THE FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

ONLY TEN SENATORS ON HAND AT THE NEW HOUR OF MEETING.

Senator Sherman, Who Offered the Resolution to Meet at 10 A. M., the Last One to Put in an Appearance—Slow Progress on the Tariff Bill—The Speaker Refuses to Allow an Investigation of Charges of Bribery Against Members of the House.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Under the new order for the despatch of business, the Senate met at 10 A. M. There were, however, not more than ten Senators present during the prayer, and, after the Chaplain had retired, Mr. Gorman (Dem., Md.) suggested the fact that there was no quorum present. The roll was called, and thirty-two Senators answered to their names—eleven less than a quorum—whereupon the Sergeant-at-Arms was directed to request the attendance of absent Senators. By 10:20 a quorum had appeared, one of the latest to arrive being Mr. Sherman (Rep., Ohio), who offered the resolution by which the time of meeting had been advanced an hour, and this circumstance was jocularly commented on by some of the Democratic Senators.

It was suggested by Mr. Edmunds and others that the journal should give the names of the absentees when the roll call was completed, and the names of those subsequently reporting, in the order in which they arrived. Mr. Hale (Rep., Me.) thought, however, that the rule under which the Senate was operating should not be made any more obnoxious than it now was.

Mr. Harris (Dem., Tenn.) gave it as his opinion that if the fact of the journal giving the names of absentees would have the effect of bringing a quorum at the hour of meeting, it ought to be done. If so early an hour was found inconvenient, the Senate should fix an hour that would be convenient. It was grossly unjust to the members of the minority to be compelled to be present and waste their time until it suited the convenience of other Senators to appear and make a quorum to discharge the business of the body.

No action was taken on the suggestion, but all further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, with a letter from the director of the Geological Survey in answer to a resolution calling for information as to sites for irrigation surveys, canals, &c., was presented. While the letter was being read Mr. Aldrich (Rep., R. I.) suggested that in order to save time the reading should be dispensed with and the letter printed; but Mr. Gorman said that he wished to hear the letter, as the matter to which it referred was now under discussion by the House and might be before the Senate today or to-morrow.

After the reading had been resumed it was again interrupted by Mr. Sherman, who did not wish the business delayed by it.

Mr. Gorman said that if the Senator from Ohio had been in the chamber on time this morning, under his own resolution, the document could have been read and the public business facilitated. He (Mr. Gorman) had come to the chamber at 10 o'clock, in compliance with the resolution, but that Senator, and a good many others who had insisted on the adoption of the resolution, were not present.

Mr. Sherman resented the emphasizing of the fact that he had come into the chamber this morning fifteen minutes after the hour fixed for meeting. He had been engaged during those fifteen minutes on public business which he had to be considered as of more importance than listening to the reading of the journal.

The question whether the document should be read was put to the Senate and decided in the negative.

Mr. Frye (Rep., Me.) made a statement in relation to the River and Harbor bill. He said that the Committee on Commerce, not wishing to antagonize or to seem to antagonize the Tariff bill, had instructed him to consult the Finance Committee as to the time when the River and Harbor bill could be considered; that such consultation had taken place, and that it had been agreed, to the entire satisfaction of both committees, that the River and Harbor bill would be taken up on Friday of next week.

The conference report on the District of Columbia Appropriation bill was taken up, discussed for an hour and a half, chiefly on the subject of street railroad companies and their shortcomings, and agreed to.

The Tariff bill was then taken up, and its reading by paragraphs was continued, beginning at paragraph 33, page 6, the article being extracts of licorice, the amendment reported from the Finance Committee being to reduce the rate on the House bill from 6 cents to 5 cents a pound.

Mr. McPherson (Dem., N. J.) moved to make the rate 4 cents a pound, which would, he said, be equal to an ad valorem rate of 66 per cent., the prices current showing that the average price was 6 cents a pound. He spoke of the bill as being "a big steal from beginning to end," and said that he would move reductions in matters affecting the industries of his own State just as he would in matters affecting the industries of other States.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Platt.

Mr. McPherson's amendment was agreed to by the usual party vote—yeas, 16; nays, 27. The committee amendment was then agreed to, making the duty 5 cents a pound.

The next paragraph was: "Magnesia, carbonate of, medicinal, 4 cents per pound; calcined, 8 cents per pound; sulphate of, or Epsom salts, 3-10 cent per pound." Mr. McPherson moved to reduce the rates to 3, 6, and 2-10 cents per pound, respectively. Disagreed to.

The next paragraph was: "Morphia, or morphine, and all salts thereof, 50 cents per ounce." Mr. McPherson moved to reduce the rate to 25 cents. Disagreed to.

Mr. McPherson moved to reduce the duty on castor oil from 50 cents to 25 cents per gallon, and said that the former rate was equivalent to 125 per cent. ad valorem. Disagreed to.

Mr. Plumb (Rep., Kan.) moved to increase the rate to 8 cents per gallon, the present duty. He said that one-third of the entire castor oil bean crop of the country was produced in Kansas. He was willing to forego that rate of duty if the farmers of Kansas were permitted to buy the articles they used at a corresponding reduction of duty. He wanted to get out of the bill what he could for his own people. The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. McPherson moved to reduce the duty on cod liver oil from 10 cents per gallon to the present rate, 25 per cent. ad valorem, and said that 10 cents per gallon was equivalent to 52 per cent. ad valorem. Disagreed to—yeas, 21; nays, 31.

The paragraph as to flaxseed or linseed oil was (at the suggestion of Mr. Aldrich) passed over without action.

Mr. McPherson moved to reduce the duty on fish oil from 8 cents per gallon to 25 per cent. ad valorem. Rejected.

Paragraph 47, relating to opium, was amended as recommended by the Finance Committee, by making it read "opium containing less than 9 per cent. of morphia, and opium prepared for smoking, $12 per pound" instead of $6, as in the House bill, although Mr. Sherman suggested that the high rate of duty would probably encourage the smuggling of opium on the Pacific coast.

Paragraph 48, as to barytes, was amended, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, by making the duty on the unmanufactured article $1 per ton instead of $2, as in the House bill, and on the manufactured article one-fourth cent per pound instead of ¾ per ton.

Mr. McPherson moved to reduce the duty on chrome yellow, chrome green, &c., from 45 cents per pound to 25 per cent. ad valorem. Rejected—yeas, 20; nays, 27.

Mr. McPherson offered similar amendments to several other paragraphs under the heading of "paints, colors, and varnishes," with the same unvarying result.

An amendment by Mr. McPherson to reduce the duty on whiting and Paris white from ¾ cent a pound to 20 per cent. ad valorem was discussed for some time. Mr. McPherson stating that, as the cost of whiting was only 4-10 cent a pound, the duty of ¾ cent a pound was equivalent to 125 per cent. ad valorem, and Mr. Aldrich rejoining that statement and saying that he could not waste the time of the Senate in correcting all of Mr. McPherson's misstatements. After a discussion that lasted over an hour and a half the amendment was rejected by the usual party vote—yeas, 22; nays, 31.

The amendment reported by the Finance Committee, to strike out of paragraph 60 the words, "All paints and colors commercially known as artists' water-color paints, 50 per cent. ad valorem," was agreed to. This leaves all such paints at 25 per cent. ad valorem.

The next paragraph was, in reference to acetate of lead, the Finance Committee recommending an increase of the duty in the House bill on white acetate of lead from 3 to 5½ cents per pound, and on brown from 2 to 3½ cents per pound. The amendment was agreed to—yeas, 27; nays, 19.

Four pages of the bill having thus been disposed of to-day, the Senate, at 6 P. M., adjourned until to-morrow at 10 A. M., after a statement by Mr. Blair (Rep., N. H.) that by a calculation which he had made the bill would be disposed of, at the present rate of progress, by the 20th of next December.

House of Representatives.

Mr. Oates (Dem., Ala.), rising to a question of privilege, offered a resolution for the investigation of the charges of corruption against members of this House contained in a recent editorial in the *National Economist*. Mr. Oates said that when a charge of this character was made by a journal of respectability and wide circulation it should not be passed over in silence. If the charge was true the country ought to know it. If it was not, if it was due to the good name of the members of the House that this fact should be established.

Mr. Cannon (Rep., Ill.) contended that the resolution did not present a question of privilege. The charge made in the editorial article was indefinite. For one, until somebody made a reasonably specific charge and showed an ability to procure evidence that would tend to establish it, he thought that the House owed it to its dignity and to the business of the country to pay no attention to it.

Mr. Rogers (Dem., Ark.) said that it was generally understood that the Speaker passed all the bills in this House. Therefore the charge was an inferential charge against the Speaker, and as amicus curiæ he thought that the resolution should be adopted.

Mr. Peters (Rep., Kan.) was opposed to dignifying the article by paying any attention to it. The man who could pen such an article must be either corrupt or a man of the densest ignorance. There was not a man in the House who did not know that the charge was absolutely false. He denied that the writer had any right to make a charge in the name of the Farmers' Alliance. There were some members of the Farmers' Alliance who were demagogues, and who were attempting to lead the Alliance into politics and outside of its legitimate sphere of action, and these men were feeding upon just such utterances as this editorial contained. They were trying to create the impression that all public men were corrupt, and that they were the only virtuous men in the Union, and therefore should be put into office.

After further discussion the Speaker ruled that the resolution was not a privileged one. In doing so he said that the newspaper editorial was of the vaguest character. It made no assertion except by inference. It made no statement upon which anybody could be expected to predicate a belief or a conviction. It was within the knowledge of every member that paragraphs of this character were floating around in the newspapers of the country. The House could see the inconvenience which would result to the business of the House if any member had the right, in the production of a paragraph like this, to demand an investigation.

The House sustained the decision of the Chair—an appeal having been taken by Mr. Oates—by a vote of yeas, 95; nays, 71.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Allen of Michigan in the chair) on the Senate amendment to the Sundry Civil bill. The entire afternoon was consumed in a discussion of the Senate irrigation amendment. Many amendments were proposed to this amendment, but the ultimate result was that the Senate amendment was non-concurred in. The committee then rose and reported the bill to the House. Without disposing of the bill, the House adjourned.

LIVE WASHINGTON TOPICS.

Things of Interest Happening In and Out of the Halls of Congress.

Army circles in Washington are greatly interested in the controversy in the Department of the Platte between Brig.-Gen. Brooke and Col. August V. Kautz, of the Eighth Infantry. Gen. Brooke has preferred charges against Col. Kautz of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman and placed him under arrest, and Col. Kautz has in turn preferred like charges against Gen. Brooke.

The trouble, as shown by the papers in the War Department, seems to have arisen from the action of the Quartermaster, Lieut. Ames of Fort Niobrara, in being instrumental in the arrest of a sentinel and the bringing against him of charges for neglect of duty while guarding prisoners engaged in fatigue duty. The court which sat at Fort Niobrara during Col. Kautz's absence acquitted the prisoner, apparently on the ground that the Quartermaster, being unlawfully in charge of the general police of the garrison, had exceeded his powers, and because he had given no positive orders to the sentinel to keep the prisoners at work. In reviewing the case Gen. Brooke made a marriage of two documents which virtually reprimanded Col. Kautz for placing the Quartermaster in charge of the general police in violation of paragraph 496 of the army regulations and of paragraph 51 of Ennis's Guard Manual.

To this Col. Kautz replied, denying that Lieut. Ames had been placed in charge of the general police of the garrison, or that there had been any violation of the army regulations. He said that the prisoners were on fatigue duty only, and that the regular police duty was performed on Saturdays under the direction of the officer of the day. He denied that the action of the officer of the day in the post Quartermaster for work on fatigue duty could be construed as the general police duty referred to by the regulation.

Gen. Brooke responded in a letter charging Col. Kautz with making statements with the intent to mislead and deceive the department commander, and under date of July 12 Col. Kautz answered the same in a letter to Gen. Brooke's Adjutant-General, which is denounced by Gen. Brooke as disrespectful, and as wrongfully imputing to Gen. Brooke neglect of duty and with recklessly supporting the view of his adversary in the controversy. Col. Kautz's letter concludes as follows:

"The reckless confidence with which the department commander supports the views of his acting Judge Advocate in this case is manifest, but if he is willing to expose the fact that he leaves to his staff officer the review of court martial cases, when the law makes it his own personal duty, and he deems it proper to use irrelevant matters developed in the proceedings of court martials to arraign post commanders, it would be well to make sure that the points are well taken, for, as in this case, the evidence of his own staff and the action of the Court the result of a successful quibble. There is nothing in my endorsement of the 14th of June that in any way justifies the accusation by the department commander contained in your letter of the 17th of June. It is unparalleled in my experience of official correspondence, and it should have been evident to him when he made it, that no officer with the slightest self respect can possibly rest content under it. It partakes of the nature of a personal assault, and is the more mortifying to me and unbecoming to him, from the fact that it is delivered from his intrenched position which rank and command give to him. He should not make it unless he is prepared, and willing to support it with proper charges as stated in my letter of the 19th of June. His answer to that letter indicates that he does not even contemplate giving me an opportunity to vindicate myself. I have therefore the right to ask that he be called to recall the objectionable words in your letter of June 17, namely, 'that he does not believe (deem) your statement as at all warranted by the facts in the case.'

Upon receiving this letter Gen. Brooke promptly preferred charges against Col. Kautz for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and for violation of the twentieth article of war. Gen. Kautz at once retaliated by preferring charges against Gen. Brooke, alleging conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman in accusing him (Col. Kautz) of falsehood in official correspondence without cause or provocation.

There is a desirable Government office going begging. This is the superintendent of the foreign mails branch of the Post Office Department. Since Nicholas M. Bell, who was appointed by Mr. Cleveland, placed his resignation in Postmaster-General Wanamaker's hands, which is now over a year ago, the office has been vacant. There are at least twelve applications on file, and some of the candidates have strong backing, but none of them quite fills the bill, at least in Mr. Wanamaker's opinion. The place pays $3,000, and the incumbent ought to have some knowledge of the modern languages, as the office has charge of the branch of the postal service which has to do with foreign countries. However, the salary and the qualifications, if the latter are insisted upon, do not seem to harmonize. Capt. Brooks, the chief clerk of the office, has been performing the duties of the office for the past year, but he has not been drawing the salary. It has been suggested that a civil service examination be held for the place, as it is thought that the right man could be found in that way.

The bill to prohibit pool selling and bookmaking in the District of Columbia was reported to the House to-day favorably, with amendments. By the terms of the amendment pool selling and bookmaking are prohibited within one mile of the city limits, and to be engaged in them only by persons or associations owning at least seventy-five acres of ground. The effect of the amendment will be to confine bookmaking and pool selling to the race tracks.

The President has appointed the following cadets to West Point: Clyde L. Hawkins, Twenty-fourth district, Pennsylvania; Joseph N. Augustin, Jr., First District, Louisiana; Paul H. Briggs, Ninth district, Missouri; Victor Humphreys, Seventh district, North Carolina; Charles N. Smiley, Jr., Second district, Missouri, with W. Lemuel Cochrane alternate, and James I. Vincent, Seventh district, Michigan.

The conferees on the Land Grant Forfeiture bill have about come to an agreement upon the measure, and will probably formally conclude their report at the next meeting. It is understood that the measure agreed upon provides for an absolute forfeiture of the lands described in the act. The section of the House bill looking to further forfeitures of lands is said to have been stricken out.

The new revenue steamer to be launched at 8 o'clock next Tuesday by the Pusey Jones Company at Wilmington, Del., has been named by Secretary Windom the Winona, after the city of that name in Minnesota, from which Secretary Windom hails. The vessel will be stationed on the coast of North Carolina, with headquarters at Newberne.

The Speaker and his friends are having a difficult time of it trying to settle the perplexing question of public buildings. They are trying to come to some sort of agreement by which some of the bills may be passed, not exceeding the average appropriations for buildings, which is about $7,000,000. So far the buildings provided for do not aggregate that amount, but it is next to impossible to select a [illegible] of the $20,000,000 worth on the calendar. No one thinks $20,000,000 should be appropriated for buildings this year, but each thinks his bill should be one of those passed. In view of this situation it looks as though no more would be allowed to pass the House.

CHICAGO'S BIG FAIR.

The National Committee to be Reconvened When Building Plans are Ready.

CHICAGO, July 31.—Secretary Dickinson of the National World's Fair Commission returned from his Eastern trip last evening. He joined the sub-committee of the Committee on Permanent Organization at Philadelphia ten days ago, and attended its sessions in New York, Washington, and Cincinnati. Besides the valuable information obtained by the committee, important results are likely to come from the trip. President Palmer has been convinced that no time is to be lost in making preparations for the Fair, and he will be here in a few days to urge the local Board to go to work at once. He will reconvene the National Commission as soon as the local Board is ready to report plans of buildings and make its final financial showing. This, it is hoped, may be done by the middle of September.

Gen. Goshorn has not declined the Director Generalship, because it was not tendered him.

Robert P. Porter has not received an offer of the position of Chief of the Bureau of Awards, neither has Prof. Goode received an offer of the position of Chief of the Bureau of Classification and Catalogue. These gentlemen were employed to prepare a classified list of exhibits, and their duties will not involve more than seven or eight weeks' work.

"The sub-committee has gathered together more important information about the management of world's fairs," said Mr. Dickinson, "than can be found anywhere else in the country. In a few days it will meet here to prepare its report, and President Palmer will be here to consult with the local Board. The work will be pushed with all the vigor the President can command, and I think this one of the most important results of the committee's work.

"From suggestions received at Philadelphia and New York President Palmer became convinced that time was a most important element in making preparations for the Fair. Gen. Goshorn, Mr. McCormick, and others impressed on him the fact that the first thing to do was to have made a classification of articles. Mr. Porter and Prof. Goode had been recommended as the ablest men in the country to make this classification, and he secured their service. The plans of the buildings cannot be prepared until it is known how the exhibits are to be classified. Col. C. E. Gordon, a man of remarkable information concerning world's fairs, will assist these gentlemen. Col. Gordon will classify the agricultural and stock exhibits. These three men will have the entire work in hand, and they are expected to complete it in forty or fifty days."

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., July 31.—The Chicago delegation, which has been working against the lake front Jackson Park site for the World's Fair, and which was supposed last night to have a majority of the Judiciary Committee, received another set back this morning when the sub-committees' report in favor of striking out the section providing for the issue of $2,000,000 in bonds was rejected by a vote of 12 to 13, and the minority report to add a clause to provide that the question of issuing the bonds shall first be submitted to a vote of the people of the park district was then adopted. The section was also amended so as to provide that the amount of the bonds shall be $1,000,000 instead of $2,000,000.

In the House the Judiciary Committee reported back the World's Fair bill, which was taken up and read the second time and most of the amendments of the Judiciary Committee adopted. The amendment providing for the enforcement of the eight-hour law among laborers on the buildings and that none but citizens of the United States should be employed, was finally adopted, in spite of the warning of one of the members that the adoption of this clause meant the turning over of the World's Fair to the walking delegates, and that, in this case, "hell would be to pay."

The proposed constitutional amendment providing for the issue of $5,000,000 in bonds by the city of Chicago to aid the World's Fair has been adopted by both Houses of the Legislature.

WANAMAKER BARS TOLSTOI.

Ordering Postmasters Not to Transmit Kreutzer Sonata Through the Mails.

Postmaster-General Wanamaker has put upon the contraband list of his department Count Tolstoi's latest novel, "Kreutzer Sonata," and the book cannot hereafter be sent through the mails except under seal. The Postmaster-General condemns the book as unmailable on the ground that it contains matter which he judges to be obscene. He is reinforced in his opinion by Assistant Attorney-General Tyner, and all Postmasters have therefore been instructed to refuse to accept the book for transmission through the mails. Assistant Postmaster Gaylor said yesterday that such an order had been received from Washington, but he refused to make public the opinion of the Assistant Attorney-General on which it was based.

It is quite probable that the publishers of the novel will receive the news of the blacklisting with an equanimity bordering upon glee. The novel, or rather an English translation of it by B. R. Tucker, has been on the market for some time, but the sale of it has not been enormous. It is not a book that is designed to appeal to gross tastes, after the manner of some of the lurid summer novels of the day, but it does contain some more or less philosophical free-love arguments.

The effect of Mr. Wanamaker's order is to make the book unmailable at any but first-class rates. Technically, the book is excluded from the mails under the clause that the Post Office Department has no authority to open on suspicion a sealed package mailed at letter rates.

The Society for the Suppression of Vice has done nothing toward suppressing the sale of the book in New York, but the officers of the rival concern, the Society for the Enforcement of the Criminal Law, announce their intention to seize the book and stop its sale. They have no powers except those of private citizens.

TURNING OUT THE DEMOCRATS.

Senator Hiscock's Collector of Internal Revenue Makes a Clean Sweep.

SYRACUSE, July 31.—One of Grover Cleveland's relatives is in hard luck here. His name is William E. Hoyt, and he is a brother-in-law of the ex-President. Mr. Hoyt has been filling a $1,600 place in the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue of the Twenty-second district, but to-night he walks the plank after a four years' term. The new Collector, Alexander Von Landberg, who is Senator Hiscock's appointee, does not take any stock in civil service reform, and to-night he made a clean sweep of the Democrats. Every mother's son must go, from the lowest clerk to the chief deputy. Mr. Beach, Cleveland's appointee, kindly allowed some of the Republicans to stay for a while, but Mr. Von Landberg believes that "to the victor belongs the spoils," and he has lost no time in sentimental dillydallying. Mr. Hoyt is about 65 years of age, and lives in Fayetteville. It is a hard blow to him.

Mr. Alexander Von Landberg's appointments in the Revenue Collector's office for this district are as follows: Chief Deputy, Jerry F. Cooney, in place of George Murray; Deputy, John L. Bolhner, vice Samuel Taylor; clerks, John Hackett of Cortland, vice William E. Hoyt; George W. Armstrong of Manlius, vice John Sullivan, and Henry L. Bassett, vice W. H. Merrill. Dr. Ira M. Snooks of Waverly has been appointed deputy in place of G. W. Apgar of Ithaca. Dr. Snooks is a veteran, and his office will be at Waverly. S. Savery of Cato has been appointed deputy in place of L. C. Mead of Auburn. Mr. Savery is also a veteran, and the office for that district will be removed to Cato. F. D. Wheeler of Oswego succeeds Deputy H. C. Breed of Phœnix. Mr. Wheeler's headquarters will be in Oswego.

The British Squadron at Newport.

NEWPORT, July 31.—The British squadron, under command of Vice-Admiral Watson, arrived here this morning. As the three war ships, Bellerophon, Partridge, and Canada, which make up the fleet, cast anchor in the outer harbor, they were greeted with salutes from Fort Adams and the navy training station. The Bellerophon has been here before, a number of years ago. The fleet will be the object of much interest and attention while here. The officers of the government station here paid their respects to the Admiral, and Mayor Coggeshall and President Hammett of the Common Council went aboard and welcomed the Admiral. The Admiral did not come ashore until afternoon, when he met Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Minister. This afternoon Fleet Surgeon Menz, Sir John Ross, and eight officers were taken for a drive about the city.

The vessels will remain until Aug. 6, and Admiral Watson and officers will receive many attentions from society people. To-morrow Fleet Surgeon Menz and four officers will accompany Mayor Coggeshall to the State institutions at Cranston.

Hamilton Fish, Jr., on the Aqueduct Again.

Judge Dykman, on recommendation of Commissioner Gilroy, has appointed Assemblyman Fish of Putnam and Ex-Assemblyman H. M. Mayhew, also of Putnam, aqueduct appraisers to look after the Sodom dam in Putnam. Salary, when at work, $10 a day.

FLORENCE BLYTHE WINS.

A COURT DECISION THAT GIVES HER MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

End of the Famous Blythe Will Contest Case—The Illegitimate Daughter of the Millionaire Declared to be His Lawful Heir.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31.—The celebrated Blythe will contest, which began in July, 1889, ended to-day. Judge Coffey rendered a decision in favor of Florence, illegitimate child of Thomas H. Blythe, the deceased millionaire, awarding her the bulk of the estate, of a total value of about $4,000,000. The contestants included the plaintiff, Florence Blythe, Alice Edith Dickason, alleged widow of Blythe, the Williams heirs of Liverpool, the Blythe Company, the gipsy Blythes, the Savages of London, the Scotch-Irish Savages, James Witt Pearce, and William and David Savage. The Court held that, according to the laws of this State, Florence had established her claim to be the daughter of Blythe, the latter orally and in writing having acknowledged her as his child.

The central figure in the Blythe contest was Florence. She is the granddaughter of Dr. James C. Fish Perry. Florence was born at 10 St. Charles street, London, in 1873. She is now a slender girl of medium height and well educated for one of her age. She resembles her father, and has a peculiar expression on her countenance which lends a strange charm to her appearance. She is an illegitimate child, her mother having been betrayed by the millionaire under promise of marriage.

Blythe met Julia Ashcraft while on a visit to England in 1874. She was then a young girl and quite pretty. Blythe invited her to visit his room. That visit sealed her fate. When Blythe departed for America he left a note requesting Julia to name the child "Vernon if a boy, Florry if a girl." The child when born was christened Florence. When Blythe was informed of the little girl's birth he manifested deep interest in her. He told a number of his friends that he was her father, and whenever he spoke of the girl it was with expressions of affection.

When she was old enough to write she corresponded with her father, and his replies indicated that he was fond of her and intended to bring her to America to preside over his home. At the time of his death he was preparing plans for a residence on the banks of the Colorado, where he expected to live with Florence's mother and the girl.

Florence Blythe was one of about two hundred claimants of the estate. The girl's story was apparently without flaw, and strong evidence in the form of letters and other documents was introduced to substantiate it. She is a comely girl, and has throughout the trial enjoyed much of the public's sympathy.

Probably no man was overcredited with more birthplaces or had a more obscure history than Blythe. He lived in San Francisco for over thirty years, accumulated a vast fortune, was known as widely as any other rich man, and when he died no one could write an authentic biography of him. His estate was large, no one of indisputable relationship to him was known, and no will could be found. Claimants for the property, which passed into the charge of the Public Administrator, came forward by the dozen. Each set of claimants has traced his descent in a different way from the others. None of them, however, agreed as to his nativity or parentage.

Blythe died here on Aug. 5, 1849, and soon after, according to the recollection of parties who knew him, began raising vegetables in South San Francisco. Later he peddled fancy goods and notions on the streets, by which he accumulated a few hundred dollars. Most of this sum he invested in the Mission district property bounded by Market, Grand avenue, and Geary street. The money was not repaid, the mortgage was foreclosed, and Blythe came into possession of the property. Though it proved the foundation of his vast wealth, he was not foresighted enough to see its value then, and wanted the late millionaire, James Lick, who was then also paving his way to fortune, to take the property off his hands. The sudden growth of the town increased the value of the land, and now it is in the heart of the city, worth many millions of dollars, and yielding a monthly income of about $11,000.

In addition to the real estate includes about 80,000 acres in southern California, a grant of about 360,000 acres in Mexico, a three-fourths interest in a grant of 1,100,000 acres also in Mexico, property in Oregon, and large holdings in Arizona mines. It is all worth $4,000,000 or more. He never married, though, like old Senator Sharon, he had a penchant for pretty women, and this trait has brought prominently into the foreground two of the contestants—one, the woman with whom he associated up to the time of his death, and the other, the girl who is now declared his heir.

Following the claim of the little girl was that of Alice Edith Dickerson, or, as she now chooses to style herself, Mrs. Blythe. She first met Blythe seven or eight years before his death, and was then a poor artist. The millionaire befriended her, and their acquaintance grew till his home was hers. He fitted up luxurious apartments in one of his Geary street buildings, and the two lived here until he died. After this Alice Edith continued to occupy the rooms, spent a great deal of money, and so gave herself up to liquor that she was for a time confined in an asylum for inebriates. The novel, or rather an English translation of it by B. R. Tucker, has been on the market for some time, but the sale of it has not been enormous. It is not a book that is designed to appeal to gross tastes, after the manner of some of the lurid summer novels of the day, but it does contain some more or less philosophical free-love arguments.

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TURNING OUT THE DEMOCRATS.

Senator Hiscock's Collector of Internal Revenue Makes a Clean Sweep.

SYRACUSE, July 31.—One of Grover Cleveland's relatives is in hard luck here. His name is William E. Hoyt, and he is a brother-in-law of the ex-President. Mr. Hoyt has been filling a $1,600 place in the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue of the Twenty-second district, but to-night he walks the plank after a four years' term. The new Collector, Alexander Von Landberg, who is Senator Hiscock's appointee, does not take any stock in civil service reform, and to-night he made a clean sweep of the Democrats. Every mother's son must go, from the lowest clerk to the chief deputy. Mr. Beach, Cleveland's appointee, kindly allowed some of the Republicans to stay for a while, but Mr. Von Landberg believes that "to the victor belongs the spoils," and he has lost no time in sentimental dillydallying. Mr. Hoyt is about 65 years of age, and lives in Fayetteville. It is a hard blow to him.

Mr. Alexander Von Landberg's appointments in the Revenue Collector's office for this district are as follows: Chief Deputy, Jerry F. Cooney, in place of George Murray; Deputy, John L. Bolhner, vice Samuel Taylor; clerks, John Hackett of Cortland, vice William E. Hoyt; George W. Armstrong of Manlius, vice John Sullivan, and Henry L. Bassett, vice W. H. Merrill. Dr. Ira M. Snooks of Waverly has been appointed deputy in place of G. W. Apgar of Ithaca. Dr. Snooks is a veteran, and his office will be at Waverly. S. Savery of Cato has been appointed deputy in place of L. C. Mead of Auburn. Mr. Savery is also a veteran, and the office for that district will be removed to Cato. F. D. Wheeler of Oswego succeeds Deputy H. C. Breed of Phœnix. Mr. Wheeler's headquarters will be in Oswego.

New York G. A. R. Posts in the Boston Parade.

ALBANY, July 31.—In General Orders No. 8, issued to-day, State Department Commander Clarkson divides the State G. A. R. posts for the purpose of the parade in Boston on Aug. 12, on the occasion of the national encampment, into nine brigades, as follows:

First Brigade—Posts 8, 32, 135, 143, 264, 520, and such other posts as may be designated from New York county: Herman W. Thum of Post 32, Commander.

Second Brigade—Posts 26, 48, 58, 182, 507, 597, and such other posts as may be designated in New York county: Philip H. Rigler of Post 48, Commander.

Third Brigade—All posts in the Second Judicial district: James D. Bell of Post 453, Commander.

Fourth Brigade—All posts in the Third Judicial district: J. L. De Peyster of Post 318, Commander.

Fifth Brigade—All posts in the Fourth Judicial district: H. H. Ellsworth of Post 40, Commander.

Sixth Brigade—All posts in the Fifth Judicial district: Richard Dunn of Post 154, Commander.

Seventh Brigade—All posts in the Sixth Judicial district: Seymour Dexter of Post 6, Commander.

Eighth Brigade—All posts in the Seventh Judicial district: Joseph F. Cleary of Post 491, Commander.

Ninth Brigade—All posts in the Eighth Judicial district: D. R. Stowits of Post 9, Commander.

A Fortune of $200,000 Left Him.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., July 31.—James Quick, an apprentice with Dowling & Bottomley, builders, has just received word from England that an uncle in Australia had left him a fortune of $200,000 providing he will go to Australia and take charge of a large ranch there. A cablegram to-day from England tells him to be ready to sail at a moment's notice. The young man came to this country from England about three years ago.

SANK A FRENCH FISHERMAN.

The Obdam Brings in 22 of the Crew—Four Men were Lost.

The steamship Obdam of the Netherlands-American line, which arrived yesterday from Rotterdam, reported that on Sunday last she was in collision off the banks with the French fishing bark Cristophe Colombe, which sank immediately, carrying four men down with her. Capt. Bakker of the Obdam said that the steamship was going very slowly through a thick fog. The fog whistle was blowing regularly at intervals of one and a half minutes, and there was a lookout in the crow's nest and another in the forecastle. The Captain himself, with the second, third, and fourth officers, was on the bridge, and a quartermaster had the wheel, also on the bridge. At 1:10 P. M., in latitude 44° 5' N., longitude 50° 12' N., off the southern banks, the forward lookout reported a sail off the starboard bow. At the same instant the officers on the bridge saw the bark. She was about half a point on the starboard, crossing the Obdam's bows with all sail set and running free. She was steering south, and the Obdam was steering west by north on her course. Capt. Bakker ported his helm hard, and reversed his engines at full speed. The ship swung quickly to starboard, but not quickly enough to avoid the bark, which she struck between the main and mizzen masts.

The shock to the Obdam was too slight to be noticed by the passengers, but it cut the bark in two. The crew of the bark were all on deck. The collision knocked the mainmast down, and it fell across the bow of the Obdam. Most of the French crew climbed over to the Obdam by the broken rigging. Seven of them succeeded in getting a boat into the water and came alongside, bringing with them a large Newfoundland dog. The Obdam lowered a boat, but found no one afloat. The roll of the bark's crew was called and it was found that four of them were missing. The names of the lost are: Dée, Battiste Stern, Pelletier, and Trouvelle. The last was married and had three children.

The Obdam cruised about the scene of the collision for two hours, but Capt. Bakker saw only one piece of wreckage and three kloties. He dared not send a small boat far from the ship because of the dense fog, but is positive that there was no living being left behind. At 3:15 P. M. the Obdam proceeded.

The crew of the bark numbered twenty-six, under Capt. J. L. Rubatto. They were all residents of Cette, and will be taken care of by the French Consul. Those who were saved are:

Bailleul, Jean N.	Ledun, Joseph S.
Reltier, Altonse.	Le Francois, Fortune.
Banis, Jules A.	Moutier, Henri F.
Deneuve, Pierre L.	Ongot, Franquile V.
Fauvel, Henri	Pont, Robert S.
Grisel, Alexandre R.	Richer, Charlemagne.
Grisel, Theodore E.	Robert, Victor A.
Geromi, Victor L.	Rubatto, Joseph L.
Hervieux, Martin.	Seril, Robert J. B.
Hervieux, Ernest.	Soutry, Eugene.
Houlier, Ferdinand.	Vauchel, Eugene.

TRYING TO GET M'GONEGAL OUT.

His Counsel Say Their Say and Judge Beach Takes the Testimony to Read.

Counsel for Dr. McGonegal, for his gig-driver, the negro, Davis, and for his hospital nurse, Mrs. Shaw, were before Judge Beach yesterday with the stenographer's report of the inquest into the killing of Annie Goodwin by malpractice. Lawyer Birdsall said that application would be made for the release of Davis, against whom there was, he said, no evidence. All technical matters he would leave to the Court without comment. As to the false certificate of death, he said that the date was a trivial matter, but as to the name he asserted that Miss Goodwin had given the name "Jane Wilbur" to Dr. McGonegal. Mrs. Cole, who swore that Annie told her she was homeless, houseless, and without friends, and she made the same statement to McGonegal. "Our clients," he said, "should not be incarcerated for a felony which has not been committed, and of which there is not the slightest evidence."

Assistant District Attorney Bedford said that the verdict of the Coroner's jury on the law and medical evidence was in every sense just, and that the Coroner did right in holding the prisoners. He felt assured of the conviction of the prisoners, he said, and that if they were admitted to bail they would not be on hand when wanted. The crime with which the Doctor was charged was manslaughter in the first degree. He reviewed the case, referring to McGonegal's innocent attempts to get Sadie Traphagen to imitate "Jane Wilbur's" handwriting and sign it "Annie Goodwin," and to the medical testimony as to the cause of death.

Jimmy Oliver said that there was no legal evidence against any of the prisoners. Decision was reserved. Coroner Messemer yesterday accepted William G. Bergen of 221 West Tenth street as bondsman for Augustus Harrison, who was held in default of $5,000 bail.

CO-RESPONDENT GOUNHARD'S VISIT.

Beyerly Breaks a Cutlass Over His Shoulders and Tells a Story About Burglars.

Fritz Beyerly of 913 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, appeared at the Bradford street station about 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning, carrying a broken cutlass in one hand and a club in the other. He told the Sergeant in charge that he had surprised a burglar trying to enter his house through an open window and had pursued him to the street and smashed the cutlass over his head. The burglar got away, but Beyerly said he had struck him so hard that he would not be surprised if the man should be found dead.

Detectives were hustled out to investigate, and on their return Beyerly admitted that he had been romancing in the burglar part of his story. The early morning visitor, he said, was not a thief, but Albert Gounhard, the co-respondent in a suit for absolute divorce which he had begun against his wife. It was subsequently found that the cutlass had descended on Gounhard's shoulders and not his head, and that he was only slightly injured. Beyerly has applied to Justice Kenna for a warrant for his arrest.

A Relic of the Earliest Quaker Settlement.

READING, Pa., July 31.—Farmer Joseph F. Moore of Joanna, this county, in digging an excavation the other day near his barn, unearthed a large iron plate three feet square, bearing date April 4, 1570, buried two feet beneath the surface. Two Indians are represented on one side of the plate, and a pair of anchors on the reverse side. The plate also bears this inscription in German:

"Oh, hope in Christ's better time, as all troubles will cease. Hope to see that blessed beam of peace, when hatred, wars, and strife shall cease."

There is nothing about the plate to indicate the place of its casting. Farmer Moore's barn was built eighty-four years ago, on the site of a homestead owned by Isaac Wells, whose father, Joseph Wells, obtained a deed for the property from the original proprietaries, Thomas and Richard Penn, sons of old William Penn, then Governors