WASHINGTON.

The Mule-Mounted Gun Resolution in the Senate.

It Sweeps the Entire Political Horizon.

Senator Wright on the Wrong of the Inquiry.

Senator West's Lecture on Sumner's "Hostile Projectiles."

CONKLING'S PATRONAGE RESOLUTION

The Deficiency Bill Raises a Dust in the House.

CLEARING THE SPEAKER'S TABLE

The Geyser Land Park Bill Passed.

The Steamship Subsidy Plan for a Commerce Revival.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27, 1872.

The Senate as a Hen Convention on the Hatching of Cannon Balls—The Incubation Probably Eternal.

It was expected that to-day the Senate would reach a vote on the question which has so long consumed its time, but the conclusion of the debate seems as far off as ever. Mr. Sumner has the floor for to-morrow for an elaborate review of the whole situation, and this is likely to provoke another interminable discussion. The debate to-day was for the most part insipid, and instructive or beneficial in nothing. Mr. Schurz made another adroit speech, in which he skilfully shifted the charges in the wonderful preamble to the resolution and in his first speech, to an accusation of selling breech-loading arms to France by the Secretary of War and the Chief of Ordnance, although the latter officer described the arms as good, and demanded the manufacture of 100,000 breech-loading muskets as necessary for an emergency. But the importance of his speech was in the declaration that he would not vote for Grant's re-election, and had no intention of going to the democracy. He expected to vote, he said, for as good a republican as any on the floor of the Senate. This remark evidently pointed to Trumbull and was received with some applause, but Mr. Anthony, who was acting as President of the Senate, immediately repressed the demonstration.

The discussion took a very wide range, and the speech of Mr. Schurz, like the speeches of those who went before and who followed him, dealt with all the political questions of the day. The general order business in New York, which has been touched upon nearly every day since the beginning of the session, afforded an opportunity for a sparring match between Harlan and Schurz, in which the former had the advantage in spite of the great tact and adroitness of the Missouri Senator. There is much bad blood in the Senate growing out of these prolonged discussions, and the distemper is beginning to spread even to the democratic side. Mr. Thurman denounced the purposed inquiry into the conduct of Mr. Schurz in his dealings with the foreign legations, declaring that the amendment was not sustained by a single argument or the slightest show of proof, while Mr. Edmunds declared that the speeches of Mr. Schurz seemed to show that he had forgotten himself in giving to the Prussian Minister information which he had just received from the Secretary of War. Mr. Conkling also spoke with some severity on the position of Mr. Thurman.

The short speech of Mr. Thurman was the first word which has been uttered from the democratic side, but it indicates clearly that the democrats are ready to investigate charges against everybody except their friends and new-found allies. At the opening of the session to-day Mr. Morton indicated that the whole subject was to be disposed of before the Senate rose, and this hope was clung to till the last, but Mr. Sumner's demand to be heard compelled everybody to become resigned to another day of fruitless talk. When Sumner obtained the floor for to-morrow other Senators indicated that he is not to be allowed to have the last word, and indeed the whole thing has narrowed itself into an old woman's folly, and Mr. Schurz's pretty sentence to-day in his praises of the German love for the Fatherland—"He that forgets his old mother is not likely to be long true to his young bride"—would fail to convince the stranger that the Senate of the United States is not in reality a public meeting of Sorosis. It may be necessary in the end to get rid of this endless debate, by laying the whole subject on the table, and there is a growing disposition to adopt this course, the only thing which prevents it being a fear that the administration would be charged with a disposition to avoid an investigation.

The House French Arms Inquiry.

The House Committee charged with the investigation of the sale of arms met to-day, and spent some time in laying out a plan of operations, after which they adjourned. Secretary Belknap and the Chief of Ordnance will appear before the committee to-morrow.

German at the Military Academy.

The resolution of General Morgan, of Ohio, in the House yesterday, directing that the German language be introduced at the Military Academy, was a cleverly managed surprised of the republican members, and gave them no chance to dodge. The introduction of German at West Point has been the subject of informal consideration by the War Department, but the political stratagem of the democratic Representative has brought the question to a ready solution.

Ammunition for the Campaign.

The Senate document-folders are busily engaged in putting up campaign documents for the rival Congressional executive committees for use in New York. The democratic committee is sending off three of the speeches of Senator Schurz and extracts from speeches of Trumbull. The republican committee is using speeches of Conkling and Morton and articles from the HERALD and one other New York journal. The legislative appropriations afford the means of paying the expenses of both committees in putting up these documents.

The Drake Amendment.

It will be recollected that the Supreme Court lately decided against what was known as the "Drake Amendment," holding that Congress has no constitutional power to define or control the effect of a pardon granted or amnesty offered by the President. The Court of Claims, which was concerned in this decision, acting upon the opinion of the Supreme Court, has recently, in one of the numerous cotton cases, acted in pursuance of it, holding that the President's proclamation of December 25, 1868, wiped out all offences, and if the persons affected lived in a district not in insurrection the law presumed his loyalty and he therefore needs no pardon. The Drake amendment, now pronounced unconstitutional, was a virtual bar to suitors, notwithstanding the production of proof as to pardon and amnesty, unless at the time of receiving the same the recipients protested that they had been guilty of alleged disloyal acts.

Lumber and Rice.

The Committee of Ways and Means discussed the lumber interests without coming to any conclusion. Rice will probably be left at its present duty.

The Brandy Tax.

Under the act of July 12, 1870, the tariff on imported brandy was considerably reduced. The manufacturers of fine whiskeys feel aggrieved by this reduction, and say that it has materially injured their business. A memorial is now being drawn up by the leading manufacturers, which will be presented to Congress next week, urging that the tax on imported brandy be fixed as before the reduction—$2 50 per gallon and twenty per cent ad valorem.

The Commerce Revival Bill.

The House Committee on Commerce to-day agreed to Representative Shellabarger's bill, with amendments. This bill was founded on the bill heretofore recommended to the committee by the Secretary of the Treasury, and approved by the Secretary of the Navy. In the amended form the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Postmaster General and the Secretary of the Interior are to constitute a Board of Commerce. They are authorized to contract for a line from New York to England and the Continent of Europe; another from some other point of the Atlantic coast to Europe; a line from New York to Mexico; a line from San Francisco to Australia and other East India islands, and one from New Orleans to Mexican ports; and to pay $10 per ton per annum for five years to an extent not exceeding 500,000 tons—100,000 the first year—50,000 to be distributed to the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, 25,000 to the Pacific and 25,000 to the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and the great lakes for iron ships of American construction; $8 per ton for wooden ships over 400 tons burden, and $6 per ton for wooden ships over 200 tons burden. The bill authorizes the Commissioners to allow the same tonnage bounty to lines already subsidized, which include the lines from New York to Brazil and from San Francisco to China. The bill also includes a line from New Orleans to Brazil as introduced by Representative Sheldon, a member of the committee. The committee consented for Representative Lynch to offer an amendment in the House providing that imported materials used for the construction of ships shall be free from duty, or where American material is used an amount equal to the duty shall be allowed. The committee will be called next week, when the bill will be reported. In five years the cost to the government would be $25,000,000, provided iron ships shall be constructed to the extent of 500,000 tons. The allowance to wooden vessels would be additional.

A Question for American Artists.

That innocent old chap, Senator Hamlin, who owns that he knows nothing about the subject, has introduced a bill requiring the Secretary of the Interior to employ Fisk Mills, son of Clark Mills, the sculptor, to execute a group of statuary illustrating the late epoch of American history. The bill is likely to stir up the indignation of the art community of the country, as there is a strong demand for fair and free competition for the embellishment of the Capitol, as against the costly monopoly of disfigurement enjoyed by a few persons of native and foreign birth, none of whom are remarkable for American art ideas or national sympathies.

Claims of Southern Colleges.

The House Committee on Claims have before them claims for destruction of property by military necessity in the South, amounting in the aggregate to over two millions of dollars, which are being daily augmented. None of these claims have been allowed by the committee, nor will they be until the William and Mary College bill is disposed of by the House. Its passage will be accepted by the committee as an instruction to report favorably upon the bills referred to, and, as soon as the principle is decided, claims reaching in the aggregate to $20,000,000 will be pressed either in this or the next Congress.

The Southern Claims Commission.

The cases heard in the Southern Claims Commission to-day were those of the Misses Dickens, of this city, daughters of the late Asbury Dickens, formerly Secretary of the Senate, for property taken in Virginia amounting to $2,310, and Ignatius T. Chatkowski, of New York city, for property taken in Virginia to the amount of $12,085.

Another Alleged Claim—Prosecuting Congressmen.

Among the first cases to be presented to the Grand Jury of the Criminal Court next week will be an information against M. F. Prosser, charging him with having received certain moneys for prosecuting a claim before the Quartermaster's Department while he was a Representative in Congress.

Presidential Nominations.

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

John H. Haines, to be Collector of Customs at Brazos de Santiago, Texas; J. W. C. Bryant, to be Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Fourth District of Tennessee; Edward Cheney, to be Postmaster at Jacksonville, Florida.

The Wickenburg Massacre.

Captain O'Beirne, the army officer who was accused by Kruger, one of the survivors of the Wickenburg massacre, of cruelty, replies to the charge as follows:—

CAMP DATE CREEK, A. T., Feb. 3, 1872.

Hon. VINCENT COLYER:—

DEAR SIR—I thank you kindly for your letter and for your consideration in sending me the Kruger letter concerning the massacre near Wickenburg, and charging me with "inhumanity" toward Kruger and Miss Shepherd.

Before this can well reach you the letters sent from here for publication in the *Army and Navy Journal* concerning this affair will have appeared, and I think will satisfy you that Mr. Kruger is an inconsiderable liar and slanderer. I am utterly at a loss to conceive what the fellow expected to gain by writing such lies. He is, however, such a disreputable character that he is unworthy of mention.

The account of the murder to which you allude in your letter was that, in fact, there were no horses, guns, blankets, &c., taken, and that the mail was robbed—Kruger's correct report of it, as far as I have been able to ascertain, although I am not satisfied that there were not Indians connected with the outrage. I have only contended that the Indians pertaining to this post had nothing to do with it. I regret I have not a copy of Captain Meinhold's report to send you, although it threw but little light as to the clearing up of the mystery. There was so much doubt in Captain Meinhold's mind, judging from the evidences he met with, as to who thi perpetrators were, that he was careful not to commit himself, although he was inclined to believe that the assassins were Indians. He reported the tracks he followed bore every evidence of being those of Indians; that they diverged, after going some distance from where the stage was attacked, into various tracks, going in different directions after the manner of Indians. At the same time he saw that the mail had been opened, and that while letters belonging to civilians were not touched, those addressed to quartermasters and commissaries were opened and robbed, showing plainly that the perpetrators did it were able to discriminate. Everything relating to Indians has been remarkably quiet since this sad occurrence, and I devoutly hope it may long continue. With great respect, &c.,

R. F. O'BEIRNE, Captain Twenty-first Infantry.

Agent Tanner, who resides at a reservation near the scene of the massacre, and went personally for the purpose of eliciting the truth, also writes by to-day's mail:—

We spent a night with Mr. Sexton, at Wickenburg. They said that there were strongly expressed opinions in Wickenburg that seven Mexicans were with the party who attacked the stage. I satisfied myself at Date Creek that none of the Indians belonging there had been engaged in it, and they had not been tracked in that direction.

General Dudley, who commanded the post nearest the scene of the murder, also says:—

The robbery of the mail stage and the killing of five citizens by an unknown party near Wickenburg of course is laid to the Indians. At first even the Prescott papers partially admitted that it was a party of Mexican bandits from Sonora. Indians, when they attack a stage, are not apt to leave the horses, blankets, &c. In this case they did. I do not believe there was an Apache near the scene of the murder. All honest men have the same opinion if they dared to express it.

Grasscloth Handkerchiefs.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in a letter to the Collector of Customs at New York, decides that the so-called grasscloth handkerchiefs, resembling linen in texture, quality and appearance, are not the grasscloths specified in section 8 of the act of June 30, 1864, and which are commonly known as such, but should be classified under and by virtue of the twentieth section of the act of 1842 as assimilating to linen handkerchiefs and linens, and a duty assessed thereon at the rate of forty per cent ad valorem.

The Texas Pacific Railroad.

Representative Wheeler to-day introduced a bill to amend the act incorporating the Texas Pacific Railroad, which was referred to the Committee on Pacific Railroads. It provides a longer time for the completion of the West end of the road, and authorizes the issue of consolidated bonds of this road and the roads which it absorbs—namely, the Southern Pacific and the Memphis and El Paso.

The Pictorial Patent Paper.

The Commissioner of Patents wants General Garfield's committee to vote $40,000 for the pictorial embellishment of the weekly paper published from his office at $5 a year to regular subscribers. He will not get the money this session.

Military Professorship.

By direction of the President First Lieutenant Junius W. McMurray, First artillery, is detailed as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the University of Missouri, at Columbia.

A New Lighthouse.

The Lighthouse Board has recommended the construction of a lighthouse at Charlotte Harbor, Fla.

The South Carolina Marshalship.

Major Johnson, United States Marshal for the district of South Carolina, has not yet resigned. He says that General Terry, in command of the department, rendered him efficient service in the discharge of his duties, and that it was Major Merrill's officiousness of which he complained in his statements to the local press.

Public Land Administration.

Senator Pomeroy introduced into the Senate today a bill which, to the knowing ones about the Capitol, is suggestive of more jobbery in public lands. It provides a large and costly organization of the General Land Office; and another bill, introduced by the same Senator, adds forty additional clerks for one year to hurry the work of the office.

FORTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27, 1872.

LET US HAVE ARBITRATION.

Mr. ANTHONY, (rep.) of R. I., presented the memorial of the American Peace Society, and a petition, signed by more than twelve thousand citizens, in favor of arbitration as a means of settling international disputes, and expressed his gratification at being selected to present so important a document.

Mr. CASSERLY, (dem.) of Cal., presented the Joint Resolutions of the California Legislature in favor of the establishment of certain mail routes in California and Nevada.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following bills were introduced:—

By Mr. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kan.—To bring up the arrearages of work in the General Land office, appropriating $48,000 for forty additional clerks of class one in the said bureau.

Also a bill to reorganize the clerical force in the General Land office.

By Mr. OSBORN, (rep.) of Fla.—To establish the Western Judicial District of Florida.

By Mr. COLE, (rep.) of Cal.—To incorporate the Utah Railroad, Mining and Land Company.

By Mr. HITCHCOCK, (rep.) of Neb.—Appropriating $150,000 for erecting a government bridge at Lincoln, Neb.

By Mr. WINDOM, (rep.) of Minn.—To incorporate and grant the right of way to the Arkansas Valley and Rocky Mountain Railroad Company.

NATIVE ART.

By Mr. HAMLIN, (rep.) of Me.—To provide for a group of statuary to commemorate the late epoch of American history, directing the employment of Fisk Mills, sculptor, to prepare said group, after a design to be approved by the Joint Library Committee.

Mr. RAMSEY, (rep.) of Minn., from the Committee on Post Offices, reported the House bill for the relief of T. E. Eastman, Postmaster of Chicago, and it was passed.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill to admit, free of duty, photographs to be exhibited at the National Photograph Exhibition at Cleveland, with amendments admitting, free of duty, all photographs, paintings and statuary imported for exhibition in public galleries and scientific institutions. This provision to take effect only during the next six months. The amendements were adopted and the bill passed.

SENATORIAL PATRONAGE.

Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., called up a resolution requesting the President to send to the Senate a statement of the recommendations for appointments to office made by the Senators from New York, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska and South Carolina.

Mr. FERRY, (rep.) of Mich., regretted to see this resolution before the Senate. Its adoption would serve no public, but only personal, interests. The Senate had already wasted two weeks in a discussion bearing almost entirely upon a personal question, whether or not General Grant is to be renominated by the Convention to meet on the 5th of June, while at the same time there was no doubt in anybody's mind that General Grant would be renominated. This was a personal resolution

AIMED AT CERTAIN SENATORS,

and to adopt it would do injustice to them unless the recommendations made by other Senators were also made public.

Mr. CONKLING said he had offered the resolution as a means of showing the extent of the charge so often made that he had been the recipient of a great deal of Executive patronage and was hanging on to the skirts of power to preserve it. He had no unworthy personal motive, and he was quite willing that all the recommendations to office made by all the Senators should be published; but he would prefer to have this resolution passed by itself, so as to get the desired information as to the proofs of those who make that suggestion.

Mr. SCHURZ, (rep.) of Mo., said that the investigation could not be just unless it were general, so that the recommendations made to each Senator might be compared with those made by every other Senator. For himself, he rather courted the investigation, and he had no doubt that if it should be made he would be able to show that he could easily have got more patronage than he had.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., offered his amendment suggested yesterday, requesting the President to inform the Senate at whose instance the tabulated statement of his (Mr. Trumbull's) recommendations, spoken of by Mr. Morton on Friday, was made out, and whether similar statements were made out of the recommendations made by other Senators.

Mr. CONKLING accepted the amendment.

At the expiration of the morning hour the resolution went over, and the Senate resumed the consideration of the resolution to inquire into the alleged

SALES OF ARMS TO FRENCH AGENTS.

Mr. MORTON, (rep.) of Ind., said he hoped the Senate would sit it out to-day.

Mr. WRIGHT, (rep.) of Iowa, addressed the Senate. He said that half the session had now passed, and the greater part of the time since the meeting of the Senate in December had been spent in mere political debate, to the neglect of legitimate and important business. The debate on the pending resolution had taken a very wide range, and, therefore, he might be pardoned for saying a few words on one of the subjects which had wasted much time of the session.

AMNESTY HE WOULD NOT VOTE FOR,

either universal or general amnesty, because he believed it to be more important that this government should be just than that it should forgive unrepentant rebels, and place them on a level, politically, with loyal men. Pending resolution, he said whatever others might do he would not vote for it, with or without the preamble, because the discussion had shown beyond all question that there was no warrant whatever for an investigation. He believed it had been demonstrated beyond all doubt that there was absolutely nothing to throw the least suspicion upon the nation or its officials. He would even venture to appeal to the mover of the resolution (Mr. Sumner) to say whether he believed that if the investigation should be ordered it would bring to light a single act of wrong in morals or law on the part of any one connected with our government.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass.—I believe it will.

Mr. WRIGHT—I had hoped that the Senator would have answered otherwise.

Mr. SUMNER—Oh, no.

Mr. WRIGHT continued to argue that there was nothing in the matter demanding investigation. Who now believed in the alleged discrepancy between the accounts of the War Department and those of the Treasury, or in the alleged violation of our neutral obligations, or in any of the grounds adduced, even for suspicion of wrongdoing in this matter? And if an attempt to make a case for investigation had failed why should the Senate order an investigation? But he would vote against the resolution also because it unjustly and unwarrantably arraigned the Secretary of War, a citizen of his own State. He knew the great worth of that officer and his readiness to open his books and papers to the fullest scrutiny, and to have

EVERY OFFICIAL ACT OF HIS LAID BARE;

nay, he knew that the Secretary would prefer that he, as his friend, should vote for this resolution; but he could not consent to do so because he believed it would be most unjust to subject him to a groundless investigation, and one which would at least imply wrongdoing. On his part, he would oppose this resolution also because there was no doubt it was aimed at the national administration, and designed to impair its strength with the people. He was neither a liberal, an administration or anti-administration republican; he was simply a republican, and he was proud of being a Union republican. He rejected all other qualifying designations. The republican party had needed no other name to enable it to conquer in 1868, and it would need no other name to conquer in the approaching Presidential campaign; further, he thought it beneath the dignity of the Senate to turn

POLICE OFFICER AND SEARCHER OF RECORDS,

and to engage in the business of raking up the evidence against another government, which may or may not have been defrauded by its own agents, for he believed that was all there was in this case. Prussia had not complained; nobody had complained. There was no longer any discrepancy or any suspicion of a violation of our neutral obligations—nothing but mere suspicion that France had been

CHEATED BY SOMEBODY,

and certainly he could not consent that the Senate should turn aside from its legitimate business to settle that question. But it is argued that should the investigation be refused the refusal would be attributed to improper motives. Even if that were so, it would be no reason for a Senator to vote against what he believed right and just. He did not think, however, that the people could be deceived by the outcry that would be made if this investigation were refused. This was an era of investigations and he would always vote for proper investigation for legitimate purposes; but he would not vote for this investigation because he believed it was neither for the interests of the country at large nor for the protection of the rights of any of the citizens of this country. In its main purpose this measure would certainly fail, for the country had already decided that General Grant should accept of the Executive chair for another term.

Mr. WEST, (rep.) of La., thought it an improbable thing that the Senate of the United States should be called upon to frame a case against its own officials for a breach of the neutrality laws. This bombshell had been thrown in the republican camp by the Senator from Massachusetts, and it was perhaps a question worthy of consideration whether the republican party had a right to expect such

A HOSTILE PROJECTILE

from that quarter. He (Mr. West) was prepared to go as far as any one in making legitimate investigations and in vindicating our national character, but he did not propose to try to dig up something derogatory to that character as a means of maintaining it. Referring to the Missouri liberal republican platform he said that the most that could be said of the resolutions composing it was that they were not inconsistent with republican principles, and, therefore, there was no reason why any republican should leave his party for the sake of them.

Mr. SCHURZ, (rep.) of Mo., said he wanted to say a few words in reply to Mr. Frelinghuysen's remarks yesterday. That Senator had said that if this was not a question of the violation of the neutrality laws it was nothing, and had seemed to imply that he (Schurz) and Mr. Sumner had been engaged in trying to

MAKE UP A CASE FOR GERMANY.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN said he had not impugned the motives of the Senators; he had merely spoken of the effect of their acts. He would not say that the Senator, but he would say that the measure was unpatriotic.

Mr. SCHURZ said he was glad to see that the Senator did not mean to impute to himself or Mr. Sumner any designs, sympathies or interests that were not purely American. For himself, although he was proud to have sprung from the great German race, yet he was proud, too, of being an American citizen, and his interests, hopes and prospects were bound up in his American citizenship. As to the charge that this resolution was calculated to make trouble with Germany, when that country had not complained at the time, was it likely that it would do so now?

The resolution was not meant for Germany. The case as it stood was

EMPHATICALLY OUR BUSINESS,

and not Germany's, and the fact that no complaint or remonstrance had been made would make our voluntary action in the matter all the more creditable to us. He regretted to hear the Senator (Mr. Frelinghuysen) joining with the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Morton) in making an appeal to the native American feeling or prejudice; but he understood that kind of talk very well, and was always ready to meet it. As to our relations with foreign Powers, the only way in which mischief to us could come out of this matter was by wantonly undertaking to defend a false position, and, if any of our officials have wantonly betrayed us into such a position, it was our manifest interest to disavow their action and to take a stand that we could honorably and safely defend. As to the question of patriotism and duty to party which had been introduced into the debate, it was by doctrines and practices such as had been advocated here that

PARTIES WERE CORRUPTED AND DESTROYED

and nations sometimes disgraced. Who were the true patriots, they who would advise the great American people to sneaking attempts to cover what could not be covered up, in the hope that they might not be taken to task for it, or they who, following the example of Cobden and Bright in the English Parliament, endeavored to raise the nation up to a higher plane of duty, where it could stand and say to the nations, "See here, we were not compelled to do this; there was no remonstrance, no complaint against us. But we did it because we thought it was right—because we wanted to be just to ourselves in being just to others?" He had been amazed to hear Mr. Frelinghuysen say that as the alleged violation of a statute by the Chief of Ordnance did not affect our relations with Prussia it was of no importance to show how important it was. He read from the official reports to show that by the sales of arms made in violation of that statute the country was disarmed, so that if any of the international difficulties that impended at about that time had ripened into a war it would have been found that the Chief of Ordnance had sold not merely the arms, but

THE DEFENSIVE CAPACITY OF HIS COUNTRY.

This, he said, was established by that officer's own reports. At this point Mr. Schurz gave notice that he would move "to amend the resolution so as to direct the committee to inquire also whether breech-loaders and other muskets capable of being transformed into breech-loaders were sold in such quantities as to seriously impair the defensive capacity of the country." He then referred to Mr. Freilinghuysen's remarks on the general order business in New York, and said that the President's friends showed a great lack of discretion in so often dragging that subject into the debate.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., inquired whether he counted himself among the number of those who were friendly to the President.

Mr. SCHURZ replied that to the true and best interests of the President he certainly had always been very friendly. (Laughter.) He then restated the facts and the substance of his own former comments upon the general order business, and said that although he had often been taken to task for those comments no one had ever attempted to refute the conclusion he had drawn until yesterday, when Mr. Frelinghuysen had attempted it. That Senator had not denied that there must be a power stronger than public opinion and stronger than the Secretary of the Treasury sustaining the abuse, but he had said it was the fault of

THE LAW AND NOT OF THE EXECUTIVE.

His ground was that there had long been a doubt in the mind of the Secretary of the Treasury as to whether the Executive Department of the government had a right to interfere with the arrangements made by the Collector at New York for the storage of general order goods, but it would appear that for a whole year that doubt had been resolved in favor of a system of robbery.

Mr. HARLAN, (rep.) of Iowa, said the Senator talked freely about a system of robbery, but he had not stated his plan to remedy the abuse. Had he ever proposed one as a legislator or suggested it to the Executive?

Mr. SCHURZ said that the first remedy would be to remove the rascals standing at the head of it.

Mr. HARLAN said that would change the men, but not the system. The Senator had denounced the system, now what remedy did he, as a legislator, propose?

Mr. SCHURZ replied—First, that that point was not now under discussion; and second, that the existing arrangements had been made, not by legislative but by Executive action, and that having been made by the Executive they could have been unmade by the same power.

Mr. HARLAN—When were they made?

Mr. SCHURZ—They were made by Collector Grinnell.

Mr. HARLAN said they were made long ago. He had heard this subject discussed in the Senate fifteen years ago.

Mr. SCHURZ said that certainly a general order system had existed for years, but it had been differently managed.

Mr. HARLAN—How differently?

Mr. SCHURZ—In the first place, more honestly and economically. The merchants were not plundered.

Mr. HARLAN—That goes to the character of the men, and not of the system, and the Senator himself aided to put these men in by his vote. We are not here to discuss the character of the men. The Senator denounces the general order system as all wrong and corrupt. Now I want him to state promptly

THE REMEDY HE PROPOSES.

Mr. SCHURZ—I have already stated one remedy; remove the rascals at the head of it and put honest men in their places. But does the Senator mean to say that the men at the head of the general order business had to pass this body?

Mr. HARLAN—The chief head.

Mr. SCHURZ—Yes; Collector Murphy had to pass here. If the Senator wants to know by whose vote he was made Collector. Well, sir, I am not authorized to reveal secrets (laughter), but even that system could have been managed by an honest man in an honest way.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, here interposed and said that there was no doubt about the power of the Secretary of the Treasury over the general warehouses. The general order business had grown out of changes in our commercial marine, and the general order goods were under the custody of the Collector of the port. Who was responsible for them? The Collector of New York claimed absolute power over them, but he (Mr. Sherman) doubted whether the law really gave him that power. A year ago, when the abuses were disclosed, a bill had been introduced which would remedy the difficulty, by giving the Secretary of the Treasury power over the whole subject, but no opportunity had yet been found to test the sense of the Senate upon the merits of that bill.

Mr. SCHURZ—We are told that the Collector has the direct disposition of those matters. To be sure he has, but who has the power to dispose of the Collector if he insists on maintaining the system? Mr. Leet obtained his appointment in consequence of a letter of recommendation written for him to the Collector by the President. Will you make the people believe that another letter written by the President could not have

DESTROYED THAT SCANDALOUS ABUSE?

Sir, if the President of the United States was against that abuse and Tom Murphy for it, there was a very simple way of correcting it. Men have been dispossessed of their offices for causes far less connected with the interests of the public service. (Laughter.)

Mr. SCHURZ then read from his Chicago speech, stating he could not support General Grant if renominated, because of his usurpation of power in the St. Domingo matter, and said he still believed that to re-elect General Grant would be to sustain a gross and dangerous usurpation. But, said he, it has been suggested that, because I made that allegation, I am on the point of going over to the democrats. Let me set at rest the question of the political complexion of this gentleman.

I SHALL NOT GO OVER TO THE DEMOCRATS.

I have never thought of going over to the democrats, and I do not think of it now; but what I do think is this, that there will be an opportunity of opposing the re-election of the President without voting for a democratic candidate. I think there will be an opportunity of voting for as good a republican as the President, and that without voting for General Grant. (Applause in the galleries.)

The presiding officer directed the Sergeant-at-Arms to arrest the persons who applauded.

Mr. SCHURZ, in conclusion, said he could not join with Mr. Frelinghuysen in his gushing worship of General Grant, and quoted with approval Mr. Fessenden's rebuke to those who were always slavering the President and talking about his victories and his battles and all that sort of thing. The people, he said, were grateful to General Grant for the capture of Vicksburg and other places; that they were still more thankful that Vicksburg and those places were no longer to be captured, and what they wanted now was free, honest and pure government.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN briefly replied. He disclaimed any attempt to arouse the native American prejudice, and denounced this as the first attempt to make the American Senate take ground against the honor of our own country.

Mr. EDMUNDS and Mr. CONKLING discussed Mr. Trumbull's motion to reconsider the vote by which Mr. Conkling's amendment was adopted, and insisted that Mr. Schurz had admitted that he had held unauthorized communication with the agent of a foreign Power.

Mr. SUMNER obtained the floor for the purpose of reviewing the whole question, but said he would prefer not to proceed to-day, and move to adjourn.

The Senate then, without reaching a vote, adjourned at thirty-five minutes past five P. M.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27, 1872.

PROTECTION PRAYERS.

Mr. SPEER, (dem.) of Pa., presented a remonstrance of 1,000 workingmen in coal and iron in Huntington, Blair and Clearfield counties, Pennsylvania, against the reduction of duties on coal and iron.

Mr. PACKER, (rep.) of Pa., presented the petition of thirty-nine citizens of Harrisburg, workers in Harrisburg furnaces, praying for a repeal of all duties upon tea, coffee and such other articles of necessity or comfort as cannot be produced in the United States; that the duties shall be so adjusted as to encourage and defend every home industry, and to foster the honor and interests of the American laborers; and remonstrating against a change in the existing tariff laws, abating or abolishing duties upon such articles as are successfully produced in this country. Also a petition of citizens of Locust Gap, Pa., workers in the mines, praying that the import duty on bituminous coal be permitted to remain as at present, and protesting against any reduction of the same.

Mr. SHELDON, (rep.) of La., from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the Senate bill to constitute Shreveport, La., a port of delivery. Passed with an amendment.

Mr. SLOCUM, (dem.) of N. Y., offered a resolution calling for information in reference to the inadequacy of accommodation in the United States Courts in the Southern district of New York. Adopted.

Mr. MCGREW, (rep.) of W. Va., offered a resolution instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of abolishing all taxes on legacies and successions made or occurring previous to the 1st of October, 1870. Adopted.

MUTILATED BANK NOTES.

The bill reported last week from the Committee on Banking and Currency to provide for the retirement of worn out and mutilated national bank notes came up in the morning hour, and was, on motion of Mr. MONROE, (rep.) of Ohio, made the special order for ten minutes to-day in April. Amendments to the bill were offered by Messrs. COX, (dem.) of N. Y., Roosevelt, (dem.) of N. Y., and HOLMAN, (dem.) of Ind., and were ordered to be printed.

BRANDING COUNTERFEIT NOTES.

Mr. HOOPER, (rep.) of Mass., from the Committee on Banking and Currency, reported the bill to allow the printing of impressions of notes, drafts, bonds, &c., for the use of Heath & Co.'s Counterfeit Detector. After explanations the bill was passed; also the bill directing officers of national banks to whom counterfeit, altered or spurious United States notes or national bank notes are presented, to stamp them as such.

Mr. COBURN, (rep.) of Ind., opposed the bill as giving too much authority to bank officers, who might or might not be good judges of money.

Mr. COX defended the bill as being in the interest of the people. It could do no harm. Once in a while a good note might be so branded, but that brand would not prevent its subsequent redemption at the Treasury.

Mr. SCHOFIELD, (rep.) of Mich., also defended the bill as being extremely judicious and being for the protection of the public. The same law existed now in Michigan and Massachusetts and worked well.

Mr. MONROE, (rep.) of Ohio, also advocated the bill, and said that instructions had already been given to the same effect to the receiving officers of the government. He thought that under the bill there was no serious danger to private interests. He feared that the country was coming to that pass that people dare not stamp the false as false or the true as true. He did not like that moral standard. He did not want to see the popular sense demoralized.

Mr. POTTER, (dem.) of N. Y., repelled the insinuation that persons who were not in favor of the government doing everything were opposed to stamping the false as false; but he desired that within all proper limits such matters should be left to individuals. He deprecated as the thing most likely to produce confusion between right and wrong the tendency to centralize in the hands of the government interference with every man's business and occupation.

After further discussion the House refused to pass the bill, 57 to 86, and it was recommitted.

BANK CLEARING HOUSES.

Mr. MERRIAM, (rep.), of N. Y., from the same committee, reported a bill to facilitate bank clearing house exchanges. It authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to receive United States notes on deposit, without interest, from the national banks of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati in sums not less than $10,000, and to issue certificates therefor, in denominations not less than $5,000, payable on demand in United States notes at the place where the deposits therefor were made; such certificates to be held and counted by the banks as part of their legal reserve and to be used in the settlement of their clearing house balances. The bill is not to be construed as authorizing any expansion or contraction of the currency. After explanation by Mr. Merriam the bill went over until to-morrow.

CLEARING THE TABLE.

The House went to business on the Speaker's table and disposed thereof as follows:—

The Senate amendment to the House bill authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Missouri at St. Joseph, concurred in.

The Senate amendment to the House bill allowing the transportation of goods in bond. Non-concurred in and ordered to the Committee of Conference.

The Senate amendment to the House bill for the survey of the harbor and river at Washington, D. C. Concurred in.

The Senate bill extending the time for the completion of the Green Bay and Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan ship canals. Passed.

The Senate bill for the relief of Julia A. Smith, of Nebraska. Passed.

THE YELLOWSTONE PARK.

The Senate bill setting apart the Yellowstone Valley, in Montana and Wyoming Territories, as a national park, came up.

Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass., said that this bill followed the analogy of the bill which passed Congress six or eight years ago, setting apart the Yo Semite Valley and the Big Tree country for a public park, with this difference, that that bill granted that region to the State of California beyond the control of the United States, whereas this bill reserved the country within the control of the United States, if ever it should appear better to devote it to any other purpose. It was a region of country about seven thousand feet above the level of the sea, where there was frost every month in the year, where agricultural pursuits cannot be followed, but which contains, probably, the most sublime scenery in the United States, with the exception of the Yo Semite Valley, and contained the most wonderful geysers ever found on the Continent. The purpose of the bill was to preserve that wonderful region from depredation. This bill was treading on no rights of settlers, was infringing on no apparent prospect of settlement, and received the ardent support of the Legislature of Montana Territory.

After a further brief discussion the bill was passed by 114 to 65.

Mr. GARRETT, (dem.) of Tenn., asked leave to offer a preamble and resolution looking to the pacification and annexation of Mexico.

Mr. PERCE, (rep.) of Miss., objected.

On motion of Mr. KELLOGG, (rep.) of Conn., the Senate bill to defray the expenses of District Judges from other districts while holding Court in the Southern district of New York was passed.

The House then, at half-past two P. M., went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. SCOFIELD, (rep.) of Pa., in the Chair, and resumed the consideration of

THE DEFICIENCY BILL.

The clause repealing the law for the publication of the statutes in the newspapers was struck out, on a point of order, as being independent legislation, and, therefore, not in order in an appropriation bill.

Various discussions were carried on in the course of considering the bill, upon fish culture, upon public buildings, upon the sale of ordnance stores by the War Department, upon Ku Klux outrages and other matters. Finally, after getting through half the bill, the committee arose, and the House, at ten minutes to five P. M., adjourned.

SHIPPING NEWS.

Almanac for New York—This Day.

Sun rises	6 35	Moon rises....eve	10 20
Sun sets	5 51	High water.morn	11 04

OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATES OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH.

Steamer.	Sails	Destination.	Office.
City of Montreal	Mar 2	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Baltic	Mar 2	Liverpool	19 Broadway.
Anglia	Mar 2	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Main	Mar 2	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
Wisconsin	Mar 6	Liverpool	29 Broadway.
Oceanic	Mar 9	Liverpool	19 Broadway.
Washington	Mar 9	Havre	58 Broadway.
Columbia	Mar 9	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
City of Brooklyn	Mar 9	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Wyoming	Mar 13	Liverpool	29 Broadway.
City of Paris	Mar 16	Liverpool	15 Broadway.

PORT OF NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 27