# WASHINGTON.

## A VETO MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT.

## More Cabinet Changes Determined Upon.

## SECRETARY FISH TO RETIRE.

## Senator Morton to be Secretary of State.

## The Pacific Slopers to be Remembered.

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1871.

**More Cabinet Changes Determined Upon—Secretary Fish to Retire—Senator Morton to be Secretary of State.**

Recent rumors of Cabinet changes, though they have been premature, have not been without some foundation. It is very well understood in certain circles here that there will be a reconstruction of the Cabinet before the next spring roses begin to bloom. The story is again revived that Secretary Fish will at no distant day retire from the State Department, and this time there seems to be some semblance of truth in it. Mr. Fish is thoroughly wearied of public place. He longs for the quiet and repose of private life, from which he came only at the urgent request of President Grant. During his occupancy of the State Department his career has been anything but successful, not to say brilliant. This is a fact admitted by his best friends. He has accomplished literally nothing, except to make the foreign policy of the administration weak and unpopular. Even his friends admit the fact that not a single thing he has attempted has been carried to a successful conclusion. The Alabama claims, the Cuba business, the fishery question are all in about the same position as Mr. Fish found them when he came into the State Department. Mr. Fish will of course retire voluntarily, still possessing the confidence of the President. He will not resign until early in the Spring, probably about the beginning of March. His family announce that this will be their last winter here and they are making arrangements to move away from Washington in the spring. It is generally understood here that Senator Morton, of Indiana, the President's right hand man and confidential adviser outside of the Cabinet, will be Mr. Fish's successor. By the time Mr. Fish retires the present democratic Legislature of Indiana will have adjourned *sine die*. It does not meet again until the winter of 1873, by which time a new Legislature will have been elected, and Mr. Morton thinks it will be republican. At all events the objection which had so great weight with him when he was appointed Minister to England—to wit, that if he accepted, his place in the Senate would be filled by a democrat—will not hold good after the present Legislature adjourns. The Governor of Indiana will then be at liberty to appoint Mr. Morton's successor, and, being a republican, he will appoint a man of that political faith. Should Mr. Morton be appointed Secretary of State it is likely that the whole foreign policy of the administration will be changed. He is a man of great vigor of thought and energy of action, and will not rest satisfied with the easy, slipshod policy which Fish has pursued. Besides making the foreign policy of the administration popular with the people, Mr. Morton will have a reputation to make for himself as Grant's Prime Minister. It will be remembered that he was in favor of the Cubans when they were here, pleading in vain with Mr. Fish for some show of recognition. So far as is known he has not changed his views on that subject. He is also in favor of a vigorous policy towards Great Britain about the settlement of the Alabama claims, the fishery question, and other points of difference between this country and England. As is well known, he is thought in accord with the President on the subject of acquiring a strong foothold in the West Indies. He is, altogether, perhaps the most practicable statesman in Congress, a fact which Grant has not been slow to discover, and his presence in the Cabinet would give fresh courage to the republicans and place the administration in a better position before the country than it occupies at present.

**A Sop for the Pacific Slopers—Senator Williams to Be Attorney General.**

A number of prominent republicans from the Pacific coast, including Representatives from California, Oregon, Nevada, Montana, New Mexico and Arizona, have formed a combination to push Senator Williams, of Oregon, into the Cabinet. They addressed a letter to the President to-day asking when it would be convenient for him to give them an interview. They received a reply this afternoon stating that the President would see them to-morrow at twelve o'clock. Notwithstanding the fact that the Pacific slope has gone over to the democracy the republicans of that section feel that Senator Williams is entitled to some recognition by the administration on account of his distinguished services to the party and the country during his Senatorial career. It seems to be well understood here that before the close of the present Congress Attorney General Akerman will voluntarily retire from the Cabinet for the purpose of devoting himself to the more congenial pursuit of the practice of his profession in Georgia. When this occurs the republicans of the Pacific coast are anxious that Senator Williams shall be Akerman's successor in the Cabinet. This will be the subject of their interview with the President to-morrow. It is understood that the President has already spoken of Senator Williams favorably in connection with some prominent appointment after the expiration of his Senatorial term. Last summer, when General Cox retired from the Interior Department and some of Senator Williams' friends urged his appointment to that position the President replied that he would make provision for him when the proper time arrived, meaning before he left the Senate. The ability of Senator Williams as a lawyer has been long recognized by his fellow Senators, and it peculiarly fits him for the position of Attorney General. He is the author of some of the most important measures enacted since the close of the rebellion. He drew and advocated successfully the bill for the more efficient government of the States lately in rebellion, better known as the Military Reconstruction bill. He is the author, too, of the famous Tenure of Office bill, and had a good deal to do with the Civil Rights bill and kindred measures of national importance. It is hardly to be expected that the President will commit himself to the Pacific Coast delegation when they call upon him to-morrow, but it is believed that when Akerman goes out Williams will be his successor.

**The New Jersey Senatorship.**

The probable successor of Mr. Cattell as Senator from New Jersey is a subject of considerable conversation here. Mr. Cornelius Walsh and Mr. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen are the two most prominent candidates. With reference to statements to the effect that the President had indicated his preference, it is proper to remark that he has not deemed it desirable to express any opinion on such matters. It is believed that a good republican Senator will be chosen, and that is all the President desires. Both Mr. Walsh and Mr. Frelinghuysen are well known to be very estimable gentlemen, and while it is yet uncertain who is to be "the coming man" there seems to be a disposition here among parties high in position to favor the selection of Mr. Walsh. At least they say he would reflect honor on his party and his State, and that no better successor to Mr. Cattell could be sent from New Jersey to the Senate. On the other hand, it is said that since Mr. Cattell's health has prevented him being a candidate, the friends of Cattell and of Secretary Robeson regard Mr. Frelinghuysen as their second choice.

**Congressional Skirmishing Over St. Domingo.**

There was a slight skirmish in both Houses to-day over the St. Domingo question. In the Senate Mr. Sumner called up his resolution requesting the President to communicate certain documents touching St. Domingo now on file in the several executive departments. Unlike the Morton resolution, it went through without opposition. Those who are opposed to St. Domingo are disposed to regard this acquiescence in Sumner's resolution as a part of the general programme which they have marked out to secure the annexation of St. Domingo. According to Mr. Sumner, if the President makes full answer to this resolution there will be a flood of light shed upon the whole business which will astonish the country and make the visit of the proposed commission to St. Domingo entirely useless. The opponents of St. Domingo say that the President will furnish only a partial answer, leaving out the most important documents, and assign as a reason for so doing that it is incompatible with the public interests to spread them before the country. On the other hand, the President's friends assert that he will send to the Senate everything in his possession on the subject. A few days will tell the story. In the House Fernando Wood endeavored to get a resolution in similar in substance to that of Sumner, only that it was more explicit as to details. Prompt objection was made by Orth, of Indiana; Maynard, of Tennessee, and others. On the heels of this General Banks, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, gave notice that on Monday next he would report back from his committee the resolution which he offered some time ago in reference to St. Domingo. It will be remembered that this resolution provided for the appointment of a commission of five instead of three, and that the understanding was that it should not be reported back to the House until after the chairman of the committee had given five days' notice. The committee will meet to-morrow for the purpose of considering this resolution. Mr. Wood, who is a member of this committee, asserts that General Banks was not authorized to state that the resolution would be reported back on Monday. It has never been considered in committee, and it is not known whether a majority are in favor of it or whether they will agree to something else. Banks purposes to offer as a substitute Morton's Senate resolution, or something like it. If he cannot get his committee to agree to this he will move to suspend the rules on Monday for the purpose of taking the Senate resolution from the Speaker's table and passing it. This will of course require a two-thirds vote, but the friends of the measure assert to-day that they have strength enough to do it.

**Democratic Caucus—Manifest Destiny vs. Annexation of St. Domingo.**

Immediately after the adjournment of the House to-day the democratic members met in caucus in the room of the Committee on the Pacific Railroad. There was no formal organization, but a general conversation ensued upon the course the democrats should pursue with reference to the St. Domingo business in the House. It was agreed that the ancient policy of the party had been in favor of the doctrine known as manifest destiny, or, in other words, the annexation of new territory. This was still the policy of the party, but it could not be carried out by fraud and corruption. It was decided that the present attempt to annex St. Domingo was covered all over with fraud and jobbery, and therefore the democrats could have nothing to do with it. Some of the members of the caucus argued that the proposition of the President did not come within the scope of manifest destiny, inasmuch as the object was to annex only a part of an island instead of the whole of it. The character of the population of St. Domingo was also urged as an objection to it, the democrats believing that the population is composed almost wholly of negroes; but on this subject the democrats do not appear to be well informed. They seem to confound Hayti with Dominica. The population of Hayti is chiefly negro, but that of Dominica has a large representation of the Spanish element in it. Upon the whole, however, the caucus decided that the proper course for the democrats to pursue is to oppose the St. Domingo business at every stage of the attempt to annex it, and with this understanding the caucus adjourned.

**Civil Service Reform—Senator Trumbull's Bill Killed—Another Constitutional Amendment.**

The subject of dispensing the federal patronage was up in both Houses to-day, but nothing came of it. In the Senate Mr. Trumbull called up his bill making it a misdemeanor for members of Congress to solicit office from the Executive. Mr. Trumbull made a few remarks in support of the bill, after which Senator Morton, who seems to have been waiting for this measure since last session, delivered a short but powerful speech, in which he riddled and ridiculed the whole project, exposing its absurdity and proving that it is inexpedient, if not unconstitutional. The bill does not seem to have received much attention from Senators, except from Trumbull, and its real effect was not known until its provisions were explained and exposed to-day by Mr. Morton. It went over until to-morrow, when Trumbull proposes to defend it; but the general impression among Senators is that it is practically dead. Had Senator Cameron been able to get the floor to-day he would have moved to lay the bill on the table, and those who seem to be posted say there would not have been half a dozen votes against Cameron's motion.

In the House General Coburn, of Indiana, offered a joint resolution in the shape of an amendment to the constitution of the United States touching this dispensation of the federal patronage. Coburn's amendment provides that Congress may by law vest the election of all officers o the United States whose duties require them to reside in the several States, except Judges and officers of the courts of the United States, in the people of the several States, districts or localities therein in which they are by law required to perform their duties, subject to the direction and regulation of the President and the heads of departments, and to arrest, suspension or removal by the President of the United States. General Coburn has an idea that this is about as far as the republican party can get at present on the road to civil service reform. He contends that his amendment to the constitution would, if adopted, enable the people of the State, district or locality where the officers' duties are to elect them: that is, such as postmasters, internal revenue officials, land and pension agents, and all other officials of the civil administration of the United States, except officers of the United States courts. It would, at the same time, leave all foreign, territorial, departmental and judicial officers of the United States to be appointed as at present.

**Veto Message of the President.**

The President to-day sent the following veto message to the House:—

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—I herewith return, without my approval, House bill No. 1,395, entitled "An act for the relief of Charles Cooper, Gashom Jones, Jerome Cowley, William Hannegan and John Hannegan," for the following reasons:—The act directs the discontinuance of an action at law pending in the United States District Court for the Northern district of Ohio for the enforcement of the bond executed by said parties to the United States, whereas, in fact, no such suit is pending in the District Court; but such a suit is now pending in the Circuit Court of the United States for the Sixth Circuit and Northern district of Ohio. Neither the body of said act nor the proviso refers to the obligors in said bond, who are released from all liability to the United States thereof, to abandon or release their pretended claim against the government. Since these parties have gone to Congress to ask relief from liability for a large sum of money on account of the failure of the principals on the bond to execute their contract it is but just and proper that they, at the same time, should abandon the claim heretofore asserted by them against the government growing out of the same transaction. U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Jan. 4, 1871.

**Senator Sprague's Alleged Traffic with the Texas Rebels.**

In response to the Senate resolution of December 14, offered by Senator Sprague, the Secretary of War to-day transmitted to that body a copy of a report of the Judge Advocate General relative to an alleged unlawful traffic with rebels in the State of Texas during the late war, entered into by Mr. Hoyt, William Sprague, a Senator of the United States, Byron Sprague, William H. Reynolds, and others; and states that none of the papers therein referred to, nor any record of them, can now be found in the War Department. It is, however, possible that certain of them may be on file at the headquarters of the Department of the East, in New York city, and search for them will be made and the result hereafter reported. The report of the Judge Advocate General is as follows:—

WAR DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE, June 15, 1865.

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR—The following report is respectfully submitted respecting the case of illicit trade to Texas, implicating Hoyt, Sprague and others, brought to the notice of the department by Major General Dix. The papers herewith, consisting of an abstract of statements of Byron Sprague and others, prepared by Major Barber, letters of William Sprague to General Dix, papers found upon Hoyt, and the latter's confidential statement, which, it is stated, is only to be used in case Hoyt is made a witness for the government, have all been examined, and show in substance that Hoyt, residing in Texas at the breaking out of the rebellion, made his way North, where, in the fall of 1862, he effected an engagement with William Sprague for undertaking an enterprise to get cotton out of Texas. Four firms took an interest in the venture—Sprague & Co., Reynolds & Co., Taft & Co. and Knight & Co.—and all of Providence, R. I., each firm furnishing $25,000. Vessels were purchased and each was loaded with a cargo of machinery, arms, &c., and cleared for foreign ports, but were run to Texas, sometimes under a changed flag. Mr. Hoyt proceeded thither upon one of the vessels, carrying letters of introduction from Governor Sprague commending him to General Butler and Admiral Farragut. The papers enclosed do not give an entirely clear account of subsequent operations, and some of the evidence taken does not seem to have been forwarded. It is unnecessary, however, in this report to go into all the details. It is sufficient to remark that the cargoes of goods were sold in Texas and the proceeds were invested in cotton, a part of which appears to have been gotten out, while some portions were seized by our blockading cruisers. William Sprague has written several letters to General Dix in regard to the case, in none of which does he admit, and in one of which he denies, a knowledge of Hoyt and of the details of the operation, such as is indicated by letters from him found on Hoyt, who expressly declares William Sprague to have been cognizant of the progress of the business and to have advised and aided it to the utmost of his power. It is stated by William Sprague that the object was to aid Union citizens in Texas and obtain information for the government; but no one else connected with the venture seems to have viewed it in that light, and Byron Sprague, his partner avers, had special charge of the speculation, and plainly describes it as an undertaking to get out cotton. Major General Dix, in a letter to the Secretary of War, dated March 23, says:—

The parties who furnished the capital, knowing how it was to be employed, were Messrs. William Sprague, United States Senator; Byron Sprague, his brother, and William H. Reynolds and Company. These gentlemen were all engaged in business in Providence, R. I., where the enterprises were fitted out. Messrs. B. B. and R. Knight, and Messrs. Owag Taft & Co., of Providence, also furnished a part of the capital, but it is not clear that they were fully advised of the manner in which it would be used. The high social standing of these gentlemen makes the case one of great delicacy, and I regarded it also as a question of importance whether the proceedings against them should be by a military commission or in a civil court; whether the facts charged, if proved, constitute a mere violation of the laws of war, or a higher crime under the constitution of the United States. There are at least two witnesses to the fact of illicit trade and ample written proof. Harris Hoyt and Charles L. Prescott, who were parties in interest, are willing to testify to all the facts in the case, provided that their doing so shall not insure their own conviction.

It appears that among the articles purchased in New York to be taken to Texas were some arms and ammunition, and on the invoice of the cargo with which Hoyt went from Havana to Matamoros were thousands of cartridges and percussion caps. From an examination of all the papers this Bureau is of the opinion that the persons who were engaged in this unlawful traffic may be brought to trial before a general court martial, under the fifty-sixth article of war, for relieving the enemy with money and ammunition, or by a military commission, for violating the laws of war in trading and holding intercourse with the enemy. It is for the Secretary of War to declare whether, in view of all the circumstances and of the present condition of affairs, their trial shall be ordered.

J. HOLT, Advocate General.

Official copy.

**The New York Central Railroad Company's Scrip Dividend Case.**

In response to the resolution offered by Senator Nye and agreed to December 14 requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to "communicate to the Senate the proceedings that have been had relative to the collection of the tax on $45,000,000 scrip dividend of the New York Central Railroad Company and whether the said tax has been paid into the Treasury of the United States," Secretary Boutwell to-day sent to the Senate a copy of a communication addressed to him by the acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue, under date of December 17, in which, after quoting the resolution, the latter says:—

You request that this office will furnish you with any information it may have on this subject. In reply I have to state that the only instance in which the liability of the New York Central Railroad Company to a tax on scrip dividend has been referred to this office for consideration and decision relates to the question of taxing as a scrip dividend the sum of $23,036,000, the same representing the issue by the company on December 19, 1868, of interest certificates to the amount of eighty per cent of its capital stock. The proceedings of this office with reference to assessing and collecting a tax of five per cent upon said eighty per cent scrip issue have been as follows:—On the 17th of June this office directed Supervisor Smythe, of the Northern district of New York, to investigate the affairs of the New York Central Railroad Company with special reference to its liability to tax upon the aforesaid issue of scrip. On the 16th February, 1870, in view of the evidence presented by Mr. Smythe, Supervisor O'Donnell, his successor, was instructed to cause an immediate assessment of tax of five per cent on said scrip. March 5, 1870, an assessment of $1,151,803, the same representing a tax of five per cent upon $23,036,000, was made against this company, and a list containing said assessment passed to Collector Bailey, of the Fourteenth district of New York. This assessment was ordered at the time in order to save the government from being barred from the assessment of a tax under the fifteen months' limitation contained in section 20 of act June 30, 1864, as amended by section 9 act July 13, 1866, and to enable the question of liability to be determined upon the claim for abatement or refunding, as the case may be. The tax has not yet been collected. The collection has been suspended at three different times, once by a telegram dated March 26, 1870, again by a letter dated April 9, 1870, and the last suspension was ordered on the 22d November, when the collection was stayed until January 2, 1871. These suspensions had been ordered at the urgent request of the President C. Vanderbilt and others in behalf of the company, in order that they might, as they claimed, have ample opportunity to collect and forward evidence in behalf of the company. It is proper to add that the seeming delay on the part of this office in deciding to collect the said tax has arisen from what it conceived to be not only the desirableness, but the necessity of having all the statements of the company on their own behalf before determining so important a question, and from the repeated delays of the company in furnishing such statements. The resolution is herewith returned in accordance with your request. Very respectfully,

J. W. DOUGLAS, Acting Commissioner.

**Pacific Railroad Bonds.**

Representative Sargent to-day made a report on the House resolution to secure indemnity to the United States in certain cases. He stated the report had been drawn by George Lawrence, of the subcommittee.

The report gives the history of the Pacific Railroad—the terms upon which it was authorized to be constructed, quoting the acts of Congress; amount of bonds issued and the recent opinion of the Attorney General of the United States. The committee say the Union Pacific, Sioux City and Pacific companies have responded that the law does not require them to pay either principal or interest of the bonds until their maturity. The other companies made no answer, and none of them have made any payment. They deny the right of the United States to retain on interest account more than half the amount of their earnings for the transportation of the government mails, freights, troops, &c. On the 6th of December a bill was introduced in the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on Appropriations, which provides that the said bonds and all sums due or to become due for interest on the principal paid or which may be paid shall constitute a lien on all lands which have been or may be so granted and which remain undisposed of by the companies. It also provides that lands shall only be sold with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, and on conditions which shall secure the proceeds to be applied, as far as necessary, to reimburse the United States for all sums that have been or may be advanced to pay the interest on the principal of bonds, and to finally pay the bonds; and the United States shall not pay any money to any company while it may be indebted to the government, but shall make a set off. As to the right of set off between individuals, it does not exist at common law; but as it is required in equity and made available by courts of chancery, and has been introduced judicially at law by statutes, it would seem proper to give the sanction of an act of Congress to a right so manifestly equitable and just. The bill, in effect, provides that, for all sums due, or which shall become due the United States, for interest paid for any company, the government shall have a lien on the lands of the company. This will simply give the United States, practically, a mortgage for the debt due from their debtors. The only purpose, then, to which lands or their proceeds, in the first instance, can be applied is the payment of debts contracted in constructing the road, unless these debts be otherwise adequately secured. These debts are either to the holders of first mortgage bonds, subsidy bonds or to the general creditors of the companies, with or without the specie security. To some or all of these the lands should be applied, at least so far as necessary to their payment. The claim of the government is paramount. There is no reason why such vast interests should be left to the exclusive decision of companies, as they are not alone interested. It is only the dictate of justice that property granted on conditions should be made to execute those conditions, and especially when no longer required for any other purpose of grant. This will only give to the government performance of a condition created for its benefit regardless of all others. The committee conclude by saying no reasons exist for conceding more than the law has already conceded. The concessions have already been on a grand scale by them, subject to rights reserved. The government should abide. To secure the performance of the obligations imposed by the law this bill is submitted, with a recommendation that it be passed.

**Nominations Sent to the Senate.**

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day:—

D. E. Lyon, to be Surveyor of Customs at Dubuque, Iowa; George Newcomb, to be Collector of Customs at Beaufort, N. C.; M. D. Leggett, of Ohio, to be Commissioner of Patents; Charles M. Power, to be Collector of Customs at Cherrystone, Va.; John A. Simms, to be Indian Agent at the Umatilla Agency, Washington Territory; R. J. Monroe, to be Receiver of Public Money at Lewiston, Idaho; Charles B. Sines, to be Pension Agent at Topeka, Kansas.

*Postmasters.*—Phineas R. Gould, Littletown, N. H.; Walter D. Blaisdell, Plymouth, N. H.; C. J. Amidon, Hinsdale, N. H.; Oliver Nutter, Lancaster, N. H.; James M. Boreman, Parkersburg, Va.; E. D. Hall, Okolona, Miss.; P. E. Ezekiel, Aiken, S. C.; Henry B. Wells, Dowagiac, Mich.; Craig B. Beebe, Beaver Dam, Wis.; J. L. Parmelee, Aurora, Ill.; Edward Ward, Gloversville, N. Y.; M. R. Wells, Fairport, N. Y.

**Operations of the Marine Revenue Service.**

N. B. Devreux, Chief of the Division of Marine Revenue, Marine Hospitals and Life Saving Stations, in his report to the Secretary of the Treasury, says the service at this time comprises twenty-four steamers, large and small, and ten sailing vessels. Of this number three are on the Pacific coast, twenty-five on the Atlantic and Gulf coast and six on the lakes. From the period of the introduction of the vessels upon the lakes to the present time a large number of disabled vessels have been relieved and rescued from total wreck and fourteen men and two women have been saved. The exhibit of service performed by the revenue cutters from 1860 to 1870, inclusive, shows that 139,678 vessels were boarded and examined, 1,193 seized and reported, and 1,224 assisted in distress, that 174 lives were saved, and 1,592,206 miles were sailed. Mr. Devreux makes various recommendations, saying:—

If the Secretary and Congress acquiesce in the several suggestions offered there can be no reason, it seems to me, why, with the changes already made and the proposed reforms approved and in process of consummation, the revenue marine may not be made to occupy a powerful and commanding position as an arm of the government.

He reviews the recommendation for the immediate establishment of a government hospital at New York, on David's Island. A portion of the report is devoted to life saving stations and to lifeboats—as to the latter the very best that can be produced.

**The National Committee of the Union League.**

The National Executive Committee of the Union League of America will meet for organization at Willard's Hotel, in Washington, on the 13th inst. Ex-Governor William A. Newell, of New Jersey, will probably be re-elected Chairman, although the names of ex-Governor Jewell, of Connecticut; Joel F. Asher, Member of Congress from Missouri, and C. W. Gedlard, of New York, have been mentioned in connection with this position. As the Union League of America by its peculiar methods of organization is looked upon as a powerful auxiliary of the republican party, some curiosity is manifested to know whether the committee will indicate any new line of policy, especially on certain questions now pending before Congress. It is believed by many that the committee will take positive action on many important matters.

**Revenue Stamp Contract Awarded.**

Joseph R. Carpenter, of Philadelphia, has been notified by the Secretary of the Treasury of the acceptance of his bid for manufacturing and delivering government adhesive stamps, and the terms of the contract having been agreed upon he will to-morrow sign the agreement and enter into bonds for the faithful performance of its stipulations. These stamps will hereafter be printed on the same kind of paper as is used for the United States currency, which is to be furnished by the government without the water mark. The contract specifies that new plates shall be engraved and all the stamps prepared in two distinctive colors by plate printing. One of the colors is to be a fugitive ink, so that any attempt to remove the cancellation by chemicals will instantly deface it, and thereby prevent its being reused. The vignette of the general stamp will be that of Washington, the same as at present; but the border and the lathe work will be of entirely new designs. There is to be an additional stamp, of the denomination of $500, the highest at present being but $200; both of these will be printed in three colors, and the design furnished is a specimen of superior workmanship. The contract also specifies that the engravings of all private dies for proprietary stamps and the printing of the same shall be done by Mr. Carpenter, who will also be authorized to imprint the government stamp upon drafts, checks and other instruments requiring stamps. The number of adhesive stamps of all denominations and kinds used during the year past was four hundred and fifty millions. The balance of the stamp contract for furnishing beer and whiskey stamps will be awarded so soon as the Secretary of the Treasury has concluded the arrangements for furnishing the adhesive stamps.

**Vinnie Ream's Statue of Lincoln.**

Miss Vinnie Ream's statue of Lincoln, on being privately examined in its case this morning, was found to be uninjured by the voyage from Italy. Only Miss Ream and several friends were present. Crowds of persons watched with much interest, this afternoon, the arrangements in the rotunda of the Capitol for placing the statue on the pedestal. It will not be opened for public exhibition for several days, as some of the marble supports are first to be removed, and the Secretary of the Interior is to give instructions concerning it.

**Commissioner Pleasanton's Private Secretary.**

Clifford Thomson, who was the first Deputy Collector under General Pleasanton in the Thirty-second New York district, was to-day appointed Chief of Supervisors and Detectives of the Internal Revenue, and will fill the position recently occupied by the son of Commissioner Delano. He likewise holds a confidential relation to General Pleasanton and may be styled his private secretary.

**Internal Revenue Records Burned.**

Mark J. Mealing, the Assessor of Internal Revenue at Sedalia, Missouri, telegraphed to the Internal Revenue Bureau to-day that his office and all the records were destroyed by fire.

**New National Banks.**

The Comptroller of the Currency has authorized the organization of the First National Bank at Siles, Michigan, at Franklin, Kentucky, and Washington, Iowa, each with a capital of $100,000.

**Treasury Disbursements for December.**

The following are the disbursements of the Treasury Department for the month of December, exclusive of the amount paid on account of the redemption of the public debt:—

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|---|---|
| Civil and miscellaneous | $5,294,642 |
| War | 5,259,769 |
| Navy | 2,248,030 |
| Interior, pensions and Indians | 1,720,135 |
| Total | $14,522,569 |

**Sudden Death at the Capitol.**

Charles L. Miller, of Michigan, clerk of the Senate Committee on Commerce, was found dead this morning in a water closet of the Capitol. He left his boarding house a short time previously, and was apparently in good health. The physicians pronounce the cause of his death to have been apoplexy. The deceased was about sixty years of age. He was much respected by all who knew him.

**Commissioner Parker's Vindication.**

General Parker, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, had an interview with the President to-day. He has not yet made any reply to the allegations contained in the recent report of Mr. Welch, but will after the completion of the report of his visit to the Indian convention at Ocmulgee present statements to the committee investigating the charges.

**The Indian Appropriation Bill**

reported to-day appropriates $4,359,509, or a million less than last session.

**The Duty on Russian Hemp.**

The Secretary of the Treasury writes to the Collector of Customs of New York that the Department is of opinion that by the act of July 18, 1870, unmanufactured Russian hemp is subject to a duty of twenty-five dollars per ton, and he is directed to assess the duty at that rate.

**Consul Recognized.**

The President has recognized Manuel Borges de Treitas Henriques as Vice Consul of Brazil at Boston.

# STATE LEGISLATURES.

**Maine Legislature.**

AUGUSTA, Jan. 4, 1871.

The Legislature convened to-day. The Senate organized by the choice of Charles Buffum, republican, of Orono, for President, he receiving 27 votes to 1 for Mr. Torrey, democrat. S. W. Lane was elected Secretary. The House organized by the choice of Edwin B. Smith, of Saco, for Speaker, he receiving 109 votes to 26 for Edmund S. Wilson, of Thomaston. S. J. Chadbourne was elected Clerk by about the same vote.

The Secretary of State placed before each branch the Gubernatorial vote, and a committee was appointed to count the same.

The caucuses for State officers will be held this evening, and the Governor elect will be inaugurated to-morrow.

**Massachusetts Legislature.**

BOSTON, Jan. 4, 1871.

The Massachusetts Legislature met to-day and promptly organized by re-electing the officers of last year. H. D. Coolidge received the unanimous vote of the Senate for President, and the House elected Harvey Jewell Speaker, with but five dissenters. After organization both branches proceeded to the Old South Church to hear the annual sermon, which was preached by the Rev. Charles E. Grinnell, of the Harvard Unitarian church.

Governor Claflin's Message is expected on Saturday.

**Pennsylvania Legislature.**

HARRISBURG, Jan. 4, 1871.

Governor Geary's Message was read in the Legislature to-day. He reports that the State debt has been reduced to $31,111,660 by the payment of $1,648,187 during the year. He recommends the selling of the assets in the sinking fund, so as to pay off, in 1872, nearly eight millions, then falling due, of the bonded debt. He recommends a convention for revising the State constitution. He calls attention to the unsettled condition of the Delaware boundary line, and adverts to the difficulty that might arise if citizens of Pennsylvania should be seized on disputed territory and subjected to the disgraceful and abhorrent pillory and the whipping post, as authorized by the laws of Delaware. He expressed unqualified disapproval of the employment of government troops at Congressional elections as an interference with the sovereign rights of a State not contemplated by the founders of the national government, and which might lead to disastrous results. He advocates the holding of the centennial celebration, and says the location of Independence Hall points to Philadelphia as the locality proper for it. He opposes free trade fallacies, and denounces the introduction of coolies as one of the greatest evils that can befall the toiling millions of the country.

**The Michigan Legislature.**

LANSING, Jan. 4, 1871.

The House met at eleven o'clock, and after prayer by the Rev. J. H. McCarthy, the roll was called and members presented their credentials and were sworn in.

The Senate organized by the election of officers nominated in the republican caucus last night.

Both houses took a recess until two o'clock. The Governor's Message will probably be read this afternoon.

The Senatorial contest seems to be narrowing down.

**Illinois Legislature.**

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 4, 1871.

Both houses of the Illinois Legislature convened to-day. J. P. Root, of Cook county, was elected temporary chairman of the House, and James R. Magie, of Fulton county, temporary Clerk. The members presented their credentials, when the House adjourned. In the Senate permanent officers were elected, and the Governor's Message was read. The Senate then adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow.

**Michigan Legislature.**

LANSING, Jan. 4, 1871.

The Senate at the afternoon session to-day did nothing of importance. The House elected as officers the nominees of the republican caucus, and immediately after the organization the Governor was informed, and he replied that he would meet both houses in joint convention at half-past ten A. M. to-morrow and read his message. This document gives the population of the State, according to the recent census, at 1,184,296, and predicts that the next equalization will show an aggregate real and personal estate of $500,000,000. The financial summary is the same as that given recently in the synopsis of the State Treasurer's report, and the estimates show that if the same rate of taxation now existing is continued for the next two years and the appropriations are not largely increased the State will be able to pay easily all the bonded debt that may mature between this and the next biennial session.

A caucus of republican Senators was held to-night in the hall of the Representatives. It was crowded in every part, and prominent members of both parties were present. Speaker Woodman was in the chair. Mr. T. W. Ferry was chosen for President of the Senate on the sixth ballot. Tremendous excitement followed. Mr. Ferry soon appeared and made a speech returning thanks for the honor.

**Indiana Legislature.**

INDIANOPOLIS, Jan. 4, 1871.

The Indiana Legislature convenes to-morrow. The democrats have a majority in the House. In the Senate the republicans have a majority. Each party is holding a caucus to-night, and the democrats have nominated the Hon. William Mack, of Vigo county, for Speaker, and Samuel H. Holmes, of Jackson, for principal Clerk.

# RAILROAD LITIGATION.

**The Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad Company's Bonds—Payment of Interest Demanded in Gold.**

HARTFORD, Jan. 4, 1871.

Some trouble has arisen between the city authorities of Providence and the trustees of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad Company, on the payment of coupons on bonds of the road, the treasurer of that city insisting upon payment being made in gold and refusing a tender of payment in currency. Heretofore the payment has been made in currency. The refusal of the company to pay the city of Providence in gold is based on a determination to make no distinction in favor of Providence as against other bondholders.

# THE PACIFIC COAST.

**Death of a California Pioneer—Meeting of the Nevada Legislature.**

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4, 1871.

Dr. Isaac Rowell, a California pioneer, ex-supervisor, and a professor in the Pacific Medical College, died of appoplexy this morning. He was 53 years of age, and a native of Maine.

The ship Guiding Star, owned by Messrs. Pope & Talbot, of San Francisco, has been condemned at Hong Kong. Her cargo, consisting of rice, will be forwarded per ship A. M. Small.

Messrs. Tubbs & Co., of this city, have filed petitions to have Messrs. Treadwell & Co., also of this city, declared insolvents.

The Legislature of Nevada organized yesterday. The House consists of twenty-three democrats, twenty-one republicans and two independents. Robert E. Lowery, democrat, has been chosen Speaker. Governor Bradley has been sworn in.

# EUROPEAN MARKETS.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.—LONDON, Jan. 4—1:30 P. M.—Consols 92¾ for money, and the account. American securities quiet and steady. United States five twenty bonds, 1862, 89¾; 1865, 89¾; 1867, 88¾. Ten forties, 87¾. Stocks quiet and unchanged.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Jan. 4—Cotton has a downward tendency, but prices are unchanged.

LIVERPOOL PROVISION MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Jan. 4 1:30 P. M.—Beef 119 8.

LONDON PRODUCE MARKET—LONDON, Jan 4.—Tallow, 45s. d. per cwt.

**The Markets of January 3.**

LONDON, Jan. 4, 1871.

[The annexed quotations are corrections of telegraphic report blunders made by the cable or its English connections yesterday, January 3.]

Cotton at Liverpool should have been quoted at 8⅛d. for middling uplands and 8¾d. for middling Orleans. The quotation of wheat, 10s. 1d. a 10s. 5d., given in the 1:30 P. M. report for new, was correct, and that of 10s. 5d. a 10. 10d., of the 11:30 report, was incorrect. Tallow at London should have been quoted at 11:30 A. M. at 45s. 3d. It has since advanced to 45s. 6d. a 45. 9d.

**CHEAP COAL IN SMALL QUANTITIES.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 30, 1870.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Will you please present to the public the opposite of "Victim's" story, published on the 28th inst., in relation to the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and say to the poor folks that they can buy their coal (one ton to a person) at $6 50, when other dealers are charging $7 50. The company wishing to deliver all the supply now on hand at the old mining prices, rather than exact "monopolists' rates," adopt this rule; but one ton to one address, and to be paid for when ordered. Respectfully,

VICTIM'S DROMIO.

# ROME.

**Cardinal Antonelli and the King of Italy—Cordial, if not Charitable.**

LONDON, Jan. 4, 1871.

The telegraph advices from Rome are received eagerly and read with considerable interest, particularly so far as the despatches relate to the visit of his Majesty, King Victor Emmanuel, and the tone and attitude of the Papal Power towards him during his brief stay.

It is said to-day that his Eminence, the Cardinal Secretary of State, Antonelli, gave audience at once to the special ambassador who was despatched by the King to the Vatican to announce his arrival in the Holy City, and also displayed a very considerable degree of cordiality towards the royal envoy.

Cardinal Antonelli, as it is remarked, must have been moved to this course of action either by the exercise of a very unbounded charity or a feeling the exact contrary, the calm expectancy of the advent of a day of retribution or revenge.

In his circular addressed to the members of the foreign diplomatic body accredited to the Holy See, and serving in Rome, the Cardinal Secretary, under date of the 20th of September last, said:—

In presence of this fact (the entrance of Italian troops into Rome), which has been accomplished before the eyes of all Europe, and by which the sacred principles of all law, and specially of the law of nations, have been trampled underfoot, his Holiness has directed the undersigned Cardinal Secretary of State, to object and protest loudly, as he now objects and protests in his august name, against the unworthy and sacrilegious spoliation of the dominions of the Holy See which has been accomplished, declaring at the same time the King and his government responsible for all the damage which may result to the Holy See and to the Pontifical subjects from this violent and sacrilegious usurpation. His Holiness, moreover, has ordered it to be declared, as the undersigned now declares, in his august name, that this usurpation is deprived of all effect, is null and without any value, and that it can never in any way prejudice the incontestable and legitimate rights of dominion and possession, whether of the Holy Father or of his successors; and, if force prevents the exercise of these rights, his Holiness intends and wishes to preserve them intact, in order to resume, at his own time, their actual possession.

# THE REVENUE FRAUDS IN CHICAGO.

**The Case of Supervisor Bloomfield—Private Letter of Orville Grant to His Brother, the President, Exposing the Nefarious Propositions of Whiskey Men for a Compromise—General Bloomfield Implicated.**

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 4, 1871.

The *Commercial* of this morning publishes what purports to be a copy of a confidential letter from Orville Grant to the President. The Washington correspondent "D. G." says the letter is authentic, though it would not be correct to say the President had authorized its publication. The correspondent says that though the President didn't hand him a copy of the document he