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FRIDAY MORNING.....JUNE 1, 1866.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

No sounder principle was ever enunciated by an American statesman than that of THE PRESIDENT, that too frequent amendments of the Constitution were unnecessary and dangerous. The modern presumption which inspires so many members of Congress to improve upon the work of MADISON and JAY and HAMILTON, is not by any means commendable or consistent. The foundations of Government, as laid down by the fathers, were set in eternal principles and reared upon the enduring rock of justice and right. We have seen nothing in either the statesmanship or the ability of our present Fabians to indicate their superior knowledge over the men who framed our organic law. It may be regarded as a heresy in radical conventicles, but we put as high an estimate upon the talent, the integrity, and the wisdom of the Convention of 1787 as the Thirty-Ninth American Congress. We admit that extraordinary occasions may arise, and unusual circumstances may occur, requiring an alteration of the fundamental law. But they are extremely rare; and such change should only be resorted to where the vast legislative powers possessed under the Constitution fail to establish any right or remedy any wrong. The abolition of slavery was an occasion of this kind; and, to the glory of the American name and the honor of humanity, the prohibition of human bondage is a law of the land. So, too, we are willing to concede that the rectification of the basis of representation demands constitutional correction. We will not deny that the freedom of the slaves leaves the basis in such a manner that it operates unjustly, and in a different way than that intended by those who adjusted the system at the commencement of the Union. We do not hold this change to be of such vital importance as to keep the country in a state of fermentation, or to create any decided alarm or agitation; especially we do not think that the inequalities of the present basis should be made a pretext for keeping eleven States unionless, and millions of American citizens out of their hereditary representative rights. We are perfectly willing to use all our efforts to install a new basis, provided it is right and just af itself; and that basis we maintain should be the elector. In no other way can we have absolute justice; that only will insure the actual equality of every ballot. While doing this we cannot assent that the readjustment of the relations of the lately insurgent States should be postponed until the present representative system is altered. We will not consent to do one injustice to correct another. All the other propositions in the programme of Congress, as it at last appears, after the senatorial manipulation, we regard as utterly useless, and of no value should they be ratified. The disqualification clause of the senatorial reconstructors is already provided for sufficiently by the test oaths, which are likely to remain fully as long as the country shall require them. We have exploded too often the fallacy of protecting the national obligations by constitutional amendments to need a repetition. The debt stands in no danger whatever of repudiation, *but of increase*. When you can alter the Constitution to prohibit adding anything to the debt you may establish its inviolability; until that time we shall have to depend upon the honesty and virtue of the people to secure it. In that lies its safety. It is an innocent amusement, to which we make no objections, for Congress to submit as many amendments as it pleases to the people. It may deal them out like autumn leaves for ought we care; but if they are to be made the condition of political action, and the criterion of political faith, or if they are to be the reasons for delaying the solemn duty of restoring the unity, harmony, and prosperity of this nation, then we give them our unrelenting opposition.

GEN. SCOTT'S FUNERAL—MOVEMENTS OF GEN. GRANT.

The military detail directed by the Secretary of War to attend the obsequies of the late Lieutenant General SCOTT, left for West Point on the 6.30 train last night. General GRANT was accompanied by his wife and the following officers of his staff: Brevet Brig. Gen. C. B. COMSTOCK, Cols. HORACE PORTER, E. S. PARKER and A. BADEAU, and Majors GEO. K. LEE and E. S. BRENEMAN. After attending the funeral, Gen. GRANT will proceed to St. Louis on a brief visit, going via Albany and Cincinnati. In compliance with the order of THE PRESIDENT all the Departments of the Government will be closed today in respect to the memory of the distinguished soldier.

The Battle-Field of Gettysburg.

The arrangement for painting the historical picture of the memorable three days' fight at Gettysburg has been finally closed by the committee on the part of the Legislature with the celebrated artist, ROTHERMEL, of Philadelphia. The picture will represent the battle at its crisis from Round Top to Cemetery Hill, showing the unequal charge of the Federal army, and the falling back of the rebels, the blow which broke the force of the rebellion, and from the effects of which LEE was finally compelled to yield, at Appomattox Court-House, to Gen. GRANT. The size of the picture will be thirty by fifteen feet, and while the committee did not limit the artist as to time, Mr. ROTHERMEL, it was stated, believes he can finish the work in two years.

One of the features of this great historical painting will be embraced in the border to surround the principal scene of the work. This border will be twenty inches wide, and contain pictures illustrating episodes in the great three days' struggle. The fall of REYNOLDS, one of Pennsylvania's most gallant soldiers, will constitute one of those illustrations. The great struggle at Round Top, the point at which the battle raged the fiercest—the tremendous encounter at Cemetery Hill—the irresistible charge through the streets of Gettysburg—the arrival of the Pennsylvania reserve corps, and their fearful onslaught in the battle—LEE in the tower of the Seminary observing the battle—JOHN BURNS fighting on his "own hook," will all be portrayed. Then will come scenes after the battle—the burial of the dead—the Christian Commission among the wounded—the victorious army following the broken and fugitive legions of the enemy—Gettysburg—and such other scenes as the history of the great event will suggest to the artist.

THE DEPARTMENTS.

Post Office Department.

The following orders were issued yesterday:

Maryland.—At Prince Fredericktown, Calvert county, appoint Miss Rollie M. Dowell, postmistress, in place of Joseph Hall, resigned.

Discontinue Union Dale, Cecil county, Maryland. Papers should hereafter be sent to Elkton, Md.

Pennsylvania.—Establish an office at Sell's Station, Adams county, and appoint Edwin Wentz, postmaster, between Littlestown and Hanover.

Discontinue Rayne, Indiana county, Pa.

Appointments.—Michael R. Smith, postmaster, New Mount Pleasant, Monroe county, Pa., vice Gerard L. Staples, deceased.

Isaac German, postmaster, Greble, Lebanon county, vice Elias Bressler, resigned.

Thomas P. Graham, postmaster, Fayette, Alleghany county, vice Andrew Dickson, resigned.

Z. Zimmerman, postmaster, Salem Cross Roads, Westmoreland county, vice John Doneaster, resigned.

William Kimple, postmaster, Chambersville, Indiana county, vice A. Clifford Reed, resigned.

Jefferson Schweitzer, postmaster, Hecktown, Northampton county, vice George F. Herman, resigned.

Daniel S. Goodwin, postmaster, Smithfield, Fayette county, vice G. G. Clammer, removed.

Louisiana.—A new office is established at Logtown, Ouachita parish, and John B. Kirkwood appointed postmaster.

Local Mail Agent.—D. P. H. Rose is appointed at Suspension Bridge, New York, in place of John Shaffer, removed.

The Government Quarantine.

IN COMPLIANCE with the joint resolution of Congress approved May 26th, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to carry into effect such order and regulations of quarantine, as in his opinion might be deemed necessary and proper to guard against the introduction of the cholera into the ports of the United States, the Secretary yesterday issued the following circular to collectors of customs:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, May 29, 1866.

Your attention is directed to the annexed copy of a joint resolution of Congress, approved May 26, 1866, and to the act of February 25, 1799, "respecting quarantine and health laws." You will, without delay, place yourselves in communication with your respective State and municipal authorities, and aid them, so far as the force under your control will permit, in executing such quarantine and health laws and regulations as may be established by them to prevent the introduction of the cholera into the ports of the United States. Should you find the force under your control insufficient to effect the object contemplated by the resolution, you will, without delay, report to this department, with such suggestions as you may deem important, and await its instructions.

H. MCCULLOCH,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Important to Discharged Soldiers.

Discharged soldiers to whom back pay, bounties, or pensions are due should understand that many of the principal northern and western States are represented in Washington by military agents specially commissioned by the Governors of their respective States for the gratuitous collection of their claims, and that by submitting their cases to these officers they will not only save considerable delay, but the infliction of an exorbitant fee by unprincipled claim agents. The business of these State military agencies, although gradually decreasing, is still large, each office requiring the services of a considerable clerical force. As an evidence of the business transacted we may state that during the past month the New York military agency, under charge of Col. S. P. Lee, collected and paid claims of soldiers involving the sum of $19,893.31. The business of other State agencies during the same period was correspondingly large.

Redemption of Certificates of Indebtedness.

Under the first call of the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the redemption of certificates of indebtedness, of any date, to the amount of $20,000,000, $1,153,313.22 have already been redeemed. Under the second call of the Secretary, which stated that interest on all certificates dated in June, July and August would cease on the 31st ult., redemptions have been made amounting to $9,400,089.64; making the total amount of redemption on certificates of both classes $10,553,402.86.

Treasury Disbursements.

During the month ending on the 31st ult. the disbursements of the Treasury Department, on account of the War, Navy and Interior Departments, were as follows: War, $1,716,776; Navy, $4,901,175; Interior, $1,776,348.

War Department.

By special orders, dated on the 29th ultimo, from the War Department, the resignation of Brevet Major Thomas C. Brainerd, Assistant Surgeon United States army, is announced as accepted by the President, on condition that he shall receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States. Another special order from the War Department, of the same date, relieves Brevet Major Chas. C. Gray, Assistant Surgeon United States army, from duty in the department of Kentucky, and directs him to report in person to the Commanding General and to the Medical Director, department of the Platte, for assignment to duty.

Important California Land Decision.

The Attorney General has decided that act of 3d March, 1863, withdraws and appropriates solely to the Vallejo claimants all the land within the limits of Suscol Ranche, embracing nearly 100,000 acres of land, when said claimants may establish their rights according to the requirements of said act. This decision being sanctioned by the Secretary of the Interior, becomes an authoritative determination of the question and will govern all cases coming up under the act referred to, and the register and receiver at San Francisco will have instructions transmitted to them in accordance therewith.

General Land Office.

The General Land Office has just received a draft for $3,079 from the receiver at Marquette, Michigan, as moneys to be placed to the credit of the judiciary fund for timber trespasses on public lands. The Commissioner of the General Land Office has submitted to the Secretary of the Interior, for approval, a list embracing 3,364 acres of swamp land enuring to the State of Wisconsin under the grant by act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, such lands being situated in the Menasha land district.

Gold Sales.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in reference to the sales of gold, will probably be sent to the Senate to-morrow. It is believed that the report will show total sales amounting to about $35,000,000, at a premium since the first of May of 20½; also, that no gold was sold in March and April at a less premium than 27.

Receipts from Customs.

The receipts from customs at the four principal ports of the United States, mentioned below, from the 19th to the 26th ultimo, were as follows: New York, $2,357,762.83; Boston, $405,143.30; Philadelphia, $156,688.35; Baltimore, $80,075.75; total, $3,009,671.23.

INTERNAL REVENUE.—The receipts from this source yesterday amounted to $1,140,688.68.

Corporation Offices and Public Schools Closed.

This being the day of the funeral of Lieut. Gen. Scott, the corporation offices will be closed, and no business transacted. The public schools will also be closed, by order of the Mayor.

THE tables have been turned in New Orleans somewhat. On the 26th ult., in the supreme court there, Messrs. Durant and Hunt, who were always Union men, argued the validity of the confederate notes as the issue of belligerents. Judge Campbell, confederate assistant secretary of war, and Morse, confederate judge, argued against them.

GEN. VAN CLEVE has just returned to St. Paul, Minn., from a tour of inspection through the Upper Minnesota Valley. He reports that the sufferings of the Indians during the last winter, from cold and hunger, have taught them the extent of their dependence on the Government, and will tend to keep them on friendly terms with us.

[OFFICIAL.]

ANDREW JOHNSON,
President of the United States of America,
To all whom it may concern:

Whereas, the Exequatur of CLAUDIUS EDWARD HABICHT, recognizing him as Consul of Sweden and Norway at New York, and that of S. M. SVENSON, as Vice Consul of Sweden and Norway at New Orleans, were formally revoked on the 26th day of March last;

And whereas, representations have been made to me since that date, which have effectually relieved those gentlemen from the charges of unlawful and unfriendly conduct heretofore entertained against them;

Now, therefore, be it known that I, ANDREW JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby annul the revocation of the Exequaturs of the said CLAUDIUS EDWARD HABICHT and S. M. SVENSON, and restore to them the right to exercise the functions and privileges heretofore granted as Consular Officers of the Government of Sweden and Norway.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this thirtieth day of May, in the year of [SEAL.] our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ninetieth.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:
WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Pen, Pencil, and Scissors.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales rode out on horseback May 15.

A "WHITE MAN'S CLUB" has been organized in Alleghany county, Md.

"ROGER BACON'S WORKS"—Last edition, roast pig.

AT MATAMORAS robberies, murders, and plunder continue on both sides of the river.

GENERAL BAIRD succeeded General Canby at New Orleans on the 28th.

For two years before his death General Scott was the only survivor of the officers who entered the army in 1808.

THE Chicago papers praise the performance of the "Streets of New York," by Grover and Hess's company at McVicker's theatre.

IT is doubtless true that Probst is fit to be killed. He has grown fat, and says he ought to be hung eight times as he murdered eight persons.

THE 3d Michigan regiment, 340 strong, has arrived at New Orleans from Brazos. Gen. Sturgis and other officers, with a few troops, are left at Brownsville.

AT LAST ADVICES, the small-pox continued to rage at Porto Rico, and had spread to several places near Ponce, though it was decreasing at the latter place.

MAJOR GEN. MEADE was serenaded at the Mansion House, Pottsville, Pennsylvania, Wednesday evening, by the Pottsville Band. The General made a speech, and addresses were also delivered by the Hon. Morton McMichael and others.

THE circulation of the *Cronica*, of New York, has been suppressed in Havana, on account of an article published in that newspaper against the censor at Havana. The Cuban subsidy of $3,000 in gold to the *Cronica* has also suspended.

PEOPLE are asking, "Why don't Thad. Stevens get up some 'sympathy' resolutions for the Prussian Prime Minister, Count Bismark, who was threatened with assassination in one of the public squares of Berlin the other day?"

THE report that three emigrant children died from Asiatic cholera in Detroit, on Saturday, is positively contradicted. The disease with which the children died was pronounced by leading physicians simple dysentery, induced by filthiness and exposure.

A GENTLEMAN from abroad, who has been studying our institutions, is of the opinion that the leadership of Thad. Stevens in the House indicates a strong and tyrannous will on his part and weak statesmanship on the part of all the rest.

AUSTRIA has prudently listened to the strong remonstrances from Washington. The embarkation of the Austro-Mexican contingent from Trieste has been countermanded, and the men forming it disbanded, or drafted into the rest of the army.

EDWIN FORREST, the tragedian, purposes on his return from California, to carry out a long contemplated scheme by founding and endowing in Philadelphia a home for retired actors. This may take some of the superfluous laggers from the stage in better season than has been their wont.

THE dastardly action at Valparaiso has been received in England with one universal shout of execration. The perpetration of such a deed has put Spain forever under the ban of all civilized nations. The public journals can find no language strong enough to express their indignation.

SOME burglars entered the residence of Hon. George H. Pendleton, in Cincinnati, on Tuesday night, while the family were asleep. They made themselves at home, lighted a fire, boiled some eggs, and made coffee, used the silver spoons, and, singular to say, did not steal them. They helped themselves to some clothing and departed.

GOV. FENTON, of New York, was "smoked out" with a serenade on arriving at his home, Jamestown, and made a short speech on national politics. "He was conciliatory in tone, but spoke strongly in favor of equal rights for all men before the law, and of exacting security for the nation's future by such means as are essential, and believes that all would yet unite in a safe, possible and satisfactory plan of reconstruction."

THE Bostonians, in order to keep cool, have placed Capt. Joe Snow in charge of the popular summer resort on Long Island, in Boston Bay. Capt. S. knows how to reconstruct the human confederacy of bone, muscle, nerve, etc., as well as Monsieur Blot (pronounced *blow*.) He has seen many a blow-out among the chowder parties at Gallup's Island, we trow.

THE Persian conqueror, Nadir Shah, saw the celebrated Koh-i-noor glittering in the turban of the vanquished Mohammed Shah, and proposed in the most friendly sort of way imaginable that they should exchange head-dresses; and as the conquered man preferred that to parting with his head, the exchange was made. Finally, after undergoing similar exchanges for centuries, it has now become one of the crown jewels of England.

THE St. Ann's Infant Asylum is one of those beneficent institutions that illustrate and put in practice the holy religion of Christ touching "little children." A sale, supper, and festival is held at the Asylum, Twenty-Fourth street, at the Circle, for the benefit of the institution; and our citizens will do much good to the orphan children, give much comfort to the hearts of the Sisters in charge, and at the same time derive much pleasure themselves by attending this festival. The horse cars pass the door.

THE cigar manufacturers of Westfield, Ct., are greatly reducing the manufacture of that article. Some who have been employing one hundred and forty to one hundred and sixty hands now employ only from twenty to thirty. The reason assigned for this is the high rates of taxation on the manufacture and high duties on imported tobacco, which enable the importer to sell the article at a much less figure than cigars can be made in this country.

CONGRESSIONAL REPORTS.

XXXIXTH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1866.

SENATE.

Mr. Wilson, from the Committee on the Military, reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, &c., That the two Houses of Congress have received with profound sensibility, intelligence of the death of Brevet Lieutenant General Winfield Scott.

Resolved, That the exalted virtues, both public and private, and the wisdom, patriotism and valor of the illustrious man in defence of his country and the maintenance of her honor and glory for more than a half a century against foreign and domestic enemies, in war and in peace, claim the liveliest gratitude and the deepest veneration of the American people.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, when the two Houses of Congress adjourn to-day, they shall adjourn to meet on Monday next, and that a joint committee to consist of seven members of the Senate and nine members of the House of Representatives, be appointed, who, together with the presiding officers of both Houses shall proceed to West Point to represent Congress at the funeral ceremonies which are to take place to morrow, and that said committee be attended by the Sergeants-at-Arms of both Houses.

NAVAL OFFICERS' APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Grimes, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported, with amendments, the bill to define the number and regulate the appointments of officers in the navy. It adds one admiral, makes the rear admirals ten instead of eleven. The increase in grades is made in all cases by selection from the grades below, and at the end of the first section there is added, relative to rear admirals: "Exclusive of rear admirals retired after the passage of this act, and of officers now on the retired list, of commodores, who have commanded squadrons by order of the Secretary of the Navy, and who may be promoted to the grade of rear admirals on the retired list."

The second section is stricken out.

In the third section the twenty lieutenants are reduced to ten, fifty masters to forty, and seventy-five ensigns to forty.

The next section, which provides for a board of three for the selection of officers, is retained. The fifth section, also, which authorizes the retention of volunteer officers, as demanded by the exigencies of the service, until their places can be supplied by graduates from the Naval Academy, is retained.

Additional sections provide that lieutenant commanders may be assigned to duty as navigation and watch officers on board vessels-of-war as well as first lieutenants of naval stations and of ships-of-war; that the annual compensation of the admiral of the navy shall be $10,000 per year, and he shall be entitled to the services of a secretary who shall receive the annual sea pay of a lieutenant in the navy.

NEW FINANCIAL BILL.

Mr. Chandler introduced a bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide a national currency, secured by a pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved June 3, 1864, and the amendment thereto.

The first section provides for the amendment of section twenty-two of that act, so as to authorize the issue of one hundred millions of dollars in addition to the three hundred millions provided in that section: *Provided*, That not more than five millions shall be issued within six months from the passage of this act, and not exceeding two millions per month thereafter; *And provided*, That any existing bank applying before October 1, 1866, if approved by the Comptroller as in good standing, shall have authority to become a national bank: *And provided, also*, That banks of unimpaired capital, in States having the least ratable amount of circulating notes, shall have preference in receiving such authority: *And provided further*, That the entire amount given to the national banks converted from State banks shall not exceed fifteen millions of dollars; and preference shall be given to such States and Territories as have not secured their ratable proportion of circulating notes, so as to equalize the entire apportionment at four hundred millions.

Second section amends section thirty-one of the national banking act, so as to require banks in New York, Boston and Philadelphia to have on hand at all times, in lawful money of the United States, at least twenty-five per cent of the aggregate amount of its notes in circulation and deposits. If below twenty-five per cent., such banks cannot make loans or discounts or pay dividends until the required proportion is adjusted: *Provided*, That clearing-house certificates shall be deemed to be lawful money.

Section third so amends section thirty-two of the banking act referred to, that each association may select, subject to the approval of the Comptroller, an association in New York, Boston or Philadelphia, at which to redeem its circulating notes at par.

Section four amends section forty-one of the banking act, striking out the exemption from State taxation.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

Mr. Anthony presented a communication from the Secretary of State of Rhode Island, offering to Congress certain collections of statistical, descriptive and narrative matter relating to the late rebellion, including numerous newspaper extracts, &c., &c. Referred to the Committee on the Library.

Mr. Lane, of Indiana, from the committee of conference relative to the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill supplementary to the acts relating to pensions, made a report; which was concurred in, and the bill now goes to the President.

Mr. Johnson moved to reconsider the vote passing the bill to protect the manufacturers of mineral waters in the District of Columbia; which was agreed to.

The bill was then taken up, and sundry amendments made; after which it was passed.

On motion of Mr. Willey, the bill to amend the 34th section of the Declaration of Rights of the State of Maryland, adopted 1776, so far as applicable to the District of Columbia, was taken up, read and laid over.

On motion of Mr. Pomeroy, the bill granting lands to the State of Kansas, to aid in the construction of the Kansas and Neosho Valley railroad, was taken up and, after amendment, laid over.

The tax bill was received from the House, and referred to the Committee on Finance. Five hundred extra copies of the bill were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Harris presented a petition from citizens of Florida, praying for the passage of a law to relieve them from the payment of notes given to Turner & Coff, in the fall of 1861, for horses for a cavalry regiment. As the notes were given for war material in aid of the rebellion, they pray to be relieved from payment.

RECONSTRUCTION.

The joint resolution from the committee on reconstruction was then taken up, upon which Mr. Doolittle, of Wisconsin, was entitled to the floor.

Mr. Doolittle commenced by alluding to some remarks made yesterday by Mr. Trumbull in regard to offices, and the remark attributed to the Assistant Postmaster General, that no man should eat the bread and butter of the President who did not support his policy, and denied the statement.

Mr. Howe said he had mentioned in debate here that the Assistant Postmaster General had uttered the remark ascribed to him, and he now asked his colleague what authority he had for denying it.

Mr. Doolittle said the Assistant Postmaster General had informed him [Mr. D.] that the statement was totally without foundation.

Mr. Howe said he had seen that official on the evening of the day he [Mr. H.] had spoken of the matter in the Senate, and that gentleman had made no allusion to the circumstance, but on his return to his boarding-house he found a note from him asking his authority for the statement. To this he [Mr. H.] had replied that his authority was the member of the House from the fifth district of Wisconsin; and since then he had heard nothing more about it.

Mr. Doolittle said he had no desire to discuss these personal matters any further. He then passed to his argument on the pending question, the third section as amended.

He said this section was making a new punishment for an offence already committed; it was drawing no distinction between those who voluntarily entered the service of the rebellion and those who were forced in at the point of the bayonet. It seemed to him that this Senate should pause before they abolished all distinctions in the Southern States between those who were forced in and those who went in willingly. There was another thing which this section did. It annulled the pardons granted by the President under the laws of Congress. It proposed, after these men had taken the oath in good faith and received their pardons, to withdraw them. Upon what principle could they stand before the world with such a provision? Congress had, by express provision on July 17, 1862, authorized the President to give pardon and amnesty to such persons as the public welfare might require. These pardons restored to the full rights of citizenship those upon whom they were conferred.

Mr. Johnson said the Supreme Court had decided this to be substantially the case.

Mr. Grimes said that the position of the Senator from Wisconsin was correct, so far as it concerned disabilities for crimes already committed. The object of this section was not punishment for what was past, but prevention for what might happen in the future, as it was natural to suppose that those who had rebelled once would do so again, unless some precaution was taken to prevent them.

Mr. Doolittle read from the amnesty proclamation, and maintained that full amnesty for the past and full restoration to citizenship was granted under it. He knew that it was said that a constitutional amendment was superior to all laws, but was it right, was it just, in violation of this pledged faith, to pass an amendment abrogating their own laws? He never could acknowledge that the law of might was the law of right. And as to the matter of these pardons, from a paper in his hand, which he believed to be correct, it appeared that of the prominent rebels yet unpardoned there were 150 major and brigadier generals, 88 members of Congress, 136 ex-United States army officers, 122 ex-United States navy officers, 37 prominent rebel officers, including Cabinet ministers, &c. There were plenty enough of them to punish, excluding even those army officers who had surrendered on the field, and who might be supposed to be excluded from punishment by the terms of the surrender.

This was obstruction, not reconstruction. He thought the country would have been better off if the representatives from the Southern States, who could take the oath, had been admitted in December last. We might then have been the United States, not the dis-United States. He was satisfied that our bonds would to-day be ten per cent. higher than they now are; he was satisfied that Maximilian would not be in Mexico to-day. Roebuck, who wanted the Union dissolved from the first, would not be able to make the speech he recently made in the British Parliament, to assert that this country was still in a state of *quasi* war, and that the States were not yet united. He [Mr. D.] wanted a flag of 36 stars, not one of 25.

Mr. Doolittle then moved to amend by inserting, after the words "shall have," the word "voluntarily."

Mr. Davis advocated the adoption of the amendment. Large numbers of old men and young boys had been forced in the rebel ranks. It was well known that one third of the entire Confederate armies had deserted; these were the men who had been forced in, and who left at the first opportunity. Yet it was proposed to place the ban of proscription upon this class. He [Mr. D.] would not enter into the debate just now, but would give his views at a later stage of the debate.

Mr. Willey said that the effect of the amendment of the Senator from Wisconsin would be that we should find that few if any "voluntarily" entered the service of the rebellion. Alexander H. Stephens, when before the committee had claimed that he did not go in voluntarily. Mr. W. maintained that the section was not proscriptive, but was necessary for the safety of the Government.

Mr. Saulsbury asked if the spirit of vengeance had not gone far enough. He read in the newspapers that this was the 19th century, but from the evidences around him he was almost inclined to doubt it.

The question was taken on the amendment of Mr. Doolittle, which was disagreed to by a vote of 30 to 10. Messrs. Buckalew, Cowan, Davis, Doolittle, Guthrie, Hendricks, Johnson, Norton, Riddle and Saulsbury for the affirmative.

Mr. Doolittle moved to amend by adding after the word "thereof," the words "excepting those who have duly received pardon and amnesty under the Constitution and laws," which was disagreed to by a vote of 32 to 10. The amendment of Mr. Howard inserting the substitute for the third section as given above was then agreed to; yeas 32, nays 10.

The Chair announced the following committee on the part of the Senate, to proceed to West Point to take part in the funeral obsequies of the late Lieut. Gen. Scott: Messrs. Wilson, Johnson, Lane, of Indiana, Davis, Grimes, Anthony and Nesmith.

On motion of Mr. Fessenden, the Senate went into executive session, and at its conclusion, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House passed, by a vote of 65 to 37, the bill reported by Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, from the select committee on military and postal railroads, to promote the construction of a line of railway between the city of Washington and the Northwest, for national purposes. The principle inaugurated in the bill is a very important one.

The preamble of the bill recites that there is now a complete line of railroad between the city of Washington and Cumberland, in Allegany county, in the State of Maryland, which is about being shortened nearly fifty miles by a line from said city of Washington to the Point of Rocks, on the Potomac river, in Frederick county, in said State; that a company has been incorporated by the State of Maryland to construct a railroad from Cumberland aforesaid to the Pennsylvania line, in the direction of Pittsburg, designed to connect with a railroad in Pennsylvania to the latter city; that the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad Company, incorporated by the State of Pennsylvania, has completed a railroad from Pittsburg to Connellsville, on a line to connect with the Maryland road aforesaid; that but a comparatively short distance between Cumberland and Pittsburg remains to be completed to furnish with the railroad between Washington and Cumberland a direct railroad communication, by a short and advantageous route, between Washington city and Pittsburg, and the connections with the Northwest from the latter city; that the Legislature of Pennsylvania has attempted to create impediments in connecting the railroads so as aforesaid authorized to be built in Pennsylvania and Maryland, which prevent at this time the completion of a work of national importance, and has thereby attempted to impair the value of a franchise under which citizens of Maryland and Pennsylvania have made large investments; and that it is proper for military and postal purposes, and especially to facilitate and regulate commercial intercourse among the States. It therefore authorizes the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad Company of Maryland to complete their respective works, and to unite the same so as to form one continuous line between Cumberland and Pittsburg, according to the powers given to said companies in and by their respective charters as originally granted, and the supplements thereto, so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

The fifth section enacts that the said line of railroad, with the ferries, crossings, bridges, and roadway, and the parts of existing railways which may become part of the said road, shall be deemed and considered a national public highway and postroad, with which all the principal railway lines and mail routes in the United States, either now constructed or hereafter to be constructed, shall have the right to connect for transportation purposes on fair and equitable terms. And such connecting lines shall, at all times, have the right to sell through tickets, and check through baggage, in such manner and upon such terms as are now or may hereafter be customary between the connecting lines of the country. And the corporation herein mentioned shall, so far as may be practicable, furnish through tickets to passengers, and through checks for baggage, over such connecting lines of railway as the traveler may select, and without discrimination or prejudice to any one or more of said connecting lines. And the company shall provide for their night passenger trains a sufficient number of first-class sleeping cars with all modern improvements and all proper and necessary bedding to fully accommodate the public, and the tariff of prices in addition to the regular rate of fare shall not exceed three dollars for a state-room, one dollar for a double and fifty cents for a single berth.

The sixth section requires said corporations to make an annual report of their operations to the Secretary of the Interior, in such form and containing such items of information as he may prescribe; said report to be verified by the certificates, under oath, of the president, treasurer, chief engineer, and general superintendent of such corporations or railways.

The seventh section requires the said corporations, as soon as practicable, so to commence and prosecute the work of constructing and equipping said railroad that it shall be fully completed and equipped in three years from and after the passage of this act.

The House also passed, by a vote of 37 to 31, the bill reported by Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, from the same committee, to promote the construction of a line of railroad from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, to Cleveland, Ohio—the same principle being involved in it as in the preceding bill.

The House also passed the Senate bill to protect American citizens engaged in lumbering on the St. Croix river, in the State of Maine; and the Senate joint resolution authorizing the appointment of examiners to examine a site for a fresh water basin for iron-clad vessels of the United States navy.

The Senate amendments to the House bill to facilitate commercial, postal, and military communication among the several States, were concurred in; so that the bill has passed both Houses.

The House also passed unanimously the Senate concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment of both Houses till Monday next, and for a deputation of Congress to attend the obsequies of Lieut. Gen. Scott, at West Point. The following members constitute the deputation on the part of the House: The Speaker, and Messrs. Schenck of Ohio, Deming of Connecticut, Marston of New Hampshire, Rousseau of Kentucky, Bingham of Ohio, Ancona of Pennsylvania, Ketcham of New York, Blaine of Maine, Stigreaves of New Jersey—who constitute the Committee on Military Affairs.

On application of Mr. Blaine, of Maine, he was excused from service on the deputation; and Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, was appointed in his place.

The bill to reduce and establish the pay of officers, and to regulate the pay of soldiers of the army of the United States, was debated by Mr. Thayer, of Pa., in opposition, and by Mr. Paine, of Wis., in support.

All the bills on the Speaker's table were taken up, read twice, and referred to the appropriate committees.

The report of the conference committee on the bill amendatory of the pension laws was made by Mr. Parham, of Maine, and was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Parham, of Maine, the Committee on Invalid Pensions was instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the pensions of widows of deceased soldiers and sailors in the recent war, in proportion to the number of minor children under 16 years of age.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President, transmitting additional reports of Generals Steedman and Fullerton in regard to the operations of the Freedmen's Bureau. A motion by Mr. LeBlond, of Ohio, to print ten thousand extra copies of the reports was referred to the Committee on Printing.

MARRIED.

On the morning of the 31st ultimo, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. Wm. H. Ryan, Mr. FRED. ERICK BRACKETT, of Maine, to Miss NARCISSA A. BERTCOCK, of Baltimore, Md.
(Baltimore papers please copy.)

SPECIAL NOTICES.

☞ Sewing Machines.—If you desire to get a sewing machine cheap, attend the Fair, Festival, and Picture Gallery, at Island Hall, corner of Sixth street west and Virginia avenue. Open every evening. je1-1t*

☞ Excursion to Glymont.—The Ladies' Nite Society of Ryland Chapel will give an Excursion to Glymont for the benefit of the Parsonage on FRIDAY, June 8th. The Steamer WAWASSET will make two trips, leaving her wharf, at the foot of Seventh street, at 8 a. m., and 2 p. m. Tickets, 61; Children, half price. my31-td

☞ National Military Asylum.—The Managers of the National Asylum for discharged volunteer soldiers, authorized by act of Congress, approved March 21, 1866, ask proposals for sites for Asylums by donation or sale. The premises must be situate in one of the loyal States, contain at least 200 acres of land, and be a healthy location and easy of access by railroad or otherwise. It is the purpose of the managers to erect without delay, extensive and permanent buildings for said Asylums, and its establishment will be largely advantageous to any section or railroad in the vicinity of its location.

Plans, specifications, and estimates for Asylum buildings, including detached cottages, are also asked for the approval of the Board. Liberal compensation will be given for the successful plan.

Proposals, plans, specifications, and estimates—the first named to be in writing, containing plot and description of grounds and terms and conditions of transfer—must be sent to Major General B. F BUTLER, at Lowell, Mass., on or before the 20th day of June, 1866.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
President Board of Managers.
LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, Secretary.

☞ Publishers of papers authorized to publish the laws of the United States will insert for three weeks, and send bill, with copy of publication, prior to June 20. my23-3w

☞ Moth and Freckles.—Ladies afflicted with Discolorations on the Face, called moth patches or freckles, should use Perry's Celebrated Moth and Freckle Lotion. It is infallible. Prepared by Dr. B. C. PERRY, Dermatologist, 49 Bond street, New York. Sold by all druggists in Washington and elsewhere. Price $2. my17-tu&sm

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☞ FRESH CARBONATED DRINKS. 12-1m

☞ Amanuensis.—Persons desiring the service of a COPYIST or AMANUENSIS, can be accommodated by a lady who writes a neat and plain hand, by applying at No 195 Sixth street west, between M and N streets north. ap23-tf

☞ Marriage and Celibacy; an Essay of Warning and Instruction for Young Men. Also, Diseases and Abuses which prostrate the vital powers, with sure means of relief. Sent free of charge in sealed letter envelopes. Address Dr. J. SKILLIN HOUGHTON, Howard Association, Philadelphia, Pa. ap17-3m

☞ Breech-Loading Arms.—The Board for the Examination of Breech-Loading Arms, of which General Hancock is president, is now in session at No. 51 Winder's Building.

Arms will be received daily, between the hours of 11 a. m. and 2 p. m., until further notice.

Inventors are requested to submit their arms in person or by agent to the recorder of the board.

W. OWENS,
Capt. 6th U. S. Cav., Brev. Lieut. Col. U. S. A.,
mh12-tf Recorder.

☞ Madam Mounts' Pile Salve—a Valuable Remedy for that Disease; also, a Consumption Destroyer, and an Entire Cure for the Bronchitis, Asthma, &c.; can be found at Stott's Drug Store, opposite National Hotel; Ohman's, near Metropolitan Hotel; Ford's, corner of Eleventh and Pennsylvania avenue; Entwisle's, corner of Twelfth and Pennsylvania avenue; Elliott's, corner of F and Twelfth streets; Harbaugh's, corner of Seventh and G. ja12-tf

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