CONGRESS.

Passage by the Senate of the Bill for Counting the Electoral Vote.

THE INCREASE OF POSTAL ROUTES

The Executive, Legislative and Judicial Appropriation Bill.

Different Views of Members on the Sentiments of the People.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 24, 1876.

The Chair laid before the Senate the House bill in relation to political contributions.

Mr. DAVIS, (dem.) of W. Va., suggested that the bill be sent to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. HOWE, (rep.) of Wis., thought it affected political matters more than anything else and that there was no law question connected with it that any committee was not competent to wrestle with, and he suggested that it be sent to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Agreed to.

THE POSTAL ROUTE BILL.

The Senate took up for consideration the Post Route bill.

Mr. HAMLIN said the committee had paid personal attention to all the proposed routes and had made personal inquiry from different members as to the necessity of all they had proposed. They had stricken out and inserted only such as they had carefully scrutinized, and perhaps upon this statement the Senate would not insist upon having the bill read in full.

After some discussion the bill was amended as to minor points and passed.

THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

The Senate then resumed consideration of Senate bill No. 1, to count the votes of President and Vice President.

Mr. BURNSIDE moved to reconsider the vote whereby the bill was passed to the third reading, and then introduced an amendment, which was lost.

Other amendments were offered and rejected, when the question was taken on the passage of the bill, and it was passed by a vote of 32 yeas to 26 nays, as follows:—

THE VOTE.

YEAS—Messrs. Allison, Anthony, Boutwell, Burnside, Cameron of Pennsylvania, Cameron of Wisconsin, Christiancy, Dawes, Dorsey, Ferry, Frelinghuysen, Hamilton, Hamlin, Hitchcock, Ingalls, Jones of Nevada, Key, Logan, McMillan, Merrimon, Mitchell, Morrill of Maine, Morton, Oglesby, Paddock, Patterson, Sargent, Sherman, Spencer, Thurman, Windom and Wright—32.

NAYS—Messrs. Bayard, Bogy, Carpenter, Cockrell, Conkling, Cooper, Davis, Dennis, Eaton, Edmunds, English, Goldthwaite, Howe, Johnston, Jones of Florida, Kelly, McCreery, McDonald, Maxey, Randolph, Ransom, Saulsbury, Stevenson, Wallace, Whyte and Withers—26.

Mr. THURMAN said he was at a loss to see what the Senators could see in this bill of a partisan nature, and he moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the bill was passed, in order to give one more chance to fix some bill to meet the question when two sets of returns were sent in. He did hope that in that chamber where debate was allowed some measure could be perfected to meet the necessity of the case. If not there was no hopes of getting it done at this Congress.

The motion was entered.

On motion of Mr. SARGENT the Senate took up the Consular and Diplomatic bill and made it the order of business, and upon his motion then, at ten minutes of five P. M., went into executive session and at five o'clock adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 24, 1876.

The SPEAKER proceeded to call committees for reports of a private nature.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Cox, of New York, in the chair, on the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill, with the understanding that general debate on the bill would be limited to one hour.

Mr. HURLBURT, (rep.) of Ill., replied to the invectives which had been poured against the republican party by the gentlemen from Georgia and North Carolina Messrs. Hill and Yeates), and criticised the speech of the gentleman from Georgia as an astounding parody on the parable of the prodigal son, with the difference that the prodigal son asked his father's forgiveness, while the Southern people did not.

Mr. KASSON, (rep.) of Iowa, spoke against the reduction of salaries.

At the close of Mr. Kasson's speech the committee proceeded to consider the bill in detail. The item for the compensation of Senators, which is the first item in the bill, having been read, which fixes the salary at $4,500, Mr. Baker, of Indiana, moved to reduce it to $3,000. This was rejected.

Mr. FOSTER, (rep.) of Ohio, moved to reduce it to $2,700, and intimated that the democratic majority, if it wanted to be consistent, should vote for the reduction to $2,700.

Mr. RANDALL (interrupting)—Why did not you propose that amendment in the committee instead of resisting the reduction of the paltry ten per cent we have made?

Mr. FOSTER—I am not to be catechised on the floor.

Mr. RANDALL (persistently)—I want to show to the country and the House the inconsistency, the duplicity of the gentleman from Ohio in coming in here and offering an amendment to reduce the salaries of members to $2,700, while he resisted in the committee the reduction of $500.

Mr. FOSTER—I have a good answer to the attack.

Mr. RANDALL—I have made no attack.

Mr. FOSTER—You have charged me with duplicity and inconsistency.

Mr. RANDALL—There is no sincerity in your amendment, and you do not expect it to be adopted.

Mr. FOSTER—Try it and see.

Mr. RANDALL—The Committee on Appropriations has fixed the compensation of members where I think the people of the country will be satisfied.

Mr. FOSTER defended his action in offering his amendment.

Mr. HOAR, (rep.) of Mass., trusted that the House did not propose to present the pitiful spectacle that was presented in the last two Congresses, of wrangling about its own pay. If there was anything in the political history of the country that he would give a good deal to have struck out it was the debates on that subject in the last two Congresses. He would vote against any change in the salary of members—first, because it was a thing which ought not to be stirred up for political purposes; and second, because he thought on the whole it was as near right as it could be got. He entirely respected and honored the position of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Randall) when he said that he yielded his individual judgment in a matter where he was personally concerned to the general sentiment of the people, and he sympathized with him very much when, on being asked what he had done with the money, he replied it was none of the business of the questioner—a very good answer.

Mr. RANDALL explained that the difficulty which the committee had met was that if other salaries were reduced and not the salaries of members they would be chargeable with inconsistency. He had great respect for the views of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Hoar), yet his argument would really go to show that no salary ought to be reduced. It seemed to him (Mr. Randall) that there was but one safe, firm ground on which to stand, and that was to apply the same measure of reduction to all salaries. The House could not go through the reductions proposed if it did not reduce the salaries of its own members.

Mr. HARRISON, (dem.) of Ill., opposed Mr. Foster's amendment, and favored the reduction proposed in this bill. They could not go before their constituents and defend themselves unless they cut down their own salaries approximately.

Mr. HILL, (dem.) of Ga., moved to make the reduction of salaries commence on the 4th of March, 1877, and agreed with Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, that it was indecent for members of Congress to be squabbling over their own pay. His (Hill's) amendment would obviate that difficulty by making the reduction apply to the next Congress.

The question being on Mr. Foster's amendment, Mr. Foster asked Mr. Randall to allow a vote by yeas and nays in the House.

Mr. RANDALL said that in this early stage of the bill he was unwilling to depart from the usual rule.

Mr. FOSTER—There is no rule against that.

Mr. RANDALL—Well, the usual practice.

Mr. FOSTER—Will you allow me to offer the amendment in the House?

Mr. RANDALL—I am not so instructed by the committee. (Laughter on the republican side.) I will vote for it.

SPEECH OF MR. TOWNSEND.

Mr. TOWNSEND, (rep.) of N. Y., had no hesitation in declaring himself opposed to the amendment of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Foster), as he was opposed to the proposition of the committee. He had come here under a substantial contract between himself and the people that he was to be allowed $5,000 a year for his services, and he was unwilling to allow any set of persons to practice repudiation on him. (Laughter.) He did not believe that the people desired to give over their destinies to professional politicians or to rich men. He wished he was rich, too. The present salary was not too much for any man who could not live out of his private fortune, or out of post traderships, or out of railroad grants, and there was not enough of them to go round. (Laughter.) If members were to live at all, and to settle with their boarding house keepers and washerwomen, they would never reduce their salaries. (Laughter.)

The question was taken on Mr. Foster's amendment to fix the pay at $2,700, and it was rejected, there being but 24 votes in the affirmative.

The amendment offered by Mr. Hill, of Georgia, was also rejected.

Mr. KELLEY, (rep.) of Pa., moved to strike out $4,500 and insert $5,000, and spoke in favor of that motion.

Mr. DOUGLASS, (dem.) of Va., moved to fix the salaries at $3,600, and remarked that, so far as the question of rich and poor was concerned, he might say, for the Southern element particularly, "The poor ye have always with ye." He was sure that no member in the House stood in greater need than himself, but if the presence of the majority on this floor meant anything it meant that it was a representative expression of the demands of the people for retrenchment and reform.

Mr. O'BRIEN, of Maryland, argued that a reduction of salaries was not demanded by any public sentiment, and said that it was a small matter as compared to the gigantic fraud to which the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Holman) had already pledged his support. He referred to that gentleman as being nominally the Vice Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, but practically the leader of that committee. He (Mr. Holman) was the kite and the rest of the committee were the tail, and on that tail was emblazoned the "shibboleth" economy, while, at the same time, that gentleman was pledged to vote for a bill that would take a hundred millions out of the Treasury.

Mr. HOLMAN—What bill is that?

Mr. O'BRIEN—The Bounty bill, which you are pledged to support.

Mr. HOLMAN—Why, certainly, I am for that. (Laughter.)

Mr. O'BRIEN—The gentleman from Indiana proposes a reduction of salaries while he would take $100,000,000 at one swoop in the way of bounties to soldiers who have been already overpaid.

Mr. HOLMAN defended his position on the subject of the Bounty bill, and eulogized the brave men who had so nobly fought the battles of the late war and to whose perils and sacrifices the country was indebted for the maintenance of the Union, and he expressed his indignation that such a bill should be characterized as a gigantic fraud.

After a stormy struggle over the question of an adjournment till Monday and the alternative of a session for debate to-morrow, the former proposition prevailed through the persistency of Mr. Page, of California, and the House, at six o'clock, adjourned till Monday.

SENATOR CAMERON DECLINES AN ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

The following is a copy of a letter written by Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, in reply to an invitation from his colleagues in the Lower House to accept a banquet in honor of his seventy-eighth birthday:—

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, March 22, 1876.

GENTLEMEN—I acknowledge the invitation you send me to meet you at a banquet on such a day as may be indicated by myself and the terms in which that invitation is conveyed with profound pleasure. You are pleased to refer to my past life in words of approval and compliment, and to express the hope that my health and vigor may continue. I thank you very sincerely. My aim through life has been to do my duty, and to do it as unostentatiously as possible, trusting to time to settle the controversies sure to arise concerning the methods and motives of any man who feels strongly and acts vigorously. In this reliance your letter shows me that I have been fortunate. After passing seventy-seven years in the State that gave me birth, and sixty years of that long lifetime in active private pursuits and public duties, it is beyond expression pleasant to hear the voice of the Representatives of Pennsylvania express their satisfaction and approval. And this is enough. No entertainment that could be given, no sentiment that might be added, would be capable of increasing the joy your invitation has conferred. While acting my part in the national councils I have always remembered with affection the great Commonwealth that has so often honored me, and I am now unconscious of any wilful neglect of her mighty interests, of any lukewarmness when her welfare has been in question. More than partisanship the good of Pennsylvania has had a place in my heart. As a democrat I was forced to oppose my party in the interests of protection. As a republican I have sought to combine the brains and masses of that great organization in a solid force for that wise policy. And I now look back with an approving conscience on my course in both the great political parties of that period covered by my active political life. Therefore it is that your approval of my course as a Pennsylvanian is so gratifying to me. But, gentlemen, a regard for the pleasanter way of doing what is set before me without parade induces me to hesitate in accepting your invitation. On full reflection I feel forced to decline it, and I trust the reasons which control me in this decision will not only be appreciated by you and the gentlemen you represent, but that they will not be denied a measure of that approval which you have so generously and partially accorded to my past life. If, on the completion of my present Senatorial term, the same desire to approve a finished course shall exist, I will then meet you with pleasure and free from any restraints, for my work will have been done and a juster estimate can then be made of how it was done.

I am, gentlemen, with sentiments of gratitude and esteem, your friend, SIMON CAMERON.

Hon. John W. Wallace, Hon. Sobieski Ross, Hon. Chapman Freeman, Hon. Alan Wood, Committee.

MR. DANA AND THE MISSION TO ENGLAND.

A DEFENCE BY A FRIEND OF THE NOMINEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

The friends of Mr. Richard H. Dana are much gratified at the very fair and courteous statement presented in the HERALD of yesterday of his position as the nominee of the President for the most important diplomatic office in the gift of the government. Whether or not he shall be confirmed by the Senate is of very little consequence as compared with the question whether the people of this country shall accept as just the aspersions upon his character made to the committee, in a purely *ex parte* manner, by his principal political opponent in Massachusetts—an opponent who has ceased to enjoy the confidence of his own party in his own State—and of a literary enemy, whose hostility has long been of the most pronounced and bitter character. On the merits of Mr. Butler's political hostility, the members of the Legislature of Massachusetts without distinction of party, have signified their opinion in an emphatic manner by joining in a recommendation to the Senators of the State in Congress that Mr. Dana's nomination be confirmed. The Bar of Boston, than which there is no more honorable or conscientious body, have rendered their professional verdict with equal unanimity upon the issue raised by Mr. Beach Lawrence.

Nor is this very unusual (because non-partisan) indorsement of a candidate for political office confined to the neighbors and friends and professional associates of Mr. Dana in Massachusetts and Boston. He is equally esteemed wherever he is known throughout the world, either in person or by his publications. The *World* of last Saturday said that he would be sent to Coventry in two weeks by the scholars and jurists of England, and in proof of it quoted Dr. Abdy's letter to Mr. Lawrence, written in 1866, which has been the latter's *cheval de battaille* in his assault upon Mr. Dana's literary honesty. The facts in the case, which I am prepared to verify, are these:—When Mr. Lawrence began his suit for infringement of copyright against Mr. Dana he had his charges and his own statement, with some *ex parte* proofs, printed and widely distributed. Whatever answers he may have received from publicists, he has ventured to make public only that of Professor Abdy. That letter, from an accidental turn of the writer's expression, "I have read the report of the pleadings, &c.," gave the impression that he had read the pleadings on both sides, whereas, at the date of his letter, not only had he not seen Mr. Dana's answer and proofs, but they had not at that time been even put into the case. Two years later Dr. Abdy explained all this in terms of high respect for Mr. Dana.

In England, ever since the publication of his edition of Wheaton, Mr. Dana has been on terms of warm personal friendship with Mr. Phillimore, Mr. Montague Barnard, Mr. Justice Coleridge, Sir Vernon Harcourt, Lord Selborne (Sir Roundell Palmer) and Lord Tenterden, as well as with Mr. Gladstone and many scholars of Oxford and Cambridge. I have yet to hear of one man, and I do not believe there is a man in Europe of any note whom Mr. Lawrence's persistent attacks have in the least affected. In this country Mr. Dana has long enjoyed the friendship of President Woolsey, the highest living authority on public law in America, and President Woolsey has recently uttered the strongest sentiments in his favor. He was on terms of equal intimacy, during his lifetime, with Professor Lieber, who did a great deal to bring Mr. Dana and his edition of Wheaton to the favorable attention of French and German jurists. General Halleck, who, as a military publicist, held a very conspicuous position, called Mr. Dana's book the "expurgated edition" of Wheaton, the expurgation being of that which Mr. Lawrence in a spirit of hostility to his country has foisted upon it.

It remains to state the most gratifying indorsement which Mr. Dana's labors as a judicial writer have ever received. I mean the one that was made of his book in the international arbitration at Geneva on the Alabama question. His notes were cited frequently with approval by the distinguished counsel on both sides and by the umpires, and it does not appear that Lawrence's edition was ever quoted, though he had annoted the same subjects. When the proceedings came to be printed, the State Department at Washington, in very courteous terms, asked of Mr. Dana permission to print some of his notes, he having the copyright, and these notes are annexed to the American arguments.

I have stated these facts in justice to a public man whose reputation is a national possession, and to a friend and former associate, whom I cannot see maligned without a vindication. If Mr. Dana, nominated by the President, is rejected, the public will wait to see the answer which Senators have to give for thus discharging a trust reposed in them by the nation, to permit no bad man to be confirmed and to allow no good man to be rejected for public office. S. W.

CAPTURE OF BURGLARS.

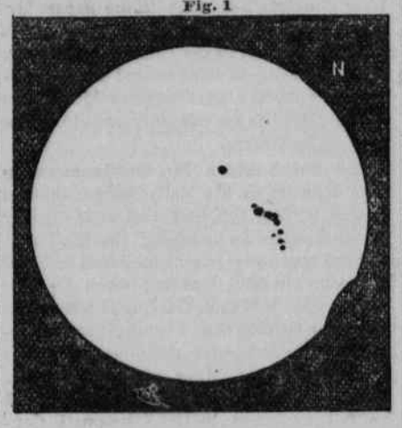
At two o'clock yesterday morning Officers Doyle and Butler, of the Second precinct, Jersey City, observed strange movements on the part of two men on Pavonia avenue. One of the men entered the yard adjoining ex-Mayor O'Neill's residence, in Hamilton square, and commenced prying open a basement window. The other man seeing the officers whistled as a signal. The officers then captured both men. One gave his name as Charles Fisher, and the other as James Russell. On the person of the latter was found a number of skeleton keys. Near the window which Fisher was engaged in prying open was found a chisel-shaped knife which he had employed in an effort to force open the window. Justice Davis committed the prisoners for trial.

HOW TO SEE THE ECLIPSE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

This afternoon, between the hours of four and six, the moon's penumbra will be passing over New York city, and the sun will consequently be partially eclipsed. The distance of the moon is so great at this time that its shadow terminates before it reaches the earth, and hence no total eclipse will be visible anywhere. But commencing near Vancouver's Island at about noon, and crossing the continent nearly to Labrador at sunset, there will be visible an annular eclipse, the sun appearing for one or two minutes only at each point as a very narrow ring about the dark body of the moon. In New York city the first approach of the moon will be seen, at one minute after four o'clock P. M., as an indentation upon the western portion of the disk, shown in figure 1.

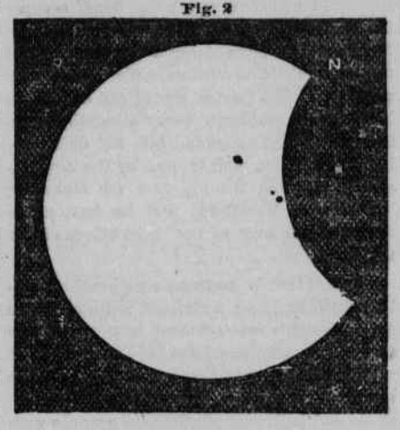
Fig. 1



BEGINNING OF THE ECLIPSE, AT 4H. 1M.

This indentation will be sharply defined, and will sink deeper until the middle of the eclipse, at 4h. 48m., when a little more than one-fourth of the sun will be covered, equaling one sixth of the total disk. This is shown in figure 2.

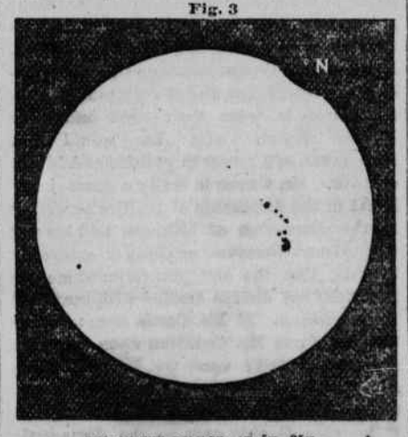
Fig. 2



MIDDLE OF THE ECLIPSE, AT 4H. 48M.

The shadow will then gradually pass off, leaving the disk at 5h. 35m., on the northern portion of the disk, as shown in figure 3.

Fig. 3



END OF THE ECLIPSE, AT 5H. 35M.

The letter "N" in each figure shows the north point of the disk. The figures are so placed that the top of the figure corresponds to the highest part of the disk, as seen by the naked eye or through a telescope which does not invert.

There are many ways to see the eclipse. An easy and well known method is by the aid of a piece of smoked glass. A portion of the glass should be so deeply smoked that the sun can be seen with difficulty through it, and, to protect the eye, the sun should be first seen through this portion. Then moving the glass gradually to one side, where the smoke is thinner, a place can readily be found, even should there be light clouds, where the sun can be well seen. In removing the glass do not fail to first shut the eye to avoid admitting the full glare of the sun's rays even for an instant. If you wish to demonstrate to your friends your scientific proclivities of course you will hold the smoked side of the glass next to the nose.

Stained glass has the disadvantage of not being adjustable, and either the eye will be dazzled in the bright sunlight or the sun will be nearly invisible under light clouds. Either the smoked glass or a dark glass may be used with an opera glass, a spyglass or a telescope. But still greater care will be required to avoid injuring the eye, and it will be well to place over the object glass a cap reducing the aperture to two inches or even less. Large telescopes are sometimes provided with eyepieces specially designed for observing the sun, in which case the full aperture may be used to advantage.

A safer and better way to observe an eclipse of the sun is by throwing the image of the sun upon a screen. In this case several persons may see the image at once. The simplest way to do this is by making a pinhole in the middle of a large card and letting the sun shine through it upon a sheet of white paper at a distance of a foot or more. If there are several small openings in the card, not too near each other—it matters not of what shape—there will be a corresponding number of images of the sun. A tin cullender, for instance, held at a distance of eight or ten feet, will give a regular series of images. So, in the summer season, the interstices in the foliage of a tree will produce an irregular mass of images of the sun which will be seen to show the phases of an eclipse.

If a magnifying glass—the less it magnifies the better—is placed over the opening the screen must be held exactly at the distance at which the edge of the disk is distinctly defined. This forms a camera obscura, and any form of camera obscura will show the phases of the eclipse well. In this case the opening may be made as large as the lens, unless the image should be found too bright. A burning glass is unsuitable for this purpose, not only because it is too large, concentrating too much light and heat, probably setting the screen on fire, but because its focus is so near it that the sun's image will be too small. A weak spectacle lens forming an image at a distance of two feet or more is best.

With a large telescope the first and last contacts of the shadow, the extent of the eclipse and the solar spots and mottled surface of the sun can all be seen by several persons at the same time, by simply drawing out the eyepiece slightly, so that the sun's rays shall form a magnified image upon a screen, which should be protected from the direct rays of the sun; and this I regard as the most satisfactory mode of viewing a solar eclipse.

The present is not a favorable year for sun spots. If their periodicity, which seems to be well established, can be relied upon, they should be this year least conspicuous in numbers and in extent. But it happens that at present there are several spots large enough to be easily seen in the telescope on the side of the sun turned toward us, which will probably continue until after the eclipse. I counted yesterday morning no less than twenty, three of which were prominent, stretching in a line across the middle of the disk, in about twenty-five degrees north solar latitude. The western spot consists of a large nucleus of irregular outline, together with a confused mass of smaller nuclei, the whole surrounded by an umbra three times the diameter of the earth. Passing eastward by a series of small spots, we come to the central spot, the nucleus of which, without its umbra, is nearly as large as our earth. After an interval we come to the eastern spot, which is about the size of our moon. These spots are represented in figures 1 and 3, and partially in figure 2, the umbra being omitted, because it could not well be represented in its proper proportion without a much larger diagram. The distance of these spots, from west to east, is so great that if our earth were to be dropped into the centre of the umbra of the western spot, our moon, at its present distance from us, might be dropped at the same time into the eastern spot. My measurements were not sufficiently exact to enable me to predict with certainty whether the two principal spots will fall for a few minutes behind the edge of the moon, or will be seen close to the moon at the time of the middle of the eclipse. To ascertain this it would be necessary, not merely to make a careful determination of the position of the spots at the time of observation and to compute the rotation of the sun for a period of about thirty-two hours, but to know what allowance to make for the motion of the spots themselves. It must be remembered that they are not fixed, like the lunar craters, or the seas upon the planet Mars, but are in motion like the clouds in our atmosphere, and the amount of this motion cannot be predicted. In figure 2 I represent my estimate of the appearance of the spots at the middle of the eclipse, when they will be most nearly behind the moon.

The above predictions are for the city of New York. As the moon's shadow passes easterly the farther west the place of observation the earlier in absolute time the eclipse will occur; but this difference will be much less than the difference in local time. For instance, at St. Louis the eclipse will occur about a quarter of an hour earlier than in New York city; but the difference of longitude is an hour, so that the eclipse will occur in St. Louis time about an hour and a quarter earlier, making the middle of the eclipse about half-past three o'clock P. M. The magnitude of the eclipse depends upon the distance of the place of observation from the central line. The farther north within the United States the greater is the extent of the eclipse and the longer its duration. As the spots will appear in the same position at all points on the earth's surface, it is probable that at places north of this city they will all be eclipsed, while at places south of this city it is not probable.

The observation of a total eclipse of the sun has of late years been valuable in studying the constitution of the sun and its surroundings. But in a partial eclipse, even when there is only a slender ring of the sun visible, there is still an amount of light thousands of times greater than that of the full moon. The main value of their observation is the aid they give in correcting the tables of the moon, which are the basis of all predictions of the moon's place, and the correctness of which is indispensable in navigation. If only the times of the first and last contacts are observed at any given place they can aid us little in determining the error of the tables; but if there are, as at present, a number of well defined spots upon the sun, the contact of each of which with the limb of the moon can be observed at many points, the exact positions of the spots being ascertained at the observatories for the observed times, it affords much greater aid. And if observers in the Northern States record the contacts of the line of spots now visible it will afford unusual accuracy in correcting the moon's latitude.

It may be interesting to note that the next solar eclipse visible in this country will occur on July 29, 1878, and that it will be total upon a line extending across the Western States from Idaho to Texas. Without making any exact computations for this city, it is safe to say that here at that time about one-half the diameter of the sun's disk will be covered, so that the amount of the disk which will be covered will be at least twice as great then as in the eclipse of to day.

HENRY M. PARKHURST.

NEW YORK, March 25, 1876.

THE HAYTIAN PRONUNCIAMENTO.

A prominent merchant of Hayti residing in this city received yesterday the following pronunciamento, which is a copy of the one recently issued in Jacmel, Hayti, when that city went over to the revolutionary party on the occasion of the invasion of General Boisrond Canal and party, as detailed in yesterday's HERALD:—

LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND FRATERNITY.

CITIZENS—In many grave and memorable circumstances I have given you proofs of my liberal sentiments, which guarantee the happiness of our dear country. The moment has arrived when I am called upon to pronounce my opinion as to the well-being of our land.

The government of President Michel Domingues and his nephew, Septimus Rameau, which we resigned ourselves to submit to sooner than again undergo the horrors of another civil war, has degraded our honor, our dignity, and compromised our national honor and our hopes of peace at home.

From to-day I renounce all allegiance to the tyrannical government of Domingues, and I appeal to you, without distinction of party and class, to help me in the recovery of your rights.

In inaugurating in Jacmel, the seat of liberalism, the constitutional spirit of 1867, I am only co-operating with the citizens whose honesty of purpose have drawn upon them the social ostracism of the existing government on account of their liberal ideas. Your patriotic endeavors will soon be crowned with success. The actual unhappy situation, you cannot ignore, is owing to the Machiavellianism and demoralization of Rameau and the weakness of his uncle, Michel Domingues, the President. These magistrates have carried on the administration of the country, as you must admit, in a scandalous fashion, and for the last two years we have been threatened with national bankruptcy and national ruin.

Citizens, in all parts of the country we see degradation and robbery, and you are hereby called upon to work for the regeneration of your fatherland, and you will soon be informed of the revolutionary measures taken by our new government. Think of the eyes which are bent upon your conduct at this crisis of our national existence, who are watching how you deal with our country's liberties, and hope that you will prove yourselves equal to the occasion. Down with the government of Michel Domingues and his nephew Septimus Rameau, and long live the constitution of 1867! Long live the union of the Haytian family!

Given at our headquarters at Jacmel, the 7th March, 1876, and the seventy-third year of independence.

LOUIS TANIS, Sr.

PLYMOUTH PRAYER MEETING.

Plymouth lecture room was, as usual, filled to its utmost capacity by seven o'clock last evening. Mr. Beecher came in at half-past seven and opened the meeting promptly. After the customary preliminary services Mr. Beecher said:—I think there is a misapprehension in the popular mind as to the result of a great deal of teaching—namely, that by faith and prayer we come to the Lord Jesus Christ, and are at once released from care and anxiety and lifted into a realm of calmness and joy. I think this is true. I think there is a faith in the Lord Jesus Christ that renders a man impenetrable to the shafts of adversity, but I don't think this kind is given to men simply for the asking. We must have the inspiration of God, and the effect of this divine inspiring is to have such a quickening of our understanding, a clarification of our moral sense, a development of our common sense, as that we shall take care of ourselves. My impression is that more than half the things we pray for could be provided by ourselves. Our troubles are our susceptibilities and want of self-control. If there was better control of ourselves there would be less praying for things we now pray for. For example, every man assumes that his business in life is to be happy. How did you find that out? Who told you? My impression is that our business is to become manly, and that by self-denial, not self-gratification; that patience is the manliness that Christ set us the example of. He disdained the life of prosperity. We begin with a different theory. We are going to do well and get along well, and the moment we are thwarted we feel as if some law of nature was violated. We will all have troubles, and must accept them; we must have care and troubles. The Word of God says you are a bastard if you do not have them. We can only get rid of troubles by bearing them. We must work with God. To have grace to bear difficulties is a great deal better than to have no difficulties. If you must have rocks, cover them with vines; let something run over the hardness of your lot that shall have leaves and blossoms and fruit.

A business meeting was held after the prayer meeting.

MOODY AND SANKEY.

The meetings at the Hippodrome yesterday were crowded if possible more than ever. At noon, when the subject was "Intemperance," the Madison avenue hall was nearly full, and at four o'clock P. M. it was packed with women. In the afternoon Mr. Moody continued the discourse on "How to Study the Bible" to nearly 6,000 women, many of whom had their Bibles with them.

At the evening service the crowd was so great that the atmosphere of the hall was positively oppressive. Mr. Moody spoke from the text, Galatians, vi., 7—"Be not deceived. God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." He said, No man can make a greater mistake than to think he can deceive God. God is never deceived. Many a man has come into this hall to-night to laugh and to mock, but I call on you young man or young woman, do not mock God, for "whatsoever a man soweth that shall he reap." What has become of Babylon, of Rome, of Greece and of all the nations of the earth? They have sowed and they have reaped. And what will become of this fair Republic that has got suddenly rich and forgotton God if it does not come to repentance soon? It will go to pieces as did all the nations of old if there is not more righteousness born in it. This text which I preach to-night appeals to every form of life. I would not be a rum seller for all the riches of the earth; for what can that man say who has been the means of ruining so many families, when called to account for his stewardship? Will he dare say to the Lord, "Am I my brother's keeper?" He shall reap as he has sowed. And then that young libertine, who has ruined girl after girl, he will be bound in fetters of iron and thrown into the depths of hell and his cry will be "I have reaped as I have sown." My God, are there any here to-night who will take the responsibility of that reaping and not accept Christ at once and come to him? I hope not. You may be called to that awful account sooner than you think, and how many in this audience will ever see this place again? Think brothers, think, before it is too late!

At the conclusion of Mr. Moody's address the crowds that pressed into the inquiry rooms were unexampled.

WOULDN'T HAVE THE ROPE.

Ann Lake, on Thursday night, attempted to drown herself off the Fifth street dock, at Hoboken. A rope was thrown to her by a boatman but she refused to take hold of it. Finally, a rope with a noose on it was thrown over her head and she was dragged ashore. She was then taken to the police station, where she stated that she was not sorry for attempting to take her life. Yesterday morning she was discharged and returned to her home, at No. 248 Warren street, Jersey City. She is a married woman and is alleged to have been insane for some time.

FATAL FALL.

Yesterday afternoon John Hanley, a wealthy farmer, residing near Guttenberg, N. J., was thrown from a wagon, his head striking a rock. His skull was crushed and he died in a short time.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

THE SUPPLY BILL.

Results of Investigating Committees.

Bills Relating to Banks of Deposit for City Money.

ALBANY, March 24, 1876.

It was generally supposed yesterday, when the Supply bill was ordered to a third reading, that we had done with all discussion as to its merits; but a debate was started on it this morning when it came up on its final passage, to the great surprise of the Ways and Means Committee, if not of everybody else in the House, but it had no practical result, as the bill was passed unanimously.

SMALL FRUIT OF INVESTIGATIONS.

The Assembly Investigating Committee, in its report to the Legislature two months ago, recommended a well considered design for reorganizing the police force of New York city. The Senate Investigating Committee recently recommended another and nearly similar plan, the points of which were embraced in a bill introduced by Senator Booth to-day, of which the only noticeable feature is the enlargement of the powers of the Police Board. The statesmen of the Legislature are too full of politics to worry their minds with any of the recommendations of either committee, and the bills will go over this session and probably be never heard of again. These investigations have been a costly farce to the taxpayers and will hardly fall short of an expense of $100,000 when all the bills are in. The Senate Committee was simply a republican set off to the Assembly one, and while the former had only a nose for democratic mismanagement in the departments, the latter saw little that was except where republican officials were concerned.

WHAT DOES THIS BILL MEAN?

The bill to prevent the Greenwich Street Elevated Railroad from using the Battery Park passed the Senate to-day. It has been hurried through without debate as though the city of New York had to be saved from some great and impending calamity. It provides that no elevated road shall use the Battery Park or any other public park or square in New York city. The Rapid Transit Commissioners located the route of the projected Gilbert elevated road among other streets on South Fifth avenue, leading directly into Washington square. This bill will effectually stop their progress in that direction, and unless they obtain a change of route, their jig is up. Could the street car railroad interest have desired anything better? Under the sentimental guise of saving the rural beauty of the Battery Park from disfigurement, this bill aims a blow at rapid transit, and, though ostensibly in the interest of the people, is nothing more than a device of the street car companies to deprive New York of its one greatest need. It is understood other bills will follow this so as to utterly swamp all hopes of rapid transit. It will be curious to watch how the Railroad Committee of the Assembly will treat these bills.

NO PEACE FOR THE GOVERNOR.

When the Governor's canal message was read in the Senate Mr. Jacobs moved that it be referred to the Committee of the Whole, whereupon Mr. Woodin moved as a substitute that so much of it as related to the matter of extra compensation for the Attorney General in the prosecution of canal suits be referred to the Finance Committee. The Governor's stanch henchman, Mr. Starbuck, protested, and moved that it be made the special order for Tuesday in Committee of the Whole. Mr. Woodin thought he smelled a mouse, and declared that the object of the two democratic Senators was to get up a hurrah for Tilden in advance of the State Convention. Mr. Jacobs made a spirited reply, and accused Woodin of inconsistency in agreeing last year to refer a similiar message to the Committee of the Whole. If it was proper that the first message should go there it was equally proper that the second message should go there also. Rogers, Harris, Bradley, Emerson and McCarthy, took a hand in, pro and con., but Woodin's motion finally prevailed.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Mr. Booth introduced a bill authorizing the Department of Parks to contract for the occupation of the buildings in the Central Park by the American Museum of Natural History and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Also a bill empowering the Mayor and Comptroller of New York to designate five banks to receive the deposits of city money, each agreeing to pay on the balances of every day's deposits at the rate of two and a half per cent per annum, no bank to receive more than $2,000,000 at a time. There is to be one chief bank, which shall have the deposits of the sinking fund, and to which the limit of $2,000,000 shall not be applicable. The Board to designate the banks shall consist of the Mayor, Comptroller and Recorder.

The bill granting to the United States the right to acquire right of way for the improvement of Harlem River and Spuyten Duyvil Creek was reported favorably to the Senate.

Senator Baaden's bill relating to the district courts of New York city is a condensation and statement anew of all the acts passed defining the powers and duties of these courts.

A motion of Senator Starbuck's that Wednesday next be appointed for the consideration of the concurrent resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution prohibiting the loan and use of public money for private purposes was adopted.

The Battery Park bill passed in the Senate to-day which was introduced by Mr. Booth the same day Mr. Mullen introduced a similar bill in the Assembly, and which will be substituted by Mr. Mullen for his bill when it comes down stairs. By this means the bill will be passed during the coming week.

THE CANALS.

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR ON CANAL POLICY—IMPORTANT AND SIGNIFICANT RECOMMENDATIONS—UNNECESSARY CONTRACTS FOR REPAIRS TO BE CLOSED—IMPROVEMENT OF THE WATERWAY.

The following Message was sent to the Legislature to-day:—

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, ALBANY, March 24, 1876.

TO THE LEGISLATURE:—

The result of the investigations ordered at the last session into the work on the Erie and other canals purporting to be improvements, and known in the language of our legislation as "extraordinary repairs," have been submitted to you. They establish these conclusions:—

First—The expenditures for these purposes during the last five years were directly about $11,000,000 and indirectly about $3,000,000, making $14,000,000, and involved a taxation amounting to nearly $15,000,000. This is in addition to vast sums expended in former years.

Second—The mass of the work for which these expenditures were made was of no real utility to the public. The waste in construction, which furnished jobs to contractors, but was of no value to the State, has been even larger than the illicit and fraudulent gains.

Third—Most of the contracts were obtained by the system of unbalanced bids and other dishonest devices.

Fourth—Much of the work was executed in violation of the contracts, and is worthless. The advantages to the State of the investigations have not been limited to the discovery of the particular frauds, not even to the destruction of a system involving a vast annual loss to the taxpayers, demoralizing to the public service and corrupting to all governmental life. Incidentally, in arresting these practices, a fund has been rescued from spoliation, out of which a real, important and valuable improvement can be effected in the main trunks of the canals. On the 1st of last month there remained, as nearly as I can ascertain, of the funds applicable to extraordinary repairs and new work unappropriated to specific objects, $633,000; existing appropriations for objects not under contract, $360,000, estimated as necessary to settle existing contracts—Erie Canal, $347,000; Champlain Canal, $30,000; Oneida Lake Canal, $6,000; balance, after settling contracts as proposed, $300,000; sum available for new work on Champlain Canal enlargement, $270,000; Oneida Lake, $41,000. Total, $1,604,000.

I respectfully recommend the enactment of laws providing for the following measures:—

First—Empowering and directing the Canal Board to close all existing contracts for extraordinary repairs, except in those special cases where in the judgment of the Board it cannot be done without detriment to the interests of the State, and repealing all existing appropriations for extraordinary repairs.

Second—Appropriating not exceeding $400,000 to such payments as may be just and necessary to close existing contracts, but providing that no such appropriation shall become effectual in respect to payments on any contract until the same shall be certified by the State Engineer in writing to the Canal Board, and afterward duly approved by the Canal Board; and providing further that nothing in any such act of appropriation shall operate or be construed to vandate or recognize any contract tainted with illegality or fraud, or to waive any defence of the State in respect to any contract or any right of action in the State growing out of such contract, or of work done or required by the same; and likewise appropriating not exceeding $100,000, for the purpose of protecting or finishing such work as in the judgment of the Canal Board the interests of the State may require to be so protected or finished.

Third—Appropriating not exceeding $400,000, to be expended with the approval of the State Engineer and under the direction of the Canal Board, to the improv