

WASHINGTON

Memorial Against the Pacific Railroad Subsidies in the Senate.

DISCUSSION ON THE MURPHY CLAIMS.

Proposition for a Protectorate Over St. Domingo and Hayti Introduced in the House.

A Financial Bill Introduced by Mr. Butler.

Mr. Washburne Ventilating the Telegraph Monopoly.

Circular from the Attorney General.

All Suits for the Crime of Treason to Be Discontinued.

Fourth Military district, will appear before the committee to-morrow to testify. He has been called before it at the request of the democratic members thereof.

Payments to Wells, Fargo & Co. The Sixth Auditor of the Treasury, who has charge of the accounts of the Post Office Department, refused to pass the drafts drawn by the Postmaster General for the payment of Wells, Fargo & Co. for their contract in carrying the overland mail.

The Committee on Printing has entered upon the investigation ordered by the House into the stationery contracts of the Interior Department. They have examined Commissioner of Patents Foote, Mr. McCormick, Chief Clerk of the Patent Office, and Mr. Peters, one of the committee appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to examine and report upon these contracts.

Reception at the Executive Mansion. President Johnson and his daughters will hold a reception on Friday evening next from eight to eleven o'clock.

Preparations for the Inauguration. Several meetings of persons interested in the proper observance of the ceremonies (other than official) usually connected with the inauguration of President and Vice President of the United States have been held in this city.

General Butler and His Financial Speech. Ben Butler occupied the Speaker's chair for a short time to-day. This is the first time he has ever been in the chair since he was a member of the House.

Another Move of the Telegraph Monopolists. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations held a meeting to-day and discussed the bill of Senator Morton prohibiting the laying of trans-Atlantic cables on these shores without the express authority of Congress.

The Inauguration Ball. The following is the concurrent resolution introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Covode, chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, and passed:

Resolved, That so much of the Capitol as hereinafter mentioned be granted to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, for the purpose of holding a ball on the 22d inst., to be given in honor of the inauguration of the President and Vice President, on the 4th of March next.

Work of the Committee on Elections. The Committee on Elections had under consideration to-day the contested case from the State of Georgia. No conclusion was reached.

The Russian Embassy. No executive session of the Senate took place to-day, and consequently Mr. Smythe's case has not yet been decided.

Reconstruction of Mississippi and Georgia. The Reconstruction Committee decided to-day to entertain no more applications for removal of disabilities until the cases of Georgia and Mississippi have been before them.

from all doubt by express enactment. And, second, it is submitted whether it is not expedient to provide for the review of consular decisions by granting an appeal to the courts of the United States or to the Department of State.

Negro Messengers in the Treasury Department. The attempt made by the Secretary of the Treasury to effect a slight change in the department by discharging a number of the negro messengers who have enjoyed the advantage of office for many years and filling the vacancies thus created with ex-soldiers who have rendered the country good service is the subject of the Secretary's order discharging and inquiry issued in order discharging about a dozen of these able messengers, and in so doing he brought down about his ears a large sized horn of protest in the shape of an avalanche of paper restraints from the heads of the bureaus which had thus been deprived of their messengers.

Clerks in the State Department. In response to a resolution of the House adopted on the 10th of December last, asking the heads of the various departments what reduction, if any, can be made in the number of officers and employes, salaries or expenses in their several departments, the Secretary of State sent to the House of Representatives a communication, in which he says he is not aware that the salary paid to any officer, agent or laborer in the Department of State exceeds the rate of compensation necessary to secure intelligent, reliable and effective service, and that he is unable to specify any reduction that can be made compatible with the public interest.

The Clerks' Extra Compensation Question. A circular from the committee on behalf of the War Department having in charge the furtherance of the twenty per cent movement was to-day sent through the different bureaus of that department. It expressed confidence in the ultimate success of the measure and solicited subscriptions from the clerical employes to be used in defraying the expenses of the above mentioned committee.

Additional Pay for Postal Mail Cars. The committee authorized its chairman to report a bill instructing the Postmaster General to add 100 per cent to the pay for mail services of all railroad companies using what is known as postal mail cars on their roads.

The Senate Finance Committee. The Senate Finance Committee held a meeting this morning and agreed to report a bill to the next Congress for the relief of a public creditor of the United States.

Indian Appropriations. The Secretary of the Interior sent a communication to the Senate to-day recommending an appropriation of \$177,143 to carry out the treaty stipulations of February 18, 1867, to pay for the lands, &c., of the Sac and Fox Indians of the Mississippi, also for an appropriation of \$30,000 for the Crow Indians of Montana.

Relief of Sufferers by Earthquakes in Peru. General A. P. Hovey, Minister Resident of the United States in Peru, informs the State Department that he had received from San Francisco the sum of \$3,180, contributed for the relief of sufferers from the recent earthquakes in Peru, which he transmitted to the proper authorities and received their acknowledgments of gratitude.

Naval Order. Lieutenant Commander Frank Wilde, has been detached from the receiving ship Ohio and ordered to the Franklin.

Council of Congregational Clergy. A mutual council of the Congregational ministers will assemble in this city to-morrow at the First Congregational church, for the purpose of taking action and tendering advice concerning the recent trouble in that religious organization here.

Soldiers' Discharges—General Order. The following general order has been issued by the Adjutant-General:

Paragraph 165, general regulations of 1863, requires the cause of discharge of soldiers to be stated in the body of the parchment, a certificate furnished for the purpose, and the space at the foot for the character of the discharge to be filled in.

Nominations. The President nominated to the Senate today the following: Postmasters—George H. Pierson, Salem, Mass.; Henry Boyd, White Plains, N. Y.; Peter C. Wagner, Watkins, N. Y.; Chauncey Harris, Elizabeth, N. J.; David W. Stornet, Fort Worth, Texas; W. C. Kelley, Penn Yan, N. Y.; James H. Hays, Chicago, Ill.; Andrew J. Simmons, Collector of Internal Revenue at Montana; A. S. Robertson, Collector of Internal Revenue at New York; Nathaniel A. Adams, Surveyor General, Arkansas; David Speck, Attorney for the Western District of Texas; James H. Hackberry, Attorney for Middle Tennessee.

Supreme Court. In the Supreme Court to-day the following cases were disposed of: Nos. 37 and 38—St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company vs. Schermner, and same vs. Humphrey—Action brought by the railroad in error from the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia for the purpose of copying a letter and public landing in St. Paul, Minn. Argument commenced.

Nos. 39 and 40—Doming vs. The United States, and The United States vs. Doming. Cases based by the plaintiff and certain rights of contract to be determined. Argument commenced.

SENATE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1869. RECONSTRUCTION OF GEORGIA. Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., presented a petition in the form of a series of resolutions adopted at a mass meeting in Macon, Ga., on the 1st of January, setting forth the deplorable condition of things in that State, and asking the passage of Sumner's bill as a remedy.

Mr. FREMINGTON, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a memorial, signed by Franklin H. Geo. H. Upton, Henry G. Gardner and other capitalists, setting forth that the proposed subsidies to the Northern Pacific Railroad and to the Eastern Division of the Great Northern Railroad, will amount, besides land grants, to \$125,000,000, and offering to construct either of both the roads for a sum of \$15,000,000 in addition to the land grants. Mr. FREMINGTON said he was opposed to the granting of any subsidies to railroad companies, but presented this memorial because one of the signers was a constituent of his.

tion to foreigners of grants or privileges derived from the United States. It provides that it shall not be lawful, without the express consent of Congress, for any person to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of property of the United States, or of any land, or of any foreign corporation any charter, grant or privilege derived from the United States and designed to promote or regulate intercourse with any foreign nation. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

NAVY AND NAVAL OFFICERS GENERAL. Mr. FREMINGTON introduced a bill to continue the office of Solicitor and Naval Judge Advocate General. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

ARKANSAS AND PACIFIC RAILROAD. Mr. RICE, (rep.) of Ark., introduced a bill to aid in the construction of the Arkansas and Pacific Railroad. Referred.

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loyal man in the South, whose property was appropriated in the same way, should be paid for it, and whenever a loyal man in the North would be paid for property destroyed in the course of a war, or a battle, so a loyal man in the South should be paid for his property destroyed in the same way. It is a more equitable rule than that which has been unduly insisted upon, and in the end it would prove to be penny wise, pound foolish economy.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. FACTORY INSURANCE BILL. Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., introduced a bill to authorize the issue of a national currency, to assure its stability and elasticity, lessen the interest on the public debt and reduce the rate of interest. (The bill, together with a full report of Mr. Butler's views in support of the measure, are given on the fourth page of to-day's HERALD.)

WESTERN WAR CLAIMS. Mr. SPALDING, (rep.) of Ohio, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a resolution that the papers and evidence retained to the War Department by the Davis, Holt and Campbell Commission touching claims of the Department of the West before the 14th of October, 1864, should be surrendered and handed over to the Attorney General, whose duty it shall be to cause the evidence to be examined and such as has a bearing on the Court of Claims shall be printed and received by said court, subject, however, to examination or re-examination of the evidence by the commission.

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government, do we not initiate aggression with European powers. Mr. BAKER, (rep.) of N. Y., inquired whether there was any precedent for the course contemplated.

Mr. BAKER replied there was no precedent, but we are in the age when nations are regarded as republics our trade would be very much increased, and this, if there were no other reasons, was sufficient why we should desire peace.

Mr. BAKER, (rep.) of N. Y., inquired whether there was any pending negotiation between the Executive and those governments looking to a protectorate.

Mr. BAKER replied that there was no such thing as a protectorate, and that it was not in the fact that there had been; but he could state his own belief that their governments and people desired and would accept a protectorate.

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