PRESBYTERIANS IN COUNCIL.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Striking Scenes in New York Avenue Church, Washington—Prof. Briggs and His Supporters Conspicuous in the Gathering—President Lincoln's Few an Object of Interest—Dr. Young, the Retiring Moderator, in His Sermon Antagonizes the Views of Prof. Briggs, and Declares that the Bible is the Constitution of the Church.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which convened here to-day, was a strikingly different body from that which met in this city in 1852. At that time the Church was divided into old and new school factions, and the assembly of 1852 was of the new school only. All the churches in this city, with one exception, then belonged to the new school branch. That was the organization out of which grew New York Avenue Church, in which the General Assembly met to-day. Dr. Albert Barnes, who has been called the forerunner of Prof. Briggs, being considered as unorthodox in his day upon the question of the atonement as the latter upon the question of the inerrancy and inspiration of the Scriptures, was the Moderator of the assembly in 1852. He preached a sermon entitled "Our Position," containing references to slavery which gave great offence to the Southern delegates. But there were no burning issues before the assembly, and its sessions passed off peacefully and quietly.

The scene in New York Avenue Church this morning was inspiriting. Every nook and cranny was filled, and had the capacity of the church been twice as great, it would not have accommodated all who desired to be present. Doubtless the most prominent in the gathering of to-day were those connected with the famous Briggs case in its trial before the New York Presbytery, an appeal from whose judgment has been taken to the General Assembly. First and foremost of these, of course, was Prof. Briggs himself, aggressive and confident as when, on the day of his inauguration in 1890 as Professor of the Chair of Biblical Theology in Union Seminary, he startled the Church with an expression of his views concerning the integrity of the Bible, the authority of reason and the Church, the superiority of the Christianity of Newman and Martineau over that of Spurgeon, and on progression or probation in the future state. Of his supporters there were the Revs. Francis Brown, also of Union Seminary, and George D. Alexander, George L. Spinning, and Charles L. Thompson, all Commissioners from New York Presbytery.

Dividing with this combination the attention of the spectators were members of the committee who prosecuted Prof. Briggs before the Presbytery. It included the Revs. G. W. F. Birch, Joseph J. Lampe, and R. F. Sample, Prof. J. J. Stevenson of New York University, and Elder J. J. McCook. The latter is one of the famous family of "Fighting McCooks," which sent nine brothers into the war of the rebellion, two of whom survived. He is a cousin of Gen. Anson G. McCook, Secretary of the Senate and a distinguished lawyer of New York. He is an elder in Dr. John Hall's church. There was another Prof. Briggs, also from New York, but hailing from Buffalo. As far as the East is from the West, so far is Prof. Horace Briggs from Prof. Charles Briggs in his theological views, being strictly orthodox and at the same time one of the kindliest men in the assembly. Almost equally prominent with Prof. Charles Briggs was the Rev. Dr. Henry Preserved Smith of Lane Theological Seminary, Cincinnati. He has recently been tried on charges similar to those made against Prof. Briggs, but, unlike him, convicted in the Presbytery. An appeal has been taken to the Ohio Synod, where it will be heard in October.

The literary lights of the Church shone in full measure upon the assembly. There were, besides those mentioned, Prof. J. R. Randall of the Latin Department, Lincoln University; the Rev. J. Aspinwall Hodge, D. D., of Hartford, Conn., author of "What is Presbyterian Law?" elected recently to the chair of the English version of the Bible, which appointment the General Assembly will be asked to confirm; R. M. Patterson, editor of the *Presbyterian Journal* of Philadelphia, and author of the famous "Portland Inerrancy Deliverance," an attack upon Prof. Briggs's teachings; E. P. Whallon, editor of the *Herald and Presbyter*, Cincinnati; Dr. Herrick Johnson of McCormick Theological Seminary, at the head of the delegation from the Chicago Presbytery, and Dr. McClure, one of Dr. Johnson's colleagues, Acting President of Lake Forest University.

Colored Presbyterians were sprinkled about over the church. A leading Commissioner of that race is the Rev. John A. Savage from Cape Fear Presbytery, North Carolina. He is a graduate of Lincoln College, and now Stated Clerk of his Presbytery.

Young and old were represented by the Rev. Luther H. Angier of Boston, the oldest living graduate of Union Theological Seminary, with one exception the sole survivor of the class of 1836, and the Rev. W. H. Cornant, who represented the extreme of location as well as age, being Commissioner from Spokane Falls, Wash. In personal appearance Dr. Angier resembles the English Premier, and is locally known as the Gladstone of the Boston Presbyterians.

While the Commissioners were gathering (the galleries and corridors were filled to overflowing long before the hour fixed for the opening of the assembly) they found much to engage their interest in the church itself. The New York Avenue Church is eminent among places of worship in the Union as having had among its pew holders several Presidents of the United States, as well as for the ability and high character of its pastors. It came into existence in 1859, from the union of the Second and F street churches. Its first pastor was the Rev. Phineas D. Gurley, D. D., who remained with it until his death in 1868. He has been succeeded by Dr. S. S. Mitchell, Dr. John R. Paxton, and Dr. William Alvin Bartlett. Mr. Gurley was President Lincoln's pastor, and preached the funeral sermon of the martyred President. Almost the first object in the church to strike the eye on entering is a black walnut pew on the north side of the centre aisle, the only one of that color in the room, all the others being of oak. It is the pew which President Lincoln occupied when in attendance, and was replaced in anticipation of this meeting of the Assembly. The action was taken at the annual meeting of the church in March last, at which time Dr. Bartlett said:

"There is no greater religious relic in the world, and no greater relic anywhere, than this pew where Abraham Lincoln sat to worship his God. Were it made of dirt or mud, I would rather sit in it than another of pure gold. It will be a mecca for Presbyterians, and an education in patriotism for our children and our children's children."

The pew is of old-fashioned, uncomfortable shape. Unlike the pew once occupied by George Washington, it has a low, leaning back. The end of the seat at the aisle is low, and has no good support for the arm. The inner end touches the partition separating pews of the aisle opposite. Owing to its construction President Lincoln seemed to be always ill at ease, finding much apparent difficulty in accommodating his tall frame to its meager proportions. He generally managed to fit himself to it, however, before the sermon commenced, upon which he was ever an attentive and most respectful listener. Mr. Lincoln selected the pew from a plan of the church, without knowing anything of its former history, and, curiously enough, he chose the pew which had just been vacated by President Buchanan.

The decorations of the church were simple but effective. Over the pulpit swung an arch, bearing on its face the legend "General Assembly" in white immortelles. The keystone of the arch showed the number of the assembly, "105," in red.

Promptly at 11 o'clock the Rev. Dr. W. C. Young, Moderator of the assembly, appeared on the pulpit platform and took his seat, accompanied by the Revs. W. H. Roberts of Cincinnati, the stated Clerk; W. E. Moore of Columbus, permanent Clerk; Joseph T. Smith of Baltimore, Moderator of the Centennial Assembly; ex-Justice William Strong, ex-Gov. Beaver of Pennsylvania, and others. After the usual religious services, consisting of singing and prayers, the annual sermon was delivered by Dr. Young, the Moderator, who took for his text these passages of Scripture:

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.—Daniel, ii, 44.

And I say also unto Thee that Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.—Matthew, xvi, 18.

The title of his discourse was "The Glory of the Christian Church." He said that the glory of the Church was manifested in three things—(1) the person of its founder, (2) the charter and constitution upon which it was founded, and (3) its conquests and its destiny. Discussing the second head Dr. Young said:

The glory of the Church is most impressively evidenced by the fact that it has a divine, and, therefore, a perfect and infallible charter and constitution. A charter authorizes and imparts life; a constitution prescribes the way in which that life shall manifest itself.

The constitution of God's kingdom, like the model of the sanctuary known to Moses on the Mount, was the workmanship of His own wisdom and love, prepared from first to last by Himself. Thus originated by God, it was not given all at once in a finished, perfected form, but in instalments, each instalment perfect in itself. It was communicated by the Holy Spirit as the interests and progress of the Church demanded. Because so imparted that perfection and infallibility which pertained to it as God conceived, adheres to it still. The human channels of its transmission were so divinely directed and guided that the finished product, when freed from all changes and errors made by translators, transcribers, and printers, is the very chiseling of God. Now this constitution, prescribing, positively the great laws, conditions, and principle of the Church's life, is founded on the Bible. Indeed, the Bible is simply and only the constitution, plus the history of God's people and of the facts of redemption, which acted and reacted upon each other and are virtually interwoven together.

We use words, then, with a fair degree of exactness when we call the Bible "the constitutional history of the Church." The two elements in it, the history and the laws, the earthly vessels in which God and the heavenly matter revealed, are to us as indissolubly connected. They are vouched for by the same authority; they stand or fall together. You cannot destroy confidence in the trustworthiness of one without at the same time weakening faith in the divine infallibility of the other.

Views radically antagonistic to these are held and widely promulgated by extreme foreign representatives of a new school of criticism, which, when wisely and devoutly conducted is most useful and valuable. Men of acknowledged learning and scholarship are busily engaged in discovering and disseminating the Bible and then rearranging and readjusting it upon principles in the application of which they widely differ. Some of these critics or teachers are utterly destructive in their methods and results. Others profess a reverent spirit. They draw a broad distinction between the revelation, when it can be ascertained, and the history in the book. The former is acknowledged to be of divine origin and authority—therefore grant allowance being made for fallibility in the human channels of its transmission—confessedly perfect and true, while the latter is marked throughout by human ignorance and imperfection.

We do not say that they consciously have this intent, but with our views as to the effect of such treatment of the Bible, the reverence they express for the book is the respect which successful revolutionists show to a dethroned and discrowned king.

The Presbyterian Church, the Evangelical Church of Jesus Christ throughout the world, has never in the past, does not now, and will never in the future, as we think, endorse these opinions. The great creeds of Christendom, honestly and fairly interpreted, give no countenance to them. Our own beloved Church, while honoring scholarship, receiving investigation, and welcoming criticism in her standards, her deliverances, the utterances of her best and ablest ministers, has again and again expressed her firm and settled conviction that no discrimination as to the truthfulness can be made between different parts of the book; that from beginning to end, from the opening sentence in Genesis to the last verse in Revelation, the Bible is the very Word of God.

Of the same purport—and this should be conclusive—is the clear, positive testimony of Christ. For the inviolable truthfulness, at least of all that part of the Bible which was in existence when He was on earth, His word is pledged. "Not one jot or tittle, the whole of it," says one, "even in its minutest details." He recognized as the utterance of God. He treated it as a whole. "It is the word, it is enough." "It is written." He considered this should be enough for his hearers. With Him "Scripture could not be broken." "He accepted the narrative as facts, even where modern criticism sees only historical fiction or Oriental exaggeration. From end to end He has placed His seal of royal assent upon the book."

Upon no other theory or belief can we, as it seems to me, claim a divine, infallible, perfect constitution for the Church. If the historical events and personages, the facts of redemption, which are, as a record, woven and interwoven with the giving of the constitution, did not transpire and exist, we cannot possibly authenticate that constitution as divine. But upon the divine infallibility of some of its enactments we confidently rest the whole. Some of them are so fully, securely support them. God's infinite wisdom, love, and power are behind, and in it heaven and earth may pass away, but not one jot or tittle of all that is written in the book shall fail until all be fulfilled. No apprehension should be felt as to the safety of the Bible. No possible harm can befall it. Here to doubt is disloyalty to God; to fear is to sin; to question is to impede the searching investigation. It welcomes the sharpest criticism.

From the flaming ordeal through which it is now passing it will come forth, as it has from all other fiery tests, in its full integrity, without so much as the smell of fire about it, and when the very name of those radical foreign rationalistic critics who are seeking to destroy its historical truthfulness, its perfect infallibility, with them widely differing among themselves, shall have been buried in a common oblivion, the Bible, the whole Bible, history, biography, prophecy, and doctrine, shall, by increasing millions of believers, continue to be received, read, and prized above all earthly possessions as the very Word of Almighty God.

Twice in the course of the delivery of this was Dr. Young interrupted by applause from the commissioners who endorsed the views thus eloquently expressed. At the close of the sermon, Dr. Young said that the Assembly would be instituted with prayer, which he offered. The Assembly then took a recess until 3 P. M., when the business of the Assembly will begin.

Among the spectators at the opening of the Assembly this morning was Mrs. Cleveland. She was escorted by the Rev. Dr. Wilton Merle Smith, pastor of the Central Avenue Presbyterian Church of New York, who is a guest at the Executive Mansion.

CHOOSING A MODERATOR.

It was ten minutes past 3 o'clock when Moderator Young rapped for order and offered prayer. The roll of Commissioners as reported was called by Permanent Clerk Moore, which occupied nearly half an hour. Then came the announcement of the event of the day, the election of a Moderator. A motion was made by Dr. Harsha to omit nominating speeches in presenting the names of candidates, but it was opposed by Drs. Johnson, Cunningham, and others, and by an overwhelming vote the assembly negatived the motion.

Dr. Herrick Johnson then placed before the Assembly the name of the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Dickey of Philadelphia. The nomination was seconded by the venerable Dr. Luther H. Angier of Boston and the Rev. S. J. Nicolls of St. Louis.

The Rev. George A. Baker of Philadelphia was nominated by Dr. Leftwich, and the nomination was seconded by Dr. Booth of New York, both of whom approved the sentiment expressed by Dr. Johnson, that it was time to return to the pastorate in bestowing the honor of the Moderatorship.

The Hon. Thomas McDougal of Cincinnati named the Rev. W. G. Craig of the Chicago McCormick University, but a Commissioner from the Iowa Presbytery, and the Rev. W. W. Harsha of Nebraska seconded it. Dr. Craig was presented as the representative of the great Northwest, which has never been recognized in the election of a Moderator. Referring to Dr. Craig's evangelistic work, Dr. Harsha raised a laugh by describing Chicago as "that great and wicked city."

The Rev. Alexander Adar of Walla Walla, presented the name of the Rev. Calvin W. Stewart, D. D., of Washington, President of Whitworth College. The Rev. W. H. Cornell of Spokane, the youngest Commissioner in the Assembly, seconded Dr. Stewart's nomination.

Dr. W. H. Roberts moved that nominations close, against which one brother earnestly protested, saying that he hoped the Assembly would spend all the afternoon in this work. He said that the various gentlemen who had spoken had found so far only men who apparently knew nothing, not even enough to have views upon any of the great questions agitating the church. He hoped that before the nominations closed some one would be found to serve as Moderator who knew at least enough to act as a juryman. But the Assembly concluded that it had names enough before it, and adopted Dr. Roberts's motion.

The Rev. Dr. Dickey, who had been endeavoring for some time to get the floor, was then recognized. Coming to the front, he spoke as follows with much feeling:

MR. MODERATOR: I certainly appreciate the kindness of my friends and the kindly words that they have seen fit to speak of me. I hardly expected to live to see the day when it would take so long to vouch for my orthodoxy. I am not here now to defend it. Eight years ago I consented to contest the Moderatorship; to defend my honor when it had been assailed in the religious press. Four years ago I consented again to contest the Moderatorship to satisfy my friends, who thought I had been wronged. Now I intend to decline the nomination and satisfy myself. Mr. Moderator, I will make what contribution I can to the harmony of this body by withdrawing my own name.

Dr. Pugh of Philadelphia moved that Dr. Dickey be not permitted to withdraw. Dr. Smith of Baltimore said a man should be allowed to withdraw his name; to refuse him such permission was an infringement of personal liberty.

Dr. Johnston said that he could not fathom Dr. Dickey's mind, but the reasons he mentioned why his name should not be used doubtless related to his past. It was for those very reasons, Dr. Johnston continued, that he had been nominated in the past and again to-day. Dr. Dickey's remarks showed that he possessed a warm, sensitive heart, and that he should be honored by an election to the Moderatorship.

Dr. Dickey—I do not mean to criticise my friends, but pray deliver me from the suggestion that I am to be pitied.

Cries of No! No!

The motion of Dr. Pugh was changed to accord Dr. Dickey permission to withdraw his name, and in that form was passed.

Dr. Stewart then withdrew his name and the Assembly proceeded to vote for Moderator, with Drs. Baker and Craig the only candidates. The result of the ballot was announced as follows: Craig, 342; Baker, 110. Total, 452. The announcement was received with slight applause, and then the election of Dr. Craig was made unanimous.

Dr. Harsha and Mr. McDougall were appointed by the Moderator to escort Dr. Craig into the room, and his entrance was the signal for vigorous handclapping. He was introduced to the retiring Moderator by Dr. Harsha, who received and presented him to the General Assembly.

Dr. Craig returned profound thanks for the confidence reposed in him. Referring to a remark that had been frequently heard in the afternoon, Dr. Craig desired to say that as Moderator, like Paul, he "would know no theological seminary in the flesh."

LIVE WASHINGTON TOPICS.

THE COMING INVESTIGATION OF THE NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE.

Daniel Magone in Consultation With Secretary Carlisle as to Its Scope—He Seems Confident that Mr. Fairchild Will Withdraw His Declination—A Daughter Born in Detroit to Private Secretary Thurber.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Daniel Magone spent several hours at the Treasury Department today in consultation with Secretary Carlisle and Assistant Secretary Hamlin about the proposed investigation of the New York Custom House. As Secretary Carlisle has designated Mr. Hamlin to exercise a general supervision over the arrangement of the details for the investigation, Mr. Magone had many questions to ask as to its scope. In reply to a question from a reporter of THE SUN Mr. Hamlin said that no decision has yet been reached as to whether the investigation will extend beyond the Harrison Administration. That was one of the points which he discussed to-day with Mr. Magone. There is still a hope entertained by the Administration that Mr. Fairchild will be induced to serve on the Commission, notwithstanding his "double-barrelled" declination. Mr. Magone expects to return to New York tonight, and he will shortly be followed by Mr. Hamlin, who proposes to be present at the organization of the Commission. No time for the first meeting has been fixed, owing to the declination of Mr. Fairchild. It is the desire of the Secretary of the Treasury that the investigation shall be begun as soon as possible and pushed with due diligence. Mr. Magone seems confident that Mr. Fairchild will withdraw his declination to serve.

It is said that the officials of the department were at first puzzled as to what appropriation could be drawn upon to defray the expenses of the investigation. When the appointment of a Commission was suggested, the question arose out of what fund shall the expenses of the Commissioners be paid? One of the veteran clerks came to the rescue of the Secretary by reminding him that there is an appropriation for the detection and suppression of fraud. It is known in official circles as the "fraud roll." As the proposed investigation is expected to reveal frauds in the customs service, three Commissioners will be placed upon the "fraud roll." Under previous Administrations, the "fraud roll," in a number of instances, has been used to provide salaries for personal favorites of the Administration, who were not required to perform active service.

President Cleveland's private secretary, Mr. Henry T. Thurber, has not returned to his home in Detroit since he arrived here on March 2 last; neither has he seen any member of his interesting family during the interval. Several times it has been reported that Mrs. Thurber had arrived in Washington, but she has not been here since her visit last October. Some time during the summer, however, Mr. Thurber will take a day off and go to Detroit, when he will be presented to his latest child, a daughter born yesterday. This is Mr. Thurber's fourth child, and she might have had the honor of being born in the White House if her father's appointment as private secretary had not come so suddenly that he had no time to make arrangements for bringing his family to the capital. The appointment was entirely unexpected, and Mr. Thurber was made aware of it only a few days before he started for Washington to meet the Presidential party.

Senator and Mrs. Brice gave a dinner at their residence in this city to-night in honor of the Grand Duke Alexander of Russia. Among those present were: Secretary Gresham, Secretary and Miss Herbert, Attorney-General Olney, Justice and Mrs. Gray, the British Minister and ladies, the Russian Minister and Lieut. Rakatow, Mr. Chickine and Mr. Sharpless of the ducal party. The Marine Band furnished music during the evening. After the dinner the guests went to the ballroom. A card reception, at which the élite of Washington was represented, thronged the mansion until a late hour.

The negotiations between the United States and Spain looking to the settlement of claims made by this country for indemnity to the representatives of the Rev. Mr. Doane, who died of ill treatment in the Caroline Islands several years ago, and other missionaries have been satisfactorily adjusted, and Commander Henry C. Tyler, U. S. N., who has been acting as the agent of the State Department in the matter at Madrid, has been ordered to return home. When the uprising occurred in the Carolines, which belong to Spain, Commander Taylor was despatched there with a war vessel to protect American interests. A number of the missionaries whose property was destroyed were citizens of the United States, and when the claims made by this Government became the subject of negotiations at Madrid Commander Taylor was selected as the agent of the State Department on account of his familiarity with the subject.

All of the members of the joint committee appointed by the last Congress to investigate the methods of business in the Executive departments are now in the city, except Mr. Dingley, who is in Europe. The committee is casting about for its experts, and as soon as they have been selected, will begin the active work. These experts are to be paid for their expected services, and no one who has had any experience in the departments of the Government will be employed. The work will be confined to one department, and such changes in existing methods as may be deemed necessary will be tested before proceeding to any other of the departments. No conclusion has been reached as to which department will be used as the test, but there seems to be an impression that the Treasury will be selected.

The Commissioner of Patents, acting upon the application filed yesterday by Church & Church, patent lawyers of this city, has issued a rule upon W. E. Simonds, late Commissioner of Patents, and Foster & Freeman, attorners for the American Bell Telephone Company, directing them to appear before him on Wednesday, May 24, and show cause why they should not be disbarred from practising before the Patent Office. Secretary Hoke Smith said to-day that he would at once request the Attorney-General to designate an official of his department to conduct the case on behalf of the Government. Leave of absence for one week has been given Mr. J. L. Bennett, the chief clerk of the Patent Office, pending the examination.

It is rumored that Mr. Kerr Craige of North Carolina will to-morrow be appointed Third Assistant Postmaster-General, vice A. D. Hazen, resigned. Mr. Craige has the proud distinction of being the only citizen of North Carolina who ever declined a Congress nomination. During Mr. Cleveland's first term he served as Internal Revenue Collector for North Carolina. He is said to be a lawyer of distinction, standing in the front rank of the North Carolina bar.

No official advices concerning the appointment of Mr. L. M. Thurston to represent the Government of Hawaii to succeed Mr. J. Mott Smith have been received at the State Department. Usually the mail steamer from Honolulu to San Francisco brings advices to the Department, which are telegraphed from the latter place, but no despatches from Mr. Blount that might have arrived by the steamer of yesterday were wired from San Francisco. This lack of prompt notification is somewhat unusual, and is accounted for at the department by the belief that Mr. Blount had nothing important to communicate.

CHINA AND THE EXCLUSION ACT.

The Chinese Minister Says His Government Will Not Retaliate.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—An authentic statement has been obtained as to the interview between Secretary Gresham and the Chinese Minister at the State Department on Wednesday last. Nothing whatever was said by the Minister concerning any possibility that the Chinese Legation in Washington would be withdrawn as a result of the enforcement of the law, and it can be said, on the authority of Secretary Gresham, that he has not received an intimation from any source that any such proceeding is contemplated. The Chinese Minister assured Secretary Gresham that he believed that the Chinese Government would not resort to any retaliatory measures, and that nothing would be done by his Government that would disturb the present friendly relations between the United States and China. The Minister was of the opinion that no trouble would result from the law. The interview was pleasant throughout and lasted about twenty minutes.

The mandate of the Supreme Court to the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York affirming the decision of that court in the Fok Yung Yo habeas corpus case was transmitted yesterday. This disposes of the matter, unless the cases again come before the court on a new question. It was expected that the opinions of the court, as they will go on record in the cases adjudicated, would be ready to be placed on file to-morrow, but the intimation now is that they will not be ready for a week or ten days. This being so, and present indications pointing strongly to the assumption that a copy of the majority opinions of the court will certainly be forwarded to the Chinese Government through diplomatic channels before any extended system of hostile action under the law will be inaugurated, the probabilities seem to favor a prolonged *status quo* on the Chinese expulsion question.

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SENTENCED TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR.

The Negro Who Killed Two Fellow Convicts Makes an Impassioned Speech.

AUBURN, May 18.—When Johnson, the negro who killed two fellow convicts in the State prison here, was called to the stand in his own defence yesterday, he gave a dramatic recital of the scenes in prison that fateful morning. His irons had been removed for the first time since the trial began, and his impassioned delivery and vigorous gestures caused much excitement and no small element of fear, for upon his original conviction to Auburn prison he established a reputation for hurling inkstands and cuspidors at the presiding Justice and prosecuting attorney. In his excitement he would rise from his chair and advance toward the Court while asking a question. The Sheriff then took a seat on the bench between the prisoner and the Court. Johnson also stepped down from the witness stand and faced the jury with wild gesticulations and vehement utterance. He seemed to possess a remarkable flow of language, and was far from being the ignorant negro he was represented to be. He asked for a broom handle to illustrate the alleged attack upon him at the time of the murder, but it was refused for prudential reasons, whereupon he looked at the District Attorney and gave a loud guffaw. The whole tenor of his speech was to prove that he acted in self-defence. He stigmatized the keepers in prison as cruel and cowardly.

The jury's first vote was unanimous for conviction. The prisoner received the verdict with little show of concern, but as he entered a hack and was driven back to prison in the rain he remarked, "It's a dark day for me." This afternoon Johnson was sentenced to die in the electric chair during the week beginning July 3, when a stay of execution will expire. Johnson made a speech of considerable length, but not so impassioned as his harangue to the jury yesterday. He persisted in saying that he acted in self-defence and said that under the same circumstances he would do the same thing again. In conclusion he said:

"I don't mind losing my life, but I do hate to die in this cowardly way. I was fighting for my rights and I'd do it again. I am not afraid to die."

He received the sentence with hardly a change of expression, and sat down with a half smile on his lips. He was then taken back to prison and placed in the cell for the condemned, where Fitzhum and Taylor are now awaiting execution. Counsel will appeal the case.

NORTHERN PACIFIC FINANCES.

The Directors Will Publish the Details of the Funding Plan To-day.

At the regular monthly meeting of the directors of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company yesterday nearly the whole day was consumed in discussing the plan submitted by the Finance Committee for funding the floating debt of the company. Another meeting will be held this morning and President Oakes said yesterday that after its adjournment a formal statement will be given to the public. He said that only a few details remain yet to be settled.

The plan will authorize the issue of $15,000,000 of collateral trust notes, of which $12,000,000 are to be issued at once. They will be six per cent. notes payable in five years, and will be secured by the deposit of securities now in the Treasury of the company and those pledged for the floating debt with the Farmer's Loan and Trust Company, subject to disposal by a committee which will be, it is said, a very strong one.

In regard to his resignation Mr. Henry Villard yesterday authorized the following statement:

"On March 1, 1893, immediately after the publication of the reply of the Northern Pacific Board of Directors to the report of the Committee of Stockholders, in accordance with a long-entertained intention, Mr. Villard addressed to President Oakes a formal letter of resignation from the Board, accompanied by a personal one, with a full statement of reasons for this step. President Oakes, in a personal reply, urged him, while recognizing the force of his reasons, to withdraw his resignation, as the company urgently needed his assistance in funding the floating debt. Mr. Villard answered, acceding to this request, with the qualification that, under no circumstances, could he serve longer than the end, in October next, of his present three years' term as a director.

"It has been well understood by Mr. Villard's personal friends for a long time that he would not seek a reelection at the annual meeting of stockholders of the North American Company, but that he would continue to be interested in the company as a large stockholder, and to obtain for it, if desired, such financial aid as it may need."

The Pennsylvania Sells a Railroad.

MAY'S LANDING, N. J., May 18.—The sale of the Philadelphia and Seashore Railroad by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to the syndicate, headed by Logan M. Bullitt, was practically consummated yesterday. The purchase of this road, which extends from Winslow Junction to Sea Isle City, will result in the abandonment of the construction of the proposed road from Landisville to Cape May. The purchasers will at once proceed, after getting possession of the road, to put it in running order in time for the opening of the summer seashore. The road was purchased at public sale a year ago for a half million dollars by the Pennsylvania company. It is now being operated between Richland and Tuckahoe, but will be opened its entire length of fifty miles, and will be an important road, as it will be the shortest route to New York city and Philadelphia.

C. P. Huntington Will Be Elected President.

Mr. George Gould has notified the directors of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company that, owing to the many calls upon his time, he will not be a candidate for reelection to the office of President at the next annual meeting. It is expected that Mr. C. P. Huntington will accept the position, as he has been urged to do so by some of the largest stockholders.

Theodore B. Hill of Hackensack Turns Up.

Theodore B. Hill of Hackensack, N. J., who in a fit of dementia wandered from his home on Tuesday, May 9, was found yesterday at the Putnam House, where he had been staying since last Saturday. The family received information of his whereabouts through an anonymous telegram yesterday. Mrs. Hill and Mr. E. Ainley, a friend of the family, took Mr. Hill to the Continental Hotel, where they spent the night. They will go to Hackensack to-day.

The American Gynecological Society.

PHILADELPHIA, May 18.—The American Gynecological Society, which has been in session here for several days, adjourned last night after electing these officers:

President, Dr. W. T. Lusk of New York; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Samuel C. Busey of Washington and Dr. R. M. Emmet of New York; Secretary, Dr. B. C. Coe of New York; Treasurer, Dr. M. D. Mann of Buffalo; other members of the council, Dr. R. F. Baer of Philadelphia, James R. Chadwick of Boston, Clement Cleveland of Boston, and Edward Reynolds of Boston.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting in Washington during the last week in May, 1894.

LAST OF THE 30-DAY BILLS.

GOV. FLOWER HAS APPROVED 282 AND VETOED 121.

He Signs the Supply Bill After Vetoing Items Aggregating $530,000—Since the Adjournment He Has Vetoed Appropriation Bills Aggregating $1,051,500—A Memorandum Filed with Every Veto.

ALBANY, May 18.—Gov. Flower late this afternoon disposed of the last of the thirty-day bills before him. Of the 403 bills left with the Governor at the adjournment of the Legislature on April 20 last, and for the consideration of which he is allowed thirty days by the Constitution, he has approved 282 and has vetoed 121. With every bill not approved he has filed a memorandum stating his reasons for disapproval, the first time this was ever done.

Since the adjournment of the Legislature the Governor has vetoed appropriation bills aggregating in amount $1,051,500. This amount, however, does not include liabilities assumed by the State in bills which the Governor refused to sign, such as the Western Union claim bill, the Oneida Lake Canal claim bill, and several other measures which, if they had become laws, would probably have taken several hundred thousand dollars more out of the treasury. The whole number of session laws this year is 720, which is eleven more than last year.

The Governor signed the Annual Supply bill, vetoing items aggregating in round numbers $530,000. The bill as signed appropriates about $2,300,000. The items vetoed, with the Governor's reasons following each item, are:

For the construction and betterment of roads about the State camp, $20,000.

"Unnecessary."

For printing Arbor Day circulars, $1,000.

"The same item appears in the appropriation bill."

For purchasing the historical painting of James Walker, representing the decisive blow for victory in the repulse of Longstreet's assault by the Union troops on the third day of the battle of Gettysburg, to be placed in the Capitol, $30,000.

"Until the Capitol is completed I do not think it wise to embellish it with pictures."

For the New York State experiment station, for the erection of a permanent building on the State fair grounds for exhibits of the station, $1,000.

"The State has appropriated $25,000 already for buildings on the State fair grounds, and this is as far in that direction as it is wise to go at present."

For the New York State experiment station, for the erection of buildings for the residence of the chief chemist and other employees, $5,500.

"I am not convinced of the necessity of this appropriation at the present time."

For a new boiler for the tug State of New York $7,000 and for painting buildings on Hoffman and Swinburne Islands, $4,000.

"The appropriation for the care, maintenance, and repair of the quarantine establishment is $15,000 in excess of that of last year. This item can well be taken from the excess of last year's appropriation."

For artesian wells on Hoffman and Swinburne Islands, $4,000.

"I am informed that these wells are impracticable."

For extension and enlargement of Hoffman Island, connecting the same, and erection of new dock, $20,000.

"The items allowed to stand in this bill include large appropriations for quarantine purposes. There is $5,000 for the care, maintenance and repair of the quarantine establishment, $43,000 for a three-story hospital for women and children on Hoffman Island, $15,000 for three new boilers and chimney for heating apparatus and fire extinguishers on Swinburne Island, $2,200 for new house, $1,000 for quarters for superintendent's house, disinfecting chest, heating apparatus for coal and baggage and repairs to crematory on Swinburne Island, $16,000 for bath house and registration building for immigrants, $2,500 for a new wagon and dock shed for receiving baggage, $2,500 for erecting boilers and making alterations in disinfecting apparatus on Hoffman Island, $10,250 for repairs and improvements on Hoffman Island, $15,000 for bills and liabilities contracted by the health officers during the cholera epidemic, $6,000 for bills unpaid, and $6,281.83 for reimbursing the health officer for moneys expended by him during that epidemic—making in all an aggregate appropriation of $189,316.67. Most of these are of a character which, if the emergency be sufficient to justify the State against admission of cholera. While not criticising the liberal spirit displayed by the Legislature in this emergency, it seems to me that any unnecessary expenditure ought to be carefully guarded against. The purpose sought to be accomplished by the appropriation of $43,000 for a new hospital could not possibly be attained with none year's time, and it would not be necessary at all, for the reason that the United States Government has completed its quarantine camp at Sandy Hook, and it is understood that the State has acquired the Fire Island property, which may be used for quarantine purposes if necessity requires."

For the Western House of Refuge for Women—For farm buildings, $6,000.

"I do not deem it for the best interests of the institution to authorize this appropriation."

For the Western House of Refuge for Women—For assembly, hall, school rooms, wash rooms, and library room, $20,000.

"This appropriation is not deemed expedient at the present time."

For the St. Lawrence State Hospital—For erecting and furnishing a building for the accommodation of 100 inspectors, $25,000.

"This proposed structure will be unnecessary during the present year."

For the St. Lawrence State Hospital—For roads and improvements, $2,000; for grading around the buildings, $5,000.

"This is a light work which the patients in the institution might be put at without detriment to themselves and with the advantage of economy to the State."

For the Utica State Hospital, for new tin roof for centre building and repairs of gutters, $4,142.50.

"This item seems to be excessive and for that reason is disapproved."

For the Utica State Hospital, for printing press, with suitable equipment, $200.

"This appropriation is not deemed necessary at the present time."

For the Willard State Hospital, for furniture and repairs, $6,000.

"The asylum hospital funds are sufficient to provide for these expenditures."

For the Hudson River State Hospital—For completing house for idiotic nurses, $6,000; for completing reservoir at State farm, $2,000; for repairs, $1,000.

"These improvements are not deemed necessary at the present time."

For the Hudson River State Hospital—For the erection and furnishing of an entertainment hall, $25,000; for a steam road roller and steam crusher, $4,700.

"These appropriations can well be dispensed with for the present year."

Reappropriating $3,000 for a sewer at the Binghamton State Hospital.

"This amount has already been reappropriated."

For home, barn, farm, tool storage house, vegetable storage cellar, plumbing and water supply at the Matteawan State Hospital, $16,873.

"Not deemed expedient at the present time."

For improvements for the New York State Custodian Asylum for feeble-minded women.

"This appropriation can well be deferred until another time."

The Governor has vetoed the following bills, his reasons following each veto:

Assemblyman Sullivan's bill prohibiting the manufacture of dynamite within half a mile of the bank of any navigable stream or river.

"I am unwilling to sign this bill in its present shape. It is altogether too sweeping in its provisions."

Assemblyman Yetman's bill in relation to the powers of Boards of supervisors.

"The provisions of this measure might lead to undesirable conflict of jurisdiction between Boards of Supervisors and Boards of Trustees of incorporated villages."

Assemblyman Stanton's bill, providing for a revised charter for the village of Norwich.

"This bill is so defectively drawn that its approval is not deemed expedient in the present shape."

Senator Parsons's bill authorizing the State Board of Claims to hear and determine the claim of the city of Rochester for the construction of the Allen, Brown, Lyell, Plymouth, and Court street lift bridges, and award such sum toward the construction of such bridges as shall appear to have been necessary to preserve in a safe and substantial manner the continuity of the streets at those points.

"It has not been the policy of the State to construct at State expense new bridges over the canals at streets in cities, or where such bridges were made necessary by the growing demands of those municipalities. In this particular case there was no complaint that the existing bridges were not firm and substantial, but the improvements required were such that, if they should be replaced by new bridges. The improvement was particularly a local one and was carried out voluntarily by the city of Rochester for its own interest. Under these circumstances I do not see why the State should assume the liability or be placed in a position of being compelled to pay for a part or all of the expense of the new structures."

The Governor has signed these bills:

Chapter 721—Senator Mullin's bill amending sections 872 and 873 of the Code of Civil Procedure relative to depositions and the contents of the affidavit and order.

Chapter 722—Senator Pinkett's bill amending the act incorporating the New York Real Estate Guaranty Company.

Chapter 723—Giving the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women certain New York city money.

Chapter 724—Assemblyman Yetman's bill providing that the Richmond County Supervisors shall each receive an annual salary of $1,000.

Chapter 725—Assemblyman Roche's bill amending the insurance law generally.

Chapter 726—The Annual Supply bill.

Assemblyman Hahlo's bill to authorize the payment to the New York Medical College Hospital for Women of $25 for each charity case treated at the lying-in ward, and $18 a month for every mother remaining for treatment not to exceed one year, was vetoed the other day, but