WASHINGTON.

Putting Down the Tariff in the Senate.

Travelling Round the World in a House Debate.

THE SYNDICATE MANAGEMENT.

Californian Charges Against Judge Field.

England After Russian Treaty Intrigues—Cuban Belligerency—Wildcat Money in Georgia—The Labor Inquiry—United States Court House Jobs.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1872.

A Teetotal Sixteenth Amendment—The Duties on Salt and Coal—Refunding Taxes.

A new means of agitation was developed in the Senate this morning, creating in its advent considerable amusement. After the usual prayer and journal reading a funny interlude was begun by the presentation of a number of petitions from the "American Temperance Commission," asking that Congress "hereafter prohibit within the jurisdiction of the government of the United States the manufacture, importation and sale of all intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage;" and also a memorial asking that an amendment to the constitution of the United States be adopted and submitted to the States for ratification, providing that no candidate shall hereafter be eligible to any federal office who is addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and that drunkenness in any incumbent of such office shall be deemed at any time sufficient cause for immediate impeachment and deposition. Reference of these was moved to the Judiciary Committee, which was resisted by Mr. Trumbull, its chairman. He thought the first properly belonged to the Finance Committee, and the last to that on "Elections and Privileges," because it was only a question of privilege, but whether to the committee or others, the Senator did not explain. The Michigan Senator and one or two others looked as if they did not desire their privileges abridged, while the Vice President and Mr. Wilson, who is President of the Congressional Temperance Society, grew more and more smiling at the funny comments this little fanaticism excited. The impeachment proposition was stated to be urged as a real, not simply jocular, idea. Messrs. Wilson, Fenton, Pomeroy and Scott were the Senators interested on the temperance side. Those who would have naturally objected discreetly kept silent, Nye smiling more than usual and Chandler looking fiercer and grimmer than commonly. Trumbull succeeded in his motion of reference, and then Mr. Fenton got it reconsidered, amid considerable laughter, and finally the Judiciary were charged with the whole business, which is, of course, the end of it.

After this was disposed of Mr. Sherman reported from the Committee on Finance an elaborate Tariff bill, the effect of which would be to largely reduce all duties—on manufactures of iron and steel ten per cent—and to place about five hundred additional articles on the free list; bituminous coal to be reduced to fifty cents per ton and salt about one-half of present rates. It will be remembered that the bill passed last session by the House, repealing the duties on salt and coal, was referred to this committee by the Senate. This bill is the result of their labors. Its appearance reverses the old adage of the mountain laboring and bringing forth a mouse. In this case the mouse produces a mountain. Mr. Trumbull charged that the intent was to prevent the repeal of the duty on salt, and animated debate arose. Mr. Sherman moving to recommit, Mr. Trumbull called for the yeas and nays, as he desired to bring a vote direct on the simpler proposition. The result was deemed by some a test, but must be regarded as only causing delay. The vote stood 32 to 18. Messrs. Alcorn and Sumner were present, but did not vote. Messrs. Davis, of West Virginia, and Vickers, of Maryland, voted with the majority. In the one State, the Kanawha salt works exercise great influence, and the other is affected by the Cumberland coal mines. Messrs. Cole, Ferry of Connecticut, Flanagan, Logan, Sawyer, Schurz, Spencer, Sprague, Tipton and Trumbull, republicans, voted with the minority.

General Logan then delivered a set speech in support of a bill relative to restoring the records lost by the Chicago fire. A bill reported by the Finance Committee and advocated by Senator Scott proposes:—

That all taxes upon dividends, interests and undivided profits heretofore assessed or collected from the corporations mentioned in section 15 of the act approved July 14, 1870, entitled, "An act to reduce internal taxes and for other purposes," for the time between the 1st day of August, 1870, and the 1st day of January, 1871, shall be remitted or refunded upon claim made therefor, and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is hereby authorized and directed to remit or refund the same, as in cases of other taxes improperly assessed or collected; but nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent the collection or authorize the return of any taxes upon such dividends, interest or undivided profits for that part of the year 1870 prior to the 1st of August, and assessed or collected at the rate of five per centum.

This is the same question on which General Pleasonton and Secretary Boutwell had their first difference, and the appointment of which and the enforcement of which will take about two million dollars from the Treasury. Senator Edmunds opposed the bill, and Messrs. Scott and Sherman defended. Pending a vote the Senate went into executive session and then adjourned.

The House Going Round the World—Circular Debate About Consuls and Everything Else—The Great American Traveller.

The very small number of members occupying their seats during the reading of the Journal in the House of Representatives this morning were industriously devoting themselves to their constituents in answering letters. Tuesday's members linger by the way willing to reach their seats after the reading of the Journal, which is neither novel or interesting. In compliance with a resolution adopted yesterday, the Speaker appointed Messrs. Scofield, McCrary, Smith, Voorhees and Marshall a committee to go on a voyage of discovery, having for its objective point the New Orleans discorders.

Mr. Garfield, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to expend an appropriation already made for the employment of men at the life-saving stations on the coast of New Jersey. Mr. Cox, of New York, embraced this opportunity to compliment, in an easy and graceful manner peculiar to that gentleman when in his pleasant moods, the member from Massachusetts, and to arraign the republican party for dereliction of duty generally, and particularly in the matter of securing the aid now asked, in giving protection to life along the seacoast. He claimed credit for the democratic side of the House in taking the initiative in this matter. He commended the proposed action and expressed pleasure in being able to act for once with the party in power. Mr. Dawes quite surprised the floor and galleries by offering a bill for relief to Chicago sufferers from the late fire—a benevolent *vote* quite new to the chairman of Ways and Means; but the provisions of the bill explained the unusual step when it was found not to consist of an appropriation, but in admitting gifts from abroad free of duty and allowing a drawback upon building materials imported at Chicago for one year, to date from October, 1871, which passed.

Mr. Packard, of Indiana, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the proper officers of the Treasury Department to settle the accounts of F. M. Cordero, late Consul at Rio Janeiro, and Mr. Banks, from the same committee, reported a bill to fix the salary of the United States Consul at Tien-tsin, China, at $3,500 per annum.

Upon these two bills sprung a debate embodying the tariff, free trade, decline of American commerce, civil service reform and Mr. Keim's report upon the condition of the consulates of the United States abroad. Mr. Monroe, of Ohio, gave a tribute of praise to Mr. Cordero, a gentleman he said who considered his greatest misfortune in life to lie in the fact that he was not an American citizen, and whose brightest hope was in prospect after death of being able to go to America. Mr. Shellabarger spoke upon the subject of the meagre pay given to our consular service, and denouncing it as "penny wise and pound foolish." He declared it was high time that the whole system was changed and put upon a basis more fitting the dignity of a great nation. Mr. Dawes, ever on the alert to show why this sort of thing should not be done, with charcteristic inconsistency dragged Keim forward as a refutation of Mr. Shellabarger's aspersions against the meagre pay given to our foreign consuls abroad. He followed Keim through his travels "around the world," and for which he said, in dolorous accents, he drew mileage at the rate of ten cents a mile for 54,441 miles and a fraction of a mile. "This," Mr. Dawes triumphantly exclaimed, "is a specimen of the poor compensation paid in our consular service." Mr. Banks facetiously asked if he thought the agent could have done any more than he had if he had tried his best. Mr. Dawes thought not, and suggested for him the title of "The Great American Traveller." Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, having always a liking for the "under dog in a fight," came to the rescue of this accused peregrinator, and he also took occasion to speak of the base slanders put in circulation by the newspapers upon the Consul General at Alexandria, and was pleased to say that an agent had been sent to examine him and his work. Mr. Brooks, of New York, in speaking of the importance of the Consulate in China, which had been the subject of Mr. Banks' resolution, took occasion to make a speech on the tariff, and utilized the information gained by him when in Europe to show that the ascendancy gained by Americans in Chinese waters before the war was to be attributed to the peculiar skill, industry and enterprise of the American shipbuilders and workmen, the latter of whom had been taken to the shipyards in Great Britain, and even to China, to work on British vessels, and charged the present decline of American commerce in Chinese waters to the high duties which had been imposed by this country on shipbuilding materials. Mr. Farnsworth asked if that was the way the high protectionists protected the interests of labor—by exporting it. Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, promptly took up the issue made by Mr. Brooks, and defended, with his usual ability, the imperiled tariff. Mr. Brooks' history of the rise and fall of American commerce had not fallen on fertile soil, in Mr. Kelley's comprehension, who claimed that the introduction of iron vessels had caused the decline, and not the tariff. Mr. Myers, of Pennsylvania, attempted an inquiry in regard to cheap labor affecting the question under discussion, but failed to have it considered. Mr. Banks, seeing from the interest manifested in the debate that his consulate was being lost sight of in the midst of the running debate on the tariff, reclaimed the floor and said the pyrotechnic display was quite to his taste, but as the committee had something to do he could not listen to it, as he would like to do all day. He, therefore, moved the previous question, which was ordered. After some further discussion, in which the civil service question came in for a mere mention, Mr. Butler took occasion to ventilate his opinion upon its merits by declaring that he considered himself quite as competent to select good men for office as a board of broken down schoolmasters. Mr. Dawes said, upon this subject, that if the presentation of a letter from a member of Congress recommending an applicant for office had the effect to cut him off such a provision would do more to reform the service than any code of rules that could be adopted. After some further discussion the bill passed.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and had under consideration the joint resolution authorizing the survey of the boundary line between the United States and the British provinces from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, and was discussed by Messrs. Morgan, Roberts and Banks, and amended by reducing the appropriation from $100,000 to $50,000, when the bill passed.

Specie Payments—Issue of Wild-Cat Money in Georgia.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency held a meeting to-day, when the bills providing for the resumption of specie payment, some six in number, were talked over, but nothing definite was determined upon. All the bills on this subject have been referred to a subcommittee consisting of Messrs. Hooper, Cox, Waldron and Monroe. The bill of Mr. Merriam to punish bank examiners or officers for taking bribes or loans, &c., framed with the special view of punishing such crimes as is alleged against Callender, was referred to the sub-committee already appointed to inquire into the cause of the suspension of the national banks in New York and Philadelphia. This committee is prosecuting its investigations and has called for statements from the officers of the suspended banks. The Committee on Banking and Currency has received from the Comptroller of the Currency a note marked "twenty," of the shape of currency, and issued by the Georgia Central Railroad as currency, but without anything to indicate its value except that it will be received as fare on the railroad. It is doubtful whether the company is a banking corporation and authorized by the State of Georgia to issue notes, but they have already issued notes which to the company is equivalent to $40,000, and have been used in the purchase of exchange on New York. Accompanying this note was a communication from the Internal Revenue Collectors of Georgia asking for the passage of a law preventing the circulation of this species of wild-cat money. It is not certain that the law of the United States, which fixes a tax of ten per cent on all currency issued by State banks, will be sufficient to suppress this kind of currency. As it is intended to issue four or five millions of the notes in Georgia, it is supposed the company can pay the tax of ten per cent with profit to the concern. Neither do the committee show whether the laws of Georgia authorize the issuance of this species of currency as money. If there is such authority, the currency is subject to a tax of ten per cent, and if not, the officers of the railroad are amenable to the criminal laws of Georgia. The matter has been referred to a sub-committee to examine the subject and report what further legislation is necessary to make the currency of the country uniform. The pretext by which the railroad or banking company expects to escape the penalties or forfeitures under the laws of Georgia or the United States is this—that they have not used the words dollars or money in the similitude of the bank note, but that they have issued their notes for the payment of fares as a device to escape the penalties of the law.

Recognition of Cuban Belligerency.

Cuban agents are here in force and propose an active campaign, with the view of securing belligerent recognition, but have as yet developed no plan of action. The House Committee on Foreign Affairs is relied upon by them to report favorably on the proposition. At its meeting to-day the subject was not referred to, nor was the bill of General Banks for the enforcement of the fishery articles of the Treaty of Washington taken up, as was expected. The committee agreed to report in favor of raising the St. Petersburg and Berlin Missions to the first rank. The Cubans confidently expect a majority report in their favor, and even intimate that the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations is favorably disposed. Señor Ruiz, who has been here and in South American capitals for the past three years as an agent of the Cuban revolutionists, has just returned to this city. Colonel Macias, who has been in London in the same capacity for the past year, arrived to-night, accompanied by General McMahon, of New York. Colonel Cespedes, brother of the Cuban Chief, and one of the Commissioners recently arrived from Cuba, has been here for some days past. These gentlemen are quite elated over the intelligence brought by Colonel Macias of the good feeling manifested, it is claimed, towards their cause by the British government.

The Public Lands and the Public Schools.

The House Committee on Education and Labor meet to-morrow to perfect an important bill recently reported and recommitted, which, if it should pass, will provide that the public lands shall hereafter be devoted to educational purposes, one-half to be divided equally among the States and the other half in proportion to the number of common schools they organize. Several requests for a hearing on this subject have been asked from this city, among others by Aaron M. Powell, of the Reform League of New York.

A Swarm of Court House Jobs.

There has been large diminution in the number and amount of landgrab schemes before Congress this session, but there is much activity in pressing appropriations for government buildings all over the country. Hartford wants $300,000; Brooklyn, $600,000; Albany, $350,000; Syracuse, $80,000; Charleston, West Virginia, $150,000; Parkersburg, in the same State, the same amount; Cincinnati, a sum in blank; Quincy, Ill., $150,000; St. Louis, $1,000,000; Oshkosh, Wis., $300,000; La Crosse, $200,000; Lynchburg, Va., $200,000; Nashville, Tenn., $400,000; Brunswick, Ga., $100,000; Huntsville, Ala., $80,000; Key West, Jacksonville and Cedar Keys, in Florida, $50,000 each; Austin, Texas, $100,000, and Tyler, Texas, twice that sum; and many other large and small towns are down for big or little Court House jobs. These bills will all be pressed with great pertinacity by interested Congressmen before the Senate and House Committees on Public Buildings and Grounds; but the whole business is likely to break down by over weight, especially as past experience has clearly shown that the first appropriation is always used to open the doors to many subsequent ones for repairs, preservation and completion of the buildings. But there are sanguine expectations that with such court house and river and harbor appropriations as can be got out of Congress for each State the party funds can be considerably aided for the great election.

The Labor Inquiry Bill Before the Senate Committee—Candidates for the Commission.

The selected Senate committee have the act for a labor commission passed by the House before them. The proposition is regarded favorably, and will become law in some shape. Senator Wilson proposes to increase the commissioners to five, extend the time from one to two years and reduce the salaries to about three thousand five hundred dollars. A great deal of interest is manifested in the measure throughout the country, not only by labor reformers, but by others. Among those urged for appointment as representatives of the wages or mechanic classes are the names of Ira Steward, President of the New England Eight Hour League; O'Neal, of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics; J. H. Finney, of the Anthracite Miners' Union; also Mr. W. J. Jessup, of New York. Hons. George W. Julian and Benjamin F. Wade and President Barnard, of Columbia College, are among those named for chairman of the commission, while Robert Dale Owen and Dr. Elder are also mentioned.

England and Russian Intrigues.

It is stated in well-informed diplomatic circles that the English government, which has of course had even a larger interest than our own in the unimpeded and peaceful relations of the two nations, some time ago instituted inquiries into the matter of Russian diplomatic intrigues to prevent the conclusion of the Treaty of Washington. The result of these inquiries has established, it is claimed, not only the truth of Mr. Fish's charges against Mr. Catacazy as to the latter's intrigue, but also that Russian agents were at work elsewhere for the same end. The English diplomats are congratulating themselves and their country on what is regarded by them as the virtual end of the much-talked-of cordiality of feeling between the Great Republic and the Sclavonian empire.

The Syndicate Inquiry—The Report of the Committee—Probable Condemnation of the Scheme.

The Syndicate transactions have been made a matter of close investigation by the Committee of Ways and Means. The exact nature of the conclusions arrived at by the committee has not reached the public, but the report will soon appear. The HERALD is enabled to anticipate this report in a general way. The resolution under which this inquiry was made was offered by Mr. Cox, of New York. This resolution asked whether the Secretary had, in defiance of law, increased the public debt for a time to the extent of $150,000,000, or to any amount, and whether he had expended more than one-half of one per cent in commissions and expenses of placing the said loan. When the Committee of Ways and Means assembled Mr. Cox, as the author of the resolution, was requested to attend for the purpose of asking Mr. Boutwell certain questions. These interrogatories were submitted in writing by Mr. Cox. He asked the Secretary whether, in the first place, he had made any increase in the public debt. Mr. Boutwell replied that the debt had been increased to the extent of $130,000,000. It was impossible to place the loan without this temporary increase of the debt. The law as written was impossible of execution, and he construed it for the best interests of the country, as he was bound by express enactment to construe it so as to insure the success of the loan. He excused himself unqualifiedly for this temporary increase of the debt. Mr. Cox then asked whether the Secretary, by his action, had not made a precedent under which he could, if he pleased, increase the debt six hundred or a thousand millions for three months or for any time. The Secretary replied that, as he understood the law, it gave him this discretion. Mr. Cox then questioned the Secretary as to whether he had increased the expenses of the Syndicate to any sum above the one-half of one per cent allowed by law. The Secretary replied that although $7,000,000 had been appropriated for the purpose of placing the whole $1,500,000,000, he had a right, under the law, to use any portion of the $7,000,000 for the expenses of any portion of the whole loan, and that on this point the law gave him a sound and liberal discretion. Mr. Cox then asked the Secretary whether or not he had increased the interest of the public debt in any manner. The Secretary replied that there was an increase for three months; that during this time the Treasury really paid eleven per cent upon the $130,000,000. Mr. Cox then asked how much the government had lost in this increase. The Secretary replied that he did not see that the government had lost anything, considering the ultimate gain to the people in the ultimate reduction of the interest. Time upon the $130,000,000 interest was lost for three months. This gain remained to the Syndicate. It was under their option and control, and was in excess of the amount allowed to the Syndicate under the law as expenses. At least one or one and a half of the whole amount had been realized as a profit by the Syndicate. The reason of the uncertainty as to the real amount of the gain was from the testimony of Jay Cooke, who would not undertake to say how much had been gained in the negotiation.

The result of the inquiry, many members hold, is that Mr. Cox is justified in his resolution. The government has lost the interest on $130,000,000 for three months. During that time the money was in the hands of the Syndicate, under their option and absolute control, thoroughly out of the reach of the government, which had no security for the money whatever. The contract was extremely partial to the Syndicate, and as a business experiment assumed an unnecessary risk. The Secretary, it is understood, does not seek any further credit in the matter of funding the loan, until the whole matter is approved by Congress; nor will he seek to place the remainder until this approval is given, and so end all further syndicates.

Interest on the New Loan.

The transfer books of the registered bonds of the new loan were closed to-day in order to give the Treasurer time to prepare checks for the third quarterly interest due on the 1st of February. The checks will be mailed to holders of this class of bonds in the latter part of this month.

Counting the Cash.

The committee entrusted with the examination of the funds in the vaults of the United States Treasury have so far progressed with their work as to announce that they have not discovered any evidence of defalcations other than those of Marden and Johnson. The committee are now overhauling the sealed packages, and unless these have been tampered with, which is very doubtful, the aggregate amount stolen will not exceed the sum already reported.

Massachusetts and Republican Unity.

The presence of Governor Claflin, of Massachusetts, here is attributed to his anxiety for harmony in the party. The Governor is understood not to be in favor of the renomination of General Grant.

A reporter of the HERALD called on General Butler and asked him if it were true, as stated in New York papers, that he had declared that he would oppose Grant if Senator Wilson were put on the ticket with him for Vice President.

"Well," said the General, "if I never oppose Grant until Wilson is nominated with him I shall be supporting him as long as I live."

The Charges Against Judge Field.

The House Judiciary Committee, at its session this morning, directed Mr. Hastings, the petitioner for the impeachment of Associate Justice Field, of the Supreme Court, and United States District Judge Hoffman, on the charge of malfeasance and corrupt practices in the California United States courts, to submit his charges to writing and present them on Saturday next. This complainant has been here for the last two years and probably has no better chance than before for success. The petition is too diffuse and vague to impress upon indifferent persons the necessity of so severe a remedy. California appears to be a fruitful field for such accusations. They grow out of similar transactions to one that the Hon. George W. Julian is now engaged in managing on the part of settlers affected thereby. The General Land Office have under consideration a case involving the title of 18,000 acres of land in California, which is claimed as swamp land, and has been taken possession of by speculators under a State title. Instead of the land being swamp or overflowed it is situated 4,000 feet above tide water, and is occupied by over fifteen hundred persons. The region and the soil are so dry as to require irrigation to enable the farmers to produce grain crops. It is for sustaining frauds as charged in Mexican land grants, swamp land, &c., that the impeachment of Judge Field is asked.

Democratic Caucus.

The democratic members of Congress met in caucus this evening in the hall of the House of Representatives, Fernando Wood presiding. The object was to determine upon the policy to be adopted by the democrats in shaping legislation for the remainder of the session. It was deemed inexpedient, after some debate, to mark out at this time a definite line of policy, and it was therefore deferred until some future time.

The Printing Paper Contracts.

The awards for supplying the government printing office with printing paper were made to-day by the Joint Committee on Printing. There are 30,000 reams of Class 1 to be furnished, and the quantity was equally distributed between Wheelwright, Mudge & Co., Hoffman, and H. M. Clark & Co., at prices ranging from $13 80 to $14 19. Seventeen thousand reams of Class 2 were divided between Wheelwright, Mudge & Co., H. M. Clark & Co., Smith, Crosby & Co. and Jessup & Moore, at from $16 84 to $16 62. Class 3, 8,600 reams, was all taken by Jessup & Moore at $16 62. McGarghie took all of Class 4, and the small quantities of the three other classes were awarded to Campbell, Hall & Co., Woolworth & Graham, Wheelwright, Mudge & Co., the Seymour Paper Company, Smith, Crosby & Co., and Jessup & Moore.

The Elgee Cotton Case.

In the Court of Claims to-day it was decided to allow the counsel for Woodruff and Burchard in what is known as the Elgee cotton case, until the 5th of March next to prove the genuineness of the contract submitted as evidence yesterday, and to which the Assistant Attorney General objected, as was stated in these despatches yesterday.

Presidential Nominations.

The President sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations:—Charles E. Brown, to be Pension Agent at Cincinnati; John S. Boyer, Receiver of Public Moneys at Walla Walla, W. T.

Senatorial Confirmations.

The Senate, in executive session, to-day confirmed the following nominations:—

Consuls—Adolphus G. Studer, of Iowa, at Singapore; Daniel Turner, of Pennsylvania, at Osaca; James Faulkner, at Tombes; Arthur Morrell, Vice Consul at San Jose, Costa Rica.

Assessors of Internal Revenue.—William J. Davis, First District, Mississippi; D. C. Lamb, Third District, Wisconsin; Charles C. Brown, to be Pension Agent at Cincinnati; J. H. Wing, Receiver at Bayfield, Wis.

Columbus Dunham, Postmaster at San Diego, Cal.

Registers of Land Offices.—James Sibley, at Huntsville, Ala.; C. S. Zane, at Springfield, Ill.; John C. Holdman, at Vancouver, W. T.

Navy and Revenue Marine.—Captain William B. Whiting, now on the retired list, to be a commodore in the navy, on the retired list; William J. Herring and William Hand, of New York, to be second lieutenants in revenue marine; William L. Baldwin, of New York, and Edward Burke, of Wisconsin, to be third lieutenants in revenue marine.

Army.—The following were confirmed as second lieutenants in the army:—Edward P. Turner, late a private in the Fifth regiment cavalry; William Lewis Pitcher, of the District of Columbia; Morris C. Wessel, of Connecticut; Jacob R. Pierce, of Illinois, and John L. Clemm, of Illinois. The last named is known as the Drummer Boy of Shiloh. He has recently been an assistant doorkeeper of the Senate, which office he to-day resigned after his confirmation.

Immigration Legislation.

Secretary Boutwell has received memorials from several of the State Legislatures urging a rigid enforcement of all laws on the subject of immigration, and to recommend such additional legislation as may be necessary. Mr. Boutwell says that the bill already introduced in the House providing for the establishment of a bureau of immigration, if passed, will remedy existing evils.

Rebellious Clerks Executed.

The insubordinate clerks in the Third Auditor's office, who accused Auditor Rutherford of ordering accounts to be closed that lacked, in their opinion, documentary evidence to warrant the order, and refused to comply, were to-day informed by Secretary Boutwell that their services were no longer required. The Secretary has also dismissed the charges preferred against the Auditor.

Steamboat Inspectors.

The Board of Supervising Inspectors of Steamboats begin their annual session in this city to-morrow, when the reports of operations of the Supervisors of the ten districts for the past year will be submitted. The result of tests of inventions adopted at the previous session will also be submitted.

Steam Gauges.

To-day the House Committee on Commerce heard the argument of Mr. Edson against striking out of the Steamboat bill the clause requiring the use of his recording gauge. O. W. Copeland, of New York, on behalf of the steamboat men, advocated its rejection. On Thursday the committee will hear arguments for and against the Ashcraft gauge.

The Diamond State Protesting.

J. H. Riley, Consul General of the Orange Free State, has received the proclamation of President Brand, protesting against the act of the Governor of Cape Colony in occupying a portion of the diamond fields in that State as a violation of the Convention recognizing its independence and as an encroachment upon the rights and territory of that republic.

The Scott Statue.

The Secretary of War has asked Congress to appropriate $42,000 to complete the marble statue of Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, with its pedestal, &c., in accordance with a unanimous joint resolution of Congress of 1867.

What Salt Has to Say.

On Thursday, February 1, at half-past ten o'clock, the Committee on Ways and Means will give a hearing to the salt men.

Agricultural College Land Scrip.

All the States entitled to Agricultural College Land scrip have received the same, except Arkansas and Florida.

"Unwrung Withers."

There is no foundation for the rumors that the officers on duty at the Executive Mansion will resign in consequence of statements growing out of the Custom House investigation in New York city.

Consul Recognized.

The President has recognized Carl H. Meyer as Consul of the German Empire at Philadelphia.

The Honesty of the Executive.

[From the Providence Journal (republican, Senator Anthony), Jan. 16.]

The President has disposed at once and effectually of all discussion as to the faithfulness of government officials in the Custom House at New York or elsewhere. When he says that attainted officers—not officials legally convicted of wrongdoing—shall be summarily dismissed there can be no doubt as to the purity of the Executive. There always have been, there always will be, dishonest men who get into public position, just as there are hypocrites in the Church. All that can be asked of any administration is that it shall take due care to keep such men out, and that if they get in they shall, as soon as they are found out, be dismissed.

Civil Rights and Civil Service.

[From the Boston Advertiser (republican), Jan. 16.]

* * * Not because we entertain any unfriendliness to the bill Mr. Sumner is urging, but because we wish no hindrances to be put in the way of a speedy general amnesty, we regret that he thinks it necessary to shackle the two things together. If the Amnesty bill can be passed without the Civil Rights bill, it will be well. If the Civil Rights bill can be passed without the Amnesty bill, that, too, will be gratifying. If both can be passed, that will be better still; but if both are defeated by insisting that they shall not be disunited, where will be the advantage? We may concede that the Civil Rights bill is in its principle a more important measure than the Amnesty bill; but as the case stands, the Civil Rights bill is no more likely to succeed in connection with the Amnesty bill than on its own merits, while the latter is pretty certain to be weakened by the union.

THE TARIFF.

Senator Sherman's Bill to Regulate Import Duties.

IMPORTANT REDUCTIONS PROPOSED.

Duties on Coal, Salt, Tea, Coffee, Cotton and Woollen Fabrics To Be Reduced—Five Hundred Articles To Be Placed on the Free List.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1872.

The following is the important bill reported today by Senator Sherman, from the Committee on Finance, as a substitute for the House bill repealing duties on coal, iron and salt:—

Be it enacted, &c., That on and after the 1st day of July, A. D. 1872, in lieu of the duties heretofore imposed by law on the articles mentioned in this section, there shall be levied, collected and paid on the goods, wares and merchandise in this section enumerated, imported from foreign countries, the following duties and rates of duty, that is to say:—On teas of all kinds, ten cents per pound; on coffee of all kinds, two cents per pound; on chicory and succory roots, burnt or prepared, three cents per pound; on acorn coffee and dandelion, roots, raw or prepared, and on all substitutes for coffee, two cents per pound; on all extracts or essences of coffee, fifty cents per pound; on all bituminous coal, fifty cents per ton of twenty-eight bushels, eighty pounds to the bushel; on salt in bulk and on all rock salt or mineral salt, nine cents per hundred pounds; on salt in bags, sacks, barrels or other packages, twelve cents per hundred pounds; on cleaned rice, including rice commonly called Patna rice; one and one-fourth cent per pound; on uncleaned rice, including Patna rice, one cent per pound; on paddy, three-fourths of a cent per pound; on potatoes, ten cents per bushel; on all timber, squared or sided, not otherwise provided for, one cent per cubic foot; on sawed boards, plank, deals and other lumber of spruce, hemlock, white wood and basswood, $1 per thousand feet, board measure; on all other varieties of sawed lumber, $2 per thousand feet, board measure—provided that when lumber of any sort is planed or finished, in addition to the rates herein provided there shall be levied and paid for each side so planed or finished $1 per thousand feet, and if planed on one side and tongued and grooved, $2 per thousand feet, and if planed on two sides and tongued and grooved, $3 for per thousand feet; on hubs for wheels, posts, last blocks, wagon blocks, oar blocks, gun-heading blocks and all like blocks or sticks, rough hewn or sawed, only twenty per cent ad valorem; on pickets, palings and laths, twenty-five per cent ad valorem; on all shingles fifty cents per thousand; on pine clapboards, $2 per thousand; on spruce clapboards, $1 50 per thousand; on house or cabinet furniture, in pieces or rough and not finished, thirty per cent ad valorem; on casks and barrels, empty, and on sugar box shooks and packing boxes of wood, not otherwise provided for, five per cent, ad valorem—provided that casks, barrels or carboys, and other vessels and grain bags, the manufacture of the United States, if exported containing American produce, and declaration is made of intent to return the same empty, shall be admitted free of duty under such regulations as shall be presented by the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 2.—That on and after the 1st day of July next, in lieu of the duties imposed by law on the articles in this section enumerated, there shall be levied, collected and paid on the goods, wares and merchandise in this section enumerated and provided for, imported from foreign countries, ninety per cent of the several duties and rates of duty now imposed by law upon said articles severally, it being the intent of this section to reduce existing duties on said articles ten per cent of such duties; that is to say, on all manufactures of cotton of which cotton is the component part of chief value; on all wools of the alpaca goat and other like animals, and on all manufactures of which wool or such hair as the component part of chief value; on all the manufactures of silk which are now subject to a duty of sixty per cent ad valorem; on all iron and steel and on all manufactures of iron and steel of which either of such metals is the component part of chief value, excepting pig iron and steel rails; on all metals other than iron and steel, and on all manufactures of metals of which either of them is the component part of chief value; on all earthenware and glassware; on all hides, skins, bone, ivory, horn and leather, and on manufactures of either of said articles, or of which either of said articles is the component part of chief value; on all India rubber, gutta percha or straw, and on oilcloths of all descriptions.

SEC. 3.—That on and after the 1st day of July next the importation of the articles enumerated and described in this section shall be exempt from duty—that is to say: agates unmanufactured, almond shells, asphaltum and manufactures of the same, asbestos, bags for malting, bath brick and Bristol stones, Brazil pebbles for spectacles, blueing, stuffed birds, bladders, crude, and all integuments of animals not otherwise provided for; bristles, brooms, brass, old, and fit only for remanufacture; bulbs and bulbous roots, cement, roman and water lime; chalk, white, French and all other; coal, stores of American vessels provided that none shall be unloaded; unwrought pipe clay, fire clay and kaolin, fuller's earth, crucibles of sand or earth, or pots of black lead or plumbago, in whole or in part, chemicals, drugs, dyes and medicines, amber beads, angelica root, antimony, crude or regulus; aniline, Arminian stone, ammonium and carbonate of ammonium, salammoniac, annatto extract, aquafortis, argol dust, argentool, citric and chromic acids, Peruvian chincona, Lima, calisaya, and other chincona barks; bleaching powders or chloride of lime, St Johns beans, Bezoar stones, black salts, black tans, Brazil paste, Burgundy pitch, copaiva, fir, Peruvian and Tolu balsams; borax, cinnabar, calomel, cobalt ore and oxide, charcoal, crude camphor, cow or pine pox or vaccine virus, curry and curry powders, cream of tartar, tartar emetic, carbolic crystals, chamomile flowers, cincona root, colcotha, dry or oxide of iron, coltsfoot, crude drugs, contrayerva root, cowage, down, cyanite, dried bugs, elecampane root, nitric ether, ergot, farina, finishing powder, galangs, gentian root, oxide of gold, grains, grains, glycerine, gold size, glucose, ginsing root, hellebore root, liquor of indigo, carmined, including all extracts of iron, japstick, matties leaf, crude musk, oxide and ore of manganese, marsh mallows, sugar of milk, maronde muriates of gold or strontrush, orange buds and flowers, pellitory root, polypodion, pular root, red precipitate, phosphorus, bicarbonate and hydrate of potash (not being medicine), pearlash, saleratus and calcium, crude potash and salts of potash not otherwise provided for, putty, raw and prepared rennets, Rochelle salts, resin or rosin, seneca root, stavacre, storax, stronila, succinic acid, spunk, sulphate of magnesia, epsom salts, salacine, sassafras, sealing wax, sumac, snake root, sponges, crude pica, tripoli, Turkish, red salts, Tyrian dye, talc, terra alba crystals, tonqua bean, tartaric acid, tin liquor, oxide of tin, oxide of uranium, Venice turpentine, beeswax, bay or myrtle and shoemakers' wax, citron, green, dried and preserved in sugar; butter fibre, leaves, shells, rocahoot and wine of cocoa, coir, box and ship chronometers and parts of the same, old copper, dried blood, dried and prepared flowers, prepared or manufactured dulce, pulverized emery, firewood, flints, raw or unmanufactured fish skins, enamel, meerschaum, palm leaf fans, feathers and down for beds, feather beds, French sand, filtering and polishing felt for marble cutters' use, manufactured or unmanufactured filtering stones, bananas, pine apples, plantains, all kinds of currants, gelatine, gineer root, gum, gum substitutes, sifting guts, goldbeaters' moulds and skins, old or refuse gunny bags, hair of hogs, curled hair for beds or mattresses, hones, honey, brames liquid, hop roots for cultivation, hides, Angora goat skins, raw, without the wool; and raw and manufactured asses' skins, isinglass or fish glue, Jolie or Tampico fibre, insect powder, India or Malacca joints, indiarubber, yarn or thread, jellies of all kinds, kieserite, lithographic stones not engraved, scrap leather, lemon or lime juice, Dutch metal, mica, mineral waters, magnets, moss, seaweed and all vegetable substances used for beds and mattresses, macaroni and vermicelli, gut strings for musical instruments, Bologna sausage, sausage skins, saur krout, venison, natural flowers, the following named oils:—Almond, essential, crude and rectified; amber, anise or anised, fixed or expressed almonds, ambergris, athos or rosemary, expressed bay or laurel, bergamot, cajeput, cekrat, carraway, cinnamon, citronella or lemon, grass civet, cubebs, cassia, cloves, fennel, jessamine, juniper, juglau, dium, lavender, mace, neatsfoot, poppy, otter of roses (red and white), thyme, sesame, valerian, ossenum, invidium, ollcake, oxydizing paste; also the following paints and colors:—Frankfort black, mineral blue, mineral and French green, mineral kermes, smalts and frostings, sienna (dry and in oil), paladium metal, parchment, rough pebbles for spectacles, old pewter, plumbago, prepared or unprepared quills, quick grass root, root flour, railroad ties of wood, sago, sago flour; the following seeds:—Anise, anise star, caraway, chia sugarcane and sesamum, sparteree (for making or ornamenting hats), soap stocks and soap stuffs, round and unmanufactured timber, teasles, tin in pigs, bars or blocks, and yeast cakes.

SOUTH CAROLINA FINANCES.

Proposal of the Union Trust Company to Compound the State Debt at Fifty Cents on the Dollar—The Governor in Favor of the Scheme.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 16, 1872.

Mr. Wesley, on behalf of the Union Trust Company, proposes to accept the financial agency of the State in New York, if it is arranged by the Legislature to compound the State debt at fifty cents on the dollar. He recommends the issue of new bonds, which the Trust Company will guarantee to arrange on this basis, and advance the necessary money for the payment of interest and the redemption of the stock hypothecated by Kimpton.

Governor Scott is said to entertain the proposal.

Mr. Wesley leaves for New York to-morrow.

FUNERAL OF BISHOP M'GILL.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16, 1872.

The funeral of the Right Rev. John McGill, Catholic Bishop of Virginia, took place to-day, Bishop James J. Wood, of Philadelphia, officiating. Bishop P. N. Lynch, of Charleston, S. C., delivered the funeral discourse. The ceremonies were of a most impressive and solemn character, and were witnessed by an immense congregation, while thousands were unable to gain admittance to the Cathedral. Bishops Becker, of Wilmington, Del., and Gibbons, of North Carolina, together with a number of priests of the diocese, participated.

The remains of the deceased Bishop were interred under the Cathedral.

THE VETERANS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Jan. 16, 1872.

The New Hampshire Veteran Union held their annual reunion at the City Hall this afternoon, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, General M. T. Donohue, of Concord; Vice President, General Walter Harriman.

A banquet was given by the citizens of Manchester at Smyth's Hall, and about two hundred of the veterans, with ladies, were present.

After the dinner spe