Library Treasury Dept

National Republican.

VOL. XIII. WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 14, 1873. NO. 68.

AUCTION SALES.

To-Day.

BY WM. L. WALL & CO., Auctioneers, (New Building,) Nos. 930 and 932 Pennsylvania avenue, corner of Ninth street.

LARGE AND PEREMPTORY SALE OF A LARGE STOCK OF CARPETS, MATTINGS, RUGS, OIL-CLOTHS, WHITE AND CHECK MATTINGS, &c., ON A CREDIT OF THIRTY AND SIXTY DAYS.

ON THURSDAY MORNING, February 13, commencing at 11 o'clock, on the first and second floors of our spacious salesrooms, we will sell, without reserve, to close consignments:

25 pieces of Crossly and other makes of Tapestry and Body Brussels.
20 pieces of Three-ply, best makes.
25 pieces of Superfine and other Ingrains.
20 pieces Diamond A Cocoa Mattings.
50 pieces of White and Check Canton Mattings.

ALSO,

A line of Oil-cloths, Rugs, Crumb Cloths, &c., &c.

All sums under $20 cash; over that amount a credit will be given of thirty and sixty days for notes satisfactorily indorsed, bearing interest. And we would respectfully call the attention of buyers to the above sale, as the goods are all of the very best makes.

feb11 W. L. WALL & CO., Auctioneers.

☞ THE ABOVE SALE IS POSTPONED UNTIL FRIDAY MORNING, February 14, same hour and place.

feb13 (Star) W. L. WALL & CO., Auctioneers.

Future Days.

BY LATIMER & CLEARY, Auctioneers and Real Estate Brokers, Southwest corner Pennsylvania avenue and Eleventh street. Star Office Building.

PAWNBROKERS' SALE OF UNREDEEMED PLEDGES.

On SATURDAY EVENING, February 15, 1873, commencing at 7 o'clock, within our auction rooms, we shall sell an excellent assortment of unredeemed pledges from the establishment of A. Cohen, corner of Seventh street and New York avenue, comprising in part—

Gold and Silver Watches.
Gold Chains, Rings.
A fine assortment of Ladies' Jewelry.
A superior collection of Clothing.
Gentlemen's Fowling Pieces and Revolvers.

Together with many other articles unnecessary to mention. Terms cash.

feb14 LATIMER & CLEARY, Aucts.

BY WM. L. WALL & CO., Auctioneers, (New Marble Building,) 930 and 932 S. W. cor. Pa. ave. and Ninth street.

ATTRACTIVE CATALOGUE SALE, BY AUCTION, OF A CHOICE COLLECTION OF FINE MODERN OIL PAINTINGS, CELEBRATED ARTISTS, IN ELEGANT GOLD FRAMES, ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN AND AMERICAN CHROMOS, WATER COLORS AND CRAYONS, Richly mounted in heavy Gold Leaf Frames, consigned to us by the Metropolitan Art Gallery, of New York; to take place at our Store, (New Marble Building,) Nos. 930 and 932 Pennsylvania avenue, comprising FIVE SPECIAL SALES, ON MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, February 17, 18 and 19, 1873, commencing each evening at 7 o'clock.

We respectfully invite a critical examination of these works of art, as the Paintings are by well-known artists, and the Chromos from the best publishers in Europe and America, while the Water Colors are all imported from London, and represent works of the finest artists in that metropolis.

Catalogues ready and Paintings on exhibition from Saturday, February 15, instant.

feb14 W. L. WALL & CO., Aucts.

BY GREEN & WILLIAMS, Auctioneers, No. 1001 northwest corner Tenth and D streets.

By virtue of a deed of trust to me from H. M. C. Smallwood and wife, dated November 15, 1871, of record in Liber No. 687, folio 81, one of the land records for the county of Washington, D. C., and by direction of the party secured thereby, I will sell at public sale, in front of the premises, on WEDNESDAY, the 19th day of February, 1873, at 4 o'clock p. m., all that part of original lot numbered ninety (90) in square numbered five hundred and eighty (580), having a front of thirty-five feet on First street southwest by the depth of one hundred feet, containing 3,500 feet of ground, and having thereon two two-story frame houses.

Terms of sale: One half cash, twenty-five dollars of which must be paid immediately thereafter the sale; the balance in six and twelve months, secured by deed of trust on the premises; notes to bear eight per cent. interest, payable semi-annually.

If the terms are not complied with in five days after the sale, the trustee reserves the right to resell the property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. All conveyancing at the expense of the purchaser. Deposit of $100 when the property is struck off.

B. R. WARNER, Trustee.

feb8-eod&ts GREEN & WILLIAMS, Aucts.

BY GREEN & WILLIAMS, Auctioneers, No. 1001 northwest corner Tenth and D streets.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE FRONTING ON FOURTEENTH STREET BETWEEN P AND O STREETS NORTHWEST, AT AUCTION.

By virtue of a deed of trust dated March 25, A. D. 1872, and duly recorded in Liber No. 676, folio 256, one of the land records for Washington county, D. C., and by direction of the party secured thereby, I will sell at public auction, in front of the premises, at 4 o'clock p. m., on WEDNESDAY, the 26th day of February, 1873, all that part of original lot numbered ninety (90) in square numbered five hundred and eighty (580), having a front of thirty-five feet on First street southwest by the depth of one hundred feet, containing 3,500 feet of ground, and having thereon two two-story frame houses.

Terms of sale: One half cash, twenty-five dollars of which must be paid immediately thereafter the sale; the balance in six and twelve months, secured by deed of trust on the premises; notes to bear eight per cent. interest, payable semi-annually.

If the terms are not complied with in five days after the sale, the trustee reserves the right to resell the property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. All conveyancing at the expense of the purchaser. Deposit of $100 when the property is struck off.

B. R. WARNER, Trustee.

feb8-eod&ts GREEN & WILLIAMS, Aucts.

BY GREEN & WILLIAMS, Auctioneers, Northwest corner Tenth and D streets.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF A VERY DESIRABLE THREE-STORY BRICK DWELLING ON THE WEST SIDE OF TWELFTH STREET BETWEEN G AND H STREETS NORTHWEST.

By virtue of a deed of trust to Joshua Whitney dated November 29, 1869, and duly recorded in Liber No. 485, folio 431, one of the land records of Washington county, D. C., and also by virtue of a decree of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, passed on the 8th day of June, 1872, in the cause of Tait vs. Olmstead et al., No. 8,858, Equity Docket 11, substituting the undersigned trustees in place of the said Joshua Whitney, deceased, and by the written request of the party secured, we will sell at public auction, in front of the premises, to the highest bidder, on MONDAY, December 16, 1872, at 4 o'clock, p. m., lot 1 and the south half of lot 2, in Giles Dyer's subdivision of lots fifteen (15) and sixteen, (16,) in square two hundred and eighty-one, (281,) beginning for the same 134 feet 10 inches from the southeast corner of said square, and running thence north with the line of Twelfth street west 34 feet 4 inches; thence west 98 feet 1½ inches; thence south with the line of an alley 34 feet 4 inches; thence east 98 feet 1½ inches to the place of beginning, together with the improvements thereon, lying in the city of Washington, D. C.

Terms of sale: One fourth cash; balance in 6, 12 and 24 months, with interest, secured by a deed of trust. Stamps and conveyancing at the cost of the purchaser. Two hundred dollars down when the property is struck off. The trustees reserve the right to resell the property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser in case the terms are not complied with within five days after sale.

BRAZILLA D. WARNER, ANDREW R. DUVALL, Trustees.

dec3-eod&ts GREEN & WILLIAMS, Aucts.

☞ THE ABOVE SALE IS POSTPONED UNTIL TUESDAY, February 18, 1873, same hour and place.

By order of the Trustees.

feb13 GREEN & WILLIAMS, Aucts.

☞ THE PURCHASER AT THE SALE MADE on the 7th of January, 1873, having failed to comply with the terms thereof within the time specified, the property will be resold, under the conditions of the previous advertisement, on THURSDAY, February 20, 1873, at the same hour and place.

BRAZILLA D. WARNER, ANDREW R. DUVALL, Trustees.

feb13-eod&ts GREEN & WILLIAMS, Aucts.

BY GREEN & WILLIAMS, Auctioneers, No. 1001 northwest corner Tenth and D streets.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF A VERY DESIRABLE THREE-STORY BRICK HOUSE ON THE EAST SIDE OF NINTH STREET BETWEEN G AND H STREETS NORTHWEST, AT AUCTION.

By virtue of a deed of trust to Joshua Whitney and myself, dated October 1, 1863, and duly recorded in Liber No. 485, folio 93, one of the land records of Washington, D. C., and by direction of the party thereby secured, I will sell, at public auction, in front of the premises, to the highest bidder, on WEDNESDAY, February 19, 1873, at 4 o'clock, p. m., lot eighteen, (18,) in Ralph Ingersoll's second subdivision of the west half of square three hundred and sixty-five, (365,) together with the improvements thereon, consisting of a two-story and basement BRICK HOUSE.

Terms: One third cash, and balance in six, twelve and eighteen months, with interest, secured by deed of trust, payable semi-annually. If terms of sale are not complied with within five days after sale, the property to be resold, under the conditions of the previous advertisement, on THURSDAY, February 20, 1873, at the same hour and place.

BRAZILLA D. WARNER, ANDREW R. DUVALL, Trustees.

feb13-eod&ts GREEN & WILLIAMS, Aucts.

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

CONGRESS AND DEPARTMENTS YESTERDAY.

The Foreign Affairs Committee on Cuba—False Rumors About Mr. Colfax—The Forty-Third Congress—James Brooks Again in the House—Lieut. Wheeler's Expedition—The Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill—Phelps, Dodge & Co. and Their Compromise—Mr. Pomeroy's Enemies on the War Path—Miscellaneous News and Gossip.

No Appointments

were made in the Department of Justice during the last year under the civil service rules.

The Bankrupt Act.

Remonstrances from every section of the country, against the total repeal of the bankrupt act, continue to be received, and are daily presented to Congress.

Witnesses Against Mr. Pomeroy.

A lot of the Kansas people who are willing witnesses against Senator Pomeroy are en route to Washington. A number will also arrive here early next week to testify in the Senator's favor.

Confirmations by the Senate.

The Senate in executive session yesterday confirmed the following nominations: Wm. H. Sinclair, collector internal revenue, First district, Texas, vice J. M. Camp, removed; M. A. Breeden, postmaster, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Executive Mansion.

Gen. F. T. Dent, at his own request, has been relieved from duty at the Executive Mansion, and will leave on the 4th of March next. He has a leave of absence until July, when he will join his regiment, the Fifth artillery, of which he is lieutenant colonel.

To be Collected.

Commissioner Douglass has not as yet received a report from the collector at Albany respecting the collection of the scrip dividend tax due from the New York Central Railroad Company, amounting to $165,000. The order is peremptory and will be obeyed.

Pilots' Fees.

The House Commerce Committee has agreed to report favorably the bill relating to compulsory pilotage at the various ports of the United States. It is intended to abolish the impositions practiced by pilots in charging one-half rates even if vessels are piloted into or out of harbors by owners or masters.

Newspaper Postage.

Numerous memorials from editors of newspapers throughout the country are daily presented to Congress remonstrating against the passage of the second session of the new postal code, requiring prepayment of postage on newspapers circulating in the counties in which they are published.

Phelps, Dodge & Co.

Have again made an offer of $571,000 to the Treasury Department to settle their case. This amount covers every charge enumerated in the account of the Government against this firm, but is not satisfactory, it is said, to the Treasury Department. This is the third time the firm has proposed a compromise.

Southern Claims Commission.

The commissioners yesterday had under examination the claims of Michael Graham, a railroad contractor, of Shenandoah county, Va., amounting to $7,244; Abraham, Ann and Adeline Sommers, of Alexandria county, Va., amounting to $7,297, and Annie M. and Fannie V. Johnson, of Alexandria county, Va., amounting to $6,995.

The Syndicate

Is progressing with the work of placing the new loan to the entire satisfaction of the Treasury Department. The reports circulated are invented by envious parties to injure the credit of the firms represented in the syndicate. Over $100,000,000 has been placed in this country and Europe, and as the contract does not expire until next December, criticism at this time betrays the motive.

No Pardon.

Among the number recommended for executive clemency by Gerritt Smith last summer was Samuel G. Brown, a South Carolina Ku-Klux, sentenced to five years' imprisonment at Albany. Colonel Whitley examined his case, and reported against a pardon. Since then numerous efforts have been made to secure Brown's release, but the Attorney General declines to recommend it, adhering to the report of the chief of the secret service.

Another Cruel Canard.

Telegrams received here from New York, yesterday, indicate that another cruel canard, as sensenless as sensational, had been telegraphed from this point, and obtained partial credence in the metropolis. Gathering up what no less startling than a statement that Vice President Colfax and Hon. James Brooks had committed suicide. Among other dispatches received inquiring as to the truth of this wonderful story was one from Charles R. Cornwell, long and favorably known as a casual resident of this city.

Fair Play.

Some of the disappointed aspirants for promotion in the Internal Revenue Bureau have complained that the examinations were not fairly conducted. The Commissioner announces that an examination under the civil service rules, for promotions to the higher and appointments to the lower grades of clerkships in that bureau, will take place on the 3d of March. All persons desiring to compete in this examination are requested to do so, subject to the rules and regulations prescribed by the Treasury board of examiners.

The Hon. James Brooks.

The Hon. James Brooks, of New York, made his appearance in his seat in the House yesterday for the first time in several weeks. His health has considerably improved, so much so that he feels warranted in returning permanently to his duties as a Representative. In answer to questions regarding his resignation, he replied that he had made up his mind "not to resign, and further not to die." He received the congratulations of many personal friends on his recovery, and appears to have recovered much of his former vivacity.

Another Alabama Senator.

J. S. Syker, esq., of Alabama, arrived in the city yesterday, bringing with him credentials of election as Senator to succeed the Hon. General E. Spencer, from that State. They are not signed by any competent authority, either to issue or sign documents of that character, and will, if presented to the Senate, undoubtedly find their proper resting place among the refuse papers of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. The only regular credentials from Alabama are those certifying to the re-election of Senator Spencer, which were presented some time ago by Senator Morton.

Internal Revenue Legislation.

The Senate Finance Committee virtually agreed yesterday to report favorably the bill which recently passed the House, amending the internal revenue laws so as to permit a producer of tobacco to sell one hundred dollars worth of leaf tobacco per annum at retail, without license or other tax; permitting wine growers to sell wine, exclusively of their own production, without paying dealer's license; and making a legal package of a one-third barrel of fermented liquors. This bill will probably be reported to-day or to-morrow, and is one to which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue interposes determined objection.

The District in Congress.

The House District Committee at their regular meeting yesterday had under consideration House bill 2184, to authorize the construction of a suitable iron or masonry bridge across the Eastern branch of the Potomac at or near the present Anacostia bridge. A large delegation from Uniontown, including Dr. C. H. Nichols, representing the interests of the Government, were before the committee to urge the passage of the bill. No conclusion was reached.

The memorial, signed by four thousand persons, against the heavy tolls charged by the Aqueduct Bridge Company was considered, but no action taken.

The Forty-Third Congress.

It is the opinion of all the leading Republicans of both Houses that the business before Congress, especially as regards the appropriation bills, is much further advanced than usual at this period of a short session. They hope that with earlier daily meetings and several night sessions each week until adjournment they will be able to bring active action on all the measures of public importance, and thus avoid an extra or immediate session of the Forty-third Congress. The election of officers, appointment of committees, and matters of similar character, are not deemed of sufficient importance to warrant a change of existing laws regarding the meeting of Congress. It is not impossible, however, that the Senate may be convened in extra session for executive business, although no official intimation of such an event has been received from any authoritative source.

Our Relations in Cuba.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs yesterday unanimously agreed to report a resolution directing the President to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the oppressive inspections of cargoes and unjust discriminations against American vessels to which our commerce with Cuba is subjected, and empowering him to take such action to secure a remedy as he may deem expedient. This resolution resulted from a hearing by the committee of delegations of merchants from New York, Boston, and other seaport cities. Secretary Fish recently told a similar delegation that he has exhausted diplomatic resources in efforts to accomplish the end which this resolution seeks. The committee further agreed to report favorably upon Mr. Fernando Wood's resolution of sympathy for the Cuban republic.

Congressional Matters.

The House Committee on Military Affairs have agreed upon a report against a consolidation of the staff corps and departments, and in favor of a system of details from the line of a certain number of officers for staff duty of four years, and against filling vacancies permanently; also allowing promotions in the higher grades of the staff, but cutting off the rank of brigadier from the head of each corps; also, providing for a chief of artillery, one of cavalry, and one of infantry, to be on duty by detail, in the War Department.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs have agreed to the bill establishing a civilized government in the Indian Territory. It provides for the appointment of a governor, secretary and judges by the president, and for the election of a territorial legislature by the people.

The Senate Committee on Claims have decided adversely on the claim of Samuel Gardner for $5,800 extra compensation for lighting the dome of the Capitol with his electrical apparatus.

"Thus Conscience," &c.

It would be a subject worthy of Buckle to investigate the cause of tender consciences in foreigners when there are so many nearer home who owe the Government but are never moved to make restitution of their ill-gotten gains. Within three months nearly $7,000 have been added to the sinking fund to redeem bonds transmitted in payment of obligations hitherto neglected. Yesterday the Secretary of the Treasury received a letter dated "New York, February 22, 1872," signed "A Foreigner," containing a $1,000 1867 coupon bond, with interest from January 1, 1873, and $20 in greenbacks. The letter said, "Inclosed please find United States (coupon) 5-20 bond of 1867, No. 53,865, for one thousand dollars, (value $1,167.50,) and $20 in greenbacks, in payment of income tax, and interest on same from time it became due. This amount was not withheld from any motive of defrauding the Government, but by reason of unavoidable absence from the country at the time, and having never been assessed or called upon for said tax since the income books are now closed, I take this method of paying the same. Please advise receipt through the papers." The bond was sold, and the proceeds of sale, together with the $20, placed to the credit of the conscience fund.

Contributions from Lieutenant Wheeler's Expedition.

A dozen or more Indian crania and several skeletons, including the cranium of Wahker, a famous Ute chief of a quarter of a century ago, and the entire skeleton of a pappoose two or three years of age, have recently been forwarded by Lieutenant George M. Wheeler, corps of engineers, to the Smithsonian Institution for transmission to the Army Medical Museum. They were mostly obtained during the field season of 1872, in Utah, from the rock graves peculiar to the Indians of that region. Some they have found buried with the looking-glasses, matches, gun-stocks, and red paint usually found in Indian graves. The bones of Wahker were secured from an almost inaccessible mountain side, where they lay concealed under massive masses of rock heaped in a vast mound, and near by were the bones of several horses sacrificed at his burial, together with those of a Pieda boy who was buried near at the same time.

One of the skeletons was unearthed in an ancient mound in Provo, Utah, of unknown age, and altogether the collection will be a valuable acquisition to the craniology of the Utah Indians as represented in Eastern museums.

Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

The sundry civil appropriation bill, which is now pending in the House, makes a total appropriation of $27,958,920.40, which is summarized as follows:

Public printing, paper, and binding	$5,119,384 02
Life-saving stations on coast	220,200 00
Revenue marine service	1,000,312 00
Marine hospital service	100,000 00
Expense of loans and Treasury notes	225,000 00
Judiciary	3,127,500 00
Treasury miscellanies	1,100,000 00
Rent offices for surveyors general	44,400 00
Surveying public lands	993,450 00
Collecting revenue from sales of de.	574,470 00
Metropolitan police	207,520 00
Government Hospital for Insane	176,712 22
Columbia Institute for Deaf and Dumb	48,000 00
Columbia Hospital for Women	26,500 00
Smithsonian Institution	42,000 00
Washington aqueduct	43,000 00
Capitol extension	100,000 00
Library of Congress	37,500 00
Light-house establishment	2,986,469 50
Survey of coast	250,000 00
Bureau of B., F., and A. L.	160,000 00
Signal Office weather reports	256,620 00
War Department miscellaneous, and refunding to States expenses raising volunteers	665,311 80
Public buildings under Treasury Department	10,160,653 96
Armories and arsenals	607,645 00
Public buildings and grounds in and around Washington	251,350 00
Navy-yards	1,176,695 00
Department of Agriculture	16,200 00
Miscellaneous items	40,000 00

VETO MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

He Disapproves of the Kentucky Salt Works Bill.

The President has transmitted to the Senate the following message:

To the Senate of the United States:

I return herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 161, entitled "An act for the relief of those suffering from the destruction of salt works near Manchester, Ky., pursuant to the order of Maj. Gen. Carlos Buell." All the objections made by me to the bill for the relief of Milton Best, and also of the East Tennessee University, apply with equal force to this bill.

According to the official report of Brig. Gen. Cyll. Fox, the commander of the district in question was destroyed, there was a large rebel force in the neighborhood, who were using the salt works, and had carried away a considerable quantity of salt, and were preparing to take more as soon as the necessary transportation could be procured; and he further states that the leaders of the rebellion calculated upon their supply of salt to come from these works, and that, in his opinion, their destruction was a military necessity. I understand him to say, in effect, that the salt works were captured from the rebels; that it was impracticable to hold them, and that they were demolished, so as to be of no further use to the enemy.

I cannot agree that the owners of property destroyed under such circumstances are entitled to compensation therefor from the United States, whatever other remedy may be taken against the subject. It is incontrovertible that these salt works were destroyed by the Union army while engaged in regular military operations, and that the sole object of their destruction was to weaken, cripple or defeat the armies of the so-called Southern Confederacy.

I am greatly apprehensive that the allowance of this claim could and would be construed into a recognition of a principle binding the United States to pay for all property which their military forces destroyed in the late war for the Union. No liability by the Government to pay for property destroyed by the Union forces in conducting a battle or siege has yet been established by precedent proposed by this bill leads directly and strongly in that direction, for it is difficult upon any ground of reason or justice to distinguish between a case of that kind and the one under consideration.

Had General Craft and his command destroyed the salt works by shelling out the enemy found in their actual occupancy, the case would not have been different in principle from the one presented in this bill. What possible difference can it make in the rights of owners or the obligations of the Government whether the destruction was in driving the enemy out, or in keeping them out, of the salt works?

This bill does not present a case where private property is taken for public use in any sense of the Constitution. It was not taken from the owners, but from the enemy, and it was not then used by the Government, but destroyed. Its destruction was one of the casualties of war, and though not happening in actual conflict, was, perhaps, as disastrous to the rebels as would have been a victory in battle.

Owners of property destroyed to prevent the spread of a conflagration, as a general rule, are not entitled to compensation therefor, and the reasons equally strong the necessary destruction of property found in the hands of the public enemy, and constituting a part of their military supplies, does not entitle the owner to indemnity from the Government for damages to him in that way.

I fully appreciate the hardship of the case, and would be glad if any convictions of duty allowed me to join in the proposed relief, but I cannot consent to the doctrine that is found in this bill, as it seems to me, by which the National Treasury is exposed to all claims for property injured or destroyed by the armies of the United States in the late protracted and destructive war in this country.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Feb. 11, 1873.

ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE.

Army Orders.

The Seventh cavalry has been ordered to Dakota, and the Fourth cavalry, now scattered through Texas, will concentrate along the Rio Grande. The annual detail of officers to the artillery school will be issued in a few days, to take effect May 1.

Navy News.

Medical Inspector Samuel P. Cones ordered to the navy yard, Portsmouth, N. H.; Surgeon F. E. Potter detached from the navy yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the receiving ship Sabine; Surgeon Somerset Robinson detached from the receiving ship Sabine and ordered to the naval station, League Island, Pa.

The Missouri Senatorial Investigation.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 13.—Representative Headlee, of the Senate investigation committee, made a minority report to-day charging that money was used in the election for United States Senator, but was furnished it, and for whose benefit, he is unable to state.

MISS STEWART'S BALL.

A BRILLIANT SCENE AT MASONIC TEMPLE.

The Great Social Event of the Season—How Miss Stewart and Her Friends Celebrated the Anniversary of Her Birthday—Magnificent Decorations—A Gay Gathering of Army and Navy Officers, Journalists, Artists and High Government Officials—The Wit and Beauty of the Metropolis.

The ball given to Miss Bessie Stewart by her parents, Senator and Mrs. Stewart, took place last evening, and proved, as we predicted, the most elegant social affair that has been given in Washington, not only during the present but also for a number of previous seasons. For weeks the ball had been one of the chief topics of conversation in society. Young ladies looked forward to it with anxious expectancy and racked their poor brains with the important question, "What am I to wear?" But there were few Flora McFlimseys among them, for the belles of Washington have parents with long purses, which, however, frequently get shortened before the close of a fashionable season at the national capital. It is, therefore, not a matter of surprise that each belle who pondered over the above important question at length answered it to her own satisfaction, at least. Thisdone, the modists were bombarded with *carte blanche* orders for stunning toilettes, and poor *papa familias* were made to stand and deliver when the enormous bills for the same were presented for payment.

The beaux, too, looked forward to the ball with much pleasure; for, although Augustus has only one suit to purchase during the winter, and the question as to the style of his toilette on this important occasion therefore gave him little concern, he was nevertheless anxious to figure as the pet of the ladies, and to add his presence to the attractions of the occasion. It will therefore be seen that our young people of both sexes were equally interested in Miss Stewart's ball, and that they all looked forward to it with equal pleasure.

THE BALL ROOM.

The ball room of Masonic Temple was chosen for this important social event, and it, perhaps, never looked more beautiful than on the occasion of which we write. The decorations were entrusted to very competent hands, for most artistically was the work accomplished. At the extreme end of the room was a platform covered with a handsome and costly carpet. Along the front of this were arranged five arches. The columns were entwined with evergreen, over which was wound white and blue tarletan, the subdued hue of the green, as seen through the tarletan, making a very pretty effect. At the base of the columns, as well as at the top, were prejections upon which were placed pots of flowers and rare plants, among the former being many beautiful bushes of azalias, the pure white of which gave a pleasing contrast to the green of the plants and the pink shade of tarletan that surrounded it. The beams that formed the upper part of the arches were wound with American flags, and at each of the places where they joined were the arches was placed a large palm leaf. Along the edges of the platform, in the rear of it and at the corners, were placed plants and flowers. Over the windows at the back of the platform were hung two immense American flags, bordered on either side with an English and a Japanese flag of equal size. These flags covered the wall nearly from the ceiling to the floor. At the opposite end of the hall, in front of the gallery, the decorations were similar to those on the platform. The sides of the hall were festooned with vines of evergreens, looped up between each window, where was also placed a shield bearing the emblem of some foreign nation. The window-sills were full of pots of rare plants and flowers in full bloom. Attached to either side of all the gas fixures in the room was a small American flag, while the large chandelier in the centre of the hall was also gaily decorated with these small flags and white and red tarletan. Indeed, the decorations were so arranged as almost to give to the room the appearance of an immense flower garden, and the delusion was made nearly complete by the votces of scores of birds, in cages, hung in different locations all over the room. It is doubtful if even the balls which have been given by the Government to noted people in Masonic hall have been more elaborately arranged for them than was that which private taste and wealth originated last evening.

THE SUPPER-ROOM.

It has been truly said that there are three classes of people who attend entertainments of the character we are describing. The first go to see and be seen, the second to dance, and the third to eat. Those of the latter class who were present at Miss Stewart's ball must have been in their glory, for the array of things that go to satisfy the inner man (and woman) was certainly such as must have caused the most exacting epicure to smack his lips and rub his vest pattern with joy. The table extended down one entire side and across the end of the room adjoining the ball-room, its whole length probably reaching seventy-five feet. Upon it were placed all the delicacies of the season, and many also that were out of season. The confectionery, however, was a perfect marvel of the confectioner's art, and did infinite credit to the skill and originality of Mr. Freund, into whose hands the supper arrangements were placed. The designs embraced miniature mountains, castles, grottoes, Swiss chalets, as well as baskets of almost every conceivable description. One of the prettiest designs was that of a Swiss cottage with a thatched roof placed high up on the rocks, a flight of white winding stairs reaching from the *serf* to the foundation on the rocks above. The largest design was that of a gorgeous temple some five feet in height, in the centre of which was discernible a figure of what must have been meant for Cupid, only he had thrown away his quiver and bow, and was bearing a large basket of grapes upon his head. But the chief decoration, or perhaps we should say a real curiosity in the way of decoration, was a large banana tree, which was placed at the intersection of the table across the side and end of the room. The tree bore a bunch of unripe bananas, and its broad leaves extended far out into the room, forming as it were a sort of arbor, beneath which lovers could stand and eat or talk. It is needless to state that when the supper-room was thrown open ample justice was done to the tempting array of delicate dishes, underneath the weight of which the tables fairly groaned.

THE COMPANY

was composed of the *creme de la creme* of Washington, as well as representatives from the select circles of many of the large cities of the land, the only cause of complaint that could reasonably be advanced was, that there were too many present for the space in which they were obliged to move. This annoyance arose from the too good-natured desire of Senator and Mrs. Stewart to accommodate all their friends in Washington, many of whom, however, importuned them for extra invitations after the prescribed number had already been issued. Still, as people, as a general thing, like to go where there is a "crowd," everybody preserved an even temper and pressed on to their destination with a heroism worthy a better cause. But the company, as we have stated, was very select. Nearly every gentleman was noted in the artistic or literary world or was a civil, military or naval officer of distinction. A survey of the room resulted in discovering in the throng many of the most noted members of the bench or bar in the land, while nearly every distinguished Senator or member of Congress could be discovered at some point of the room. Accompanying them were elegant and distinguished-appearing ladies attired in the richest and most beautiful costumes that the modist's art could desire. Indeed,

THE TOILETTES

of the ladies present was magnificent almost beyond description. The first to be described was that of Mrs. Stewart. It was of a wine-colored satin, trimmed with wide flounces of point appligue. Miss Bessie Stewart was attired in blossom-colored silk, trimmed with white tulle. Miss Mary Cake was dressed in a pink gros grain, elaborately trimmed with point appligue. Miss Emma Cake's dress was of blue gros grain, richly and tastefully trimmed with the same and point lace. Mrs. W. B. Shaw's costume was of pink and blue silk, with petticoat of white illusion. Mrs. Colonel Barton wore a handsome dress of blue silk. Mrs. Judge Emory's costume was *cafe au lait*, richly trimmed with point lace. Mrs. Hallett Kilbourn was dressed in blue gros grain, with petticoat of white gros grain. Miss Lucy Worthington's attire was of blue silk, tastefully trimmed with white lace. Mrs. A. J. Falls was attired in pink and white tarletan. Mrs. Charles Fisher wore white silk under light green tarletan. Madame R. H. Savage was attired in a rich costume of light green gros grain, with a white embroidered overskirt of a material we know not of. Miss Richardson wore a very pretty blue silk. Miss Georgie Kilbourn was attired in pink gros grain. Miss Nellie Murphy wore a costume of a delicate light shade of silk, with overdress of heavy blue silk. Miss Nellie Grant was attired in a lemon colored silk, with white tulle overskirt, looped up with roses and blue silk bows. Miss Cole wore a pink and white tarletan. Miss Whiting was attired in blue silk. Mrs. Senator Chandler was arrayed in a rich Parisian costume. Miss Madge Dent's costume was of white tulle, flounced and corn-colored silk overskirt. Miss Fannie Wallis was dressed in blue silk, with white tulle overskirt. Mrs. Hutchinson wore a very elegant pink silk, elaborately trimmed with white lace. Mrs. Senator Cole was attired in white silk almost entirely covered with black lace. Mrs. Conton's dress was of white silk, with trained skirt of light green velvet. Miss Julia Brown wore light lavender, trimmed with scolloped flounces of pink silk. Miss Mary Chenoweth wore a tasteful costume of pink tarletan, trimmed with the same and bows of black velvet. Mrs. D. P. Murphy was attired in lavender, trimmed with lace. Mrs. Attorney General Williams looked lovely, as she always does, in a very rich and stylish green and blue silk, elaborately trimmed with lace. Miss Hattie Brown was dressed in blue silk, with white tulle overskirt, looped up with roses. Miss Nellie Smith wore a blue satin dress, with light overskirt. Mrs. Colonel Martin was attired in black gros grain, trimmed with orange-colored silk. Miss May Solomon's costume was of green and white striped silk. Mrs. Graham was dressed in black silk, with lavender and white tulle overskirt. Madame Boulligny was attired in lavender tarletan, with point appligue overskirt. Miss Lina Evans looked very pretty in white tarletan trimmed with pipings of white satin. Mrs. Richardson wore a lavender silk, trimmed with cherry colored silk. The Misses Fletcher were present attired in very pretty costumes. To give a list of the gentlemen present would be to present the names of nearly all the Senators, judges, army and navy officers and other distinguished residents of Washington. The "fighting material" were ably represented by the Secretary of War, Gen. Sherman, Gen. Sheridan and Gen. Dent.

Senator and Mrs. Stewart received on the platform at the extreme end of the room, and welcomed their guests in a cordial manner. Miss Bessie Stewart was, as usual, the queenly affaire, and won additional admiration, both for her elegant appearance and for her easy and lady-like manners.

The music was unexceptionable, the door in a fine condition, and we are sure that those present will join us in our congratulation to Senator and Mrs. Stewart on their success in having originated and carried to a conclusion one of the most elegant and select social entertainments ever given in Washington.

SOCIETY NOTES.

Mrs. C. P. James receives to-day at No. 1731 F street.

Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Baxter will not receive to-morrow.

Professor Henry's family receive at the Institute to-day.

Mrs. General Eaton receives on Fridays at No. 1725 H street.

Mrs. T. F. Jewell receives on Fridays at No. 1908 G street.

Miss Mary Chenoweth will receive to-day at No. 502 M street.

Mrs. Gen. Burnham receives to-day at No. 726 Twentieth street.

Mrs. John P. Bigelow receives at No. 2034 G street this evening.

Mrs. General Dent receives at her residence on G street every Friday.

Mrs. Secretary Fish is entertaining Mrs. Griffith, of New York city.

The Indiana Association have a sociable at Masonic hall this evening.

Mrs. Paymaster Carpenter receives on Fridays at her house on F street.

Mrs. Donn Piatt receives at her *cosy* residence, in the First ward, to-day.

Miss Annie Mahon and Miss Robertson receive to-day at No. 1908 I street.

The Misses Marshall receive on Fridays at No. 1908 Pennsylvania avenue.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Dougherty will find them at Willard's hotel.

Mrs. R. P. Christy receives at No. 1908 Massachusetts avenue this afternoon.

Mrs. Sutherland will be at home to callers today at her residence on I street.

Mrs. A. B. Mullett receives to-day at her new residence on Pennsylvania avenue.

Mrs. Aldis receives on Fridays, at her residence, No. 918 Connecticut avenue.

Mrs. Professor Baird receives on Fridays at her residence, No. 918 New York avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Demas Barnes are among the prominent guests of Willard's hotel.

Mrs. Commodore Montgomery receives on Fridays at No. 801 Connecticut avenue.

General and Mrs. Sherman hold their weekly reception at No. 607 I street this evening.

Mrs. M. L. Smith and Miss Smith receive on Fridays, at No. 1336 Massachusetts avenue.

Mrs. S. P. Brown and the Misses Julia and Hattie Brown receive to-day at 1215 K street.

Mrs. Judge Arthur MacArthur is at home to her friends every Friday, at No. 1215 I street.

Mrs. General Babcock receives at her new and handsome residence, No. 1014 Vermont avenue, to-day.

Mrs. Gen. Barnes and her daughter, Miss Annie Barnes, receive to-day at No. 1123 H street.

Mrs. A. B. Shepherd receives at her handsome residence on Connecticut avenue, to-day.

Mr. and Mrs. William Stickney have issued invitations for a reception Friday evening, the 21st instant.

Mrs. O. D. Barrett will be happy to receive callers to-day at her studio, No. 317 Four-and-a-half street.

Mrs. William Stickney, assisted by her niece, receives at her elegant residence, No. 601 M street, to-day.

Mrs. Judge Richardson's weekly reception takes place to-day. She will be assisted by her daughter, Miss Isabel.

Mrs. Senator Stewart gives a *matinee dansante* to-morrow at her elegant residence, No. 1326 Massachusetts avenue.

Madame Boulligny, one of the ornaments of Washington society, receives her friends at her pleasant home on Q street to-day.

Mrs. Evans receives at No. 633 M street to-day, assisted by her daughters, Miss Lena Evans, Mrs. Kellogg and Mrs. Stevenson.

Mrs. Admiral Poor will receive at her residence, No. 1706 G street, to-day. She will be assisted by Mrs. Jewell and the Misses Tomlinson, of New York.

Mrs. B. R. Cowan, one of the most agreeable ladies in Washington society, holds her weekly reception at her pleasant home, No. 1311 L street, to-day.

Mrs. Attorney General Williams' card, reception takes place this evening. Mrs. Williams' receptions are always very pleasant, but this probably will prove very enjoyable, and be attended by all the pleasant people of Washington.

Mr. Henry C. Bispham, a well-known New York artist, is a guest of Mr. George Alfred Townsend. Mr. Bispham is one of the best animal painters in the country