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NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

Passage of the Post Office Deficiency Bill in the House.

Election of a Doorkeeper and Postmaster of the House.

PLANS FOR A REVISION OF THE TARIFF.

Debate in the Senate on the President's Veto of the St. Clair Flats Bill, &c., &c., &c.

Our Special Washington Despatch.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, 1860.

THE POST OFFICE DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Post Office Deficiency bill passed substantially as reported. An attempt was made to amend it with a provision to restore the service cut off by Postmaster Holt, but the subject was postponed until the regular Post Office Appropriation bill comes up.

THE ELECTION OF DOORKEEPER AND POSTMASTER OF THE HOUSE—THE PRINTING SPOILS.

Mr. Wright, the Doorkeeper, and Mr. Clusky, the Postmaster of the House, were politically executed to-day. George Marston, of New Hampshire, and Josiah M. Lucas, of Illinois, were their successors.

The pressure made upon the new officers of the House for the subordinate offices is irrepressible.

The printing business will be settled in republican caucus to-morrow night.

The House adjourned over till Thursday.

Thurlow Weed was on duty in the lobby to-day, and Wendell and Defreese were also on hand. Their slate was a good deal damaged.

THE SENATE PRINTING.

The arrangement of Gen. Bowman with Mr. Jewett, of the Fillmore organ at Buffalo, to do the printing of Post Office blanks, appears to have disturbed some inside calculations. On the election of Bowman as Senate Printer, the party who has been doing the work for Wendell, and who was also contractor for supplying the paper, demanded to negotiate with Bowman to go on, as well as to supply the paper, claiming that his contract had expired, supposing that by a sudden stoppage of the work and the supplies, and believing Bowman could not get it executed by any one else in time to meet the emergency, he would compel a compact with the Postmaster General on his own terms; and he accordingly made an application to that functionary, which was declined. Meantime Bowman, ascertaining that Jewett had facilities for despatching the work, made an arrangement with him for its execution. Weed and Wendell have been closeted tonight at Willard's.

THE PRINTING INVESTIGATION.

The Senate Printing Investigating Committee met this morning, and, there being no witnesses to appear before them, adjourned till Thursday.

THE HARPER'S FERRY INVESTIGATION.

The Harper's Ferry Investigating Committee meet again to-morrow, when Giddings and Plumb will again appear before them. Some additional facts have been placed in possession of the committee in regard to Giddings' and Plumb's connection with the Harper's Ferry affair, and the committee will examine them in relation to those gentlemen. Governor Robinson, of Kansas, has been subpœnaed here to testify before the committee. He arrived today and will testify to-morrow.

THE LATE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.

Mr. Glosbrenner himself says that the report that he has been, or will be, appointed Treasurer of the United States, is untrue. This gentleman, during the last three days of his official term as Sergeant-at-Arms, disbursed to members of the House $200,000. The aggregate sum of $63,000 has been paid them since Wednesday last.

THE BOSTON COLLECTORSHIP.

Mr. Austin, the Boston Collector, arrived here to-day, which may postpone for a few days the sending to the Senate the name of his successor. Mr. Stetson, President of one of the Boston banks, will probably receive the appointment, Mr. Appleton having positively declined to accept it.

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO AND OUR TREATY WITH THAT REPUBLIC.

Despatches were received to-day at the Department of State from Minister McLane, dated Vera Cruz, Oct. 24. No material change in the aspect of affairs had taken place. Miramon was making preparations to attack Vera Cruz, and will undoubtedly carry out his design, provided he can secure the necessary funds for the purpose. Mr. McLane does not believe he will be successful in this expectation, as the Juarez government is strongly fortified, and will be able to repel any attack made upon it. The Miramon party have failed thus far to obtain possession of any of the seaports on the Pacific.

Detachments of seamen and marines from the United States ships of war Brooklyn and Saratoga, by order of the government, have been stationed at Tampico and Mantitlan for the protection of our consulates and citizens.

Mr. McLane will probably reach here to-morrow morning. The Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs are ready, and will probably report back the Mexican treaty to-morrow or next day if there is an executive session.

OUR RELATIONS WITH ENGLAND.

Lord Lyons, the British Minister, had a protracted interview with the Secretary of State to-day.

PROTECTION OF THE OVERLAND MAIL FROM INDIANS.

Application has recently been made to the Secretary of War, by contractors carrying the mails on various routes across the Plains, for the United States troops to protect them against the incursions and depredations of the Indians. He has informed them that as soon as the season will permit a movement of troops will be ordered, and a large force distributed along the various routes, for the purpose of affording protection to the mails and emigrants travelling those routes.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1860.

The Collapse of the Democracy—Forney—The Scramble for the Spoils—The Shabby Treatment of the Late Clerk, Allen—John Sherman's Position—The New Programme of the Republicans—The Fusion of All the Opposition Elements for the Spoils—Mr. Douglas Hard at Work in the South—The Post Office Appropriations, &c., &c.

What a collapse! How can we account for it? As with the loss of the Malakoff the Russians abandoned Sebastopol, with the loss of the Speaker the democrats give up the House organization. There was a single remonstrance heard against Forney, but it was suffocated in the utterance, and his election was permitted as a foregone conclusion. The democrats console themselves with having hanged Forney at last in the enemy's camp. His power to mischief as a wolf in sheep's clothing now ceases; his disguise is taken off, and he must now fight the democracy and the administration as a veritable black republican. That party have paid a high price for him, and they are welcome to his services. The only bond between them and them is a common hatred of the administration—a bond which, in the end, will hardly pay expenses. Such are the views of this matter by the thinkers of the democratic party.

Doubtless the House organization will be completed on Monday, to the satisfaction of the republican, anti-Lecompton and North and South American coalition. The holdover democratic employés of the last Congress, down to the poor little eight-year old pages on the floor of the House, linger about the premises like mourners at a funeral, while the hungry outsiders expecting to fill their places are impatient of any longer delay. They say they have waited long enough, and the guillotine is at work. And then we say that a former Lieutenant Governor of the great State of Ohio is one of the numerous candidates for doorkeeper, you may form some idea of the terrible pressure for these spoils of the House.

"Strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." We had an illustration of this in the refusal of the House yesterday to grant the late Clerk Allen the pitiful extra allowance of $8 a day for his extraordinary services of the last two months as the acting Speaker of the House. This extra allowance was given to Forney for similar services in the thirty-fourth Congress, with this important difference, that his labors in this office were not one-tenth part as arduous, difficult and exhausting as have been those of Allen. Shall the House reconsider their late action, Allen should urge his claim for extra compensation. As it is, he has at all events received a vote of thanks for the most thankless, laborious and laborious extra task that ever fell to the Clerk of the House. His frequent rulings against disorderly members on all sides have, perhaps, soured them; but he is only the more justly entitled, on this account, to some little extra pay.

John Sherman has taken his position as the republican leader of the House. He is a competent man, and in this position, and as Chairman on Ways and Means, he will perhaps be of greater service to his party than if he had been advanced to what he calls "the barren honors of the Speaker's chair." His defeat for this office has brought about a wonderful change in the plans of the republican party. They no longer intend to make a fight upon Seward, or upon Seward's "one idea" of hostility to the slave power. Brown and Helper are dropped. The tremendous excitements and revolutionary movements started in the South from the agitation of the "irrepressible conflict" and "the impending crisis," and the desperate, determined and successful resistance made to defeat the election of a mere second hand endorser of Helper as Speaker of this Congress, taken in connection with the late Northern Union demonstrations, have done their work.

We are now told that the republicans are going in to win; that principles and abstractions shall stand in their way no longer; that they will give Seward the go-by; that the plan of their fusion of the odds and ends of the opposition as adopted in the House will be extended to the Presidential fight; that they are now ready to take up Bates, Bell, Crittenden, Botts, Houston, or any other man who will give "an odor of nationality" to the party; and that they will go into the campaign without a platform, and make their fight upon the vital questions of the spoils, retrenchment and reform, taking into the general camp everybody and everything, all sorts of men of all sorts of principles, without asking any questions, or taking their measure touching either Sam or Sambo.

This game, by which the spoils of the House organization have been won, is very pointedly given out as the republican game for the Presidency—the game of the spoils—the game to win, being the game which has won when the game upon principles has been lost.

At the same time Mr. Douglas flatters himself that he will gain, and is gaining strength from this new departure on the republican side. At all events, he is sowing the South broadcast with his late speech upon the subject of the suppression of the John Brown conspiracies and fugitive slave underground railroads, and we have heard some Southern men declare that the law of Congress proposed in this aforesaid speech will be a good enough slave code for them. A leading Southern opposition man is fixed in his belief that the Charleston Convention will be forced into the nomination of Douglas, and that the consequent secession of Southern ultras from the Convention will practically amount to nothing.

The Post Office appropriations, which will doubtless be passed on Monday or Tuesday, will throw some seven million of dollars into circulation. In anticipation of these supplies, and on account of the scramble for the spoils and plunder of the House, the floating population of the city has been increased to the extent of two or three thousand within the last three days.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5, 1860.

An Exciting Week—Seward Rebuked—Forney Gone—All Gone but Douglas—His Prospects—The Doubtful States—New York—General Scott—Governor Dickinson.

With the past has closed one of the most exciting weeks ever witnessed in the federal capital. The election of Speaker has been accomplished, but brings with it a barren victory to the republicans. The Helper investigation set on foot by the HERALD has routed them, horse, foot and dragoons, and the abandonment of Mr. Sherman and the election of Mr. Pennington are to be regarded as a breaking up of Seward's slate and a disavowal of his brutal "irrepressible conflict" doctrine. The election of Forney as Clerk, which has been for some time regarded as a forgone conclusion, is another evidence of Mr. Seward's waning prospects and the possible nomination of General Cameron, who, it is thought, with Forney's aid, may secure Pennsylvania to the republicans. The speech of Forney on the evening of his election is condemned by all, save a few negro worshippers who imagine an alliance with him is to be a source of incalculable benefit. Such may find out too late that one who has prostituted himself to the lowest depths to which ingratitude and political depravity are capable is not to be trusted farther than his selfish instincts are gratified. Mr. Forney's unblushing denunciation of democracy has, however, been productive of good, inasmuch as it has relieved that party, especially in Pennsylvania, of his obnoxious interference on the pretence of party regularity. Thus one by one are those who refused to adhere to Mr. Buchanan in his Lecompton policy finding their true sphere in the bosom of the republican party. Douglas alone stands out, feeling much

—Like one who treads alone
Some banquet hall deserted,
Whose lights are fled, whose garlands dead,
And all but him departed.

And he, like the prodigal, sensibly concludes to abandon his old associates, and with true repentance once more seek his father's house; and should he so far resolve as to give his adherence to Mr. Buchanan at the Charleston Convention, no man may be in a better condition to receive the support of the democratic party in 1864. As it is, Mr. Douglas stands no reasonable chance of success at Charleston, his recent estrangement from his party precluding the idea of his receiving the support of those who would otherwise gladly have rendered it.

Senator Black's speech of Thursday was in point, utterly scouting the idea of supporting Mr. Douglas under existing circumstances, and sufficiently showing that Indiana, at least, could not give Mr. Douglas a democratic majority—considering that all the Northern States, California excepted, which supported Mr. Buchanan in 1856, are regarded in doubt, especially if he should adhere to his resolution of not accepting a second nomination.

The attention of many is directed New York wards to ascertain if that State can be secured to the democratic party. Gen. Scott at present seems a bitter pill to the regular liners; and his nomination will, most probably, be reserved for a people's Union party. If Mr. Dickinson could satisfy the South of his ability to carry his State, his nomination might be regarded as tolerably certain, as he has a clean record and seems a good middle man, around whom the belligerent masses of the party could unite. Efforts are being made in several of the Southern States and California to secure his nomination; and as it is understood he is endorsed by Mr. Buchanan, and is not objectionable to Mr. Douglas, stranger things might happen than his nomination, and then, as against an extremist, New York might give him a majority, and thus insure victory to the democratic party.

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, 1860.

The Senate met at twelve o'clock.

Mr. WADE, (rep.) of Ohio, presented a petition of soldiers of the war of 1812 for pensions.

Communications were received from the State and Interior Departments.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in reply to the resolution of the Senate calling for the names and compensation of officers in his department not confirmed by the Senate, says the list would embrace much the larger portion of the employés of the department, and could be found in the Register for 1859. Referred to the Finance Committee.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED.

Mr. MALLORY, (dem.) of Fla., introduced a bill to regulate the pay of pursers in the navy.

On motion of Mr. MALLORY, the bill to increase and regulate the pay of the Navy, was taken up and made the special order for Monday.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the expediency of amending the law relating to protection granted to seamen. Adopted.

Mr. GWIN, (dem.) of Cal., offered a resolution instructing the Post Office Committee to inquire into the expediency of establishing a semi-weekly mail between St. Joseph, Mo., and Placerville, California. Adopted.

Mr. HEMPHILL, (dem.) of Texas, introduced a similar resolution relative to a semi-weekly mail between New Orleans and El Paso. Adopted.

Mr. HALE, (dem.) of Cal., introduced a bill for the extension of the pre-emption privilege in California. It was read twice and referred.

Mr. PEARCE, (dem.) of Md., offered a resolution asking the President to communicate the instructions and despatches sent to and received from the late Minister to China and the former Commissioner. Adopted.

RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH TO THE PACIFIC.

Mr. WIGFALL, (dem.) of Texas, introduced a bill for a line of railroad and telegraph to the Pacific.

Mr. GWIN moved its printing, and would not call up the bill to-day, but would do so at an early date.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

A message was received from the House giving information of its organization, and proposing a joint committee to wait on the President to receive any communication he may have to make.

BILLS PASSED BY THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

Mr. IVERSON, (dem.) of Ga., from the Committee on Claims, offered a large number of private bills, which have been passed on by the Court of Claims.

OUR FOREIGN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

A communication was received from the Department of State transmitting the report of the commercial relations of the United States for the year ending June 30, 1859.

FREEDOM OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., presented the petition of Charles A. Dana, of New York, and others, for the freedom of the public lands.

THE ST. CLAIR FLATS VETO.

Mr. CHANDLER, (rep.) of Mich., moved to reconsider the vote by which the President's Message relative to the St. Clair flats was ordered to be printed. Mr. Chandler said serious charges were contained in the Message against Congress. There was an imputation that the President was sought to be imposed upon. As one who had pressed that bill he was affected by this charge. If the President was correct, he (Mr. Chandler) was liable to the imputation of ignorance or fraud. If the President was not correct then he was liable to the same imputation. Mr. Chandler contended that the appropriation was properly asked for, and actually needed, as the water was continually changing in the lake. He denied that anybody attempted to deceive the President. If the United States were as liberal as Canada, they would appropriate a million instead of fifty-four thousand dollars to keep the channel open. He withdrew the motion to reconsider, and gave notice that he would ask the passage of the bill, and if it was again vetoed he hoped it would be passed by a two-thirds vote.

MR. BROWN'S RESOLUTION.

Mr. BROWN, (dem.) of Miss., moved to postpone his resolutions till half-past two o'clock.

Mr. SAULSBURY, (dem.) of Del., said he wished to see all resolution before him before voting for any of them. He thought it improper to convert the Senate into a debating society upon mere abstractions. If a vote was pressed, however, he would vote against anything like squatter sovereignty.

Mr. Brown's resolution was postponed.

THE ST. CLAIR FLATS VETO AGAIN.

Mr. DAVIS, (dem.) of Miss., replied to Mr. Chandler in defence of the President's veto, arguing that the President's grounds of objection were well taken, and that the improvement was not necessary for military purposes.

Messrs. CLAY, (dem.) of Ala., CRITTENDEN, of Ky., and others, further debated the subject, and expressed their views as to the power of the States to impose tonnage duties.

Mr. TOOMBS, (dem.) of Ga., defended the action of the President. He believed the bill unconstitutional, and therefore returned it with his objections, which was the proper course. He (Mr. Toombs) would never consent to refer constitutional questions to the popular will. The rights of the people of the States rested on no such frail dependence. The object of the bill was to plunder the people of the country for the benefit of those who were unwilling to pay for their own facilities. The constitution is clear, that by consent of Congress the States might impose tonnage duties, and no distinction is made between foreign and domestic tonnage. The express object of that provision was to enable the States to improve their harbors. He was glad there was a man in the Presidential chair firm enough to stand by the constitution in opposition to the popular will and the clamor of Congressional majorities.

Mr. CRITTENDEN replied that the President's objections were merely technical. He showed us how we might accomplish indirectly what he denied us power to do directly. He had great respect for the opinion of the Senator from Georgia, but his dictation could not settle the constitutionality of measures concerning which Presidents and Congresses had differed from the foundation of the government. He held that when the will of the people was ascertained it ought to be respected. This defiance of the will of the people was not proper. Madison yielded his objections to the incorporation of a National Bank when the will of the people was clearly ascertained by the vote of Congress.

Mr. WIGFALL was one of those who desired to rescue the constitution. If the Senator from Kentucky was right that the people should construe their own constitution, Webster knew less of that document than any man, for he had been at issue with popular judgment on every important question which had divided the country. The slavery question was not one which divided the country, nor one on which the government would break. If the Senator from Massachusetts could be made to understand the constitution, all differences between them about slavery would cease. Why were there no societies in Boston to abolish the slave trade of Constantinople, for he supposed they had some sympathy for white women? The reason was, they knew they had no jurisdiction in Constantinople; but, under a mistaken construction of the constitution, they believed they were responsible for the existence of slavery in Texas. Mr. Wigfall then went into an argument, contending that the President was a department of the government, and should not be controlled by the action of the other branches, and held that the veto was passed on proper constitutional grounds.

Mr. CRITTENDEN explained that when he spoke of the popular will he did not mean it should be regarded as authority, but respected as an expression of opinion.

THE POST OFFICE DEFICIENCY BILL.

The Post Office Deficiency bill was received from the House, and appropriately referred.

THE DEBATE ON THE VETO MESSAGE RESUMED.

Mr. TOOMBS replied to Mr. Crittenden, that the mode provided by the constitution for internal improvements was a just one. The other mode, by taking money out of the treasury, was unjust, because it taxed one class of persons for the benefit of the others. He cited the debates on the constitution to show that internal improvements are unconstitutional.

Mr. CRITTENDEN said those authorities have been cited time and again; and yet the public mind is still unsettled on the point in controversy. They could not make a constitution so elaborate, so specific, as to cover every point upon which power could be exercised. He thought the action of Congress a good guide as to what might properly be done.

Mr. CLAY fully agreed with the veto message of the President. The Senator from Kentucky would require the President not only to defer to the will of the people, as expressed by Congress, but also to surrender his conscience to their keeping. This government is not a government of mere majority. The whole theory of the constitution was opposed to it. The States had rights which could not be taken away by any majority.

The subject was laid over till Thursday at 1 P. M.

Mr. GWIN moved to adjourn.

Mr BROWN called for the yeas and nays. He objected to having action on his resolutions delayed by parliamentary tactics.

Mr. GWIN said he had no desire to do so; but on the first opportunity would move to postpone the resolutions.

Mr. HUNTER, (dem.) of Va., said the Post Office Deficiency bill would probably be reported to-morrow, and would claim attention.

Mr. BROWN—That's just the way resolutions for the protection of slavery in the Territories are to be postponed till eternity.

The Senate, by a large majority, agreed to the motion to adjourn.

House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, 1860.

Messrs. Grow, Miles and Etheridge were appointed a committee, in conjunction with one to be appointed by the Senate, to wait upon the President and inform him that Congress is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

Mr. CLARK, (dem.) of Mo., made a personal explanation, denying, as was charged in an editorial, that he had here declared Mr. Douglas as the first choice of Missouri for President.

PASSAGE OF THE POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. PHELPS, (dem.) of Mo., asked for unanimous consent to proceed to the consideration of the Post Office Appropriation bill, which was read for information.

Mr. MAYNARD, (S. opp.) of Tenn., wished to modify the third section so as to make the three per centum interest therein provided payable to the contractors themselves, and not to their assigns, to whom they have sold their scrip at a ruinous discount, and that the contractors accept this interest in full satisfaction of all demands for damages.

Mr. PETTIT, (rep.) of Ind., objected, preferring that the bill should take the usual course.

A question arose on the suspension of the rules. The vote stood—Ayes 157, noes 41.

Mr. PHELPS said the first section appropriated four millions for the support of the Post Office Department for the remainder of the fiscal year ending in June last. He offered an amendment to the second section, that the two million four hundred thousand therein appropriated be devoted exclusively to the compensation of the postmasters and clerks in their offices, mail departments, special agents, and the transportation of the mails, and suggested that the section providing for interest on the unpaid compensation of contractors be stricken out.

Mr. COVODE, (rep.) of Pa., said the contractors don't want the interest, but prefer bringing a claim for damages, perhaps to the amount of a million of dollars. They should settle the question now.

Mr. FLORENCE, (dem.) of Pa., wanted to know whether the four millions provided for in the first section was for a reduction or for existing service?

Mr. PHELPS replied, for existing service.

Mr. FLORENCE said the Postmaster General has diminished the service, and the question was, whether the Postmaster General had done so in conformity with law? He (Mr. Florence) was disposed to restore the diminished service.

Mr. PHELPS said such action would give rise to discussion, and delay the bill for the relief of the Post Office Department.

Mr. GROW, (rep.) of Pa., was in favor of striking out the provision for interest, in order that they might in another way relieve the contractors. The question was of sufficient importance to be separately considered.

Mr. Phelps' amendment to the second section, designating to whom the two million four hundred thousand dollars shall be paid was agreed to—118 to 76.

The House refused to strike out the section providing for the payment of interest to contractors.

The bill then passed as follows:—

A BILL MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO DEFRAY THE DEFICIENCY IN THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SERVICE OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30TH OF JUNE, 1859, AND IN PART FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1860.

Be it enacted, &c., That the sum of four millions two hundred and ninety-six thousand nine dollars and twenty-six cents be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of supplying the deficiency in the revenues and defraying the expenses of the Post Office Department for the year ending the 30th of June, 1859.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That towards the support of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1860, the sum of four million dollars payable out of any money arising from the revenue of the Post Office Department is hereby appropriated; and the further sum of two million four hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated payable out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated—said sums to be expended in conformity with the provisions of the act approved the 2d day of July, 1836, in the payment exclusively of the compensation of postmasters, the clerks in their offices and mail departments, special agents, and for the transportation of the mails.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, to commence one month after the expiration of the quarter in which the service was rendered, and to the date of the approval of this act, shall be paid on all sums found due to contractors for carrying the mails, and that a sum sufficient to pay the same be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for the services of temporary clerks in expediting the payment of the creditors of the Post Office.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE THAT WAITED ON THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. GROW, from the committee appointed to wait upon the President, reported that they had performed the duty, and that the President desired them to express his gratification that Congress was ready to proceed to business, and that he would be happy to co-operate with the legislative department in the consummation of measures calculated to promote the public welfare; and that he should communicate with Congress as the public emergencies may require.

ELECTION OF DOORKEEPER.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, moved to proceed to the election of a Doorkeeper, previous to which there was a call of the House.

Mr. WINSLOW, (dem.) of N. C., nominated Alexander Ward, of New York, as a gentleman and a democrat every way qualified for the station.

Messrs. COCHRANE, (dem.) of N. Y., and BURNS, (Am.) of N. Y., seconded the nomination, the latter saying that as he had helped to elect Mr. Pennington Speaker, his republican friends would reciprocate and help to elect Mr. Ward.

Mr. RIGGS, (dem.) of N. J., nominated the present incumbent, Mr. Wright.

Mr. PENDER, (dem.) of Ky., nominated A. H. Markland.

Mr. TAPPAN, (rep.) of N. H., nominated George Marston.

Mr. MAYNARD, (S. opp.) of Tenn., nominated Andrew J. Larner.

Messrs. Riggs, Tappan, Maynard and Hamilton were appointed tellers.

The ballot resulted as follows:—

Whole number of votes	207
Necessary to a choice	104
For Mr. Marston	110
For Mr. Wright	57
For Mr. Markland	16
For Mr. Ward	12
For Mr. Larner	12

Mr. Marston was declared elected Doorkeeper.

ELECTION OF POSTMASTER.

Mr. WASHBURN, (rep.) of Ill., moved to proceed to the election of a Postmaster viva voce.

Mr. POTTER, (rep.) of Wis., moved to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. STANTON, (rep.) of Ohio, wished to know what all this meant?

Mr. KELLOGG, (rep.) of Ill., nominated Josiah M. Lucas, of Illinois.

Mr. BOULIGNY, (S. opp.) of La., nominated the present incumbent, M. W. Clusky.

Mr. POTTER nominated George A. Bassett.

Mr. MALLORY, (S. opp.) of Ky., nominated J. E. Scruggs. (Laughter.) He said that gentleman's qualities were more admirable than his name was euphonious.

Mr. STANTON unsuccessfully moved for an adjournment.

Messrs. Kellogg, Bouligny, Howard, and Harris of Virginia, were appointed tellers. The ballot resulted as follows:—

Whole number of votes	210
Necessary to a choice	106
For Mr. Lucas	108
For Mr. Clusky	85
For Mr. Scrugg	17
For Mr. Bassett	0

Mr. POTTER, who nominated Mr. Bassett, voted for Mr. Lucas, who was declared elected Postmaster.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

Among the notices of intention to introduce bills given under the rules in the House were the following:—

By Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vt.—A bill to provide for the payment of outstanding Treasury notes, to authorize a loan, to regulate and fix the duties on imports, and for other purposes; also a bill to punish and prevent the practice of polygamy in the Territories of the United States and other places, and disapproving of certain acts of the Legislature of Utah; also a bill donating public lands to the several States which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts.

By Mr. KILLINGER, (rep.) of Pa.—A bill to locate and establish a national foundry in Pennsylvania.

By Mr. QUARLES, (S. opp.) of Tenn.—A bill to establish a branch military academy at the Hermitage.

By Mr. CAMPBELL, (rep.) of Pa.—A bill changing the bonded warehousing system of the United States, and for the more effectual collection of the revenue, and a bill providing for additional revenue, and imposing increased and specific duties on iron and coal, and other articles of American production and labor as require protection at the hands of the government.

By Mr. FLORENCE, (dem.) of Pa.—A bill to fix and regulate the duties and imports, and for other purposes.

THE PHILADELPHIA POST OFFICE.

Mr. MORRIS, (rep.) of Pa., presented in the House today sixty-five petitions, numerously signed, asking that the Post Office in that city be located at the Pennsylvania Bank Building.

The House then adjourned till Thursday.

NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

Popularity of Mayor Wood—The New York Supervisors a Legal Body—Commercial Paper and Legal Holidays—The Pro Rata Question, &c.

OUR SPECIAL ALBANY DESPATCH.

ALBANY, Feb. 6, 1860.

Mayor Wood and his delegates left here this morning for Syracuse. A large number of persons called at the Delavan House last evening, and shook hands with the foe of Tammany. Mr. Wood expressed himself sanguine of the admission of his delegates at Charleston, notwithstanding the uneasiness of the managers of the democratic Regency, who are doing their best to create the impression that the national democracy, under the lead of Mayor Wood, is but a handful. The anxiety to see Mr. Wood whilst here plainly indicates that his friends are not so few as the confidence band of the Regency would have us believe. It is said that some of the Tammanyites will commit suicide if the Mozart Hall democracy are admitted at Charleston. I fear, however, that they have not the nerve to do so good a work for their country.

But little was done in the Senate this evening. A number of bills were considered in the Committee of the Whole, mostly of a local nature. The Attorney General sent in his opinion in regard to the legality of the present Board of Supervisors of the city of New York, giving it as his opinion that the Board, as at present constituted, is not an illegal body in the respect inquired after by the resolution.

A number of bills were read a third time and passed in the Assembly, the most important of which is the bill regulating commercial paper falling due upon holidays. It passed in the same shape that it was reported by the Committee of the Whole, increasing the number of holidays, and making paper falling due upon those days, as well as Sunday, payable the following day, instead of the preceding, as has been the usage in commercial circles up to the present time.

Mr. Varian is preparing a minority report upon the Pro Rata question, which he will submit to the Legislature on Wednesday next.

One of the leading advocates of the bill, who has been prominently connected with it in the House, doing all he can to secure its passage, stated on Friday last to another member that the bill must go through the House, but he hoped that it would be defeated in the Senate. That is a sample of the hypocrisy of some of the law makers that have been sent here.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

ALBANY, Feb. 6, 1860.

The PRESIDENT presented a remonstrance from the New York Chamber of Commerce against the proposed Pro-Rata Freight law and against tolling railroads.

Mr. HILLHOUSE reported unfavorably the bill for the relief of the Academy of Music in New York city, which was agreed to and the bill rejected.

Mr. LAPHAM reported favorably the bill for a bridge over the Harlem river.

A communication was received from the Attorney General in answer to a resolution moved by Senator Connolly relative to the New York Board of Supervisors. The Attorney General expresses the opinion that the act under which the Board is constituted is not unconstitutional, and that the Supervisors, as at present constituted, are not an illegal body.

In Committee of the Whole, the bill concerning divorces dissolving the marriage contract was discussed; also the Railroad Toll bill.

Progress was reported upon both of them.

The bill to regulate ferries between New York and Brooklyn was amended, by providing that nothing in the act shall be deemed to abrogate any of the chartered rights of the city of New York, and then progress was reported on the bill.

Assembly.

ALBANY, Feb. 6, 1860.

Mr. CONKLING presented the petition of the New York Chamber of Commerce against the passage of a Pro Rata Freight law. He asked that the paper be referred to the Committee of the Whole House, and that it be printed.

Mr. MILLS, of Erie, was of the opinion that the petition was of no more consequence than if it had come from a body of farmers.

Mr. CONKLING stated that the majority of the Select Committee on the subject of the Pro Rata Freight law had reported in his absence, and in view of this fact and that the minority has not yet reported, he had moved for the printing of the remonstrance.

Mr. VAN HORN did not see the necessity for printing this document, as he understood the minority of the committee (Messrs. Conkling and Varian of New York) were about to make a report.

Mr. ELLSWORTH did not regard a paper coming from a body of farmers of as much importance as one emanating from the head of commerce in this State. The paper would be referred.

Mr. CONKLING'S motion to print the remonstrance was carried.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. CULVER—To increase the depth of Champlain canal to five feet.

By Mr. MILLER—To abolish duties on salt.

REPORTS.

By Mr. POND—To amend the charter of the village of Yonkers.

By Mr. DWIGHT—For the preservation of wild deer, fish and birds during their breeding season.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

By Mr. H. SMITH—A Personal Liberty bill.

By Mr. O. ALLEN—Relative to the fees of justices and jurors in courts.

By Mr. BARNETT—A prohibitory liquor law.

By Mr. DECKER—To prevent the prosecution of certain claims against New York State.

By Mr. O'FOURKES—For the preservation of the inhabitants of tenement houses in New York.

By Mr. WEBSTER—To incorporate the Propetria Lodge No. 1, Sons of Malta, in the city of New York.

By Mr. BRIGGS—To create a new ward in the city of Brooklyn.

By Mr. MILLIKEN—To amend the acts relative to the Harlem bridge.

By Mr. MOULTON—To exempt medicines, surgical instruments and office appurtenances from execution and attachment.

By Mr. A. A. MYERS—To authorize the Flatbush Plank Road Company in Kings county to allow a horse railroad track to be laid upon their road.

Acquittal of Col. Peck.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 6, 1860.

Col. Peck, who killed Dr. *Harris*, was discharged by the Grand Jury to-day.

Meeting of the New York National Democratic State Convention.

SYRACUSE, Feb. 6, 1860.

The National Democratic New York State Convention for the selection of delegates at large for the Charleston Convention, which was to have been held at noon to-day, was postponed until 8 P. M., in order to allow sufficient time for the arrival of the members from the distant parts of the State. The Convention will meet at the Voorhees House, which hotel the delegates have selected for their headquarters *pro tempore*. Every county in the State is represented. The utmost harmony prevails, and entire confidence is expressed as to the success of the delegation at Charleston.

Among the distinguished gentlemen present is Mayor Wood, who was courteously received on his trip from Albany at various points along the Central railroad to this city, and Senator J. McLeod Murphy. The latter came up to the Convention much to the chagrin of the Albany Regency, who thought the Senator owed allegiance to the political museum of petrefactions and fossils of Tammany Hall, because he recived his nomination from that source. Among others present are Gen. Chamberlin, Hon. Sam'l Beardsley, Hon. Darius Clark, Hon. Jno. Cramer, Hon. Orville Clark, Hon. Samuel G. Courtney, Hon. Frederick Follett, Hon. Daniel D. Campbell, Hon. James M. Marvin, Hon. Job Pierson, Dr. Robert B. Bradford, Hon. Fernando Wood, ex Speaker Alvord, Hon. D. M. Chauncey, Dr. J. Halsted; Peter Brewer, of Utica; Joseph Lee, of Herkimer; Norman Kibby, Robert M. Shampland, Hon. James Ready, of Albany; Senator J. McLeod Murphy.

The delegates held a caucus at five P. M. to arrange preliminaries for the meeting of the Convention. Thomas G. Alvord, Speaker of the Assembly in 1858, will probably be the chairman of the Convention. It was suggested in caucus that in place of presenting a set of resolutions declaring the platform and plan of action for the delegation, that a special committee be appointed, to consist of the ablest men, to prepare a case setting forth their claims, to be submitted at Charleston.

A Committee of Arrangements will be appointed to charter a steamship to convey the delegation to Charleston. Some of the delegates propose, instead of making their headquarters at a hotel there, to live on board the steamship until their return to New York.

The delegates present embrace farmers, manufacturers and few, if any, office holders, except such as were elected by the people. From present indications, the delegates at large will be Mayor Wood, Greene C. Bronson, John A. Green, Jr., of Onondaga, John Cramer of Saratoga. The alternates will probably be Gideon J. Tucker, John Haggerty of Chemung, ex-Senator Sloan, President of the Hudson River Railroad, of Kings county; and Elijah Ford, of Erie.

A preliminary meeting was held in the parlor of the hotel, at which the Hon. Senator Hubbell presided, Isaac Walker, of Saratoga, acting as Secretary. The outside attendance was very large, and a great deal of enthusiasm prevailed. At present the delegation stands uncommitted to any Presidential nominee, but if a New York name shall be presented at the Charleston Convention it will not be either of those already hitherto suggested. The only objection to ex-Speaker Alvord for the chairmanship of the Convention was because he favors the Pro Rata bill now before the Legislature.

Judge Cramer, one of the delegates, occupied a similar capacity at the convention that nominated Thomas Jefferson for President.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

The convention was called to order by John A. Greene, Jr., as Chairman of the Democratic State Committee. He said:—As Chairman of the Democratic State Committee I have been requested to call this convention to order, and, while in the performance of that duty, permit me to congratulate you upon being the direct representatives of the sovereign people of the first State of the Union. In the next Democratic National Convention, which is to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the States, in view of the probability that your seats in the Charleston Convention may be contested by another delegation, elected by a committee of sixteen in known disregard of the wishes of the people of this great State, it may not be improper for me to remark that the system of representation which it is your high privilege to reflect, is the system adopted by a majority of the States in this Union. It is the system adopted by Virginia, the "mother of Presidents." It is the system by which this State must and will be represented if the mass of New York's democracy are worth consulting. You are the representatives of the national democracy of the State of New York—that democracy whose fealty to the constitution and the principles adopted by our party knows no faltering. You are the representatives by that portion of the democracy who contend honestly and faithfully, not hypocritically, for the reserved equal and sovereign rights of every State in our confederacy. You are the representatives of that national democracy whose record is not stained with any Wilmot proviso or anti-slavery agitation, but presents rather the history of an "irrepressible conflict" with all such agitation and such heresies, whether within or without the democratic party. You are the representatives of the largest and most powerful State in the confederacy. You are the representatives of a noble constituency, who will honor you when vindicating the principles that each and all of the States have equal rights under the constitution, and that the true interpretation of the original compact guarantees to each and every citizen the protection of his property, whether in State or Territory. The high, responsible position which you hold, the important duties with which you are clothed, are double more responsible and thrice more important in this crisis