THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

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CLOSING RATES

Yesterday of cotton and gold: New York, cotton, 12 15-16; Memphis, 12¼. New York, gold closed at 112¼; Memphis, 112.

WEATHER PROBABILITIES.

WASHINGTON, February 10, 1 a.m.

In the Gulf States, Tennessee and Ohio valley, rising followed by falling barometer, south to east winds, and partly cloudy weather, with lower temperature in the last section, but slight changes in the two first.

OUR readers will find elsewhere a full list of commutation rates to and from Philadelphia during the Centennial exposition.

SPENCER, of Alabama, deserted by his party, and likely to be impeached by the legislature of his State, is in the attitude of having no friends worth counting on.

THE President will not attend at St. Louis as a witness in the Babcock case. His "avidavy" will be taken in Washington before the chief-justice of the supreme court. As things stand now, Bab is safe.

CONKLING denied having said he was in favor of Grant for a third term, but General J. M. S. Williams, ex-congressman from the eighth district of Massachusetts, says he did say so. There's a lie out somewhere.

IT will be seen by a telegram from Berlin, in another column, that Bismarck avows the policy of Germany to be one of peace, and not war and conquest. He does not, however, say a word about Turkey, Herzegovinia, or the Androssy note.

THE report of the debate in the house yesterday on the diplomatic appropriation bill furnishes laughter-provoking reading, the speech of Mr. Springer, of Illinois, being especially rich in that sort of material. He has immortalized our minister to Greece.

COLONEL BOWMAN, of Kentucky, testified in Washington, yesterday, before the judiciary committee, that he had knowledge of improper means being used to influence legislation in the procurement of a charter for the late Transcontinental railway.

THE examination of Mr. Holbrook, the former special agent, before the house committee on postoffices, was continued in Washington, yesterday, during which he gave testimony showing collusions with clerks for the purpose of procuring fraudulent contracts.

PETITIONS have been received in Washington, for the removal of Mr. William P. Ross, a prominent member of the Cherokee nation, from the position of agent of the Cherokees to which position he was appointed some months since by the President. He will likely be removed.

MANAGER BROOKS, most favorably known to all theater-goers, will take his annual benefit shortly. Readers of the APPEAL, who have during the season had such frequent occasion to commend his judicious management, will bear this in mind and help make an ovation for so deserving a public servant.

RESIDENTS of the Indian Territory want the United States district court, now held at Fort Smith, removed to the capital of the Territory, while the people of Arkansas want it to remain where it is, the people of Kansas living on the border of the Indian Territory, desire to have it moved into their State, and the people of Texas, on the south, would like to have the court meet at some point on Red river. Here is a knotty point to settle, surely.

A TELEGRAM from St. Louis last night says the contest for the mayoralty of that city, which has been before the city council for the past month, terminated at six o'clock last evening by a vote of ten for James H. Britton, the then mayor, and sixteen for Henry Overstalz, the contestant. Mr. Overstalz was installed, and made an address to the council. There was a great crowd present, but no demonstration was made.

WE publish on the second page this morning a synopsis of the Queen's speech, delivered in person at Westminster in the presence of the assembled lords and commons of Great Britain by Victoria on Tuesday. The speeches of Disraeli, Gladstone and Derby, following upon the motion for the usual addresses, are also given, devoted as they are to the eastern question and the purchase of the Suez canal shares. The premier, in the house, it will be seen, sustains the terms of Androssy's note to Turkey, and defends the purchase of the canal stock as forced upon England by defensive and commercial considerations. Lord Derby fully sustained all this in his speech to the lords. England is now understood.

THE State comptroller yesterday furnished the following disheartening figures, setting forth our State financial condition. They reached us by telegraph last night, and, taken together with the financial statement furnished by Ex-Mayor Lodge, form a bolus taxpayers will find it hard to swallow:

JANUARY, 1877.

Assets in January, 1877	$1,261,702
Liabilities due	3,868,239
Deficit	2,606,537

JANUARY, 1876.

Assets in January, 1876	$1,318,702
Liabilities	4,469,047
Deficit	3,150,325
Entire interest-bearing debt of State	22,968,000

Bondholders and all classes of our State creditors have, in these figures, something worthy of the most profound study, especially in view of the fact that the legislature will not meet before January next, and no possible relief or feasible proposition looking to relief either for the floating-debt creditors, bondholders or tax-payers can be devised with certainty of definite results until that time. Meanwhile it is well to bear in mind that our bonded debt is $22,980,000, and our floating $2,447,000, the total being $25,427,000, the annual interest on which is $1,525,620.

THE budget proposed for adoption by the general council, in an ordinance which passed its first reading on Wednesday night, does not afford much hope for our creditors, and yet its provisions are in strict compliance with the charter, and the appropriations are as reasonably economical as the proper conduct of the city government will admit. There is only $47,819 39 appropriated to pay interest on a total of indebtedness amounting to $5,785,372 67—a sum more than one-fifth the State debt, floating and bonded—leaving an annual deficit in the interest account of over $300,000. These figures are another study for bondholders, and perhaps, in view of the fact that our new charter will not permit of anything more being done for them, may stimulate them to an offer in the scaling line such as was proposed in the APPEAL of the fourth instant. We can afford to pay annually $100,000 of interest; and if the whole debt could be funded in a $2,000,000 issue of new bonds bearing five per cent., it is possible the next legislature would authorize us to fund, and amend the charter so as to enable us to pay that amount of interest each year. More we cannot pay.

THE APPEAL.

What Our Cotemporaries Say of Us—Thanks all Round.

We are under many obligations to our cotemporaries of the press for their many compliments to the APPEAL.

Ripley *News*: "The Memphis daily APPEAL has been for a number of years a regular visitor to our exchange table, and is always perused with interest and profit. We consider the APPEAL, under the management of its present conductors, Messrs. Gallaway & Keating, as probably the ablest exponent of correct Democratic principles in the south. We hope the farmers and merchants of Lauderdale, in making up their list of papers and periodicals for the Centennial year, will not overlook the APPEAL. We do not see how any of them can well do without it."

Oxford *Falcon*: "This issue contains the advertisement of that old, stanch, unswerving, truth-telling, able and reliable Democratic journal, the Memphis APPEAL. In sunshine or shadow, in peace or war, the APPEAL has been always the same true, unfailing friend of the south and southern interests, and no paper on this continent deserves more at the hands of the southern people than the APPEAL."

Corinth *Democrat*: "This sterling Democratic journal has just entered upon the thirty-sixth year of its age, and as it grows older it grows mellow in the line of usefulness and the propagation of sound doctrine. Like a good fruit tree, it bears good fruit, and is honored wherever it is read. Its news columns are well filled, and its editorials are sound, pointed, and carry a power with them that is felt all over the land."

BISMARCK.

The Great Prince as an Apostle of Peace—A Frank Avowal.

BERLIN, February 9.—In the reichstag to-day a bill amending the penal code came up for third reading. The debate was on the clauses which were recently rejected imposing penalties on members of secret societies and to prevent the inciting of hostility between different classes and attacking of national institutions. Prince Bismarck participated in the debate, and urged the reinsertion of the clauses which had been thrown out. He animadverted upon the misstatements and calumnies of the press, and instanced the invention of war rumors last spring by newspapers, which were falsely considered as semi-official. He emphatically denied the existence of the semi-official papers or correspondence. The prince concluded as follows: "We live in a state of most profound peace; we have no wish for conquest; we are contented with what we possess; we have no thought of threatening any one. Nevertheless, these rumors are continually arising." No action was reached on the bill.

THE EAST.

Latest from England, Russia and Austria, in Regard to the Principalities Difficulties.

LONDON, February 9.—In his speech in the house of commons last evening, Disraeli made the following important announcement: "Before we agreed to support the Austrian note it had been intimated to us, in an unmistakable manner, that it was the porte's desire, however much it objected to the note, that England should not stand aloof."

The Russian telegraphic agency reports that there is reason to believe that the sultan, when he forwards his reply to the Austrian note, will simultaneously grant an armistice to the insurgents. A dispatch says that the European consuls at Moslar have received instructions to negotiate with the insurgents on the basis of Andrassy's proposals. The porte is preparing a circular to the powers complaining of the activity of the international revolutionary committee at Ragusa. It is reported that the Servian ministers have declared their intention to resign. The *Istak*, the organ of the premier, says there is no doubt that the skuptschina is resolved to go to war with Turkey.

Telegrams from Vienna declare that the dispatch to the effect that the consuls at Moslar had received instructions to negotiate with the insurgents on the basis of Count Andrassy's proposals, is untrue.

CENTENNIAL.

Round-Trip Tickets to and from Philadelphia During the Exposition.

LOUISVILLE, February 9.—To-day's session of the general railroad ticket agents' convention was devoted chiefly to the consideration of the report of the committee on Centennial rates. In the morning Mr. W. B Shattuc, general passenger agent of the Atlantic and Great Western railroad, delivered an address on the Centennial and the railroads. In the afternoon the convention considered the report of the committee on Centennial rates. This committee recommended that the basis of the rates for the Centennial exposition be as follows:

First Round Trip.—Tickets to New York, good for thirty days, may be sold from Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Crestline, Columbus, Cincinnati, and points west thereof, in the territory east of Omaha, and at competitive points south of the Ohio river, at a reduction of twenty-five per cent. from the convention rates.

Second Round Trip.—Tickets to Philadelphia, good for thirty days, may be sold from Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Crestline, Columbus, Cincinnati, and points west thereof, in the territory east of Omaha, and at competitive points south of the Ohio river, at one dollar less than the round-trip rates to New York.

Third Round Trip.—Tickets to Philadelphia, *via* New York, good for thirty days, may be sold from Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Crestline, Columbus, Cincinnati and points west thereof, in territory east of Omaha, and at competitive points south of the Ohio river, at one dollar more than the round-trip rates to New York.

Fourth Round Trip.—From territory east of Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Crestline, Columbus and Cincinnati, the basis of reduced rates, and the limit for round-trip tickets, shall be fixed by trunk lines, and from competitive points between trunk lines in said territory. Rates to Philadelphia, *via* New York shall be two dollars more than the rates to Philadelphia by the direct or short line.

The convention adjourned after the discussion, and will probably adopt the report at to-morrow's session.

CONGRESS.

Amusing Debate in the House Yesterday Over the Diplomatic Appropriation Bill—Springer's Speech.

Our Minister to Greece Immortalized—"Maid of Athens I am Gone"—Cox on the Consular System.

Sherman's Substitute for Davis's Treasury Resolution—The Centennial Appropriation Again Debated and Laid Over—Etc., Etc.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, February 9.—Mr. Banning asked leave to introduce a resolution calling on the secretary of war for information as to the number of draught-horses and mules in the service of the army, their cost and place of purchase; also the cost of mounting regiments of cavalry.

Mr. Thornburg objected, on the ground that the information called for would occupy the whole clerical force of the department until the close of the session.

The speaker then called on the committees for reports.

Mr. Parsons, from the committee on private land claims, reported a bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to sell at private sale such portion of the public property at Vincennes, Indiana, as may be required for the tracks, switches, shops, and other purposes of Ohio and Mississippi, Evansville and Crawfordsville, and Indianapolis and Vincennes railroad companies, this real estate having been acquired by the government for debt, and being commonly known as the steam-mill tract, or Hall Neilson property.

Mr. Holman objected to that provision of the bill allowing the transfer of the property at private sale, and argued that it should be opened to public competition.

Mr. Parsons replied that Mr. Holman's proposition would be unjust to the railroad companies which were already using the property.

Mr. Holman insisted that at least that portion of the property not needed by the railroad companies should be disposed of by public competition, not by private sale. The property consists of about eighty acres, of which the railroad companies require about one-third.

After considerable discussion, the bill was rejected—yeas, 112; nays, 119.

The house then went into committee of the whole, Mr. Haskins in the chair, on the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill, and was addressed by Mr. Springer [Ill.] in defense of the economic features of the bill.

Mr. Springer said that the people, in the election of 1874, had a deliberate purpose in view. What was it? They had deliberately made up their minds that there must be retrenchment, economy and reform in the government. They had trusted long to the party in power for it, and had been disappointed, so they had gone deliberately to work and sent a majority to the house which would respect and carry out the wishes of the people. In reply to Mr. Garfield's encomium on the State department last week, he [Springer] undertook to prove that that department was no exception to the extravagance and peculations of other departments of the government. In that connection he read items showing the amount of contingent expenses charge by foreign ministers last year, in which Minister Washburne figures at thirty-six hundred and fifty dollars, Minister Cushing at eight thousand dollars, and Minister Schenck at sixteen thousand seven hundred dollars. The latter sum, included nine thousand one hundred and ninety-one dollars in gold for telegrams for one quarter, and four hundred and eighty-seven dollars to Adam Badeau as bearer of dispatches to Madrid. He also showed an allowance of one thousand and sixty-seven dollars to Mr. Baker, while minister to Turkey, for presents made to Turkish officials. It used to be thought, he said, that presents, like kisses, were reciprocal. He did not know whether or not it was so in this instance. But it seemed that the Turkish officials had never once said turkey to Baker. [Laughter]. Passing on to the criticism of State papers, he ridiculed particularly the dispatches of J. Meridith Read, resident minister to Greece; in one of which Read described, in grandiloquent phases, a ball, given at Athens, at which he had the honor of leading in a center *danze* with Queen Anne, from which he returned at five o'clock, singing, as he Springer supposed, that song, which must have been Greek in the ears of Athenians:

We won't go home till morning,
Till day light does appear.

What, he said, must have been the delightful sensation in the State department, when this dispatch was received from Read. Some of the officials there should have sent him a dispatch:

On with the dance—
Let joy be unconfined;
No sleep till morn,
When youth and pleasure meet
Chase the hours with flying feet.

[Laughter]. He then pictured Read, when hearing of the abolition of his office, and supposed him addressing the queen as the

Maid of Athens, ere we part,
Give, oh give me back my heart."

[Loud laughter.]

And then as J. Meredith was embarked on some stately ship and saw the queen standing on the shore, he would doubtless go on with the song:

Maid of Athens I am gone,
Think of me, sweet, when alone,
Though I fly to Istambou[illegible]—

Meaning, he supposed, Philadelphia.

Athens holds my heart and soul,
Hear me vow before I go,
Zoe mou sas agapo.

[Loud laughter.] He would like one of the New York members to pronounce the last line in the Greek style. [Laughter.]

Mr. Seelye suggested to Mr. Springer the latin maxim of *omne ignatum pro magnifico.*

Mr. Springer—Thank you, sir; thank you. [Laughter.] Passing on to the question of South American and Haytien missions, he read an article from the Chicago *Tribune*, charging the minister to Hayti with turning his residence into an asylum for rebels, and with issuing, for pay, naturalization certificates, and stating that the minister to Peru had so little to do that he set up a pawnbroker's shop in Lima. He then criticised the extravagant system of the dispatch agency in London, and read from the report of Mr. Keim, the traveling consular inspector, drawing a disgraceful picture of American consuls abroad. He spoke of the large amount of unofficial fees exacted by consuls and not accounted for to the government, specifying particularly the consulate at London, where a fee of sixty-cents was levied on over four thousand invoices within the last quarter, such fees being for affidavits, and going into the consul's own pocket; and the consulate at Liverpool, from which the incumbent had retired with a fortune of over three hundred thousand dollars. He also mentioned the late consul at Cadiz [Farrel], who had broken up the wine ring there, and had been rewarded for his fidelity and zeal by being dismissed and being replaced by a man who said that he would not give the Cadiz merchants any trouble.

Mr. Cox [N. Y.] supported the bill as a bill of retrenchment. Some portions of his speech were very amusing, and was much enjoyed by the house. He concluded by declaring that commerce could not be revived by a miserable, rascally consular system. Commerce didn't depend upon consuls. It depended on the laws, or rather the repeal of laws. Let taxes be taken off and commerce would come, and the great art of ship-building, now almost lost in this country, would revive.

Mr. Kelly said that no industry in this country has grown so well within the last few years as ship-building, and gave statistics to prove the assertion. He predicted that if the tariff bill reported from the committee on ways and means, and now pending in the house became a law, the farmers of Illinois would burn their grain, and the workshops of the country be struck down, and immigration stopped. The passage of this bill, and its reference, had already paralyzed the few industries which the folly of congress in contracting the currency had left in a prosperous condition.

In a brief discussion as to the further course of the debate, it was understood that Mr. Blaine would address the house on to-morrow, promising to keep as near to the merits of the bill as Messrs. Cox and Kelly have done, and that the general debate would close to-morrow. The committee rose and the house adjourned.

SENATE.

Senator Wallace presented fifty petitions, of five thousand citizens of Pennsylvania, in favor of aid to the Texas Pacific railroad. Referred.

Senator Randolph, from the committee on military affairs, reported favorably on the house bill donating condemned cannon and cannon balls to the Ladies' monument association of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. Passed.

Senator Sherman, from the committee on finance, reported a substitute for the resolution submitted by Senator Davis early in the session in regard to the accounts of the defaulting public officers, etc. The substitute directs the secretary of the treasury to furnish the senate as soon as practicable with a statement of all balances due the United States from public officers and others formerly, but not now, in the public service, distinguishing those which have been settled; setting forth as near as practicable the period over which such accounts extended, the amounts involved, etc., together with the character of the stocks held by the United States, account of such stocks, and if default has been made in the payment of interest thereon.

Senator Davis said there might be some amendment to the resolution, but as two steps in the right direction he would not cause any delay by proposing to amend.

The substitute reported by the committee on finance was agreed to.

Senator Morrill, from the committee on public buildings and grounds, reported a bill appropriating thirty-five thousand dollars for continuing the work of improving the capitol grounds during the present fiscal year, as the appropriation made last year was exhausted. Passed.

Senator Edmunds submitted a resolution instructing the committee on public buildings and grounds to inquire into the expediency of making adequate provision for the speedy completion of the Washington monument in Washington City, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise. Agreed to.

Senator Merrimon submitted a resolution requesting the secretary of war to furnish the senate with the report and accompanying maps, diagrams and estimates, made in pursuance of an act of March 3, 1875, directing a survey of the line from Neuz river to connect it with Cape Fear river, and to connect the waters of the harbor of Norfolk, Virginia, with those of Cape Fear river at or near Wilmington, North Carolina. Agreed to.

Senator Wright called up senate bill to pay the First national bank of St. Albans, Vermont, twenty-eight thousand six hundred and fifty dollars, the value of certain United States treasury notes held by said bank as financial agent of the United States and forcibly taken therefrom by raiders from Canada in 1864; the pending amendment being to strike out the clause providing for the payment of interest on that amount from October 19, 1864, until the time of payment, which was agreed to and the bill passed as amended.

Senator Boutwell introduced a bill to repeal the pre-emption laws and provide for the sale of timber upon the public lands of the United States. He gave notice that at the proper time he would offer it as a substitute for the bill to repeal section 2303 of the revised statutes in regard to public lands in Alabama and other States. Ordered printed.

The bill proposes that after the thirtieth of next June none of the public lands shall be subject to pre-emption entry. The rest of the bill requires the secretary of the interior to cause appraisements to be made from time to time of the timber standing on the public lands, and prepare plans of the same in lots containing not more than three hundred and twenty acres each, and provides that by the payment of the appraised value, if not less than one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, any person may make entry of stumpage upon any one tract, and be allowed three years within which to remove the wood and timber from the land; provided, that no person shall enter a second section lot until he shall have removed the timber from his first lot, and there shall be left standing on each lot one tree of every variety growing there; and provided further, that all white and red cedar shall be reserved, unless the President shall, by a specific order in particular cases, direct otherwise.

The chair laid before the senate a joint resolution from the Wisconsin legislature instructing senators and representatives in congress to oppose the bill recently introduced in regard to the land conditionally granted, the conditions of which have lapsed to the public domain as public lands.

Senator Kelly called up the senate bill to extend the time for the construction and completion of the Northern Pacific railroad, the pending question being on the amendment reported by the committee on railroads on July 17th and 24th to extend the time eight years instead of ten, making the bill apply to the main line of the road, *via* the valley of the Columbia river, to its terminus on Puget sound; and that it shall not apply to the branch line of said road across the Cascade mountains to Puget sound, etc.

Senator Sargent moved the bill be recommitted, that an amendment might be framed to protect the settlers in their rights.

After discussion the bill was laid over until to-morrow.

The chair laid before the senate the concurrent resolutions of the Kansas legislature in favor of a territorial government and establishing courts in the Indian Territories.

At the expiration of the morning hour the senate proceeded with the consideration of the house Centennial bill appropriating one million five hundred thousand dollars. Senator Morrill spoke at length in favor of the bill, and said that the Centennial exhibition had become a national question, upon which congress could not turn its back. The honor of the nation was involved in its success.

Senator Edmunds followed Senator Merrill. He believed congress had the right to appropriate money for the Centennial exposition under the constitution, as it was for the general welfare of the United States, but it had been declared in the beginning that congress would not be called upon to make any appropriation. Our ministers abroad had not informed foreign governments, as it was intended they should do, that the United States was not responsible for the exhibition. He believed now the government was bound to make the appropriation, but thought the million and a half appropriation by this bill would not be sufficient to make the exhibition a success, and that congress would be called upon for another million and a half—possibly two or three millions. He gave notice that he would offer an amendment requiring the Centennial commissioners and the board of finance to file with the secretary of the treasury their acceptance of the provisions of the bill before receiving the money.

Senator Sargent said he was willing that the bill should be passed without the amendment, but if amended at all he gave notice that he would move to strike out the preamble.

The discussion was further continued by Senators Cameron and Wallace [Penn.] and Frelinghuysen and Sherman. The two latter favored stripping the bill of all restrictions, and making this a simple appropriation of one million five hundred thousand dollars.

Senator M'Creery offered the following as a substitute for the bill: "That it be recommended to the people of the United States to assemble on the fourth of July next, in such numbers and manner as may be convenient, in their respective cities, towns and villages, neighborhoods, or wherever they may be, publicly to testify their joy at the one hundredth return of that auspicious day by suitable eulogies, orations and discourses, or by public prayer and such religious exercises and ceremonies as may be appropriate to the occasion, and sanctioned by their own conscience."

Senator M'Creery said the bill and his substitute were widely different, but they sought to reach the same end. His substitute in every essential and particular was more in harmony with the spirit of our free institutions than the bill which it was intended to supersede. By his substitute the American citizen, wherever he might be, on land or sea, was invited to hail with joy our Centennial anniversary. The hills of Canada would echo shouts of joy, and the cattle-thieves of Mexico would fly from their stolen herds to secrete themselves in caves. [Laughter.] All our people would rally around the motto of "Equal rights to all and exclusive privileges to none." The bill before the senate was worse than sectarian—it was local; it was individual and personal. The donation would not go into the city of Philadelphia, but into the pockets of the stockholders in the Centennial exhibition. Up to this hour the government was free from any complications, and he had a hope that the senate of the United States would rise to the dignity of its better days, spurn the whole thing and vindicate the constitution, the country and the rights of the people. He had seen the orphan meekly retiring from this capitol without a cent, when it had been established that under the order of one of the nation's officers her house and her home had been destroyed. But she was not like a powerful corporation—she had no money to pay the press to urge her claims, no organized lobby to plead her cause. The paramount advantage of his substitute over the house bill arose from the fact that it invoked the religious element. Let ten thousand prayers ascend from ten thousand churches, and ten thousand choirs sound their sweetest notes of thanksgiving and praise. Would there be anything in Philadelphia to remind one of 1776? If old Stephen Hopkins could come out of his grave and be there with his broad-brimmed hat, he might mistake the exhibition for an oriental bazar, but he would see little to remind him of one hundred years ago. Gilded butterflies flitting through Fairmount park would not think of Valley Forge or other scenes of the revolution. The last and greatest advantage of his substitute was that the celebration under it would cost nothing. How could the country extricate itself from the embarrassments and difficulties which surround it? If it was to be extricated it must be by the industries of the people, and from one end of the land to the other there was a cry of reform. He was not a candidate for a third-term, and from that independent position he asked the senate to beware how it trifled with the best interests of the people. The conduct of the senate should be such that an upright chancellor would approve it course.

Senator Morton said his friend, Senator M'Creery, offered a substitute by which he proposed to have orations and prayers. He [M'Creery] seemed to think that people had no right to pray without an act of congress. [Laughter.] If prayers cost anything his friend [M'Creery] would be opposed to them. [Renewed laughter.] Senator Morton then went on to argue in favor of the bill, and closed by saying that he was willing to vote for the bill without hampering it with provisions. The preamble to the bill was monstrous, and he believed it had only to wait until another congress to be repealed. It was monstrous, it was mean.

The question being on the amendment of Senator Edmunds, it was rejected by a rising vote; yeas 12, nays 31.

The question then recurred on the substitute of Senator M'Creery, and it was rejected—yeas 12, nays 45. Those who voted in the affirmative were, Alcorn, Cooper, Eaton, Goldthwaite, Kernan, Key, M'Creery, Stevenson, Thurman, Wadleigh, White and Withers.

Senator Edmunds moved to strike out the preamble, which was rejected by a rising vote—yeas 18, nays 34.

Senator Eaton moved to amend the clause in regard to the return of the appropriation, by inserting the words: "To the stockholders on their capital stock," so it would read, "The appropriation herein before made shall be paid in full into the treasury of the United States before any dividend of the stockholders on their capital stock or percentage of profits shall be paid to the holders of said stock," etc. Rejected.

Senator Maxey spoke in favor of the bill, and Senators Withers and Eaton opposed it.

Senator Norwood said he desired to speak on the bill, but was unable to go on to-day. He moved that the senate adjourn. Rejected.

Senator Edmunds said he understood the senator from Georgia was not well, and could not go on to-day. He thought common courtesy required that the bill be laid over until to-morrow, that the senator might speak. He therefore moved that the senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

Senator Merrimon submitted a resolution that the committee on rules be instructed to prepare and report an appropriate rule to the senate to prohibit the annoyance of sending visiting cards to senators while the senate is in session. Laid over.

The senate then went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

Cuban Disorders.

NEW YORK, February 9.—A letter from Havana dated the third instant, says that the destruction of property by fire still continues, and night before last, at Jaquey Grand, the streets were illuminated by the glare of several fires in different directions in the neighborhood. The papers bring the details of a fight at Sagua, near Remedios, where the Spaniards claim to have repulsed the insurgents twice, killing six men and four horses, and probably wounding many more. There were several cane-fields burned and three Spaniards killed and five wounded at Holquin. The enemy attacked and burned the village and fort of Yoreniquen, which the governor says was traitorously surrendered by the garrison. Eight hundred insurgents attacked Mabazon, but were repulsed and lost fifteen men killed. The Spaniards lost ten killed and eighteen wounded.

Bowen's Opportunity.

NEW YORK, February 9.—The examining committee of Plymouth church met to-night for the purpose of affording Henry C. Bowen an opportunity of sustaining the alleged charges contained in his reply against Rev. H. W. Beecher. Bowen sent in a communication stating that he believed he had made a full and complete answer to Mr. White's grievances; if, however, the committee thought otherwise, he would give the matter further attention. He requested that Mr. White give him in writing the exact questions he wishes to have answered by him. The committee considered the reply of Bowen evasive and unsatisfactory, and have cited him to appear Thursday evening next and present a reply to Mr. White's grievances, and produce proof of the charges made by him (Bowen). It is said that if Bowen does not give a satisfactory reply at the next session to the committee, his case will be presented to the church.

MISSISSIPPI.

Bills Approved by Governor Ames—"Acts" Passed in Senate and House.

The Ames Impeachment—Congressman G. Wiley Wells's Testimony—The Articles.

(Special to the Appeal.)

JACKSON, February 9.—The governor approved the bills designating legal holidays; providing for the discharge of prisoners who have commuted sentences, by labor on public works; authorizing Lowndes county to sell uncurrent funds; the bill regulating the pay and duties of public printer; the law of limitation.

Senate.—A bill was passed reducing the salaries of county superintendents of education sixty per cent. The bill gives the superintendents the right to teach school and hold any county office.

House.—A bill was passed materially reducing the salaries of State officials. It fixes the salaries of members of the legislature at three hundred dollars.

Ames's Impeachment.—Congressman G. Wiley Wells is here, and testified before the Ames impeachment committee what he knew about Ames asserting that the killing of fifteen or twenty negroes was a benefit to the party.

ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST AMES.

(New York Tribune, 5th.)

JACKSON, MISS., February 2.—The present legislature of Mississippi is considered to represent the property-owners and well-educated people of the State better than any legislature that ever before assembled in Jackson. The duty of electing a senator having been performed, the next most important measure—that of inquiring into the manner in which Governor Ames has executed the duties of his office—is about being taken up. It is probable that the house of representatives will present articles of impeachment against him to the senate. A large number of the members of the legislature freely speak upon the subject at the hotels and at their boarding-houses, and evidently desire the governor's impeachment. A stranger in the city is surprised to hear the subject discussed everywhere—in the stores, at the hotels, and even in the capitol. The articles of impeachment have not yet been made public, but they will probably be something of the following nature:

First—That he secured his election by improper means, and never intended to become a resident of the State.

Second—That he refused to send the names of chancellors appointed by him in January, 1874, to the senate for "advice and consent," as required by the constitution, and that he suppressed their names until the senate had adjourned, and then appointed the chancellors without the "advice and consent" of the senate.

Third—That having so installed his chancellors, he undertook to control them by threats of removal, and to induce them to decide questions pending before them in his interests, and the interests of his friends, thereby attempting to corrupt the judiciary of the State.

Fourth—That in as many cases as he failed so to control and corrupt them, the chancellors so appointed were removed by him from office without trial or impeachment, as required by the constitution. It is alleged that he attempted to corrupt one of the chancellors, a young Mr. Peyton, and one of two sons of the chief-justice of the State. It is charged that when a case involving a large amount of money was pending before Chancellor Peyton in this city, the State being one party and a railroad corporation the other, that the governor threatened to remove him if the decision should not be satisfactory. Governor Ames, it is alleged, sent for the chief justice and appealed to him to use his influence upon his son. Take the chief justice refused to do. The decision given in the case by the chancellor being obnoxious, he was removed, and another appointed in his place. Two other chancellors—Guitney and Drennan—were also removed; the latter because of a decision refusing bail in the county of Yazoo to one Morgan, charged with murder. These actions of the governor are charged as attempts to corrupt the judiciary of the State.

Fifth—It is charged that the governor virtually attached the office of the State treasurer to that of public printer in this State by placing the public printer, who received from one hundred thousand dollars to two hundred thousand dollars a year for that service, in the treasury of the State, in the capacity of a clerk in that office, at a nominal salary of fifteen hundred dollars per annum. It is charged that the object of this was to enable the public printer to obtain a preference in the cashing of his warrants received as public printer. It is charged that the governor had notice of this fraudulent purpose, and understood all about it, and yet persistently kept the public printer in the treasury two years, and that this was a great fraud, to which the governor was a party.

Sixth—There is a clause in the constitution of the State which was copied from the constitution of the United States, and which forbids any senator or representative, during the time for which he is elected, from being appointed to any office which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased by the legislature of which he was a member. A large class of offices was created by the legislature that has just gone out of office—offices hitherto unknown in the State and unknown to the constitution. The act creating them made the emoluments large, the duties very trifling, the responsibility really nothing, and empowered the governor to fill them by appointment. To at least some of these the governor did appoint senators and representatives who participated in their creation. This was a palpable violation of the constitution, and also of the governor's oath of office.

Seventh—That he undertook by means of an act passed by his connivance and approval, to have all the legal advertising that was done in the State done by his friends. To do this it was necessary to ignore not only all the Democratic and neutral papers in the State, but also certain veteran Republican papers considered unfriendly to the governor's aspirations—his object being a re-election to a seat in the United States senate. To effect this purpose a bill was passed through the legislature and approved by the governor, which authorized any person to receive the appointment of district printer for all the judicial districts of the State. Many of the persons receiving the appointment had no connection whatever with any newspaper, but to meet the emergency had special sheets printed at offices not in their district, and sent out under various names to the different districts with the advertisements required by law to be published, printed in them. This, so far as I have heard, is universally charged as a fraud upon the public. The project was simply an act to subsidize the Republican newspapers of the State to support Governor Ames for the United States senate.

Eighth—That he spends a large portion of his time at his home in Massachusetts, leaving the State government in the hands of the lieutenant-governor, who nullifies the decisions of courts and juries, and defeats the provisions of the criminal laws, thereby destroying the good order and safety of society.

There are numerous other charges, but these are fair samples, and it is believed that they can be sustained by the records of the governor, secretary of State, and other officers in the capital, as well as by the legislative journals. The question is, however, do the facts in his case constitute "high crimes and misdemeanors" within the meaning of the constitution? Do they constitute high crimes and misdemeanors in the light of English law? Do they constitute high crimes and misdemeanors in the light of any American precedent? Many of the most intelligent lawyers in both parties express doubt in regard to this. Prominent and influential Republicans say that this legislature ought not to impeach Ames for its own sake; in other words, that the Mississippi Democracy dwell in a glass house, and should not throw stones. The legislature has in it, however, some of the ablest men in the State, whose sense of right and justice will not be warped by party feeling. Their legislation so far has been marked by a temperate and conservative tone that was not expected by Republicans. Most persons believe that when the senate comes to sit as a court of impeachment, that Governor Ames will have a full and impartial trial, and that an honest and conscientious verdict will be returned.

TELEGRAPHIC ABBREVIATES

Philadelphia, February 9: Arrived—Steamer Ohio, from Liverpool.

Paris, February 9: Pierre Sebastian Laurentie, the author, is dead.

Berlin, February 9: Count Von Arnim is expected here on account of the illness of his son.

Paris, February 9. The prefect of police being a candidate for the assembly at Carbeil, has resigned.

Hendaye, February 9: The Carlists have assumed the offensive against the Alfonsist position at Oyarzun.

Providence, February 9: The three Congregational churches in this city invited to Beecher's advisory council, have declined.

Terre Haute, Ind., February 9: The First Congregational church of this place has accepted the invitation to the Plymouth church advisory council.

Zanesville, February 9: P. C. Ryan, a prominent merchant, made an assignment this morning. The amount of liabilities and assets are not yet made public.

Washington, February 9: The President has recognized L. J. J. Nieumenkamp as consul of the Netherlands for Illinois and Michigan, to reside at Chicago.

London, February 9: The firm of Wm. Merry & Son, foreign provision merchants, have failed. Their liabilities are placed at about ninety thousand pounds.

Apponong, R. I., February 9: Two children named Smith and a young man named Barry, who attempted their rescue, were drowned here last evening by the breaking of the ice.

Muscogee, I. T., February 9: Two weeks ago a Cherokee Indian killed a Cherokee maiden for refusing favors asked, was arrested, tried, convicted, and will be hanged to-morrow.

Montreal, February 9: The old established iron firm of Terriere & Co. has suspended; liabilities, four hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Gay & Co., hardware dealers have also suspended; liabilities one hundred thousand dollars.

New York, February 9: A letter was received here yesterday from the private secretary of the crown prince of Prussia, in which he says that owing to personal matters it will be impossible for the prince to visit America at any time this year.

London, February 9: Weston has defeated Perkins, the English champion, in a walk for a fifty-pound cup. The match was for the greatest number of miles in twenty-four hours. Perkins made sixty-five miles in fifteen hours, and stopped.

Topeka, February 9: The house spent the entire day as well as the special session, lasting until midnight last night, over the bill appropriating twenty-five thousand dollars for Centennial purposes. It is believed the bill will pass when it comes to a final vote with a full house.

Helena, February 9: The legislative council of Montana has passed a resolution, by eleven to one, granting three million five hundred thousand dollars to aid the construction of the Northern Pacific railroad west from Bismarck to Shilds river, the most western tributary of the Yellow Stone.

San Francisco, February 9: At a meeting, yesterday, of the gentlemen interested in the establishment of a clearing-house, Milton S. Latham was elected president of the clearing-house, Ignatz Steinhut, secretary, Mills, M'Kinlay, Low and King, managing committee, nearly all the banks signify their intention of joining except the Nevada bank.

Fort Smith, Ark., February 9: During a quarrel between Deputy United States Marshals Maguire and Leper, Maguire fired two shots from a Spencer rifle at Leper, who in turn shot Maguire through the head, and as he fell from his horse shot him again through the breast. Leper surrendered himself at once but was acquitted on the ground of self-defense.

Cairo, Ill., February 9: The case of the two Crains, who have been on trial here for the last two weeks, charged with being accessories in the murder of William Spence, at Crainville, Williamson county, was given to the jury at four o'clock yesterday evening. They returned, this morning, a verdict of guilty, fixing the punishment of each at twenty years in the penitentiary.

Muscogee, I. T., February 9: The United States district court, at Fort Smith, Arkansas, closed Saturday last, an unusually busy session. Sixty-six persons were sentenced to the penitentiary at Little Rock, for various offenses, and six sentenced to be hanged on the twenty-first of April. The names of the men to be hanged are O. Megee, Wm. Leech, Aaron Wilson, Asa Saunders, Isham Seelye and Istanubbe.

The Great Fire in New York.

NEW YORK, February 9.—The fire last night did its work thoroughly, and vast crowds of spectators gaze at the ruins to-day, wondering how any part of the block had been saved. Where a great block of solid brick and iron buildings stood last night is now a great chasm, in which lie in confusion piles of steaming brick and fragments of bent and twisted girders, bounded by blackened walls, some of which are already tottering to their fall. Two engine companies and a hook and ladder company are at work to-day, pouring water into the smouldering mass of ruin, and tumbling down the dangerous walls. At present it is impossible to obtain an accurate list of all the losses and insurance. The total loss is estimated by good judges at about three million dollars, and the total insurance at two million dollars. The bodies of David Mulden and David Clute, the firemen who were killed, were viewed by the coroner's jury this morning. Both men leave families. A cordon of police has been placed around the burned district, and travel and traffic are interdicted therein