

WASHINGTON

The Closing Scenes of the Senate.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS ALL ROUND.

Sharp Rencontre Between Sprague and Abbott.

A DUEL ON THE TAPIS.

Rejection of Sanford, Jones, Pile and the Quaker Indian Agents.

No Trouble Apprehended With England.

THE SAN JUAN TREATY POSTPONED.

England Prepared to Hinder Satisfaction in the Mary Lowell Affair—Rumored Coalition of England, France and Spain—Spain Anxious to Dispose of Cuba.

Official information received from London confirms my despatch of two days ago to the effect that Secretary Fish had demanded of England an explanation regarding the seizure and condemnation of the brig Mary Lowell. There is no doubt whatever of the fact that such a demand has been placed before the English Premier, but at the same time it should be stated that no fears are entertained in official circles here that any new cause of trouble between the governments will arise therefrom. It is understood here that the English government agrees with our own in regarding the conduct of the Spaniards in this matter as completely indefensible, and further, that it has already requested an explanation of the whole proceeding in violation of its own honor and dignity, should Spain refuse to furnish an explanation to England, there is reason to believe that the latter will firmly insist upon the surrender of the brig Mary Lowell. Whatever may be the sympathy of England for the Spaniards in their struggle to preserve Cuba in their possession, she will not suffer a flagrant violation of international law to pass unexplained and unatoned. It is said Mr. Fish has assurances from Minister Johnson that steps have already been taken by England looking to the surrender of the brig in question. On the other hand it is stated on good authority that this point being settled England will do all in her power, without openly declaring herself on the side of Spain, to aid the latter country in keeping the rebellious Cubans in subjection. It is even asserted that a secret understanding has already entered into on the part of England and France to send a powerful fleet to the West Indies to assist in preventing supplies from reaching the Cubans, and to enable Spain to starve out her rebellious subjects. The two statements seem hardly reconcilable, but I give them as they reach me, without vouching for their truthfulness. If England really has any such dangerous designs, it is not easy to explain why she should express herself so ready to pick a quarrel with Spain about the Mary Lowell affair. Certainly Brother Jonathan will be quite as likely to fight about English and French interference with Cuba as about the seizure of a little brig in English waters. Further, if Spain had assurance of English and French support she would hardly give so promptly to the late demands of Secretary Fish. Some of the diplomatic folk here declare that notwithstanding all the talk about Spanish pride and the impossibility almost of effecting a bargain for the sale of Cuba the provisional government in old Spain are only waiting a good opportunity to sell out to the great Brother Jonathan. The disposition of the diplomats assembled in Washington, is what Spain now needs above everything. She must raise money soon, some how or other, and one of the easiest modes they believe is by the sale of Cuba.

More Personal Explanations in the Senate—Sprague—Little Rhody's Strategy.

Personal explanations have been the special order of the morning hour in the Senate for several days past. This has served to vary the dull monotony of the executive session, for these "personals" are generally epic; besides, in executive session there is no audience before which honorable Senators can exhibit themselves when they set about to wash their dirty linen. What with the correction of newspaper statements, the growl about Grant's distribution of the spoils and the standing comedy of Sprague versus Anthony, Ives, Brown & Co., the habits of the Capitol have not missed their little recreation since the "birds of passage," as Sumner called the members of the House, took their flight. It was generally understood that to-day Senator Nye would pay his respects to Little Sprague for the complimentary appellation "charlatan" and "harlequin" he bestowed upon him in the latter's speech of a few days ago. The galleries were not unusually full when the Senate met, but the people kept dropping in until by the time Nye got the floor there was a good sized audience present. The Senator from Nevada has the reputation of being something of a wag. He is occasionally given to ridicule and sarcasm, and sometimes wields these keen weapons of debate with great skill and power against his antagonists. When he arose in his place to-day, therefore, all present as well as the audience in the galleries were on the qui vive for something of a rare epicy. Perhaps no man possessing the peculiar qualities attributed to Nye ever had a better opportunity or was favored with a better subject. Sprague entered the Senate Chamber just as Nye commenced his speech, with a huge portfolio under his arm. After depositing his coat and hat in the cloak room he walked deliberately to his seat, without seeming to notice anybody or even to recognize who was going. Nye spoke directly at Sprague, who sat gazing at him in a cynical sort of a way, with his chin resting on his bosom. For some reason or other Nye made few or no points. He failed to rivet the attention of his audience, and only raised a feeble laugh by reading from Webster's dictionary the definitions of the words "charlatan" and "harlequin." There was no sarcasm, no successful attempt to turn the enemy's gun upon his own columns. He enlarged the legal question, the military prowess of General Burnside, quoted Scripture and thanked God for the defeat of the Union army at the first Bull Run battle, and various other "bissings in disguise." The real subject, Sprague, was scarcely touched, and when Nye finished his speech and sat down everybody said that Sprague had taken the inside track. The performance to-day seemed to have been agreed upon some time ago. How many remarks have been made in anticipation of it is not known, but it was evident there had been a good deal of preparation. No sooner had Nye taken his seat than three or four Senators were on their feet, and among them Sprague, who was manifestly eager for the fray. Abbott, of South Carolina, was the lucky man recognized by the Chair. He was asked if he would yield to Sprague, but he shook his head contemptuously towards "Little Rhody's" seat, and signified that he wanted to go on. He took up a pile of manuscripts and commenced a panegyric on the life and military career of General Burnside. There was nothing in all he said about Sprague, and his whole speech was so dull and stupid that it kept the presiding officer busily preoccupied with his gavel to preserve order. When he concluded Morton thought it necessary to add his tribute to General Burnside, and assured the Senate that the military hero was born in the same town with himself, that they were boys together, and intimated that whatever Rhode

Island might think of Burnside, Indiana was proud of him. In the skirmish Sprague had been lost sight of thus far. Everything was now Burnside. A stranger happening in at this point would doubtless have been impressed with the idea that it was "funeral day" in the Senate, and that Burnside was the unfortunate subject of the stately oratorical effusions common on such occasions. Old Zach Chandler took down from the shelves of the Congressional library the dusty tomes about the conduct of the war and overhauled all the snappy spots in Burnside's military record. Simon Cameron wanted to say something for Burnside, but the Senate began to be amused.

At length Sprague got the floor. He looked around eagerly and yet securely, first on the republican side and then on the democratic side of the chamber, as if he meant to assure himself that Burnside was comfortably buried, after the Congressional fashion, then opening his portfolio he examined therefrom first a couple of letters and then a manuscript speech, all of which he arranged with great deliberation on the desk before him. He had evidently expected Nye's attack, but, judging from his speech, he had no idea of the Burnside movement and was not prepared for it. The spirit of "Little Rhody" was up, however, and he launched out boldly at the Jolly Senator from Nevada. Sprague evidently felt that he could go it alone for a few minutes, at least, without his manuscript. He commenced in good style, hitting right and left, and apparently careless as to where his blows fell or who was hurt. His manner was unusually earnest and his voice was pitched in a key which made him audible over the whole chamber. Finally, seizing his manuscript, he rushed in front of the "telegraph pole," and put into the controverted matter in an excited manner. He was then on the subject of Anthony and Ives & Brown, whom he terms "Anthony's owners." Poor Anthony was presiding at the time, as mild as a lamb, and some timid people supposed that the wrath Sprague was rushing madly to the chair for the purpose of dragging his colleague therefrom. But the little man stopped when he reached the purpose of dragging his colleague therefrom. But the little man stopped when he reached the purpose of dragging his colleague therefrom. But the little man stopped when he reached the purpose of dragging his colleague therefrom.

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and not come back again during the session. Sprague took the advice and immediately thereafter left the Senate. Another version of the story is that Sprague has gone in pursuit of his shooting irons in order to be ready for the fray.

Abbott Determined on Satisfaction—Nye Advises that Little Rhody be Sent to Bed. QUARTER-PART ELEVEN P. M.

The Senate doors have just been thrown open, and a rush has been made for the galleries in expectation that Abbott will make his speech about Sprague. On getting inside the scene was anything but picturesque. The Senators were sitting in all sorts of positions, some with their legs crossed on their seats, some smoking, some leaning over as if half asleep, and all looking anything but fresh. Abbott was all ready on his legs, about to open his batteries upon Sprague. When he commenced speaking profound silence reigned, and every eye was fastened upon him. You have an account of his remarks in another column. All that is left is to describe the effect when Abbott exclaimed: "Inasmuch as the Senator has skulked out of this chamber, I intend to have satisfaction outside of this chamber." A dozen Senators sprang to their feet, shouting "Mr. President!" "Mr. President!" "Mr. President!" Sumner's voice resounding in thunder tones above the rest. Abbott's face was flushed and angered, and the outcries of some of his fellow members calling him to order heightened his excitement. When something like silence was restored Sumner, in solemn voice, called the attention of the President to Abbott's belligerent language and attitude, with a view evidently of having him removed; but the sympathy of most of the Senators was with Abbott, and Sumner, though looking determined as a lion, and talking down all objections, held his ground until Abbott's words were read by Mr. Murphy, the reporter, and Abbott himself explained he had no duelling intentions; but Abbott still declared he would demand satisfaction outside the Senate, and somebody shouted out, "What kind of satisfaction?" Nye exclaimed, "Spank little Sprague, spank him and send him to bed." This caused a little laugh and ended the incident merrily.

Sudden Illness of Senator Morton. During the session of the Senate this evening Senator Morton, of Indiana, exhausted by the fatigues of the day and the confinement of the ill-ventilated chamber, fainted away, and was carried into one of the retiring rooms in an insensible condition. It was feared for a while that he had been attacked with a stroke of paralysis, to which he is somewhat subject, but it turned out to be merely a passing spell of weakness, cured by the fresh air and absence from further senatorial duty during the evening. On reaching his hotel he had almost entirely recovered.

Nominations Sent to the Senate. The following nominations were sent into the Senate to-day: To the District of Columbia—Henry M. Blake, for Montana Territory; Bennett Pike, for the Western district of Missouri; Postmasters—James O. Leach, Davenport, Mo.; James D. Howell, Fair Haven, Conn.; Frank W. Bullard, Walla Walla, Wash.; John C. Johnson, St. Louis, Mo.; John C. Johnson, St. Louis, Mo.; John C. Johnson, St. Louis, Mo.

Nominations Confirmed. The Senate confirmed the following nominations: Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Illinois, Minister Resident at Bogota; Elias A. Hurd, of Iowa, Minister Resident at Guatemala; Clinton J. True, of Kentucky, at St. Thomas; William Thompson, of the District of Columbia, at Southampton; William H. Wadsworth, of Kentucky, to be Commissioner under the convention with Mexico of July 4, 1868; Julian Neville, Fusion Agent at New Orleans; Thomas Lynne and Henry J. Sampson, Assistant Appraisers and Thomas Ogle, Local Appraiser of merchandise at New Orleans; Simon Wolf to be Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia; Nathan M. Blake, of Montana, to be United States Attorney for that Territory; Joseph H. R. Burton, to be United States Attorney for the Western district of Missouri; Joseph H. R. Burton, to be United States Attorney for the Western district of Missouri; Joseph H. R. Burton, to be United States Attorney for the Western district of Missouri.

Rejection of Nominees for Indian Agents. It appears that Senators Pomeroy and Harlan, with the assistance of one or two other Western Senators, organized a little ring to defeat Grant's Indian appointments and consequently to defeat his whole Indian policy. These Senators are opposed to the appointment of members of the Society of Friends. It is stated that it was arranged to-night to reject nearly the whole batch of Friends nominated as Indian agents. Pomeroy, Harlan and their colleagues were on hand early after the recess this evening and succeeded in calling up the Indian appointments. There were few Friends present, and before a question had been asked Pomeroy and Harlan succeeded in rejecting Friend Jonathan Richards, agent for the Delaware Indians in Kansas; Friend Howard White, agent for the Omaha agency in Nebraska; Friend Joseph Newson, agent for the Kansas Indians; Friend Jacob McNaull, agent for the Sacs and Foxes, and Friend J. G. Tyson, agent for the Winnebago Indians. It is thought an effort will be made to have these nominations reconsidered.

Important Changes in the Indian Bureau. Charles E. Mix, Chief Clerk of the Indian Bureau, was to-day dismissed by the new Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Colonel Parker, and Mr. Waugh, a clerk in the office, was appointed as Acting Chief Clerk. Mr. Mix has been in the Indian Bureau for over thirty years and has been frequently Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Public Sales of Gold by Treasurer Boutwell. The Secretary of the Treasury will receive sealed proposals for the purchase of gold until noon Thursday next, in sums of not less than \$5,000. Payment may be made either in United States notes or three per cent certificates. The successful bidder will be required to deposit five per cent of the amount of the purchase on the day of the sale. Like proposals will be received every Thursday until otherwise ordered.

The Hale-Perry Correspondence. James R. Young, correspondent of the New York Tribune, and H. J. Ramsell and W. B. Shaw, also press correspondents, appeared before a select committee of the Senate this morning in obedience to a summons. They were severally interrogated as to the source whence they derived a copy of the confidential Hale and Perry correspondence; whether it was furnished by any Senator, &c. These gentlemen respectfully declined to answer the questions on the ground that they always held confidential communications to them to be inviolable, and that to give the names of those who privately imparted information to them for the press would be a breach of honor, besides injuring them in their business pursuits. The committee will report the result of their investigation to the Senate in executive session.

Women Suffrage in the District—Sable Sisters Demanding the Elective Franchise. The women of the District are determined to leave no means untried to obtain the right of suffrage. They have enlisted several Senators and members on their side, and have contrived to have several measures introduced in Congress to establish their right to the franchise, but all to no purpose. To-day they resorted to another method. Two white ladies, Julia A. Wilbur and Caroline W. Moore, and one colored, Miss Louisa C. Butler, accompanied by two male attendants, the daughter of Professor J. K. H. Wilcox and Mr. A. E. Newton, repaired to the office of the Board of Registration of the First ward to make a request to have their names enrolled among the legal voters. The fair aspirants for the elective franchise arrived at the election place about five o'clock and found it crowded with the newly manufactured American citizens of African descent. Not a white person was to be seen there but the judges of election; but the colored gentlemen treated the delegation with distinguished consideration. One of the colored gentlemen stepped forward and offered his arm to

Miss Wilbur to escort her before the chairman on the board. He was a Chesterfieldian dandy, who had wasted on high families in former days, and now shaved the most aristocratic chins. Miss Wilbur accepted the politely proffered arm, while another dandy escorted Miss Butler with all ceremony to the presence of Colonel Cooke, the chairman. Professor Wilcox and his friend Newton were in a measure forgotten, and the shade for a few moments fell on the colored gentlemen of the colored party. Miss Wilbur acted as leader of the delegation, and after being introduced to Colonel Cooke, stated that she and the ladies accompanying her had come to present a written request to have their names placed on the list of voters. Saying this she handed the following paper to Colonel Cooke:—

FIRST WARD, WASHINGTON, D. C. April 22, 1869. TO THE JUDGES OF ELECTION OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON:—We, the undersigned, do hereby request that our names be placed on the list of qualified voters of the First ward of the City of Washington, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress, passed on the 22d day of March, 1847, and amended by the Act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1857, and the Act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1867. We do so because we believe ourselves entitled to the same rights and privileges as the white citizens of the city, and we hereby solemnly swear that we are qualified by law to exercise the right of suffrage. We are, therefore, respectfully requesting that our names be placed on the list of qualified voters of the First ward of the City of Washington, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress, passed on the 22d day of March, 1847, and amended by the Act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1857, and the Act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1867. We are, therefore, respectfully requesting that our names be placed on the list of qualified voters of the First ward of the City of Washington, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress, passed on the 22d day of March, 1847, and amended by the Act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1857, and the Act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1867. 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