WASHINGTON.

The Last Vestiges of the Rebellion Disappearing.

A General Amnesty Bill Introduced in the Senate.

The British Government Posted on Fenian Movements.

Proposal to Place New York Canals Under Government Control.

WASHINGTON, April 28, 1870.

General Removal of Disabilities—Senator Robertson's Amnesty Bill.

The following in a copy of the Amnesty bill introduced in the Senate to-day by Senator Robertson, of South Carolina:—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled (two thirds of both houses concurring), That all persons, except as hereinafter excepted, subject to any disability imposed by the fourteenth amendment of the constitution of the United States, are hereby relieved from such disability; provided, nevertheless, that the following classes of persons are excepted from the provisions of this act, that is to say:—

First—All persons who, being members of the Congress of the United States, withdrew from their seats and aided the rebellion.

Second—All persons who, being officers of the army or navy of the United States, left said army or navy and aided the rebellion.

Third—All persons who were members of the State conventions which adopted pretended ordinances of secession.

Bill Placing New York Canals Under Government Control—Improved Water Communication Between States.

The House Committee at their meeting to-day appointed Messrs. Bennett, Sheldon, Sawyer and Conger a sub-committee to improve and report upon the various bills providing for an improvement of water communication between the several States. Among the bills which will come under their notice is the one introduced by Mr. Bennett, of New York, to provide for the better protection of the Northern and Northeastern frontier, and to facilitate commerce and diminish the expense of the exchanges between the States. It relates chiefly to the Erie and Oswego canals, and provides that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to issue to the Comptroller of the State of New York, on the credit of the United States, bonds to the amount of $15,000,000; provided that the Legislature of said State shall pledge that all that portion of its debt for the paying of which the revenues of its canals are constitutionally appropriated, shall be immediately discharged. After this is done no tax or toll of any description shall be levied or collected by the State upon any property transported through or upon any of the canals, except a uniform charge of one half mill per thousand pounds per mile. Any excess of appropriation or tonnage dues is to be applied to the enlargement of the Erie and Oswego canals. The idea is to cheapen transportation over these canals, and make them in effect free. It is also proposed to make them fit for navigation by boats of not less than 600 tons. The bill for the improvement of water communication between the Mississippi river and Lake Michigan by the Wisconsin and Fox rivers will also receive the attention of the committee. This measure has been advocated by the Governors of nearly all the Northwestern States.

Fenian Movements Known to British Officials.

Many of these secret workers of the Fenian organization have reached the British Legation and the Department of State. They are thus placed in possession of its plans and purposes. Within the past six months two or three separate dates have been fixed for a movement upon Canada, and the 1st of May is now fixed for an invasion. There is no doubt that a large amount of war material belonging to the Fenians is distributed along the border. Our government has adopted all available means to restrain the popular movement and prevent a breach of our neutrality laws, and of this fact the British government is fully informed. Gentlemen in high official positions cannot, they say, see any motive for the invasion of Canada, unless it be to involve the United States and Great Britain in hostilities or further complicate the questions now at issue between the two countries.

Congressional Disagreement on the Income Tax Bill.

The conference committee on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the joint resolution relative to the income tax held a session of several hours to-day, but did not come to any agreement. General Schenck, chairman of the managers on the part of the House, is anxious to have the whole matter laid aside for the present, or until the Ways and Means Committee shall be able to bring in the Internal Revenue bill. In that bill he proposes to insert a section covering the whole question of this tax. It appears, however, that certain railroad corporations in Philadelphia have refused to pay the tax and have taken the matter into the courts to test the question of the expiration of the law. On this account it is probable the conference committee will fix up something to meet the case.

A Muddled Committee—The Washburn-Lopez Investigation.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs is in a hopeless muddle over the Washburn-Lopez Paraguay investigation. The sub-committee which was appointed to examine witnesses and take testimony on the subject examined so many witnesses and took so much testimony that they have several volumes of public documents to show as the sole result of their labors. The report submitted to the general committee is almost as voluminous as the evidence. It seems to have been a prolific subject, or rather the sub-committee have made the most of it. Two or three sessions of the committee have been occupied listening to this marvellous report, and the end is not yet. The committee, it seems, are not agreed, and there will probably be two reports. One party is in favor of censuring Admiral Davis, General McMahon and the naval authorities acting under Admiral Davis. Another thinks C. A. Washburn was guilty of conduct unbecoming a representative of the government abroad. A third party is of opinion that the evidence taken by the committee establishes the fact that the late President Lopez was a monster of tyranny. Still another party wants to compromise the whole matter by distributing the blame all round.

The Wood-Howard Investigation—Damaging Testimony Against General Howard—Misappropriation of Government Funds.

The evidence produced to-day before the Committee on Education and Labor in the Wood-Howard Freedmen's Bureau investigation is said to be of a character rather damaging to Howard. It begins to look now as if Howard took care of himself and all his relatives and friends in the management of the Bureau. A few more witnesses like those placed on the stand to-day will save Mr. Fernando Wood from being dealt with by the House according to Ben Butler's threat when Wood introduced the chages against Howard. R. M. Hall, a real estate agent here, who had something to do with the purchase and sale of the ground whereon the Howard University now stands, testified to day that three lots for building purposes were reserved from the general plot—one for General Howard, one for General Ballock, Disbursing Agent of the Bureau, and one for Mr. Alvord, Superintendent of Schools. These lots were afterwards occupied by these gentlemen. Professor Ogden, of Tennessee, was also examined. This witness was examined by Mr. Hoar, a member of the Committee. It seems that Ogden mixed up the member from Massachusetts with his erudite brother, the Attorney General, and labored under the impression that he was being examined by the law officer of the government. This had the effect of making him tell all he knew. He testified that he was the head of a school in Tennessee, and that he had received some $2 000 or $3,000 from General Howard to aid his school. One thousand of this amount was in the shape of a $1,000 bond of the Young Men's Christian Association of this city. Ogden says that since this investigation began Howard telegraphed him to Tennessee that if he would return this bond he (Howard) would cash it for him. As Mr. Ogden was about to leave the committee room he was called back and cautioned to keep his finger on his lips. This will account for the meagre account of his testimony. J. M. Brown, disbursing officer of the Bureau for this district, testified that the timber for several of the tenements erected on Barry Farm and three or four rows of barracks was contracted for by Charles H. Howard, brother of General Howard. The lumber was purchased from Charles H. Howard's father-in-law, way down in Maine, and was brought to this city at the expense of the government. He testified that he had paid out some $33,000 of the Bureau fund for paving and grading streets, in which he learned private parties were interested.

Steamship Line Subsidies.

The Committee on Commerce met this morning and appointed Messrs. Kellogg, Buckingham and Corbett a sub-committee to investigate the propriety of granting a subsidy to the Australian Steamship Company. The labors of the sub-committee will involve also the general policy on this important question, and as there are other lines, if the result be favorable all worthy of government aid will have some chance of obtaining it. The committee are disposed, it appears, to give the Atlantic lines the precedence. The sub-committee are in hopes of coming to some conclusion in a few days.

Judicial Nominations.

Among the names sent by the President to the Senate to-day was that of John T. Nixon, of Bridgeton, N. J., for Judge of the United States Court for the District of New Jersey, in place of Richard S. Field, resigned. The nomination was recommended and asked by Secretary Robeson, Senator Cattell, Congressmen Moore and Hill, F. T. Frelinghuysen, Courtland Parker, Amiha Dodd, Judge Depu, George Halsey, Marcus L. Ward, John F. Starr, F. F. Westcott, Lewis Mulford, United States Attorney Keasby, and other distinguished citizens and lawyers of New Jersey. Mr. Nixon was born in 1821, and graduated at Princeton College in 1841, of which he has been a member of the Board of Trustees for the past fifteen years. He was admitted to the bar in 1845, and has been in active practice ever since. He is the compiler of the "Digest" of the laws of New Jersey, which bear his name. He was a member of the New Jersey Legislature in 1849-50, being Speaker of the House during the latter year, and was a member of the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth Congress from the First district of New Jersey. Mr. Nixon's appointment, it is said, will give universal satisfaction, irrespective of party, to the bar of New Jersey, and Jersey justice will be administered as promptly and righteously as under the faithful administration of the stern and conscientious Judge Field.

Senator Wilson's Army Bill.

Senator Wilson has determined, at the suggestion of the Secretary of War, to make a further amendment to his Army bill, so as to fix the time for the reduction of the army in July instead of January. The strength of the army at this time in enlisted men is 35,000. In July, 1871, the terms of enlistment of 18,000 men will run out. It is, therefore, proposed to extend the time, so as to effect the reduction in this manner.

The Case of the Steamer Aspinwall.

Some days ago the Department of State was informed by Minister Sickles, and also by Minister Roberts, that an order had been issued by the Spanish government for the surrender of the steamer Aspinwall. Although sufficient length of time has elapsed the Cuban authorities have not acted in the premises. The reason does not appear, but it is suspected that the Captain General is restrained by the opposition of the volunteers. Our government, however, is pressing a compliance with the order which will doubtless soon be accorded.

The Darien Canal Project.

Advices from official sources in Bogota deny the recently published rumor that the Darien Canal treaty had been rejected by the Congress of the United States of Colombia. The treaty was put upon the second reading on the 17th of March, with several modifications reported by the second committee to which it had been referred. Its late was considered uncertain as it encountered strong opposition in both Houses, but at latest dates the opposition was known to be in a minority.

The President on a Visit to West Point.

The President and Mrs. Grant, and the children of the family, left Washington by the 12:45 P. M. train to-day, on a visit to his son at West Point. He will return on Monday. Owing to his absence there will be no Cabinet meeting to-morrow.

Nominations Sent to the Senate.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day:—John T. Nixon, Judge of the United States District Court, for New Jersey; John Pratt, United States Marshal for New Mexico; Mrs. A. M. Brigham, Postmistress for Natick, Mass.

Nominations Confirmed.

The Senate this afternoon confirmed the following nominations:—

John L. Stevens, of Maine, Minister to Paraguay, in addition to Uruguay.

Consuls—Horace L. Pike, of North Carolina, Consul General at Tampico, vice Franklin Chase, recalled; Adam Badeau, of New York, to be Consul General to London, vice Freeman H. Morse, recalled; Henry Ruggles, of Connecticut, Consul at Barcelona, vice Charles A. Perkins, recalled; Joseph N. H. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, Consul at Turks Island; William H. Faxon, of Connecticut, Consul at Curacoa; James H. Whallan of Pennsylvania, Consul at Port Mahon; Isaac Johnson, of Indiana, Consul at Glasgow, vice James Hagerty.

Army Promotions.—First Lieutenant Robert H. Montgomery, to be captain; Second Lieutenant F. C. Morehead, to be first lieutenant; Second Lieutenant F. P. Gross, to be first lieutenant; First Lieutenant B. F. Rethmhouse, to be captain; Second Lieutenant John McClellan, to be first lieutenant; Captain George G. Hunt to be major, Second Lieutenant R. J. Garrett to be first lieutenant, Second Lieutenant W. T. Dinch to be first lieutenant, Second Lieutenant A. H. Van Luetwitz to be first lieutenant, First Lieutenant Sebastian Gunther to be captain, Second Lieutenant L. O. Parker to be first lieutenant; Second Lieutenant Bernhard Reliey, Jr., to be first lieutenant, Second Lieutenant C. G. Gordon to be first lieutenant; First Lieutenant Charles Parker to be captain; Second Lieutenant E. D. Dimmick to be first lieutenant; Second Lieutenant Charles Humphreys to be first lieutenant; Lewis S. Chase to be second lieutenant (re-instatement).

Naval Promotions—John C. Wise, Assistant Surgeon in the Navy; John L. Nelson, Assistant Surgeon in the Navy; First Lieutenant Percival C. Pope, Captain in the Marine Corps; Second Lieutenant Manuel C. Goodrell, to be First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps; Charles F. Eastman, Assistant Paymaster in the Navy.

Frank Barnett, Supervising Inspector of Steamboats for the Fourth district; James Coats, Pension Agent at Little Rock; George Lount, of Arizona, Receiver of Public Moneys for the district of lands subject to sale at Prescott, in that Territory; Frederick Marley, of Michigan, Register of the Land Office at Detroit; Pinckney Ross, Collector of Customs of the District of Pearl River, Mississippi; John G. Taylor, Collector of Customs for the District of Annapolis, Md.

Collectors of Internal Revenue—John N. Camp, First district of Texas; Alfred E. Lee, First district of Ohio; William Lambeer, Eighth district of New York.

Assessors—Morrill Friedsam, Fifth district of New York; John J. Parry, Twenty first district of New York.

Postmasters—John H. Smith, Paola, Kan.; James R. Rice, Garnett, Kan.; Henry S. Dean, Ann Harbor, Mich.; William Holland, West Troy, N. Y.; Mrs. M. Louise Nelson, Santa Cruz, Cal.; James R. Brown, Olathe, Kan.; William A. Pattie, Warrenton, Va.; Noah Boynton, Mount Vernon, Ohio; Edward Downey, Brownsville, Texas; Mrs. Elizabeth P. Brown, Logansport, Ind.; James T. McCarthy, Valparaiso, Ind.; G. V. Schmittoerg, Nevada City, Cal.; John A. Goodwin, Lowell, Mass.; Mrs. Betsy A. Mower, New London, Conn.; Edwin Rogers, North Adams, Mass.; Isaac Seeley, Great Barrington, Mass.; Wm. Stowe, Springfield, Mass.; Henry Chickering, Pittsfield, Mass.

Receipts for Customs.

The customs receipts for the week ending April 23 were as follows:—At Boston, $450,535; at New York, $3,094,000; at Philadelphia, $233,738; at Baltimore, $292,392; at San Francisco (week ending April 16), $211,403; total, $4,282,213.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, April 28, 1870.

AMENDMENT TO THE NATURALIZATION LAWS.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., presented the memorial of the National Executive Committee of the colored people of the United States asking that the word "white" be struck from the naturalization laws. He had already introduced a bill on the subject, and hoped that the Judiciary Committee would act promptly on the subject.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., a member of the Judiciary Committee, said the word "white" ought to be struck out of all laws; that the committee had been charged with bills revising the whole of the naturalization laws, and expected to report upon the subject of the memorial in a short time.

Mr. SUMNER hoped the Senator would not spend as much time on that subject as upon the proposition for a pension to Mrs. Lincoln.

Mr. EDMUNDS replied that the Pension Committee, of which he was also a member, were taking testimony on that subject, and the only trouble was they had not been able to examine his friend from Massachusetts. (Laughter.)

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass.—To incorporate a national academy of letters and arts.

By Mr. ROBERTSON, (rep.) of S. C.—To relieve (with certain exceptions) all persons engaged in rebellion from the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States.

The exceptions made by Mr. Robertson's bill are all of persons who left Congress and the army and navy to aid the rebellion, and all persons who were members of State conventions which adopted ordinances of secession.

By Mr. THAYER, (rep.) of Nev.—To make uniform the pension of the widows of staff officers in the navy.

By Mr. FENTON, (rep.) of N. Y.—To incorporate the Washington Transatlantic Telegraph Company, and to facilitate telegraphic communication between America and Europe.

By Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio—To revise the laws relating to the mint and assay offices and coinage of the United States.

THE FLORIDA CONTESTED SEAT.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., asked that the case of Mr. Gilbert the sitting member from Florida, whose seat was contested, should be disposed of.

The report of the Judiciary Committee upon the case, with an accompanying resolution declaring Gilbert to have been legally elected, was then read. A statement of the case by the contestant (O. B. Hart) was also read at the request of Mr. HOWE, when the case was disposed of by the adoption of the resolution recommended by the committee.

THE CALENDAR OF BILLS.

At ten minutes past one the calendar was resumed, and the joint resolution for the relief of certain officers of the navy was taken up. It provides for a board of three officers, not below the grade of rear admiral, to examine into the cases of such officers as may deem themselves unjustly passed over by promotions made in conformity with the act of Congress approved July 25, 1866.

Mr. DRAKE, (rep.) of Mo., moved to amend by providing that officers promoted under the ninth section of the act of March 2, 1867, shall receive from the date of promotion the same pay when not on active duty that they were at the time of promotion entitled to when not on such duty, and repealing said ninth section. Adopted, and the bill passed.

The bill to provide for the better security of life on board of vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam and for other purposes, being the bill prepared by the Treasury Department, passed.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Me., called up the House joint resolution appropriating three thousand dollars to pay the expenses of the investigation of the charges against General O. O. Howard. Passed.

The joint resolution to regulate the effect of a vote of thanks of Congress upon promotions in the navy come up and was passed.

The bill relative to circuit courts of the United States, prohibiting any construction of the act that would require the holding of a circuit court where not required by previously existing laws, passed—Mr. TRUMBULL stating that the Judiciary Committee were aiming at multiplying places of holding United States courts and thereby increasing the number of judicial districts and compelling an increase of judges.

BILLS REPORTED.

Mr. PATTERSON, (rep.) of N. H., from the Joint Committee on Retrenchment, reported without amendment the House bill limiting the appointment of special agents of the Treasury Department.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vt., from the Committee on Finance, reported, with amendment, the bill in relation to fraudulent trade marks upon foreign watches.

WASHINGTON TRANSATLANTIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

Mr. FENTON introduced a bill to incorporate the Washington Transatlantic Telegraph Company. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. It names William C. Barney and associates as persons to be given the right to lay a telegraph cable between the United States and Belgium.

The bill to change the place of holding the District Court of the Albemarle district of North Carolina was passed, together with a number of bills of a private character.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

At half-past four o'clock the Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, April 28, 1870.

LOUISIANA CONTESTED ELECTION CASE.

Mr. STEVENSON, (rep.) of Ohio, from the sub-Committee on Elections, made a report on the contested election case from the Third Congressional district of Louisiana, that Adolph Bailey is not entitled to the seat and that C. B. Darrall is.

Mr. KERR, (dem.) of Ind., made a minority report with opposite conclusions.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The House then resumed, as the business of the morning hour, the bill for the establishment of a Department of Justice, which was discussed and passed.

BOOKS FOR THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

Mr. PETERS, (rep.) of Me., from the Library Committee, reported back the Senate bill authorizing the transfer of $2,500 for the purchase of books for the library. Passed.

PORTRAIT OF GENERAL THOMAS.

Mr. PETERS also reported the joint resolution directing the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a portrait of the late Major General George H. Thomas, to be placed in a conspicuous position in the Capitol as a memorial of his great service to the country and his distinguished worth as a soldier and citizen, and authorizing the payment of $2,000 out of the contingent funds of both Houses in equal proportion. Passed unanimously.

VENTILATION OF THE HALL OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. JENCKES, (rep.) of R. I., from the Joint Committee on Ventilation, reported the joint resolution appropriating $8,000 for the purpose of making experiments in the ventilation of the hall of the House. He addressed the House briefly on the subject, saying that one of the objects was to ventilate the subject of ventilation. The resolution was passed.

THE FIFTH LOUISIANA DISTRICT ELECTION CASE.

Mr. STEVENSON called up the election case from the Fifth Congressional district of Louisiana.

The resolution reported by the majority is that no lawful election was held in said district on November 3, 1869, and that neither George W. McCranee, Frank Morey nor P. H. Kennedy is entitled to the seat; and that of the minority is that George W. McCranee was duly elected. After extended discussion the resolution reported by Mr. Stevenson was adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. LYNCH, (rep.) of Me., introduced a bill to revise the navigation and commercial interests of the United States. Referred to the select committee on that subject.

Mr. CHAVEZ, (rep.) of New Mexico, introduced a bill relative to the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company. Referred.

Mr. KELLOGG, (rep.) of Conn., introduced a joint resolution appropriating $1,000 for a beacon near Norwalk Island, Conn.

CONSIDERATION OF THE TARIFF BILL.

The House then, at three o'clock, went into Committee of the Whole on the Tariff bill, Mr. WHEELER in the chair, the pending question being on the amendment offered by Mr. Benjamin (of Missouri) to insert the paragraph on railroad iron, made to pattern and fitted to be laid down, sixty cents per one hundred pounds.

Mr. WILSON, (dem.) of Minn., moved to reduce it to fifty-five cents, and argued that if the paragraph were not inserted railroad iron would not remain as under the existing Tariff law, but would come in under a subsequent paragraph taxing all enumerated iron at one cent per pound.

Mr. SCHENCK, (rep.) of Ohio, remarked that he was directed to offer an amendment to that paragraph, so as to exclude that idea and to leave railroad iron, as under the existing law, at seventy cents per one hundred pounds.

Mr. INGERSOLL, (rep.) of Ill., moved to make the duty on railroad iron twelve dollars per ton, and protested against the ignoring of the interests of the consumers of iron for the benefit of the producers of iron. Rejected.

The amendment proposed by Mr. Benjamin, of Mo., was agreed to by a vote of 73 to 62. So the paragraph making the duty on railroad iron sixty cents per one hundred pounds was inserted.

Mr. BROOKS, (dem.) of N. Y., moved to strike out of the paragraph taxing railway splice bars, &c., one and one-half cent per pound the words "frogs and frog points," which was rejected.

Mr. INGERSOLL moved to make it one cent per pound, which was rejected.

Mr. BROOKS, of New York, moved to make it one and a quarter cents which was rejected.

Mr. BROOKS, of New York, moved to reduce the duty on wrought iron railway chairs, frogs and frog points, from two cents per pound to forty dollars per ton, which was rejected by 62 to 70.

No other amendment was offered to the paragraph.

The next paragraph was that taxing iron wire.

Mr. SCHENCK moved to transfer "twisted ties" from the following paragraph, where a higher duty is imposed, to this paragraph, where it is to pay a lesser duty.

Mr. HOLMAN, (dem.) of Ind., moved to add to the words "twisted ties," the words one and three quarters cent per pound, which was rejected by 72 to 72—the chairman voting in the negative.

Mr. SCHENCK's amendment was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. SCHENCK the rates in the paragraph were reduced from two and a half to two cents, from four to three and a half cents, and from five to four cents per pound. Without disposing of this paragraph the committee rose.

REMOVAL OF DISABILITIES.

Mr. PORTER introduced a bill to remove the political disabilities of Isaac H. Christian, of Charles City county, Virginia, which was referred.

The House at five o'clock adjourned.

BROOKLYN CITY NEWS.

The United States frigate Guerriere was floated on the dry dock at the Navy Yard yesterday.

An inquest was held on the body of Cornelius McKnight by Coroner Jones yesterday. Deceased was one of the crew of the steam tug William Wells, which was destroyed by the explosion of her boiler in New Jersey about two weeks ago. The remains were interred from the residence of the deceased, in Dikeman street.

About midnight of Wednesday flames burst from the lower part of the store and dwelling house No. 4 Commercial street, and enveloped the structure so rapidly that it was impossible to save any of the stock. John Winslow, who kept a grocery store in the structure, estimates his loss at $1,500. Henry Mensing, stove dealer, lost $1,000 in damage to stock. Damage to building, owned by John Luar, $2,000.

NEWBURG.

DROWNING CASUALTY.—On Thursday, as Tim Donoghue, the well-known oarsman and trainer, was working in his boathouse, near the foot of Second street, Newburg, he saw the body of a child floating in the river, not two yards distant from him, the face and head being below the surface and concealed from him. To draw the child out of the water was but a moment's work, when he was horrified to find that the body was that of his own daughter, Mary, a bright little girl of four years of age. She had fallen into the water while amusing herself on the wharf, and had perished before any one knew of her danger. The efforts for the resuscitation of the child were continued for hours, but resulted fruitlessly.

A PYROTECHNIC BLOW UP.

Yesterday forenoon an explosion occurred at the pyrotechnic manufactory of the Messrs. Edge, in Bay street, Jersey City. It appears that a large quantity of Roman candles, in process of preparation, were left in the yard, exposed to the rays of the sun, and it is supposed that the gases generated produced the explosion. Nothing of the kind ever occurred there before, and this theory of the explosion is pure conjecture. Every window in the building was shattered, but no person was injured, as the workmen were all inside the building.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

Nomination of Candidates for the Court of Appeals.

H. R. Selden for Chief Justice—Charles Mason, Charles Andrews, Charles J. Folger and Robert S. Hale for Associates—A Stormy Session.

ROCHESTER, April 28, 1870.

At a quarter past twelve o'clock Hamilton Harris called the Republican State Convention to order. Rufus Andrews, of New York, nominated Mr. Platt Potter as temporary chairman of the Convention. General Sharpe, of Ulster, nominated Mr. Stewart L. Woodford, he being the representative of the young lawyers of the State. Mr. Andrews said he had nominated Mr. Potter for his being a distinguished jurist, and for his having been arraigned by a democratic Legislature for contempt.

After some debate a motion was adopted to make Mr. Woodford temporary and Mr. Potter permanent chairman.

General WOODFORD was conducted to the chair by a committee, and returned thanks for the honor conferred. He proceeded at some length with a comparison of the two parties, to show while the democracy was devoted to treason and bad government, the republican party was the party of patriotism and good government.

Mr. BLISS, of Kings, moved that Messrs James Hueated, of Westchester, and Charles E. Fitch, of Onondaga, be appointed temporary secretaries, which was carried.

The roll of delegates was then called and corrected.

Mr. LAPAUGH, when New York was called, suggested, owing to contests, that the delegates be called by districts.

Mr. STEWART said the delegation had agreed to have the list of such delegates as were elected by organizations as are recognized by the General Committee, presented and called, and let the contestants present their claims to a Credential Committee.

Mr. LAPAUGH insisted that that was not the understanding.

Mr. COCHRANE rose to a point of order that the roll call must be proceeded with. Let the list be called, and if there were any contestants let them rise and make their claim.

The point of order was sustained and the suggestion adopted.

It was stated that there were from New York contestants from the Seventh, Ninth and Fifteenth districts.

It being asked if there was a contestant for the seat for the Fifth New York district, CHARLES SPENCER reported that no one dared to contest that seat for the reason that the delegate was a colored man.

The CHAIR then announced the various committees.

Messrs. Davies and Putnam were appointed a committee to conduct Mr. Platt Potter, permanent chairman, to the chair.

Mr. POTTER, on taking the chair, briefly addressed the Convention.

Judge DAVIES moved that the Convention now proceed to nominate a candidate for Chief Judge.

Mr. LAPAUGH raised the point of order that these proceedings were premature before the contested seats were disposed of, and before, in fact, the secretaries were appointed. He, therefore, moved a recess till three o'clock P. M., which was carried.

Afternoon Session.

The Convention reassembled at fifteen minutes past three o'clock P. M.

Mr. PARKER, from the Committee on Credentials, reported, on the cases of the contested seats from New York, in favor of giving the seats in the Seventh district to Messrs. Stewart, Hepburn and Brodley; in the Ninth district, to Messrs. White, Noble, Foster and Martin. As to the Fifteenth district, the committee reported in favor of reinvestigation of the charges of fraud there. The report was agreed to.

The Committee on Permanent Organization reported lists of Vice Presidents and Secretaries, which were agreed to.

FILING ON AMENDMENTS.

Judge DAVIS moved that the Convention proceed to nominate a candidate for Chief Judge.

Mr. FLOWER moved to amend by providing for proceeding to the nomination of Chief Judge and Associate Judges.

General BURCE moved, as an amendment, that this Convention nominate by acclamation the Hon. H. R. Selden, of Monroe county, for Chief Judge.

THE CONVENTION REBUKED.

Mr. CHARLES HUGHES, of Washington, rose to a point of order and called attention to the muddle the Convention—a convention of lawyers and judges—had got themselves in by filing resolution upon resolution. He rebuked the wrangling spirit which had been brought into the Convention, the result of which could only be defeat. He felt that if the Convention would go on in harmony, as it ought, its ticket would be elected. He appealed to the Convention to act, at least, decently in this matter.

After considerable excitement the matter was laid on the table.

CANDIDATE FOR CHIEF JUSTICE.

On motion Hon. H. R. Selden was nominated for Chief Justice, amid the wildest excitement, and cheers were called for by E. Delafield Smith.

Mr. HUGHES moved that the members of the Convention proceed to nominate Associate Judges, each member being allowed five minutes in which to speak of his candidate.

DEAD SEA FRUIT.

Mr. CHARLES SPENCER made a proposition that candidates be named and then each member rise and speak of his candidate. He said that New York would not cross Sputten Duyvil creek with the usual democratic majority, but with 20,000 less, and there was a reasonable prospect of the election of the ticket to be nominated here.

A delegate asked how long since Tammany Hall had agreed to such a reduction of the democratic majority.

Mr. SPENCER said Tammany Hall had made no agreement in the matter, but there was a rebellious element in the democratic party known as the "young democracy," and they it was who would reduce the democratic majority.

GENTLEMEN NAMED FOR THE NOMINATION.

It was finally agreed to make the nomination of the various candidates before proceeding to vote.

The following gentlemen were then named as candidates for the nomination:—Joseph Muller, of Jefferson; A. S. Johnson, of Oneida; Henry Hogeboom, of Columbia; Charles Mason, of Madison; Charles Andrews, of Onondaga; Edward J. Bullard, of Rensselaer; Edward S. Hale, of Essex; Joshua M. Van Cott, of Kings; Addison G. Rice, Charles J. Folger, of New York; Charles S. Daniels, of Erie, and Thomas A. Johnson, of Steuben.

THE FIRST BALLOT.

The Convention then proceeded to an informal vote, with the following result:—Charles J. Folger, 290; Charles Mason, 273; Henry Hogeboom, 175; Charles Andrews, 271; Robert S. Hale, 149; Joseph Mullen, 191; Thomas A. Johnson, 90; A. S. Johnson, 90; Charles Daniels, 114; Addison G. Rice, 122; Joshua M. Van Cott, 4; Hooper C. Van Vorst, 3; Ransom Balcom, 5; C. F. Bullard, 29.

THE COLORED DELEGATE APPLAUDED.

When George W. Francis, the colored delegate from the Fifth district of New York, rose to cast his vote there was an outburst of applause, which lasted for several minutes. When silence was restored he thanked the Convention, and announced the following names in a clear and distinct voice:—Charles J. Folger, Charles Mason, Charles Andrews and Henry Hogeboom.

HEAVY SKIRMISHING.

General COCHRANE moved that the three candidates having received the highest vote be declared nominated.

Mr. FLOWER moved as an amendment that the Convention proceed to vote again for candidates.

Here ensued a scene of great confusion, from five to ten members shouting at once and two-thirds of the delegates on their feet. It was found that it required 202 votes to constitute a majority.

ADVANCING THE FORCES.

Mr. LAPHAM, of Clinton, was opposed to declaring all three of the men receiving the highest vote unanimously elected. It was not democratic; it was not republican. He had voted for those three men. Still he was for fairness. He did not want to see any snap judgment taken here; no Tammany Hall tactics.

Mr. COCHRANE said there was no snap judgment in his proposition. Over two hours had been consumed in taking a vote. The proposition was simply to take the three highest.

Voices all over the room—Two, two, two.

Mr. COCHRANE called for the previous question.

A GENERAL ENGAGEMENT.

Mr. HUESTED—Secretary, put the question on ordering the previous question.

The response was loud on both sides, and the Secretary declared that it appeared to be carried.

Mr. CHARLES SPENCER rose and stated that he (the Secretary) had no right to declare the result of the vote.

The SECRETARY stated that he was acting at the request of the chair.

The excitement continued, numbers of delegates shouting from all parts of the room.

LET US HAVE PEACE.

The Convention, exhausting its disorder, became quiet, when the previous question was ordered, and Charles Mason and Charles Andrews were declared unanimously nominated. Three cheers were given.

BALLOT FOR THE REMAINING CANDIDATES.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for the remaining candidates:—

The SECRETARY proceeded to call the roll, but the members were nearly all on their feet talking, and their responses could not be heard. The call had to be suspended till order was restored. The New York delegation retired for consultation. The call was resumed and finished, when numbers of the delegates wished to change their votes, but this was declared to be impossible, as there was no record as to how individuals had voted. The greatest confusion then prevailed. The vote was finally declared, as follows:—

Folger, 191; Hogeboom, 172; Hale, 137; Rice, 139; Mullen, 48; A. S. Johnson, 50; Daniels, 52.

Whole number of votes cast, 404; necessary to a choice, 203.

MUCH CONFUSION.

There being no choice a recess was proposed, but the motion was received with loud cries of "No, no."

Still there was no order, and the Chair, unable to control the Convention, allowed it to break up in squads for consultation.

THIRD BALLOT.

The Convention finally settled down to quietude, and the SECRETARY proceeded to call the roll again, and the vote stood:—

Folger, 277; Hale, 250; Hogeboom, 178, Rice, 108.

Whole number of votes cast, 407; necessary to a choice, 204.

Messrs. Folger and Hale were then unanimously nominated, with three cheers for the whole ticket.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. DORSHEIMER, of Erie, from the Committee on Resolutions, then reported as follows:—

Resolved, That the republican party of New York is determined to preserve the purity of the judicial office, and that we present to the people of the State our candidates for judges of the Court of Appeals with the confidence that they will bring to their offices those high qualifications of mind and character which those should possess who, in the court of last resort, interpret laws which affect the property, the life and the liberty of the citizen.

Resolved, That while we recognize that this is not the place to make a declaration of political principles, we think it a proper occasion to express our confidence in the national administration and our admiration for the illustrious soldier and patriot who is at its head; and we heartily pledge ourselves to sustain him in his efforts to restore economy in our affairs, to raise the credit of the government and to secure the administration of equal laws in all our States and Territories.

The resolutions were adopted.

SNUBBED, HOOTED AND HISSED.

Judge FITHIAN then mounted the platform and moved a resolution, which he proceeded to read, endorsing the course of the administration on the St. Domingo annexation question, but he was hooted and hissed at so that he was obliged to desist and appeal to the Convention for a hearing.

Mr. ALVORD then raised the point of order that all resolutions had to be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

HISSED AND HOOTED AND ADJOURNED.

Judge FITHIAN again attempted to get a vote on his resolution, but the Convention hissed and hooted, and then adjourned with three cheers for the ticket.

NEW YORK CITY.

Local and Police Paragraphs and Minor Items of Metropolitan News.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hulnutt's Pharmacy, HERALD Building, Broadway, corner of Ann street:—

	1869.	1870.		1869.	1870.
3 A. M.	64	67	3 P. M.	70	83
6 A. M.	59	66	6 P. M.	72	78
9 A. M.	67	72	9 P. M.	65	66
12 M.	76	76	12 P. M.	67	65

Average temperature yesterday 71½

Average temperature for corresponding date last year 68¼

Dr. Moreau Morris entered upon the discharge of his duties as City Sanitary Inspector yesterday.

The tax-payers on Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth and Thirtieth streets opposed to the laying of wooden pavement on those streets, met again at Mileman's Hall last evening. There was a meagre attendance, and nothing of importance was done.

The first meeting of the new Commissioners of Excise, recently appointed by Mayor Hall, was held yesterday in the Mayor's office. Messrs. Walter W. Price, John H. Williams and Martin Nachtmann, the new Commissioners, were present. The session was held for the purpose of organization.

Ex-Policeman Lawrence Keely has been missing from his home, at No. 446 Fourth avenue, since December 6, 1869, on which day he was paid a considerable sum of money. He is six feet high, of light complexion, and has blue eyes and brown curly hair, and is fifty-five years of age.

Justice Cox, at Jefferson Market, yesterday committed Owen Finnegan, a plumber, residing at No. 226 West Eighteenth street, in default of $2,000 bail, to answer a charge of stabbing Mary King, of No. 146 West Fortieth street, in the back and hand with a knife on the 25th inst.

Nearly four months ago William Sherlock mysteriously disappeared, and yesterday his body was found floating in the dock foot of Fifteenth street, East river. Deceased is supposed to have been accidentally drowned. The body was removed to the Morgue for an inquisition.

The opening of Captain Frank Speight's Twenty-seventh precinct station house last evening was an important event in the history of the First ward. The dinner, wine and, indeed, all the arrangements were of the higher order. Many of the best citizens of the ward and distinguished police officials were present.

Catharine Dunn was yesterday committed by Justice Coulter, at the Yorkville Police Court, on a charge of committing a felonious assault with a club on Ann Gaffney, of East Forty-third street. A certificate from Mrs. Gaffney's physician was produced in court, which stated that she was unable to leave her bed in consequence of the injuries she had received.

A fire, supposed to be of incendiary origin, occurred yesterday morning in the liquor store of P. W. Bergen, No. 126 Bleecker street; the loss is $150. The fire had been built in the hallway adjoining the liquor store. A fire occurred on the coal barge Pacific Ocean, lying at pier 49 North river, yesterday. The damage was only fifty dollars. Captain Norton Wagene, commanding, had his hands badly burned.

Superintendent Jourdan's order to Captain Wilson, of the Thirty-second precinct, to establish a mounted patrol and