

WASHINGTON.

A New Phase in the Florida Electoral Muddle.

MEMORIAL OF NEW YORK BUSINESS MEN.

Action of the House Committee on Counting the Vote.

CRONIN'S TESTIMONY IN THE OREGON CASE.

Negotiations for a Commercial Treaty with Spain.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

THE FLORIDA IMBROGLIO—ANOTHER QUESTION FOR THE SUPREME COURT—HAS IT POWER TO ORDER THE NEW RETURNING BOARD TO RECANVASS THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

By the change in the State administration in Florida the Returning Board yesterday went out of existence.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE NEW YORK BANKERS AND MERCHANTS—ALLEGED OFFICIOUSNESS OF FERNANDO WOOD.

COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE—OPPOSING QUESTIONS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE—THE QUESTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S POWER DISPOSED OF.

CRONIN'S TESTIMONY IN THE OREGON ELECTORAL INVESTIGATION—REPUBLICAN SENATORS PLEADED.

THE RETURN OF THE SENATE LOUISIANA INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

quired to be considered for the maintenance of the most lasting and friendly relations.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1877.

IS COLORADO A STATE IN THE UNION?—CONCLUSIONS OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

Representatives Knott, Lord, Canfield, McCarty, Lawrence, Frye, and Hear, a majority of the House Judiciary Committee, who to-day made a report on the credentials of James B. Belford, claiming to be entitled to a seat in the House from Colorado.

The distinctive point made against the recognition of Colorado as a State in the Union was that Congress alone could admit a new State, having the sole power to judge whether its constitution is republican in form; but this prerequisite was not complied with, Colorado having been declared by the President to be a State in the Union with a republican form of government.

The majority of the committee, after discussing the provisions of the law under which the people of Colorado were authorized to form a constitution and State government, is primarily to admit the majority of the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, conclude their report as follows:—

The provision authorizing the President to declare the State admitted into the Union upon certain terms having been made known to him in no sense a delegation of power to him, but a mere duty which he should be admitted into the Union upon the happening of a certain series of events.

It is not a delegation of power to the President, nor is it a delegation of any authority to him to judge of the expediency or inexpediency of the act taking effect upon the performance of certain conditions, but a mere duty which Congress formed and expressed for itself when it declared the conditions. It simply empowered him to declare the law, and to complete the performance of all the conditions presented in the act on the part of the people of Colorado—namely, the completion of the constitution between the United States and the people of Colorado—that the latter should constitute a State in the Union.

Assuming that the people of Colorado had in point of fact, performed in good faith every condition presented in the act in strict conformity with its conditions, the present Congress would be bound in good morals to recognize the State as such, and to admit it to representation in the Senate and the House, even if the President had willfully refused to issue the proclamation providing for such admission, and even if the President had refused to issue the proclamation discharging its solemn obligation in that regard, would be found in the public mind.

It is believed that the admission should be made finally upon the issue of a proclamation which would not only admit the State into the Union, but also would recognize its rights as a State, and would also be a solemn declaration of the President's faith in the people of Colorado—that the latter should constitute a State in the Union.

Representatives Hurd, Hunton, Ashe and Lynde, of the minority of the committee, take issue with the majority, and submit their dissenting view, concluding as follows:—

Whatever be the consequence of a refusal to recognize Colorado as a State, no one will maintain that the main fact that the people have organized a State government entitles Colorado to a place in the Union. To admit a Territory to be a State is to do it by the act of Congress, and not by the act of the people.

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ANOTHER BODY IDENTIFIED.

ANOTHER VICTIM.

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A CONNECTICUT CHURCH BURNED.

SOME OF ASHTABULA'S VICTIMS.

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