WASHINGTON.

THE TRADE IN CADETSHIPS.

REPUDIATOR MUNGEN IMPLICATED.

Deweese, of North Carolina, Censured by the House.

The Cuban Question Before the Foreign Relations Committee.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1870.

The Cuban Question Before the Foreign Relations Committee.

The Cuban question was again discussed for nearly two hours to-day by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Senator Morton's proposition prohibiting the shipment of arms or supplies to any foreign government with which we are peace will probably be adopted. President Grant, in conversation with a prominent Congressman who favors the insurgent cause, indicated his willingness to conform to any recommendation which the friends of the administration in Congress deemed advisable.

The Trade in Cadetships—Deweese, of North Carolina, Censured—Repudiator Mungen Implicated.

The Military Committee examined only one witness to-day, and his testimony related to Golladay. It was simply confirmatory of other evidence already before the committee against Golladay. The resolution of censure on Mr. Deweese was finally agreed on in committee this morning and subsequently reported to the House. In terms it is similar to the resolution in Whittemore's case, and, like that, was unanimously adopted. General Logan the chairman of the committee, laid before the House the proposition to discontinue the investigation so far as it relates to persons not members of the present Congress. He gave it as his opinion, in which he was sustained by a majority of the committee, that one Congress has no authority to investigate the acts of members of a previous Congress. The committee had come to the conclusion that any further investigation in this direction would prove useless and expensive. A resolution was offered by General Garfield instructing the committee to confine its investigations to persons who were members of the present House. To this Mr. Coob, a member of the committee, offered an amendment that the committee be authorized to complete the investigation of cases already commenced of persons who were ex-members. After considerable discussion this was adopted, then reconsidered and finally defeated. General Garfield's resolution was then agreed to. It is thought this will bring the labors of the committee to a speedy close, as the majority of cases before it relate to persons who were members of former Congresses. The only case now before the committee relating to a member of the present House is that of William Mungen, of Ohio.

Representative Cox and the Sale of Cadetships.

From the wording of an article in your paper to-day it is inferred that Mr. S. S. Cox, is among those charged with selling cadetship appointments. This is an entire error. All the cadetship appointments belonging to Mr. Cox's district were made by his predecessor. Mr. Cox has made none, and, therefore, could not be accused of any impropriety in the premises. The member alluded to in my despatches yesterday is a democrat representing an Ohio district at present.

Enforcing the Fifteenth Amendment.

Among the business before the House Judiciary Committee to-day was a proposition to prepare a bill enforcing the provisions of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution. It is thought that in many of the States the authorities will take refuge behind their local laws, and refuse to allow the negroes to vote, notwithstanding the ratification of the amendment. Judge Bingham urged the adoption of the bill, introduced by him a few days ago, to enforce the provisions of the fifteenth amendment in all the States. He argued that the only object sought was to overcome the local laws of the States, so that the negroes could vote, and to enact penalties against all persons who connived to prevent them from voting, in contravention of the amendment. This, he said, was accomplished by his bill. The article of amendment did not carry any punishment with it to persons who might choose to evade or defy it. His bill did, and he thought it would meet the case of every State in the Union. Judge Davis did not think Bingham's bill explicit enough. He was of opinion that the amendment might be evaded in cases where the provisions of the bill offered by Bingham would not apply. The matter was discussed at length, but no decision was reached.

The Chinese Mission.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs met this morning. The discussion opened on the proposition to raise the Chinese mission to first class. The committee determined to report against any change in the character of the mission.

Judge Strong's Nomination Confirmed.

The Senate were in executive session to-day for nearly three hours. The discussion of the motion to reconsider the vote by which Judge Strong was confirmed was resumed. After a strong fight from the Southern Senators the Senate refused to reconsider. Judge Strong, therefore, is regularly confirmed.

The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company.

The Pacific Railroad Committee took a vote to-day on the bill for the relief of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company. The bill provides for the extension of time wherein the company is allowed to complete the construction of its road. Those who oppose it have contended that the company, in failing to finish the road within the time prescribed by the original bill giving it the right of way, has forfeited all its privileges and franchises, and that Congress should so declare. The committee voted to allow the company more time and to continue the franchises heretofore granted. When the bill is reported to the House it is thought it will meet with violent opposition and probably be defeated.

Removal of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

At the meeting of the House Naval Committee to-day General Slocum appeared and made an argument in favor of the removal of the Brooklyn Navy Yard from its present site to a point on the North river, in the vicinity of New York. Mr. Starkweather argued in favor of its location at New London, Conn. The committee finally authorized Messrs. Slocum and Starkweather to prepare a bill for the removal of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the site to which it shall be removed to be left for the committee to decide. The committee postponed the further consideration of the bill for the reorganization of the navy until after the New Hampshire election, in order to allow Mr. Stevens, a member of the committee, to go home and participate in the canvass.

Decision in the Farragut Prize Cases—The Suit Not Correctly Brought.

The Farragut cases were decided to-day in the Supreme Court of the district. It will be recollected that there were two cases instituted by the Admiral—one was for bounty or head money claimed for destroying the rebel vessels below New Orleans in April, 1862, and the other was for prize money claimed on account of vessels captured by the fleet under Farragut at New Orleans at the same time. The government, through its special counsel, R. M. Corwine, demurred to both libels on several grounds. One was that in the bounty case there could be no jurisdiction, because this was not the kind of case on which the court had jurisdiction. If the vessels destroyed would not have been, if captured, prize of war, then there can be no bounty for their destruction, because one was a necessary incident of the other. Another ground was, that the statute which allows bounty money confined its allowance to the Secretary of the Navy. In this case the Court held it had no jurisdiction and dismissed the libel. In case for prize the libel was filed to condemn certain vessels that are named in the libel. The ground of the government was that there could be no prize of war of property captured by vessels of the United States navy on the inland waters of the United States, and that the river Mississippi at New Orleans is an inland river in the meaning of the term. That the legislation of Congress necessarily restricted all such captures to the use of the United States, and required that they should be turned over to the Treasury agents. It was also contended that this suit was improperly brought in the names of the captors, whereas the law required it to be brought in the name of the government; that as it now stands it was, in fact, a suit against government, and it never allowed itself to be sued unless by a special act of Congress, and there was none in this case; that all captures were for the sovereign and in his name, and must be worked out in that way.

Judge Wylie, in an able opinion, held that the suit was not correctly brought, and gave the parties permission to amend if the Secretary of the Navy requested it, so that the suit should stand in the name of the United States; but there was no decision upon the question of the power to capture property as prize of war on the inland water.

The Western Union Telegraph Company's Last Stronghold Demolished.

Mr. Orton, President of the Western Union Telegraph monopoly, having been driven from pillar to post, has retreated behind the assertion that telegraph rates are less per mile in this country than in Europe. Even if true his statement would be unimportant, as distance is not an essential element of cost; but it is wholly erroneous, as we venture to predict Mr. Washburne will be able to demonstrate whenever the matter comes before the House.

The cost of transmitting information by electric telegraph is from three to six times more expensive in this country than in Europe, per mile or otherwise, Mr. Orton to the contrary notwithstanding. For example: A despatch may be sent through Belgium or Switzerland, 200 miles, for ten cents; from one extreme of France to another—over 700 miles—for twenty cents. The following comparative statement of rates and distances from New York and Paris to well known points disposes of the matter altogether:—

	Miles.	Rate.
Paris to Rome	1,040	80
New York to Little Rock, Ark.	1,050	$4 00
Paris to Pesth	1,060	60
New York to Des Moines	1,080	2 70
Paris to Lisbon	1,200	1 00
New York to New Orleans	1,100	3 25
Paris to Athens	2,000	2 00
New York to Denver	1,700	7 50
Paris to Naples	1,200	80
New York to Mobile	1,000	3 00

The Western Union rates may have been changed in some instances so as to vary slightly from the above; but the table as a whole shows the superiority of the postal telegraph over the monopolists' system of the United States.

Bullion Deposits in the Mint and Assay Offices.

The amount of gold deposited at the Mint in Philadelphia for the seven months ending February 1, 1870, was $1,802,197, of which amount $426,962 was received from the Assay Office in New York and $441,736 was in foreign coin and bullion.

The amount of silver deposited during the same period was $916,285 50, of which $722,866 22 was received from the Assay Office in New York. Total gold and silver, $2,718,482 77.

Reduction of Postage with Belgium.

The following circular has been issued by the Post Offie Department:—

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS AND THE PUBLIC.

An additional Postal Convention has been concluded between the United States and Belgium, reducing the rate of international letter postage on letters exchanged in closed mails via England, from fifteen to ten cents per single rate of fifteen grammes—one-half ounce or under pre-payment optional, to take effect March 15, 1870. The rate of postage, conditions of payment, &c., on newspapers, books, packets and samples of merchandise remain unchanged. Postmasters will levy and collect postage accordingly on and after March 15, 1870. By order of the Postmaster General,

JOSEPH H. BLACKFAN,
Superintendent of Foreign Mails.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1870.

OBSERVANCE OF SUNDAY BY CADETS.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., introduced a joint resolution for the better observance of Sunday in the military and naval academies. Referred to the Military Committee.

PERSONAL EQUALITY.

Mr. REVELS, (dem.) of Miss., presented a petition from the colored men of Philadelphia for the passage of the bill to secure to all persons the equal protection of the laws. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

SPEECH OF SENATOR HOWELL.

Mr. HOWELL, (rep.) of Iowa, made his first speech in the Senate in support of his resolution, that in every grant of lands to railroads a proviso shall be incorporated securing the rights of settlers to homesteads on the grants, and requiring the land to be put in market at an early day at a price not exceeding two dollars and a half per acre. He desired a permanent policy by which the protection of the West and Southwest from the great evils of land monopoly would be made a feature of railroad grants as inevitable as the Wilmot proviso used to be in Territorial bills. The rapid accumulation of capital and the powerful combination of railroad corporations augmented the danger of a land monopoly in these days and necessitated the imposition of restraints. While advocating this policy he would continue to favor most earnestly the granting of lands to promote the settlement and to develop the resources of the West. The wisdom and success of this policy had already been established. In the South it was perverted by slavery to build up a landed aristocracy which still continued, a legacy of that institution which should have perished with it by a division of the great landed estates of traitors among the loyal soldier who trampled out the rebellion in blood and fire. The Northwestern States had received liberal grants of land before railroads existed there; but when these became the great civilizers the liberality of the government was directed to their aid. The grant for the Illinois Central procured by Mr. Douglas produced an almost magical effect in developing the population and wealth of that State and of the city of Chicago; and the injurious effects of the present railroad system would not be dispensed with in view of its advantages. By rejecting what was bad in our present land grant policy and holding on to what was good in it the growing opposition, by reason of reckless extravagance in some of these grants, and the suspicion of corruption, involving parties connected with them, would be satisfied. The policy itself was not complained of; but its abuse. The States interested in the continuance of this policy must unite to correct these abuses, or the system itself would be sacrificed with all its benefits.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Howell was then adopted.

THE FUNDING BILL.

At a quarter past one the Senate resumed the consideration of the Funding bill, and Mr. CORBETT (rep.) of Oregon, submitted and advocated an amendment which was previously introduced by him as a separate bill. He proposed to substitute it for the first three sections of the bill which authorized a loan of twelve hundred millions, in three equal amounts, at different rates of interest. It authorizes the issue of one thousand millions, with thirty-five years to run, principal and interest payable in gold coin, each bond bearing interest at six per cent for the first three years, five per cent for six years following, and four and a half per cent for the next six years, and four per cent for the twenty years following, the bonds and income therefrom free from tax and exchangeable for five-twenty bonds at the option of the holders. He also proposed several modifications in the eighth section, dispensing with the compulsory clause and leaving the right to exchange their bonds discretionary with the banks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

At five minutes to two o'clock, without disposing of the amendment, the Senate voted by yeas 29 to nays 25 to go into executive session.

Subsequently the doors were reopened and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1870.

RESOLUTIONS OFFERED.

By Mr. CULLOM, (rep.) of Ill.—Instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether the Cherokee, Choctaw, or other tribes of Indians are United States citizens under the fourteenth amendment of the constitution; and whether, if they are citizens, any treaty or contract can be made with them as tribes or nations. Adopted.

By Mr. BIRD, (dem.) of N. J.—Calling on the President for information as to the recent attack on Piegan Indians by United States troops under direction of General Sheridan.

Objected to by Mr. STEVENSON, (rep.) of Ohio.

SPIRITS IN BOND.

The joint resolution introduced yesterday by Mr. Beck, extending to three years the time for keeping distilled spirits in bond, came up, the question being on Mr. Marshal's amendment to Mr. Hooper's substitute, reducing the amount to be paid after the first year from one cent a gallon per month to half a cent. Rejected—yeas, 84; nays, 86.

Mr. Hooper's substitute, requiring payment of one cent a gallon for each month after the first year, was agreed to without division.

Mr. WASHBURN, (rep.) of Wis., moved to lay the bill on the table, as being a bill to suspend the collection of revenue on whiskey for the remainder of this administration. Lost—yeas, 62; nays, 104.

The bill as amended was then passed without division.

CORRECTING THE JOURNAL.

Several corrections were made in the journal in regard to the voting yesterday on Mr. Spink's tariff resolution. The votes of the Messrs. Brooks were reversed, the New York member having really voted "No" and the Massachusetts member "Aye." Messrs. Beaman and Coburn, who were not recorded as voting, voted "Aye." Mr. Reading did not vote at all, but would have voted "Aye" had he been present. Mr. Johnson was recorded as voting both ways and did vote "No." Mr. Ferry said he was unavoidably absent, but would have voted "Aye." The democratic members represent the resolution as merely a distortion or mutilation of their national platform of 1868, which reads:—

"A tariff of revenue upon foreign imports and such equal taxation under the revenue laws as will afford incidental protection," &c. The words "and such equal taxation under the revenue laws" are omitted from the resolution, which embraces less than three-fourths of article 6 of the democratic platform.

THE SALE OF CADETSHIPS—CASE OF MR. DEWEESE.

Mr. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, made a report in the case of John T. Deweese, submitting the testimony taken in the case and the statement made by Mr. Deweese before the committee. Mr. Deweese having resigned, the committee reported the following resolution, the report being signed by all the members of the committee:—

Resolved, That John T. Deweese, late a Representative in Congress from the Third Congressional district of North Carolina, did make an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in violation of law, and that such appointment was influenced by pecuniary considerations, and that his conduct in the premises has been to show him as unworthy a seat in the House of Representatives, and is therefore condemned as conduct unworthy of a representative of the people.

The testimony was read from the Clerk's desk. That of Mrs. M. H. Bean, proprietress of the United States Hotel in Washington, was to the effect that she had paid $500 to Mr. Deweese for the nomination of her son to the Naval Academy, and that the amount had been refunded by Mr. Deweese within the last few days. That of her son was to the same effect. The statement of Mr. Deweese was that at the time he received the money he did not know there was a particle of wrong in it; that the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy were both cognizant of what he was doing. As soon as he had realized that he had done wrong he had returned the money and had sent his resignation to the Governor of his State. He had not acted from mercenary motives, for he had expended twelve thousand dollars in his State in the last Presidential election.

The reading having been concluded, Mr. Logan called for a vote on the resolution, remarking that the committee would certainly have reported a resolution of expulsion had it not been for the decision of the House the other day in the Whittemore case, that a member who had resigned could not be expelled. The resolution was then adopted unanimously on a vote by yeas and nays.

EXPENSES OF HOUSE COMMITTEES.

Mr. CAKE, chairman of the Committee on Accounts, made a report as to the expenses of the various committees of the House. The expenditures of the Committee on Elections amounted to $26,415, being $10,200 less than had been claimed as legal fees by witnesses and for serving subpœnas. The Committee of Ways and Means have expended $5,572, the Committee on Foreign Affairs $6,570, the Judiciary Committee $3,584, the Special Committee on Decline of American Commerce $2,000 and the Census Committee $3,143, the total amount expended being $47,786. Of this sum $20,962 had been paid, leaving $26,824 unpaid.

On motion of Mr. KERR, (dem.) of Ind., the Committee on Accounts was directed to audit and allow the accounts as certified by the chairmen of the respective committees.

INVESTIGATION OF CADETSHIP APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. LOGAN asked instructions from the House as to what the Committee on Military Affairs should do in investigating cadetship appointments improperly made by members of the former Congress. The committee had taken evidence against ex-members, showing their connection with the sale of cadetships, but having no jurisdiction of the person the committee did not know exactly what sort of a resolution to report. The committee would take the instructions of the House on the subject.

Mr. WOODWARD, (dem.) of Pa., expressed his belief that the committee had no jurisdiction as to the person of an ex-member of Congress, and had no right to investigate with a view of any personal proceeding against such member; but when the resolution was adopted it meant more than a mere investigation of the delinquencies of individuals; it meant to inform the House with reference to the working of those two national schools. That information would be very important as bearing on the question whether it was expedient to keep up those schools in the manner and on the principles on which they had hitherto been conducted. If these schools were being filled by purchase they should either be abolished as public nuisances or there should be a reformation in the mode of making appointments.

Various suggestions were made and resolutions offered and modified; and finally the following, as offered by Mr. Garfield and amended by Mr. Logan, was voted on:—

Resolved, That in the execution of the order of the House of February 4, 1870, the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to continue its investigation of all purchases or sales of cadetships by any person who has been elected as a member or delegate of the House of Representatives in the Forty-first Congress, or by any person who holds any executive or judicial office under the government of the United States; provided that nothing contained in this resolution shall be construed to prevent the said committee continuing and completing all investigations already commenced.

The proviso having been agreed to, Mr. SCOFIELD (rep.) of Pa., moved to lay the whole resolution on the table, it making an unfair discrimination against two or three persons and letting all the others go free. Lost—yeas 66, nays 95.

Mr. JENCKES, (rep.) of R. I., moved to reconsider the vote by which the proviso was adopted. Agreed to; and the proviso was then rejected.

Mr Garfield's resolution was then agreed to.

REPORT ON THE GOLD CONSPIRACY INVESTIGATION.

Mr. GARFIELD, (rep.) of Ohio, chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency, presented the testimony taken in the gold investigation and the report agreed to by the committee; and Mr. Cox presented the minority report of himself and Mr. Jones, of Kentucky. Both reports were laid on the table and ordered to be printed and recommitted. The recommittal gives the committee the control of the matter so as to call it up at any time.

Mr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., made an effort to get the House to go into committee on the Indian Appropriation bill, but the House preferred to adjourn by a vote of 78 to 76, and did accordingly adjourn at a quarter to four.

HAYTI.

Visit of Admiral Poor to Port au Prince—The Provisional Government Informed of the United States Protectorate of St. Domingo—Help Going to Cabral from Jamaica.

PORT AU PRINCE, Feb. 18, 1870.

Rear Admiral C. H. Poor, commanding the United States North Atlantic squadron, entered our harbor on the 9th of February aboard of the United States flag ship Severn, accompanied by the United States iron-clad Dictator. He at once sought and obtained an interview with the Provisional Government of Hayti, and gave its members to understand that he was instructed by the government of the United States to say "that negotiations are now pending between the American and Dominican republics, and that his government having good reason to suppose, since the fall of Salnave, the actual authorities were not at all favorable to the policy of annexing or ceding any portion of the island to the United States, and presumed, therefore, that the provisional government of Hayti would be disposed to aid Cabral by sending him arms, ammunition and money to fight against Baez, and prevent the consummation of the negotiations that the United States are now carrying on with the latter chieftain—he (the Admiral) had, therefore, authority to say that any aid given to Cabral would be considered as an act of hostility to the United States, and would provoke hostilities in return; for the United States government was determined to use all its power to prevent any aid being given to Cabral, and he had come down in those waters with sufficient force to carry this determination into execution, so far as transportation by vessels was concerned, and he would do so, whether this succor was carried to Cabral under the Haytien or any other flag." This menace has given great offence to the Haytiens, who claim that the United States has no tangible evidence that any aid whatever had been or would be sent under the Haytien flag to Cabral; whereas it has evidence that a vessel bearing the English flag had left Kingston, Jamaica, with arms and ammunition for Cabral. Rumor says that the Haytien Consul at Kingston was interested in expediting that vessel. This, however, is not proven; but it is clear that the British authorities at Jamaica have allowed a vessel to clear from their Custom House with arms, &c., for the Dominican insurgents.

KINGS COUNTY POLITICS.

Republican General Committee.

The Kings County Republican General Committee met last night at their rooms, in Washington street, Mr. George C. Bennett in the chair. The Twelfth ward squabble was, on motion of Mr. Morton, referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. G. P. WILLEY offered the following:—

Resolved, That the Republican General Committee of Kings county cordially sympathise with the Cubans in their efforts to establish a free government in the island of Cuba, abolishing slavery and guaranteeing equal rights to all; and inasmuch as the war is conducted by the Spaniards with remorseless cruelty, in violation of the usages of civilized warfare, every consideration of common humanity calls for a recognition of the Cubans as belligerents.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing be forwarded to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and that they be respectfully requested to urge the adoption of measures extending belligerent rights to the Cubans.

Adopted. The meeting then adjourned.

Democratic General Committee.

The Democratic General Committee met last night at their rooms, No. 9 Court street, Mayor Kalbfleisch presiding.

Mr. FURY moved that a committee be appointed to confer with the members of the Legislature from Kings county with a view to framing a city charter. Lengthy speeches were made by Judge Troy, ex-Alderman Tiernan, Hugh McLaughlin and others, in regard to the various commissions. Some advocated the elections, while others thought appointments better. Finally a committee of conference composed of Mr. Lober, Mr. McLaughlin and Demas Barns were appointed to meet with a delegation of the members of the Legislature. The meeting then adjourned until Tuesday next, when the committee will report.

EUROPE.

The Austrian Imperial Ball and American Presentations.

Napoleon on the Ice and M. Ollivier on Reform.

The Cunard mail steamship Russia, Captain Cooke, from Liverpool the 19th and Queenstown the 20th of February, arrived at this port yesterday evening, bringing our special European correspondence and a mail report in detail of our cable telegrams dated to her day of sailing from England.

As far as the eye could reach from the pilots' watch tower at Schwinemunde the surface of the Baltic was covered with a smooth crust of ice, which afforded an excellent skating field. Some of the most daring skaters ventured to cross from Heringsdorf to Schwinemunde, a distance of several English miles.

Vienna letters, in their account of the first court ball of the season after the return of the Empress of Austria from Rome, state that before the entertainment commenced the wives of the American and Brazilian Ministers, Mr. Jay and the Chevalier Varnhagen, were presented to their Majesties in a private audience. Among the subsequent presentations in the diplomatic circle were Mrs. Chapman, *née* Jay; Miss Jay and Mr. Delaplaine, Secretary of the American Le-

A telegram from Sweden announces that the Diet adopted the proposal of the Committee on the Constitution, to grant to Christian dissenters and Jews the right of sitting in the legislative chambers and occupying any public functions, with the exception of those of minister.

A Madrid telegram of the 18th of February reports:—

In the Cortes yesterday the Minister of the Colonies read a bill to abolish the differential duties on flags for Cuba and Porto Rico, and assimilating the commerce carried on by Spanish vessels with those places to the coasting trade. The dues on the exportation of sugar are maintained until July 1, 1875, at which date the introduction of that article into Spain will be free of all charge. Those on tobaccoes are to remain the same until further orders.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The English Property Tax—Shipwreck—Mr. Disraeli's Health.

In the British House of Commons Mr. Whalley made an attempt to extract a promise from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to abate, at the expense of the property tax, the most objectionable part of the income tax, namely, that which falls on precarious incomes, but Mr. Lowe declined to make a premature statement of his intentions.

The Irish political prisoners who lately returned from Australia have left London for Dublin. They were attended to the Euston Railway station by a vast crowd.

A Dingle, Ireland, correspondent says that a boat with the inscription "Ansel, N. B.," on the stern, was picked up at the northeast side of Smerwick harbor. It is supposed to be the boat in which the captain and ten of the crew of the vessel off Cape Clear.

The *British Medical Journal* announces that Mr. Disraeli, who had been suffering from influenza, is convalescent.

Mr. Callen, M. P. for Dundalk, was fined a guinea and costs for assaulting a clergyman and coachman.

FRANCE.

The Pascal-Newton Forgeries—Napoleon on the Ice—Freedom of the Press.

In Paris the trial of Lucas Vrain, the forger of the Pascal-Newton correspondence, was still going on, and the investigations show an amount of credulity on the part of M. Chasles, and even of the Academy itself, by no means creditable to that learned body.

The French journals are not disposed to pass over the case of M. de Puy Parlier, who was imprisoned in a lunatic asylum on the certificate of two doctors said to be in the pay of his wife, with whom he was on bad terms. The *Pays* and the *Constitutionnel*, as well as the *Gaulois*, have taken the matter up, and call loudly for the interference of the government.

The Emperor Napoleon, accompanied by General de Castelnau, drove in a coupé to the Cercle des Patineurs, Bois de Boulogne, where his Majesty skated for nearly an hour.

The Paris journals of the 19th of February continue to discuss the question of dissolving the present legislative body, as not "fairly representing the opinions of the country, in consequence of the system which had been acted on at the time of the elections of having official candidates."

Premier Ollivier's Reforms.

The *Journal Officiel* publishes the following report to the Emperor from the Minister of Justice:—

SIRE—It is of importance to efface from our legislation the vestiges of our discords and civil contentions. With that object we propose to your Majesty the abrogation of the decree of the 12th December, 1851, concerning individuals guilty of having belonged to secret societies. It does not appear to us admissible that in a time of tranquillity, and under a liberal regime the government should reserve to itself the faculty of transporting to Cayenne or Algeria, as a measure of general safety, citizens condemned to a few months' imprisonment for having been members of such an association. In consequence we have the honor to propose for your Majesty's approval the following bill:—

Sole Article.—Is abolished the decree of the 12th December, 1851.

I have the honor, Sire, to be, with the most profound respect, your devoted servant,

EMILE OLLIVIER.

The Emperor's signature is affixed in token of assent.

FIRE ON BROADWAY.

Loss Fifty-five Thousand Dollars.

About two o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the premises of S. M. Meyenberg, dealer in hair nets, on the third floor of 343 Broadway. Mr. Meyenberg's stock was almost entirely destroyed, involving a loss of from $15,000 to $20,000, exclusive of machinery. Meyenberg's insurance is in:—

Pacific Ins. Co.	$4,000	Market Ins. Co.	$3,000
Lafayette Ins. Co.	5,000	Hope Ins. Co	1,500
Total			$11,500

The stock of L. H. Méndelbaum & Co., on the same floor, front, consisting of ladies' furnishing goods, was damaged between $20,000 and $30,000. The firm is insured as follows:—

Grocers'	$3,000	Relief	$2,000
Phœnix	3,000	Yonkers and New York	2,000
Jefferson	2,000	Bowery (New York)	4,000
Narragansett	3,000	Commercial	3,000
Excelsior	2,500	Greenwich	4,000
International	3,000	Williamsburg City	3,000
Park	2,500	St. Nicholas	2,500
Mechanics and Traders'	1,000		
Total			$40,800

The second floor, occupied by Ridgely & Co., importers of lace curtains, &c., was damaged about $2,000 by water, and about $2,000 loss was sustained on the building.

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS SOCIABLE.

A coterie of fun-loving fellows from about the Seventeenth ward formed themselves last December into an association bearing the above abrupt title. The originators are friends of Senator Creamer, who propose to nominate him for next Mayor. Last evening these festive politicians gave a masquerade and civic sociable at Irving Hall, which was attended by about 3,000 people, who danced to the melodies produced by forty-five instruments. The throng presented a gay and frolicksome appearance from the burlesque costumes dispersed in its whirling maze. The president, Mr. Hartman, got himself up as a blubbering schoolboy; Mr. P. J. Hamburg as Don Quixote; Peter W. Maguire, "Hotel Proprietor;" Charles Cutler, "Clown;" John J. Farrell, Irish Count; George F. Langbein, Dutch Cavalier; James McKierer, "Knight of Gwynn;" John Kelly, "Yankee Schoolmaster;" Morris W. Shannon, "Chinese;" T. J. McCartie, "English Barrister;" Bernard Reilly, "Big Indian;" Wm. Hannagan, "Printer's Devil;" Thomas Sesanaw, "Prince Arthur," with nose; H. Cummins, "French Bullfrog;" John Nugent, "Lord Chief Justice;" James Donohue, "Friar;" John Greene, "Fenian;" Isaac J. Drake, "Monte Cristo;" W. Bracken, "Hamlet," with the hair off; Michael Cudny, "Imported American;" Jeff Emerson, "Bold Butcher Boy;" Colonel Georgi, "General Boum;" John Hefferman, "Friar;" Michael O'Neill in the Irish bull of a "good natured bear;" John P. Morris scowled around as "Iago," and Peter Flynn in the disguise of a nobleman, being drunk as a lord. Fun, frolic and vigorous dancing was kept up to an early hour this morning when the revellers dispersed after an evening of side-splitting enjoyment.

THE MERKLE TRAGEDY STILL A MYSTERY.

Coroner Keenan yesterday concluded the investigation in the case of John Merkle, who was fatally beaten on the night of the 1st ult., by unknown parties, in Tenth avenue. The evidence taken failed to dispel the mystery surrounding the case or to criminate the accused parties. The Coroner charged the jury, who returned a verdict that "John Merkle, the deceased, came to his death by injuries at the hands of some persons unknown, on the 1st day of February, 1870, opposite No. 289 Tenth avenue. The prisoners were then discharged. The papers in the case are to be submitted to the District Attorney for such future action as may be deemed necessary.

THE GOLD CONSPIRACY.

Report of the Congressional Investigating Committee.

How Gould, Fisk, Corbin & Co. Conspired to Bull Gold.

Cunning Effort to Make the Government a Participant in the Movement.

The Majority Acquit the President of all Knowledge of the Plot.

Complaint of the Minority that President Grant and the Ladies of His Family Were Not Summoned to Give Evidence.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1870.

Mr. Garfield, chairman, presented the following report:—

The Committee on Banking and Currency having been directed by a resolution of the House of Representatives, passed December 13, 1869, to investigate the causes that led to the unusual and extraordinary fluctuations of gold in the city of New York from the 21st to the 27th of September, 1869, beg leave to submit the following report:—

In obedience to the order of the House the committee resolved to examine the following topics in the order named:—

First—The Gold Exchange and the Gold Exchange Bank, their history, the character of their ordinary operations and their relations to the gold panic of September.

Second—The alleged conspiracy of September to raise the price of gold, the persons engaged in it and the instrumentalities made use of.

Third—Whether any officers of the national government were directly or indirectly engaged in the alleged conspiracy.

The peculiar character of the operations to be investigated and the secrecy with which they were carried on made it difficult for the committee to find the clue to many transactions a knowledge of which was essential to a full understanding of the subject, and the large number of persons engaged in the movement and the reluctance of many of them to disclose their own transactions have protracted the investigation and swelled the volume of testimony to an extent which the committee regret but could not reasonably avoid. In narrating the facts developed by the investigation the committee have used the language of the witnesses themselves wherever it could conveniently be done, and have in the main followed the chronological order of events. The history of the gold panic will itself include all the topics above named and they need not, therefore, be treated separately. In order to exhibit the full history it will be necessary to review briefly the movements of gold for a year previous to September.

On the 1st of September, 1868, the price of gold was 145. During the autumn and winter it continued to decline, interrupted only by occasional fluctuations, till in March, 1869, it touched 130¾ (its lowest point for three years) and continued near that rate until the middle of April, the earliest period to which the evidence taken by the committee refers. At that time Mr. Jay Gould, President of the Erie Railroad Company, bought seven millions of gold and put up the price from 132 to 140. (Testimony, p. 3.) Other brokers followed his example, and by the 20th of May had put up the price to 144¾, from which point, in spite of speculation, it continued to decline, and on the last day of July stood at 136.

The first indications of a concerted movement on the part of those who were prominent in the panic of September was an effort to secure the appointment of some person who should be subservient to their schemes as Assistant Treasurer at New York in place of Mr. H. H. Van Dyck, who resigned in the month of June. In this effort Mr. Gould and Mr. A. R. Corbin appear to have been closely and intimately connected. If the testimony of the witnesses is to be believed Mr. Corbin suggested the name of his step-son-in-law, Robert B. Catherwood, and Mr. Gould joined in the suggestion. This led to an interview with Catherwood, the object of which is disclosed in his own testimony, as follows:—

I went the next day to have a conversation with Mr. Gould and Mr. Corbin, and I found that the remark was simply this:—"That the parties could operate in a legitimate way and make a great deal of money, and that all could be benefitted by it in a legitimate manner. * * * I satisfied myself I could not fill the bill." And again (page 16), "Mr. Gould, Mr. Corbin, myself and some other associates had an understanding that we would go into some operations, such as the purchase of gold, stocks, &c., and that we would share and share alike." And (page 17), "I declined to go into this Subtreasury business."

On what ground Mr. Catherwood declined to be a candidate does not appear. The parties next turned their attention to General Butterfield, and both before and after his appointment claimed to be his supporters. Gould and Catherwood testify that Corbin claimed to have secured the appointment, though Corbin swears that he made no recommendation in the case. General Butterfield was appointed Assistant Treasurer and entered upon the duties of that office on the 1st of July. It is, however, proper to state that the committee have no evidence that Catherwood's name was ever proposed to the President or Secretary as a candidate for the position, nor that General Butterfield was in any way cognizant of the corrupt schemes which led the conspirators to desire his appointment, nor that their recommendation had any weight in securing it. In addition to these efforts the conspirators resolved to discover, if possible, the purpose of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury in regard to sales of gold. The first attempt in this direction, as exhibited in the evidence, was made on the 15th of June, when the President was on board one of Messrs. Fisk & Gould's Fall River steamers on his way to Boston. At nine o'clock in the evening supper was served on board, and the presence at the table of such men as Cyrus W. Field, with several leading citizens of New York and Boston, was sufficient to prevent any suspicion that this occasion was to be used for the benefit of private speculation; but the testimony of Fisk and Gould indicate clearly the purpose they had in view. Mr. Fisk says (page 15):—

On our passage over to Boston with General Grant we endeavored to ascertain what his position in regard to the finances was. We went down to supper about nine o'clock, intending while we were there to have this matter pretty thoroughly sifted up, and if possible to relieve him from any idea of putting the price of gold down.

Mr. Gould's account is as follows:—

At this supper the question came up about the state of the country, crops, prospects ahead, &c. The President was a listener, the other gentlemen were discussing. Some were in favor of Mr. Boutwell selling gold and some opposed to it. After they had all interchanged their views some one asked the President what his view was. He remarked that he thought there was a certain amount of fictitiousness about the prosperity of the country, and that the bubble might as well be tapped in one way as another. We supposed from that conversation that the President was a contractionist. * * * His remark struck us like a wet blanket.

It appears that these skilfully continued efforts elicited from the President only one remark, and this opened a gloomy prospect for the speculators, for Mr. Gould testifies that early next morning he was at the telegraph office and found there one of his associates telegraphing to New York to sell out his stock. Upon their return to New York, Fisk and Gould determined to bring a great pressure upon the administration to prevent, if possible, a further decline of gold, which would seriously interfere with their purposes of speculation. This was to be effected by facts and arguments presented in the name of the country and its business interests, and a financial theory was agreed upon which on its face would appear favorable to the business interests of the country, and enlist in its support many patriotic citizens; but would, if adopted, incidentally enable the conspirators to make their speculation eminently successful. That theory was that the business interests of the country required an advance in the price of gold, that in order to move the fall crop and secure the foreign market for our grain it was necessary that gold should be put up to 145. According to Mr. Gould this theory for the benefit of American trade and commerce was suggested to James McHenry, a prominent English financier, who furnished Mr. Gould the data with which to advocate it. This theory is exhibited very fully in the testimony of Mr. Gould and Mr. Fisk. The chosen instrument through whom these views were to be laid before the President was Mr. Corbin, who soon became a willing convert to the theory. The previous purchase and carrying of two millions of United States bonds by Mr. Gould for Corbin's profit may have aided in his conversion. (Pages 88 to 92.) "Mr. Corbin is a very shrewd old gentleman, much more farseeing than the newspapers give him credit for. He saw at a glance the whole case and said that he thought it was the true platform to stand on that whatever the government could do legitimately and fairly to facilitate the exportation of breadstuffs and procure good prices for the products of the West they ought to do."

Having thus secured a happy concord of purpose to put up the price of gold for the public good their next step was to press their views upon the President. Concerning this purpose Mr. Corbin testifies as follows:—"Having a natural desire for the success, the first year at least, of the administration of my wife's brother, I improved every opportunity to impress upon him what I thought was a vital point, and that was to let the farmers and mechanics and manufacturers have good prices for their productions."

And Mr. Gould testifies (page 89):—

Corbin was anxious that I should see the President and communicate to him my view of the subject. Being connected in my railroad business with the matter of transportation, and knowing the views of those managing the other