THE EVENING STAR.

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☞ Rates of advertising furnished on application.

The Evening Star.

VOL. 43—NO. 6,547. WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1874. TWO CENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.

FIRST GRAND ENTERTAINMENT AND PROMENADE.
Given for the benefit of HOLMES LODGE, No. 4, I. O. G. T., at BRIGHTWOOD HALL, Brightwood, D. C., WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 18th, 1874.
Stages will run from the corner of 7th and Boundary to the hall, leaving at 6:30 and 7 p. m.
Tickets, One Dollar, admitting a gentleman and ladies. For sale at J. C. Parker's Bookstore, corner of 7th and F streets, and by the members of the Lodge. mr17-2t

FORD'S OPERA HOUSE.
TO-NIGHT AND SATURDAY MATINEE.
The Famous
MAJILTON-RAYNOR FAMILY!
In their great New York success, entitled
"GABRIEL GRUB;"
Or the Story of the
GOBLIN WHO STOLE THE SEXTON,
A Fantastical, Farcical, Demonical, Comical, Musical, Terpsichorean, Legendary, Imaginative, dramatized from Charles Dickens' story of that name by the Majilton-Raynor Family, in which will be found amusement to please all ages and tastes, combining, as it does,
OPERA, DRAMA, FARCE,
BURLESQUE, BALLET,
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC,
Preceded by a Capital Farce.
LITTLE FOLKS' MATINEE SATURDAY, Monday next, Katie Putnam. mar16-tf

WASHINGTON THEATER COMIQUE,
11th Street, below Penna. Avenue.
A New Sensational Drama! New Variety Stars
HARRY CLIFFORD!
HARRY CLIFFORD!
HARRY CLIFFORD!
HARRY CLIFFORD!
In J. J. Closkey's Sensational Drama, in 3 acts,
LIFE OR DEATH! LIFE OR DEATH!
LIFE OR DEATH! LIFE OR DEATH!
ROBERT NICKLE,
The Great Wizard of the Word.
TOMMY WINNETTE, Song and Dance Man.
LOTTIE WINNETTE, Lady Jig Dancer.
Mons. DU VERNIE, Contortionist.
J. W. SHARPLY, Musical Wonder.
OTTO BURBANK, HARRY HART.
JOHN H. CARL, WALTER BEAN.
SHEFFER AND NELSON,
A Select Olio and a Beautiful Drama.
Monday Evening, March 23d, 1874, benefit of JAS. S. EDWARDS.
FAMILY MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY. mar16-tf

GRACE GREENWOOD
AND
MRS. SARAH F. AMES,
IN
RECITATIONS AND PERSONATIONS
At LINCOLN HALL,
FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 20, 1874,
At 8 o'clock.
The following and other selections in costume will be given:
Miss Tabitha Tattle, that Buttonville Gossip, will tell her story about Washington.
Mrs. Ames will give Lady Teazle and Lady Macbeth.
Admission, 50 cents; reserved seats, 75 cents; to be had at Ellis & Co.'s music store. mar16 5t.

FOURTH GRAND CONCERT
AT THE
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 18, 1874.
ORATORIO OF ST. PAUL,
BY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.
50 VOICES.
Mrs. McCARTEE, Soprano.
Mrs. CAULFIELD, Alto.
Mr. EWEN, Tenor.
Mr. GORMON, Bass.
GEO. WALTER, Organist.
DR. J. P. CAULFIELD, Director.
Admission, 75 cts. At Ellis', Choate's and Metzerott's. mar14

NATIONAL THEATER.
MONDAY, March 16, 1874.
For Six Nights only and One Matinee previous to his departure for Europe,
MR. E. A. SOTHERN.
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY—Last Appearance, SATURDAY at 2 o'clock, ONLY SOTHERN MATINEE, LORD DUNDREARY.
OUR AMERICAN COUSIN as Lord Dundreary.
BENEFIT—DAVID GARRICK.
Sale of seats will commence on Tuesday morning at the Box Office, when seats may be had for any of the above performances. mar9

OLD No. 466 7TH ST. On Exhibition and Sale AT MARKRITER'S, NEW No 439 7TH ST.
No. 439 7th street, between D and E streets, eight doors above Odd Fellows' Hall.
Choice Oil Paintings, Engravings, Chromos, &c. Also, largest stock Paper Hangings, Window Shades, Pictures, Frames, Picture Cords and Tassels, Rings, Nails, &c., in the District.
☞ TERMS CASH.
☞ Please remember Name and Number. jel-1y

ALL KINDS OF CAST-OFF WEARING APPAREL can be sold to the very best advantage by addressing or calling on JUSTH, 619 D street, between 6th and 7th n. w. Notes by mail promptly attended to. Cash paid. fi3-tf

LECTURES.

MASONIC LECTURE ASSOCIATION.
LECTURE BY
W. S. ANDREWS,
THE CELEBRATED HUMORIST.
SUBJECT—DIALECT HUMOR.
AT
MASONIC TEMPLE,
TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 1874.
TICKETS.....50 CENTS.
For sale at principal bookstores, and at the door on evening of the lecture. mar14-3t

Y. M. C. A. SCIENTIFIC COURSE.
PROCTOR'S LECTURES
ON
ASTRONOMY!
THE SALE OF SEATS FOR THE COURSE
is now open at
BALLANTYNE'S BOOKSTORE.
RESERVED SEATS, four Lectures.....$2 50
Prof. JOS. HENRY will preside. mar10-5t

SPRING.
NEW! STYLISH! ATTRACTIVE!
FRESH AND NOBBY.
"OUR CUSTOM DEPARTMENT."
FIRST OPENING
OF FINE SPRING WOOLENS,
FRENCH, ENGLISH, SCOTCH AND GERMAN COATINGS,
TROWSERINGS,
SUITINGS,
WHICH, WITH OUR SUPERIOR
MERCHANT TAILORING FACILITIES,
WE ARE
MANUFACTURING TO ORDER
IN UNEXCELLED
STYLE, FIT AND FINISH.
Examine Our Stock.
☞ This Department is in charge of Mr. DANIEL F. KEYWORTH, a skillful and artistic Cutter, lately connected with one of the principal Merchant Tailoring Establishments of Union Square, New York City.
HABLE BROTHERS,
MERCHANT TAILORS & FINE CLOTHIERS
feb28-tr Corner 7th and D Streets.

EVENING STAR.

Washington News and Gossip.

INTERNAL REVENUE.—The receipts from this source to-day were $263,347.

CONUNDRUM FOR INFLATIONISTS.—What can be expected of the *morals* of a country, every dollar of whose currency bears a lie on its face?
GREENBACK.

DEATH OF A REVENUE COLLECTOR.—The Internal Revenue office is advised by telegraph of the death of Dr. Chas. F. Hogart, collector for the 6th Indiana district. He died at Indianapolis yesterday.

THE U. S. STEAMER SHAWMUT left her anchorage off the arsenal yesterday for the Norfolk navy yard, where she will remain a few days, and then leave for Key West to take part in the naval drill now going on at that port.

THE DEFICIENCY BILL.—The Secretary of State, Dr. Linderman, director of the mint, and Mr. Conant, chief of the warrant division of the Treasury department, were before the House Committee on Appropriations this morning explaining the different items in the deficiency bill.

WE LEARN that the statement by a morning paper that Judge Black is retained as counsel before the Investigating Committee by the Metropolitan Paving Company is a mistake. He is employed in the interest of private citizens named in the charges presented by the memorialists.

A LIFE INSURANCE DECISION.—In the U. S. Supreme Court yesterday the case of Travelers' Insurance Company against Seaver, who was killed while driving a race, was decided in favor of the company, the court deciding that it was against just such reckless driving that the company intended to protect itself by the terms of the policy.

IT IS REPORTED that the trustee in the bankruptcy of Jay Cooke & Co. expects to pay a first dividend in the month of April. Creditors who have not proved their claims should go before a register in bankruptcy and make such proof, and send in their claims to Philadelphia. Claims in bankruptcy are not allowed unless duly proved.

AN HISTORIC GUN.—By direction of Congress the Secretary of War is to deliver to the authorities of Rhode Island a gun with which Battery B, 1st regiment of Rhode Island light artillery, fought at Gettysburg. It is to be placed in the custody of the Veteran Association of that battery. It is the intention of Battery B association to have a grand demonstration in its honor upon its arrival in Rhode Island in the course of a couple of months.

THE HOUSE Committee on Invalid Pensions to-day agreed to an amendment to section 1, of the pension act of March 3, 1873, to extend the time to the 4th day of July, 1876, for state militiamen to prosecute their claims to a successful issue; as they only had one year to file applications in and prosecute, which time the committee think is too short, owing to the necessary delay in procuring the record evidence from the War department, and also the fact that the cases have to wait long for examination by the Pension office.

THE HOWARD COURT OF INQUIRY yesterday examined Brigadier General Meigs, of the Court, Acting Commissary General Shiras and Adjutant General Townsend, the examination being chiefly conducted with regard to the regulations concerning disbursements and the laws thereon from the time General Howard became responsible.

The committee to-day continued its hearing of testimony regarding the regulations concerning the disbursements of public funds from the date of the act organizing the Freedmen's Bureau.

THE BRONZE STATUE OF GEN. SCOTT FOR THE SOLDIERS' HOME in this city, now on exhibition in Philadelphia, was modeled by Launt Thompson, and cast by Robert Wood. The Philadelphia *Ledger* says of it: "The statue is life size, and represents the general standing in an easy position, having one hand in the breast of his coat, while the other rests upon the hilt of his sword. He is attired in military uniform with a cloak thrown back from his shoulders, and hanging in graceful folds down his back. The pose of the figure is graceful and dignified, and the expression of the face is full of character and spirit."

SERVED HIM RIGHT.—The Washington correspondent of a Democratic paper in Michigan, who recently published a false accusation against a senator of the United States, to the effect that he had lately appeared in the Senate chamber in a beastly state of intoxication, and was taken by a fellow-senator to the room of the Committee on Finance, where he lay upon the sofa until the effects of his debauch had passed away, has been expelled from the Senate reporters' gallery; nor would it be at all amiss if some half a dozen, more or less, of his kidney were hereafter debarred the privileges of which, by their wholesale slanders and falsehoods, they have proved themselves unworthy.—*Pittsburg Commercial.*

A BILL TO REWARD INVENTORS.—Mr. Chipman introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday a bill, which was referred to the Committee on Patents, that $1,000,000 be appropriated to be paid to inventors or discoverers of new and useful arts, machines, manufacturers, or compositions of matter hereafter patented in the United States, in ten yearly installments of $100,000 each. The bill provides that the money be awarded in sums not less than $1,000 nor more than $10,000, to the most meritorious inventors or discoverers, by a board consisting of the Commissioner of Patents, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Chief Engineers of the Army and Navy, and the Surgeon General.

EXPLORATIONS IN COLORADO.—The expedition for geographical and geological explorations and surveys west of the hundredth meridian, of which parties under the charge of First Lieut. George M. Wheeler, corps of engineers, have been in the field for the years 1869, 1871, 1872 and 1873, will, as soon as final action shall be taken by Congress, resume field operations in the ensuing spring, in portions of Colorado, including the most elevated part of the interior of the continent. There are being attracted toward this section large numbers of prospectors, seeking the precious metals in the mining districts lately discovered and known as the San Juan district. This vicinity promises a rich and interesting field. The work upon the astronomical base will be resumed, and such astronomical parties as the appropriation will allow will be put into the field. From unexpended balances such other field parties as can be organized in view of the amounts available will also take the field prior to the 1st of July. The office force will, as usual, be kept in constant service.

THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE DISTRICT INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE DISCUSSED IN THE SENATE.—Mr. Thurman, in the Senate to-day, held that the right of appointment to the chairmanship of a joint committee of Congress was the right of the committee itself, and if precedent showed that other appointments had been recognized it was by courtesy alone. If in the appointment of Mr. Stewart the President *pro tem.* meant to appoint him chairman of only the Senate branch of the committee, it was an admission that the committee was not integrally one but two committees, and it gave rise to grave questions. If the committee was recognized as two committees, and not as one, they would needs have a chairman for each, and it would take a majority of each committee of itself to constitute a quorum; every vote would necessarily, to be binding, have to be a vote of the majority of each committee. In the original appointment of a committee it was the usual courtesy to allow the first named to act as chairman, and others to take rank in the order named in the appointment. The committee had selected a chairman with whom he thought the House, the Senate, and the country would be satisfied. He stated that he had, since the illness and declination of Mr. Boutwell, made up his mind, as soon as the committee was full, to decline to serve as chairman, for two reasons. One was because he did not wish to assume the great labor attached to it; and second, because he thought the position belonged by right to the dominant party; not because any political end was to be subserved, for, as far as he was concerned, no politics should be brought into it.

Mr. Stewart gave notice that he would decline to serve under the order assigning him to the committee.

Mr. Thurman moved that the chair appoint a member to fill the vacancy on the committee.

By a vote, the journal was amended so as to read that Mr. Stewart be appointed a member of the committee, instead of chairman thereof.

COL. S. C. RANSOM, of the quartermaster's department, U. S. army, at New Orleans, died at Jeffersonville, Ind., last night.

FROM Philp & Solomons we have a picture of Charles Sumner, issued by the New York *Graphic* company—a fair likeness.

THE CABINET SESSION to-day was brief, and not of unusual importance. All the members were present excepting the Postmaster General, who was represented by First Assistant Marshall.

PERSONAL.—The condition of Judge Dent remains unchanged. ....Admiral Porter, who has been quite sick for a day or two, is better ....Hon. Nathan Sargent was considerably better to-day, and his recovery is hoped for.

Gen. F. E. Spinner, U. S. Treasurer, has returned to Washington after an absence of two months, and, we are glad to say, looking in the full enjoyment of restored health and vigor. He was received at the Treasury to-day by his subordinates with expressions of welcome and congratulation.

KILBOURN & LATTA say that they are receiving sealed proposals for the removal of their safe filled with "private papers," weighing 18,000 pounds, (the safe, not the "papers," weighing that much, although they say their "private papers" are supposed to be very "hefty," and these do not include "their bank account with Riggs & Co.,") to the Capitol, for the special inspection of Columbus Alexander and other patriots of the "independent press."

HEARING FOR PATENT CASES BEFORE CONGRESS.—The House Committee on Patents have set the following times for the hearing of arguments in cases of applications for extension of certain important patents: Tuesday next, at 10:30 a. m., case of widow of H. W. Wells, patent for forming hat bodies; Tuesday next, 1 p. m., Wickersham wax thread sewing machine; also, Atwood car wheel, and on Saturday next, at 10:30 a. m., the Rollin White firearms case. The Aikens and Felthousen sewing machine case, an application for extension, was before the committee to-day, but no conclusion was reached. The committee to-day adopted a resolution that all applicants and remonstrants be notified by the clerk to put their cases in writing or printing, and that if this is not done in ten days the cases will be considered abandoned.

THE BILL FOR THE REDUCTION OF THE ARMY was finally perfected by the House Committee on Military Affairs to-day, and will be reported to the House to-day or to-morrow. It provides for the gradual reduction of the regular army to 25,000 enlisted men, and for the cutting off of one regiment each of cavalry and artillery, and five regiments of infantry before January 1, 1875, so as to leave the army composed of four regiments of artillery, nine of cavalry, and twenty of infantry. The reduction will be accomplished so far as possible by transfer and consolidation. The bill provides that no new commissions shall be given, or enlistments made prior to the date mentioned. It does not anticipate the muster out of any officer, but any officer resigning before January 1, 1875, will receive in addition to an honorable discharge one year's extra pay.

A MAMMOTH STEAMER.—The Pacific Mail Steamship company's new iron steamship, the "City of Peking," the largest vessel ever built in this or any other country with the exception of the Great Eastern, is to be launched at Chester, Pa., to-morrow at 1.30 p. m. An excursion train, with journalists and other invited guests, will leave the Baltimore and Potomac railroad depot, in this city, to-morrow morning, arriving at Chester at 12:30 p. m. Returning the train will leave Chester at 4 p. m., and arrive here at 8:30 p. m. The new steamer has been built exclusively of American material, and another of the same size is to be launched in thirty days, but no excursion train is contemplated for that. The "City of Peking" was to have been launched next Saturday, but for the convenience of invited guests from Washington, Wednesday (the only day when high tide is at midday) was fixed for the launching.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS.—The following, introduced by Mr. Cox, of New York, was passed in the House this morning:—Whereas the act of Congress approved July 15th, 1870, contained the following provision "That no advertisement, notice, or proposal for any executive department of the government or for any bureau thereof, or for any office therewith connected, shall be published in any newspaper whatever except in pursuance of a written authority for such publication from the head of such department, and no bill for any such advertisement or publication shall be paid unless there be presented with such bill a copy of the written authority aforesaid;" and whereas it is alleged that a bill or bills of advertising done in defiance of the provisions of the act of July 15th, 1870, is now pending before the accounting officers of the Treasury department: Therefore, *Be it resolved*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish the House with said bill or bills, and also copies of all correspondence on the subject.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED "CUTTING-DOWN" PROCESS IN THE DEPARTMENTS.—A number of the bureau officials in the various executive departments object strongly to the reduction in the clerical force contemplated by the Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill, now before the House of Representatives. In the Second Auditor's office alone, the reduction since October 1, 1868, has been 213, leaving now in the bureau 269 clerks, which, it is claimed, is the least number with which the current work can be performed, without serious detriment to the public service, and causing a large accumulation of work. The present bill, however, provides, as was mentioned in THE STAR some time since, for a further reduction of 84 clerks. During the late war the accumulation of public business required a large increase of clerical force in all the departments, and in 1868, in November, the Second and Third Auditors led off in reducing the force to correspond with the decrease of business. In that month, from the Second Auditor's were discharged about 80 clerks, again in April, 1869, about 50, and in the July succeeding 13 more; making in eight months 143, which number has been since reduced by leaving vacancies caused by resignation, death, and removals, unfilled, to the present number, 269, as above stated. These officials claim that a further reduction will be "pennywise," &c., because the force must be ultimately increased to clear away the accumulations.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER TO RUSSIA.—An American lady, in a late letter from St. Petersburg, speaking of the American legation in that city, says:

"The Americans residing here have reason to congratulate themselves upon the accession of Minister Jewell in their midst. In him we have a representative truly American. Upon the recurrence of two of our national holidays since his arrival, (Thanksgiving day and the 22d of February,) he has 'gathered the Americans under his tent,' as he expressed it, and celebrated both in a wonderfully charming manner. At the latter reception it was my good fortune to be present, and a most enjoyable occasion it was. Aside from the bright, genial face of Gov. Jewell, which makes one feel at home at once, he was ably assisted in doing the honors of his magnificent apartments by his most agreeable family. About fifty comprises the American colony here, none of whom were forgotten; all were there to celebrate the birthday of Washington, with as much or as little patriotism as they pleased. If they were not enthusiastic, it was not the fault of their patriotic host, who, in his happiest manner, while the toasts were being drank, 'expressed his happiness in having been born an American, and condoled with those gentlemen present who had not been so fortunate, but who had shown their good taste by doing the next best thing in marrying American wives.' Those gentlemen, among whom were the Portuguese Minister, the Count de Figantere, Baron Doimar, the Belgian Secretary of Legation, Capt. Etholen of the Russian navy, and others, all accepted the situation very gracefully, and good humor prevailed throughout.

"Truly, Gov. Jewell is just such a representative as our country should have abroad, and President Grant deserves the thanks of all Americans for having made such an appointment."

CAPTAIN BRADY, who, by the concurrent reports of all the passengers on board the steamship Pennsylvania, saved that vessel after the loss of her chief officers and brought her though in a damaged condition, into port, has refused a check of a thousand dollars voted him by the company, and has filed in the United States district court a claim for salvage.

☞ "Prayed out of town" are the words painted on the doors of Xenia, Ohio, saloons.

☞ In England justice is costly. The pursuit and prosecution of the Bank of England forgers cost $230,600.

THE DISTRICT INVESTIGATION.

Meeting of the Joint Committee Last Evening.

Senator Allison Elected Chairman.

At the session yesterday evening of the Joint Select Committee of Congress to inquire into the affairs of the District of Columbia—present Senators Thurman and Allison and Representatives Wilson, Hubble, Hamilton and Bass—Mr Wilson offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted:

"Whereas, Mr. Thurman has stated to the committee that he does not desire to continue to preside over it; and whereas Mr. Stewart has stated to the committee that he does not intend to act as a member of this committee under the appointment made by the President of the Senate on Friday last: Therefore, be it resolved, That the committee do now provide to appoint a chairman."

Mr. Wilson offered the following resolution, which was also adopted: "Resolved, That Senator Allison be, and he hereby is, appointed chairman of this committee."

Adjourned till this morning.

To day's Proceedings.

The committee resumed its session this morning, all the members were present, except Messrs. Stewart and Jewett.

Mr. Thurman stated that he had been instructed by the committee to announce the election of Senator Allison as chairman, who took his seat as presiding officer.

Senator Allison (at a quarter to 11 o'clock,) said the first business in order was the arguments with reference to the advisability of bringing before the committee private papers, and that the members were ready to hear them.

MR. SHELLABARGER'S ARGUMENT.

Mr. Shellabarger, counsel for the memorialists, said the question to be argued was one of great gravity and importance, but he doubted if it was one of great difficulty. It was a common law of Parliament that either house of that body had the highest prerogative, and it had been the practice of both houses, where principles of high public welfare were at stake, to produce private papers where matters of a public concern were under investigation; papers of every description. English law would sustain such a proceedure. He quoted Cushing's works to show the different methods of production of public and private papers, and said that papers were secured by an order of the body desiring them, and differed from the production of witnesses, inasmuch as the latter were summoned by subpœna. He further cited from the same work to show that the order ought to describe the papers, and give specific and definite designation. The order must be as specific as the nature of the case will admit of. By adopting the rule quoted the committee could not send out a drag net to bring in every kind of private papers, because they would be as specifically described as the nature of the case would admit of. The case under consideration was not one which brought into play the constitutional safeguard of taking papers by seizure, or without due process of law, &c. No search was proposed. He held that testimony as such shall be produced under well-known regulations and limitations of law, and said the difference between the proceedings in parliament and courts had been established for the good of public policy; that a witness before parliament was protected because no evidence adduced before it could be given by either house of parliament to be used against him at any other place, and that parliament has refused to furnish evidence thus procured, provided the witness testified truly; that when important evidence was required from a witness, Parliament usually passed an act to indemnify him from any consequences arising from the utterance. The common law of England was the law of Congress until the passage of an act of January 24th, 1857, which provided that any witness summoned before either house of Congress or committee thereof, who refused to testify, was liable to indictment; and that any witness testifying before either house of Congress, could not be arraigned before any court on evidence thus adduced; and that for any private paper produced he should not be answerable in any court in a criminal prosecution; that the witness was thus excused from all penal consequences or criminal prosecution. Mr. Shellabarger then gave a history of the passage of the law quoted, which was passed in order to protect a Congressman whom certain parties were trying to corrupt. The law passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 183 to 12. He then quoted from the Globe of the 34th Congress, to call the attention of the committee to the debate in Congress on the subject, pending the action of the House of Representatives prior to passing the law. He held that the citizen should have no secrets as against his government; if that were not the law, the consequences would impair good government.

Mr. Thurman (interrupting Mr. Shellabarger) called attention to the refusal of a witness to answer certain questions propounded by the kuklux committee; that a motion was made to arrest him for contempt, but that certain Senators held that the Senate had no right to arrest him, inasmuch as the committee was a joint one—in fact, a committee of each house.

Mr. Shellabarger said counsel had come to the conclusion, after consultation, that the House committee, to all intents and purposes, was a House committee, and the Senate a similar committee of the Senate. If the law he had cited does not apply to joint committees, it deprives the committee of all law which surrounds the committees of the two houses of Congress. "I think," said he, "though you act concurrently, that you are two committees, representing each house of Congress."

At ten minutes of 12 o'clock the committee took a recess until 2 p. m.

AFTER RECESS.

The committee reassembled at 2 o'clock, all the members present (including Senator Stewart) except Mr. Jewett.

Mr. Mattingly, one of the counsel for the District government, made the arguments in its behalf. He said they were not there to deny that if any paper which has a relevant bearing on the case was wanted that it should be furnished. In part he admitted some of the points of law laid down in the argument by the counsel for the memorialists. A drag net, however, is called for, and it demands an exercise of power worthy of a despotism, and shocks the sensibilities of any good citizen living under a free form of government. He describes the motion of the memorialists, as something akin to the old form of seizures and searches in England, which was finally discarded by that government. He quoted from Lord Camden to show that the private papers of an individual were among his most sacred rights. He quoted from a case in New York in 1840 where the recorder of that city had seized certain papers to prove a conspiracy in connection with the election frauds, and was rebuked by Gov. Seward, and not sustained by the Attorney General to whom the case was referred.

Mr. Mattingly was still speaking when our report closed at 3 p. m.

Card from M. Halstead.

To the Editor of The Washington Star:

In an editorial notice which appeared in THE STAR of the 12th inst., of a letter that I wrote to correct a misrepresentation too flagrant and gross to disregard, you say of me:

"But what he does not deny is the fact that he admitted under oath before a committee of the Ohio Legislature that it was his habit as an editor to charge fraud, corruption and bribery upon public men without any evidence to sustain his charges, and upon no other authority than the vaguest of rumors."

Allow me to call your attention to the following paragraph of the letter upon which you based your remarks:

"The effort was made in the course of my cross-examination, in which several Senators participated, to obtain from me an admission that I had published charges of corruption without testimony. *I emphatically and repeatedly declined to make the admission, pointedly declared that I had evidence that was entirely satisfactory to me, and decidedly told the committee that the history of legislation on the subject then considered proved the presence of pecuniary persuasion.*"

You cannot fail to see upon reading these lines that you have been in error and unjust. Mr. John Little, the attorney general of Ohio, was the author of the lottery bill, and he will tell you it never would have become a law if it had not been for my assaults and batteries upon those who were fighting it with money, and who had combined against it all the corrupt elements in the Legislature. The chairman of the committee whose censure was bestowed upon me for the warfare that I waged against those who were bribing legislators that they might swindle the people, caused the report to be added to the printed journal of the Senate, and suppressed the testimony. The reason for this action is not obscure. There was proof in the testimony that the report was false. I think you will concede that it would be unfair to refuse this mention of a mistake on your part a place in your columns. M. HALSTEAD.

Cincinnati, March 15, 1874.

☞ "Buffalo William" was robbed in Worcester, Mass., of his pocket book and diamond pin. The thieves got all his little bills.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

TUESDAY, March 17.

SENATE.—The Chaplain, in his opening prayer, alluded feelingly to the late Senator Sumner and his vacant chair.

Mr. Ferry (Mich.) said so many efforts had been made to show that money was plenty in New York, that the business men of that city were arousing themselves to show the perversions which had been made of the real facts. He held in his hand, and asked that it be referred to the Committee on Finance, a memorial signed by 400 leading business firms of New York, asking an increase in the volume of the currency.

The Chair presented resolutions in respect to the memory of the late Charles Sumner, adopted by the Union League of New York. Also joint resolutions and memorials of the Wisconsin legislature on various subjects.

Mr. Logan presented petitions from 200 large business men of New York, setting forth the alarm with which they view the efforts of the money lenders to prevent an increase of the currency, and urging upon Congress to provide for an increase.

Also, memorials in form of an increase of the currency from citizens of Illinois.

Mr. Windom presented sundry joint resolutions of the Minnesota legislature, which were appropriately referred.

Mr. Chandler presented a petition, signed, he said, by every class of citizens, and representing 95 per cent. of the whole business interests of the city, against currency inflation, and in favor of specie resumption. Referred to Finance Committee.

Mr. Pratt presented memorials of citizens of Washington asking relief from the operations of the District legislature relative to sewer improvements. Referred to Committee on District of Columbia.

Mr. Allison presented petition of citizens of Dapigne county, Iowa, in favor of specie resumption, and against inflation. Referred to Committee on Finance.

Mr. Hager presented joint resolutions of the California legislature, on sundry subjects; which were appropriately referred.

Sundry public bills were reported adversely from the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Cameron, from Committee on Foreign Relations, reported House bill to authorize the President to accept for citizens of the United States jurisdiction of certain tribunals in the Ottoman dominions and Egypt, established or to be established under the authority of the Sublime Porte and the government of Egypt. Passed.

Mr. Stevenson called up bill for the benefit of the Louisville and Bardstown turnpike company. Passed.

MR. STEWART DECLINES SERVICE ON THE DISTRICT INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Stewart said that on the 13th of March the President *pro tem.* had appointed him as chairman of the joint select committee on investigation of the District of Columbia. On examination of the matter he had found the authority of the chair to make this designation to be involved in some doubt. He had therefore declined to act on the committee, and he submitted the matter for the action of the Senate, as it involved the correction of the record.

Mr. Thurman said neither the Chair nor the Senate itself had the power to appoint the chairman of the Joint Committee, as it would be an invasion of the privileges of the House. He then dissented from the idea that even as two integral committees the presiding officer of the Senate had the power to appoint the chairman of the Senate Committee. Neither according to the usage of the Senate or parliamentary law had the chairman the right to appoint a chairman, unless the Senate specially deputized him to do it. When the Chair was authorized to appoint a committee it was only by custom and courtesy that the first on the list was accepted as chairman. It was in the power of the committee to elect its own chairman. This very committee had done this thing, and had elected the Senator from Iowa (Mr. Allison) as chairman. The Senate had the power to put Mr. Allison at the foot, but the Chair had not, and he denied that the Chair had the power to put Mr. Stewart or any other Senator at the head of the committee. He quoted from the action of the Senate on January 25, 1848, when it was decided that where a vacancy occurred the Vice President would only fill the vacancy, and not designate the chairman.

Mr. Stewart said he had declined to act at all under the appointment as he thought it was irregular.

The Chair. Does the Senator wish to be excused?

Mr. Stewart. Yes, under that form. He agreed with the Senator from Ohio, and though the Senate would do the same.

Mr. Thurman moved that the chair be instructed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Hamlin said that was all that was necessary. The committee had itself settled all the difficulty by electing its own chairman.

The Chair said the Senate need hardly be assured that he had no desire to usurp authority. He had appointed several Senators on the committee who had declined, and then he had appointed others. The opinion of the chair was that the power which the Senate possessed it had conferred upon the chair, and the Senate having the power to elect the chairman, the Chair supposed he had the power to appoint one, and that they met the same as committees of conference. The Chair would now be delighted to be directed by the Senate what to do.

After some further discussion the matter was settled by the adoption of a motion to correct the journal so as to show that Mr. Stewart was appointed as a member merely of the committee to fill the vacancy.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

Mr. Frelinghuysen said he desired to state in reference to the civil rights bill, which had been referred on his motion to the Judiciary Committee, and with the assurance from him that it would be reported back promptly; and he desired to say that the committee had spent two of its regular sessions on the bill, and two days when the Senate was not in session. The bill was now perfected and ready to be reported by a majority of the committee. As the author of the bill had now been taken away, he would not call it up until the chairman of the committee (Mr. Edmunds) should have returned, in order that he might participate in the debate.

Mr. Norwood presented a memorial from the legislature of Georgia, and a bill to refund that state for advances made during the Revolutionary war.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—Mr. Cox, (N. Y.) by unanimous consent, offered a resolution reciting the provisions of the act of July 16, 1860, prohibiting the publication of advertisements on account of any department of the government without the written authority of the head of such department, and that it is alleged that a bill or bills for advertising done in defiance of said act are now pending before the accounting officers of the Treasury department, and calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish the House with a copy of such bill or bills, with all correspondence upon the subject. Adopted.

Mr. Dunnell, (Minn.) from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill for the appointment of a commission to inquire into the destruction of forests, and the best method for the preservation of timber. Ordered to be printed and recommitted.

Mr. Stone, (Mo.,) from the Committee on Railways and Canals, reported a bill for the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi river. Referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Lowe, (Kansas,) from the Committee on Mines and Mining, reported a bill relating to placer mining in California.

The bill was advocated by Messrs. Lowe, (Kansas,) Page, (Cal.,) and Kendall, (Nev.,) and opposed by Messrs. Ward, (Ill.,) and Kasson, (Iowa,) after which it was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Kendall, (Nev.,) from the same committee, reported a bill to provide for a board of commissioners to devise a mode of obtaining water for agricultural and mining purposes. Referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Lowe also reported a bill relating to mineral lands in Missouri. Passed.

Mr. Page, (Cal.,) from the same committee, reported a Senate bill supplementary to the act of May 10, 1872, to provide for the development of the mineral resources of the United States, with an amendment.

Pending the discussion of the bill the morning hour expired, and the bill went over, the pending amendments having been ordered printed.

Mr. Myers, (Pa.,) from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported by unanimous consent a bill for the relief of the officers and crew of the U. S. steamer Wyoming; which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Private Calendar.

Mr. Rice (Ill.) introduced a bill to secure the unobstructed navigation of the Potomac river, and moved its reference to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. Negley (Pa.) advocated its reference to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Rice said the subject had been fully considered by the District Committee and a report prepared; but, after some further discussion, consented to its reference to the Committee on Commerce, with the understanding that it be reported back in time to be acted upon on Friday.

A struggle arose between Mr. Starkweather (Conn.) in behalf of the Committee on Appropriations, and Mr. McCrary (Iowa) as to the consideration of their respective bills—the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill, and the transportation bill.

The House, by a vote of 78 to 77, decided to go into Committee of the Whole on the legislative appropriation bill. Before going into committee, on motion of Mr. McCrary, it was ordered that there be a session to-night for debate on the transportation bill.

An Appeal for a Monument to Senator Sumner.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:—While today the earthly remains of Charles Sumner mingle with the dust of his beloved commonwealth, Massachusetts, and his broad, pure soul has gone to his God, the spirit of the man finds a welcome resting-place in the hearts of his countrymen, and the lovers of liberty everywhere, of whatever clime or creed, will regard his loss as an irreparable misfortune.

The memory of such a consistent and true friend of the enslaved and oppressed should not alone be embalmed in the living and in history, but a tangible evidence of our appreciation of his great worth should arise forthwith in our very midst, to teach forever a lesson every one should know, that the noble defender of the rights of man fought his battle here for the whole human race, and triumphed gloriously.

We are aware that as a people we are not much given to erecting monuments to perpetuate the memory of the national dead, but this is decidedly an exceptional case, and we propose that the masses of our people, both white and colored, take the matter in hand as a free-will tribute of gratitude and of love, and, by dime subscriptions only, erect a monument worthy of the man and his works. Let the same rule be adopted as obtained among the Israelites of old when contributing to the support of the Tabernacle: "The rich shall not give more and the poor shall not give less," and we propose that the following gentlemen be designated as the "Sumner Monument Executive Committee" and custodians of the fund: Senator Carpenter, acting President of the Senate; Hon. Mr. Blaine, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Frederick Douglass, sr., Major Ben Perley Poore, and Governor A. R. Shepherd; and further, that Congress be requested to select a government reservation in a suitable locality in the city of Washington, to be called "Sumner Square," upon which to erect the proposed monument. We request the press of the country to spread the substance of this appeal before their readers, and let an organized effort of the people be put forth everywhere and at once to achieve a success which will be an honor to themselves and a credit to the nation.

Enclosed is one dollar for ten subscriptions.
SEMI-OCCASIONAL.
Washington, D. C., March 16th, 1874.

The Sumner Obsequies in Boston.

The obsequies of Senator Sumner took place at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in King's chapel, Boston. The remains were conveyed from Doric hall in a hearse drawn by four black horses, escorted by a force of mounted state constables, followed by a procession of the Executive and Legislative authorities, the Congressional committee and delegation of United States officials, municipal authorities, and other bodies. The pall-bearers were ex-Governor Clifford, ex-Governor Bullock, ex-Governor Claflin, ex-Governor Washburne, ex-Chief Justice Bigelow, Hon. N. P. Banks, Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, Hon. Charles Francis Adams, John G. Whittier, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. As the casket was borne from the hall down the steps Baldwin's band played the dead march in "Saul." The procession passed directly down Beacon street between masses of people, which it required the vigilant exertions of a large police force to prevent from encroaching upon the street. Preceding the Mayor were four men who bore a massive cross, nine feet in height, composed of calla lilies, camelias, lilies of the valley, violets, and other choice ex