WASHINGTON.

Fashionable Wedding Among the Colored Bon Ton.

Continued Discussion on the Bill to Enforce the Fifteenth Amendment.

Passage of the Naval Appropriation Bill in the House.

HEAVY REDUCTION OF OFFICERS' PAY.

Debate on the Bill to Revive the Shipping Interest.

WASHINGTON, May 18, 1870.

Fashionable Wedding in High Life—Grandeur Among the Colored People.

The long anticipated matrimonial affair in high colored circles came off this evening, and was, all in all, a very fine affair. It was originally intended that the ceremony should be performed at St. John's Episcopal church, the parents being of the Episcopal faith. The invitations, to the number of 500, were sent out, and all the arrangements were perfected to comply with the original programme. It was now discovered, however, that a canon of the Church prohibited the marriage, within its walls, of a person who had been divorced. It appears that the groom had been married and had procured a divorce in Chicago, he being a citizen of Illinois. Owing to this impediment unexpectedly presenting itself it was concluded to adopt the next best plan, which was to have the services performed at the parents' residence, according to the ceremonies of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Bishop J. M. Brown, of the African Methodist Church, was invited to officiate. As early as half-past seven o'clock quite a crowd of women and children assembled in front of the residence of Mr. Downing to witness the guests as they arrived. Although the hour fixed was eight o'clock it was fully half an hour after that time before the ceremony begun. About 100 ladies and gentlemen, the *élite* of colored fashion and high life, were assembled in the front parlor. Among the more prominent persons present were Senator Harris, of Louisiana; Senator Revels, of Mississippi; Jacob Dorsey, of Philadelphia; Fred Douglass, Professor Wilson, cashier of the Freedmen's Savings Bank; Rev. Sella Martin, Dr. Purvis, Henry Johnson and Charles Smith. The bridal party now entered the room, the bride resting upon the arm of her father, the groom supporting the bride's mother. The grooms and the bridesmaids came after in the following order:—W. Furguson, with Miss R. M. Downing; C. L. Mitchell, with Miss R. G. Jacobs.

The bridal party arranged themselves at one end of the parlor, Bishop Brown facing them. The guests gathered around. The ceremony was then performed. This being finished, the usual interchange of civilities passed. A string band engaged for the occasion was missing, and did not put in an appearance until an hour after the marriage had ended and the visitors had begun to arrive.

The bride, Miss Cordelia Downing, daughter of George T. Downing the well known caterer, is a young lady of twenty-one years of age, petite in figure and of more than ordinary beauty. Her wedding toilet consisted of a heavy moire antique, round point lace and train three yards in length, white veil, headdress of orange blossoms, diamonds and pearls. The bridesmaids wore white tarlatan puffed, white satin pannier and pearl ornaments. The groom, Mark R. De Mortie, was born in Virginia of colored parents of French descent. He is at present engaged in business in Richmond, Va., where he is one of the owners of a manufactory of oil of sassafras, and in Chicago, Ill., where he is of the firm of John I. Jones & Co., real estate brokers. Mr. De Mortie is about thirty-five years of age, of fine figure and peculiarly intelligent and pleasant face.

The array of presents was large, and some were very costly and elegant, useful and ornamental. A very fine ring, with twelve diamonds encircling a large ruby, was the gift of the groom; also a ring with a cluster of nine diamonds from Mr. Washington, brother-in-law to the bride; a ring with a solitary pearl, from Señor Perry, of Cuba; another ring from Señor Melendez, with five diamonds; from Mrs. Kate Brown a set of silver dessert spoons, butter knife and mustard spoons; from Sabiee V. Williams, of Yonkers, N. Y., two napkin rings; Mrs. Bowman, stand for carver and fork; Mrs. J. G. Evans, of New York, a beautiful evening fan; Mr. Bishop, of Annapolis, a butter knife; Frederick Douglass, Sr., pair of butter knives; Miss Rebecca Downing, a cream ladle; Miss Georgiana Downing, a sugar spoon; Thomas Downing, a napkin ring; Mr. P. A. Williams, a cheese knife; Mrs Proctor, silver caster; Miss Lyons, a small stand of frosted glass; T. P. Saunders, of Hartford, Conn., a set of corals; P. H. B. Saunders, of Hartford, a fruit ladle, very handsome; W. T. Mitchell, of Hartford, bronze vases; Miss Tott, a beautiful pin cushion; Mr. and Mrs. George Washington, Jr., pickle fork; Mr. Le Barnes, bouquet vases; Madame Daubet, set of onyx and gold pin and earrings; Senator Revels, two heavy napkin rings; Mr. and Mrs. White, set of saltcellars; Thomas S. Boston, sugar spoon; Eunie Watson, of New York, set of tea spoons; Madame Jebert, tortoise shell and pearl; Marie Boynton, of New Orleans, pair of very elegant Chinese vases; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Brooks, butter knife; Miss Essex, sugar spoon, and Mr. and Mrs. O'Fake, sugar spoon; Mr. Charmock, tea spoons; Mr. Downing, brother of G. T. Downing, silver cake basket; Mr. Montague, two silver candlesticks; Mr. and Mrs. Glover, of Boston, a workbox.

In addition to those mentioned George T. Downing and lady, the parents of the bride, gave a full set of china containing the bride's initial. A very fine assortment of laces was also presented. After some minutes passed in conversation the guests retired to an elaborate supper, prepared in an apartment fitted up for the occasion, the ceiling being made up of American flags. After supper, the music having arrived, dancing followed and was kept up well into the morning. The couple will remain at the parents' residence for several days, when they will visit New York and Chicago, spend the summer at Newport, R. I., and next winter at Richmond, Va.

Charges Against Justices Field and Hoffman.

Mr. W. Hastings, of California, has presented a petition to the House, through Mr. Julian, of Indiana, accusing Associate Justice Field, or the Supreme Court of the United States, and Ogden Hoffman, Judge of the United States District Court for California, of misbehavior, maladministration and corruption in office. Hastings, it appears, was formerly a lawyer in California and practised in the United States District Court of California while Judge Field was the presiding judge of the circuit. He was debarred, it is alleged, by Judge Hoffman, for misconduct, and the action of the latter was sustained by Judge Field. It is supposed that this is the main ground of his grievances and the cause of the presentation of the petitions. He presents two petitions—one against Justice Field and the other against Judge Hoffman. Both have been referred to the Committee on the Judiciary for investigation. Mr. Hastings will be allowed to go before the committee and state what facts he can offer in proof to sustain his allegation. If the committee are satisfied that there is a case they will have a resolution offered in the House ordering an investigation, and asking power to send for persons and papers. If they discover that Mr. Hastings' charges against Justice Field are unfounded, and the result of mere personal malice, the whole thing will be dismissed. In the petition for the impeachment and removal of Justice Field Mr. Hastings sets forth that he is a citizen of California, and that he came to this district for the purpose of procuring the impeachment and removal of Justice Field and Ogden Hoffman, judge *de facto* of the United States District Court of California, on the ground that said judges have been guilty of gross misconduct and misbehavior while they were holding and exercising the duties of their offices. The petition charges Field with bringing the administration of justice into contempt by reason of such misbehavior; with causing the administration of justice to be suspected of partiality and injustice by large numbers of citizens, with so conducting himself while such judge as to create for himself in the minds of the public the reputation of a notoriously dishonest, prejudiced, unfair, corrupt and partisan judge; with deciding cases in such a manner that the public at large arraigned such decisions as unfair, prejudiced and corrupt; with being personally interested in cases in litigation before him and with other misdemeanors; similarly with giving extra judicial opinions; with tolerating clerks under him who tampered with the naturalization laws of the State of California, and with other irregularities. The same charges substantially are made against Judge Hoffman.

The Decline of American Commerce—General Butler's Proposition.

The discussion of the subject of the decline of American tonnage, which occupied the House yesterday and to-day, has revived a very deep interest in that very important matter and set our legislators to thinking over the best remedy to apply in order to restore things to the *ante-bellum* status. The remarkable speech yesterday of Fernando Wood, of your city, who took the ground that American tonnage, and not commerce, had declined, and who ascribed the result to our own navigation laws and other causes, gave a new turn to the thoughts of members, and the short address of Ben Butler to-day on the same subject, recommending a differential tariff in favor of imports carried in American bottoms, produced a still greater effect. Ben's plan is precisely that foreshadowed in these despatches a few weeks ago and received to-day with very general favor. Briefly it may be said to provide for a discrimination to the extent of twenty per cent on goods brought here from abroad in American wooden bottoms, and twenty-five on goods in American iron bottoms. Ben elaborated his plan in a skilful manner, and answered all objections interposed with a promptness and clearness that seemed to bother Mr. Lynch and the other gentlemen favoring the bill reported by the special Committee on the Decline of American Commerce. Ben contended that his plan would prove practically a good substitute for the long and intricate tariff of Schenck, while, at the same time, affording a remedy for the evils complained of by the shipbuilding industry of this country. He scouted the idea of retaliatory measures by Great Britain, and threw out the idea that the only articles on which she could retaliate were cotton, breadstuffs and tobacco. Would she dare do that? Could she afford the experiment? He thought not. Ben Butler's speech was taken out of the time of Mr. Harvey C. Calkin, of your city, who had the floor when the subject came up. When Ben finished, therefore, Calkin resumed the floor, and in a half hour's speech explained his own views regarding the question. He sustained the report of Congressman Lynch, and declared that the question was not a local one, as had been asserted by Mr. Wood, but, on the contrary, one in which the whole country was directly interested. Mr. Calkin's speech was marked by good, plain common sense and hard facts, which made a very good impression upon his fellow members, who listened to it with the most flattering attention throughout.

Assault on Judge Fisher by Joseph H. Bradley.

This afternoon there was much excitement immediately in front of the District Attorney's office, opposite the City Hall. Judge Fisher, who has recently entered upon the duties of District Attorney, was passing toward his office, when Joseph H. Bradley met him, and, it is alleged, after saying, "Now, sir," or "Now, then," dealt him a heavy blow with an ordinary walking stick. Mr. Bradley then closely approached Judge Fisher, when the latter threw out his foot, tripping Mr. Bradley, who fell heavily to the pavement, dragging Judge Fisher with him, the two rolling over together. At this juncture several parties interfered, separating the belligerents and conducting them to their respective offices. Judge Fisher's ear was slightly cut by the fall and his shoulder was somewhat hurt. The police, after considerable difficulty, persuaded the crowd to disperse. Charles Fisher, having learned of the occurrence, declared his purpose to resent the assault upon his father, and started for Mr. Bradley's office, in the second story of the building at the corner, but was prevented by the crowd from entering, and after considerable persuasion by his father and friends was induced to withdraw. The crowd at one time became so great—every one arriving on the ground asking for particulars—that Mr. Fisher came out and appealed to them to leave, saying that no one had been hurt and he should not attack any one. Mr. Bradley had meditated the settlement of the long standing difficulty with Mr. Fisher whenever the latter should leave the bench for the Attorneyship, and thereupon took the first opportunity that was presented since that change.

Government Claims Upon Southern Railroads.

The House Committee on the Judiciary heard the argument of Judge Perry, of Cincinnati, to-day relative to the claims of the government upon certain railroad companies at the South. It will be remembered that soon after the war the railroads, rolling stock and other property purchased and owned by the government during the war were turned over to the companies claiming them, with the understanding that the government was to be reimbursed for whatever outlay it had made in extending, repairing and improving such railroads. There are several millions of dollars now due, and instead of paying these companies are making out claims of various kinds against the government in the shape of offsets to their debt. The judgment of the Judiciary Committee inclines to the opinion that the cases should be prosecuted in the courts, and that there is no occasion for additional legislation to secure justice.

The Naval Appropriation Bill—Reduction of the Pay of Naval Officers.

The House has settled the pay of officers of the navy, in the Naval Appropriation bill, by cutting off all allowances, including the thirty-three per cent extra, and making it a fixed sum per annum, as was done by the House in the military bill. According to the new arrangement the scale will be as follows for sea pay of officers per annum:—Admiral, $12,000; Vice Admiral, $9,000; Rear Admiral, $6,000; Commodore, $5,000; Captain, $4,200; Commander, $3,500; Lieutenant Commander, $3,100; Lieutenant, $2,500. This is a slight reduction upon the present pay of officers of the navy, when their pay proper and allowances are counted, and a good deal of grumbling is the consequence.

The Union Pacific Railroad.

The President, at the suggestion of Senator Thayer, of Nebraska, and Oakes Ames, of Massachusetts, has instructed the Attorney General to ascertain what steps are necessary to protect the interests of the government in the Union Pacific Railroad, and to prevent that road from being taken possession of by a receiver on the order of the courts of Wyoming Territory. As the government has a large interest in this road, the President says he feels it his duty to see that those interests are not perilled by the action of State or Territorial courts. It is understood that the Attorney General will instruct the United States District Attorney for Wyoming to take such steps as will amply protect the government's interest in the road.

The Georgia Bill in the House.

There was quite a lively skirmish in the Reconstruction Committee to-day between General Butler on one side and General Farnsworth on the other, relative to the manner of reporting the Georgia bill. Farnsworth wanted to have it reported so that it would be open to debate and amendment. He also wished to offer his bill simply admitting the State as a substitute for the Butler bill. Butler was in favor of offering the bill, calling the previous question upon it, and putting it through without debate. It was finally agreed to submit the matter to a vote of the House.

The President Invited to Visit Baltimore.

A committee from Baltimore visited the President to-day and invited him to participate to-morrow in the celebration of the ratification of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States. The President, though not declining the invitation, said he feared his public duties would prevent his being present on that occasion.

The Transcontinental Railway Imbroglio.

Professor J. Q. A. Warren has arrived in this city with the object of obtaining a hearing before the Pacific Railroad Committee and giving a plain statement of the facts connected with the alleged sale of the bonds of the Transcontinental Railroad Company in Paris last year. It is expected Mr. Warren will secure a hearing next Friday, when some rich developments may be expected. Mr. Warren states that threats have been made by the attorneys of General Fremont against him in case he appears before the committee; but Mr. Warren is determined, he declares, to make known the truth, whatever it may cost.

The St. Domingo Treaty.

So soon as Secretary Fish shall return to Washington the President will communicate to the Senate sundry amendments to the St. Domingo treaty, in order to avoid objections made to it by Senators in its present form. These amendments were prepared to-day. One of them places the amount to be paid to that republic at $1,500,000, with a proviso that the claims of foreign governments shall first be paid; next the subject of foreign Powers and their domestic debts. The citizens of St. Domingo are to be fully protected in civil and religious rights. Friends of the treaty say the prospect of ratification is improving.

The American Cable Company Petition.

The petition of the American Cable Company for government aid has been presented in both houses of Congress and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. This company propose to lay a cable to the Azores; thence a branch to Lisbon and another to London, Havre and Amsterdam or the Hague. There is to be no connection with any overland line, its land cables being laid under ground and the messages communicated by sound and not subject to repetition.

The Collection of the Whiskey Tax.

The bill recently introduced by Representative Bennett, to change and more effectually secure the collection of internal taxes on distilled spirits and to provide for exportation of spirits from the United States, contains seventy sections. These refer for the greater part to the survey and regulation of stills and the material employed, in addition to the prescribed license, the means designated to prevent frauds and the regulations for spirits in bond. The bill has been carefully prepared in accordance with the views of leading Western and Eastern distillers.

The Military to Aid the Marshals in Taking the Census.

General orders from the War Department direct the Commanding Generals of the Departments to furnish to the United States marshals military aid in taking the census, on the written application of the marshals, provided they have troops to spare in each case.

Education as a Preventive of Crime.

General Eaton, Commissioner of Education, is preparing a report to show the advantages of education as a preventive of crime, and for this purpose desires to receive reports from the principals of reformatory and other schools, which may be sent to him free of expense by mail. Many applications have been addressed to the Commissioner on the subject, which, with the aid he now seeks, he hopes soon to supply.

Smallpox in Southern Kansas.

Private letters from Southern Kansas and the Indian Territory say the smallpox prevails to a great extent.

Pensions and Attorneys' Fees.

An appeal was recently taken from the action of the Commissioner of Pensions, who required an attorney to refund an amount above the legal fee of ten dollars prescribed by section twelve of the Pension law approved July 4, 1864, charged for prosecuting to allowance a claim which had been previously rejected by the Pension Office, under penalty of suspension from the roll of attorneys recognized by that office. The Secretary of the Interior has sustained the action of the Commissioner.

Rent Paid by Government in the District.

The total amount of rent paid for private buildings occupied by the government in the District of Columbia is $90,624, divided as follows:—State Department, $17,280; Treasury Department, $6,600; War Department, $61,624; Navy Department, $2,720; Interior Department, $2,400.

The Howard University.

It appears from a communication sent to the House by the Secretary of War that no application has ever been made to him to transfer the building known as the Howard University from the Freedmen's Bureau to the trustees of the University.

Post Office Changes.

The following Post Office changes have been made to-day:—

Nathan Allen, appointed Postmaster at Flaggtown, Somerset county, N. J., vice M. V. Van Camp, resigned; John White, appointed Local Agent at Buffalo, N. Y., vice B. Dickey, removed; A. B. Whipple, appointed Mail Route Messenger between Auburn and Owego, N. Y., vice W. E. Webster, resigned; Isaac S. Mullins (colored), appointed Route Agent between Raleigh, N. C., and Norfolk, Va., vice John K. Shore, declined; Nathan Y. Hunter (colored), appointed Route Agent between Selma, Ala., and Kingston, Ga., vice Thomas D. Fister, resigned.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, May 18, 1870.

PETITIONS.

By Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y.—In favor of the ratification of the Samana Bay treaty.

By Mr. COLE, (rep.) of Cal.—To make Vallejo, Cal., a port of entry.

By Mr. CASSERLY, (dem.) of Cal.—In favor of a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bills were introduced as follows:—

By Mr. FENTON, (rep.) of N. Y.—A joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to place the steamer Illinois at the disposal of the Quarantine Commissioners of New York. Passed.

By Mr. CASSERLY—To facilitate the transmission of Asiatic, Australian and European merchandise to and across the territory of the United States, and for other purposes. The bill provides that any goods, wares or merchandise arriving from foreign countries at a port of the United States, which are shown by the manifest of the importing vessel to be destined for a collection district more interior than the port of original importation, or for a place in Europe, Australia or Asia via the United States, may be immediately conveyed to their destination, in bond, by any railroad, steamship or transportation company, duly bonded in the manner now prescribed by law for the transportation of foreign merchandise in bond; the goods in all cases to be delivered to the collector of customs at the place of final destination, or at the port from which they are to be forwarded to a foreign country.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., offered a resolution requesting the President, if in his opinion not inconsistent with the public interests, to communicate to the Senate copies of any correspondence or papers on the files of the State Department relating to the passage of any English or Canadian steamer through the canal of Sault Ste. Marie. Adopted. Also a resolution calling for information concerning recent correspondence of Mr. Bancroft, United States Minister at Berlin, relating to political questions in Germany. Adopted. Also a resolution calling for information on postal matters. Laid over.

Resolutions setting apart the last Friday and Saturday of the present month for District of Columbia business and providing for three evening sessions in each week hereafter for bills on the calendar were agreed to.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

At one o'clock the Senate bill to enforce the fifteenth amendment was laid aside and the House bill on the same subject was taken up.

Mr. STEWART, (rep.) of Nevada, argued that the House bill was defective in many respects, particularly in failing to provide a penalty against outside interference to prevent the registration altogether. He moved to substitute the Senate bill and the amendments in lieu of the bill before the Senate.

Mr. SAWYER, (rep.) of S. C., made a personal explanation to the effect that in his remarks on the previous day he had not intended to convey the idea that there were no marked exceptions during the war to the disloyalty of the South. Pettigrew, of South Carolina, and other native born Southerners on the floor of the Senate were distinguished exceptions. He would say, however, that even Pettigrew, with every pulsation of his heart in harmony with Union principles, would, if alive, be ineligible to a seat on the floor, or even to a petty postmastership, as he had held the office of codifier of the laws of South Carolina from a rebel Legislature.

Mr. NYE, (rep.) of Nev.—Then he ought to be ineligible.

Mr. POOL, (rep.) of N. C., thought it preferable to amend the Senate bill than to attempt to perfect the House bill.

Mr. CARPENTER, (rep.) of Wis., said the House bill provided no remedy for violations of the law in preventing colored citizens from voting, but the Senate bill went further and secured redress to the party aggrieved for a deprivation of his rights.

The Senate bill was then considered before the Senate as the pending amendment.

Mr. WARNER, (rep.) of Ala., moved to amend the second section, to provide that the $500 to be forfeited by an election officer for refusing or knowingly omitting to give effect to the section shall be paid to any person who shall sue for the same, instead of the party aggrieved.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., explained that in fixing a specific amount of forfeit for violation of law the object of the Judiciary Committee was to prevent one-penny damages by unfriendly juries and also excessive damages.

Mr. THURMAN, (dem.) of Ohio, said the amendment of Mr. Warner would make all the world informers. The House bill looked only to the protection of colored citizens; there was no protection for whites. The Senate bill, he remarked, was even more objectionable. It authorized the President to send troops to every section of the country, in the event of the President being candidate for reelection he would have power to control every district in the country. The soldiers of Louis Napoleon did not go to the polls to vote. Their votes were taken in their own quarters.

Mr. EDMUNDS forwarded to the Clerk and had read the fifth section of the Fugitive Slave act, to show its exact similarity with the eighth section of the Senate bill for the enforcement of the fifteenth amendment by the marshals of the United States, and authorizing the use of land and naval forces in the execution of legal process therein provided for. That act was passed under democratic auspices, and the Senator doubtless approved of it. A democratic Attorney General gave his opinion that the land and naval forces could be used to assist the marshals in reclaiming fugitive slaves. Now, when that slave was a free man, and measures were pending with a view to securing his rights, substantially identical with those enacted to remand him to chains, an outcry was raised against them.

Mr. THURMAN thought that the times had indeed changed when the Senator from Vermont went to the Fugitive Slave law of 1850 for a model. When so astute a lawyer could make no better defence of the section than that it was evident his own objection must be well taken. He could see no similarity between the use of United States troops to enforce a writ of a court and the interference of the military at the ballot boxes to compel the reception or rejection of votes.

Mr. EDMUNDS remarked that his comparison included only the eighth section, not the eleventh, to which Mr. Thurman referred.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, recognized the necessity of some bill to enforce the fifteenth amendment, but thought the present measure radically defective in various respects. The law was general, and would apply as well to white men as to colored, consequently the second section would allow any body of men who could come up and say they had a right to register but had not registered to vote. The practical effect of which was to repeal or impair every registry law in the United States. The fifth section he thought should be stricken out entirely and others materially amended.

Mr. STOCKTON, (dem.) of N. J., delivered some remarks principally to show that while the validity of the fifteenth amendment might well be doubted, yet no resistance had been made to its enforcement, and the bill was unnecessary. He thought that other purposes than the security of the rights of citizens were at the bottom of it.

At five o'clock the Senate took a recess until half-past seven o'clock this evening.

Evening Session.

The evening session, according to arrangements, was consumed in a lengthy address by Mr. CRAGIN, (rep.) of N. H., upon the

BARBARISM OF POLYGAMY

and other crimes in Utah, and in support of the bill to execute the laws of the United States in that Territory. Quoting from the republican platform of 1856, "that it was the right and duty of Congress to prohibit in the Territories those twin relics of barbarism, polygamy and slavery, he said the mission of the republican party was not completed until both had disappeared. The law of 1862 prohibiting polygamy in the Territories and making it a crime was a dead letter, because the courts of Utah had no power to enforce it. The pending bill was supplementary to that law and was designed to arm those courts with power to protect the citizen, and by punishment of fraud and crime aid in removing a barbarism disgraceful to our age and nation. The despotic character of the Mormon Church government was then referred to. Brigham Young reigned supreme and dictated the law, the empaneling of juries and the assassination of Gentiles or apostate Mormons. Polygamy was not part of the religion originally, though certain leading Mormons who disavowed it were subsequently shot for stealing other men's wives. Not until 1852 was the heathenish and infamous practice of a plurality of wives first recommended. Utah was now a perfect pandemonium of debauchery and crime. Ignorant and deluded women were enticed there, and by coupling the practice with religious duty they were prevailed upon to embrace it, being told that, if true to it, they will be queens in heaven. Notwithstanding the influences brought to bear upon them, the sermons of the Mormon leaders showed that the women were unhappy, complaining and restive under this degrading slavery, many being driven to desperation by their husbands bringing home more women. Mr. Cragin then gave an interesting account of Mormon customs,

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S HAREM,

and the more revolting features of polygamy, which he declared enjoined falsehood, theft and murder as sacred religious duties. The sorrows of the Mountain Meadow massacre in 1857, in retaliation for the killing of the Mormon Pratt by one McLane, whose wife Pratt had abducted, and other outrages in the Mormon country, were referred to, and the fact that the Mormons, composed largely of unnaturalized foreigners, were the sworn and bitter foes of the United States. They cursed the government and defied its laws. In reply to the repeated threats of war from Mormon sources he would say he did not share in the apprehensions that war would result from the attempt to enforce the bill; but, war or no war, he was in favor of enforcing the laws and breaking up the vilest nest of vipers on the Continent. The Gentile element was gradually increasing in Utah, and the Pacific Railroad would eventually bring about a peaceful victory. When the tide of civilization shall fairly throw its waves over the Rocky Mountains the wicked and blasphemous career of Brigham Young would be at an end, and the loathsome and festering monster of polygamous Mormonism must perish and be buried out of sight.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, May 18, 1870.

LAND FOR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Mr. LAWRENCE, (rep.) of Ohio, introduced a bill to allow honorably discharged soldiers and sailors to enter under the Homestead act quarter sections of land in the alternate reserve sections of public land along the lines of railroads and other public works to which public lands have been granted. Passed.

NAVIGATION AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

The House then proceeded to the consideration in the morning hour of the bill to revive the navigation and commercial interests of the United States.

Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., paid a high compliment to the select committee on the subject in its industry and assiduity, and agreed with the bill as reported. The only objection to it was that it did not go far enough. It helped the shipbuilder, but did not help the shipowner. How should American shipping be protected? All other interests had received full protection from Congress. All other interests had advocates on the floor of the House; but commerce, the greatest of all interests (for it lay at the bottom of them all), had no protection. His proposition was to put on differential duties on goods imported in American bottoms—a difference of twenty per cent on tariff rates if imported in American wooden ships, and twenty-five per cent if in American iron ships. That would apply at once to Great Britain, France, Spain and Portugal, because with these governments the reciprocal duties of goods stood on law and not on treaty, and where treaties on the subject did exist they could be terminated by notice in twelve months. The effect would be that the whole carrying trade would be at once done in American ships, and every shipyard and rolling mill in the country would be set in motion. As to the objection that other nations would retaliate, he could only say he wished to God they would. The country was suffering from over trading. If there were a wall of fire between this and other nations it would be better for the prosperity of the country, because the country now imported more than it exported.

Mr. LYNCH, (rep.) of Me., suggested that if that policy were adopted American vessels might bring in the imports, but would have to go back in ballast, and foreign vessels would take out exports and have to come back to this country in ballast, thereby doubling freights and increasing prices.

Mr. BUTLER replied to that objection, and said that even if there were force in it it would be for the benefit of shipping, which would have to be doubled. As a rule, Great Britain did the carrying trade of the world. This proposition of his, this assertion of American ideas, this exhibition of American statesmanship, the promulgation of American power, would take from Great Britain what that nation had taken from the United States by her rebel privateers, so that there was poetic as well as statesmanlike justice in it.

Mr. CALKIN, (dem.) of N. Y., a member of the select committee, addressed the House in advocacy of the bill, referring at length to the doings of the committee and to the statements made before it, to show that the true way to build up American navigation interests was not by buying foreign built ships, but by encouraging the building of ships at home. That interest was not local, as his colleague (Mr. Wood) said it was. It extended all over the land, from Maine to Oregon; and as every other interest had been protected, he did not see why that interest should not also be protected. He believed in the American people building their own ships instead of buying them abroad, and if there was a drawback of duty on all shipbuilding materials they could be built at home. That was the policy of England and France, where everything that went into a ship was free. A three thousand ton iron ship would give to mechanics 166,000 days' work. It would consume 3,500,000 pounds of iron and use $110,000 worth of machinery. Was the profit of all that to be lost to the United States and turned over to a foreign country?

The morning hour expired while Mr. Calkin was speaking.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONTESTED ELECTION CASE.

Mr. CESENA, (rep.) of Pa., from the Committee on Elections, made a report in the contested election case of Wallace against Simpson, from the Fourth Congressional district of South Carolina, declaring Mr. Wallace entitled to the seat, and gave notice that he would call it up for action on Tuesday next.

THE NEW YORK ELECTION.

Mr. COX, (dem.) of N. Y., sent to the Clerk's table and had read a telegram to himself from A. O. Hall announcing that New York State had gone democratic by over fifty thousand majority. (Loud clapping of hands on the democratic side.)

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

The House then, at a quarter to two P. M., went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Eldridge in the chair, on the Naval Appropriation bill, the question being on the amendment offered by Mr. Stevens to the first paragraph, adding thirty-three per cent to the pay of officers.

Mr. STEVENS, (rep.) of N. H., withdrew the amendment, saying that he understood that the Committee on Appropriations had agreed to rates of pay which would be acceptable.

Mr. WASHBURN, (rep.) of Wis., representing the committee, thereupon offered an amendment making the annual pay of admiral twelve thousand dollars and of other naval officers as follows:—

Rank.	At sea.	On shore duty.	Leave of absence, or waiting orders.	When retired.
Vice Admirals	$8,000	$7,200	$6,000	—
Rear Admirals	6,000	4,000	3,600	$2,000
Commodores	5,000	4,000	3,000	2,250
Captains	4,200	2,800	2,520	2,000
Commanders	3,500	2,800	2,100	1,750
Lieut. Commanders	3,125	2,500	2,000	1,700
Lieutenants	2,500	2,000	1,500	1,300
Masters	2,000	1,600	1,200	1,000
Ensigns	1,600	1,200	960	800

Staff officials to receive pay according to their relative rank, as specified in the general order of the Navy Department of March 13, 1866.

Mr. WASHBURN explained that this annual salary was to be in lieu of all pay and allowances now made. It diminished the pay of the admiral $1,333; of vice admirals at sea, $333, and on shore, $2,133, &c.

Mr. MORGAN, (dem.) of Ohio, protested in the name of the taxpayers against these high salaries.

Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass., advocated the amendment. In reply to a question by Mr. Hale, he said that the rates did not exclude allowances for travelling expenses to officers when sent on special duty.

Mr. VOORHEES, (dem.) of Ind., took the part of the naval officers, declaring that he did not sympathize with the movement against them. They had done their duty well during the late war, and when the non capture of the Alabama by the navy was alluded to he was inclined to insist on the case of Maury, who had been operating all through the war within twenty miles of the capital, and had not been captured by the army.

After further discussion the amendment offered by Mr. Washburn was agreed to—yeas 98, nays 24.

Mr. HALE, (rep.) of Me., moved as an additional proviso that nothing in the bill shall be construed to give to any staff officer any amount of pay larger than shall be received by any line officer of corresponding rank. Agreed to.

The amendment offered last night by Mr. Washburn, of Wisconsin, as amended to-day, was agreed to.

The next paragraph was for the pay of the petty officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen and boys, including men for the engineer's force—8,500 men, at an average pay of $300 each per annum—$2,550,000.

Mr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., moved to increase the number of men to 10,000. He replied to the argument of Mr. Dawes last night, to the effect that the United States might as well compete with foreign nations in the strength of the army as in the strength of the navy, by saying that there was no probability of the armies ever coming in conflict. It was only the American navy that could ever come in contact with the navy of a foreign Power, therefore there was no analogy between the two. He quoted generally the statement of Mr. Dawes as to the relative cost of the British and American navies.

Mr. MYERS, (rep.) of Pa., also contradicted the statement of Mr. Dawes, and reminded him of the great disparity between wages in the United States and England and France.

Mr. DAWES defended his statement of last night, giving Admiral Porter as his authority. He had compared the cost of keeping the two navies in repair, and showed that in the case of the United States navy the cost was $600 per man, and in the case of the British navy, sixty dollars per man. The mistake of the gentleman from California was in dividing the total cost of each navy by the number of men composing it; but even on that system of calculation, taking 12,000 as the number of men and officers in the American navy, the cost per man of the American navy was $2,350 and of the British only $790.

Mr. SCOFIELD, (rep.) of Pa., advocated the amendment proposed by Mr. Sargent. It was recommended by the Navy Department and was necessary, unless some vessels of the fleet were withdrawn and laid up. It was the same old problem that all countries had endeavored to solve—how to have a large and effective navy in time of war and a very small and economical navy in time of peace. Companies had been made of the large number of officers. That number had been fixed by law. If Congress wanted to reduce the number it should do so, instead of scolding them all the time, as if they were so many graduates from the penitentiary. So if they did not want the fifteen hundred additional men proposed in the amendment they should say to the Secretary of the Navy, "Call home some of your squadrons, lay up some of your ships; let them rot, if you choose, but do not the Navy Department be made the scapegoat all the time for the sins of the republic."

After further discussion by Mr. Washburn, of Wisconsin, against the amendment, and by Mr. O'Neill in favor of it, the amendment was rejected.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURN, of Wis., an item of $125,000 was inserted for contingent expenses of the Navy Department.

Mr. SARGENT, in speaking of the amendment, withdrew a remark which he had made yesterday reflecting on the motive of Mr. Cox's antipathy to Admiral Porter, and endorsed the soundness of Mr. Cox's position as a member of the House during the war.

Mr. COX accepted the apology, and said that his opposition to the present administration of the navy was based upon its abnormal condition. He had no hostility to Admiral Porter, and had himself, during the war, drawn the resolution of thanks to that officer, which was passed by Congress.

The committee then proceeded with the details of the bill, offering and discussing amendments of no public interest. After disposing of nine pages of the bill the committee took a recess at half-past four o'clock till half-past seven o'clock this evening.

Evening Session.

The Committee of the Whole, at half-past seven, resumed the consideration of

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

The first amendment that gave rise to discussion was one by Mr. Sargent, to increase the appropriation for gunpowder from $50,000 to $100,000. He said that the stock on hand was unusually low. The amendment was opposed by Mr. Washburn (Wis.) and was rejected.

Mr. SARGENT moved to increase the appropriation for labor at the Navy Yard from $100,000 to $200,000, in connection with the Ordnance Bureau. The estimate of the Bureau was $400,000.

Mr. DAWES opposed the amendment, and expressed the hope of the number of navy yard being soon reduced to three on the Atlantic coast and one on the Pacific coast. If ships of war were to be built hereafter they should be built at private shipyards, where they could be built quicker and cheaper.

Mr. MYERS supported the amendment and condemned the attempt, so frankly confessed by the chairman, to destroy the navy yards.

Mr. SARGENT made remarks in the same line. If the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations desired to abolish the navy yards and to cripple the navy he should do so by direct legislation. No party could stand, or deserved to stand, under such leadership, and from his part he repudiated such leadership.

Mr. DAWES defended his position and declaimed against the extravagant ideas which required $400,000 for the mere manipulation of ordnance at the navy yards. The efficiency and power of the navy seemed to be measured solely by the amount of money it could expend. It was when the navy had the least money that it achieved the greatest glory; and it was because of its surfeit of money, because of the immense amounts paid to officers in prize money that it had become demoralized, weak and effeminate.

Mr. CONNOR, (dem.) of Texas, denounced the policy of economy in connection with the navy as unwise, unstatesmanlike and not in accordance with the wishes of the people or the greatness of the republic.

Mr. O'NEILL, (rep.) of Pa., eulogized the officers of the navy, mentioning Farragut and Porter; defended the department against the charges so repeatedly made, and spoke of the importance of maintaining the navy yards, alluding to League Island in that connection.

Mr. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., suggested that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. O'Neill) had League Island on the brain, and said that one navy yard on the Atlantic coast was quite enough. England built her ships of war in private navy yards. The United States had done the same during the war, and that was the system that would have to be adopted.

Mr. HALE regarded the question as a test question. If the navy yards were not to be maintained he would regard it as an announcement to the country that the United States was to have no navy.

The discussion was continued at considerable length with a good deal of excited feeling, and finally the amendment offered by Mr. Sargent was rejected.

Having finally got through the bill at ten o'clock the committee rose and reported the bill and amendments to the House.

The amendments were agreed to and the bill passed.

The House then adjourned.

NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD.

Review of the Second Division at Trenton Yesterday.

The city of Trenton, N. J., enjoyed yesterday one of those holidays that come only once in two or three years. Military display is something rare and dainty among the folks down there, and the announcement of a grand parade yesterday brought thousands from the rural districts for many miles. Vehicles laden with spectators poured into the city from early morning and there was a general suspension of business. So much fuss do the people of the Jersey metropolis make over an occasion that would be considered an every day matter with those in the vicinity of the large cities that the farmers hurried up their work during the past week, and many a stovepipe was seen among the crowd which told of the good old times before fashion swept away from the cities and towns