The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 24, 1852. WHEELING, WEST VA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1877. VOLUME XXV--NUMBER 117.

The Intelligencer.

Gold 105 3-4.

And still gold goes down. It touched 105¾ yesterday. The political situation has no terrors for the bullionists of Wall street. They evidently expect Hayes to be peaceably inaugurated. Even the New Orleans news of yesterday barely kept the price up to the opening quotation. The importation of $25,000,000 of coin is too heavy a load for the bulls in gold to carry. A few days before the Presidential election the price went up to 113, but since then it has been sinking gradually down. The paper dollar has now advanced to 94 cents in gold.

The Bennett-May Duel.

It seems quite certain from our news this morning that a duel actually took place, and not in Canada either, between Bennett and May, and that May did not fare so well as in the horsewhipping attack. In other words, he got shot: how seriously does not appear at this writing. The laws of New York are very severe against dueling, and hence all parties privy to this affair are obliged in self-defense to keep their mouths shut. But gradually, no doubt, the facts will leak out, for such things cannot be kept, especially if May should happen not to be very seriously wounded. Speaking of May, the New York *Graphic* of Monday evening thus alludes to the trouble between Bennett and the young lady to whom he was engaged:

The gossips to-day are still arguing about the nature of the action of Mr. Bennett which provoked the assault. In general, however, the causes of grievance are well understood, and are not in dispute. The attentions of Mr. Bennett to Miss May began in 1875. Not long afterwards it was rumored in society that they were engaged. Last May a date was actually fixed for their marriage. Suddenly Mr. Bennett went on a prolonged spree. At these times he is not at all himself and often commits acts of which he is more heartily ashamed when he recovers than any one else can possibly be. The marriage was postponed. Mr. Bennett, overcome with remorse, made such protestations as he could, and was successful in reinstating himself in his former position as an accepted suitor. This winter the *trousseau* arrived from Paris, and it is said the duty demanded on it in the Custom House was $9,000. December 27 was set as the wedding day. The marriage was to be very quiet. On the evening of December 26 Mr. Bennett had again lost control of himself.

He visited Dr. May's house, where his condition was at once apparent. To his evident unfitness to take part in a marriage ceremony on the following morning, it is alleged, there was added conduct that was specially aggravating and insulting. When he left, the ladies were in tears. This conduct on his last visit it was that resulted in the assault on him by Mr. Frederick May.

P. S. Since the above was in type we have received a dispatch saying that no ither May nor Bennett were the worse for their duel. Three shots were fired and no body hurt.

Meeting of the Legislature.

The two houses of the West Virginia Legislature will meet at noon to-day in their respective chambers in the new Capitol building. They will be called to order by the old clerks of last session. These two officers are empowered to preside until a President and Speaker are chosen. The clerk of the old Senate is Mr. Joseph S. Miller, the present Auditor elect, and the clerk of the House is Col. J. B. Peyton. There will be no difficulty, we presume, in effecting a speedy organization of the two branches as the House caucus made its nominations last night and the Senate caucus will do so this morning at 10 o'clock. The Democrats have the whole thing in their own hands and whoever they name in the caucus will of course be chosen in open session.

There is great competition among outsiders for the subordinate positions under the two houses, and the cards of the numerous aspirants were flying around like snow flakes all day yesterday. We presume that several score of hungry expectants will be left out in the cold by the time all the pages are appointed and all the various committees organized. Query; Are the pages and committee clerks to be voted mileage again this year? If so, it would be well to elect candidates close at hand. The party of economy should commence making good some of their campaign speeches in favor of "retrenchment and reform.

The present session promises to be unusually exciting. It will be equal to a show to see the buttonholing that is bound to be done during the next few weeks. The aspirants for the U. S. Senatorships and their friends have an active canvass before them. They are at it already. The contest will be under full headway about the close of this week. Faulkner and Walker are now on the ground and no doubt Hereford and Davis will be here in a day or two.

The Capital question is to be, without doubt, prominently mixed up in this Senatorial strife. The Third district wants a Senatorship, and Charleston wants the Capitol back again. The Second District expects a Senatorship but is not exercised on the subject of the Capitol. The First District is neutral, comparatively speaking, on the Senatorial question, although, of course, the Hon. J. N. Camden and the Hon. G. D. Camden both have their friends, as also have the other aspirants. We do not, however, expect to see a Senator elected from this District this term. The District has already in times past, in Republican days, enjoyed two full terms, and having now the Capitol is naturally expected to stand back and let the other two Districts have free course to run and be glorified.

The Democrats have 19 members of the Senate and the Republicans 5. In the House the former have 49 members and the latter 17. It will thus be seen that the Republicans are not likely to exercise any great amount of control over the Democracy on any party question like the election of Senators. They might, however, by some unforseen chance, hold the balance of power, and thus be able to help a disaffected minority of the Democrats elect a moderate Democrat to the U. S. Senate. This contingency, however, does not loom up very strong at this time. We presume that they will be compelled to take their choice from among the Bourbons who are already prominent as candidates. We trust, nevertheless, that they will hold their fire until they see a chance to use it to the best advantage.

Putting politics aside, we are glad to see the honorable members of the West Virginia Legislature among us. We welcome them to the city and to the new Capitol building. We trust that they will be pleased with their surroundings in every particular—so well pleased, in fact, as to be willing to return among us for many years to come.

To the Members of the Mardi Gras Society.

GENTLEMEN: I present a subject worthy of your attention in this article. Endowed with youth and health, moving in scenes of mirth, seldom do you come in contact with their contrasts—sickness and sorrow. Many of your hearts are easily reached and nobly do you respond with your money when privation which you can relieve is brought to your notice. I have heard the expenses of last Mardi Gras estimated at between five hundred and six hundred dollars. That was the cost of one day's merriment. Would you be willing to forego the pleasure of this day, and to devote its money value to the alleviation of suffering among our poor citizens? I have seen one woman, unable from rheumatism to lift her hands to her head, with scarcely enough wearing apparel or bedding to keep her from freezing. Another sick woman was found with no food, and but a thin dress and scant quilt for covering. Also little children kept in doors all day long because barefooted. These and many objects which cannot be pictured with the pen would plead for this bestowal of your spare money, could they be brought before you.

A LADY WHO GRIEVES OVER SUFFERING SHE HAS NOT THE POWER TO RELIEVE.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, January 9.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from Wm. R. Morrison, Chairman of the Committee on Louisiana Affairs, relative to the refusal of Wm. Orton, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, to appear before the committee.

ORTON TO BE ARRESTED.

A resolution requiring the arrest of Mr. Orton was passed.

Extracts from the proceedings of the New Orleans Investigating Committee, in the case of the members of the Louisiana Returning Board, were submitted, and the matter referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Watterson to regulate commerce between the States.

Mr. White (of Kentucky) asked leave to offer a resolution reciting that fears are entertained lest there shall not be a peaceful settlement of the Presidential question, and declaring that any attempt to prejudice and excite the public mind in advance of the decision by the authority provided by the Constitution is unwise, unpatriotic and full of danger, and that it is the duty of all good citizens to peacefully and faithfully abide by the results reached in accordance with the Constitution.

Mr. O'Brien (of Maryland) objected.

Mr. Schleicher offered a resolution calling on the President for copies of papers in possession of the State and War Departments relative to the imprisonment of John J. Smith, an American citizen, by Mexicans, and also as to the wounding and robbing by Mexican soldiers of Samuel Higgins. Adopted.

Mr. Durham, from the Committee on Revision of Laws, reported back Senate bill to correct the statute to punish counterfeiting so as to require the intent to be shown. Passed.

Mr. O'Brien, from the Committee on Mines, reported back the Senate joint resolution to authorize the President to appoint three commissioners to attend an international conference on the subject of the relative values of gold and silver, with an amendment authorizing the President to propose such a conference to the foreign governments.

The morning hour expired, and the joint resolution went over.

Mr. Regan, from the Committee on Commerce reported back the bill repealing so much of the Act of the 17th of December, 1872, as provides for a pivot draw in any bridge to be erected over the Ohio river between Covington and Cincinnati.

After a discussion, Mr. Regan in favor of the bill and Messrs. Kehr and Sayler against it, the matter went over and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

By a unanimous vote and without debate the House bill to abolish the Board of Commissioners of the metropolitan police, of the District of Columbia, and to transfer its duties to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. Passed.

A resolution ordering the arrest of Enos Runyon, of the firm of Martin & Runyon, bankers, of New York, and recusant witness in the Oregon electoral investigation. Passed.

Consideration was resumed of the resolutions submitted by Wallace yesterday, in regard to the count of the electoral vote, and Sherman spoke at length in regard to Louisiana, claiming that the evidence before the Returning Board in that State justified the Board in throwing out the returns from certain polling places on account of violence and intimidation which prevailed.

The Steamship Collision.

BOSTON, January 9.—Captain Winter, of the steamer Montgomery, which sunk in a collision with the steamer Seminole, says the officers and men of the latter did all possible to avoid the collision. It was owing to a thick fog that the Montgomery people made a mistake in identifying the Seminole as a schooner, and when the error was discovered it was too late to make amends.

Captain Mathews, of the Seminole, states that if the Montgomery had ported her wheel instead of putting it starboard and kept her course, the disaster would not have occurred. At the time of the accident several of the Montgomery's crew got on board of the Seminole, and after separating the Montgomery sunk in a few moments. The boats were got out to the rescue. One of the Montgomery boats came along with seven or eight persons in it, and the Seminole's boat returned with only three in it. It then searched for the other men, but could find no one. The Seminole, part of the time, had five steam pumps going to keep her clear of water.

Marine Intelligence.

NEW YORK, January 9.—The steamship Denmark, from London, has arrived.

BOSTON, January 9.—The steamer Polynesian, from Liverpool, has arrived.

LONDON, January 9.—The steamers Labrador and Victoria, from New York, have arrived.

BY TELEGRAPH.

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER.

SITUATION IN LOUISIANA.

Packard's Legislature in a State of Siege.

Nicholl's Militia Parading the Streets.

The President to Gen. Augur.

THE MAY-BENNETT DUEL.

May Wounded in the Breast.

The Statement of an Eye Witness.

An Exciting Day Yesterday.

NEW ORLEANS, January 9,—9 A. M.—A number of the White League which have been mustered in by the Nicholls Government as militia, are assembling with arms at Lafayette Square, with the avowed purpose of maintaining the superior court abolished by the Kellogg Government.

10:30 A. M.—Armed men are hurrying through the streets to Lafayette Square, where they report to the Sheriff, who will it is said move them at 11 o'clock to the Supreme Court building and endeavor to take possession of it. Chief Justice Ludeling is there on the bench, and Capt. Gray of the Metropolitan police, with a strong force is in possession of the building. It is stated that the Chief Justice will remove the present Sheriff, if he attempts to take the building by force, and appoint another Sheriff.

Governor Packard is at the State House, and has telegraphed to President Grant asking for assistance. While the men under arms disavow any intention of provoking a collision, a drunken man or an accidental shot may bring on a riot.

Governor Nicholls is at St. Patrick's Hall.

At 11 A. M. armed bodies of men are moving in different directions; from Lafayette Square, about five hundred are passing down St. Charles street supposed to be moving for the Supreme Court. Others are marching South and West.

At 11:45 A. M., a demand was made for the third precinct station house, in the Supreme Court building, and was refused.

About 10,000 persons are assembled around Jackson square, and the excitement is intense. A large body of armed men are on the levee side of the square.

Gov. Packard reports that the Metropolitan telegraph wires are cut, and he has established communication with United States Marshal Pitkin, at the Custom House, by means of the United States signal corps.

The Metropolitans at the State House are being armed with Springfield rifles. The shops in the French quarters are all shut. The United States troops are at the Orleans Hotel, two blocks away, watching the crowd, but are not under arms.

[LATER.]

It is just reported here that the first and third police stations have surrendered to the Democrats.

At 11:50 A. M., Nicholls' militia took posession of the Supreme Court building and installed their judges. All of the police stations are in possession of Nicholls' government. Not a gun was fired.

The *Picayune* extra, issued at noon, says of the assembling of armed bodies this morning, few were aware that legal State militia had been organized and armed for the execution of the orders of the Governor, and that these men on the streets were there in obedience to a call as the State militia. General Ogden was in command and was assisted by Gens. Beham and Vandrey. Col. D. B. Paun was in control of the adjutant General's department. In various parts of the city the militia assembled, artillery being organized at the St. Mary market. They had two field pieces and at 11 o'clock they proposed to move to Lafayette Square. The purpose of this movement was to see that the legal Supreme Court should be permitted to take its seat. It was a notorious fact, revealed by a military commander on the Republican side, that the court would not be allowed to sit, and the militia was called out to see that nobody or power should interfere with it. It is the intention of the officers under the orders of the commander-in-chief to hand the court over to the legal justices, and on this the issue is made.

At 12 o'clock it was appointed by the militia to march to Jackson square. This place is defended by two or three hundred policemen and battery of seven guns. The State House is defended, or I think it is, by about twelve hundred men, mostly negroes. A new police force is being thoroughly organized.

A reporter has this evening visited the headquarters of Gen. Augur and ascertained that all officers and men were in strict orders prepared to take the streets in a moment. To inquiry as to what was the character of the part he ment to take in the political drama now enacting, Gen. Augur replied that his instructions and intentions were to keep the peace. The reporter suggested that Gov. Mitchell was prepared and determined to do this without the aid of the United States troops. To which Gen. Augur replied, I hope he will. He said that in the event of a conflict on the streets of any serious character, he would intervene.

IN POSSESSION.

12 M.—Nicholls' government are in possession of everything except the State House. As yet no efforts have been made to take possession of the building, around which thousands of unarmed citizens are congregated, blocking up the streets for squares and rendering it impossible to reach it. A force of about 3,000 of Nicholls' militia are under arms on the levee, and it is reported that a demand for the surrender of the State House will be made this afternoon, and, as the Republicans are in hopeless minority it is hardly possible that an armed resistance will be made. The force under Governor Packard there will not exceed 300. The commander of the U. S. sloop Ossipee has established a signal station on the Custom House, in order to communicate with the officials there.

United States Marshal Pitkin is in constant communication with the officials at Washington, giving every phase of the situation.

Chief Justice Ludeling this morning issued an order removing civil Sheriff Handy, and appointed Alfred Brurges to that position. Handy was acting under the orders of Nicholls. Not a shot or an accident is reported up to this hour. Great crowds are assembled on Canal, Camp and other principal streets.

It is reported that two regiments from Mississippi and one from Alabama are with Ogden.

2:15 P. M.—There is no important change in the situation. Ogden's militia are massed within the square of the State House, which has been reinforced by 100 colored militia. Gov. Packard asserts that he will resist any attack made upon it. The signal corps on top of the State House are constantly signaling the Custom House.

Nicholl's Supreme Court, after spreading their commissions on record and appointing Alfred Roman as clerk, adjourned until Wednesday.

2:40 P. M.—The Democratic leaders now assert that they have no intention of attacking the State House. The following has just been issued:

PROCLAMATION.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, NEW ORLEANS, January 9, 1877.

To the People of Louisiana:

I would be most profoundly surprised and disappointed should any citizen of Louisiana at this moment, so far forget himself as to be guilty of any excesses whatsoever. There is danger in collecting together in large bodies. I urge you therefore to retire at once peacefully to your homes. The greater the wrongs to which you have been subjected, the greater to your credit should you recognize and recollect your own simple and plain duty as citizens, let no one be injured, however obnoxious he may be, and let the people of the whole country see that we are law abiding, just and moderate.

[Signed] FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS, *Governor of Louisiana.*

Eleventh dispatch, 3 P. M.—About 2:30 P. M., some one in the crowd on St. Louis street, fired two shots into the Auditor's office, in the lower part of the State House, and three shots were fired from within, which caused great excitement, but no one was hurt however. Soon after Major Ed. Austin, drove up in a carriage and read Governor Nicholls' proclamation to the crowd; some left but a large portion remained. At this writing Nicholls' Chief of Police, Baylan, is trying to disperse the crowd.

NICHOLL'S MILITIA.

About 6 o'clock this evening Nicholl's militia, about 5,000 strong, had a review on St. Charles street, opposite Lafayette square. As they marched through the street they were cheered by men and ladies who thronged the galleries and waved their handkerchiefs. They were principally armed with Springfield rifles, with bayonets and cartridge boxes, though some were armed with carbines, shot-guns and old muskets. They marched in a manner that showed that they were familiar with the school of their company. After review the companies were detailed for duty and marched off to different points. Some are patrolling the city to-night, but the most of them were disbanded for the night. All ages from 16 to 60 are represented in the militia, and all nations except Africa are represented. As they passed the Custom House this morning, on their march to Jackson Square, the windows on old Levee street were filled with United States soldiers. The militia brought their guns to a carry arms and gave three cheers, which were responded to by the soldiers. At 9 o'clock to-night an agent of the Associated Press attempted to enter the State House to interview Governor Packard, but was halted by Nicholls' police and refused admission.

PACKARD BESIEGED IN THE STATE HOUSE.

Gov. Packard and the Legislature are in the State House but the new police refused to allow provisions to be carried inside, and Governor Packard and the legislature are in a state of siege.

The Republican legislature had no quorum in either branch to-day as some of the members were outside and asserted that they were afraid to risk their lives inside, consequently no action was taken towardthe election of U. S. Senators.

All kinds of sensational rumors are afloat to-night. Notably one that the State House is to be attacked.

A prominent Democrat stated that the plan of the Democrats was to have the Supreme Court enjoin Packard from usurping the functions of the government and in the event of his refusing to have him arrested for contempt.

Nothing was done by the House Committee to day, beyond continuing the examination of Col. Zacharie, in regard to the action of the Returning Board.

At 10 o'clock to-night all is quiet. Nicholls' government has a strong police force throughout the city.

Probable Contest of Vanderbilt's Will.

NEW YORK, January 9.-Already there is talk of a contest of the will. One of the legatees said yesterday, the relations outside of Wm. H. Vanderbilt's family would never let it stand as it is in peace, unless Wm. H. should avoid all cause of dispute by giving his less fortunate claimants a liberal share in the immense wealth left by the Commodore. The fight would be made by, or for Commodore's daughters and his son Cornelius and Jeremiah, whose legacies even were pittances as compared with the immense sums bequeathed to Wm. H. Vanderbilt and sons. Even if the attempt to break the will failed, probably it would be kept in the courts for years, and an injunction might be served on Wm. H. Vanderbilt to prevent him acting as President of the New York Central Railroad.

Railroad Meeting.

ST. LOUIS, January 9.—The annual meeting of the St. Louis Vandalia & Terre Haute Railroad Co., was held at Greenville, Ills., to-day, the following board of directors were elected: Thos. D. Scott, T. T. Messler, W. K. Edwards, Robt. L. Dunlevy, A. G. Henry, W. S. Smith, Otto Broadback, J. S. Pers. The Board organized by electing T. T. Messler, President; W. A. Barnes, Treasurer; Wm. S. Plant, Secretary.

Democratic Meetings in Oregon.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 9.—A Portland, Oregon, press dispatch says: The Democrats held a mass meeting last night, in accordance with the call of the National Committee. The speeches and resolutions were moderate in tone. Similar meetings were held throughout the State. The Democrats exhibit a firm disposition to secure the inauguration of Tilden.

Henry H. Boody vs. Samuel J. Tilden.

NEW YORK, January 9.—In the special term of the Superior Court to-day Judge Speer granted an order returnable Jan. 12, to show cause why default, by which judgment was entered for plaintiff in the suit of Henry H. Boody vs. Samuel J. Tilden, should not be opened.

Bottom Up.

RUTLAND, VT., January 9.—A mail train from Boston, on the Rutland road, was thrown from the track by a broken rail. The passenger car went down the embankment, turning bottom upwards. The passengers were severely cut, and some fatally injured.

Heavy Snow Storm.

OMAHA, January 9.—A heavy snow storm is reported West. It has been snowing here off and on all day. There is about three inches of snow on the ground and still falling.

Elected Senator.

NASHVILLE, January 9.—Ex-Gov. Isham G. Harris was to-day elected U. S. Senator on the first ballot, for the long term, to succeed Hon. Henry Cooper, whose term expires March 4th.

Silent as the Grave.

NEW YORK, January 9.—The New York *Herald* is as silent upon the duel as it was dumb about the difficulty which made the duel necessary.

WASHINGTON.

Oregon Electors.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 9.—The investigation of the Oregon electoral case was continued to-day. Mr. Klippell, one of the Democratic candidates for elector, testified that he had a pistol in his pocket on the day of the meeting of the electoral college, but did not know there was another armed man about the Capitol; money was collected by Mr. Bollinger to pay Cronin's expenses and to pay the fees of the lawyers who argued against issuing a certificate of election to Watts at the hearing before Gov. Grover.

Other witnesses were called, apparently to confirm or contradict the statements of previous witnesses.

APPROPRIATION BILLS.

The sub-committee on appropriations has completed the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill. The internal revenue districts have been reduced to 105, requiring some of the present districts to be consolidated.

THE CABINET IN SESSION.

The Cabinet is in session. Dispatches from General Augur, at New Orleans, to the Secretary of War have been submitted. They report considerable commotion in that city. A telegram from Gov. Packard is also before the Cabinet.

The Cabinet session to-day was continued for nearly three hours. There was much conversation about political affairs generally, but especially with regard to the condition of those in New Orleans, as various telegrams had been received from that city expressive of fears of violation of the public peace, owing to the two State organizations, and consequent excitement of the acts of the respective parties. The following dispatch was sent to Gen. Augur immediately after the adjournment of the Cabinet, by direction of the President, and which indicates the purposes of the Government as expressed by the President in recent interviews.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 9, 1877.

To Gen. C. C. Augur, New Orleans, La.:

A dispatch just received from the United States Marshal at New Orleans indicates that unauthorized armed bodies of men are organized and assembling in a manner to threaten the peace of the city. If this be so, notify the leaders of such organization that they must desist, on pain of coming in conflict with the United States authority, sustained by the military power of the Government. Report at once the situation and your action, keeping in mind the fact that this order has no reference to the recognition of either of the claimants for the Governorship or either Legislature.

[Signed] J. D. CAMERON, *Secretary of War.*

A STATEMENT WITHOUT TRUTH.

Representatives Dunnell, of Minnesota, and Woodburne, of Nevada, say that there is no truth whatever in the published statement that they have agreed to unite with the Democratic members of the Investigating Committee, in a report that Florida was carried by the Democratic Presidential electors. They say no member of the committee has as yet heard or seen the report of it, as it has been taken by the Sub-Committee, and not yet transcribed from the stenographers notes. They Dunnell and Woodburne believe that the State was fairly carried by Hayes and Wheeler.

NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED.

The Senate in executive session to-day confirmed the following naval nominations: Commodore Edward Donaldson, Geo. H. Preble and Edward Middleton, to be rear admirals.

FOREIGN AFFAIES.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs took up the case of Venezuelan claims and heard the testimony of Wm. Henry White, of Piedmont, New York, who was agent or attorney for the prosecuting of what is known as the Idler claim, on which certificates to the amount of $250,000 were issued. The testimony was designed to contradict the assumption that there has been improper conduct on the part of Mr. Talmage, Commissioner, or Mr. Stillwell, United States Minister to Venezuela, in regard to that claim. White said he had never spoke to, or corresponded with either of them on the subject, and neither of them had ever received the slightest consideration in connection with it. Talmage had withdrawn the certificate under the power of the attorney, sent to him for that purpose and had handed them all over to the parties in interest. The witness furnished the documentary evidence of the validity of the Idler claim.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT.

The following is the conclusion of the annual report of Attorney-General Taft, communicated to Congress to-day:

The state of the country, in anticipation of the recent Presidential election, has thrown upon the National Government an unusual responsibility. Evidence which could not be discredited came to the President and to the Department of Justice showing that intimidation and violence prevailed in several States to such an extent as to prevent freedom of opinion, and that in South Carolina unlawful military companies known as rifle clubs were organized, and that they rode through the country armed, doing violence to peaceful people and menacing good citizens who differed with them in political opinion.

I communicated to the marshals of those districts which seemed in special danger from intimidation or fraud, the instructions enclosed. These are stringent in character and designed to secure voters in the exercise of their rights. The interest which the people have in the purity of the ballot for Federal officers to be elected by the popular vote, and the acts of Congress intended to guard the ballots for Congressional candidates from fraud, justified and required these instructions. Such were the demonstrations of domestic violence in South Carolina a few weeks before the the election, so defiant and uncontrollable by the civil powef, that the Governor of that State applied under the Constitution to the President, stating that he was unable to suppress the domestic violence that existed in the State; that armed organizations contrary to law, known as "rifle clubs," continually roamed over the country doing violence, and that they were altogether beyond his control. The breaking up of the peace of the State and the terrifying of the citizens, the declaration of the Governor, supported by ample evidence from other sources left the President no choice but to comply with his Constitutional demand, by issuing an appropriate proclamation and by ordering to that State such a military force as seemed to be necessary and was within his control. The troops were not intended to interfere and did not interfere with any citizen's right to vote, but on the contrary their endeavor was to make it safe for citizens to vote according to their political opinions. There is no authentic evidence that any man has been deprived of his right to vote or of his freedom of opinion by the presence of a small military force in South Carolina.

The spirit of insurrection in South Carolina and in some other States in which colored voters are numerous seemed to be founded on the idea that the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution, prohibiting the deprivation of citizens of their right to vote on account of race or previous condition of servitude, was a blunder and that the people of the South were not bound to recognize it. But such pretensions, in view of history and under present circumstances of the country, are unreasonable. It became obvious that freedom and civil rights of the colored citizens of those States could not be otherwise protected at the time of the adoption of this amendment the political power of those states was increased to the extent of two-fifths by the colored population. In other words by more than twenty electoral and more than fifty congressional votes, so that but for the 15th amendment, the party with which these states have generally affiliated, would have been in a decided miniority in the late election, instead of approaching as it did equity with the Republican vote. To allow the southern states the increased political powers, implied by extending the right of suffrage to the colored people and then to allow the exercise of that right to be prevented by intimidation and otherwise, is a *perversion of the Constitution*, and operates most unjustly towards other States. Without denying the inconvenience of having a large population of unintelligent voters, it is enough to say that the colored citizens have under the Constitution a clear title to the ballot, of which I know no fair or even practicable way to deprive them. It is the duty of those who are more intelligent to aid in putting into operation a system of popular education which shall reach every class in every State. The universal education of the voting people, both white and colored, is essential to the safety of our Republican government. No time should be lost in furnishing ample opportunity to every American citizen of whatever complexion, race or condition to acquire sufficient mental and physical training to vote and fight with intelligence.

Very Resp'y your obd't servant,
ALPHONSO TAFT,
Attorney General.

The Bennett-May Duel.

DOVER, DEL., January 9.—Bennett and party (four persons) chartered a special train and went from Clayton, Del., to Philadelphia last night, while May and party (three persons) came here in a carriage from Slaughter's Station, stopped at Ford's Hotel for the night, and took the early train for Philadelphia.

WILMINGTON, DEL., January 9.—May and friends arrived here this morning, bound north. Although May is said to be wounded in the body, he does not show it.

NEW YORK, January 9.—The latest concerning the Bennett-May duel is this: The principals, seconds and surgeons were in Baltimore night before last, and at 10 o'clock took the northward bound train. Bennett and party drove into the woods near the place of meeting at Slaughter's Station in sleighs, and upon reaching the spot where the Rowland-Cowles duel had been fought Mr. Bennett and his friends found Mr. May and his party on the ground, Mr. May walking briskly to keep warm. Mr. Bennett stood facing the light and Mr. May quickly assumed his position, when given the word of preparation by the seconds. At 2:08 the word of command was sounded, and the word fire; one, two three. Mr. May fired at the word one, Mr. Bennett after the word two, and both were apparently uninjured. Mr. May was found after a moment to have been hit and his seconds conveyed him to a sleigh, where it was found his wound would prevent another exchange of shots, which had been demanded by Bennett. Mr. Bennett left Philadelphia this morning and is now in the city.

THREE SHOTS AND NOBODY HURT.

PHILADELPHIA, January 9.—The meeting between Bennett and May occurred one mile from Marydell, Md., at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The party carried blankets, overcoats, two cases of pistols and surgical instruments. They represented themselves as railroad officials, May saying he was a director of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Bennett giving his name as Daniel Drew, of New York, saying his mission was the purchase of the Maryland & Delaware Railroad. They had with them also maps of the Peninsula and to several parties they represented themselves as hunters on a gunning expedition and such was the privacy of the whole affair that these statements were believed in the neighborhood. Mr. Bennett's face showed a scar which was much swollen probably by cold. The scene of the meeting was a short distance from the line of the Maryland & Delaware railroad. Three shots were fired without injury to either of the principals, after which the entire party left the grounds. The parties returned to Marydell separately. The Bennett party then secured conveyance to Clayton, Mr. Bennett himself appearing nervous and depressed, and subsequently took a special train for Wilmington and Philadelphia. The May party went to Slaughter's Station, thence to Dover, and from there to Philadelphia in this morning's train. A Mr. Tilgham was with May, but the names of the others present at the duel have not been ascertained. The party paid liberally for all services rendered them, and also for silence. It is believed that both men are satisfied, and that there will not be another hostile meeting. Bennett and his friends will leave for New York at midnight.

POSITIVELY UNHURT.

BALTIMARE, January 9.—The friends of Fred May received a dispatch this evening stating positively that he was unhurt.

SHOT IN THE SHOULDER.

NEW YORK, January 9.—In the recent duel May was wounded in the right breast near the shoulder joint. The seconds were men residing in other States than New York. Bennett will probably sail for Europe to-morrow, or at the latest on Saturday. May has gone to Washington with his friends and will remain there till his wound heals. Bennett arrived here this evening and went at once to his home.

May's wound is not dangerous, and he was able to telegraph his family, "I am well enough yet, and can write." The May family admitted to receiving a dispatch from their boy stating he was slightly wounded, but beyond that they vouchsafed no information.

BY AN EYE WITNESS.

A special to the *Times* from Marydell, Md., gives the following account by an eye witness of the duel: A neighboring farmer who chanced to witness the arrival of the dueling party says that the gentlemen walked leisurely along until they reached a stone supposed to mark the mark the boundary line between the two States, and then two of the gentlemen stepped apart from the remaining company and walked 15 or 20 paces, when they suddenly halted, and one of them turned to the party. These gentlemen were evidently the seconds pacing off the distance for shooting, for in a few seconds two others of the party were seen to lay off their overcoats and take up positions, one where the party remained after walking off with his companion and the other at the point to which the second gentleman had returned. All save those two now withdrew some 40 or 50 feet, and the seconds proceeded each to load a pistol standing near one another at the time. They used regular duelling pistols for powder was forced into the weapon, from what appeared to the honest but astonished farmer, a powder flask or some other small article held in the hand. This was succeeded by a short parley between the gents, after which they walked to their principals and handed over their pistols, again withdrawing. One of them called are you ready, in a tone which was distintctly audible to the countryman, who says he had by this time become thoroughly frightened. Whether the two principals responded or not he is unable to state but he distinctly heard a voice from some man, who had propounded the interrogation, call out in a sullen tone, "One, two, three," and instantly the report sharp and quick rang out. He did not notice any smoke issue from the pistols, but accounts for this by the fact that he was watching to see one or both fall, and paid no attention to the firearms. In this he was happily disappointed. This was repeated twice. After the third shot neither of the principals moved from their positions for a minute or two, and then there seemed to be a consultation, which lasted eight or ten minutes, at the conclusion of which the entire party left the ground. The party of three, Mr. May's, walked back to the sleigh, while Mr. Bennett's party hired a carriage at Slaughters Station above this, and drove to Clayton. May and his friends drove in the direction of Dover. Neither of the three appeared to be in the least hurt, for each walked, without any assistance, from the ground.

The *Times* says: The ridiculous termination of the duel forms perhaps a fitting climax to the history of the affair. The parties met and exchanged three shots and separated, both more than satisfied with the result, and neither hurt as to life or limb or digestion.

Weather Indications.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10—1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

In the Ohio Valley and Lower Lakes, falling barometer, southeast to southwest winds, warmer and generally cloudy weather, with frequent snow, partly turning into rain in the two first sections.

FIRE RECORD.

Furniture Manufactory Burned.

ST. LOUIS, January 9.—The extensive furniture manufactory of J. R. Stevens & Co., at Dennison, Texas, burned yesterday; loss $22,000.

Coldest Ever Known.

LOUISVILLE, January 9.—The weather remains cold and clear. It is believed that last night was the coldest ever known in Louisville. The mercury indicated 16° below zero in the city and 25° below in the country.

Crushed by Snow.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., January 9.—The snow crushed in the roof of the Boston & Albany railroad freight house, killing one man and wounding five, two or three seriously.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

STREET COMMISSIONER.

MESSRS. EDITOR:—Please announce E. M. DAVIS as a candidate for the office of Street Commissioner, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention. ja10

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