CONGRESS.

THE SENATE STILL WASTING TIME.

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THE LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS LAGGING

THE PACIFIC MAIL SUBSIDY.

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SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 13, 1872.

MR. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., reported from the Committee on the Judiciary the bill extending the provisions of the act for the removal of cases from the State to federal Courts to cases in which either the plaintiff or the defendant is an alien. Passed.

MR. CAMERON, (rep.) of Pa., from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill authorizing the survey and marking of the boundary line between United States territory and the British possessions from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains. Passed.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

MR. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kansas, introduced a bill to provide for ascertaining and settling private land claims in certain States and Territories.

MR. SPENCER, (rep.) of Ala., introduced a bill granting the right of way to the State of Alabama for the Grand Trunk Railway Company.

MR. OSBORN, (rep.) of Fla., introduced a bill relating to the collection of the revenue.

MR. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported, without amendment, the bills to enable the President to appoint a Paymaster General of the Army; to provide for the payment of women nurses during the war, and granting condemned cannon for a soldier's monument at Mound City, Ill.

MR. TIPTON, (rep.) of Neb., from the Committee on Public Lands, reported, without amendment, the bill to create two new land districts in Nebraska.

THE SENATORIAL PATRONAGE.

MR. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., called up his resolution asking the President to communicate to the Senate the number of recommendations for office made by the Senators from New York, Illinois, Missouri and Nebraska, and proposed to add to it the following:—

And whether appointments or removals have, in any instance, been made at the suggestion or request of any third party, who has acted as a go-between either of said Senators and the appointing power; or represented, or in any manner caused it to be understood that such appointments or rewards would be agreeable to or were desired by any Senator, and, if so, giving the names of the persons who so represented, or caused it to be understood, and particularly whether any such appointments or rewards have been made at the request or suggestion of Roswell Hart, Assistant Superintendent of the mail service at New York; or of A. H. Lallin, Naval Officer of the port of New York; or of A. B. Cornell, Surveyor at the port of New York—they or either of them professing to represent any of such Senators.

Also whether any such Senators have made application in reference to contracts to be awarded to the lowest bidders; and, if so, the name of such Senator and at whose suggestion such application was made.

MR. CONKLING said he would not have ventured to use the names of the three gentlemen named in the resolution but for the fact that they themselves wished to have the inquiry made.

MR. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., reminded the Senate that there was an amendment of Mr. Tipton's pending to extend the inquiry to the recommendations made by all the Senators, and asked whether the mover of the resolution could modify it when there was an amendment pending?

THE VICE PRESIDENT ruled that he could not, the yeas and nays having been ordered on the pending amendment.

MR. CONKLING gave notice that he would offer his modification at the proper time.

The question was then on Mr. Tipton's amendment.

MR. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., said he could not understand the object of the investigation proposed by this close resolution. Did anybody pretend that there was anything immoral or improper in making recommendations to office? He had

RECOMMENDED EVERY DECENT PERSON

that had asked him for a recommendation, and he would do it again. The resolution and the amendment were ridiculous and unworthy the attention of the Senate, and therefore he moved to lay it on the table.

MR. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, asked Mr. Conkling whether he deemed the passage of the resolution necessary for his own vindication?

MR. CONKLING—Necessity compels me to say that I do. I have been so often charged with having an undue share in obtaining patronage that after the exercise of what I think a commendable degree of patience I now want the Senate to know the facts.

MR. SHERMAN agreed with Mr. Logan, that this proceeding had gone far enough, and said he would not vote for the resolution further than Mr. Conkling might think necessary for his own vindication.

MR. NYE, (rep.) of Nev., suggested that the inquiry should be confined to Mr. Conkling's recommendations. [Laughter.]

MR. CONKLING said that would not cast any light on the subject. Three Senators had repeatedly made statements and insinuations on this subject, which were plainly aimed at him, and now he wished to have the records of the accusers and the accused laid side by side.

INVESTIGATION NOT WANTED.

MR. LOGAN said that if Mr. Conkling's resolution was aimed only at his accusers he did not know why he (Logan) was included, for he had never accused the Senator. He had no objection on his own account to being investigated every morning before breakfast; but the trouble was that when an investigation was ordered it gave people an idea that there was some wrong done, whereas there was nothing in this matter to be investigated.

MR. CARPENTER, (rep.) of Wis., thought that Mr. Logan was mistaken. It was true that formerly, when an investigation was ordered, the presumption was that there was something to be investigated, but recent proceedings of the Senate had changed all that.

MR. CONKLING asked Mr. Logan to suppose that there was a Senator who had made fewer recommendations than any other, and who had fewer friends in office than any other, and that that Senator had been denounced as a henchman and a huckster of power, and as clinging to the skirts of power, and then asked him whether he did not think it natural that that Senator should desire to know how the account stood between him and those who were so free in talking about him.

MR. LOGAN said he knew he (Logan) could not be the Senator referred to, because it would take a committee three months to investigate all the recommendations he had made. (Laughter.) But if he were the man who had made the fewest recommendations he would not want to have the matter known, because it would not be encouraging to his friends. (Laughter.) Seriously he thought this subject unworthy to occupy the Senate for a moment. It was evident from Mr. Conkling's remarks that he was smarting under some personal criticism, but that was not a matter for the Senate.

THE INVESTIGATION WANTED.

MR. HAMLIN, (rep.) of Me., thought the adoption of the resolution in the broadest form would serve a good purpose. His experience satisfied him that the service in the departments of the government had never in the last thirty years been so prompt, efficient and honest as it was now, and all the hue and cry that had been raised to the contrary would be swept away like snow before the sun if the facts could be got before the people.

MR. TRUMBULL thought it remarkable that Mr. Conkling had left out of his resolution on the subject of recommendations to office the very Senator (Mr. Morton) who had first paraded in the Senate the recommendations made by an individual Senator.

MR. CONKLING did not see how investigating Mr. Morton's recommendations could throw any light on the subject.

MR. TRUMBULL thought it would throw some light on the general subject to show how many relatives and friends Mr. Morton had got appointed to office.

MR. FERRY, (rep.) of Conn., said that the resolution and this discussion were prejudicial to the public interest.

MR. COLE, (rep.) of Cal., called for the regular order—the Appropriation bill—and declined to yield for further discussion of the resolution.

MR. CONKLING moved to postpone the Appropriation bill in order to say that it was time that the one-sided discussion which had gone on so long without wearying the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Ferry) should cease. The Senator from Illinois (Mr. Logan) was mistaken in thinking that he offered this resolution because he was smarting under newspaper or other criticism. His object was to

DISPEL ONE OF THE GREATEST DELUSIONS,

one of the most shameful frauds, that ever was palmed off on a community since Adam's fall. He read daily in newspapers statements of pretended facts in reference to public men and affairs in Washington, and he laid them down believing that never since human tongue first wagged—never since writing or printing came into the world had any community been subjected to more preposterous, more absurd, more truthless impositions than those which went out from this capital. Now, here was one of these impositions, which could be nailed to the counter by the adoption of this resolution. There had also been a great deal of preposterous talk about certain Senators controlling legislatures and State conventions by means of official patronage, and on those subjects he wanted to have either the truth or silence.

MR. LOGAN said that as Mr. Conkling seemed to have so much feeling on the subject he would withdraw all opposition to the resolution.

MR. FENTON, (rep.) of N. Y., said he was glad Mr. Logan had withdrawn his opposition. He (Mr. Fenton) would vote for Mr. Tipton's amendment extending the scope of the inquiry, and also for the amendment proposed by Mr. Conkling, and he thought it proper that the resolution should pass, especially as his colleague deemed it necessary for his own vindication.

MR. WILSON thought the Senate had better drop the whole matter. What if the press had said hard things about Senators? Had not Senators said such things of each other?

THE PRESS OF THIS COUNTRY WAS FREE,

and boastful of its freedom, and he liked it; but the people were just as free as the press, and could believe or reject what they pleased. He had recently seen in a very able newspaper, which he had read for years, a statement that the Senate was not exactly the Forty Thieves, but that there were twenty thieves too many in it. Now, he had served with a great many Senators, and out of them all he could not pick out twenty, or half that number, who had ever done anything dishonorable in money matters or anything of that kind. These statements were often made rashly, but the people were not deceived by them, and his advice to Mr. Conkling was to drop this matter and let the Senate go to work and redeem itself from the criticisms of the thoughtful, sober, reflecting people of the country, who were already

DISGUSTED AT THE WASTE OF TIME

that had taken place.

MR. CONKLING said that Mr. Wilson's remarks were always good-hearted and amiable, but announced that he would press the resolution to a vote to-morrow or as soon as possible, and that if it should be agreed to by the Senate he would feel justified in using other means to get the desired information. The resolution then went over, and the Senate resumed the consideration of the

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION BILL,

the question being on the amendment to increase the salary of the supervising surgeon of the Marine Hospital to $4,000.

MR. BOREMAN, (rep.) of W. Va., moved to lay it, and also Mr. Sherman's amendment increasing the salaries of the heads of bureaus to $4,000, on the table. Lost—yeas 18, nays 21.

MR. LOGAN then modified his amendment so as to make the supervising surgeon's salary $3,000, the amendment recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury, and it was adopted.

MR. TRUMBULL offered an amendment making the salary of the District Judge of the Northern District of Illinois $6,000, which was ruled out of order.

MR. TRUMBULL then gave notice of the amendment, and it was referred to the Committee on Appropriations; as were also amendments offered by Messrs. Morton and Kellogg to increase the salaries of the district judges in Indiana and Louisiana.

MR. SHERMAN'S amendment, increasing the salaries of the heads of bureaus, the Commissioner of Education having been included, was thus adopted—yeas 29, nays 15.

MR. SAWYER, (rep.) of S. C., renewed the amendment increasing the appropriation for the bureau of Education, and after some discussion it was agreed to—yeas 25, nays 16.

THE NEW ORLEANS MINT.

MR. KELLOGG, (rep.) of La., renewed the amendment providing for coding back to the city of New Orleans the site of the Mint, in that city, unless a Mint should be established there within six months. The amendment was laid on the table.

An amendment was adopted raising the salaries of the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Solicitor of the Treasury and the Solicitor of the Internal Revenue Department to $4,000 each.

MR. TRUMBULL offered an amendment to increase the salaries of the Judges of the Court of Claims to $5,000, which was pending when, at half-past five P. M., the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 13, 1872.

PETITIONS.

MR. HALDEMAN, (dem.) of Pa., presented a petition of merchants and citizens of Philadelphia in favor of reducing the tariff to a strictly revenue basis.

MR. B. F. MEYERS, (dem.) of Pa., presented a petition of seventy citizens of Lancaster county, Pa., in favor of a tariff on a strictly revenue basis, and for the repeal of the duties on salt, coal and pig iron.

MINORS AND THE ARMY.

MR. COBURN, (rep.) of Ind., from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing that minors under twenty-one years of age shall not be enlisted in the military service of the United States without the consent of their parents or guardians, if they have any, and providing a penalty against officers who violate the act knowingly.

After a short discussion the bill was passed.

ROCK ISLAND BRIDGE.

MR. NEGLEY, (rep.) of Pa., from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill granting to the Davenport and St. Paul Railroad Company the right of way over the government Rock Island bridge, the Company to contribute one-third of the expense of maintaining the bridge. It was passed.

MR. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill for the removal of certain causes to the United States Courts, authorizing the removal from the State Courts to a United States Circuit Court of suits brought by a non-resident of such State, or an alien, against another non-resident of the State where jurisdiction by the State Court is obtained by personal service of process only. After a long technical discussion the bill was recommitted.

SALTPETRE.

MR. BROOKS, (dem.) of N. Y., presented a petition of the Hazard Powder Company, of New York City, and forty-four others, in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Milwaukee and Kansas City, engaged in the importation, consumption and manufacture of saltpetre, or nitrate of potash, praying that it be added to the free list.

The House, at half-past three o'clock, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. WHEELER, (rep.) of N. Y., in the Chair, on the

POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL,

the pending question being the amendment increasing the subsidy to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, for its China line, from $500,000 to $1,000,000 a year, and making the service fortnightly instead of monthly.

MR. POTTER, (dem.) of N. Y., spoke in favor of the amendment, and gave his reasons for it. The result of European subventions to steamship lines was that to-day the commerce of the Atlantic was under European flags, not under the United States flag. He had no idea that subsidies would restore the Atlantic trade. The disadvantages resulting from tariff, &c., would prevent the restoration of that commerce. He looked, however, to the only great foreign commerce left to the people of the United States, the

COMMERCE OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN,

and the question was whether the proposed subsidy was necessary to retain it. If it was, then the expenditure was warranted.

MR. COBURN opposed the amendment, and suggested a substitute for it, admitting foreign built vessels to American registration. He understood that iron steamships could be purchased abroad for three-fourths of what they would cost here. (A Voice—"For one half.") That was the shape in which he favored granting subsidies. Why not let the Pacific Mail Steamship Company buy the four great ships that it required wherever it could get them cheapest, instead of taking $500,000 a year from the Treasury?

He offered his amendment reducing the subsidy to $500,000, allowing the Pacific Mail Steamship Company to purchase four iron steamships abroad to be registered in the United States.

A POINT OF ORDER.

MR. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., made the point of order that the amendment changed the existing law, and was therefore not in order.

THE CHAIRMAN sustained the point of order.

MR. COBURN appealed, and the decision of the Chair was sustained.

MR. POMEROY, of Ohio, advocated the increase of the subsidy. This had been called an entering wedge; but an entering wedge was not necessarily a bad thing. Voting for this subsidy would not oblige him to vote for another subsidy. But he was free to say that he was anxious to do what he might so that the American flag shall show itself on all seas, and that all the channels of commerce shall be

ILLUMINATED BY ITS CONSTELLATIONS.

MR. CREBS, (dem.) of Ill., opposed the amendment. He had always found that when a great wrong was about to be perpetrated a great outcry and pretence of public necessity was sure to be raised. The present case was an illustration of that truth.

MR. FARNSWORTH, (rep.) of Ill., offered a substitute reducing the subsidy to $500,000, provided that the Pacific Mail Steamship Company shall perform the service semi-monthly, and may perform it in ships of foreign construction. He desired to test the sense of the House as to whether it was not better to let this company purchase its steamers abroad than to pay $500,000 out of the Treasury for the sentimental privilege of seeing the United States flag flying on the Pacific Ocean. He held that this increased subsidy was on the principle of robbing Peter to pay Paul—paying subsidies with one hand and keeping up protection with the other.

MR. CONGER, (rep.) of Mich., opposed Mr. Farnsworth's proposition, which, he said, amounted to paying a bounty of $500,000 a year to foreign shipbuilders. On all seas, except the Pacific Ocean, the American carrying trade was lost. This, the third commercial nation on the globe, was

OUTSTRIPPED IN THE CARRYING TRADE,

by dozens of the minor nations of the earth. This was no pioneer movement. It was the continuation of a policy adopted by Congress several years ago in giving $500,000 subsidy to this line. He reminded the House that the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Butler), who protested against taking this money out of the treasury, was the open, avowed, persistent advocate of paying bounties to the fishermen of his district and allowing them a drawback on salt; and that the gentlemen from Indiana and Illinois (Messrs. Holman and Cross) wanted a large appropriation for improving the commerce of the Ohio River, because it would affect their immediate districts.

MR. HEREFORD, (dem.) of W. Va., opposed the increased subsidy, and expressed his surprise at seeing the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means (Mr. Dawes) and the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations (Mr. Garfield) sustain it after all their protestations in favor of economy.

MR. SARGENT opposed Mr. Farnsworth's amendment, and showed that the English steamship lines, which bought their ships at the cheapest rates, had still to be subsidized by the English government. He reminded the representatives of the agricultural interests that the Pacific Mail Steamship line gave an

OUTLET TO THE WHEAT AND CORN

to the East. The export commerce from San Francisco to China was almost nothing when this line was established, and now that commerce had increased by millions, and was increasing every day. During the fiscal year 1871, when $500,000 was paid to the line, the duties received from customs in San Francisco on goods brought by these steamers was over $1,000,000 in excess of the amount received in 1867.

MR. MORGAN, (dem.) of Ohio, opposed the increased subsidy, and referred to a statement made to him by Mr. Collins when he got his first subsidy of $350,000—that it had cost him more than that to get it. He would not charge corrupt practices on members, but they all knew that the lobbies were

PACKED WITH PLUNDERERS.

This scheme was not republican; it was not democratic; but would not the country believe it was a scheme of plunder devoid of shame? He denounced it as a conspiracy against the Treasury and against the people.

MR. BROOKS, of New York, replied to Mr. Morgan, and reminded him of the great men of both parties who had voted for the Collins subsidy. He asked him whether he dared to insinuate corrupt motives against Clay and Webster and Crittenden.

MR. MORGAN (loudly and excitedly)—I dare do anything that is right! I dare to say that the scheme is a scheme of plunder—that it taints the atmosphere! The gentleman may make the most of my remarks.

MR. BROOKS (with a display of great feeling)—I will go down to posterity with Clay and Webster and Crittenden for that appropriation to support the flag of our country on the ocean. (Applause.) I have before me the record of the distinguished men of both the whig and the democratic party who supported that appropriation from 1848 to 1855. This is no new question. It has been agitated twenty years ago. The Collins line was not fortunate, but its misfortune was due, not to the want of support on the part of the people, but to the bad management of the company, and by the subsequent

EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS OF GREAT BRITAIN

in subsidizing the Cunard line. The democratic party had always been in favor of commerce and trade. It was not a party that lay on its back and gazed at the star, as an astronomer would, with an utter indifference to sublunary things. It was not a crab party that moved backward, but was a progressive party, full of life and vigor. It looked not only to the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the country, but to its commerce. He would tell the gentleman from Ohio (Morgan) that the democratic party never could be maintained and never ought to be maintained when it arrayed itself against the commerce and trade of the country, and when its legislation was such as to

UPHOLD THE CROSS OF ST. GEORGE

in preference to the flag of the country. (Applause on the floor). He felt this question deeply; it was a matter which tenderly touched his heart. He repeated, not rhetorically, but as a matter of fact, not of sentiment, that this was a war mainly between the Stars and Stripes and the Cross of St. George for the trade of six hundred millions of people on the Pacific Ocean. That was the reason why he threw himself so earnestly into the debate. He did not know that he ever felt so deeply interested in a question as he did in this. This company could not maintain itself against the subsidies of England unless it was supported by Congress.

PRETTY FAR BACK.

MR. BURCHARD, (rep.) of Ill., opposed the increased subsidy, and expressed the hope that the spirit of John Hampden would arise and resist this exaction on the people, this extortion of ship money, this subsidy, which had aroused the English people and driven Charles the First from his throne.

MR. POTTER again spoke in support of the subsidy, and gave a history of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, remarking that he was not favorable to the present Board of Directors. Its special claim, he said, was that its present weakness and inability was caused by the extraordinary grants which Congress had made to the overland railroads to the Pacific, and to their completion four or five years before the time it was expected.

MR. BECK, (dem.) of Ky., expressed his regret at being compelled to oppose the subsidy, but he thought that it was a part of the system of legislation which had destroyed the commerce of the country. Why not let this company and all other shipping companies buy their ships where they could get them cheapest, as had been recommended by the President two years ago in a special message to Congress, the most sensible recommendation the President had ever made?

MR. DAWES said that if the question was only regarded as one of dollars and cents it would be a most unwise policy to curtail the grant to the

NEW AND INFANT COMMERCE

on the Pacific coast, and to offer temptations or opportunity to England or any other rival on the ocean to take it away.

MR. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., opposed the subsidy, and denied that he has ever voted for a bounty to fishermen, and he never wanted to vote for it if the fishermen were not to be sold out to Great Britain. He referred to the fact that the President's recommendation to buy ships abroad had been opposed by Messrs. Dawes and Brooks.

MR. KELLEY, (rep.) of Pa., remarked that the President's recommendation would have sent the burial of American shipyards.

MR. BUTLER did not see that they had been resurrected, since he had not seen any shipyards started since.

MR. KELLEY—I have. There are to-day twenty iron steamships building on the Delaware River.

MR. BUTLER said in conclusion that in this matter of American shipping they should do as their fathers did—establish differential duties in favor of American ships.

The discussion was further carried on by Messrs. SPERR, (dem.) of Pa., WOOD, (dem.) of N. Y., KERR, (dem.) of Ind., and BIRD, (dem.) of N. J., against the increased subsidy, and by Messrs. BINGHAM, (rep.) of Ohio, KELLEY, and HALE, (rep.) of Me., in favor of it.

MR. COBURN made another argument against the navigation laws, and in favor of free trade in ships, the question being between cheap freights on the one side and monopolies on the other.

MR. DUNNELL, (rep.) of Mich., congratulated Mr. Brooks on his eloquent words in favor of the proposition. The discussion had revived somewhat the love of country and the love of the flag. His words sounded oddly in comparison with the words of those other gentlemen who opposed the proposition, and which would sound better in a political canvass than in the discussion of a question which entered into the very life and prosperity of the nation.

MR. FARNSWORTH called attention to the combination which existed in the House between the extreme high tariff men, the shipbuilders of Maine and the representatives of ocean commerce, all combining against the proposition to purchase ships where they can be purchased cheapest, "they never could promote American commerce by hiring men to put ships on the ocean.

MR. TOWNSEND, (rep.) of Pa., said that the doctrine of

BUY WHERE YOU CAN BUY CHEAPEST

was the free trade doctrine of members who wanted to apply it to ships and to everything else. It would be to destroy the shipbuilding and the coasting trade of the country.

Without disposing of any of the pending amendments the committee rose, and the House at half-past four P. M. adjourned.

PIGEON SHOOTING.

The challenge recently issued by Captain Bogardus, champion of the United States, to shoot a match at pigeons with any man in the world, is in a fair way of being accepted by Mr. William Thornton, of Bradford, England, who offers to shoot a match against Bogardus of fifty birds each, twenty-one yards rise, sixty yards fall, to shoot with one ounce of shot, for £200 a side, within three months of February 24, and to allow Bogardus £30 for expenses, each to find birds for the other. Articles are awaiting Bogardus' signature at the Burns Hotel, Soutngate, England.

Articles of agreement have been signed by Mr. Ira A. Paine, of this city, and Mr. Richard Wood, of Chester, Pa., to shoot a home-and-home match at fifty single birds, for $250 a side each match; the first to take place in the vicinity of New York on Tuesday, the 19th inst., and the second in the vicinity of Philadelphia within ten days after the New York match. The sum of $100 a side is now up, and the balance will have to be posted at the *Clipper* office, in this city, on or before the 18th inst. At the present time Paine has the call in the betting, but it is fair to presume that on the day of the shooting wagers will be about even.

OVERCHARGING FOR THE HERALD—A VOICE FROM NYACK.

NYACK, March 11, 1872.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Is this right? We have in our village what purports to be two periodical newspaper furnishing institutions. One of these is quite an extensive concern. It actually distributes daily about fifty of the New York daily newspapers, as follows:—Thirty-six HERALDS, ten *Worlds*, three *Times*, one *Tribune*. But the proprietor who stands behind this establishment is so straightlaced and has so many conscientious scruples that he will import to this benighted region only the week day papers, discarding everything pertaining to Sunday papers, and holds up his hands in holy horror at the desecration of the Sabbath by reading what are termed "Sunday papers." I, being one of his subscribers, am compelled to look to the other institution, which is run in the interest of our Post Office, and supplies a somewhat larger number of people with the various week day papers, but when it comes Sunday and his subscribers or his patrons may require a NEW YORK HERALD (and that is the only paper in demand here), we are compelled to pay him ten cents per copy. "Now, is this right or just"—within one hour of your office—to be compelled to submit to such an extortion as this?

I thought possibly by giving this outrage an airing perhaps it might induce some one to come to our beautiful village and do business upon modern principles. More anon. ALEXIS.

A DASTARDLY ASSAULT.

A man named Kane, who refused to give his Christian name, was arraigned at the Yorkville Police Court yesterday afternoon, charged with striking his neighbor, Mrs. John O'Connor, with an iron instrument in the abdomen and injuring her so severely that she is unable to leave her bed. From the fact that Mrs. O'Connor is in a delicate condition the injury she has sustained, it is feared, will be attended with serious results. The defendant was ordered to give bail for examination in the sum of $500 only. It is, however, only right to state that Kane denies in the most positive manner that he struck Mrs. O'Connor.

THE LOBBY.

A Glance at Some of the Aids to Legislation.

Personnel of the Washington Rings.

JOHN ROACH AND SAM WARD.

Abuse of the Privileges of the Floor.

EX-MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

Who They Are and What They Are Doing.

A Pen Picture of the Lobby Heroes at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1872.

The respectable advocate who goes before a committee of Congress to promote a measure pending legislation upon it should not be charged with being a lobbyist in the offensive sense any more than a lawyer should be blamed for defending the cause of his client before a jury. It is difficult, however, to make the distinction, and I shall not attempt it, especially as the "respectable advocates" are so few that it is scarcely worth making. Now and then an honest man appears before a committee to advocate an honest cause, but the people who do this work are generally insincere, untrustworthy and unscrupulous. They live by promoting questionable ends by questionable means, and are corrupted by the corruptions in which they deal. Neither virtue nor honor is too sacred to be used by them; and society, even religion itself, is made to subserve their base purposes. The war had much to do with the growth of the lobby; but the lobby existed before the war. It was the same in spirit then as now, but not so strong in numbers or so varied in its resources.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE LOBBY.

It is a difficult task to classify the lobby. Every measure before Congress has a lobby of its own which generally takes its name from the scheme or schemes in whose interest the lobby is at work. This winter we have the steamship subsidy lobbies, the railroad and land grant lobbies, the cotton tax lobby, the Indian ring, and a hundred others to name which would be the mere dullness of detail. But some sort of classification is not altogether impossible, and of the lobbyists we have—

1. The men who have no influence, but boast of having a great deal.
2. The men put forward to "see" members and do the public work of a ring.
3. Ex-Congressmen.
4. Congressmen.

The first of these classes is by far the largest. They are constantly on the lookout for people with small jobs and little experience, from whom they manage to extract a few dollars for their supposed influence with some Representative or Senator. These wretches are scarcely worth noticing, as the harm they do is only to the extent of their petty thefts. The second class is only above the first in influence or importance. They are the "lookout" men of the craft, and infest the ante-rooms of the houses of Congress, buttonholing Congressmen and cultivating pleasant relations with committee clerks and doorkeepers. But occasionally one like Johnny Roach or Sam Ward towers above the others like a tall oak in a forest of saplings. Roach is not a lobbyist in the general sense, his shipyard at Chester, Pa., and the measures which will promote its interests being the only matters on which he descants. He is, however, the chief of what may be called the industrial lobby, and talks with great picturesqueness and fervor of ship-building and iron making, clothing these dry topics with an interest which few men can give them. His shops he calls

AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARTISANS.

Roach is an Irishman, sixty years of age, or older, who begun life as a laboring man and only reached his proud position as chief of his wonderful congress by dint of his own exertions. He is a short, stout, stubby man, with a big head and plenty of brains, and strong, hard sense. His intellectual qualities constantly show themselves in his letters and pamphlets, for he is a believer in printers' ink, and is able to think for others if not to shape his ideas himself. As early as last April he addressed to the Secretary of the Navy proposals to create iron ship-building yards for the revival of ship-building and ocean commerce. A synopsis of these was afterwards addressed to Congress as a memorial of the "International Steamship Company," and took shape in Mr. Dawes' bill for economizing naval expenditures and constructing iron steamers. The bill ought to have been called a bill to enable John Roach and other persons to build iron steamships for their own use at the expense of the United States. Roach is not in favor of the HERALD'S idea of free ships and is not the man who would allow Americans to buy ships abroad. But his principle is a very simple, if not a very sound, one for all that. He holds that to revive our commerce it is only necessary for the government to give to shipowners the difference between the cost of vessels built abroad and the expense of building them at home. He estimates the cost of building his twenty steamships at $13,000,000. Their cost on the Clyde would be $10,500,000. Thus it will be seen that the Congress of Artisans at Chester will make a very handsome profit out of every ship they build, and that the whole country will be compelled to tax itself very liberally so that Roach and his friends may be able to make money. Roach's bill took somewhat different shape in Robeson's scheme for ten new sloops-of-war, but it is understood that both measures are to be considered as in the family.

As a lobbyist Roach is not very popular, being too penurious to be well liked by "the boys." Their beau ideal of a model lobby member—at least according to that great authority himself—is Sam Ward. Sam is acknowledged on all hands to be

THE KING OF THE LOBBY.

He is no longer a young man, and looks, so far as looks go, like the nursery pictures of Old King Cole. He is a man of the world and a good liver, his dinners at Welcker's being the wonder at Washington. His florid face, stout figure, round head, short gray hair and gray mustache give him an appearance that is *distingué*, while the impression he makes is not more agreeable than the word I have chosen to describe his appearance. Ward is usually interested in big claims, and is especially fond of caring for matters in the tariff and banking way. He maintains friendly relations with the Committee on Ways and Means of the House and the Finance Committee of the Senate; but he does not care to invite to his dinners the people who are not useful. Dinners are his specialty, and he counts among his friends such people as Schenck, Peters, Wood, Garfield and Bingham. Ward is a ready, easy talker, and when speaking of his reputation as a lobbyist he is apt to say:—"I never was a lobbyist. People think so because I am a man of independent means, and like, in my old age, to spend my money entertaining the great men of the nation. That I lobby, is not true, sir." In spite of these asseverations, however, more than one Congressman has received dainty little notes, which read something like this:—"This little chicken is mine; be gentle, Sam Ward." Sam likes to be on good terms with "the boys," and he sometimes shows his appreciation by nice little presents of cigars, wines and other good things of sensual enjoyment. It is said that even a Commissioner of Internal Revenue was the recipient of favors of this kind, because he gave Ward some important information, beneficial to one of his "clients," after business hours on the occasion of one of Sam's unusual and unlimited visits to the department. As the King of the Lobby he is supposed to have a finger in every big job which comes before Congress, even where his hand is not seen. Much of this is fictitious; but when a man gets a great reputation as a lobbyist he is in the relative position of the "sheep dog" suspected of tearing all the animals for miles from the scene of his exploits. His influence must, by the very nature of things, be circumscribed, and it is impossible for any man, even as great a man as Sam Ward, to control all the influence of a lobby where Congressmen and ex-Congressmen are vising with him for its honors and rewards.

THE EX-MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

The rule of courtesy which gives to persons who have been members of Congress the privilege of the floor has grown into an abuse of the most atrocious kind. From the galleries one may see at almost any time when Congress is in session a number of people going backward and forward over the floor, sitting in members' seats and passing in and out of the cloak rooms, who are only accorded these unusual privileges because they are ex-members of Congress. They congregate in the Vice President's room, the Speaker's room, the committee rooms, and sometimes even condescend to show themselves in the reporters' galleries. I think there are not fewer than a hundred of them here this winter. To know Washington it is more essential to know them than most of the men who are actually members of Congress. The ex-member is a power in the land, and his influence only begins to be appreciated when the wrong he has done cannot be undone. As a member of the Senate or House he had only one vote, and that very often not his own, while as a member of the lobby he may control a dozen or score, or even a hundred. "To own a Congressman" is one of the pet phrases of the capital, and some people count their property of this kind as the Southern slaveowners used to count their slaves. There are men in Congress who are beyond price, and some who are a very high-priced article; but the ex-Congressman knows every Congressman's value, and when he wants a vote he pays only for its value. I have observed these people with a good deal of care during the winter, and I can testify that their ways are curious, though I do not believe that an ex-member of Congress is one of those things no fellow can find out.

CONGRESS AS A SCHOOL OF VILLANY.

A man who has not been a member of Congress is, as a rule, a poor lobbyist. Congress itself is the best school of the lobby, and a seat in the House, or even in the Senate, is only sought by a certain class of jobbers as a certificate of fitness for the higher duties of the corridors and the cloak rooms. Entering Congress is only matriculation for the lobby, and the pay of the member is nothing to the profits of the ex-member. The chairmanship of a committee is a more honorable, though scarcely a more important, and certainly a less influential, position than the headship of a ring. No ring is complete without a Congress graduate to assume its direction. With every job some ex-member of Congress has some connection. When his constituents refuse to re-elect him he ceases to be a tool and makes other men his instruments. His vote is no longer in the market; but he is in the market to buy other men's votes. He has been in Congress and is a "statesman." He has learned something of the rules, and he knows how a trick may serve to delude the new men who succeeded him and the other ex-members who graduated in the same class with him. The secrets of committees are no longer secrets to him, for he has the *"open sesame"* which unlocks them at his command. The members of these secret conclaves were once his equals; now they are his familiars and slaves. The clerks are his obedient servants, and he hails them in hearty good humor as Harry, Jack and Tom. His ministers are everywhere, and his evil spirit pervades the very atmosphere. The Congressman on his way to the Capitol bows to him obsequiously and shakes him by the hand. The Senator vacates his curule chair that "the distinguished gentleman who once occupied a seat on this floor" may fill it and frowse his locks as a man of influence in the sight of his clients in the galleries. Congress as a school of villany is unsurpassed by any similar institution in the world, and even Fagin might learn something of the higher branches of his art by observing closely the ways of the ex-Congressman.

"THE NEST."

The Speaker's room is known as "the nest" of the lobbyists, and as none except the influential members of the lobby have free access to it it is the favorite resort of the "ex-members." When a bill is before the House in which they are interested they hold high carnival here and shame the very portraits on the walls. As many as a score of them may be seen in this apartment at one time. "Impeachment" Ashley lolls on the Speaker's sofas day after day, and makes himself more prominent on both sides of the Capitol than any member of either House of Congress. "Chicago Game" Bennett not only frequents this room constantly, but I have seen him more than once on the floor of the House, imploring Mr. Conger, of Michigan, not to oppose his little scheme for reasing some of the public domain at Buffalo, in which, luckily or unluckily, he succeeded. "Dick" Franchot also frequents "the nest," but most of his time is spent in the room of the Pacific Railroad Committee, this committee being one of those aids to legislation which he has the reputed honor of "running." Other railroad lobbyists, as ex-Congressman Rollins, of New Hampshire, who is a "partner" of Franchot in many of his jobs and aspires to the place of Mr. Patterson in the Senate; ex-Congressman Rice, of Maine, the recognized chief of the Ring interested in the International Railway, to the opening of which the President was taken last summer; and ex-Representatives James F. Wilson and Granville M. Dodge, of Iowa, who would make Presidential questions hinge on railroad interest, find the Speaker's room a convenient basis of operations. Joe McKibben, of California; Burton C. Cook and E. C. Ingersoll, of Illinois; D. W. Gooch and Dr. O. O. Chaffee, of Massachusetts; W. B. Lancaster, W. H. Kelsey and John G. Schumaker, of New York; Charles O'Neill, of Pennsylvania; Rep. Eggleston, of Ohio, and F. E. Woodbridge, of Vermont, are among the many ex-Congressmen who here do congregate. Sometimes the Speaker gets his temper somewhat ruffled, and puts them out, but they are soon back again, for it seems to be everybody's interest to keep them within reach.

CLEARING THE LOBBIES.

The Speaker's fretfulness sometimes reacts upon the House itself, and every little while there is a spasm of virtue which results in "clearing the lobby." The doorkeepers get stringent orders not to admit anybody not entitled to the privileges of the floor. By the rule of courtesy already alluded to ex-members of Congress are entitled to these privileges, and they sail in to practice their arts like courtesans plying their vocation in the open day. But clearing the lobby is generally a trick of the lobby itself to keep respectable people out of sight, and doorkeepers are mostly bribed rascals who see no difference between a Congressman and a lobbyist. In the pursuit of my business as a news gatherer I sought to pass through the lobby of the House, but was denied admittance. "There were new rules," the Doorkeeper said, "and stringent orders not to let any one pass." I could not complain, and stood aside to see how well the new rules were observed. Presently Mr. John F. Driggs approached, and the doors flew wide open for his passage. Driggs had been a member of Congress, and, though he was charged with selling a cadetship or two and is notorious as a lobbyist, still I could not complain, because, under the rule of courtesy, he had the right of way. But soon Mr. F. A. Bee, of the steamship subsidy ring, showed himself, and now, I thought, is the time to test the sincerity of this new rule, for Bee is one of the self-made men who are not admitted to the higher circles of the lobby through the lower plane of the House. The doors were thrown wider open than before. I saw him take a Congressman by the arm and lug him into the Speaker's room to pour honeyed words into the ear of the people's Representative. This Bee is only one out of the hive, but he is a busy Bee indeed. The doorkeepers pass him into the House, but they "never saw him before." The clerks of one or two committees have long and confidential conversations with him, but they "do not know who he is." On the very day when the Doorkeeper kept me out of the lobby and allowed him to pass in a gentleman of high official position told me he wanted to see me, when I discovered that what he wanted with me was to sound the praises of the great and good Mr. Bee. I could only go away humming to myself:—

How doth the little busy Bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the