WASHINGTON.

The Senate Amendments to the Bankrupt Bill.

A PREMIUM ON FRAUD.

America's Opportunity to Regain Her Carrying Trade.

PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE REGISTRY LAW.

Secret Meeting of the Order of the American Union.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, May 2, 1878.

THE REPEAL OF THE BANKRUPT LAW—STRONG OPPOSITION DEVELOPING TO THE SENATE AMENDMENTS.

The determination of the Senate to amend the Bankrupt bill so as to make the repeal take effect on the 1st of next January has created a good deal of surprise here, and, to judge from the despatches received to-day by Senators and Representatives from merchants in the large cities, has caused alarm there. The change has, it is said, been brought about by an organized pressure from country merchants and small dealers of the interior. The main reason for repealing the Bankrupt law at all was that it has been used for some time past by roguish dealers to rob their creditors, and this has gone on to so great an extent, and has been so systematized that it became a serious evil, injurious not only to the wholesale merchants who suffered loss, but to honest retail dealers all over the country, as well as a fertile cause of demoralization. Many, and perhaps most of those who voted for the repeal of the bill, are willing to aid in the passage of an amended and proper bankrupt law, but the Senate amendment is considered to be simply offering inducements to fraud. Merchants say that if the bill becomes a law with this amendment giving eight months to roguish debtors to put their property out of their hands and get a clearance, it will cause an immense increase in the number of fraudulent failures and distressing losses to wholesale dealers. It is understood to-night that a number of prominent merchants from Boston, New York and Philadelphia are on the way here to protest against the passage of the bill in its new shape. The bill will come up in the Senate on Monday, and persons interested ought to know that their time for protesting is brief, and that to-day it seemed probable that the bill as amended will pass the Senate on Monday. When it returns to the House many of those who voted for the original bill will vote against it as amended, but it is probable that it will be sent to a conference committee, which may agree to change the limit to October 1.

THE REDEMPTION OF SUBSIDIARY COIN.

If Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, can be persuaded to allow of such a motion the following bill, introduced by Mr. Chittenden, will be brought up under a suspension of the rules on Monday, and will, doubtless, in that case be at once passed, as there seems to be no opposition to it in the House:—

Any holder of fractional silver coin may present the same at the office of the Treasurer or any assistant treasurer of the United States in sums of $100 or multiples of that sum and receive in exchange therefor an equal amount of United States notes.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, May 2, 1878.

WAR IN EUROPE DEEMED INEVITABLE—GROWING SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF CHANGING THE REGISTRY LAWS—THE REVENGES OF TIME.

To-day, among Senators and Representatives, the general opinion was expressed that war between England and Russia is inevitable. The threatened conflict attracts attention to the question of taking advantage of the probable disposal of British bottoms and the certain refuge which the mercantile marine of Great Britain would find in our waters. The present is deemed a good time to propose amendments to our registry laws, and a joint resolution has been drawn which will be offered in the House to-morrow, if consent can be obtained, and which will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. The resolution recites that:—

Whereas there exists an imminent necessity and cogent public reasons, growing out of the disturbed relations between two of the principal commercial nations of the world, demanding a change in the registry laws governing vessels belonging to citizens of the United States, be it enacted that on and after the passage of this act that so much of section 4,132 of the Revised Statutes be amended as shall allow vessels owned by citizens of the United States all the rights and privileges of vessels built within the United States.

The Ways and Means Committee is privileged to report at any time and it is understood that a majority of the committee is in favor of reporting the resolution back to the House and asking its immediate passage. In the Senate on Monday next, that body having adjourned over until that time, Senator Gordon, who is a member of the Committee on Commerce, will offer a similar resolution, and a general inquiry among Senators and Congressmen as to its disposal indicate prompt and favorable action upon it. Senator Gordon thinks that the opportunity is at hand for the United States to regain its commercial prestige, and the Southern Senators particularly are anxious to take advantage of the disturbed condition of Europe and the threatened depredation on British vessels to bring again under our flag the carrying trade which the Rebellion drove from the country.

THE ORDER OF THE AMERICAN UNION—DISSATISFACTION OVER THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS—DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE—FAILURE OF EFFORTS TO KEEP THE PROCEEDINGS SECRET.

The "Senate" of the Order of the Amererican Union held two sessions of four hours each to-day in Lincoln Hall, adjourning finally to meet at Washington May 1, 1879. This city was declared to be the headquarters of the order hereafter for all meetings of the "Senate" and its National Executive Committee. On assembling this morning many of the Senators were disappointed and disgusted, because of a secret election of officers for the ensuing year at a late hour last night, notwithstanding the protest of many of the Senators against it, who retired from the hall and supposed nothing would be done in their absence. President Cowles and Secretary Killgore have thus been re-elected. The other officers chosen for the coming year are:—

First Vice President—Henry C. Robinson, chairman of the Republican Committee of the city of New York.

Second Vice President—James W. Grover, of Newark, N. J., a Custom House inspector on duty in Maiden lane, New York, and a brother of the President of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company of Newark, N. J.

Third Vice President—Colonel Shanks, a democrat, of Louisville, Ky.

Fourth Vice President—A. M. Clapp, of Buffalo, N. Y., editor of the Washington *National Republican* and late Public Printer.

Fifth Vice President—Rev. J. L. Hauser, editor of a Milwaukee paper.

Treasurer—W. H. L. Watson, cashier of the Newport National Bank, Delaware.

The Secretary, Joseph L. Killgore, was City Treasurer of Wilmington, Del., in 1874, and claims now to be of Wilmington, Del., but is believed to be a resident of Newark, N. J. The Assistant Secretary is a Mr. Pierce, a clerk in one of the departments.

The delegations stood about as follows as representatives of the subordinate State organizations:—Maryland, Senators Thomas R. Rich, A. Worth Spates and C. E. Gartice. Delaware, J. L. Killgore and W. H. L. Watson of New York, H. C. Robinson, Jonas M. Farrington and Andrew Powell. Mr. Farrington was lately removed from a position in the Brooklyn Post Office by the new Postmaster because of his known connection with this Order. New Jersey, Elkanah Drake, of Newark, a gentleman of reputed wealth and local influence; Pennsylvania, John McDonald, a venerable Scotch Irishman, of ardent temperament, from Allegheney City; Kentucky, Colonels Shanks and Horton; Wisconsin, Rev. J. L. Hauser, of Milwaukee; District of Columbia, Colonel Suit, E. C. Ford, of the Interior Department; A. M. Clapp and Mr. Pierce; Ohio, G. W. Gladden, of Cincinnati; Edwin Cowles and Mr. Sherwin, Postmaster of Cleveland.

At one time as many as twenty-five Senators were in attendance, out of a total of over one hundred and thirty Senators on the roll.

This morning a determined effort was made by some of the most able Senators to have the secrecy of the order done away with, but the movement was summarily voted down. The financial aspect of the Senate is claimed to be encouraging. A resolution to print and circulate 300,000 copies of President Cowles' address was passed. A warm discussion was had in regard to the expediency of protesting against the late appointment of Mr. Lamphere in the Treasury Department, but it was determined not to meddle in the matter. The Senate resolved to issue an address to the people of the United States in advocacy of Senator Edmunds' proposed amendment to the constitution. Senator Spate is the chairman of the committee to prepare and issue this address. The Executive Committee was organized immediately after the adjournment of the Senate. It is constituted of the officers of the Senate and two Senators from each State represented in the order. Mr. A. M. Clapp is the chairman of it. Mr. George P. Edgar, the late national deputy, sent a communication to the Senate in behalf of Mr. H. T. Holt, the late secretary and himself, asking that the Senate appoint a committee to investigate their claims, amounting to over $900, and settle them as soon as possible. It was referred to the Executive Committee, with power to investigate and settle. To day, after the HERALD had been read, double guards were placed upon the doors and the curtains of the hall were lowered and the place carefully searched for any hiding intruder. It is a singular fact in connection with this session that at this meeting of the Senate only five of those present were at the last annual meeting at Cleveland, and that only three present had ever attended a meeting of the Senate previous to the meeting of 1876, showing that some of the founders had lost faith in the usefulness of the order.

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION AS VIEWED BY SENATOR GORDON.

Senator Gordon to-day obtained the floor for Monday next, when he will address the Senate on the financial question. It is understood that the Senator states himself to be an earnest advocate of a return to specie payments, and he will review the mistakes, in his opinion, that have been made in the past, so that they may not be repeated in future. He thinks that the contraction which would have necessarily occurred by reason of the character of a large proportion of the circulating medium existing at the end of the war would have been altogether sufficient without legislative interference, and that the mistake was to undertake to control by Congressional legislation what the laws of trade and industrial progress would have secured to us in time, thus avoiding in his opinion the forced contraction of the currency.

THE NEW ORLEANS COLLECTORSHIP—UNANIMOUS CONFIRMATION OF WILLIAM SMITH, JR.

The action of the Senate in confirming the nomination of William Smith, Jr., Collector of New Orleans, is almost unprecedented in the several features of a unanimous report from the committee, an immediate unanimous vote of the Senate adopting the vote and a subsequent unanimous vote suspending the usual retention of the name until the next executive session and ordering the Clerk to report the fact of confirmation to the President forthwith.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, May 2, 1878.

Mr. THURMAN, (dem.) of Ohio, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back the bill to repeal the Bankrupt law, with an amendment to perfect the saving clause.

It provides that the repeal of the law shall not affect pending cases, and all future proceedings therein and in respect of all pains, penalties and forfeitures which shall have been incurred under any of said acts prior to the day when this act takes effect or which may be hereafter incurred under any of those provisions of any of said acts, which for the purposes named in this act are kept in force, and all penal actions and criminal proceedings for a violation of any of said acts, whether then pending or thereafter instituted, and in respect of all rights of debtors and creditors (except the right of commencing original proceedings in bankruptcy), and all rights of and suits by or against assignees under any or all of said acts in any matter or case which shall have arisen prior to the day when this act takes effect (which shall be on the 1st day of January, A. D., 1879), or in any matter or case which shall arise after this act takes effect in respect of any matter of bankruptcy authorized by this act to be proceeded with after said last named day.

Mr. THURMAN, after explaining the amendment, said he thought it reconciled all conflicting opinions which had been expressed in the Senate, and he moved the immediate consideration of the bill.

Mr. VOORHEES, (dem.) of Ind., objected, and said it would be better to have the bill and the proposed amendment printed and be laid on the table until to-morrow. He submitted a motion to that effect, which was agreed to without discussion.

Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a petition from the Mayor and citizens of New York, asking an increased appropriation for the improvement of Spuyten Duyvil Creek. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

On motion of Mr. ANTHONY, (rep.), of R. I., it was ordered that when the Senate adjourn to-day it be to meet on Monday next.

Mr. BECK, (dem.) of Ky., introduced a bill to amend certain sections of the Revised Statutes establishing the rank of naval officers. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Messrs. Terry, Paddock and Salisbury were appointed members of the conference committee on the part of the Senate on the bill to regulate the advertising of mail lettings.

THE SPECIE RESUMPTION ACT.

Mr. FERRY, (rep.) of Mich., called up the House bill to repeal the Specie Resumption act, and read a lengthy argument explaining the amendments reported by the Committee on Finance. He said, admonished by the lateness of the session and the resolution fixing the time for final adjournment, he should forego much that he intended to say in favor of the passage of this bill. He referred to the fact that United States notes and gold were nearly equal to-day, and argued that this was hastened by the act to restore the standard silver dollar. Alluding to the passage of the act of January 14, 1875, to resume specie payment, he said he joined in it as a compromise measure reluctantly. He quoted at great length from financial statistics, and, after explaining the amendments reported by the Committee on Finance, said if the bill should be agreed to as amended it would give the country a volume of currency of $990,000,000. He argued that the bill would restore commercial confidence. It would result in our own people holding the national debt instead of foreigners. The recent sale of $50,000,000 worth of bonds by the Secretary of the Treasury was an assurance of this, and an evidence of the advancement of public credit. The government should now turn its attention to upholding its credit with its own people.

THE COIN QUESTION.

He next referred to the coin required by the government, and said no fears need be apprehended that the government would have to go abroad to seek coin to meet its requirements. The necessity for denying United States notes their rightful place in the circulation of the country had departed. He referred briefly to past financial legislation, and asked why should we cast our faces over the past, which could not be changed, and turn our backs upon the future, which could be provided for. He believed greenbacks and coin would be at par before the 1st of July next, and referred to announcements daily made by business firms and banking associations that they had resumed specie payments. Referring to Wall street, he said all knowledge on finance did not dwell solely with the wise men of Gotham. New York city, which had been so clamorous for specie resumption, now seemed to be the last to respond. In conclusion he argued that the passage of this bill would be to settle our finances upon such a basis as would relegate our financial difficulties from the halls of Congress to the marts of commerce.

SPEECH OF MR. VOORHEES.

Mr. VOORHEES, of Indiana, then took the floor and read a lengthy argument in favor of repealing the Specie Resumption act. He argued that its repeal had been a prominent element in the American mind since the passage of the bill in 1875. The amount of human misery, wretchedness and vice which the law had caused could not be estimated. It had overthrown property values simply beyond the power of language to describe. Ten thousand million dollars' worth of property had been absolutely confiscated. He referred to the passage by the House of Representatives of the bill to repeal the Specie Resumption act, and said had there been as prompt action on the part of the Senate then much loss, bankruptcy and ruin would have been saved. He referred to the numerous petitions for the repeal of the land and argued that the American people had been educated on the subject of finances during the past five years under such circumstances as breed revolution unless they were met by measures of relief. The greenback dollar on account of the confidence the people had in it, had forced itself upon an equality with gold. He referred to the Gold Room of New York as a mob of gamblers, and argued that the government could not redeem $50,000,000 with gold within a week's notice from to-day. The notes of the Government had advanced to an equality with gold because the people had forced the government to treat its own notes with respect. There never was the slightest reason why the paper money of this country should have become depreciated. He favored the adoption of an amendment compelling the Secretary of the Treasury to receive United States notes for duties on imports, not after the 1st of October next, but immediately. That would at once equalize our currency. Contraction had prevailed in every quarter of the country and sent forth its deadly influence in every direction. He referred to the interview of the Secretary of the Treasury with the House Committee on Banking and Currency a few days ago, and said the Secretary admitted that to maintain specie payment it would be necessary to maintain contraction. To resume specie payment on the 1st of January next made certain a dark, perilous and unhappy future. Farmers had mortgaged their property, and if specie payments were resumed these mortgages must be paid in coin.

THE TOILING MILLIONS.

It was the duty of the American Congress to so legislate as to secure to the farmer his home and to the industrious mechanic living wages. The toiling millions who arose in the morning before daylight and worked until after dark were constantly being lectured on economy by the dwellers in palaces, by the masters of hired servants. The poor were to give up luxuries which they had not, in order that the rich might have more. Far be it from him to incite the people, but he would at all times vindicate them against the aspersions of those who first oppressed and then denounced them. He referred to Communism, and said it was the advocates of extreme measures, those who advocated the resumption of specie payments, who fostered the spirit of Communism.

In conclusion he argued that the repeal of the Specie Resumption law would bring light and hope to many darkened homes. It would cut the ligatures of contraction. Activity and prosperity would revive. Nothing since the peace declared at Appomattox thirteen years ago would be hailed with such shouts of gladness. Popular relief would insure popular tranquility, and turbulence in the labor regions would cease.

Mr. GORDON, (dem.) of Ga., then took the floor with the understanding that he would speak on Monday next, and the further consideration of the bill was postponed until that time.

Mr. MAXEY, (dem.) of Texas, from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, reported an amendment to be proposed to the Post Office Appropriation bill authorizing semi-monthly mail steamship service between the United States and Brazil. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

The amendment is a copy of the bill agreed upon by the Postal Committee last Saturday and published at that time, with one change providing that the first departure of the New Orleans line shall not be later than January 1 next.

THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

Mr. SAUNDERS, (rep.) of Nebraska, moved to reconsider the vote by which the joint resolution to provide for the appointment of eighteen additional commissioners to the Paris Exposition was indefinitely postponed several days ago. The motion led to a lengthy debate, during which Mr. Cockrell, of Missouri, inquired of Mr. Sargent, of California, how much had been expended by the government in fitting out ships already sent to Paris.

Mr. SARGENT, in reply, said he doubted if ever a more expensive scheme had been devised than that to transport our goods to Paris. We had been paying hundreds of dollars per ton for the transportation of goods. The Secretary of the Navy had taken school ships and the system of educating seamen was almost broken up. The extensive repairs required upon vessels made the expense of the government enormous outside of the regular appropriation. He did not mean to say that anybody was to blame but Congress. The law requiring the Secretary to detail naval vessels was a bad one. He hoped this experience would be profitable when any exhibition should be held hereafter. It would have been much better to have sent our goods over by merchant vessels.

The motion of Mr. Saunders to reconsider was rejected—yeas 14, nays 34.

Mr. DAWES, (rep.), of Mass., from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported, with amendment, the House joint resolution to enable the Joint Commission to carry into effect the act of Congress providing for the completion of the Washington Monument.

The Senate then, at four o'clock, on motion of Mr. CAMERON, of Pennsylvania, went into executive session, and when the doors were reopened adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, May 2, 1878.

Mr. REAGAN, (dem.) of Texas, rising to a question of privilege, sent to the Clerk's desk and had read articles from the Pittsburg *Commercial Gazette* charging him with acting in bad faith with regard to the bill preventing discrimination by common carriers and insinuating that he had been bought over by corporations. He denied that his ardor in support of the bill had cooled. The reason that he had not reported the bill when the Committee on Commerce had been called had been because he had been instructed to report some minor bills, so as to make the way clear for the Freight Discrimination bill. Every fact in relation to his action showed that he had earnestly exerted himself to secure the passage of the bill. There was not a statement in the article read that was not utterly false and without a shadow of foundation.

Mr. DUNNELL, (rep.) of Minn., a member of the Committee on Commerce, bore witness to Mr. Reagan's efforts in behalf of the bill. He had never heard a more ungenerous, unkind, untruthful statement than that which had been read in reference to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Reagan).

Mr. HENDEE, (rep.) of Vt., from the Committee of the District of Columbia, reported back the bill for a permanent form of government for the District of Columbia. Referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER then called the committees for reports.

Mr. ROBERTS, (dem.) of Me., from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill reorganizing the Life Saving Service. Referred to the Committee of the Whole and made the special order for May 9.

THE LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT BILL.

The House then, at half past twelve, went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Eden, of Illinois, in the chair), on the Legislative Appropriation bill.

Mr. VANCE, (dem.) of N. C., offered an amendment prohibiting the Commissioner of Pensions from dropping pensioners from the rolls on ex parte statements taken by special agents.

Mr. VANCE also moved to restore the salary of examiners in the Patent Office to the amount now provided by law.

Mr. WAIT, (rep.) of Conn., hoped that the amendment would be adopted. It was to the public interest that salaries should be such as to command the services of intelligent, educated and skilled men. His State was largely interested in patents, and desired that men of ability should be placed in these positions.

The amendment, which involves about $20,000, was adopted—74 to 70.

Mr. LATHAM, (rep.) of Illinois, moved to increase from $50,000 to $75,000 the appropriation for the contingent expenses of the Patent Office.

Mr. ATKINS, (dem.) of Tenn., opposed the amendment, and appealed to his friends on the democratic side, who claimed to be a party of economy, to defeat these amendments, which would swell the appropriations to enormous proportions. Every man would have to stand on his own record on such questions but he was sorry to see gentlemen on the democratic side voting for every increase of expenditures.

Mr. CONGER, (rep.) of Mich., said that he had heard the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Atkins) state many times that he had come to a conclusion in regard to the business of the House, and therefore no other man must say a word.

Mr. ATKINS—That allusion is altogether unworthy of the gentleman, if he intends to say that I have assumed any such dictation on this floor. I will not submit to any such assertion on his part without refuting it on the spot.

Mr. CONGER—Let the gentleman rest. The gentleman has turned against his party friends and against the republicans here in a speech unworthy of the Chairman of the Appropriation Committee, because they have seen fit to introduce amendments.

Mr. WRIGHT, (dem.) of Pa., said that he was not in favor of putting a tax on the inventive power of the people, but he would not allow the inventive part of the people to take the bit in their mouth and run away from the greater question of manual labor and development. There should be an equilibrium somewhere. The country could not run to inventions of labor-saving machines and at the same time protect the great interests of labor.

Mr. ATKINS, replying to Mr. Conger, said that if he had uttered one unkind word he was not aware of it. He did not think there was a gentleman who would accuse him of doing so unless it were the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Conger). That gentleman's remarks had been very personal, and it was in the warmth of his (Mr. Atkins') feelings that he had used the expressions he had. This floor was no place to settle matters of a personal nature. He did not intend to indulge in personal matters, but desired to proceed with business without feeling, without anger and without passion.

After further discussion by Messrs. Bayne, of Pennsylvania; Keifer, of Ohio; Lothrop, of Illinois, and Wait, of Connecticut, in favor of the amendment, and Mr. Durham, of Kentucky, against it the amendment was rejected.

When the sections in regard to the surveyors general were reached Mr. Wiggington, (dem.) of Cal., offered an amendment, declaring that on and after July 1, 1879, the offices of surveyors general shall be abolished and the archives of the offices turned over to the governments of the several States, and that all further necessary surveys shall be made by competent engineers, to be employed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Mr. PAGE, (rep.) of Cal., made the point of order that the amendment changed the existing law, and could not be received.

Mr. WIGGINTON said that those offices were utterly useless to the government and were against the interests of the settlers.

Mr. PATTERSON, (dem.) of Col., said that this proposition had been before the Committee on Public Lands and had been voted down as injurious to public interests.

The CHAIR sustained the point of order and the amendment was not received.

After disposing of ten pages of the bill the committee rose, and the House, at five o'clock, took a recess until half-past seven o'clock, the evening session to be for debate only.

JOHN MORRISSEY.

High Tributes to His Memory in the Senate.

FAULTS FORGIVEN.

Why He Was Respected by Political Opponents.

EULOGIES IN THE ASSEMBLY.

Arrangements for the Funeral To-Morrow.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ALBANY, May 2, 1878.

A great truth that comes borne by pall and biet overshadowed to-day all legislative incidents. The Senate, in which Mr. Morrissey's hard won seat had never been occupied, adjourned over last night upon the announcement of his death and devoted the morning session to an eulogium upon the life and character of the deceased. The address of Senator Pomeroy was, perhaps, the most eulogistic, although the most impartial, because the leader in federal politics ten years ago had during the long period of his retirement no immediate contact with the deceased. All the Senate addresses, which naturally arranged themselves so as to proceed from the representative not merely of both parties, but of each faction and locality of political distinctiveness in the politics of the State united in attributing to the deceased those qualities with which his memory will always be associated—sterling integrity and stalwart manliness. It was noticeable that the tributes of political foes were warmer than those of political friends. The reason is that in the solemn hour when death has hushed all trouble the antagonist in the terminated strife knows best the merits of his foe.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

When the Senate was called to order Mr. Harris, from the committee appointed to report resolutions expressive of the sense of the Senate upon the death of Senator John Morrissey, reported the following:—

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound emotion of the death of our late associate, Hon. John Morrissey.

Resolved, That we desire to testify our respect for the remarkable qualities of the deceased; for his individuality of character; for his great moral courage; for his devotion to principle and to his friends; for the persistent energy which marked his life-long struggle against the most formidable obstacles, and above all, for his rare and unquestioned integrity.

Resolved, That we tender our deepest sympathy in the hour of their bereavement to his afflicted widow and family, and that, as a further mark of respect to his memory, the Senate will attend his funeral in a body.

MR. HARRIS' ADDRESS.

In connection with the presentation of the resolutions Mr. Harris said:—

Mr. PRESIDENT—John Morrissey, who sat two years and was chosen to sit two years more as Senator in this chamber, will never again appear within its walls. His brave soul has gone to that country from which there is no returning, and on Saturday we shall lay his body where the fresh verdure of spring will soon cover it. Mr. Morrissey had only reached the meridian of life, but he had lived long enough to have shown many of the great elements of character. He was a remarkable man. When we consider the unpropitious circumstances of his birth, the unfavorable surroundings of his boyhood and the hindering influences of his early manhood we must acknowledge that he evinced the possession of great ability and distinguished merit in rising above his position and obtaining not only high place, but recognition by his fellows as a man able to cope with the cultured in the struggles of the world. He was gifted by nature with some rare faculties. He had great ambition to break through the darkness which enveloped him and attain the higher and better in life. His endeavor to change his situation and leave behind him the paths which he was reared to follow was noble, and none but those who were thrown into intimate association with him can realize his fierce struggles to unloose himself from his fate, as he was accustomed to call it, and no one upon whom fortune has smiled can appreciate the effort and labor which he exerted to attain the position which he held when death overtook him. There was no flagging in the persistency with which he pursued whatever he undertook, and his judgment was so clear and his sagacity so great that he rarely failed of reaching the goal for which he started.

A MAN OF TACT AND ABILITY.

No matter whether the prize which he sought was the championship or a seat in the legislative halls of the State or nation, he brought to the endeavor such tenacity of purpose, skill of effort and accuracy of judgment as to command success. His perceptions were quick, keen and clear. I have known him in this chamber read correctly the character of a stranger to him by scanning his face only for a moment and observing his motion and walk. In fact, his study of men, in giving him power to win or repel them as he desired, was wonderful. But probably the most marked characteristic of Mr. Morrissey was his marvellous courage. It enabled him unflinchingly to enter not only the personal, but the political, combats in which he strove, against the greatest odds, and to stand the most violent assaults until he achieved victory. There cannot be found upon record instances of pluck, endurance and cool determination greater than those displayed by him in his contests; and I doubt whether, in all our political strifes, there can be found the boldness of effort and bearing which he so successfully showed during the canvass in New York last fall.

HIS DOMESTIC LIFE.

With all these traits Mr. Morrissey possessed a great and generous heart. He was one of the truest of friends. He was unostentatiously charitable. His purse, unknown to the world, was always open to the poor. Not a great while ago an entire stranger from a distant place solicited a subscription from him for the purchase of a bell for a church. Upon being asked why he came to him the stranger replied that he knew from his character that there must be moments in his life when he thought of other than worldly things. Mr. Morrissey's aspect instantly changed, and after a moment's silence he told the stranger to go no further with his subscription book. The bell in the belfry of that village church that now rings the hours of worship, was the gift of John Morrissey. He was affectionate in his family and had great love for his son. When the boy died the effect was so stunning that the father never fully recovered from it. Mr. Morrissey was generous to his fallen opponent and a model of square dealing with all. He respected those who honestly differed equally with those who agreed with him in opinion. His heroic struggles with the great destroyer during the past winter have awakened our warmest interest and sympathies. His empty seat in this circle has always sent our thoughts to his sick couch in Florida or Saratoga, and now that he is never to occupy it a sadness comes over us that cannot be easily dispelled.

Mr. President I move the adoption of the resolutions.

REMARKS OF MR. JACOBS.

Mr. Jacobs then arose and said:—

Mr. President, every member of this Senate instinctively recognizes the fact that he whose departure we now commemorate was no ordinary man. Sprung, as he was himself proud to say, from the humblest class of the community, by dint of indomitable ambition and a native force of character, which we have never seen surpassed, he rose to an honorable position in the councils of the State and of the nation. Of his faults—for like all of us he had his faults—it does not become us here to speak. The community knows them well, and it is but fair to say that they were in a large degree the result of the circumstances which surrounded his early life. But from the outset of his career an unswerving integrity in all the relations of life characterized his every act. No man who knew John Morrissey ever questioned his word, and since his entrance into public life no man ever doubted his official rectitude. In the present Senate he has been but a name. His stalwart form, his imposing presence, have never been seen among us. In the last Senate he was not only a prominent figure, but a leader, and the memory of his career in that body still lingers in this chamber. Without any of the graces of oratory, with little or no knowledge that men derive from books, he possessed an intuitive sagacity which enabled him to judge with uncommon accuracy of the character of men and of measures and to express his judgment with force and effect. He spoke but seldom in this body, but when he spoke he commanded the undivided attention of the Senate, and the wisest and most accomplished felt that they could learn something by listening to his words. I well remember, sir, at the National Convention at St. Louis, how the most distinguished men of his party sought his counsel and listened to his sturdy eloquence, and, in my judgment, no one man did more to effect the result of that noted gathering than our deceased colleague. This is but one example—and a conspicuous one—of the influence which he always exerted upon his fellow men.

HONOR AND PERSEVERANCE.

It was my privilege to serve for two years with Mr. Morrissey upon an important committee of this body, and I can bear witness to the fidelity with which he discharged his duties, the intelligence with which he grasped the complicated questions which came before it, and to the quickness and soundness of his judgment. No man upon that committee had greater weight in its deliberations or commanded more fully the respect of his associates. His last days were among the most remarkable in his life. After a political campaign of unparalleled severity, in which he triumphed by dint of extraordinary personal effort, he was prostrated by a lingering and painful disease. His long struggle with that disease illustrated all the leading traits of his character—his indomitable courage and his fortitude under suffering. Almost any other man than John Morrissey would have fallen since succumbed. And when his vital energy had at last been exhausted, and all hope had fled, he quailed not even in the dreaded presence of death.

No further seek his merits to disclose,
Or draw his frailties from their dread abode,
There they alike in trembling hope repose—
The bosom of his Father and his God.

Mr Pomeroy then spoke as follows:—

I desire to add a word to the expressions of kind regard for our departed friend elicited by the resolutions which have been reported by the committee. I last met Mr. Morrissey at his rooms in New York a few weeks before the last general election, when I called to pay my respects to him during his then severe sickness. He was, as he supposed, convalescent, and able to be about his room and to engage in the hard struggle of his political campaign, but his appearance was then to me that of a man whose days were numbered, and I have not been surprised that his chair in this circle has remained permanently vacant. I think I had never seen the deceased Senator until I met him as a colleague in the Fortieth Congress. He took his seat among us under all the disadvantages and prejudices that might have been expected from his previous life and associations. He was in the prime of a vigorous manhood, which promised a long life; and the manliness of his bearing, the thorough integrity of his character, the modesty and even gentleness of his disposition, the utterly unostentatious manner in which he quietly settled into the discharge of his official duties soon won for him the kind esteem and regard of all his associates and the recollection of his previous life was obliterated in the recognition of an honest man and an intelligent legislator.

DUTY BEFORE AMBITION.

I have met him only occasionally since we parted at Washington at the close of his Congressional course, and my knowledge of him since then has been only that which has been common to all from his prominent position in the politics of the State. I think I knew him well enough to be assured that while naturally inclined to interest himself in political affairs and the control of organizations, he was not personally ambitious of political office, and that his Congressional term would have ended his official life, except for the pressure of circumstances which seemed to impose upon himself the performance of a duty which it was impossible for him to delegate to another, it was duty and not ambition that made him State Senator, and whatever divergence of social relations and party affiliations may have existed between him and a large body of his constituents no Senator in this circle possesses a consciousness of more disinterested and patriotic purposes, or carried with him a more abiding confidence of his entire constituency in his fidelity to a trust, than that which John Morrissey secured as the representative of the Seventh Senatorial district. There was no hypocrisy in his life or in his opinions. The world knew the worst of the life, and yet trusted implicitly in the man. Say what you will of him, of all the men around this circle, he alone stood here on his simple dignity as a man and not as the mere representative of a party. He made the situation that made him Senator. The vacant chair has been all this session waiting for him, simply because in his district, unequalled in the State for wealth and social culture, and unsurpassed in men of education and personal ambitions, qualified to fill any official position, there was not another man who could prevent that chair being filled by a representative of a hostile organization, which had power to dismember him from itself, but could not dismember him from the people. His political victory was a manly, personal achievement, in which rich and poor, educated and ignorant, all classes, conditions and creeds participated with equal pleasure, and in the faithful discharge of whose duties all felt equally confident.

ALWAYS MOVED WITH GENEROUS MOTIVE.

To the justness of this confidence those of you who have participated with him in the legislative duties of this chamber can bear ample testimony. I have many times during the session most deeply regretted that the Committee on Cities, to which he was assigned on the organization of this Senate, has not been able to have the benefit of his knowledge, sagacity and hard sense in the discharge of its duties. We need not borrow a word from the vocabulary of eulogy to express to each other our appreciation of our departed friend in terms of deepest condolence and warmest friendship. We are all continually conscious how ineffectually our outward lives show forth our inner thoughts and aspirations. No one appreciated more than the deceased Senator the tangled web of his existence. Under conditions tending to harden character he never lost the simplicity of a child; under conditions to stimulate avarice and fraud no man preserved a more benevolent heart and more perfect integrity; under conditions that seemed to suppress all ideas of political life he was forced into the high position in which he died by the best portion of an exceptionally elevated constituency. All outward and untoward circumstances will be gladly forgotten and the man most kindly remembered. He will be missed here; he will be missed more by the great city which he in part represented. Whoever, from all her well known and gifted citizens, may be commissioned to fill the vacant place, the best citizens of the city of New York and its large and varied business interests will long and justly remember with gratitude the services performed in their behalf in this chamber by their departed Senator, John Morrissey.

REMARKS OF MR. HUGHES.

Mr. Hughes said:—

It is the old, old, sad story. Death has invaded our small circle and touched the brow of a brother Senator with his icy finger. His countenance is changed. He has been sent away. The strong man has fallen and once again it is determined that none can escape this Pluto's Destroyer. Emperors, sought, statesmen, all bow servient to his relentless decree. There is no buckler, no shield, that can resist his arrows. Surround us as we may with fortune, family, position, friends, still this ever watchful foe of our race will find us out and try us in our reins.

"We are born, we laugh, we weep,
We love, we droop, we die—
Alas! why do we love, why do we die?
Who knows that secret deep?—Alas! not I."

The black wing of the angel of death has cast its shadow on this Senate, and the manly form of one who has fought nobly for life now lies bound in the sere clothes of the grave. Our circle is broken—a Senator is dead. One of our small number last night floated out upon that unknown sea that surrounds all the world. Instead of senatorial honors, he has won the higher honors of the dead—the coffin, the pall, the tomb. He has by his death silenced all criticism and invoked the tears of his friends, the honest judgment of his peers, the kindly word of all. He needs no marble to speak his virtues, for his memory for long years will be green in the hearts of those who knew him well. John Morrissey is dead—but his memory will live. No man of his time was a better example of the true democracy of our institutions. Born abroad, a youth of labor and poverty, a manhood the outgrowth of the surroundings of his youth, and subject to severe criticism. With no meretritious aid, save an indomitable ambition, he came repeatedly to represent the chief city of our nation in both its State and national councils. He was an honest man and the people believed him so. He had few words, but those he used impressed his hearers with a deep conviction of his sincerity and the nobility of his nature—a nature that could not be dwarfed or cramped by his surroundings but which rose equal to every trial of his eventful life. His word was as sacred as most men's bonds. True, he was of the earth earthy, still there have been times when he rose to the dignity of a hero. But I pause. We come to bury, not to praise.

Senators, let us heed the lesson of the hour. This vacant chair, these draperies of woe, these sad faces, these immortelles—all reminds us of the brevity and uncertainty of life. It is but a span, Senators, the time of life is short. "If life did ride upon a dial's point still ending with the hour, to spend that shortness busily 't were too long." Let us so live that when our summons comes, we may go hence as one "who wraps the draperies of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

MR. M'CARTHY'S REMARKS.

Mr. McCarthy was the next speaker. He said:—

Mr. President, all is not bright and happy in this life, all is not responsive to the desires and ambitions of our daily pursuits. Sometimes the change comes like the swift lightning without warning, and then again it comes with slow and gradual progress, with much of pain and many disappointed hopes, as was the case with Senator Morrissey, whose death we this day mourn and through the honors of this Senate show our respectful and kindly memories. My acquaintance with Senator Morrissey, I may say, began when we met as members of the last Senate. I met him while we both were members of the same Congress but rarely, yet I can say with truth his deportment there was that of the retiring, modest gentleman, and his record that of a faithful, industrious and intelligent Representative. Here in the Senate, where there is so much of pleasant social friendship, where he was so well known by all, how true and earnest has been the desire that he might return to us with health restored to fill his vacant seat! Man proposes, but God disposes. In the charities, politics and general interests of that city where the most of his life was passed he has left impressions that will long preserve his memory in honor and respect. I believe every member of the late Senate will respond to what the fulness of my heart compels me to say, that to know him was to respect him and have for him a friendship strong and lasting. He had many noble qualities. Few men in our country were his superiors in strong common sense, clear conceptions of men and measures, strict integrity and broad charity—a true friend, whose word was ever reliable. How sweet is the recollection to us who are left to mourn him, and who this day honor the memory of John Morrissey, that from our associations and friendship we can inscribe upon the tablets of time:—Here lies one of nature's noblemen, to whom was given the power to elevate himself to a high and honorable position among his fellow men.

MR. ECCLESINE'S PERORATION.

Mr. Ecclesine said:—

Mr. President—It is not my purpose to add any lengthy eulogy to the words of sorrow and sympathy that have been pronounced on the occasion of the death of Senator Morrissey. Simple and natural as the man himself whose death has filled this chamber with grief, simple and natural, and without any effort shall be the few words that I shall offer as a tribute to his memory. I do not care here to rehearse the political victories he has attained. He won them all by hard and vigorous fighting and owing m