THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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THE CAPITAL.

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

The Civil Rights Bill Passed by the Senate.

The Financial Quarrel Between the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller of the Currency in the House.

Secretary McCulloch's Statement Sustained.

Ten Thousand Copies of the Evidence Before the Reconstruction Committee to be Printed.

Exciting "Personal Explanation" in the House.

Angry Controversy Between Thad Stevens and Mr. Smith, of Kentucky.

Receptions by the French Minister and Speaker Colfax.

&c. &c. &c.

WASHINGTON, March 15, 1866.

THE FRENCH MINISTER'S RECEPTION.

The reception given to-night by the Marquis and Marchioness De Montholon resembled a private party, and was remarkable for the quiet elegance of all its arrangements. Unlike almost all such gatherings in Washington city, there was no rushing or clamoring at the entrance to the mansion, no annoying interruptions in the halls or passage ways, and no impenetrable crowds to block either ingress or egress. Carriages rolled leisurely up to the door and discharged their occupants, servants pointed to the stairways and dressing rooms, waiting maids and *valets de chambre* were in attendance to give the finishing touch in making the guests presentable, and the host and hostess stood waiting to receive with a charming blending of dignity and simplicity. Owing partly to its being the last night of Speaker Colfax's receptions, a large proportion of the guests called there early in the evening, and were late in arriving at De Montholon's. By half-past ten the current was turned in the latter direction, however, and a large concourse of people began to assemble. The Military and Naval Departments and bureaus were well represented, and the foreign diplomatic bodies were, with few exceptions, present. A comparatively small number of Senators and Congressmen were in attendance; but an increased list of civilians and citizens of Washington compensated for their absence. The ladies and gentlemen were elaborately dressed, and the toilets of many were unsurpassable for brilliancy.

SPEAKER COLFAX'S RECEPTION.

The last of the receptions given by Speaker Colfax at his residence on Four-and-a-Half street, came off this evening with a perfect jam. It was the common salutation, when shaking hands with the Speaker, "This is a warm reception," the remark involving a double meaning, alluding to the motley outpouring, by way of etiquette, but really applying to the oppressively lofty range of the thermometer. This latter brought into requisition a free application of the *mouchoir*, inflicting serious damage to numerous displays of alabaster shoulders and daintily tinted cheeks. Some of the gentlemen on their part made an exposition of the same article, which would have been much more to their credit by being subjected to a little soap and water. The reception, properly speaking, took place in the double parlors, while the basement was set apart for possessors of nimble limbs trained to the steps of the dance. Over the door entering the parlor, before which stood Mr. Colfax, his mother and sister, an American flag was hung, while over the folding doors between the two parlors the American and a State flag were crossed. The press in the parlors was fearful, there being but one door both for ingress and egress. Once in the room it required the most dexterous elbowing to get out. The dancers below were similarly deficient in a proper area for their operations. However, they persisted valiantly against the pressure by crowding through the figures, and particularly waltzing upon a pivot. Among the distinguished persons present were Mr. and Mrs. General Banks; Commodore Bridge, accompanied by two beautiful young ladies; Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway, of California; Generals Howard, Buckland and Brayman; Eli Perry, of Albany; Representative Morrill; ex-Governor Wood, of Illinois, and others. Among the latter class we may mention the irrepressible Thad Stevens. Thaddeus appeared quite fascinating, and made himself conspicuous by uttering sundry boisterous inquiries for "that one-armed man." It was discovered subsequently that he alluded to General Howard, who wears an empty sleeve as evidence of his gallantry. Surrounded by a galaxy of so much beauty, and such an unfavorable opportunity of forming a decision, it is impossible to risk the announcement of the name of the belle of the evening. The dresses of the ladies made a fine display of the millinery art. White was the prevailing color among the gorgeously arrayed of the tender ages, while the elderly of the fashionables of their sex adorned their declining beauty by appropriate colors. The simple garments of several representatives from the rural districts formed quite a contrast when compared with the flash of the highly decorated ladies of the city. The majority of those present remained but a few minutes, thus keeping up a constant scramble from the cost rooms up stairs to the parlors below, and vice versa. The exterior of the building was strongly besieged by the sable population, who thoroughly blocked out all ventilation by a solid mass of hangerous heads, thick lips, flat noses and a profuse display of ivory. The Colfax receptions have been among the leading attractions of the winter gayeties in the national capital. The advent of warm weather and the falling off of the various fashionable entertainments will soon revert Washington life into its usual summer languor.

THE CALUMNIES REGARDING THE PRESIDENT.

The villanous character of the personal allusions to President Johnson published in the Chicago *Republican* and elsewhere and repeated from mouth to mouth by his radical enemies should be known and understood. He is charged with the grossest favoritism in receiving copperhead visitors and pardon brokers, and the assertion is gravely made that loyal delegations and members of both houses of Congress have been denied admission, while Tom Florence flitted in and out repeatedly before their faces. Mr. Curtis and Simon Cameron are charged with saying that they know these reports to be true. All such stories are unmitigated falsehoods, from whatever quarter they emanate. Tom Florence has never been admitted to a private interview with Andrew Johnson since the latter became President. Florence is accorded the privilege of all editors and reporters of newspapers, and permitted to accompany delegations to the President's residence whenever resolutions are to be presented or speeches made.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

The House amendments to the Civil Rights bill have been adopted by the Senate, and the bill has been sent to the President for his signature. The friends of the measure are confident that he will find no constitutional objections to it, and that it will speedily become part of the law. As it stands, republican members of Congress are unanimous in their endorsement of it.

THE NEW YORK COLLECTORSHIP

is becoming once more a topic of conversation in hotel lobbies and private political circles. The matter has finally assumed more the phase of a careful inquiry for a suitable person than the special advocacy of any one's claims to the place. Present appearances indicate that Wakeman's name will be again pressed by Messrs. Seward, Weed and Raymond, and that Colonel Hillyer may be brought forward for the Surveyorship.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Twenty-three thousand five hundred dollars in national bank currency was cancelled to-day in the presence of the proper authorities.

Numerous complaints having been made as to the mode of paying pensions at the agencies in New York and Philadelphia, at which cities the number of pensioners and amount of disbursements are very large, measures have been taken at the bureau here for a thorough investigation of the causes of the complaints with a view to the earliest and most efficient remedy.

One hundred thousand dollars in fractional currency is authorized by General Spinner to be sent to New York to-morrow, and over seventy thousand elsewhere.

The receipts of customs from the 1st to the 10th instant were as follows:—New York, $3,748,610; Boston, $245,361; Philadelphia, $144,581; Baltimore, $93,538.

THE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS IN NEW YORK.

In consequence of the inconvenience and hardship to which the present mode of paying pensions at New York city is said to inflict upon United States pensioners, the Secretary of the Interior has despatched Mr. George C. Whiting, of his Department, formerly Commissioner of Pensions, to that city, with authority to investigate the matter and obtain such facts and information as will enable the Department to apply the correction.

A STOP PUT TO THE IMPORTATION OF A FOREIGN CRIMINAL.

The Secretary of State, in a letter to Senator Sumner, details the facts in the case of the murderer Martin Bader, recently pardoned by the Council of Basleland, Switzerland, on condition of his emigrating to this country. He was under sentence of confinement for twenty-four years in chains. The United States Consul, Mr. Wilfe, at Basle, informed the Council of Basleland that the United States was not a colony for convicts and criminals, and that the person pardoned would not be permitted to land in this country, but would be returned to Switzerland at the expense of those sending him hither.

GOVERNOR OF IDAHO.

Mr. McCormick, formerly prominent in the political circles of Arizona, has been appointed Governor of the Territory of Idaho, vice Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale.

THE PIRATE SEMMES.

The government's intention concerning Ralph Semmes has not been officially promulgated; but the impression gains ground that he will be tried by a mixed commission, composed of military and naval officers, and that his conviction or release will turn almost solely upon the question of whether or not he violated the usages of war in escaping from his vessel after striking his flag. It is conceded that the laws of war justified his burning, sinking and destroying his prizes, and that he is protected by the terms of Lee's surrender from acts of lawful warfare.

SENTENCE OF WHITTLESEY.

Wallace Whittlesey, convicted in the Criminal Court of the abstraction of government bonds, has been sentenced to pay a fine of one thousand dollars. The lightness of the penalty was in consequence of the recommendation of the jury to mercy, his good character previous to the larceny, his long imprisonment before his trial, and his evidently failing health.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF GOODS FROM BOND.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, March 15, 1866.

The following act of Congress, approved March 14, 1866, is published for the information and government of the officers of customs and others concerned:—This act authorizes—first, the withdrawal for consumption of all goods upon which duties are unpaid at any time prior to the 1st of May, 1866; second, the withdrawal of goods for consumption within one year from the date of the original importation, upon the payment of the proper duties and charges at the time of such withdrawal; third, the withdrawal of goods for consumption after one year and until the expiration of three years from the date of original importation, upon the payment of the proper duties and charges, and an additional duty of ten per centum of the amount of such duties and charges; fourth, the exportation of goods from warehouses within three years from the date of original importation; fifth, the right to transport goods in bond from the port of original importation to any other port or ports in the United States for the purpose of exportation.

The provisions of this law do not appear to require any special instructions, as they can be fully carried into effect by the general regulations of this Department governing the entry, withdrawal, transportation and exportation of merchandise in bond.

H. McCULLOCH, Secretary of the Treasury.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 15, 1866.

PROTEST AGAINST THE IMPORTATION OF CRIMINALS.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported the following resolution, which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed:—

Whereas it appears from official correspondence that the authorities of Bazeland, a canton in Switzerland, have recently undertaken to pardon a person convicted of murder on the condition that he would emigrate to America—meaning thereby the United States—and there is reason to believe that similar pardons of persons convicted of infamous offences have been granted in other countries, now, therefore,

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States protests against such acts as unfriendly and inconsistent with the comity of nations, and hereby requests the President of the United States to cause a copy of this protest to be communicated to the representatives of the United States in foreign countries, with instructions to present it to the governments where they are accredited respectively, and to insist that no such acts shall, under any circumstances, be repeated.

THE EVIDENCE BEFORE THE RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.

Mr. RIDDLE, (dem.) of Del., from the Printing Committee, reported a resolution to print ten thousand copies of the report of the joint Committee on Reconstruction, with the accompanying testimony, for the use of the Senate.

The committee recommended the printing of six thousand instead of ten thousand copies.

Mr. WADE, (rep.) of Ohio, hoped that the amendment of the committee would not be adopted. This was an important document and ought to be circulated.

Mr. RIDDLE inquired if Mr. Wade knew the cost of the printing.

Mr. WADE said it would only be the difference between six thousand and ten thousand.

Mr. DAVIS, (dem.) of Ky.—I would like to know upon what principle of justice and impartiality the evidence is taken. One gentleman from North Carolina, one of the truest and most honorable patriots in the land, gave me this information in regard to North Carolina. He informed me that the evidence of some men connected with the Freedmen's Bureau had been taken. He addressed a letter to a member of that committee, requesting that witnesses whose names had been suggested by those who claimed seats in the Senate and House should be allowed to give their evidence before the committee. When I last conversed with him he had received no such privilege as that. If a just and intelligent and impartial committee would seek for the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, in relation to this matter, the inquiry would be a subject of deep interest to the country, and the result of their labors should be presented to the country. But if that committee proceeds upon the principle of suppressing evidence, suppressing the truth, and silencing or at least refusing to hear evidence in behalf of the gentlemen who claim seats in the two houses from the eleven excluded States, I for one am opposed to publishing at the public expense the results of their labors. I do not believe, at least I have very little faith in the various letters and information read to the Senate by the honorable Senator from Massachusetts, presented to this body. I have no confidence whatever, or very little, in the testimony which the men in the employment of the Freedmen's Bureau give in relation to the state of public sentiment in the Southern States. Mr. Davis then said that as a sample of the kind of evidence furnished by those employed by the Freedmen's Bureau, he would read from a speech made a few weeks ago by General Clinton B. Fisk in Cincinnati and published in the Cincinnati Commercial in relation to the State of Kentucky. He characterized the statements in relation to the treatment of negroes in Kentucky as false and calumnious.

MR. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., said that since the Senator from Kentucky had risen he had cut out of a paper a speech made by Colonel W. P. Thomason, now at the head of the Freedmen's Bureau in Louisville, Ky., who was formerly a member of the House of Representatives from Kentucky. Colonel Thomason says in his speech:—

It is said there is no necessity for the Bureau in Kentucky. Our Senators in Congress have asserted that all the rights of the freedmen are protected by State laws. Now, my position enables me to say that neither General Palmer's letter nor General Fisk's speech in Cincinnati has told more than a fraction of the truth upon that subject. Our State laws do not protect colored people. I have simply to say in regard to General Fisk, that he is a gentleman of talent and character and a Christian man, whose word will go further in this nation than the assertion of every rebel sympathizer in Kentucky. As to General Palmer, the country knows that he is an eminent citizen of Illinois. He is a native of Kentucky, a man of capacity and high character. He knows what is going on in that State.

Mr. WILSON then referred to the fact that military tribunals had repeatedly convicted men of cruel and inhuman treatment of negroes in Kentucky, and the evidence taken before those tribunals could not be controverted.

Mr. GRIMES, (rep.) of Iowa, said that, as a member of the Reconstruction Committee, having charge of the investigation of the condition of affairs in one of the rebel States, he felt called upon to say that there had not been a single instance of a name being presented to the committee by any man claiming a seat in Congress from the rebel States in which the individual had not been sent for and examined. As to General Fisk, he would say that he came here at the request of the committee, having been sent for by the Secretary of War. He did not come here of his own accord, as was charged by Mr. Davis.

Mr. FESSENDEN, (rep.) of Me., said that so far as he knew there had not been a single application made by any one claiming a seat in which the individual suggested had not been examined. But one application had been made to him personally, and that came by letter, and was a request to introduce testimony. It was granted, as all others were.

Mr. WILLIAMS, (rep.) of Oregon, said that as a member of the Reconstruction Committee, and of a sub-committee having in charge the investigation of the condition of Louisiana, Texas and Florida, he felt called upon to deny the assertion of Mr. Davis that there had been partiality in the selection of witnesses. No application had been denied. Every witness named by persons claiming seats in Congress had been examined.

Mr. JOHNSON, (dem.) of Md., as a member of the Reconstruction Committee, also felt called upon to say that every witness whose name had been suggested by any one claiming a seat in Congress had been examined by that sub-committee, of which he (Mr. Johnson) was a member. Out of fifteen persons examined thirteen had been suggested by persons claiming seats from the lately rebellious States.

Mr. DAVIS said that a North Carolina gentleman of known character and reputation had told him he had been denied the privilege of introducing testimony before that committee.

Mr. CONNESS, (rep.) of Cal., replied to Mr. Davis, favoring the printing of a larger number of copies than the original resolution provided for.

Mr. DAVIS rose, but gave way to Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., who said that he observed a disposition to debate this resolution, and he therefore moved to postpone the subject for the present.

Mr. FESSENDEN.—Oh, let us take a vote on this.

Mr. TRUMBULL—I would like to see the Senate come to a vote; but the Senator from Kentucky has just risen, and when he rises there is no telling when he will take his seat. (Laughter.)

Mr. DAVIS said the Senator from Illinois must admit that the provocation was very great for a long speech just now; but he would promise to occupy only a few minutes.

Mr. TRUMBULL—I will give way to the Senator from Kentucky if he will get through in a few minutes. (Laughter.)

Mr. DAVIS took the floor and spoke of the administration of military affairs in Kentucky.

Mr. HENDRICKS, (dem.) of Ind., said as a matter of economy, it was worth while to reflect that the printing expenses of the government had gone up from a few hundred thousand to over two millions per annum. He would vote for the printing of the report, however, believing it important for the country to know the proceedings of the committee, whose appointment he considered unfortunate. In the course of debate he (Mr. Hendricks) had heard it asked whether rebels, dripping with the blood of loyal men, should be admitted to Congress. That was not the question; there was an oath, which it was not proposed to repeal, which would keep voluntary rebels out. He was in favor of the admission of men whose loyalty could not be questioned, and he believed all such should be admitted.

The question was then taken on the amendment to strike out ten thousand and insert six thousand. The amendment was disagreed to, and the original resolution was adopted.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

Mr. TRUMBULL called up the Civil Rights bill, the question being on concurrence in the House amendments.

Mr. DAVIS moved to lay the bill upon the table, and asks the Senate.

Mr. TRUMBULL rose to a point of order. He said that the bill is not before the Senate for discussion. It passed the Senate, and it has passed the House of Representatives with certain amendments. The question now is, will the Senate concur with the House in its amendments? We cannot vote on the bill again, but only on these amendments, and of course we cannot discuss a question upon which we cannot vote. All the amendments have been adopted except the last one, which is now pending. The Senator from Kentucky moves to postpone the bill until the 1st of December. That does not bring up a discussion on the merits of the bill, which the Senator proposes to read, because we cannot vote on the bill. It has passed the Senate. I insist, as he proposes to read the bill and discuss it, that it is out of order to discuss a bill upon which the Senate cannot vote.

The CHAIR gave the opinion that the merits of a bill could not be discussed on a motion to postpone. Reasons might be given for postponement and against postponement, but the general merits of the bill must not be discussed.

Mr. DAVIS inquired if it would be in order for him to show that Congress had no right to pass such a bill at all.

The CHAIR said the only question that could be discussed by Mr. Davis was the postponement until next December.

Mr. DAVIS said if that were so he would withdraw that motion and move to postpone indefinitely.

The CHAIR stated that the motion to postpone indefinitely would not allow of discussion any more than the motion to postpone till December.

Mr. DAVIS—Well, if I don't make anything by the change I will adhere to my original motion. (Laughter.)

Mr. TRUMBULL said he would not object to the Senator from Kentucky attempting to show that the last amendment proposed by the House was unconstitutional.

Mr. DAVIS said he would show that the whole bill, including the last section, was unconstitutional; and he addressed the Senate at length on the question.

At the conclusion of Mr. Davis' remarks the last amendment of the House was agreed to.

The bill as it has passed both Houses and will be presented to the President for his signature is as follows:—

SECTION 1. That all persons born in the United States and not subject to any foreign power, excluding Indians not taxed, are hereby declared to be citizens of the United States; and such citizens, of every race and color, without regard to any previous condition of slavery or involuntary service, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall have the same right in every State and Territory to make and enforce contracts, to sue, to be sued, to be parties and give evidence, to inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold and convey real and personal property, and to full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and property as are enjoyed by white citizens; and shall be subject to like punishment, pains and penalties, and to none other, any law, statute, ordinance, regulation or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 2. And that any person who, under colour of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation or custom, shall subject, or cause to be subjected, any inhabitant of any State or Territory to the deprivation of any right secured or protected by this act, or to different punishment, pains or penalties on account of such person having at any time been held in a condition of slavery or involuntary servitude, except for the punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, or by the reason of his color or race, than is prescribed for the punishment of white persons, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the Court.

SEC. 3. That the district courts of the United States, within their respective districts, shall have, exclusively of the courts of the several States, cognizance of all crimes and offences committed against the provisions of this act, and also, concurrently with the circuit courts of the United States, of all causes, civil and criminal, affecting persons who are denied, or cannot enforce in the courts of judicial tribunal of the State or locality where they may be, any of the rights secured to them by the first section of this act, and if any suit or prosecution, civil or criminal, has been or shall be commenced in any State court against any such person for any cause whatsoever, civil or military, or any other person, any arrest or imprisonment, trespasses or wrongs done or committed by virtue or under color of authority derived from this act or the act establishing a bureau for the relief of freedmen and refugees, and all acts amendatory thereof, or relating to do any act upon the ground that it would be inconsistent with this act, such defendant shall have the right to remove such cause for trial to the proper district or circuit court in the manner prescribed by the act relating to habeas corpus and regulating judicial proceedings in certain cases, approved March 3, 1863, and all acts amendatory thereto, and jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters hereby conferred on the district and circuit courts of the United States shall be exercised and enforced in conformity with the laws of the United States, so far as such laws are suitable to carry the same into effect, but are deficient in the such laws are not adapted to the object, or prove inadequate, or provisions necessary to furnish sufficient law, as modified and changed by the constitution of the United States, shall be in force in every State and Territory to make and enforce contracts, to sue, to be sued, to be parties and give evidence, to inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold and convey real and personal property, and to full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and property as are enjoyed by white citizens; and shall be subject to like punishment, pains and penalties, and to none other; any law, statute, ordinance, regulation or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 4. That the district attorneys, marshals, and deputy marshals of the United States, the commissioners appointed by the circuit and territorial courts of the United States, with powers of arresting, imprisoning, or bailing offenders against the laws of the United States, the officers and agents of the Freedmen's Bureau, and every other officer who may be specially empowered by the President of the United States, shall be and they are hereby specially authorized and required, at the expense of the United States, to institute proceedings against all and every person who shall violate the provisions of this act, and cause him or them to be arrested and imprisoned, or bailed, as the case may be, for trial before such of the United States or Territorial courts as by this act have cognizance of the offence; and with a view to affording reasonable protection to all persons in their constitutional rights of equality before the law, without distinction of race or color, or previous condition of slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, and the prompt discharge of the duties of this act, it shall be the duty of the circuit courts of the United States and the superior courts of the Territories of the United States from time to time to increase the number of commissioners, so as to afford a speedy and convenient means for the arrest and examination of persons charged with a violation of this act.

SEC. 5. That said commissioners shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the judges of the circuit and district courts of the United States, and the judges of the superior courts of the Territories, severally and collectively, in term time and vacation, upon satisfactory proof being made, to issue warrants and precepts for arresting and bringing before them all offenders against the provisions of this act, and on examination to discharge, admit to bail, or commit them for trial, as the facts may warrant.

SEC. 6. And such commissioners are hereby authorized and required to exercise and discharge all the powers and duties conferred on them by this act and the same duties with regard to offences created by this act, as they are authorized by law to exercise with regard to other offences against the laws of the United States. That it shall be the duty of all marshals and deputy marshals to obey and execute all warrants and precepts issued under the provisions of this act when to them directed, and should any marshal or deputy marshal refuse to receive such warrant or other process when tendered, or to use all proper means diligently to execute the same, he shall on conviction thereof be fined in the sum of one thousand dollars, to the use of the person upon whom the accused is alleged to have committed the offence; and the better to enable the said commissioners to execute their duties faithfully and efficiently, in conformity with the constitution of the United States and the requirements of this act, they are hereby authorized and empowered, within their counties respectively, to appoint, in writing under their hands, one or more suitable persons, from time to time, to execute all such warrants and other process as may be issued by them in the lawful performance of their respective duties, and the persons so appointed to execute any warrant or process as aforesaid shall have authority to summon and call to their aid the bystanders or a *posse comitatus* of the proper county, or such portion of the land or naval forces of the United States, or of the militia, as may be necessary to the performance of the duty with which they are charged, and to insure a faithful observance of the clause of the constitution which prohibits slavery, in conformity with the provisions of this act; and said warrants shall run and be executed by said officers anywhere in the State or Territory within which they are issued.

SEC. 7. That any person who shall knowingly and wrongfully obstruct, hinder or prevent any officer or other person charged with the execution of any warrant or process issued under the provisions of this act, or any person or persons lawfully assisting him or them, from arresting any person for whose apprehension such warrant or process may have been issued; or shall rescue, or attempt to rescue, such person from the custody of the officer, other person or persons, or those lawfully assisting, as aforesaid, when so arrested, pursuant to the authority herein given and declared; or shall aid, abet or assist any person so arrested as aforesaid, directly or indirectly, to escape from the custody of the officer or other persons legally authorized, as aforesaid, or shall harbor or conceal any person for whom a warrant or process shall have been issued as aforesaid, so as to prevent his discovery and arrest after notice or knowledge of the fact that a warrant has been issued for the apprehension of such person, shall for either of said offences be subject to a fine, not exceeding one thousand dollars, and imprisonment not exceeding six months, by indictment before the District Court of the United States for the district in which said offence may have been committed, or before the proper court of criminal jurisdiction, if committed within any one of the organized Territories of the United States.

SECTION 8. That the district attorneys, the marshals, their deputies, and the clerks of the said district and territorial courts shall be paid for their services the like fees as may be allowed to them for similar services in other cases; and in all cases where the proceedings are before a commissioner he shall be entitled to a fee of ten dollars in full for his services in each case, inclusive of all services incident to such arrest and examination. The person or persons authorized to execute the process to be issued by such commissioners for the arrest of offenders against the provisions of this act, shall be entitled to a fee of five dollars for each person he or they may arrest and take before any such commissioner, as aforesaid, with such other fees as may be deemed reasonable by such commissioner for such other additional services as may be necessarily performed by him or them—such as attending at the examination, keeping the prisoner in custody, and providing food and lodgings during his detention, and until the final determination of such commissioner, and in general for performing such other duties as may be required in the premises, such fees to be made up in conformity with the fees usually charged by the officers of the court of justice, within the proper district or county, as near as practicable, and paid out of the treasury of the United States, on the certificate of the district within which the arrest is made, and to be recoverable from the defendant as part of the judgment in case of conviction.

SEC. 9. That whenever the President of the United States shall have reason to believe that offences have been or are likely to be committed against the provisions of this act within any judicial district, it shall be lawful for him, in his discretion, to direct the Judge, Marshall and District Attorney of such district to attend at such place within the district and for such time as he may designate, for the purpose of the more speedy arrest and trial of persons charged with a violation of this act; and it shall be the duty of every judge or other officer, when any such requisition shall be received by him, to attend at the place and for the time therein designated.

SEC. 10. That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States or such persons as he may empower for that purpose, to employ such part of the land or naval forces of the United States, or of the militia, as shall be necessary to prevent the violation and enforce the due execution of this act.

SEC. 11. That upon all questions of law arising in any cause under the provisions of this act, a final appeal may be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

THE NEW JERSEY CONTESTED SEAT.

Mr. TRUMBULL gave notice that on Monday next he would ask the Senate to take up the case of the Senator from New Jersey, Mr. Stockton, which had been referred on a protest from the Legislature of that State to the Committee on Judiciary.

DEFICIENCY BILL.

Mr. FESSENDEN called up the Deficiency bill, which contains, among other items, the following:—For completing the dome of the Capitol, $50,000; for defraying the expenses of Mr. Lincoln's funeral, $30,000; for purchasing files of leading American newspapers for the library of Congress, $1,500; to enable the joint Committee on the Library to pay the first instalment due on a contract made with Wm. H. Powell for a naval picture to be placed in the Capitol, in pursuance of a joint resolution approved March 2, 1865, $2,000; to supply a deficiency in the fund for the relief of sick and disabled seamen, $170,000; for the purchase of the property in Washington city known as Ford's theatre, for the deposit and safe keeping of documentary papers relating to the officers of the army of the United States, and of the Museum of the Medical and Surgical Department of the Army, $100,000. For plates, engraving, printing and paper for national currency notes, $250,000.

The Finance Committee recommended the striking out of the following proviso, inserted by the House in connection with the foregoing appropriations:—

Provided, That hereafter no portrait of any living person shall be engraved or placed upon any of the bonds, securities or postal currency of the United States.

The proviso was stricken out.

For facilitating communication between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts by telegraph, $40,000.

Section 5 authorizes the President to expend during the fiscal year ending the 30th day of June, 1866, so much of the appropriation of March 22, 1861, as he may deem expedient and proper, not exceeding in the whole ten thousand dollars, for compensation to the United States Marshals, District Attorneys and other persons employed in enforcing the laws for the suppression of the African slave trade, for any services they may render, and for which no allowance is otherwise provided by law; and also so much of said appropriation as may be necessary to pay the salaries of the judges and arbiters appointed by him pursuant to the act of Congress approved July 11, 1862, entitled "An act to carry into effect the treaty between the United States and her Britannic Majesty for the suppression of the African slave trade," and for the expenses of the mixed courts of justice provided for by said treaty.

Pending the consideration of the bill the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 15, 1866.

LANDS IN AID OF RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH LINES IN CALIFORNIA.

On motion of Mr. HUBBY, (rep.) of Cal., the Senate acts granting aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the town of Folsom to the town of Placerville, in the State of California, and also for a railroad and telegraph line from Placerville to the most feasible point of intersection with the Pacific Railroad in the State of Nevada, were taken from the Speaker's table, read twice and referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroad.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

Mr. SMITH, (rep.) of Ky., obtained leave to make a personal explanation, and he sent up to be read an article from the Louisville *Gazette*, in reference to a resolution offered by him in December last, admitting the privileges of the floor to Colonel Johnson, of Arkansas, member elect from that State.

Mr. STEVENS, (rep.) of Pa., remarked that he did not see that this was a personal explanation, and he was not willing that the morning hour should be expended in defending somebody else.

Mr. SMITH replied, with much excitement in his manner, saying he had no doubt that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Stevens) thought this was rather a curious question; but he (Mr. Smith) was determined to let him understand that he stood here willing and able and determined to defend a soldier of the Union, let the attack come from what quarter it might.

Mr. STEVENS—Then I object to any defence of a soldier of the Union by the gentleman, unless it be a defence of himself. His remarks are not personal to himself.

The SPEAKER stated that the gentleman from Kentucky had asked unanimous consent to make a personal explanation; that the Chair had twice asked whether there was an objection, and that no objection had been made. The gentleman should, however, confine himself to personal explanation, and not open a wide range of debate in regard to other subjects and persons.

The article in question was read by the Clerk.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vt., made the question of order that there was nothing in that article relating to the gentleman from Kentucky.

The SPEAKER—The gentleman from Kentucky alleges that his intended to reflect on him for having offered a resolution to admit a rebel Representative. He desires to vindicate himself. The Chair thinks that comes clearly within the province of a personal explanation, and allows a wide range of debate.

Mr. [illegible], (rep.) of Mass., in support of the Chair, said it was always understood that when the House gave unanimous consent to a member to make a personal explanation, it waived all its rules, and the member was the proper judge of what was necessary to explain his ground taken, and position. That was the uniform practice, and it was in order to warn the House against giving unanimous consent.

Mr. WASHBURNE, (rep.) of Ill., said that that had always been the understanding, and he fully concurred with what the gentleman from Massachusetts said.

The SPEAKER stated that he had always insisted since he had been in the chair that the gentleman in making a personal explanation must state the grounds on which he is aggrieved, and must render his explanation relevant to that subject. The Chair thinks there is a reasonable doubt, and the gentleman from Kentucky is in some degree relieved by the attack upon him for defending a reasonable privilege of the floor to a member elect who, it appeared in the article read, shared his tooth with the skulls of Union soldiers.

Mr. SMITH rose to discuss the status of the late rebellion, denouncing the theory that they were out of the Union as a damnable heresy.

Mr. BROOMALL, (rep.) of Pa., raised the point of order that the language used by the gentleman from Kentucky was out of order in announcing the opinion of a majority of the House as a damnable heresy.

Mr. SMITH—I did not say anything about the majority; I said that the opinion entertained by the House in that connection was damnable, and I repeat that I say further—

The SPEAKER—The Chair sustains the point of order. The gentleman has no right to reflect in such language on the decision of the House.

Mr. SMITH—I did not reflect on the decision of the House.

Mr. HAYES—Then the question is shall the gentleman be allowed to proceed in order.

Mr. STEVENS—I object. We have had enough of it.

Mr. SMITH (excitedly)—I suppose you have, but not so much as you will have.

The SPEAKER—The gentleman from Kentucky, under the demand made that the rule shall be enforced, must take his seat. The Chair will have the rule read.

The rule was read by the Clerk.

Mr. BROOMALL—I demand now the enforcement of the rule.

The SPEAKER—The question is, shall the gentleman from Kentucky be allowed to proceed in order?

The question was taken by ayes and noes, and leave was refused by the House—yeas 58, nays 70.

Mr. SMITH (again rising)—I rise to a personal explanation.

Mr. MORRILL called for the regular order, but finally the House agreed to give the gentleman from Kentucky five minutes' time.

Mr. SMITH said that he understood it had been observed by some member that a remark which he had made a moment ago was the reason why he had been refused leave to proceed. That remark was intended for the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Stevens). That gentleman's language was that he had had enough of what I was saying, and I remarked, "Very well; it may be you have, but I will give you more of it." My object was to be personal to him, not to the House. He closed his remarks by a declaration of love for the Union and sworn hostility to secession.

Mr. STEVENS said he did not rise to answer what had been said personal to himself. He would simply repeat what he had once before said, that "what no gentleman would utter, no gentleman could answer."

INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Indian Appropriation bill, which was read twice and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and made the special order for Thursday next.

BRANCH OF THE BALTIMORE AND POTOMAC RAILROAD.

Mr. McCULLOUGH, (dem.) of Md., introduced an act to authorize the extension and construction of a lateral branch of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad into and within the District of Columbia, which was read twice and referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia.

THE HABEAS CORPUS ACT.

The House resumed, during the morning hour, the consideration of the bill to amend the act relating to the habeas corpus and regulating judicial proceedings in certain cases, approved March, 1863.

Mr. HARDING, (dem.) of Ky., consumed the remainder of his hour left from yesterday, when the morning hour expired, in arguing against the constitutionality and principles of the bill.

Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., desired to suggest an amendment to the bill, so as to make it give a more complete and definite indemnity to the Secretary of War. He said that in performing the great task which the rebellion had devolved upon him, and which he had performed so ably and so well, the Secretary of War had incurred very grave responsibilities and had exposed himself to litigation if not liability for the acts which he had been compelled to do. Acting in good faith—acting on the highest considerations of public good—the Secretary had been compelled to direct to be done and to do those acts for which possibly he might not have in all cases that technical warrant which would exempt him from litigation. He desired to be informed whether the Judiciary Committee were prepared to offer such amendments to the bill as would give full indemnity to the Secretary of War.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Iowa, replied that the Judiciary Committee was now considering a bill looking to the indemnity to which the gentleman referred.

Mr. CONKLING said he was very glad to hear it, and would vote for a judicious bill on that subject.

Mr. SHELLABARGER, (rep.) of Ohio, mentioned the case of some persons being under indictment in Grant county, Ky., for having, in the arrest of some notorious guerillas, shot one of them, and he stated that they would be tried, convicted and executed, and asked whether this bill covered such cases as that.

Mr. HARDING, (dem.) of Ky., wanted to know what authority the gentleman had for reporting that these persons would be condemned and executed.

Mr. SHELLABARGER gave as his authority, first, the fact that the persons were indicted; and second, the fact that one of them had made that statement to him, based on what he regarded as the state of public opinion.

Mr. HARDING suggested that the trial could be removed to another county by change of venue.

Mr. COX, (rep.) Ill., stated that the bill would cover such a case, but, if not, its phraseology could be changed to make it do so. Several cases of the same description had been brought to the attention of the committee.

The morning hour having expired the bill went over to the next morning hour.

APPOINTMENT ON COMMITTEE.

The SPEAKER obtained consent to appoint a third member on the Committee on Enrolled Bills, and appointed Mr. Trowbridge.

NEW LEGAL TENDER NOTES IN PLACE OF LIKE NOTES DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Mr. RAYMOND, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a petition of the Adams Express Company, praying for the passage of an act authorizing the issue to it of legal tender notes in place of like notes destroyed by fire; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

PETITIONS FOR REDUCTION OF DUTY ON BARLEY.

Mr. RAYMOND presented a petition of Messrs. Ogden & Cotalan, of New York, praying for a reduction of the duty on barley imported from the British provinces; which was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. [illegible], (rep.) of N. Y., presented the petition of brewers in the city of New York for a reduction of duty on barley, which was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

THE LOAN BILL.

The House then proceeded, as a special order, to the consideration of the Loan bill.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vt., from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported the following amendment to the bill:—"Strike out the following proviso:—Provided that the bonds which may be disposed of elsewhere than in the United States may be made payable, both principal and interest, in the coin or currency of the country in which they are made payable, but shall not bear a rate of interest exceeding five per cent per annum."

Mr. HOOPER, (rep.) of N. Y., addressed the House. He referred, on the opening of his remarks, to a letter from the Comptroller of the Currency to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated March 10, showing serious errors in the report of the Secretary as to the money on hand on the 1st of March. The total amount returned by the Secretary was $116,018,957; the amount which the Comptroller claims as being