enactment. In this way the State prisons are able to prevent a considerable increase in expenditures, for