WASHINGTON.

Closing Scenes in the Forty-First Congress.

The First Session of the Forty-Second Congress.

New Senators and Representatives Sworn In.

James G. Blaine Re-Elected Speaker.

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1871.

Finale of the Forty-First Congress—Organization of the Forty-second Congress—Five Colored Members of the House.

At early dawn this morning the Forty-first Congress took a recess until ten o'clock, the members of both houses being thoroughly wearied with the labors of the night and anxious for a few hours' rest. There was no recess, however, until all the appropriation bills had been safely disposed of, all the conference reports adopted and everything ready for adjournment. When the recess expired and the two houses met again there was very little disposition to proceed to business. The House took another recess until eleven o'clock and the balance of the time was consumed in dilatory motions.

The Capitol, as is customary on such occasions, was crowded with a motley concourse of people anxious to see the old Congress die and the new Congress come into existence. The galleries of both houses were packed, and hundreds of people swarmed in the corridors and lobbies. The Senate Chamber and the floor of the House were thronged with new Senators and members, watching with hungry eyes the vacation of the seats they expected soon to occupy. In the House there was a scene of confusion and noise which frequently drowned the voice of the Speaker and rendered it impossible for the most attentive member to understand the character of the proceedings.

In the Senate Mr. Howard was speaking on the bill for the relief of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, in Charleston, when the clock indicated the hour of noon, and the Vice President, thanking the Senators for their kindness during the session, declared the Forty-first Congress closed. The Vice President then proceeded to administer the oath of office to the Senators elect. When the name of Mr. Goldthwaite, of Alabama, was called, Mr. Sherman presented a memorial, signed by forty-five members of both branches of the Alabama Legislature, protesting against the admission of Mr. Goldthwaite, on the ground that he was not elected by a majority of the legal votes of the Legislature. The memorial pointed out that several members of the Legislature which had chosen him had not been legally elected themselves; that the member whose casting vote sent Mr. Goldthwaite to the Senate was not entitled to vote, and it suggested, also, that it was worthy for Congress to inquire whether Mr. Goldthwaite himself was not laboring under political disabilities which would deprive him of his seat. A discussion arose, principally upon the right of the Senate of the United States to consider the question of the legality of the election of members of State Legislatures. Thurman, of Ohio, and Garrett Davis, of Kentucky, contended for the admission of the new Senator from Alabama. Objection was also made to the admission of General J. J. Reynolds as Senator from Texas in place of Mr. Hamilton, and Foster Blodgett as Senator from Georgia, as the successor of Mr. Miller. Finally the credentials of these gentlemen, together with the protests against their admission, were laid upon the table with a view to their reference to the Judiciary Committee when it shall have been elected. The Senate then adjourned till Tuesday next.

In the House, when the hour of twelve, meridian, arrived, the Clerk was engaged in calling the roll on a motion to adopt the conference report on the bill relative to the abolition of the rank of admiral and vice admiral in the navy. The name of Michael C. Kerr was reached as the Speaker's gavel came down with a sound which indicated that the proceedings of the House of Representatives of the Forty-first Congress were at an end. In a few well selected phrases Speaker Blaine returned his thanks to the retiring members for their courtesy toward himself during the session, closing by declaring the House of Representatives of the Forty-first Congress adjourned without day. This was followed by a hearty round of applause, after which the members about to retire spent a few minutes in bidding farewell to those who were to remain as members of the new House. At about ten minutes after twelve Mr. Edward McPherson, the Clerk of the House, called the members of the new Congress to order, and proceeded to call the roll for the purpose of ascertaining if a quorum was in attendance. The result showed 222 members present. Among those on the floor of the House at this time were the British members of the Joint High Commission, who seemed to regard the whole proceeding with great interest. When it was announced that a quorum was present the Clerk stated that the first business in order was the election of a Speaker. Mr. Blair, of Michigan, nominated James G. Blaine, of Maine, on behalf of the republicans, and Fernando Wood, of New York, nominated General Morgan, of Ohio, on behalf of the democrats. Blaine was of course elected, receiving one hundred and twenty-six to ninety-three for Morgan. The organization of the House was then completed without further delay. A question was raised about the swearing in of the Tennessee and Mississippi delegations on the ground of some informality in their election, but after a little speech-making they were admitted. Among the new members are five negroes. When they presented themselves at the bar to be sworn in there was a perceptible titter all over the House, but the negroes didn't seem to mind it, and took the iron-clad oath without wincing. As soon as the members were all sworn in Mr. Dawes offered a resolution providing for an adjournment, the Senate concurring, on the eighth of March. This was adopted by a large majority. The members then drew for seats and adjourned over until Tuesday.

The President at the Capitol.

Both Houses, at a few minutes past twelve, proceeded to the organization of the new Congress. The President and the members of his Cabinet, together with his private secretaries, occupied the President's room, near the Senate Chamber, where the President signed all the bills which were presented to him, excepting nine, as follows:—

An act for the relief of purchasers of lands sold for direct tax in the insurrectionary States; an act in relation to the Selma, Rome and Dalton Railroad Company of Alabama; an act relating to telegraphic communication between the United States and foreign countries; a joint resolution relating to the rights of actual settlers upon certain lands; an act for the relief of Anna M. Howard; an act granting a pension to Adam Correll; an act for the relief of Joseph Ormsby; an act for the relief of George Wright; an act for the relief of Mary Clark, widow of Leonard Clark.

The President this morning approved and signed sixty-seven bills, including the remaining general appropriation bills. The President remained at the room some time awaiting the organization of the two houses in order to save the joint committee the trouble of sending to him at the Executive Mansion.

Veto Message by the President.

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

I herewith return without my approval House bill No. 2,566, entitled "An act for the relief of Henry Wilman, late a private in the Third command of Indiana cavalry," for the following reasons:—The records of the War Department show that Henry Wilman was mustered into the military service April 4, 1862, and that he was wounded on a private horse. It appears from evidence presented by him that his horse died May 18, 1862; that he remounted himself on June 8, 1862, and so continued mounted till October 1, 1862, when his horse was killed by the enemy; and that he was not afterwards mounted on a private horse. On presenting a claim against the United States for the legal value of the two horses lost by him in the public service, the claim, after investigation, was allowed, but it being discovered that he had erroneously been paid for the use and risk of a private horse from May 18 to June 8, 1862, and from October 1, 1862, to April 30, 1864, during which periods he had no horse in the public service, the amount so overpaid was offset against his claims, leaving the latter fully liquidated and the claimant indebted to the United States in an amount not yet refunded. The person named in the act is not in law or equity entitled to the relief therein provided, and has no unsatisfied demands against the United States.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Feb. 28, 1871.

The Miscellaneous Appropriation Bill.

The Miscellaneous Appropriation bill, as finally passed, contains the following items, inserted by the Senate last night:—For rebuilding the lighthouse at Cleveland, Ohio, $50,000; for life-saving station at Narragansett Beach, R. I., $70,000; for a government building, for Post office and courts, at Columbia, S. C., $75,000. A section was inserted authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to increase the compensation of the census marshals fifty per cent in his discretion, the entire amount of compensation not to exceed eight dollars per day for time employed. Also a section authorizing the President of the United States to prescribe such rules and regulations for the admission of persons into the civil service of the United States as will best promote the efficiency thereof, and ascertain the fitness of each candidate in respect to age, health, character, knowledge and ability for the branch of service into which he seeks to enter; and for this purpose the President is authorized to employ suitable persons to conduct such inquiries, to prescribe their duties and to establish regulations for the conduct of persons who may receive appointments in the civil service.

Defeat of the General Telegraph Bill.

The President refused to sign the General Telegraph bill, because while it grants the privilege to all persons, foreigners as well as American citizens, to land cables on the shores of the United States, it does not secure a reciprocal right to citizens of the United States to land cables on the shores of foreign countries.

Nominations Confirmed.

The Senate went into executive session about five o'clock this morning, and confirmed the following nominations:—

S. P. Brown, A. R. Shepherd, A. B. Mallett and James A. Magruder to constitute a Board of Public Works for the District of Columbia.

Collectors of Customs.—W. H. Ashmore, at Burlington, N. J., and Sidney Cooper, at Cape Vincent, N. Y.

William Storey, United States Judge for the Western District of Arkansas; William Fahnig, Third Lieutenant in the revenue marine service; George A. Black, Secretary of Utah Territory; James Henry, United States Marshal for the Western District of Michigan; Roland G. Usher, United States Marshal for Massachusetts; Cornelius Hedges, United States Marshal for the District of Montana; D. T. Baldwin, United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Texas.

Assessors of Internal Revenue.—Joseph Brooks, for the Second Arkansas district, and Charles E. Merrill, for the second Louisiana district.

Indian Agents.—G. A. Bateman, for the State of Nevada.

Consul.—Andrew S. Onderdonk, at Santiago, Cape de Verde Islands.

Postmasters.—A. Young, Amsterdam, N. Y.; Ebenezer Ellis, Bath, N. Y.; James B. Hallock, Middletown, N. Y.; Harriet E. Drury, Troy, Ohio; Wm. L. Burt, Boston, Mass.; George C. Johnson, Olean, N. Y.; Alfred B. Smith, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Elliot Fay, Potsdam, N. Y.

Redemption of Three Per Cent Certificates.

Secretary Boutwell to-day directed the Assistant Treasurer at New York to notify the holders of three per cent certificates of March 2, 1867, and July 25, 1868, that all such certificates bearing date from October 15, 1867, to December 16, 1867, inclusive, of the denomination of $5,000 each, between numbers 861 and 199, and of the denomination of $10,000, between numbers 759 and 1,070, will be paid on presentation at his office, and that from and after the 30th of April, 1871, such certificates will cease to bear interest, and will be no longer available as a portion of the lawful reserve in possession of any national banking association.

The aggregate amount of the certificates above described is $2,000,000.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1871.

After an all night session, at five o'clock this morning the Senate held an executive session of one hour, and then took a recess until half-past ten A. M.

THE DUTY ON COAL.

Upon reassembling, the question before the Senate being upon the passage of the repeal of the duty on coal,

Mr. SAWYER, (rep.) of S. C., moved to postpone the question, as he was satisfied of the impossibility of obtaining a vote upon the bill.

Mr. VICKERS, (dem.) of Md., said there were four speeches yet to be made on the bill, and it could not pass before the hour of adjournment.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., hoped the bill would not be laid aside. If the democrats, who were always clamoring for a reduction of tariff, chose to defeat the bill by talking against time the country should know it.

Mr. VICKERS said he felt happy in informing Mr. Trumbull that the opposition to this bill was not confined to the democrats. He knew that a prominent republican Senator had a speech now ready to be delivered against it. He would vote for a general reduction of duties on articles of primed necessity, such as tea, coffee and salt, but would not confine it to a single article.

Mr. SCOTT, (rep.) of Pa., replied to Mr. Trumbull that the country would not only take notice of the democratic opposition, but would also notice his (Trumbull's) course in undertaking to depart from the platform of the republican party and to assail one of the industrial interests of the country.

Mr. TRUMBULL said the bill had been passed by a House of Representatives two-thirds republican, and scouted the idea of his having departed from party principles.

COURTESY TO THE VICE PRESIDENT.

At this point Mr. BAYARD, (dem.) of Del., rose to a question of privilege and offered a resolution respectfully tendering the thanks of the Senate to Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Vice President of the United States, for the eminent ability, courtesy and impartiality with which he has presided over the deliberations of this body.

The resolution was entertained by unanimous consent and adopted without objection.

THE SISTERS' HOSPITAL AT CHARLESTON.

After further discussion Mr. SAWYER moved to postpone the coal bill in order to pass a bill appropriating $20,000 to pay for the destruction of the hospital of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, at Charleston, S. C. Agreed to—yeas 27, nays 21.

The latter bill was considered without action.

CLOSING OF THE FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Messrs. MORTON and THURMAN, according to previous appointment, reported having waited on the President of the United States, and that they were informed that the Executive had no further communication to make.

Pending a discussion upon Mr. Sawyer's bill the hour of twelve o'clock, fixed by law for the expiration of the session, arrived, when the VICE PRESIDENT addressed the Senate as follows:—

Thanking the Senators for the approval of my official course, which you have placed upon your records, I declare the third session of the Senate of the United States of the Forty-first Congress adjourned without day. The time fixed by law for the assembling of the first session of the Forty-second Congress having arrived, the Secretary will call the roll of names of the Senators elect, who will present themselves in front of the Vice President's chair to take the oath of office.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1871.

The all night session of the House continued until half-past five o'clock A. M.

ATTEMPT TO AMEND THE RULES.

A regular storm was raised by a proposition of Mr. GARFIELD, (rep.) of Ohio, to adopt an amendment of the rules, which amendment was interpreted by the democrats to aim at giving to the republican majority in the next Congress the same power that it exercised during the present Congress through its majority of over two-thirds. The proposition was to amend the forty-second rule, so as to provide that after the previous question is moved no motion shall be entertained except to adjourn, to fix the time to which they will adjourn and to lay on the table; such motions not to be repeated; and that after the previous question is seconded no original motion whatever shall be entertained except a single motion to adjourn.

Messrs. ELDRIDGE, BROOKS (of N. Y.) and RANDALL and other democrats denounced the proposition in unmeasured terms and amidst great excitement, Mr. Brooks vowing that democrats would resist even at the hazard of revolution.

Mr. VAN WYCK, (rep.) of N. Y., declared that the Forty-second Congress could adopt its own rules, and that the present Congress had found the existing rules necessary to secure honest legislation.

Mr. ELDRIDGE, (dem.) of Wis., thanked God that there were some honest men on the republican side of the house.

Mr. GARFIELD denied that it was the purpose of the proposed rule to place the minority in the power of the majority.

Finally, amid much uproar, the question was taken on suspending the rules and adopting the amendment, and it was negatived by a vote of 64 to 62, not two-thirds in the affirmative.

RAILROAD LAND GRANT.

Another fiasco occurred when Mr. CLARKE, (rep.) of Kan., made an attempt to get up a land grant bill, which was denounced by Messrs. McNeely and Randall as a "state steal," the charge being resented by Mr. Clarke, who pronounced it false. The ill feeling went so far that the active movers in the affair shook their fists at each other, but did not come to blows.

The proposition to suspend the rules and pass the bill got only two affirmative votes.

Finally, at half-past four o'clock,

THE OMNIBUS BILL

came over from the Senate, with an enormous batch of amendments tacked to it, which were read.

Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass., stated that the Committee on Appropriations had looked over the Senate amendments, and that although there were many things in them which they did not entirely approve, he still thought that, on the whole, the best thing which the House could do was to concur in them all rather than send them to a conference committee. He therefore moved to concur in all the Senate amendments.

The amendment was then concurred in, and the House, at twenty minutes past five took a recess till ten o'clock A. M., having first resolved that no business should be in order during the rest of the session, except to receive messages from the President and Senate, to enroll bills, and in reference to the general appropriation bills.

RESSEMBLING OF THE HOUSE.

The House reconvened at ten o'clock A. M., and the SPEAKER presented several executive communications, among others a message from the President vetoing a House bill, and which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

The members generally wore an expression of weariness consequent on the long night session and want of rest.

After about five minutes spent in the presentation of Executive messages the House took a further recess till eleven o'clock.

Meanwhile the members gathered in groups holding noisy consultation over the scenes of the night session and the preparations for the opening of the Forty-second Congress, and the galleries gradually filled up with spectators.

The House resumed its session at 11 A. M.

A resolution was adopted to pay J. J. Hines, of Alabama, $800 for contesting a seat to which he was entitled.

Mr. SPARKWEATHER, (rep.) of Conn., from the conference committee on the bill to abolish the offices of Admiral and Vice-Admiral, reported that the committee had not been able to agree.

Mr. SCOFIELD moved that the House recede from its disagreement and let the bill become a law so that the two offices shall terminate as soon as vacancies occur.

Pending the discussion, at twenty minutes to twelve, a committee of the House was ordered to join a like committee on the part of the Senate to wait upon the President and inform him that if he had no further communication to make Congress was ready to adjourn.

Messrs. Garfield, Mercur and Cox were appointed as such committee.

The conference report on the Admiral bill was resumed, and Mr. BUTLER, of Mass., and Mr. STEVENS, of N. H., argued against Mr. Scofield's motion.

On a vote by tellers on Mr. Scofield's motion to recede, there were 110 in favor to 42 against, the effect of which would have been to pass the bill, but as it then wanted five minutes of the hour of adjournment the bill was defeated by the minority demanding the yeas and nays.

During the call Mr. GARFIELD announced that the committee appointed for that purpose had waited on the President and were authorized to inform Congress that he had no further communication to make to it.

The call of the roll was resumed, but before its termination the hour of noon arrived, when the call was interrupted by the fall of the Speaker's gavel.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT.

Suddenly the clamor of the House was hushed into perfect stillness, when the Speaker, addressing the House, said:—

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Our labors are at an end, but I delay the final adjournment long enough to return my most profound and respectful thanks for the commendation which you have been pleased to bestow upon my official course and conduct. In a deliberative body of this character a presiding officer is fortunate if he retains the confidence and steady support of his political advocates. Beyond that, you give me the assurance that I have earned the respect and good will of those from whom I am separated by party lines. Your expressions are most grateful to me, and are most gratefully acknowledged. The Congress whose existence closes with this hour enjoys memorable distinction. It is the first in which all the States have been represented on this floor since the baleful winter that preceded our late bloody war. Ten years have passed since then; years of trial and triumph; years of wild destruction and years of careful rebuilding; and, after all and as the result of all, the national government is here to-day united, strong, proud, defiant and just, with a territorial area vastly expanded, and with three additional States represented on the folds of its flag. For these prosperous fruits of our great struggle let us humbly give thanks to the God of battles and to the Prince of Peace. And now, gentlemen, with one more expression of the obligation I feel for the considerate kindness with which you have always sustained me, I perform the only remaining duty of my office in declaring, as I now do, the House of Representatives of the Forty-first Congress adjourned *sine die*.

As the Speaker pronounced the last word of his address and stepped down from the dais to take his place on the floor as a member of the new Congress a unanimous expression of approval and applause broke out in the chamber and galleries, and the clapping of hands was general and long sustained.

FORTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

First Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 4—P. M.

NEW SENATORS QUALIFIED.

Soon after twelve o'clock, in accordance with the invitation of the Vice President, the organization of the Senate was proceeded with, and the following new Senators came forward and took the oath of office:—

Messrs. Anthony, of Rhode Island; Caldwell, of Kansas; Cragin, of New Hampshire; Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey; Ferry, of Michigan; Hitchcock, of Nebraska; Kelley, of Oregon; Logan, of Illinois; Morrill, of Maine; Robertson, of South Carolina; Stevenson, of Kentucky; Saulsbury, of Delaware; Cooper, of Tennessee; Wilson, of Massachusetts; Wright, of Iowa; Windom, of Minnesota, and West, of Louisiana.

The names of Senators elect Alcorn, of Mississippi, and Clayton, of Arkansas, were not called.

The VICE PRESIDENT stated that the name of Mr. Vance, as Senator from North Carolina, would not be called, as the legal and political disabilities of that gentleman had not been removed.

When the name of Mr. Goldthwaite, of Alabama, was reached, during the calling of the roll of new Senators, Mr. SHERMAN objected to his being sworn in, and asked to have read a memorial signed by forty-five members of the Senate and House of Delegates of Alabama protesting against that gentleman's admission.

Mr. WILLARD SAULSBURY, (dem.) of Del., whose Senatorial term had expired, but who had not yet retired from his seat, here addressed the Chair and objected to the reception of the paper.

SEVERAL SENATORS (aside)—The gentleman is no longer a member.

Mr. SAULSBURY (bowing and resuming his seat)—Oh, I beg pardon; I forgot. (Great laughter.)

The memorial was then read by the Secretary, setting forth that the memorialists protest against Mr. Goldthwaite's admission on the ground that he was not elected by a legal majority of the members of both houses of the Alabama Legislature; that the vote as announced was 68 for Goldthwaite, 50 for Warner, and 14 for another candidate; that B. F. Henry, a sitting member of the House, who voted for Goldthwaite, had no certificate of election, and had been defeated at the polls by several hundred votes; that Paul Bradford, another sitting member voting for Goldthwaite, had also been defeated in the election; that the Representatives of Greene, Lee, Sumter and other counties who voted for Goldthwaite were elected through fraud and intimidation at the polls; that other members so voting labored under political disabilities. In conclusion the memorialists suggest an inquiry as to whether Mr. Goldthwaite himself does not labor under legal and political disabilities.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, moved to lay the credentials and memorial on the table until the organization of the Senate committees; then to be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. THURMAN, (dem.) of Ohio, asserted that nothing could be clearer than that the memorial failed to make a case against the Senator elect, and that no instance had ever occurred in which the Senate had undertaken to canvass the eligibility of members of a State Legislature. This had not been done even in the Georgia case, where the Senate had had gone very far. In that case the Judiciary Committee determined not to inquire further than as to the legal existence of a legislature. The question now raised was most preposterous. It was inconsistent with the dignity of the Senate to be asked to inquire into the validity of the election of an individual to the Alabama Legislature.

Mr. SHERMAN said the memorial he had presented set forth that the Senatorial contest was decided by the vote of one man, who had no right to vote. There was another allegation that in portions of the State prior to the election an internecine war was in progress, amounting to a denial of the right of a portion of the people to vote. He reminded the Senate of the hundreds of contested election cases upon the floor of organized violence and intimidation in Alabama. The objection that Mr. Goldthwaite labored under disabilities was rather indefinite; but the fact appeared to be that a bill was passed by Congress to relieve him prior to the fourteenth amendment to the constitution. Whether that prior legislation relieved him from the penalties of the amendment would be a proper inquiry for the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., asserted the right of Congress, under the constitution, as guardians of the rights of the people of a State, to inquire into the eligibility of members of a State Legislature, or any other set of men claiming to represent a State. In the case of the Georgia Senators this question had been purposely left open by being carefully excluded from the report of the Judiciary Committee, as it had not been discussed in that case. In view of the physical exhaustion of many Senators in consequence of the recent late night session, he did not propose to enter now upon a discussion of the question.

Mr. DAVIS, (dem.) of Ky., maintained that the ruling of the Senate heretofore had been that the qualifications of a Senator could not be inquired into previous to his admission to a seat. The inquiry proposed by the Senator from Vermont (Edmunds) was really not as to the validity of a Senator's election, but as to the sufficiency of the election of 133 members of the Alabama Legislature. He protested against this as the most extreme step, yet contemplated in the dangerous career of Congressional usurpation, and asserted its real purpose to be to unseat a regularly elected democratic Senator.

Mr. THURMAN remarked that if Mr. Edmunds' position was correct, and the inquiry he proposed was legitimate, it would extend to the right and qualifications of the people themselves to vote.

Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., corroborated the statement that the question had not been touched upon by the Judiciary Committee.

The subject was then disposed of, on motion of Mr. EDMUNDS, by laying the credentials of Mr. Goldthwaite on the table temporarily.

Committees of notification to the President and House of the organization of the Senate were then appointed.

The Vice President then laid before the Senate two sets of credentials from the State of Texas, one representing that the late Senator (M. C. Hamilton) had been elected for the next term, and the other certifying to the election of General Joseph J. Reynolds.

Mr. FLANAGAN, (rep.) of Texas, moved that the oath of office be administered to Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. MORTON, (rep.) of Ind., called for the reading by the Secretary of a joint resolution by the Texas Legislature, giving an explanation of the case.

Mr. CONKLING inquired whether both the credentials were in proper form.

Mr. THURMAN said his information was that General Reynolds' credentials did not contain the signature of the Governor.

Mr. MORTON explained that the omission was accidental, and that otherwise the credentials were in proper form. Upon his suggestion the credentials were temporarily tabled.

The credentials of Foster Blodgett, being sent as Senator from Georgia, were then presented by the chair, when

Mr. HILL, (rep.) of Ga., called attention to a protest he had recently presented from many Georgia republicans against Blodgett's admission. He said he merely discharged his duty to the people of Georgia in presenting the case to the Senate, and that if the facts alleged concerning the election were true they deserved careful consideration.

The subject was then temporarily disposed of by being laid on the table, and at a quarter past one the Senate adjourned till twelve o'clock Tuesday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 4—P. M.

THE HOUSE CALLED TO ORDER.

Soon after the Speaker had declared the House of Representatives of the Forty-first Congress adjourned *sine die* Mr. McPHERSON, Clerk of the House, summoned the new House to order, and proceeded to call the names of members by States.

The States of New Hampshire, Connecticut, Texas and California were unrepresented, the election in those States not having yet been held.

In regard to North Carolina, the Clerk stated he had been requested by Mr. Rogers, member from the Fourth district, not to call his name, and he therefore did not do so.

In regard to Mississippi, the Clerk stated that while the credentials were peculiar in form, owing to the fact that the elections were held under the military reconstruction acts, it appeared to him they met all the substantial requirements of the law, and he therefore accepted them all.

In regard to Tennessee, the Clerk stated that the credentials presented differed essentially from those presented by the members of the Forty-first Congress. They were both vague and evasive, and the changes were so marked and special as to create a belief that they were perhaps made to produce uncertainty. He had been in doubt as to his duty concerning them, but he had finally concluded to give them this time the benefit of doubt and accept them. The point which had been urged, that the election was held on the day fixed by the law of Tennessee, involved a construction of the constitution and several laws of the State, and he had, under the circumstances, concluded not to rule upon it.

As to the Third district of Arkansas, the Clerk stated that the certificate presented on its face evidence that it had not been issued within the time specified by law, nor for two months thereafter. Besides, there were serious doubts as to whether the officer who executed it had at that time the right to do it. The circumstances were so suspicious that he felt compelled to reject it. He had made these explanations, because he had observed his like action on previous occasions, when unexplained, had been misunderstood.

The roll having been completed, the Clerk announced that 223 members had answered to their names, the full representation being 243.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER.

Mr. BLAIR, (rep.) of Mich., then moved that the House proceed to the election of a Speaker. Agreed to.

Mr. BLAIR then, in behalf of the republican members of the House, nominated James G. Blaine, of Maine, as Speaker, and Mr. WOOD, in behalf of the democratic members, nominated George W. Morgan, of Ohio.

The CLERK appointed as tellers Messrs. Banks, Cook, Beck and Eldridge, and proceeded to take the vote for Speaker.

The vote having been completed, the result was announced by Mr. Banks as follows:—

Whole number of votes cast	219
Necessary to a choice	110

Of which James G. Blaine had received 126, and George W. Morgan 93.

The Clerk thereupon declared that James G. Blaine, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States for the Forty-second Congress.

SPEAKER BLAINE'S ADDRESS.

Mr. BLAINE was conducted to the chair by Messrs. Poland and Morgan. Calling the House to order, he said:—

GENTLEMEN—The Speakership of the American House of Representatives has always been esteemed an enviable honor. A re-election to the position carries with it peculiar gratification, in that it implies an approval of past official bearing. For this great mark of your confidence I can but return to you my sincerest thanks, coupled with the assurance of my utmost devotion to the duties which you call upon me to discharge. Chosen by the party representing the political majority in the House, the Speaker owes a faithful allegiance to the principles and the policy of that party, but he will fail far below the honorable requirements of his station if he fails to give to the minority its fullest rights under the rules which he is called upon to administer. The successful working of our grand system of government depends in a large measure on the vigilance of party organization, and the most wholesome legislation which the House produces and perfects is that which results from opposing forces, mutually eager and watchful and well nigh balanced in numbers. The Forty-second Congress meets at a period of general content, happiness and prosperity throughout the land, under the wise administration of the national government. Peace reigns in all our borders, and the only misunderstanding with any foreign government is, we may hope, at this moment in process of honorable, cordial and lasting adjustment. We are fortunate in meeting at such a time; fortunate in representing such constituencies; fortunate in legislating for such a country. I trust, gentlemen, that our official intercourse may be free from personal asperity. Believing that all our labors will eventuate in the public good, and invoking the blessing of Him, without whose aid and guidance we labor in vain, I am now ready to proceed with the further organization of the House, and as the first step thereto I will myself take the oath prescribed by the constitution and the laws. (General applause.)

Mr. DAWES, the senior member of the House in continuous service, administered the oath of office of Speaker.

MEMBERS QUALIFIED.

Then the SPEAKER proceeded to administer the oath to the members, beginning with members from the New England States, who ranged themselves in an arc of a circle in the area in front of the Clerk's desk and took the oath with uplifted hand.

They were followed by members from New York and New Jersey, then by the members from Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, and so on.

Two members from the Southern States took the modified oath.

Mr. MAYNARD, (rep.) of Tenn., objected to the swearing in of Alfred M. Waddell, of North Carolina, as being disqualified from holding office.

Mr. KERR, (dem.) of Md., objected to the swearing in of the Tennessee members, on the ground that the election law in Tennessee had been repealed, and that they were elected without the sanction of the law. He presented a protest from the citizens of Tennessee, and explained that the Tennessee Legislature had, by one sweeping measure, repealed all the acts of a previous Legislature, including the election law.

Mr. BINGHAM, (rep.) of Ohio, moved that the Tennessee members be sworn in, and that their credentials be referred to the Committee on Elections.

The motion was agreed to and they were sworn in, three of them taking the test oath of 1862 and five the modified oath of 1868.

Mr. KERR stated the grounds of the objection to the swearing in of the Mississippi members; their credentials presented no *prima facie* evidence of a right to a seat.

Mr. ELDRIDGE, (dem.) of Wis., suggested that if these men could be elected to occupy their seats for three years and three months they might as well be elected for twenty years or for life.

Mr. BINGHAM moved that the Mississippi representatives be sworn in and their credentials referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Bingham's motion was agreed to—yeas 119, nays 79—and the Mississippi members were accordingly sworn in, and their credentials referred to the Committee on Elections.

This completed the organization of the House.

OFFICERS OF THE LAST HOUSE RE-ELECTED.

Mr. DAWES offered a resolution declaring the following persons officers of the House for the Forty-second Congress:—

Edward McPherson, Clerk; N. G. Ordway, Sergeant-at-Arms; O. S. Buxton, Doorkeeper; W. S. King, Postmaster, and J. G. Butler, Chaplain, being the officers of the last House.

Mr. WOOD, (dem.) of N. Y., presented as the democratic candidates for the same positions, the names of James G. Berrett, of the District of Columbia; N. Eisenberg, of Pennsylvania; Owen Thorn, of California; Seaton Gales, of North Carolina, and Rev. Ignatius D. Cooper, of Delaware. Rejected by a party vote of 86 to 125.

Mr. DAWES' resolution was adopted, and the officers named in it were duly sworn into office.

TERRITORIAL DELEGATES.

The delegates from the Territories, seven in number, were then called and sworn in.

COMMITTEE TO WAIT UPON THE PRESIDENT.

A committee of the House was appointed to join a like committee on the part of the Senate, to wait upon the President and inform him that Congress was ready to proceed to business.

Messrs. Hooper, Niblack and Scofield were appointed.

ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION.

Mr. DAWES offered a concurrent resolution for an adjournment *sine die* on Wednesday next, the 8th of March, at twelve o'clock.

Mr. FARNSWORTH, (rep.) of Ill., suggested that the resolution should lie over until the committee appointed to wait upon the President should make its report.

The resolution was agreed to without the yeas and nays—147 to 17.

CONTEST OVER A NORTH CAROLINA MEMBER.

Mr. KELLEY, (rep.) of Pa., called up the case of Mr. Waddell, of North Carolina, to whose swearing in Mr. Maynard had objected.

Mr. MAYNARD stated that Mr. Waddell had, before the war, held a judicial office, that of Clerk and Master in Chancery, which required an oath to support the constitution, and had afterwards held a commission of Lieutenant Colonel in the rebel army, thus becoming obnoxious to the third section of the fourteenth constitutional amendment.

Mr. KELLEY argued that Mr. Waddell was under no disability, and could take the oath with as good a conscience as he (Mr. Kelley) could. The office held by Mr. Waddell was in no sense a judicial office, but a clerical one. He admitted the fact of Mr. Waddell having taken the oath to support the constitution, but denied that it was taken in connection with a judicial office. He moved that Mr. Waddell be sworn in.

The motion was agreed to and the modified oath was administered to Mr. Waddell.

The House then proceeded to draw for seats, a proceeding attended with the usual uproar and confusion—Mr. Dawes being permitted through courtesy to select his seat before the drawing—and then, at twenty minutes past four, the House adjourned until Tuesday.

SHIPPING NEWS.

Almanac for New York—This Day.

Sun rises	6 29	Moon sets...morn	5 57
Sun sets	5 56	High water.morn	7 12

OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATE OF DEPARTURES FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH.

Steamer.	*Sails*	*Destination.*	*Office.*
City of Baltim're	Mar 7	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Wyoming	Mar 8	Liverpool	29 Broadway.
City of London	Mar 11	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
India	Mar 11	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Denmark	Mar 11	Liverpool	69 Broadway.
Minnesota	Mar 15	Liverpool	29 Broadway.
City of Brussels	Mar 18	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Europa	Mar 18	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Idaho	Mar 22	Liverpool	29 Broadway.
St. Laurent	Mar 25	Havre	58 Broadway.
Columbia	Mar 25	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green

PORT OF NEW YORK, MARCH 4, 1871.

CLEARED.

Steamship City of Paris (Br), Mirehouse, Liverpool—J G Dale.

Steamship Helvetia (Br), Grigg, Liverpool—National Steamship Co.

Steamship Nebraska (Br), Guard, Liverpool—Williams & Guion.

Steamship America (NG), Bussins, Bremen—Oelrichs & Co.

Steamship Ismalia (Br), Brown, Brest—Henderson Bros.

Steamship Ocean Queen, Jones, Aspinwall—Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Steamship Gen Sedgwick, Ellis, Galveston via Key West—C H Mallory & Co.

Steamship Western Metropolis, Quick, New Orleans—F Baker.

Steamship Rapidan, Whitehurst, New Orleans—Livingston, Fox & Co.

Steamship St Louis, Whitehead, New Orleans—H B Cromwell.

Steamship Catharine Whiting, Howes, Fernandina—Jas Hand.

Steamship Montgomery, Faircloth, Savannah—R Lowden.

Steamship San Salvador, Nickerson, Savannah—W R Garrison.

Steamship Champion, Lockwood, Charleston—H R Morgan & Co.

Steamship Wyanoke, Couch, Norfolk, City Point and Richmond—Old Dominion Steamship Co.

Steamship Geo B Upton, Roberts, Norfolk, City Point and Richmond—Washington & Co.

Steamship John Gibson, Winters, Georgetown, DC, and Alexandria—Geo B Merrick.

Steamship Volunteer, Jones, Philadelphia—Lorillard Steamship Co.

Steamship Nereus, Bearse, Boston—H F Dimock.

Steamship Acushnet, Rector, New Bedford—Ferguson & Wood.

Ship Ellen Austin, French, San Francisco—C Comstock & Co.

Ship Cultivator, Russell, Liverpool via Queenstown—Williams & Guion.

Ship Peter Maxwell (Br), Sulis, Liverpool via Savannah—J W Elwell & Co.

Ship Min (Br), Clark, London—Henderson Bros.

Ship Eugenie (NG), Voss, Hamburg via Philadelphia—Funch, Edye & Co.

Ship Gen Berry, Levensaler, Southwest Pass—Snow & Burgess.

Bark Morocco (Br), Farnsworth, Cork or Falmouth—J W Elwell & Co.

Bark Guiseppe Rocco (Ital), Pollio, Constantinople—Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark Matchless (Br), Marbuand, Barbados—G F Bulley & Co.

Bark Proteus, Chipman, Savannah—J E Ward & Co.

Brig Alpha (Br), Prouse, Queenstown, Falmouth or Salcombe for orders—G F Bulley.

Brig Adra (Br), Barker, Marseilles—H J DeWolf & Co.

Brig Adar (Aus), Weber, Gibraltar—Slocovich & Co.

Brig Mexico (Mex), Laferta, Tobasco—Funch, Edye & Co.

Schr Edward Burnett, Pender, Para—C Ludmann & Co.

Schr J M Richards, Irving, Wilmington, NC—E D Hurlbut & Co.

Schr Capella, Newcomb, Port Spain—Jones & Lough.

Schr Mary Louisa, Gaskill, Washington, NC—Z Mills.

Schr Ocean Wave, Love, Norfolk—Overton & Hawkins.

Schr A R Wetmore, Anderson, Baltimore—Baker & Dayton.

Schr Adelie P Avery, Ryan, Baltimore—Van Brunt & Slaght.

Schr E L Meaney, Lewis, Philadelphia—Baker & Dayton.

Schr Eugene, Hawes, Philadelphia—Wm Chalmers.