

WASHINGTON.

The Evidence of Mrs. Gaines in the Durell Case.

Temperance and the National Revenue.

THE GHOST OF THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

Violation of the Spirit of the Civil Service Laws.

WASHINGTON, March 3, 1874. The debate on the Centennial Project—its Pros and Cons—was continued in the Senate.

In the Senate the discussion on the Centennial bill was resumed, and Senator Sargent led off in a speech opposing it and going over details whereby he sought to adduce all the facts accessible which could be brought up against it.

It is further said that if the general government and the other States did not render assistance to the project and help it out with a share of the funds to be supplied, Pennsylvania would carry the whole thing through herself, but that if Pennsylvania to furnish all the money, she will provide for the spending of it herself and will not ask Connecticut to do it.

There was a rambling debate at the close of the speech, when Senator Morrill, of Vermont, offered an amendment which changed the character of the proposed exposition from that of an international one to a national one.

Voting Down the Ghost of the Franking Privilege—Opening the Fourth Month of the Session in the House.

The House began the fourth month of the session in a very sensible way by slaughtering every resolution winking at a restoration of the franking privilege. Some of the members said that nothing less than the restoration of the old measure would be satisfactory and nothing less should pass the House.

The character of the testimony given by Mrs. Gaines before the Judiciary Committee of the House, concerning the Durell case, is such as in the opinion of the sub-committee demands the summoning of Caleb Cushing, that he may refute the allegations of the committee.

The Secretary of the Treasury has requested the resignation of Mr. William F. Haines, as Commissioner of Customs, in deference to the request of Senator John Scott, of Pennsylvania, who desires to appoint some one in his place who can be of service to secure re-election, as his term will expire on March 4, 1875.

The following is a copy of the letter addressed to Mr. Haines:—

SIR—I am directed by the Corporation of the City of London to forward to you the accompanying bill for the recovery of the loss of the medal for the recovery of illness of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in order that it may be deposited in the Library at Washington. I am, sir, your obedient servant.

TO THE LIBRARIAN, STATE LIBRARY, WASHINGTON. The medal is in bronze, about three inches in diameter, and represents the brave and noble conduct of the late Prince of Wales, on the right of the medal are the royal arms of England, and on the left the arms of the municipality of London. A ribbon on either side contains the legend, "National thanksgiving for the recovery of H. R. H., Prince of Wales, St. Paul's, London," and below, "27th February, 1874."

A bill introduced by Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, to-day, provides that whoever, being a civil officer of the United States, shall be presented for impeachment for high crimes or misdemeanors by the House of Representatives to the Senate of the United States, shall thereupon be suspended from all functions and authority vested in him by virtue of his office, and all salary, pay and emoluments which might otherwise go to him therein, until he shall be discharged from such impeachment by the judgment of the Senate or by the withdrawal of such impeachment by the House of Representatives.

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Effect of the Whiskey War on the Revenue Receipts.

The progress of the whiskey war is watched with unusual interest by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and should the retail trade be affected for any length of time it will diminish the manufacture not only of spirits but of malt liquors and make additional taxation necessary.

Regulating the Indian Commission.

The House Committee on Appropriations to-day adopted another amendment to the Indian bill, providing that the Board of Indian Commissioners shall only be allowed to examine official papers submitted under their cognizance as Washington, New York and Philadelphia. This is to put an end to the transmission of these papers over the country in search of the Commissioners.

Pears that Hostilities with the Indians Will be Protracted by Armed Citizens.

A telegram from General Custer to the Adjutant General of the Department of Dakota, dated Fort Lincoln, February 28, and forwarded here, says:— "A printed circular sent from Bozeman, Montana, is being circulated among the citizens here, inviting them to join what is styled the Wagon Road and Prospecting Expedition. The circular states that the expedition will take supplies for six months and will have 25,000 rounds of ammunition and three pieces of artillery. Bozeman is the starting point and Tongue River Valley the country to be prospected.

The Hon. A. S. Paddock has received information from several reliable sources in Nebraska that there are no hostile Indians in that State nor any apprehension of trouble from them.

The Bill Regulating the Refunding of Customs.

The Senate Finance Committee some time ago submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury for his opinion the bill restricting the refunding of customs duties and prescribing certain regulations of the Treasury Department. In reply to the question whether this measure would embarrass the department, the Secretary says the department will conform to the will of Congress, as expressed in its enactments, and its passage will cause no embarrassment.

That money paid into the hands of any collector or into the Treasury for the customs duty in accordance with any decision or ruling previously made by the Secretary of the Treasury shall not be refunded or repaid except in pursuance of special provisions of law.

The second branch of the bill is that no ruling or decision once made by the Secretary of the Treasury giving a construction to any law imposing custom house duties shall be changed by the same or a succeeding Secretary, unless it be in concurrence with an opinion in favor of such change given by the Attorney General or by reason of a judicial decision of a Court of the United States affecting the same, from which the Attorney General is not bound to appeal or writ of error will be taken in the United States.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall, in his annual report to Congress, give a detailed statement of the various sums of money refunded under the provisions of this act or of any other act of Congress for the refunding of duties.

Hours of Labor on the New York Post Office.

Mr. Mullett, Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, was before the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to-day in connection with the subject of labor on the New York Post Office. This subject came up under the resolution of Mr. Cox asking an investigation of complaints of a violation of the Eight Hour Law. Mr. Mullett stated that he was already much behind on his estimate of labor. The claim set up by the workmen is that they are entitled to the difference of pay between eight and ten hours or twenty-five per cent on the money they have already received. If this claim be allowed it will involve an outlay of between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.

Presentation of a Medal to the Congressional Library by the Corporation of the English National Thanksgiving of 1874.

The Librarian of Congress to-day received from the Corporation of London, through the Department of State, a medal, accompanied by the following certificate:—

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STREET CLEANING.

Further Examination into the Affairs of the Bureau—Captain Hyatt Won't "Turn Up"—Have Thorne Proved to be "Fak'n" \$900—Theoretical Views on Street Cleaning.

The investigation by the Legislative Committee into the Street Cleaning Bureau's management was continued yesterday. The list of witnesses having been called over by Attorney General Barlow, he announced that Captain Hyatt had offered the subpoena server \$10 not to serve the subpoena upon him.

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THE TESTIMONY. Robert Foster was the first witness examined—Was a year and a half in the Street Cleaning Bureau, for which he paid \$120 a month; paid about \$100 in 1873 at Police Headquarters.

Thomas Baldwin was examined, but his testimony was unimportant. He was a contractor for excavating cellars and carrying away stuff by contract. He was paid \$100 a month for doing so.

John D. Crimmins examined—Is a contractor and builder; do any work for the city in sewer cleaning and street cleaning. He was paid \$100 a month for doing so.

John W. Ambrose examined—Was general contractor; prior to sixteen months ago had been connected with the Street Cleaning Bureau. He was paid \$100 a month for doing so.

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MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN. The regular meeting of this Board was held yesterday afternoon, Assistant Alderman Isaac Sommers presiding.

The Mayor's veto message in regard to the ordinance concerning slippery vault covers (published in the Herald a few days ago) was received and placed on file.

Assistant Alderman SIMONSON introduced an ordinance in regard to slippery coal hole coverings on sidewalks, which meets the objections of the Board of Supervisors on the same matter passed some weeks ago, which was vetoed by the Mayor and referred to the Committee on Ordinances.

Other minor resolutions were proposed and acted upon, after which the Board adjourned.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

Expenditures of the Inebriate Asylum—Nelson Hall Armory Lease—Protest of General Shaler Against Transferring the Seventy-first Regiment—Two Peremptory Mandamus Obedied for Fear of Ludlow Street Jail.

At half-past three o'clock yesterday afternoon the Board of Supervisors held their regular session, Mr. Samuel H. B. Vance, in the absence of the Mayor, in the chair.

The Department of Public Charities and Correction sent in a communication calling attention to the accounts of the Inebriate Asylum—For 1871, \$19,922.77; for 1872, \$10,246.47; for 1873, \$19,773.58, and the respective amounts expended in excess of all receipts—which was referred.

A resolution was offered to allow the Ninety-sixth regiment to find an armory until May 1 at the rates paid by the State—viz., \$200 for each company. Supervisor Gion amended the motion by inserting "to transfer them to Glass Hall."

The Inebriate Asylum Hall Armory case was again taken up. The Board of Supervisors, by a report from the committee, as follows:—

Your committee are of the opinion that there was collusion on the part of some one or more of the agents of the Board of Supervisors in the procuring and making of said lease to the county of New York.

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RENTS AND JEALOUSY.

Coroner's Inquest in the Case of Mary E. Lawler, Killed by the Drunken Policeman John Doyle—Jealousy Supposed to Have Been the Cause—The Behavior of the Prisoner An Affecting Scene in the Wooster Street Station House.

Coroner Woltman held an inquest on the body of Mary E. Lawler, the poor girl who was shot by Officer John Doyle, of the Fifteenth precinct, on February 25.

The inquest was held in the Eighth precinct station house, corner of Wooster and Prince streets. A dense crowd gathered outside to get a glimpse of the prisoner. Mrs. and Mr. Lawler were present, and old Mrs. Lawler sighed and sobbed during the whole inquest.

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Other news items and advertisements at the bottom of the page.