WASHINGTON

The Southern Relief Appropriation Bill Reported in Committee of the Whole House.

Hard Words Between Messrs. Butler and Bingham.

Butler Taunted as the Man Who Voted for Jeff Davis for President and Did Not Take Fort Fisher.

Demand for the Removal of Collector Smythe.

&c. &c. &c.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1867.

The New York Collectorship.

There is a good deal of fuss and bluster going on here about the New York collectorship. Evidently many politicians on both sides are working for the removal of Mr. Smythe in the hope that some man more easily managed and more ready and skilful in allowing himself to be made a tool of will be appointed. I use the word "skilful" because, if the statements of some of the veteran wire pullers here are to be believed, it requires no small amount or ingenuity to manage to let oneself be well used in a position like that of Collector, with its immense patronage. The impression about the White House to-day is that no change will be made in respect to the Collectorship until after Congress shall have taken a recess, if, indeed, a change even then will be made. The President refuses any information on the subject, and therefore all the statements in different papers are mere guesses. In regard to the statement that Congressman Laflin is urging General Slocum for Collector, I am authorized to assert that there is not a word of truth in it. Mr. Hulburd, from the House Committee on Public Expenditures, has reported a resolution calling on the President to remove Collector Smythe.

Spicy Debate in the House.

Compliments passed between gentlemen to-day in the House during the debate on the bill for the relief of the poor of the South. The feeling reached a degree of heat that no other measure, either of this or the last session, has yet aroused, and the opposition to the bill has, notwithstanding the majority in its favor, been able to delay its passage by interposing all the parliamentary obstacles that an ingenious and numerous minority could avail themselves of. The talk between Messrs. Butler and Bingham was of a character that in former days was usually preliminary to a fight; but the apparent improbability of such a result was evident from the disposition of the House to indulge the combatants in the utterance of their bitterest personalities and most savage invective. It is understood that Messrs. Butler and Bingham first crossed swords at the republican caucus in the early part of the session, and the rivalry between these able debaters has been frequently apparent in the debates that have since taken place. When, in reply to the charge made by Butler that Bingham had gone over in body and spirit to the other side, Bingham, in his fiery way, alluded to Butler's voting fifty-seven times for the Arch-Traitor of the rebellion, and scorned the imputation, whether it came from the hero of Fort Fisher taken or Fort Fisher untaken, the democrats and some of the republicans were hugely pleased and gave vent to uproarious laughter and applause. The retort of Butler was similarly received by those who were acting with him, and the debate was of such rare vicissitude that all seemed to regret its termination. It is this evening the monopolizing subject of conversation. The bill will come up again to-morrow, and will probably pass, though the Senate proposition of appropriating $1,000,000 will be so modified as to authorize the distribution of that amount in supplies from the fund already appropriated for the maintenance of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Mr. Morrill's Gold Bill.

Mr. Morrill's bill to provide for a reserve of gold in the Treasury and the national banks and for other purposes, makes it unlawful for the Secretary of the Treasury to sell or otherwise dispose of any gold or silver coin now held by the government of the United States, or that may hereafter be received by it from duties on imports, as now provided by law, until the balance of specie in the Treasury shall amount to $200,000,000, when it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to give public notice that all liabilities of the government of the United States matured and to mature will be paid in coin. It further provides that it shall be unlawful for any national bank to sell or otherwise dispose of any gold received in payment of interest on bonds held by the Treasurer of the United States as security for the redemption of its notes while not redeeming its notes in coin, and all national banks failing to so redeem their notes within thirty days after the resumption of specie payments by the government shall forfeit their charters; that no further redemption or contraction of the legal tender notes now outstanding shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury; that all surplus revenues beyond a specie reserve of $200,000,000 shall be applied to the redemption of the public debt; that the Secretary be authorized and required to issue notes payable in twenty years from date, and bearing seven and three-tenths per cent interest, payable semi-annually, in currency, with which notes he shall redeem all indebtedness of the United States not otherwise provided for by law, and which shall mature within two years from the passage of the act, reserving the right in the government to pay six per cent in gold in lieu of the seven and three-tenths per cent, from and after the expiration of the said two years. That in case holders of any portion of the maturing debt shall decline to receive in payment thereof the said seven and three-tenths notes, the said notes, or so much thereof as shall be necessary for the purpose, shall from time to time be sold by the Secretary of the Treasury on due public notice, and the avails thereof be applied to the payment of the said maturing debt.

Claims of New York City Against the Government for War Expenses.

The delegation of New York Aldermen, consisting of Messrs. Loew, McGinnis, Hardy, Coman and Coulter, had interviews this morning with Secretaries McCulloch and Stanton respecting the $800,000 claim of New York city for war expenses. They were accompanied by Fernando Wood, who introduced them to the Secretaries. The first visit was made to Mr. McCulloch. Alderman Loew, as chairman, explained the business of the delegation, stating that they were authorized to demand a reimbursement of $800,000 advanced to the Union Defence Committee during the war and expended by that body in fitting out regiments. Mr. McCulloch replied that the claim was undoubtedly just, but that there was no general legislation that would enable him to pay it. All such claims that had been paid by the Treasury Department had previously been authorized, he said, by special acts of Congress. He himself had no discretion in the matter, and suggested that the War Department would be found the proper place to apply for an equitable settlement. Secretary Stanton, after listening to the explanation of the delegation, also acknowledged that New York city had an equitable claim against the government. He spoke in high terms of the important services rendered by New York city regiments; and said that they had been the means of saving the national capital in times of great peril. He could take no step in the matter, however, without the authority of Congress; and recommended the delegation to get some Representative to introduce a resolution for the appointment of a special commission to examine the records and audit the claim; then he would afford every facility for a settlement. The Aldermanic delegation has concluded to follow the advice of Secretary Stanton.

The New Order of Things in the South.

The impression gains ground here that the example of General Hampton and others in Columbia, with regard to the freedmen, will be very generally followed in the Southern States, and that much good will grow out of this policy to both races. The next address of the kind is expected from Governor Wise, of Virginia, in Richmond. The hope is expressed that the officers commanding the military districts will bear in mind the injunctions of Washington to General Morgan under circumstances somewhat analagous, viz.:—"Constantly and strongly to impress upon the army that they are mere agents of civil power; that out of camp they have no more authority than other citizens."

General Lee in Favor of the Proposed Virginia Constitutional Convention.

From Richmond I learn to-night that a valley paper states, on the best authority, that General Robert E. Lee is heartily in favor of a convention. He thinks the people of Virginia should make every effort to avert their ruin; that it is idle to talk of resistance or inactivity. He acknowledges that the bill is a bitter one, but says he can suffer nothing more than Appomattox. Commenting on this, a Richmond paper says:—"Who will now say that Virginia will degrade and dishonor herself by acting under the Sherman law? General Lee can now be placed among the advocates of reconstruction." In this connection the HERALD's Presidential ticket for 1868 is very favorably talked of by the people of Virginia and creates great enthusiasm.

The Supplementary Reconstruction Bill.

The Supplementary Reconstruction bill did not reach the White House until this morning, and the President has certainly had but little time to consider it to-day. It is not probable, therefore, that the veto will be sent in before Saturday or Monday, if at all.

Office Seekers at the White House.

The usual throng of office and pardon seekers was seen at the White House to-day. The President, however, has been engaged during the whole day with the members of his Cabinet in filling the blanks in the appointment list, made by the Senatorial guillotine, and judging from the experience of the past two weeks, they will have their hands full in the work of supplying victims for execution. The claims of those aspirants to office who had the championship of Cabinet Ministers occupied so much of the President's time that the outside applicants in the halls and antecroom, who had not yet been entered for the race, were constrained to defer their hopes till the light of another day. The Postmaster General, with his bushel basket of applications, letters, &c., has been with the President nearly all day in close consultation on the subject of those appointments, and but little else, except as above stated, has received official consideration.

Approval of the Bill for Relief of Destitute Colored Persons in the District.

The President has signed the bill appropriating $15,000 for the relief of freedmen or destitute colored persons in the District of Columbia; also the bill appropriating $50,000, in addition to the amount heretofore provided, for expenses attending the Paris Exposition.

Registration of Voters in Washington Under the New Suffrage Law.

The registration of voters under the new suffrage law has commenced in Washington. The registration in the First ward shows the blacks greatly in the majority, the whites taking no particular interest in the matter.

Secretary Stanton on the Floor of the House.

The Secretary of War went to the House of Representatives this afternoon, at two o'clock, and remained until the House adjourned. It is said that the Secretary was before the Judiciary Committee touching the restoration of property to pardoned rebels.

The Business of the War Department.

The principal business now being transacted at the War Department is the settlement of claims growing out of the war, and the transmission of instructions in reply to interrogatories put by the new Military Governors in the work of getting their establishments in running order.

The Collectorship of Philadelphia.

It is understood that the President to-day nominated to the Senate William Goodwin to be Collector, and A. D. Markley to be Naval Officer for the port of Philadelphia.

The Albany Collectorship.

There is a quiet little fight going on about the Collectorship of the port of Albany. Thomas Stevens and Peter Carmichael are the most prominent candidates. Stevens has been rejected once, but is still in the field, with ex-Senator Harris at his back. Carmichael seems to be ahead now.

The Fenian Trials in Canada.

The President, in response to a resolution of the House, transmitted to-day a letter from our Consul, dated Toronto, March 13, inclosing a communication from Mr. K. Mackenzie, the United States attorney employed to defend the Fenian prisoners, in which the latter says the Court of King's Bench has given a judgment in the case of Patrick McGrath, one of the Fenian prisoners, and have confirmed the conviction. It will be recollected that McGrath was tried at the November term of the court for participation in the Fenian raid of June last, as a citizen of the United States, and was acquitted. At the January term he was tried a second time on another indictment for the same offence as a British subject. To the latter indictment Mr. Mackenzie recommended him to plead a plea of *autre fois acquit*, besides pleading over to the felony. He was convicted of the felony. The result was as first above stated. The court having in this instance departed from a time honored principle, there is no appeal, so the matter must rest. The judgment in this case may be said to end the Fenian trials, the result of which is nineteen convictions and twenty-two acquittals. The original number of Fenian prisoners lodged in the military prison at Toronto was ninety-six or ninety-seven.

The Arrest of American Citizens in Great Britain.

The Secretary of State reports to the President, who has sent his letter to the House, that the correspondence relative to the arrest, imprisonment and treatment of American citizens in Great Britain or its provinces within two years past is still in progress, and therefore its publication at the present juncture would, in the opinion of the Secretary, be incompatible with the public interest.

Mexican Affairs—The Evacuation by the French.

The President, in replying to an inquiry of the House, encloses the following letter to that body:—

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES, VERA CRUZ, Feb. 28, 1867.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you that the following French transports have arrived here since my despatch of February 21:—The Tartare and Charente, the Durance, Ville de Lyon and Megare, the Cerce, Vera Cruz and Castiglione. The following vessels have sailed:—On the 24th, the transport Tampico, with 1,050 troops; on the 25th, the Ardeche, with 1,250 troops; on the 26 h, the Calvados, with 1,000 troops; on the 27th, the Farn, with 1,100 troops, and Vera Cruz, with 1,000 troops, on the 28th. Three thousand troops have been embarked, making in all a total of 10,600 troops to date. Marshal Bazaine is at the village of Soledad, some thirty miles from this city, on the line of railroad. The embarkation is progressing rapidly, and the expectation of the French officers is that they will all have embarked previous to the 12th of March.

The Custom House of this city is to be given over to Francisco Beres, the former Collector under the Juarez government, and also under the intervention previous to the Convention of July 30, 1862.

Maximilian is reported to have arrived at Queretaro on the 15th, with nearly all the available force of his party, say some eight thousand men, commanded by Generals Marquez, Miramon, Vidauri and Mendez. The liberals have a force of some twelve thousand men around said place, under Escobedo, Trevina, Corona and others. Here in Vera Cruz the imperial authorities are enlisting any man they can induce to do so. The contra guerillas, formerly under Colonel Dapin (in number three hundred) have nearly all enlisted. They are to be commanded by Mariano Camacho, of Jalapa. Everything is very quiet here in this city. There have not been any officers quartered on the American residents since the 16th instant. I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

E. H. SAULNIER, Acting United States Consul.

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

According to the last official information received from Mexico it appears that the republicans have four armies, well equipped and armed, each of which could offer battle to Maximilian at Queretaro. Of these four armies only one, the Army of the North, under Escobedo, was in front of Queretaro. The Western army, under Corona, and the Central army, under Regules, were coming to join Escobedo. Should they make a junction the success of the republicans is almost certain. Should Maximilian force a battle and defeat Escobedo Generals Corona and Regules will offer him battle. Should they be defeated, General Diaz, of the Eastern army, will be left intact and able to take care of Maximilian.

Receipts from Customs.

The receipts from customs from March 9 to 16 inclusive, at the ports below named, were as follows:—New York, $2,878,941; Philadelphia, $156,096; Baltimore, $108,072; New Orleans, March 1 to 9, $115,981. Total, $3,260,094.

Shinplasters in the South.

The Comptroller of the Currency has addressed the following letter to Senator Sherman, Chairman of the Finance Committee:—

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1867.

DEAR SIR—Our National Bank Examiner in St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans reports that the city authorities at those points issue scrip, or "shinplasters," payable to the bearer, to circulate as money. Notices of this practice have also appeared in print. I enclose a printed slip, cut from a Southern newspaper, and also a letter from the German National Bank of Memphis, in reference to the practice. Section 72 of the Internal Revenue act, passed March 3, 1865, and amended July 13, 1866, imposes a tax of two per centum upon the notes of any person, State bank, or State banking association paid out by any incorporated bank after August 1, 1866; but this is not broad enough to cover the case in question. These cities can flood their respective sections with irredeemable shinplasters without limitation. I do not know of any way to prevent their issue and circulation except by amending, and I suggest whether the subject is not one of sufficient importance to warrant a special amendment to the act in order to reach the case.

The Fees of Consuls.

The Secretary of State, in response to a resolution of the Senate, says the Department has no knowledge that any salaried consul now in office has been permitted to appropriate or has appropriated to his own use over and above the amount of salary any portion of these or any other fees otherwise than in conformity with the law and as authorized and directed thereby. The Comptroller of the Treasury says he has no means of stating the amount of the fees, but that the surplus, after making the legal deductions for salary, &c., is deposited with the State Department.

The Expeditions Against the Indians.

Lieutenant General Sherman has addressed a letter to the Headquarters of the Army, dated St. Louis, March 13, 1867, in which he says all the troops in the Departments of Dakota, Platte and Missouri, embracing the Indian country, have been and are now being placed in position to afford the best protection to the telegraph and mail routes across the plains, as well as to protect the four principal roads by which the emigrants travel or merchants send their goods destined to the mountain Territories. These troops will occupy posts readily built, but designed for defence by a fraction of the garrison, while the remainder can operate as escorts or expeditions between the posts. Commanding officers of these posts or stations will act against all people who violate the laws of Congress or who endanger the lives or property of our people, be they white, black or copper colored. "When there are no courts or civil authorities to hold or punish such malefactors we must," he says, "of necessity use the musket pretty freely, the only weapon with which the soldier ought to deal. Peaceful people, whites, blacks or Indians, will be left to be dealt with by the civil authorities and agents."

General Hancock, in the Department of the Mississippi, has organized a special force of about fifteen hundred men, with which he will proceed in person to the country of the Cheyennes and Kiowys, below the Arkansas, and will there confer with them to ascertain if they want to fight, in which case he will indulge them. If, however, they will assure him that they will remain at peace, subject to their treaties and agents, he will not disturb them, but impress on them the imprudence of assuming an insolent manner and tone when they visit our posts, and he will impress on them that it is to their interest to keep their hunting parties and their young warriors off our main lines of travel, where their presence gives the occasion for the many rumors which so disturb our people. After he has done this he will distribute this force so as to be again easily assembled if the occasion calls for it.

In like manner General Augur, in the Department of the Platte, has prepared a force of about 2,000 men to be sent under a competent commander, General Gibbon, to the region of country on the head of Powder and Yellow Stone rivers to punish the band of hostile Sioux who have infested that road for the past year, have killed many people, and are at open war. No mercy should be shown to the Indians; for they grant no quarter nor ask for it. General Augur was instructed, if possible, by means of runners, to notify all Sioux who wished to avoid the fate of their hostile fellows to come in to some one of our military posts on the Platte, where we would feed them temporarily and turn them over to the care of their proper agents. But inasmuch as Congress has lately provided for a commission to visit these Indians, and as these commissioners have reached Omaha, the headquarters of General Augur, General Sherman has instructed him to delay actual hostilities until these Commissioners have exhausted their efforts and reported to him their inability to influence the conduct of the hostile Sioux by pacific measures. In reference to these two expeditions General Sherman says:—"Defensive measures will not answer against Indians; we are tied down to long routes, and our detachments are necessarily small, hardly enough to build shelters and gather firewood, the materials for which have to be hauled two and three hundred miles, while the Indians move hundreds and thousands of miles, taking with them their ponies, lodges, wives and children. They are thus enabled at one time to attack or molest our roads at one point, and in a month or so make their appearance at another hundreds of miles distant. Our troops must get among them and kill enough of them to inspire fear, and then must conduct the remainder to places where Indian agents can and will reside among them and be held responsible for their conduct."

Confirmations by the Senate.

The Senate, in executive session to-day, confirmed the following nominations:—

United States Marshal—J. N. Patterson, District of New Hampshire.

Collector of Customs—Nelson G. Isbell, Detroit, Michigan.

Postmasters—Anthony W. Street, Salt Lake City, Utah; Ferdinand Seitz, Pilot Knob, Missouri; Lewis F. Kloesterman, Cape Girardeau.

Consuls—Charles Milne, of New Jersey, at Cobijah, Bolivia; D. R. Boice, of New Jersey, at Hamilton, C. W.; W. Hudson Lawrence, of New Jersey, at Moscow; G. M. Provost, of Pennsylvania, at Zacatecas; George Gerard, of Pennsylvania, at Cepetown.

Collectors of Internal Revenue—Arthur G. German, Fifth district, Maryland; Jacob Weart, Fifth district, New Jersey; John R. Headley, Fourth district, New Jersey.

The following nominations were rejected:—

Surveyors of Customs—Henry W. Tracey, Philadelphia; Robert Cathcart, Baltimore, Md.

Assessors of Internal Revenue—F. W. Williams, Twelfth district, Pennsylvania; John S. McKiernan, Nineteenth district, Pennsylvania.

Naval Officer—Arthur D. Markley, Philadelphia.

Rejections by the Senate—Correction.

The following nominations were rejected by the Senate on Tuesday and not confirmed, as erroneously published:—

Collectors of Internal Revenue—George H. Green, Second district of Missouri; Henry C. Wilter, Twenty-third district of Pennsylvania; Hepburn McClure, Eighteenth district of Pennsylvania; David Caldwell, Seventeenth district of Pennsylvania, and George Sanderson, Ninth district of Pennsylvania.

Postmasters—Allen P. Richardson, at Jefferson City, Mo.; George H. Swift, at Cuba, N. Y.; Albert G. Clark, at Toledo, Ohio; Richard Beaham, at Ann Arbor, Mich.; William Snyder, at Franklin, Ind., and Samuel D. Trull, at Cohoes, N. Y.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

First Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1867.

MEMORIALS.

Mr. MORTON, (rep.) of Ind., presented several memorials of the Minnesota Legislature, which were appropriately referred.

Mr. HOWE, (rep.) of Wis., presented the memorial of the Wisconsin Legislature for aid in the construction of military roads, which was referred.

THE EXTRA COMPENSATION TO GOVERNMENT CLERKS.

Mr. WILLIAMS, (rep.) of Oregon, from the Finance Committee, reported the House joint resolution to extend to the employés of the first division of the Currency Bureau the benefits of the resolution giving twenty per cent extra compensation to certain employés of the government, with a recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed. It was indefinitely postponed.

REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE.

On motion of Mr. FESSENDEN, (rep.) of Me., the Chair was authorized to fill two existing vacancies in the regents of the Smithsonian Institute.

EXEMPTION OF WRAPPING PAPER FROM TAX.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vt., reported from the Finance Committee the joint resolution exempting wrapping paper made from wood or cornstalks from the Internal Revenue tax. It was considered and passed and goes to the President.

MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., from the Military Committee, reported a joint resolution placing certain troops of Missouri on an equal footing with other troops in relation to the bounty.

Mr. DRAKE, (rep.) of Mo., called for its immediate consideration.

After discussion, in which Messrs. Drake, Henderson, Corbitt and Thayer participated, the joint resolution passed.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

Mr. ANTHONY, (rep.) of R. I., from the Committee on Printing, reported a resolution to print five thousand copies of the report of General Humphries on the physics and hydraulics of the Mississippi river and the protection of the alluvial region from overflow. Passed.

INQUIRY INTO THE ACCOUNTS OF THE LATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PRINTING.

Mr. ANTHONY introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Printing to inquire if there be any deficits in the accounts of the late Superintendent of Printing, whether he made a contract prejudicial to the government, whether he bought more paper than he should have bought, &c. Mr. Anthony explained the object of this resolution to be to remove certain false impressions created by newspapers as to the conduct of the late Superintendent in making purchases of paper. He read a letter from Mr. Wendell, the gentleman referred to, denying the allegations made against him, and requesting the investigation called for by the committee. The resolution was adopted.

THE SALE OF VESSELS TO FRIENDLY BELLIGERENTS.

Mr. CHANDLER, (rep.) of Mich., from the Committee on Commerce, reported a resolution authorizing American citizens to dispose of vessels to friendly belligerents under certain circumstances.

At the request of Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., it was laid over for the present.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE BANKRUPT LAW.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., introduced a bill to amend the Bankrupt bill by repealing the provision requiring the Chief Justice of the United States to appoint the Registers of Bankruptcy, and providing that the Registers shall be appointed by the United States District Courts. Mr. Trumbull said the measure had the sanction of the Chief Justice.

At the request of several Senators the bill was laid over for the present.

TAX ON ALL STATE, MUNICIPAL AND CORPORATION NOTES ISSUED BY NATIONAL BANKS, ETC.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill exempting from internal tax wrapping paper made from wood or cornstalks, which was passed this morning. He desired to offer an amendment imposing a tax of ten (?) per cent on all State, municipal or corporation notes and scrip issued by any national bank. Mr. Sherman sent to the Chair, to be read, a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, stating that the national banks in New Orleans were issuing shinplasters and scrip as currency.

The vote was reconsidered and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. TRUMBULL moved an amendment exempting from internal revenue tax bobbins made wholly from wood.

Mr. MORRILL moved to substitute for the word "ladders" the words "all articles manufactured of wood." This was disagreed to.

The bill as amended by Mr. Sherman was then passed, and goes to the House for concurrence.

THE BOULIGNY CLAIMS.

Mr. WILLIAMS called up a joint resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to suspend the operation of an act for the relief of the heirs of John E. Bouligny, passed during the last session of Congress.

After debate Mr. JOHNSON, (dem.) of Md., moved to postpone until to-morrow, and the motion prevailed.

THE INDIAN TRUST BONDS.

On motion of Mr. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kansas, the unfinished business of yesterday, which was the bill to authorize the sale of certain stocks in possession of the government held in trust for the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians, which was debated and passed.

RESISTANCE OF DUTIES ON SUGARS OF MACHINERY.

Mr. HOGAN, (rep.) of N. Y., from the Finance Committee, reported favorably on the joint resolution to remit or refund duties on steam agricultural machinery imported as models or for purposes of experimenting.

It was postponed until to-morrow.

THE PAYMENT OF LOYAL SLAVE OWNERS FOR SLAVES ENLISTED IN THE MILITARY SERVICE.

Mr. TRUMBULL called up the joint resolution to suspend further proceedings under the act to appoint commissioners to pay loyal slave owners for slaves enlisted in the army.

Mr. DAVIS, (dem.) of Ky., took the floor and spoke at length in opposition to the resolution. He characterized it as the first step in the direction of repudiation, being a breach of the plighted faith of the government.

Mr. SAULSBURY, (dem.) of Del., said he could not vote to pay for negroes, because he did not think the government had any right to take them or enlist them. He would not vote a dollar to reimburse himself for personal losses, nor accept a dollar if voted to him. He hoped no slaveholder in the United States would accept a dollar of it.

The joint resolution was then passed—yeas 32, nays 7. The nays were Messrs. Buckalew, Davis, Doolittle, Johnson, Patterson of Tenn., Van Winkle and Willey. Mr. Saulsbury voted "aye."

CHESTER, PA., A PORT OF DELIVERY.

Mr. CAMERON, (rep.) of Pa., introduced a bill to establish a port of delivery at Chester, Pa., in the district of Philadelphia, with a surveyor at a salary of $500 per annum, which was passed.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

On motion of Mr. WILSON it was resolved that the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to consider the expediency of passing a resolution expressive of the sense of the nation that the American department of the World's Exhibition at Paris shall not be opened on the Sabbath day.

THE ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYES.

The House bill to include the employés of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments with those whose salaries are increased twenty per cent by the resolution of last session came from the House, and, on motion of Mr. WILLIAMS, was indefinitely postponed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The Senate, at twenty minutes past four o'clock, went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1867.

THE ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYES.

The reading of the journal having been dispensed with, Mr. SCHENCK, (rep.) of Ohio, on leave, introduced a joint resolution to extend to the employés of the Quartermaster's and Subsistence Departments at Washington the provisions of the joint resolution giving twenty per cent additional compensation to certain employés in the civil service of the government at Washington. It includes mechanics, laborers, watchmen and other employés of these Departments.

Mr. HOLMAN, (rep.) of Ind., suggested its extension to laborers in the navy yards, &c.

Mr. SCHENCK explained that there had been an advance of wages made to these laborers which brought them up to a point as high as if they had twenty per cent added to their original pay.

Mr. JULIAN, (rep.) of Ind., stated that they had had no recent increase, and that they were absolutely starving from the insufficiency of their pay to support their families.

Mr. BENJAMIN, (rep.) of Me., suggested its extension to the employés in the government printing office, and Mr. Chanler to the laborers in the Patent Office.

To these and to other suggestions Mr. SCHENCK replied that while he would not oppose such extensions if they were found to be proper, still his proposition simply covered two cases. The construction of the Department had been adverse to the claims of those employés, while they were certainly intended to be included. He moved the previous question.

The previous question was seconded and the joint resolution was passed without a division.

The SPEAKER proceeded, as the first business in order in the morning hour, to the call of committees for reports.

UNITED STATES COURTS IN NEBRASKA.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Iowa, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back the Senate bill to provide for a District and Circuit Court of the United States for the district of Nebraska, with an amendment giving the Judge of the Eighth circuit $1,000 additional salary to defray his travelling expenses.

After discussion between Messrs. Wilson, Eldridge, Boutwell and Spalding, the amendment was rejected and the bill passed.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EXPENDITURES ON THE NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE.

Mr. HULBURD, (rep.) of N. Y., chairman of the Committee on Public Expenditures, stated that the committee had taken testimony which apparently incriminated one or more members of the Senate, and that the committee deemed it proper to report it to the House, so that such action might be taken as comported with the courtesy due from one House to the other. He offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the House, having been informed by one of its committees that testimony has been brought to the knowledge of said committee, which testimony apparently inculpates one or more members of the Senate, the House therefore directs that all such testimony be transmitted to the Senate for its information.

Mr. SPALDING, (rep.) of Ohio, inquired whether the resolution contemplated any further continuance of this session.

Mr. HULBURD replied that it did not.

Mr. TABER, (dem.) of N. Y., stated that, as one of the minority of the committee, he did not agree to the report. The evidence was, to his mind, entirely insufficient to base such a resolution upon, and he asked that it should be read to the House.

Mr. HULBURD stated that the report just submitted was based on the testimony taken by the committee last session, together with the evidence of one witness who had appeared before the committee of the present Congress, and if the House should require the reading of all the testimony it would probably occupy six days.

Mr. ELDRIDGE, (dem.) of Wis., inquired of Mr. Hulburd why he would not state the facts, so that the House might act understandingly, and not send forth a virtual impeachment of one or more Senators without knowing the testimony on which the action is founded.

Mr. HULBURD had not the slightest objection to having the testimony read. The committee had reflected somewhat on the subject, and had come to the conclusion that it was more courteous, more discorous, and would give least scandal not to have the testimony read, but to have it transmitted to the Senate for its information and action.

Mr. BROOKS, (dem.) of N. Y., objected to the use of the words "apparently inculpating Senators." Inculpating was a very hard word, and he submitted that the House was not quite prepared to use it in reference to Senators. He was quite satisfied that the matter should be referred to the Senate for its action; but no language should be used that could be considered discourteous. He suggested that instead of the words "apparently inculpating," the words "affecting or having reference to" be used, and the resolution be so modified.

Mr. TAYLOR stated that the testimony taken by the committee at the last session affecting those Senators under consideration was given by Mr. Doolittle and Mr. Patterson, of Tenn., respectively, and already been published in the New York papers, and was therefore within the cognizance of the Senate. The testimony taken this session, and on which the resolution was based, should be read to the House.

Mr. BINGHAM, (rep.) of Pa., another member of the committee, stated that he had no objection to the testimony being read; but he wished it distinctly understood that the majority of the committee did not volunteer the publicity sought to be given to the testimony.

Mr. BINGHAM, (rep.) of Ohio, inquired how the Senate could take action upon it without having it read and thereby giving it publicity.

Mr. BROOMALL replied that that was a matter for the Senate itself to determine, but he did not see what would prevent the Senate having the testimony read with closed doors.

Mr. NOELL, (dem.) of Mo., another member of the committee, declared himself willing to agree to the resolution without hearing the testimony of all the witnesses. He had only heard the testimony of one witness examined his session, and he did not deem it sufficient to justify the resolution. He did not understand that a committee charged with certain specific duties had the right to go outside of those duties and to constitute itself into a grand inquisition into the conduct of citizens generally.

The SPEAKER stated that it was too late to make the point of order, and even if it had been made in time he would have overruled it, because the whole subject of the administration of the New York Custom House was referred to that committee.

After some further discussion the previous question was moved and seconded and the resolution agreed to.

DEMAND FOR THE REMOVAL OF COLLECTOR SMYTHE.

Mr. HULBURD then reported the following resolution:—

Resolved, That it is the sense of this House that Henry A. Smythe should be immediately removed from the office of Collector of the port of New York, and that the Clerk of the House send a certified copy of this resolution to be laid before the President of the United States.

Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., opposed the resolution. There was one way by which this House should demand the removal of a high officer—that was by impeachment. There was no other way. The House did not request the removal of an officer of his superior, or of his accomplice, or of his co-conspirator, but demanded it in the name of the people of the United States, of the high court of justice established by the constitution for the purpose of trying such questions. He did not want this House to adopt the precedent of the British Parliament in intimating to the King that we have no confidence in his officers, and humbly imploring his gracious majesty to be kind enough to listen to the voice of his faithful Commons.

Mr. RANDALL, (dem.) of Pa., expressed the opinion that the resolution was unusual and uncalled for.

Mr. BEYNAM asked Mr. Randall what should be done if the President refuses to remove Mr. Smythe?

Mr. RANDALL replied that if the President did what was right he would tell the House, if it passed the resolution, to mind its own business. (Laughter.) He concurred in the opinion that Mr. Smythe should be removed, if not for malfeasance, certainly for unfitness.

The morning hour here expired and the resolution went over until to-morrow.

THE SOUTHERN RELIEF BILL.

The House then by a vote of 73 to 57 went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, with Mr. Blaine in the chair, and resumed consideration of the Senate joint resolution appropriating $1,000,000 for the relief of the destitute people of the South. All general debate being ordered to be closed in two minutes, Messrs. Banks and Bingham withdrew their pending amendments.

Mr. BINGHAM then offered an amendment to strike out of the joint resolution the words appropriating "one million of dollars" and inserting these words:—"And to that end the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed, through the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, to apply so much as he may deem necessary for the purposes aforesaid of the unexpended moneys heretofore appropriated to supply freedmen and refugees with provisions or rations." Mr. Bingham explained that if the amendment was adopted the bill would not make an additional appropriation of one dollar, but would simply enable the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau to extend relief according to the terms of the original resolution to such as are famishing for want of bread in the Southern States.

Mr. BUTLER made a speech against the amendment and the joint resolution, declaring that it was intended to aid in this way the able bodied white rebels, who were loafing round corner grocery stores refusing to work, while the medalls of the North were forced to work. How long, he asked, should the medallis of the North support in lazy, whiskey drinking idleness the aristocracy of the South? He desired to enter his protest against the bill in whatever form it came, even if by legislative experience—he was about to say chicanery—he was cut off with five minutes. Referring to the speech of Mr. Woodbridge, some days since, in which he quoted the text "Vengeance is mine, and I will repay," Mr. Butler said that according to that then the Almighty was working out his vengeance among those very people around Richmond, Salisbury, Millen and Andersonville who had stood by Union soldiers dying of starvation. He thought that a little starvation would give them an idea of the sufferings which they had witnessed without striving to alleviate.

Mr. SPALDING supported the joint resolution. He confessed to having had some wavering of opinion in reference to it, although the universal sentiment of charity prevailed with him; but when gentlemen on the other side made elaborate argument against it, and one gentleman (Mr. Wood) remarked that this appropriation of $1,000,000 was a premium for the persecution of the rebels, he was brought to a stand. He could fully appreciate the feelings of the gentleman just before him (Mr. Covode) whose son had been reduced to the point of starvation in one of the rebel prisons.

Mr. COVODE, (rep.) of Pa., interrupting, remarked that he had sent quite a number of packages of provisions to the South while prisoners were starving there. He had sent them, with due care, through General Butler, at Fortress Monroe, but not one ounce had ever reached the prisoners. He would regard that as his donation to the Southern people.

Mr. SPALDING, resuming, repeated the remark that he could appreciate the force of the appeal made by the gentleman (Mr. Covode). No one could contemplate the scenes that took place in rebel prisons without emotions of horror. Not only were prisoners starved, but they were shot dead after they were induced by offers of food to cross the dead lines. He (Mr. Spalding) had had his two only sons dragged to a rebel prison. They were not, to be sure, reduced to the point of starvation; but they were doomed to very much suffering. If, however, they had suffered as his friend's (Mr. Covode's) sons had suffered, and if the men who were responsible for it came to his door stone on the point of starvation he could not but respect the appeal to his humanity.

Mr. WOODBRIDGE, (rep.) of Vt., for the purpose of showing that the Union soldiers who had suffered in rebel prisons were themselves in favor of this bill, read from a New York paper a letter from a soldier now living in Rutland, Vt.

Mr. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., while not considering that as an argument, quoted against it the resolutions adopted in the meeting of the associations of the Grand Army of the Republic, in Washington, New York and elsewhere.

Mr. WOODBRIDGE declared that if such associations consisted of soldiers they were wanting in the first element that distinguished a coward from a brave man. (Applause on the floor.)

Mr. BROOMALL supported the amendment offered by Mr. Bingham, and trusted it would be adopted, and that the joint resolution as thus amended would be passed.

Mr. LOGAN, in reply to Mr. Woodbridge, could not see what the question of bravery and soldierly conduct had to do with the passage or defeat of the resolution. He disliked to hear those remarks of the gentleman from Vermont. He did not think they came in good grace from a man who had never had the opportunity of testing his courage so as to know whether he was a brave man or not. If this resolution passed he would propose that like aid be granted to those who are suffering from inundation in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys.

Mr. BUTLER, referring to the intimation made by Mr. Woodbridge the other day that he (Mr. Butler) was not a statesman, said he agreed to that, and had just escaped being a statesman by failing to be elected to the Thirty-ninth Congress. (Laughter.)

Mr. WOODBRIDGE denied that he had said any such thing.

Mr. BUTLER—Then the gentleman from Vermont means to say that I am a statesman. I am very much obliged to him. (Laughter.) As to the action of the soldiers of the Grand Army of the Republic, I received from them, unsolicited, a resolution approving of my course, and so long as I have the approval of the soldiers of the army I can very well do without that of those who were out the soft cushions of this House during the entire war. (Laughter from the democratic side.)

The debate went on for a considerable time and with some considerable asperity of feeling, and was participated in by Messrs. Schenck, Lawrence of Ohio, Pyle, Miller, Farnsworth, Broomall, Shellabarger, Butler and Benjamin.

In the course of the debate Mr. BUTLER spoke of Mr. Bingham as having gone over to the other side of the House, not only in body, but in spirit, and reminded him of what "that great and good man," President Johnson, had done, while Provisional Governor of Tennessee, in taxing wealthy rebels to support poor families.

Mr. BINGHA