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The Pulaski Citizen.

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TIMELY TOPICS.

MR. HALL, of New York, who has not been able to attend the sittings of the house for the past four weeks on account of illness, has written Mr. Crittenden, of Missouri, expressing his regret that his illness had prevented him from taking any part in correcting the injustice which was done to Brown, of Kentucky, in the resolution of censure moved by himself and adopted by the house in the earlier part of the session. He repeats his conviction that so far as the resolution imputed to Brown any intention of prevarication or double dealing in his response to the speaker, himself and a majority of the house had been misled, and had done injustice to Brown. He adds: "A careful examination of the record since, qualifying it by my own distinct recollection, satisfies me that I did wrong to Brown in imputing this intent to him, and that there was nothing in his response to the speaker inconsistent with good faith or integrity of an upright and honorable man. I shall never hesitate to express freely the conviction that I have above expressed to you, and if anything contained in this letter within your judgment be of service to Mr. Brown, I beg you to consider the letter entirely at your service, for any use whatever that you or other friends of Mr. Brown may think proper to make of it."

THE president of the Butter and Cheese exchange of New York has prepared some statistics which show that if corn is king, cow is, at least, royal consort. The consumption of butter in the United States is 1,040,000,000 pounds per annum, for table use, alone. Adding about one-third more for the culinary consumption, the total is 1,387,000,000 pounds. The exports from the states and Canada are about 15,000,000, making the total annual product about 1,402,000,000, worth, at an average of thirty cents a pound, $420,600,000. The product in cheese is supposed to be 300,000,000 pounds. The exports from the United States ports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, were 99,611,057 pounds, and the exports from the dominion of Canada were 23,183,223 pounds, exclusive of exports to the United States, making a total American export of 113,794,280 pounds.

THE Chicago Tribune would not be surprised if the first test case on the constitutionality of the civil rights bill should come from the north, assigning as its reason that while the number of people in the north who now deny any of the political rights of the negro is very small; the number of those who entertain social prejudices is still very large. The practice of excluding negroes from the public dining-rooms of first-class hotels and the choice seats in first-class theatres and operas is as general in the north as in the south, and a test case is as likely to go to the supreme court on one of those points from Chicago, Boston or New York, as it is from New Orleans, Louisville or Richmond.

IN twenty-one counties in Georgia, very careful agricultural statistics were collected last year, in compliance with a state law. In these counties the whites had 85,697 sheep; the negroes barely 265. They owned 4,211 dogs, or about twenty times as many dogs as sheep to supply them with wool for clothing and mutton. It is difficult to discover any way in which southern agriculture may prosper while a savage taste for dogs and guns are so powerful, not only with persons of color, but with some millions of the white race. In the twenty-one, the counties referred to, the whites keep seventeen thousand six hundred and ninety-seven dogs.

THE first ruling made by the internal revenue department under the provisions of the new tax and tariff law, was in reference to the time of the taking effect of the new rates on spirits and tobacco, and was as follows: Spirits produced, that is in the cistern-room or ware-house, prior to midnight on the 3d instant, will be liable to a tax of 70 cents on the gallon; collectors are instructed to collect 90 cents for spirits produced after that date. Tobacco or cigars in hands of manufacturers, legally packed and properly stamped, prior to midnight of the 3d, will be charged at the old rate of 20 cents, but after that a tax of 24 cents will be imposed.

THE real strength of the United States navy is 61 vessels, which comprise 15 iron clads. There are 22 vessels building, and 35 laid up for repairs. These, if necessity required, would increase the number to 118. The officers are 1 admiral, 1 vice admiral, 12 rear admirals, 25 commodores, 50 captains, 90 commanders, 110 lieut. commanders, 252 lieutenants, and 15 medical directors. This force is scattered all over the North and South Pacific, North Atlantic, and along the borders of Asia and this country.

THE Pennsylvania legislature has almost unanimously passed a law imposing a fine of $10,000 and fifteen years' imprisonment on each and every person who shall continue to conceal Charlie Ross. This is not *ex post facto*, as further concealment and not that of the past, is punishable under it. A special clause is added which will operate to free the original kidnapper or present holders of the child, if they restore him within thirty days from the passage of the act.

THE first case under the civil rights bill came up before the United States commissioner, E. H. McQuigg, Wilmington, N. C., on the 6th inst. A negro named Francis Holmes had W. H. Gerken, saloon keeper, arrested for refusing to sell him a drink. The commissioner dismissed the case, on the ground that the civil rights bill did not apply to bar rooms.

THE original copy of the declaration of independence, which has been in the patent office at Washington for years, has faded so that the signatures are scarcely visible, and a skilled penman is to go over the document with the aid of a strong microscope and retrace all the signatures so as to make them distinct and legible.

JOHN MCCULLOUGH is in such poor health that it is thought he will be compelled to withdraw from the parliamentary contest in Tipperary. This may be as easy a method as any of getting rid of a very disagreeable customer, and both his constituents and the government party in the British parliament may congratulate themselves upon it.

AMONG the measures which were left pending in congress are the steamboat bill; the bill proposing amendments to the constitution changing the manner of electing the president and vice-president; Col. Scott's Texas Pacific railroad bill, and several other railroad relief bills.

A NATIONAL butter and egg convention has been in session at Chicago for the past three days. Strange as it may appear, the butter production of the United States is actually of greater value than either the wheat or provision crop.

THE appropriation for the opening of the south pass of the Mississippi by the Eads' system is $5,250,000, none of the money to be paid till the work shall have been approved by United States engineers. There is but little chance for a job in that arrangement.

THE house election, or force bill, the emanation of the house republican caucus, was read a first and second time in the senate. Beyond this, the senate took no action. It, therefore, failed.

THE house of representatives adopted a resolution declaring that the government of Arkansas ought not to be interfered with by any department of the federal government.

WISCONSIN has at last modified her system of railroad regulation, by materially advancing the rates allowed under the Potter law. It seems to have been a disastrous experiment for all concerned.

MR. THORNE, a member of the North Carolina legislature, has been expelled from that body because he did not believe in "the God of their state constitution," though he believed in a supreme being.

A CONVENTION of citizens of upper Michigan, is called to meet at Ishpeming, on the 4th, to view to petitioning the legislature and congress to allow the upper peninsula to lapse into a territory entitled "Superior."

EX-GOV. MOSES, of South Carolina, has filed a petition in bankruptcy, placing his liabilities at $92,451, and his assets at $1,200 in personal property with some mortgaged real estate.

CAPT. Eugene Morris, an old steam boatman, recently secret ry of the Good Intent towboat company, of New Orleans, is dead.

GEORGIA has 83,319 negroes who own property. They have 323,769 acres of land, and their property is valued at $6,000,000.

VICE-PRESIDENT WILSON contemplates a trip to the south, and will probably leave Washington for that purpose next week.

THE Arkansas house of representatives has passed a bill appropriating $5,000 for the centennial exhibition at Philadelphia.

THE president has signed the civil rights bill, and that measure is now a state law.

ADVICES from the prospecting party who went to the Black Hills report that gold was "struck in every instance."

CONGRESSIONAL.

In the Senate, on the 2nd, the reading of the journal of yesterday's proceedings was dispensed with, and a number of bills reported by the committee on pensions passed. The bill to provide against the invasion of states, known as the force bill, was read a second time, on the title. Mr. Bayard objected to the third reading, and it was laid over, on motion having been made to refer it to any committee, by a vote of 21 yeas to 22 nays. Mr. Stewart, from the conference committee on bill to provide for incorporation and regulation of railroad cases in the territories of the United States made a report which was agreed to. Mr. Chandler, from committee on commerce, reported back the river and harbor bill without amendment, and without recommendation, and several of the amendments reported on account of the action of the senate last night in laying the tariff bill on the table. The senate then proceeded with the bill to equalize commerce etc. Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, moved to strike out the words, "or state," in the second and fifth sections, which provide for the deduction for bounty already paid on the exportation of articles. Agreed to—ayes, 34; nays, 21. Mr. Chandler from the committee on commerce, reported adversely on the bill to promote the efficiency of the light-house service in the United States. It was indefinitely postponed. Also, favorably on the house bill amendatory of the act of March 3, 1873, authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi at Rock Island. Placed on the calendar. Mr. Cameron, from the committee on foreign relations, reported favorably on senate resolution recognizing independence of the Spanish American states were discharged from further consideration. The senate then resumed the consideration of the bounty bill. The question being upon the passage of the bill, the ayes and nays were demanded, and resulted—ayes, 30; nays, 30. Being a tie vote, the vice-president voted in the affirmative, and the bill was passed. Mr. Cockling called up house bill to provide for the relief of the Mississippi river in the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. Agreed to—yeas, 26; nays, 14. Adjourned.

Immediately after the meeting of the house, on the 3rd, it went into committee of the whole on the deficiency bill, the first item reached in the bill being certain appropriations for the District of Columbia. An amendment to pay the expenses of certain contested elections in former years, was finally adopted. On motion of Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, an item of $250,000 dollars was inserted for the soldiers' national asylum. The bill finally passed, and the committee rose. The house then took recess till 8 o'clock. In the evening session, Mr. Harrison, from committee called up the resolutions of the committee on elections declaring Pinchback not elected as a member from the state of Louisiana at large and Geo. A. Sheridan elected and entitled to the seat. The resolutions were agreed to—yeas 123 to 29—and Sheridan took the oath of office, in which he has barely 15 hours to serve. Mr. Robinson, of Ohio, called up a like resolution in the case of Sypher, declaring the latter, who is the sitting member, not elected from the first district of Louisiana, and Lawrence, the contestant, entitled to the seat. The resolution passed, 34 to 87, and Mr. Lawrence came forward and was sworn in, taking the ironclad oath. He has about fourteen hours as representative to serve. The house then proceeded to the business on the speaker's table and disposed of a number of bills. The next two bills on the calendar were those for the admission of Colorado and Nebraska into the states. The vote on the first was, yeas 164, nays 76, so the bill was passed by the necessary two thirds vote, and now goes to the president for approval. The vote on admitting Nebraska, was a tie, 88 to 88, and was defeated. The senate amendments to the following house bills were concurred in: To provide for deductions from the terms of sentence of United States prisoners. To amend act of 18th June, 1838, and require judges of district courts of Tennessee to hold court at Jackson. Senate bill on the Speaker's table was taken up and disposed of as follows: Civil rights bill, referred to the Judiciary committee. The house was in session at 2 a. m., waiting for the report of the committee on appropriations, sundry civil bill and from the committee of conference on the legislative bill.

In the Senate, on the 4th, consideration of the river and harbor appropriation bill was resumed, the question being on concurring in the amendments made in committee of the whole, other than those partially disposed of by separate votes. They were all non-concurred in with the exception of a few appropriations for the Atlantic coast harbors maintenance. The bill was read a third time and passed. Mr. Sargent called up the deficiency appropriation bill, and several of the amendments reported on account of the action of the senate last night in laying the tariff bill on the table. The senate then proceeded with the bill to equalize commerce etc. Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, moved to strike out the words, "or state," in the second and fifth sections, which provide for the deduction for bounty already paid on the exportation of articles. Agreed to—ayes, 34; nays, 21. Mr. Chandler from the committee on commerce, reported adversely on the bill to promote the efficiency of the light-house service in the United States. It was indefinitely postponed. Also, favorably on the house bill amendatory of the act of March 3, 1873, authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi at Rock Island. Placed on the calendar. Mr. Cameron, from the committee on foreign relations, reported favorably on senate resolution recognizing independence of the Spanish American states were discharged from further consideration. The senate then resumed the consideration of the bounty bill. The question being upon the passage of the bill, the ayes and nays were demanded, and resulted—ayes, 30; nays, 30. Being a tie vote, the vice-president voted in the affirmative, and the bill was passed. Mr. Cockling called up house bill to provide for relief of the Mississippi river in the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. Agreed to—yeas, 26; nays, 14. Adjourned.

Upon the assembling of the Senate on the 3rd, the call for morning business was dispensed with, and by unanimous consent the consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill was resumed. The clause in the amendment of the committee on appropriations to the sundry civil bill making the principal and interest of the $45 bonds, issued under the act of June 20, 1874, for the government of the District of Columbia, payable in gold, was stricken out, the question then being on the adoption of the amendment as amended. It was laid aside at the request of Mr. Sherman. The amendment of the committee directing telegraph companies having offices in the capitol to take from the capitol grounds and streets around the same all telegraph poles, and connect their lines with the capitol by means of cables, laid under ground, was agreed to. Also, the amendments appropriating $125,000 for the extension of the building for the government hospital for the insane. The committee reported in favor of striking out the clause appropriating $50,000 to enable the secretary of war to purchase Gatling guns for the army and navy, but the house refused to strike it out—yeas, 10; nays, 21. The committee reported an amendment striking out the clause appropriating $50,000 for publishing the official records of the war of the rebellion, both of the union and confederate armies, but withdrew the amendment at the request of Mr. Logan. An amendment was agreed to authorizing the secretary of war to detail a medical officer of the army to investigate and report upon the spread of epidemic cholera westward, and appropriating $5,000 for that purpose. The bill then was read a third time and passed. Mr. Edmunds, from the judiciary committee, reported adversely on the bill to relieve the political disabilities of Rebel Semmes, of Alabama, and it was indefinitely postponed. Mr. Edmunds called up house bill to amend the act of June 18, 1868, to require judges of district courts in East and West Tennessee to hold terms at Jackson, in said state. Passed. Mr. Windom moved to increase the appropriation for the improvement of the Tenneseee river from Chattanooga, from $160,000 to $500,000. Agreed to—yeas, 26; nays, 16. Mr. Alcorn submitted an amendment appropriating $3,420,000 for the repairs of the levees of the Mississippi river in the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. Agreed to—yeas, 26; nays, 14. Adjourned.

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