WASHINGTON

The Negro Senator from Mississippi.

Radicals Fraternizing with the African Legislator.

The Currency Bill Passed in the Senate.

House Resolution Extending Belligerent Rights to Cuba.

Senatorial Sympathy for the Revolutionists.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1870.

Novel Scene in the Senate Chamber—The Negro Senator from Mississippi—Radicals Fraternizing with the Sable Legislator.

Revels, the Mississippi Senator, the first representative of his race and color chosen to fill a seat in the upper branch of the national legislature, made his appearance again to-day on the floor of the Senate. Revels was dressed in a black suit of fine cloth, coat very long and clerical like, and pants and vest of corresponding proportions. He wore dark gloves, also, and carried a mulatto colored stick. The distinguished darky made quite a sensation. The moment he came into the Senate Chamber and took his seat on one of the luxurious lounges, several Senators hurried over to him, shook him warmly by the hand and welcomed him to his new field of labor. Charles Sumner was among the first to offer, in very hearty style, smiling all over and saying a quantity of very pretty things, which the colored Senator heard with genuine pleasure. It was a spectacle worth looking at to see Sumner and Revels, thus practically illustrating the idea of political and social equality. Thayer, Chandler, Howard, Cameron, Warner, Spencer, Drake, Lewis, Howe and other Senators paid their respects. Cameron had quite a talk with Revels. Spencer, of Alabama, sat down with Revels, and, while making his congratulations, took a full survey of the ladies in the gallery, who were looking down upon the scene, some with pleasure and others with astonishment and horror. Spencer, you must know, is a great favorite with the ladies. An effort was made to get fiery little Garrett Davis to allow himself to be led into the presence of Revels for introduction, but the live Kentuckian could not see it; neither could the fascinating McCreery, colleague of Davis, who clings to the old time prejudices with true *ante bellum* tenacity. Revels, during all this time, conducted himself in a manner that left no room for adverse criticism. He was dignified, polite, courteous and not near so proud as Sumner himself, whose humility is generally recognized.

Reconstruction in Georgia and Mississippi.

The Committee on Reconstruction have before them bills relative to Georgia and Mississippi; also a bill to enforce the thirteenth and fourteenth articles of the constitution of the United States. Nothing definite on these subjects will be done until the return of General Butler. The Senate Committee on the Judiciary were to-day unable to consider the subject of Mississippi in connection with a representation in Congress, owing to the non-receipt of official papers, but will hold a special meeting as soon as they arrive.

Senatorial Sympathy for Cuba.

Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, called up his bill to-day for the repeal of certain features of the neutrality laws and delivered a speech urging its adoption. The bill is favorable to the Cubans, and Howe in his speech made some good points in their favor. Senator Carpenter has prepared a speech on the same side. It is understood that the bill will be opposed by Sumner. The debate is likely to continue for some days.

Protection of American Citizens Abroad—Naturalized Citizens in British Prisons.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee reported a resolution to-day calling upon the President for whatever information he has relative to the imprisonment of naturalized American citizens by Great Britain. The resolution is in substance the same as that introduced by S. S. Cox early in the session, the only difference being that it is one purely of inquiry and leaves out the question of sympathy with the Fenians entirely. It was reported by Governor Swann, of Maryland, a member of the committee, who made a short speech wherein he eulogized the Irish in this country as "the pioneers of progress." He denounced the conduct of Great Britain towards Ireland as oppressive, and expressed the opinion that under the same circumstances any part of the Anglo-Saxon race would revolt. Governor Swann is not in favor of interfering in the affairs of other nations, but he thinks the government of the United States should extend protection to its citizens in all countries. Mr. Willard, a new member from Vermont, who also belongs to the Foreign Affairs Committee, denounced the Fenians as mischief makers and violators of the United States neutrality laws. He thought their object was to involve the United States in a war with Great Britain, and that they deserved the censure rather than the sympathy of the American people. S. S. Cox, of New York, took the same view of the case as Governor Swann. He understood that the President had some late information on this subject which ought to be given to the people, and he wanted the resolution adopted. While in Europe he had seen something of the treatment of these prisoners, and he could testify to the cruelty of the British government. While the resolution was under debate the morning hour expired and it went over.

The Gold Investigating Committee—Boutwell's Message to General Butterfield.

The Gold Investigating Committee have gone to work to trace the progress of the telegraphic despatch sent by Boutwell to Butterfield, from Washington to New York, relative to the sale of gold, which is said to have broken the back of the Wall street speculators. Mr. Boutwell's private secretary, his messenger and the telegraph operator who sent the despatch were all before the committee to-day to tell what they knew about it. There is no evidence as yet to show that the wires were tapped or that the despatch leaked out prematurely. The operator who received the message at New York, together with the messenger who delivered it to General Butterfield, will be before the committee to-morrow.

The House Census Bill—Its Defeat by the Senate Anticipated.

It was expected that the merits of the House Census bill would be discussed in the Senate to-day, but Mr. Conkling, chairman of the Senate committee, courteously waived its consideration until to-morrow to enable Mr. Howe, of Wisconsin, to get off a speech on another subject. It seems to be admitted that the House Census bill will not bear close inspection and must be rejected by the Senate, a result leaving the Census law of 1850 in full force. Under these circumstances it is presumed that no one who has actively participated in efforts for the abrogation of the law of 1850 would consent to superintend its execution. The premature nomination of the President of Superintendent of Census was referred to the Senate committee having charge of the House bill, from whom a report on the subject is anticipated with interest.

Indian Department Commissioner.

The President has appointed John D. Lang, of Vassalborough, Me., to be one of the ten commissioners of the Indian Department appointed under the act approved April 10, 1869, making the appropriation for the expenses of the Indian Department.

The Bill Abolishing the Franking Privilege.

An effort was made by Senator Ramsey to-day to get up the bill abolishing the franking privilege, but it was not successful. Senators say they are determined to pass the bill, just to spite the House. The members of the latter body are urging Senators to vote against it, and say that it passed the House simply as a popular measure. It would seem that the outside pressure for the passage of the bill has been greatly exaggerated, all the petitions received not containing over 30,000 signatures. Although 75,000 petitions were circulated, from several of the States no petitions whatever have been received. The bill, however, is likely to pass.

The Dinner at the Executive Mansion.

The following are the names of the guests at the President's State dinner this evening:—The Prussian Minister, Baron Gerolt, and Baroness Gerolt; the French Minister, M. Berthemy; the Brazilian Minister, Senhor Dom de Mazalhens; the Turkish Minister, Blacque Bey, and Madame Blacque Bey; the Austrian Minister, Baron Lederer; United States of Colombia Minister, General Acosta; Argentine Minister, Señor Don Garcia, and Señora Garcia; Spanish Minister, Señor Don Roberts; Peruvian Minister, Colonel Freyre, and Señora Freyre; Mexican Minister, Señor Mariscal, and Señora Mariscal; Russian Minister, M. de Catacazy, and Madame de Catacazy; Belgian Minister, Mr. Delfosse; Netherlands Minister, Mr. Mazel and Madame Mazel; Danish Minister, Mr. de Bille and Madame de Bille; Grecian Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Rangabé; Italian Charge d'Affaires, Count Colobians; Sweden and Norway Chargé d'Affaires, Count Lewenhaupt; Hawaiian Islands Chargé d'Affaires, Hon. E. H. Allen; First Secretary French Legation, Count de Faverney; the Secretary of State and Mrs. Fish, Senator and Mrs. Schurz, Hon. N. P. Banks, Mr. and Mrs. Niblack, Hon. R. R. Butler.

Prince Arthur's Contemplated Visit to Pennsylvania.

It is said that Prince Arthur has signified his intention of visiting Wheatland, Pa., the home of the late James Buchanan, and that Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnson, Buchanan's niece, will receive him with all the honors. While in Pennsylvania the Prince will probably make the tour of the coal fields in company with General Cameron, who has invited him to be his guest at Lochiel, the General's country, seat near Harrisburg.

The Case of Representative Segar, of Virginia.

Mr. Segar, who was elected to Congress at large from Virginia, was assured this morning by Mr. Paine, chairman of the Committee on Elections, that there had been no action on his case whatever by the committee; that, according to an understanding between himself and the committee, his case would not be considered until he (Mr. Segar) had filed his printed argument, as requested, but that his argument having been received yesterday his case would be taken up on Friday next, when his claims would be fully and fairly considered.

Proposed Consolidation of the Municipal Corporations of the District.

A public meeting of several thousand persons of all classes was held this afternoon at Lincoln Hall to consider the subject of consolidating Washington, Georgetown and the remaining portion of the District of Columbia into one government, thus dispensing with the corporations of the two cities and the Levy Court, the last-named acting outside of the corporation limits. Judge Fisher, of the District Supreme Court, presided. The result of the proceedings was the adoption of resolutions reciting briefly the need of a consolidation of the governments of the District and declaring that such government is desirable; earnestly favoring the consolidation of Wasuington, Georgetown and the county into one harmonious government, with legislative powers over all the rightful subjects of legislation not inconsistent with the constitution of the United States; provided this consolidated district be granted a delegate to Congress, to be elected by the people; and that an executive committee of one hundred be appointed to urge the passage of a measure looking to the above ends before Congress, with power to call future meetings if necessary on this question.

Indian Affairs in Dacotah.

Governor Burbank, of Dacotah Territory, *ex-officio* Superintendent of Indian Affairs of that Territory, has arrived here. He reports the Indian affairs in that superintendency generally quiet, the only disturbances being between the Sioux and Rees Indian tribes, who have been preparing for mutual hostilities. Efforts are being made to reconcile them, which will probably be successful.

Monthly Expenses of the Government.

The warrants issued from the Treasury Department during January were as follows:—Civil and miscellaneous and foreign intercourse, $3,036,041; war, $5,300,260; navy, $3,036,900; interior, pensions and Indians, $661,042—total, $12,034,243. This does not include warrants issued on account of the public debt.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1870.

PERSONAL STATEMENT.

Mr. CHANDLER, (rep.) of Mich., in correction of a statement in the Washington correspondence of the New York *Times* of Tuesday, explained that he had been classed among the inflationists of the currency, when he had repeatedly stated that under no circumstances would he vote to inflate the currency to the amount of a single dollar.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Mr. FENTON, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a memorial of the citizens of Tonawanda, N. Y., for an appropriation of $10,000 by the government to improve the harbor at that port; also a petition of the veterans of the war of 1812, of Monroe county, N. Y., for pensions to the widows of deceased soldiers of the war of 1812. The petitions were appropriately referred.

EQUALITY OF PERSONS BEFORE THE LAW.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported, with amendments, Mr. Stewart's bill to secure to all persons the equal protection of the laws. The bill, as amended, is as follows:—

Be it enacted, &c., That all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States (Indians, not taxed, excepted) shall have the same right in every State and Territory in the United States, to make and enforce contracts, to sue parties, give evidence and take full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and property, as is enjoyed by white citizens, and shall be subject to like punishments, pains, penalties, taxes, licenses and exactions of every kind, and none other, any law, statute, ordinance, regulation or custom to the contrary notwithstanding. No tax or charge shall be imposed or enforced by any State upon any person emigrating thereto.

SECTION 2. That any person who, under color 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 being an alien, or by reason of his color or race, than is prescribed for the punishment of citizens, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 3. That the "act to protect all persons in the United States in their civil rights and furnish the means of their vindication," passed April 9, 1866, is hereby re-enacted, and said act, except the first and second sections thereof, is hereby referred to and made a part of this act.

THE CURRENCY BILL

was then taken up, and the Senate proceeded to consider the amendments to the bill reported from the Committee of the Whole. The amendments were then separately voted upon and adopted.

Mr. HOWE, (rep.) of Wis., offered an amendment to the third section by adding the words, "But shall be accounted for as between the States from which and to which any bank may remove." He explained its object to be to give credit to a State for any deficiency in its capital occasioned by the removal of a bank to another State. Mr. Howe believed the effect would be to prevent the employment of Southern capital for banking purposes by substitution of Eastern capital instead.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. SAULSBURY, (dem.) of Del., moved to amend by exempting from the ten per cent tax upon their circulation all State banks which had redeemed their circulation in national banking currency, which was not agreed to.

Mr. MORTON, (rep.) of Ind., submitted an amendment, in the nature of a compromise, to fix the amount of currency authorized by the bill at $45,000,000, and that $20,000,000 instead of $13,000,000 may be taken from the States having an excess of circulation after the other had been exhausted.

The amendment was adopted.

A motion to strike from the bill the fourth, fifth and sixth sections, which authorize banks on a coin basis, was lost by a tie vote—yeas 29, nays 29.

The bill is as follows:—

Be it enacted, &c., That $45,000,000 in notes for circulation may be issued to the national banking associations, in addition to the $354,000,000 authorized by the twenty-second section of the "act to provide a national currency secured by a pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved June 3, 1864. And the amount of notes so provided shall be furnished to banking associations, organized or to be organized in those States and Territories having less than their proportion under the apportionment contemplated by the provisions of the "Act to provide a national currency secured by a pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved March 3, 1864. But a new apportionment of the circulation hereinbefore provided for shall be made as soon as practicable, based upon the census of 1870.

SECTION 2. That at the end of each month after the passage of this act it shall be the duty of the Comptroller of the Currency to report to the Secretary of the Treasury the amount of circulating notes issued to national banking associations during the previous month, whereupon the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem and retire the amount of the three per cent temporary loan certificates issued under the acts of March 2, 1867, and July 25, 1868, not less than the amount of circulating notes so reported, and may, if necessary, in order to secure the presentation of such temporary loan certificates for redemption, give notice to the holders thereof, by publication or otherwise, that certain of said certificates, which shall be designated by number, date and amount, shall cease to bear interest from and after the date of such notice, and that the certificates so designated shall no longer be available as any portion of the lawful money reserve in possession of any national bank, and after such notice no interest shall be paid on such certificates, and they shall not be counted as a part of the reserve of any banking association.

SEC. 3. That after the expiration of six months from the passage of this act any banking association located in any State having more than its proportion of circulation may be removed to any State having less than its proportion of circulation, under such rules and regulations as the Comptroller of the Currency, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, may require; provided that the amount of the issue of said banks shall not be deducted from the amount of new issue provided for in this act.

SEC. 4. That upon the deposit of any United States bonds, bearing interest payable in gold, with the Treasurer of the United States, in the manner prescribed in the nineteenth and twentieth sections of the National Currency act, it shall be lawful for the Comptroller of the Currency to issue to the association making the same circulating notes of different denominations, not less than five dollars, not exceeding in amount eighty per centum of the par value of the bonds deposited, which notes shall bear upon their face the promise of the association to which they are issued to pay them upon presentation at the office of the association in gold or silver coin of the United States, and shall be redeemable upon such presentation in such coin.

SEC. 5. That every national banking association formed under the provisions of section four of this act shall at all times keep on hand not less than twenty-five per centum of its outstanding circulation in gold or silver coin of the United States, and shall receive at par in the payment of debts the gold notes of every other such banking association which at the time of such payments shall be redeeming its circulating notes in gold or silver coin of the United States.

SEC. 6. That every association organized for the purpose of issuing gold notes, as provided in the preceding section, shall be subject to all the requirements and provisions of the National Currency act except the first clause of section twenty-two, which limits the circulation of national banking associations to $300,000,00; the first clause of section thirty-two, which, taken in connection with the preceding section, would require national banking associations organized in the city of San Francisco to redeem their circulating notes at par in the city of New York; and the the last clause of section thirty-two, which requires every national banking association to receive in payment of debts the notes of every other national banking association at par; provided that in applying the provisions and requirements of said act to the banking associations herein provided for the terms "lawful money" and "lawful money of the United States" shall be held and construed to mean gold or silver coin of the United States.

SEC. 7. That to secure a better circulation of the national banking currency there may be issued circulating notes to banking associations organized in States and Territories having a less banking circulation than their *pro rata* share, as herein set forth; and the circulation in this section authorized shall within one year, if required, be withdrawn as herein provided from banks organized in States having a circulation exceeding that provided for by the act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled an act to provide for a national banking currency, secured by pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved March 3, 1865, but the amount to be so withdrawn shall not exceed $20,000,000. The Comptroller of the Currency shall, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, make a statement showing the amount of circulation in each State and the amount to be retired by each bank in accordance with this section, and shall, when circulation is required, make a requisition for such amount upon such banks, commencing with the banks having a circulation exceeding $1,000,000, in States having an excess of circulation, and withdrawing one-third of their circulation in excess of $1,000,00, and then proceeding *pro rata*, with banks having a circulation exceeding $100,000 in States having the largest excess of circulation, and reducing the circulation of banks in States having the greatest proportion in excess, leaving undisturbed the banks in the States having a smaller proportion, until those in greater excess have been reduced to the same grade, and continuing thus to make the reduction provided for by this act until the full amount of $20,000,000 herein provided for shall be withdrawn, and the circulation so withdrawn shall be distributed among the States and Territories having less than their proportion; and so as to equalize the distribution of such circulation among such States and Territories upon the basis provided by this act, and, upon the failure of any bank to return the amount so required within twenty days after said requisition, it shall be the duty of the Comptroller of the Currency to sell at public auction, having given twenty days' notice in a newspaper published in Washington city and New York city, an amount of bonds, deposited by said bank as security for its circulation, equal to the circulation to be withdrawn from such bank, and with the proceeds to redeem so many of the notes of such bank, as they come into the Treasury, as will equal the amount required from it, and shall pay the balance to such banks; provided, that no circulation shall be withdrawn from States having an excess until after the forty-five millions granted in the first section have been taken up.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., proposed an amendment to require new coin banks not only to redeem their notes at their own counters, but also in New York city, the commercial capital of the country; which was not agreed to.

Various other amendments were voted down, and the bill was then passed by a vote of yeas 39, nays 23, as follows:—

YEAS—Messrs. Abbott, Boreman, Brownlow, Cameron, Chandler, Corbett, Davis, Drake, Gilbert, Hamlin, Harlan, Harris, Howard, Howell, Johnson, Kellogg, McCreery, Morton, Nye, Osborn, Pomeroy, Pool, Pratt, Ramsey, Rice, Robertson, Ross, Sawyer, Schurz, Sherman, Spencer, Stewart, Thayer, Tipton, Trumbull, Warner, Willey, Williams and Wilson—39.

NAYS—Messrs. Anthony, Bayard, Buckingham, Carpenter, Casserly, Cole, Conking, Edmunds, Ferry, Fenton, Fowler, Hamilton, Howe, McDonald, Morrill of Me., Morrill of Vt., Norton, Saulsbury, Scott, Stockton, Sumner, Thurman and Vickers—23.

TRANSFER OF BALANCES IN THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

On motion of Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Me., the Senate took up the bill to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to transfer to the Bureau of Construction and Repairs and of Steam Engineering certain unappropriated balances to the credit of other bureaus of the Navy Department.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., objected to the transfer of money in the manner proposed by bill. He referred to the previous loose practice which had grown up in the departments in the diversion of surplus money from the purposes for which it was originally appropriated. In one instance during the war money appropriated for a particular purpose in the War Department was used to the extent of $100,000 for another purpose not understood by Congress and the country. He desired that hereafter propositions to supply deficiencies should be made so as to present the simple question of an additional appropriation to the amount required, thus affording Congress and the public a better understanding of such matters.

The bill was then laid aside.

THE NEUTRALITY LAWS.

Mr. HOWE, on leave, addressed the Senate in support of the bill recently introduced by him more effectually to preserve the neutral relations of the United States. The bill repeals certain sections of the act of 1818, which forbids the hiring of an American citizen to enlist in a foreign army, or his going abroad for that purpose, and prohibits American shipbuilders from being concerned in building, fitting out, or equipping vessels designed to cruise against any foreign Power with whom we are at peace. He argued that this statute of 1818 was a part of an arrangement by which Spain ceded to the United States the Floridas, the cession being made simultaneously with the legislation designed to enable Spain to hold on to her own colonies. The statute was designedly unneutral, because it was passed at the solicitation of one belligerent against the interests of the other. An American citizen enlisting in the army of France in a war with Great Britain would, in case of capture by the latter, be treated simply as a prisoner of war; but our law of 1818 would make him liable, if he returned home, to a penalty of $1,000, because of his enlistment. An American merchant in New York might sell and deliver a vessel to Cuban insurgents, receive pay therefor and go to Madrid and there enjoy the proceeds of that transaction without the Spanish government daring to molest him; but he could not stay in his own country without undergoing a heavy penalty. Such was the operation of this unjust, unnecessary and, as he thought, unconstitutional law. Referring to the Alabama claims, he argued we were in no danger of establishing an injurious precedent; for he conceded to Great Britain and every foreign Power the right to clothe any other people with belligerent rights whenever they approve the cause for which such people made war. The cause must be approved. They could not criticize the act of a sovereign Power in going to war, but they might criticize that of an insurrectionary Power. He found fault with Great Britain, not so much that she granted belligerent rights to the South at an early day, but that she gave them to insurgents who were making an unjust war, unprovoked by wrongs, and not inspired by any hope of reform. In conclusion he said if a government existed in Cuba, which claimed to be independent of Spanish control, and if we believed independence to be Cuba's just right, and that it would be made good use of, we owed it to Cuba, to the memory of our fathers and to the cause of American progress to issue our sovereign authorization to the patriots of Cuba to fight for that independence, and so at once snatch them from the category of pirates. If, believing all these things of the Cuban struggle, we refused out of apprehension that we might embarrass the recovery of our claims upon Great Britain, to repeal unjust and unwarrantable restriction upon our trade imposed by the act of 1818, we shall have surrendered that ver position which we are told the President has resolved to maintain, and renounce the sacred right of neutrality.

Mr. CONKLING said he understood the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Carpenter) and others desired to be heard upon this bill, and as he was desirous of calling up the census bill, he proposed the Senate should determine upon that course of procedure which would be preferable.

Considerable discussion ensued, and without affording any understanding upon the subject. The Senate at fifteen minutes after five o'clock adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1870.

AMERICAN CITIZENS IN BRITISH PRISONS.

Mr. SWANN, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which was referred a resolution in reference to the treatment of American citizens in the prisons of Great Britain for political offences, made a report closing with the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the President of the United States communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, any information which may have come to his knowledge concerning American citizens, whether native or naturalized, who may be at this time confined in the jails or prisons of Great Britain for political offences, and any facts in relation to the treatment of such prisoners which he may feel at liberty to communicate.

The report states that while expressing no opinion on the truth or falsity of the statements brought to the notice of the committee, the committee deems it its duty to express cordial sympathy in the subject of the resolution so far as to co-operate in the endeavor to procure the fullest information on the facts involved, not only as a duty of Christian charity, but of obligation to adopted citizens. The government should require, whenever occasion arises, as a measure of international right as well as of justice, that no American citizen, whether native or naturalized, shall be objected to in any country or by any people without prompt and ample reparation.

Mr. COX, (dem.) of N. Y., who had offered the original resolution, also addressed the House. He asked no hurried or indignant or indecorous action; only the representation by this government in the spirit of comity and in the interest of civilization and humanity.

Mr. WILLARD spoke on the opposite side of the question, declaring that any identifying the government with the Fenian organization was unwise and untimely, and below the dignity of the House. He could understand why a gentleman representing such a constituency as Mr. Cox should express sympathy with his constituents, but he could not understand why the representatives of the American people, the representatives of American interests, the representatives of a nation that holds to the strict and impartial enforcement of neutrality with other nations, should express any sympathy with such an organization as had led to the fact, if there was such a fact, that United Stated citizens were now immured in British prisons.

The morning hour expired and the further consideration of the subject went over until the next morning hour.

REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE.

The SPEAKER announced the appointment of Messrs. Poland, Garfield and Cox as regents of the Smithsonian Institute.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information as to the jurisdiction of the general government over Sandy Hook and the neck of land extending for several miles above the horse shoe, between Sandy Hook bay and the Shrewsbury river, and calling for a copy of the agreement between the War Department and the Long Branch and Sea Shore Railroad Company, giving right of way over government property. Adopted.

Mr. PAINE, (rep.) of Wis., introduced a joint resolution to authorize the Secretary of War to provide for taking meteorological observations at the military stations and other points in the interior of the Continent, and for giving notice on the northern lakes and seaboard of the approach of storms. Passed.

Mr. DAVIS, (rep.) of N. Y., from the Judiciary Committee, reported back the bill to establish a uniform system of naturalization. Recommitted.

Mr. FERRIS, (rep.) of N. Y., offered a resolution of inquiry as to special agents and assistant special agents of the Treasury Department; the amount of mileage paid to them, &c. Adopted.

BELLIGERENT RIGHTS FOR CUBA.

Mr. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., offered a resolution declaring that the people of Cuba have, for more than fifteen months, carried on active hostilities against Spain for independence; that they have established, and still maintain, a *de facto* government, and now occupy with their armies and control a large portion of the island; and instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire what reasons, if any, exist why the republic of Cuba should not be recognized by the United States government as a belligerent. Adopted.

RELIEF OF NAVAL EMPLOYES.

Mr. BANKS' (rep.) of Mass., asked the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations to state whether that committee had considered any measure for the relief of the large number of mechanics discharged from the navy yards in various parts of the country.

Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass., replied that a bill for that purpose was before the committee and would probably be reported to-morrow morning after a conference with the Navy Department.

RELIEF OF THE POOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

On motion of Mr. COOK, (rep.) of Ill., the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. FERRY in the Chair, and took up the Senate bill appropriating $30,000 for the poor of the District of Columbia, allowing $10,000 of condemned army clothing to be distributed, and assigning store houses in Judiciary square to the Women's Christian Association to give employment to indigent women.

The bill gave rise to considerable discussion, Messrs. Cook, Maynard and Ingersoll explaining and advocating it; Messrs. Swann and Lawrence taking the ground that the people of the District should maintain their own poor, and Mr. Logan arguing that the proper mode of relief was not to appropriate money, to be used, perhaps, for election purposes, but to authorize the Secretary of War to issue daily rations to the poor.

Mr. LOGAN offered an amendment to carry out his views, and in the course of his remarks said that if the aristocratic people of Washington would devote to charitable purposes the money spent in fashionable receptions and personal ornaments they would not need to ask Congress to maintain their poor.

Messrs. BENJAMIN, (rep.) of Mo., and LAWRENCE, (rep.) of Ohio, offered amendments to authorize the municipal authorities of Washington and Georgetown to levy a tax for the support of their poor.

Mr. SLOCUM, (dem.) of N. Y., offered an amendment to give thirty thousand dollars to those poor persons recently deprived of employment in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Mr. KNOTT, (dem.) of Ky., argued that a large proportion of the proposed pensioners on the bounty of Congress were capable of making their subsistence by physical toil, and were no more objects of charity than the members of the House. They could be found every day perched in the galleries of the Capitol, and on political occasions they could be found marching in torchlight processions, wearing blue capes and headed by bands of music. Being asked by Mr. Stevens to yield for a question he declined to do so, remarking that he very rarely troubled the House, and that he verily believed that if the members of the House had been present when the Saviour delivered the Sermon on the Mount some of them would have asked Him to yield for a question. (Laughter.) He thought that if Solomon, when he described the four things that never satisfied, could have looked down upon the long current of ages he would have added to the list the corporation of the city of Washington. (Laughter.) He argued that although the money might be doled out in charity it would inevitably have a political effect, because it would tend to draw to this District hundreds of negroes from other States, who would be voters to outvote the resident citizens. If the House wanted to be charitable there was one way to be so, and that was for members to put their hands in their own pockets.

Messrs. SLOCUM and COX made some remarks about the discharge of mechanics from the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the latter saying that the Navy Department had spent in seven months the appropriation intended to cover the year.

Mr. DAWES said he did not know exactly why so many men had been thrown out of employment in two bureaus of the Navy Department, but he apprehended it arose from the desire to put into commission a larger number of ships than ever before and from the consequent employment of a greater number of men than usual. He supposed the whole thing lay in the employment of too many men in the early part of the year rather than extending it over the whole year.

Mr. COOK, (rep.) of Ill., advocated the bill, but said that he had no choice as to the means to be employed in extending relief. If it was thought that it could be done better by the Secretary of War he was content that it should be so. He was surprised at the intimation that able-bodied men in the galleries would be recipients of this charity. He had a list of the names of one hundred poor persons, the youngest of whom was sixty-six, and all disabled. One of them gave the age of one hundred and seventeen years; ten of them were over one hundred, two were under seventy years, and only three under seventy-five, and it was a mere evasion of responsibility to say that it was proposed to feed able-bodied negroes in the galleries. There was one in ten that was properly chargeable to the District.

The discussion was further continued in behalf of the bill by Messrs. Twitchell, Hamilton, of Florida, and Sargent; in favor of Mr. Logan's amendment by Mr. Boyd, and against the bill and amendment by Mr. Morgan, the latter charging that the Secretary of the Navy had, by an order of that officer dated May 23, 1866, without the authority of Congress, increased by one-third the pay of the navy officers, which increase had taken from the Treasury from 1866 to 1869 $3,765,961.

Mr. DAWES explained that Congress had, by subsequent appropriation, legalized that order; but admitted, in answer to a question by Mr. Morgan, that he, for one, did not know at the time such an appropriation was made that it was to be applied to that purpose.

Mr. ELA, (rep.) of N. H., closed the discussion by an appeal on behalf of the poor of the District, and then the committee proceeded to vote on the amendments.

Mr. Slocum's amendment was rejected by a vote of 42 to 84.

Mr. Lawrence's amendment was rejected by a vote of 64 to 76.

Mr. Logan's amendment for the issuing of rations by the War Department, leaving the other portions of the bill for clothing, &c., as in the original, was agreed to by 77 to 68.

The committee then rose, and the House, without disposing finally of the bill, at twenty minutes past four o'clock adjourned.

THE BROOKLYN COCK FIGHTERS.

Yesterday the parties arrested at the instance of Mr. Bergh for aiding and abetting in cock fighting at the saloon of James Giddings, in Hudson avenue, were taken before Justice Walsh. Samuel Norton, James Brown, Peter Harkins, James Riely, Thomas Henry, Daniel Foley and George Belcher were fined ten dollars each, in default of which they were sent to jail for twenty-five days. James Giddings, proprietor of the premises in which the "feathered arena" was situated, was admitted to bail. The examination in the case of the following prisoners was adjourned until Wednesday next:—John Brennen, William Mahon, Daniel McLeary, Martin Randolph, Michael Mullady and Daniel McGuire. Mr. Bergh, upon the arraignment of Giddings before the Police Justice, moved that the eight fowls now at the police station be confiscated, upon the ground that they are the tools of these men, just as the knife and the pistol are the tools of the assassin. To return these fowls to their original owners would be, in his opinion, to give them back to the same brutal use which has hitherto been made of them. Goddings said that if anything happened to these cocks he should hold Mr. Bergh responsible for "cruelty to animals," as "they took a chicken once before and it died from their treatment."

ROBBERIES IN BROOKLYN.

The residence of Alexander Cunningham, No. 319 Clinton street, was burglariously entered on Monday night and $600 worth of furs and jewelry carried off. The rogues were discovered, but made good their escape with the plunder.

About $150 worth of wearing apparel was stolen by a sneak thief, on Tuesday evening last, from the residence of Mrs. Quick, No. 343 Dean street.

Five hundred and fifty dollars' worth of property was stolen from the hairdressing establishment of Mr. John Bene, No. 267 Fulton avenue, on Tuesday morning last.

Silver ware and other articles of jewelry to the value of $175 were stolen from the dwelling house of S. F. Quimby, Washington street on Monday night.

THE CUBAN SHILOH.

Details of the Great Victory at Guaimaro.

PUELLO'S SUCCESS ON THE FIRST DAY

Grand Advance and Victory of the Cubans on the Second.

The Spanish Army Saved from Annihilation by a Negro.

The steamship Eagle, from Havana the 29th ult., arrived at this port last night. She brings the full particulars of the battle near Guaimaro, between the Cubans under General Jordan and the Spanish forces led by General Puello. The favors of the purser are acknowledged.

Miscalculation and Defeat of Puello—Spanish Account Practically Admits Defeat—The Column Saved by a Negro.

HAVANA, Jan. 29, 1870.

The steamship Barcelona arrived yesterday from Nuevitas and other ports on the north side, bringing the anxiously looked for news of Puello. He has not suppressed the insurrection in the central department, and, strange to say, the loyal journals of this city do not claim that he has. To use his own words, he went "out with the flag of Castile gallantly flying as becomes it, from the glories which it has acquired in all parts of the world," and it has come back drooping in a very unbecoming manner. To use a homely yet expressive illustration "We went in search of wool and came back shorn." He announced that no quarter would be given and that somebody was going to be exterminated; that somebody has not been he, but his troops owe their safety to the friendly offices of a benighted African.

Here, aside from the most extravagant rumors, we have little save through Spanish sources. A passenger confirms in all of its essential points the account of your well informed correspondent at Nuevitas.

The journals "roar gently as a sucking dove." They do not acknowledge a defeat and they do not claim a victory. While there is no other news of importance, no prominence in place or type is given to this. In its edition of last evening *La Prensa* said not a word of this and in the morning not much more. Only the *Diario* has anything like a connected statement. It claims to have had a correspondent with Puello's force, not connected with it. It has letters from Puerto Principe and Nuevitas, but prefers to give this. It prefers to believe it, too, rather than the rumors in circulation. I translate the extracts of the correspondence published. It is of date the 25th, at Nuevitas:—

Yesterday afternoon we returned to this place after an expedition of twenty-eight days to Guaimaro. It is impossible for me to give you to-day a detailed account of the hardships we have passed through, and I must limit myself to telling you that out of the twenty-eight days of absence not more than seven passed without being under fire of the enemy. But the first day of the year was the most horrible of the war. At the point called La Mina de Juan Rodriguez between Guaimaro and Palo Quemado. We came upon an intrenchment which I judged to be 250 metres long and perfectly constructed. Behind this over 2,000 insurgents awaited us with one piece of artillery, with which they fired five shots—three with grape and two shells—which, with a concentrated fire of musketry, vexed (*mortificaron*) us for a long time. We did not hesitate to attack the entrenchment, which we took and burned and encamped at that place. On the following day we returned to a farm called Arroyo Hondo, where we stopped fifteen days to succor our wounded, arranging stretchers, searching for horses and until we found five carts which were hidden in the woods and which aided us to recommence our march. While at the farm we obtained some knowledge of the losses of our enemies from an official paper of theirs we took, which placed it at 350, and which seems small to me, judging from the number of grape shot, grenades and balls we fired at them. I have seen the ground they left, and nearly one-half a kilometre of the road upon which they retired is so discolored with blood that the original hue of the soil cannot be ascertained. Colonel Aguilar attacked in front with his half brigade (cavalry), and Colonel Suances on the right flank; at which fierce attack the rebels disbanded, leaving on the ground a few dead, a small number of arms and the rammers of the cannon.

We have suffered many hardships, and for many days eaten meat without salt and having but few vegetables, as they were very scarce. All the officers and soldiers have shown themselves prodigal of their generous blood and have manifested that abnegation so proper in those who wear the honorable uniform of the Spanish army.

From the original it is evident this correspondence is not given in full, but only such parts of it as suit the editor. Its inconsistencies are patent and need not be commented upon.

The affair of the intrenchment and the subsequent withdrawal of the Spaniards is explained by an officer arrived here, who states that this was the first of two intrenchments which had been constructed on the road over which they were marching; that the insurgents abandoned the first, after inflicting heavy loss on the troops, taking with them their wounded and their cannon. Their object was to draw the Spaniards on to the second position, which was much more formidable, and from which some would have escaped. Of this Puello was informed by a negro, and at once commenced his retrogade movement. From the same source I learn that the hidden fire of the insurgents had a most demoralizing effect on the troops, who could hardly be kept in line, but were constantly endeavoring to skulk into the woods to avoid the bullets of the insurgents. The Moctezuma brought 120 wounded, including Colonel Aroaz, of the regiment La Reyna, and Colonel Marin, of the artillery. The latter is expected to die.

From facts which are constantly coming to light in one way and another it is evident that the reported losses of the Spaniards are less than the reality, and that Puello and his column met with an overwhelming and most disastrous defeat. Also that the insurgents' loss was insignificant, as they were scarcely seen by the Spaniards, save on the 1st, when their works protected them. This is the statement of an officer.

**Reports from Nuevitas—Puello Defeated and Driven Back by the Insurgents under Jordan—His Column Under Fire for Twenty-eight Days—Three Hundred Killed and Wounded—The Insurgents Thought to have Marched Against Goyene