CONGRESS.

Morton's Defence of the President's Louisiana Orders.

McEnery's Supporters More Bloodthirsty Than Modocs.

KELLOGG'S POLITICAL PURITY.

District of Columbia Affairs To Be Looked Into.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1874.

A THREE-SIXTY-FIVE CONVERTIBLE BOND ASKED FOR BY PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. SCOTT, (rep.) of Pa., presented a petition of citizens of Philadelphia asking the issue by the government of a three-sixty-five convertible bond. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

IOWA UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

Mr. WRIGHT, (rep.) of Iowa, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back the House bill changing the time of meeting of the United States District Court in Iowa, with an amendment fixing the time of meeting at Council Bluffs on the fourth Monday in March and September of each year instead of the third Tuesday of those months. Passed.

THE DUTY ON GRAIN SACKS.

Mr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., presented resolutions of the California Legislature and State Grange against the duty on bags used for exporting grain. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. ANTHONY, (rep.) of R. I., presented a memorial relative to the defective illuminating gas in the District of Columbia. Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

A BILL TO REGULATE REVENUE.

Mr. COOPER, (dem.) of Tenn., introduced a bill to refund internal revenue taxes improperly assessed and collected. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Cooper's bill for refunding certain internal revenue taxes directs the remission or repayment of all taxes assessed or collected on or from citizens in the insurrectionary States contrary to the provisions of the Treasury Department circular No. 16, issued June 21, 1865.

AMEND THE STATUTES ON PUBLIC EXPENDITURES.

Mr. BOUTWELL, (rep.) of Mass., introduced a bill to revise, amend and consolidate the statutes in relation to the estimates, appropriations and public expenditures. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN MINNESOTA.

Mr. WINDOM, (rep.) of Minn., introduced a bill to change the time of holding the United States District Court in Minnesota. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MORE WORK FOR THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Mr. WRIGHT, (rep.) of Iowa, introduced a resolution directing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue, as well as the other offices in that bureau, and imposing the duties of the revenue office on the Treasury Department. Agreed to.

TO REDUCE NAVY YARDS AND HOSPITALS.

Mr. STEVENSON, (dem.) of Ky., introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Naval Affairs to inquire into the expediency of reducing the number of navy yards and naval hospitals in the United States. Agreed to.

THE MAIL SERVICE.

Mr. SCOTT, of Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution instructing the Postmaster General to report to the Senate as to the number of contractors for the transportation of the mails holding more than five contracts on the 30th of June last; how many have been let to sub-contractors, and at what prices. Also, if there is not a class of professional bidders who seek to gain the control of numerous routes and underbid *bona fide* bidders; and, further, what legislation is needed to enable the department to secure *bona fide* contractors at the lowest price. Laid over on objection of Mr. Hamlin.

Mr. SARGENT, of California, introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads to inquire into the condition of the mail service between San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands, and whether it is necessary to renew such contract. Agreed to.

THE LATE MEXICAN CONSUL OTTERBOURG.

Mr. SCHURZ, (rep.), of Mo., called up the motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill for the relief of Marcus Otterbourg, late United States Consul at the City of Mexico, was passed. Pending the discussion the morning hour expired and the motion went over.

CONTRACT DEPOSITS WITH THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Mr. SARGENT, of California, introduced a bill in relation to certain deposits in the Post Office Department. It authorizes the Postmaster General to collect certified checks on national banks deposited by bidders as security for the faithful performance of contracts, and to place the proceeds in the Treasury of the United States, to remain there until the contracts are awarded, after which the amount shall be returned to the bidders depositing it. In explanation of the bill Mr. Sargent said the bidders preferred to have the deposit in the Treasury of the United States instead of the national banks, which too frequently failed. About 1,000 of such checks were now in the hands of the Postmaster General, where they must remain by law till the 1st of July.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. RAMSEY, (rep.) of Minn., presented resolutions of the Minnesota Legislature asking that the time be extended for the payment of pre-emption claims. Referred to the Committee on Public Claims.

Mr. STEWART, (rep.) of Nev., from the Committee on Public Lands, reported without amendment the House bill, extending for two years the time for the sale and payment of pre-empted lands in Bitter Root Valley, in the Territory of Montana, being amendatory of the act of June 5, 1872, for the removal of the Flat Head Indians.

REPORTING THE SENATORIAL DEBATES.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Me., submitted a resolution, which was laid over, directing the Committee on Printing to contract on behalf of the Senate with a suitable person to report for publication in the official *Record*, now provided for the purpose, the Senate debates and proceedings during this Congress on the terms provided for by the act of January 24, 1874.

Mr. SARGENT introduced a bill relating to placer mining lands in California. Referred to the Committee on Mines and Mining.

Mr. RAMSEY presented a petition of the subordinate granges of the Patrons of Husbandry of Douglas county, Minnesota, praying for the passage of Mr. Ramsey's bill, extending the time of the limitation of land grants to aid in the completion of the St. Cloud and St. Vincent branch of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad.

LOUISIANA—MORTON'S DEFENCE.

Mr. MORTON addressed the Senate on Louisiana affairs. He reviewed the argument of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Carpenter), and contended that the Kellogg government was the legal government of the State, the President and the other House of Congress having recognized it. He quoted from the Rhode Island case of Potter against Robbins and said it directly sustained his views in this case. The Senator (Mr. Carpenter) would admit that he was more familiar with the laws of Wisconsin than he was with those of Louisiana, and, certainly, the decisions of the legal tribunals in Louisiana were entitled to more weight than the argument of any politician or Senator. No question before the Senate now depended upon the former decisions of Judge Durell. Mr. Morton then spoke at some length as to the legal powers of the President to employ the land and naval forces of the United States, and said the views of the Senator from Wisconsin on that question were too narrow. He thought the argument of the gentleman (Mr. Carpenter) that the President had never recognized the Kellogg Legislature seemed to be trifling with the whole matter. The President did recognize that Legislature. Even if he had not he recognized Mr. Kellogg as Governor, and that amounted to the same thing. The recognition of the Kellogg government by the President was in pursuance of law. The proposition to set aside the State government of Louisiana and order a new election was one of the gravest character. It could not be done without setting aside a portion of the constitution of Louisiana. If Congress should order a new election now the constitution of Louisiana would require another one for members of the Legislature next November.

Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., thought nothing could be more fallacious in testing the powers of the President than the argument of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Carpenter), that he must receive information from the Legislature of the State, and a demand for interference before he could interfere. He (Mr. Conkling) would venture to say that if turbulence existed in any State of the Union, and the President knew of it, he could interfere, even if he but received an outcry from the Governor. No matter about the form of application, the President's power would be as full as if he received an application reciting all particulars. The authority to decide whether the exigency had arisen for the use of the federal forces rested entirely with the President, and he had a right to take into consideration the letter of Pinchback claiming to be acting Governor on the 19th of December, and all other information he could get. Therefore, it seemed to him, that the argument of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. Carpenter), to which he would subsequently take occasion to reply, seemed to have degenerated into a mere criticism on the form of application.

THE BLOOD STAINED SYSTEMS AT FAULT.

Mr. MORTON resumed and said he agreed with the Senator from New York (Mr. Conkling), and went further. He (Mr. Morton) believed the President could act without any application from the State under the general charge to see that the laws are enforced. To the blood-stained system of State sovereignty all the present troubles in Louisiana might be traced back; but the State had many rights which it was the duty of the federal government to protect. Should Congress undertake the work of reconstruction in Louisiana, it must actually overturn a legal State government which is republican in its form. While he deplored the condition of things in that State and earnestly hoped the people would take warning and insist on fairer elections, he thought it better that they should bear the evils they have than invoke the national government to the exercise of a power under which State governments would exist hereafter only by sufferance. The condition of affairs in Louisiana in 1872 was fearful. A state of actual war was far less destructive to the people than a condition of riot and murder. During the last seven years Louisiana has been drenched with blood by the murderer's hand. The colored people regard the leaders of the democratic party there as their natural enemies, and shrink from them with terror. These murderers, so steeped in blood, disturbed the peace of Louisiana under the pretext of supporting the McEnery government. The Modocs who murdered General Canby and Dr. Thomas made no claims to civilization. As compared with the murderers of Louisiana, the Modocs were gentle, amiable warriors. He (Mr. Morton) would say to the people of Louisiana that they must stop this murder business. The people who instigated these murders would perish. God had so declared it in His holy word and throughout the history of mankind. The election of 1868 in Louisiana under the reconstruction act was fair, and the republicans carried the State by 26,000 majority. But after that the Ku Klux was organized, and as to what it accomplished that was shown by the report of the committee on Southern outrages, from which he had extracts read by the Clerk. Continuing his argument, Mr. Morton said Mr. Kellogg was a man of ability and personal magnetism, and the republican party in the contest of 1872 was swindled outrageously on every hand, and had it not been for the Warmoth frauds, Mr. Kellogg would have carried the State by from 10,000 to 15,000 majority. He knew there was

FRAUD ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE.

Fraud begets fraud, and persecution begets persecution. He desired to make no defence for what had been wrongfully done in Louisiana, but the republican party of that State had been shamefully slandered and calumniated throughout the land. The election frauds committed by the republicans were but the driftwood upon a pool of blood. He called on the Senate to notice the persecutions and trials through which the party had passed in the State during the last seven years, and said the Kellogg government was the best which the State had been ruled by since the end of the war. He had no fear that the government would be set aside, but the agitation of the question did harm. Let it be overturned, and no one could tell how soon the bloody scenes of Colfax parish would be renewed in New Orleans or elsewhere. He knew what exceeding joy was carried to the hearts of those men by this movement for a new election. He hoped this agitation would cease, and the Kellogg government would go on.

CARPENTER OPPOSITION FROM NEW JERSEY.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, (rep.) of N. J., said he dissented from the position of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Carpenter), that the President in sending troops to Louisiana had acted without authority of law, and therefore contrary to law. Disorder had existed in that State and had become a reproach to the nation. The order loving people of the country all rejoiced when they found the firm hand of the President had taken charge of affairs in Louisiana. His action preserved the peace there and saved bloodshed. If he acted without authority of law, then we have a system of government inferior to what he supposed. It was the province of all governments to have peace and tranquility, and the end which the President accomplished was the very end for which our government was instituted.

Mr. CARPENTER inquired if the gentleman claimed that the President could act under the constitution without legislation on the part of Congress.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN replied that he did. If the Governor of a State and the Legislature called upon the President under the constitution he could act to protect from anarchy and democratic violence. The constitution in that case executed itself without any legislation of Congress. It was not the province of the President of the United States to reverse decrees of federal courts. It had been said that the President should not have recognized the Kellogg government. He could not help it. It was his duty to do so. In conclusion, he argued that Louisiana had a republican form of government, and there was no authority to order a new election there.

NOT A REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

Mr. STEWART, of Nevada, said it had been admitted that the returns in Louisiana showed McEnery had between 9,000 and 10,000 majority. The Kellogg board, however, made a different count, based on estimates. He was willing to take the statement that if a fair election had been held Mr. Kellogg would have received 18,000 majority, and yet was not helped out of the difficulty. While the two returning boards were struggling a United States judge put the Kellogg party in power. The President, with such facts as were before him—and he (Mr. Stewart) presumed they were sufficient—recognized that government. He saw no use of investigating this case to raise any spite about the conduct of the President. The question was what Congress should do in inquiring if Pinchback should be admitted. It was for the Senate to inquire if there was a legal Legislature in Louisiana, and to deal with it. It was said the government of Louisiana was republican in form. He (Mr. Stewart) denied it. No government placed in power by mere estimates could be republican in form. He could not sanction the proposition that a republican form of government rested upon mere estimates as to votes cast; that a party set up by means of a federal judge was republican in form. The Senate could not admit a Senator from that so-called government, because it was not republican in form, and not placed in power by the people.

THE BANKRUPT BILL.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., moved that the pending question be laid aside and the Senate take up for consideration the Bankrupt bill.

Mr. SARGENT, of California, moved that the Naval Appropriation bill be taken up. He said frequently appropriation bills were put off till the last of the session, and in the rush then improper things were put in them. He hoped those bills would be considered early in the session and not put off until the last days to be rushed through.

Mr. MORTON said the country was awaiting their action on financial questions, which had been under discussion for so long, and he hoped a vote would soon be taken, especially on the amendment of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Ferry).

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, said though he was anxious to have a vote on the financial resolution as soon as possible, he would give way for the Bankrupt bill, as that was sent to the Senate by the House early in the session, and there was great necessity for its consideration. He would not, therefore, antagonize the two, and gave his consent to the consideration of the Bankrupt bill, but announced that, as soon as that subject should be disposed of, he would press the financial resolution to a vote.

Mr. SARGENT also yielded for the Bankrupt bill, but gave notice that he would urge the consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill when that measure should be disposed of.

The motion of Mr. Edmunds was adopted and the Bankrupt bill taken up and read at length.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

On motion of Mr. RAMSEY it was agreed that the testimony and argument before the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads in relation to a postal telegraph be printed.

GENERAL HOWARD'S CASE.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the House joint resolution for a special court of inquiry in the case of General O. O. Howard, and a verbal amendment offered by Mr. Logan was adopted.

Mr. WEST, (rep.) of La., objected to the passage of the resolution. He said the usage of the army was to appoint three officers on a court of inquiry, but this resolution proposed to depart from this usage and appoint five officers on the court.

Mr. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., said he knew nothing about the facts of the case, but understood that General Howard was anxious to have the court appointed.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., inquired if it was not desirable to have the action of the Military Committee on this resolution. It was certainly an innovation in making the number of officers five, and he would like to have the committee inquire into the matter and explain the exact condition of the case.

Mr. CONKLING said, as the charges against General Howard had emanated from the executive branch of the government, it was right and proper that it should consist of five officers. He understood that General Howard was willing for the court, and that he regarded as to his credit. He was an officer distinguished in the service, having been maimed in body, and, until after this investigation should clear him, maimed in reputation. The judgment of a court composed of five members would have more weight than one of three.

Mr. MORTON inquired why it was necessary to have the court inquire into the legal and moral responsibility of General Howard, as proposed by the resolution.

Mr. CONKLING replied that it was for the purpose of having the court pronounce, not only as to the cold formalities of the case, but also as to the question of the integrity and honor of General Howard.

Mr. THURMAN, (dem.) of Ohio, said he was somewhat surprised that this measure was before Congress. The President of the United States at all times had authority to organize a court of inquiry, and he could not see why Congress was called upon to stir up the President.

Mr. CONKLING said the statute of limitations had run against the case.

Mr. THURMAN said he did not understand it so; but if there was the least foundation in the world for these accusations against General Howard he must express his surprise that the Executive had not long ago ordered a court to investigate them. He read from the letter of the Secretary of War, containing charges, and said while he (Mr. Thurman) gave no opinion as to the truth of them, he was assured that the President had not long ago ordered a court of inquiry. He next cited from the opinion of the Attorney General in the case, and said that the Attorney General had all at once become exceedingly anxious as to the liberty of the citizen, and doubted that a major general could be tried by a military court. There was a time when people not in the army were tried by military courts, and that, too, in States where the civil courts were in full operation. There was no doubt, though, in the mind of the Supreme Court, when the question came before it. If the law officer of the government gave such an opinion as that, he (Mr. Thurman) did not blame the President, who was no lawyer, nor the Secretary, for sending to Congress for advice.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Me., said General Howard was perfectly willing to have a court. He (Mr. Morrill) did not believe a single one of these charges would lie at the door of that officer.

The resolution was passed.

ADJOURNED.

The Bankrupt bill was again taken up, and, at half-past five P. M., the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1874.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Under the call of States many bills were introduced and referred, including the following:—

By Mr. PLATT, (rep.) of N. Y.—To regulate the rate of postage on mailable matter of the third class.

By Mr. EAMES, (rep.) of R. I.—To repeal the third section of the Mining act of May 10, 1872.

By Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass.—To enable the Secretary of the Treasury to gather authentic information as to the condition of the fur trade in Alaska.

By Mr. FRYE, (rep.) of Me.—For the punishment of extortion by officers or persons acting under the authority of the United States.

Also relating to the punishment of the crime of manslaughter.

Also relating to the time for the prosecution, trial and conviction of criminals.

By Mr. BURCHARD, (rep.) of Ill.—Prohibiting Territorial Legislatures from authorizing towns or counties to issue bonds in aid of railroads.

By Mr. STANARD, (rep.) of Mo.—For a custom house building at Kansas City.

By Mr. HAWENS, (rep.) of Mo.—For a board of army officers as Indian Peace Commissioners.

By Mr. HUBBELL, (rep.) of Mich.—To regulate debate on Saturday and to prevent the publication in the *Congressional Record* of already published treatises or financial and newspaper articles or editorials.

By Mr. HAZLETON, (rep.) of N. J.—For minority representation in Utah.

By Mr. NEGLEY, (rep.) of Pa.—Relating to the transportation of explosive or dangerous materials.

By Mr. TYNER, (rep.) of Ind.—To fix the postage rates on newspapers and periodicals and to regulate prepayment.

By Mr. COBURN, (rep.) of Ind.—To provide for an arsenal of construction.

Also for the sale of certain arsenals.

By Mr. HAWLEY, (rep.) of Ill.—To provide for a bureau of architecture.

By Mr. BARRERE, (rep.) of Ill.—For a branch mint at Chicago.

By Mr. CLAYTON, (rep.) of Cal.—To admit free of duty, jute grain bags and burlaps.

By Mr. PAGE, (rep.) of Cal.—Relating to placer mining lands in California.

By Mr. HOUGHTON, (rep.) of Cal.—Relating to the equitable and legal rights of parties in possession of certain lands and improvements in California, and to provide jurisdiction to determine those rights.

By Mr. COBB, (rep.) of Kansas—For the sale of the Black Bob Indian lands in Kansas.

By Mr. MCCORMICK, (rep.) of Arizona—Restricting the killing of buffalo on the public lands.

By Mr. MELLISH, (rep.) of N. Y.—To amend the Custom laws.

Also to relieve the female citizens of the Territories from political disabilities.

By Mr. MYERS, (rep.) of Pa.—To amend the Bankrupt law by enforcing settlement of claims against a debtor whenever an agreement for such settlement is signed by the debtor and three-fourths in number and amount of the creditors.

By Mr. HASKINS, (rep.) of N. Y.—To encourage improvement in grain, fruit and vegetables and discoveries that may benefit the public.

By Mr. LAWRENCE, (rep.) of Ohio—To establish a court of alien claims.

Mr. POLAND, (rep.) of Vt., presented resolutions of the Vermont State Teachers' Association, asking that the proceeds of the public lands be devoted to educational purposes.

THE AFFAIRS OF THE DISTRICT.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Ind., presented four memorials touching the affairs of the District of Columbia, and made a statement in reference to a matter in regard to which he said some erroneous publications had been made respecting the Speaker of the House. Two of the papers had been in his hands for the past month, and he had sought for a considerable time to get the floor, in common with other gentlemen, and in common with them had been successful. Finally, just before the West Virginia election case, he had gone to the speaker and told him he desired the floor for the purpose of submitting this matter of the District of Columbia, and had been informed by the Speaker that there was a very great pressure for the floor, that a number of gentlemen were insisting on it, and that, after the matter then pending should be disposed of, he would try and recognize him (Mr. Wilson) immediately after he learned that the gentleman who had charge of the West Virginia case was insisting on going on with that question, and he then came to the conclusion that the Speaker would not be warranted in withholding the recognition from the gentleman (Mr. Smith) of New York. For that purpose he had afterwards gone back to the Speaker and had another conversation, and the Speaker then told him that if, after the House had passed from the consideration of the election case, he (Mr. Wilson) was willing to take the risk of submitting the matter to a thin House, he would give him the floor that afternoon, and otherwise he (Mr. Wilson) should have the first recognition to-day for a motion to suspend the rules. All this had occurred between the Speaker and himself before there had been any sort of public comment on the subject. He had preferred to wait until to-day. The matter was on his hands not of his own seeking. It had come into his hands unexpected; but as it had been offered to him and as so much had been said in the public press with reference to the affairs of the District, he did not feel he would be justified in declining to present it. He did not, however, desire to have anything to do with the investigation. He had

HAD ENOUGH OF INVESTIGATIONS

to know that their duties were thankless and involved an immense amount of hard labor. He had told the gentlemen who gave him the papers that so far as their local affairs and local taxation were concerned that was a matter which did not affect the interests of his constituents or the taxpayers of the country at large, but that there was a point connected with it which did affect his constituents and the people of the whole country, and that was the understanding that Congress was to be called upon to appropriate about four and a half millions for improvements in the District, and that he should incorporate in the resolution a proviso for an investigation of the question whether Congress could be called upon to make such a large or any other appropriation for that purpose. With that statement he had taken the papers, being memorial of W. W. Corcoran, G. W. Riggs, Columbus Alexander and others, and of the Governor of the District, and he now presented them to the House with a resolution for a committee of investigation.

THE SPEAKER EXPLAINS.

The SPEAKER—In connection with what the gentlemen from Indiana has just said, the Chair desires to make one general observation, and that is, that gentlemen seeking the floor for a suspension of the rules on Monday, greatly facilitate their ends by notifying the Speaker of the object they have in view. There is every Monday a much larger number seeking the floor than can be accommodated in a single day, and the Chair must necessarily exercise discretion in assigning the floor, having regard primarily to the relative importance of the questions presented by different members. The Chair thinks that in his five years' service no members from either side of the House having a question of public importance to submit has ever failed to get the floor when the Chair was advised of the object. Had the Chair known what motion the gentleman from Indiana intended to submit on Monday last it would have been his duty as well as his pleasure to recognize him. The rules provide that the member first addressing the Chair shall be recognized. But when fifteen or twenty address him at the same moment some other mode of assigning the floor must, of necessity, be resorted to, and there is none so fair as to award the precedence according to the relative importance of the motions, and his decision can be made only by the Speaker knowing what subject a member seeking the floor proposes to submit to the House. To show how this rule works, the Chair begs to repeat that he has never heard a complaint that any matter of importance failed to reach the attention of the House.

WHAT THE INQUIRY IS TO BE.

The concurrent resolution was then read. It provides for a joint select committee, to be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, to inquire into the matters specified in the petitions—whether unlawful contracts have been made for public improvements in the District; whether unlawful assessments of taxes have been levied; the actual cost of such improvements; the amount agreed to be paid therefor; whether correct measurements have been made; the existing indebtedness on account thereof and what, if any, portion of such indebtedness was created on account of government property and may properly be paid for out of the Treasury of the United States.

Mr. KASSON, (rep.) of Iowa, suggested the addition to the inquiry, "also whether any amendment of the organic act is necessary to protect further the rights of citizens and the disbursement and collection of money." He stated that the public school teachers had not been paid since September last.

Mr. COX, (dem.) of N. Y., stated that the police had not been paid since May last.

Mr. POLAND, (rep.) of Vt., remarked he had offered a resolution last Monday, which had been adopted, referring certain questions as to the District to the Judiciary Committee and he had seen certain newspaper comments connecting that with the unsuccessful effort of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Wilson). It was very true that the resolution offered by him (Mr. Poland) had not been drawn by him, but it had been offered at the request of various people in the District. He did not suppose that the desire to have the general government bear as large a proportion of the expenditure as possible was confined to any one class of the people of the District. It had been said his (Mr. Poland's) resolution was for the very object and purpose of covering up fraud and corruption, and that he (Mr. Poland) had already the report drawn up that was to be presented to the House. The resolution was, on its face, entirely innocent, as he thought. If any information could be brought out which would be beneficial to the people of the District, or if it should turn out that the general government had done more than its share, the fact should be made known. He believed the proposed investigation should be conducted by the standing committee for the District of Columbia.

Mr. HALE, (rep.) of N. Y., chairman of that committee, preferred that the matter should go to a select committee as proposed.

Mr. ELDREDGE, (dem.) of Wis., a member of the District Committee, also favored a select committee, because several of the members of the present District Committee had been members of that committee in the last Congress and had gone through the whole subject of inquiry.

Mr. WILSON, of Indiana, disclaimed intending any reflection on the committee for the District of Columbia. He proposed a joint select committee because the memorialists preferred it.

"WHO'S AFRAID?"

Mr. CHIPMAN, (rep.), the delegate from the District, avowed the readiness of the officers of the District to submit all their acts to the most rigorous examination.

Mr. KASSON's suggestion was accepted by Mr. Wilson, and the resolution, as thus amended, was adopted, and the speaker appointed the following committee:—Messrs. Wilson, of Indiana; Hale, of New York; Hubbell, of Michigan; Clymer, of Pennsylvania; and Jewett, of Ohio.

IMPEACHMENT OF JUDGE BUSTEED.

Mr. WHITE, (rep.) of Alabama, presented articles of impeachment against Richard Busteed, United States Judge of Alabama, which were ordered to be printed and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The charges are presented by Alexander White, a citizen of Alabama.

The articles are as follows:—

First—That he (Judge Busteed) is not and has never been a citizen of the State of Alabama, but is a citizen of the State of New York.

Second—That he has never resided in any of the districts of Alabama of which he is the presiding judge.

Third—That he has failed to hold the Courts as required by law and at the times appointed by law.

Fourth—That on the days fixed by law for holding the terms of the several District Courts he has often failed to attend, thereby keeping parties, witnesses, counsel and jurors waiting at a heavy expense to the people and the government of the United States, merely to subserve his own convenience and caprice.

Article 5 is in relation to a libel suit by K. M. Reynolds against Judge Busteed, in which it is alleged that money was taken from the registry of the Court and paid to Reynolds in consideration of the dismissal of the suit.

Mr. DUNNELL, (rep.) of Minn., from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill creating an additional land district in New Mexico. Passed.

Mr. YOUNG, (dem.) of Ga., moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution directing the payment of mail agents and contractors for services prior to April 14, 1861. Not agreed to.

MEDALS FOR THE CENTENNIAL.

Mr. HOOPER, (rep.) of Mass., from the Committee on Coinage, reported a bill providing that medals, with appropriate devices, emblems and inscriptions, shall be prepared at the Philadelphia Mint to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the meeting of the Continental Congress and of the Declaration of Independence, and that such medals, in any suitable metal or alloy, be furnished to applicants under the provisions of the fifty-second section of the Coinage act, on payment of the cost and twenty per cent additional. Passed.

Mr. BROMBERG, (lib.) of Ala., offered a resolution to investigate the management and condition of the Freedmen's Trust and Savings Company. Referred to the Banking Committee.

Mr. HARRIS, (dem.) of Va., moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution to have the discussion of the House after Monday next devoted to the financial question. Not agreed to.

Mr. STOWELL, (rep.) of Va., moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution authorizing the Post Office Committee to report on the 12th of February a bill for the free distribution of printed matter, &c., and make it a special order from and after that day. The motion was agreed to—yeas 164, nays 66.

Mr. FORT, (rep.) of Ill., offered a resolution instructing the public printer to print such a number of copies of the agricultural report as will supply 1,000 copies to each Senator, Representative and delegate. (Laughter.) Referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. RAINY, (rep.) of S. C., offered a resolution abolishing the Committee on Freedmen's Affairs. Referred to the Committee on Rules.

Mr. ORTH, (rep.) of Ind., introduced a bill for a more complete organization of the State Department. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. FERNANDO WOOD (dem.) presented petitions of Phelps, Dodge & Co. and other merchants in favor of making the duty on steel plate specific instead of ad valorem.

Also a petition from John Quintard, Murphy & Co. and John Roach & Co. in favor of removing obstructions in the East River, New York.

THE GRANTS OF LAND TO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

Mr. MONROE, (rep.) of Ohio, offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Education and Labor to inquire into the condition and management of the agricultural and other colleges that have received grants from the United States. Agreed to.

REWARD OF WAR SERVICE.

Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., introduced a joint resolution providing that in all cases under civil service examination for government positions, when a disabled soldier, his wife, or the widow of a soldier who died of wounds or disability contracted in the service, shall pass the examination at the required standard fixed by the rules, such person shall have the precedence to appointments. Passed.

THE FINANCES AGAIN.

Mr. NIBLACK, (dem.) of Ind., moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution, declaring it to be the sense of the House that any scheme for the improvement of the finances will be unsatisfactory and incomplete which does not embrace a revision of the tariff in the interest of the revenue and the emancipation of commerce from all unnecessary restrictions, and that the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to proceed with such revision of the tariff.

Under the recent rule requiring the seconding of motions to suspend the rules the question was put on seconding, but a majority was against it, and the resolution was not received.

A motion of Mr. COBB, (rep.) of Kansas, an amendment to the Army Appropriation bill was made in order, relating to government transportation on the Pacific railroads. He claimed that if the amendment was adopted there would be a saving of $20,000 a year in government transportation.

The House then, at a quarter past four, adjourned.

ART MATTERS.

Mr. Johnston's Sale.

A number of foreign and American oil paintings are to be offered for sale at noon to-morrow and Thursday, at the art gallery of Mr. Archibald Johnston, No. 37 Nassau street. They amount to 155 in all, and among them fourteen native and thirty-two foreign artists are represented. We are all the more ready to say whatever favorable things deserve to be said of this collection because the conditions under which the pictures are disposed of are more than usually satisfactory. The foreign paintings have been painted to the order or purchased from respectable dealers by Mr. Albert D'Huyvetter, Jr., of Antwerp, and are warranted to be originals. To satisfy any doubt which a purchaser may entertain, however, two months will be allowed him from the date of sale. Any purchaser mentioning at time of payment his desire to prove the originality of the picture or pictures he buys will have his money deposited in the United States Trust Company. Upon a certificate from the artist or dealer being produced, denying the originality of such picture or pictures, the purchase money, with interest and fifty per cent additional, will be refunded, the expenses of obtaining such certificate to be borne by the present owner. Doubtless spurious pictures are disposed of at auction every season. Possibly such have been disposed of during the present season. But there may be a strong suspicion that certain pictures offered for sale are spurious, and yet the proof may be so difficult to obtain that all that can reasonably be done is to warn the public to acquaint itself with the general reputation of the parties conducting the sale. There have been cases in which paintings purporting to emanate from artists of ability have been offered in such quantities as to preclude a connoisseur's belief in their validity. Those who have ever been duped in this manner, and who have discovered the spoliation, will accept with cordiality the condition proposed by the owners of the pictures which Mr. Johnston is now exhibiting. Among the collection may be found a clever autumn scene by J. B. Bristol, representing "Mount Everett, Massachusetts;" two excellent candlelight effects in a fruit market, by J. Rosierse of Dordrecht; a "Winter Scene Near the Hague—Entrance to the Woods," by M. C. Middlebeck (pupil of Kluyver) and F. Van Severdonck; "A Glimpse of the White Mountains," painted a good many years ago, by the now venerable Durand when he was in his prime, and containing a rare combination of some of his most estimable points; "Before the Work," by J. D. Hinbers, of Zwolle, Holland, and exhibited in the Rotterdam Exhibition last year. These are all embraced in to-morrow's sale, and are among the best and strongest members. Among the pictures that will come up on Thursday are "Lake Memphremagog," by that very clever young artist, Harvey Young, who has recently returned from his old haunts in California; a "Landscape and Cascade," evincing that quiet and affectionate study of rocks, mosses and water, that distinguishes David Johnson; an "Autumn Landscape," by Cropsey, fresh from the easel and full of that sensuous and harmonious revel of color, quietly toned, that no other American artist expresses with such rich and perfect sweetness; a large picture by F. A. Pranstadt, of Antwerp, representing "Charles V. and Barbara Blomberg of Ratisbon;" an exquisite scene from the forest of Fontainebleau by Diaz, worthy to keep place with the one to which we recently alluded as being exhibited by Mr. Schaus; and a large and strong picture by the Antwerp artist Karel Ooms, called "Paul and Virginia at the Fountain." The reader will remember the favorable terms in which we have more than once spoken of Mr. Ooms, as the painter of the highly dramatic picture of "The Flemish Pirates," recently displayed in this city. We conclude our notice for the present with reference to a fine little picture by David Col, named "The Cream of My Cellar," and Bierstadt's "Early Morning," a characteristic California scene.

A CUBAN PATRIOT.

Colonel J. M. Pacheco—His Daring Adventures and Hairbreadth Escapes "By Flood and Field," Blockade Running and Passing the Enemy's Lines.

Colonel Pacheco, of the Cuban liberating army, who arrived in New York a few days ago, has performed some of the most daring acts of patriotism that have yet been achieved since the commencement of that most remarkable war of independence in which he is engaged. His singularly adventurous history would almost justify the seeming paradox that "truth is stranger than fiction."

Colonel Pacheco is a young man of twenty-two summers. He is slight and fragile of build, under the medium height, of fair complexion, having light hair, with slight blonde mustache, and, in fact, looks like anything but the formidable Cuban soldier which he has proved himself to be. A HERALD representative called on him yesterday and in the course of a conversation gained the following paticulars of the Colonel's life. When the war broke out he was but a mere boy, a law student in Bayamo, his native city. He joined the ranks of his country as a private soldier, and since then until now his career has been one of hazardous adventure, trying military service, well deserved promotion and honorable wounds.

In December, 1871, Pacheco for the first time escaped from the island. This was after the attack made by the Cubans on the fortifications of Guamo, where he was severely wounded, having received no less than three bullet wounds during the assault. He remained in Jamaica until the following March, when he went to join the expedition of Colonel Aguero in the Edgar Stuart. When this well remembered vessel was near the Cuban coast Pacheco volunteered to go with four men in a ship's boat and reconnoitre the landing place. This he successfully accomplished, returning to advise the steamer that the coast was clear, and then with the troops of disembarkation which he commanded, helped to land the welcome cargo of arms and ammunition that the Stuart carried in aid of the patriots. Pacheco now remained for a while on the island to share with his companions in arms the difficulties and dangers of an arduous campaign. In May, 1872, the young patriot, in company with eight of his friends, again ran the gauntlet of the Spanish land and sea forces by escaping in a dugout canoe through their military and naval lines, and reaching Santa Ana Bay, fifty miles from Kingston, Jamaica, after a most adventurous trip of three days.

"What did you have to eat on the voyage?" asked the HERALD representative.

"We had with us some wild honey, *jutia* (woodrats), *boniatos* (sweet potatoes), roasted on shore, and a keg of water.

In July or August, 1872, Colonel Pacheco came to New York, but he remained here only some twenty days. At the expiration of this time he left here for Puerto Plata, to join an expedition that was then expected to pass near that place on the way to Cuba. He was disappointed, and did not fall in with the expected vessel. He therefore went to Jamaica and purchased a small schooner called the Village Bride. With a crew of ten men, including himself, he embarked in this little craft for his native isle once more. This was in the month of July, 1873. On the second day out a Spanish war steamer hove in sight. The man-of-war altered her course and bore down toward the Cuban craft. At this critical juncture the Village Bride changed her tack, and made off at a spanking rate on a bowline course for Santiago de Cuba. This manœuvre deceived the Spaniard, who now felt sure that the Bride was one of the numerous small craft engaged in regular trade along the south coast of Cuba. Under cover of the night the Village Bride ran in towards the coast, but a contrary wind did not admit of a close approach to it. Pacheco now determined to effect a landing by means of a small boat from the Bride. He got into the boat with four men and made the land safely in sight of a Spanish coastguard fort. The boat was injured in beaching—one of her ribs having been staved in. The Cuban outlooks, seeing a boat on the beach, thought it might have belonged to a gunboat, and detached a force to examine the place where it was the same day about noon, when they found Pacheco and his party. During the interval the Village Bride got out of the way and returned from whence she came. After a delay of three days occupied in transacting the business which brought him to the island and in repairing the boats Colonel Pacheco and his brave fellows committed their fortunes to the favoring deep and headed the skiff's course for Jamaica, with an abundant scarceness of provisions, which this time consisted of forty-two mangoes, fifty-six lemons, a few green wild grapes, with oceans of water everywhere, but hardly a drop to drink.

In the first night out on this memorable voyage a Spanish cruiser passed within fifty yards of the little boat that contained the five heroic Cubans. Pacheco gave orders for the men to get ready what arms they had, so as to resist to the death any attempted capture that might be made by the Spaniard. Fortunately the enemy did not perceive the patriots, and they escaped through the friendly shades of night. After an eventful run of three days Pacheco and his men, exhausted by toil, pinched by hunger and almost dying of thirst, finally reached the coast of Jamaica, at