# WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

*DELEGATE CHIPMAN ON THE UNFINISHED SHAFT.*

FULL AND SUBSTANTIAL REASONS WHY THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD COMPLETE THE STRUCTURE—A SHORT HISTORY OF PREVIOUS CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE SUBJECT.

In the House of Representatives yesterday Delegate N. P. Chipman made a forcible argument in behalf of the appropriation for the completion of the Washington monument, which was substantially as follows:

Mr. Chipman said: Mr. Speaker, seventy-four years ago, on the 23d of last December, the Congress of the United States, in response to a universal feeling throughout the nation, resolved to erect a marble monument at the capital, so designed as to commemorate the great events of the military and political life of George Washington.

The whole people were in mourning for the loss of the man who, by common consent, was regarded as the Father of his Country; the man of whom it was said, without exciting the envy of a living soul, that he was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

When Congress resolved to commemorate the great events of this man's life, they imposed a solemn as well as pleasing duty upon all who were to come after them, until that duty should be performed. At this distance of time, looking back along the path of our history, and remembering the vicissitudes through which efforts to carry out that pledge have passed, and turning my face toward that unfinished column, standing with bowed head upon the banks of the Potomac, I wonder what great and stirring events must have interposed to prevent the consummation of this sacred duty.

George Washington died on the 14th day of December, 1799. No man who has ever lived occupied a larger space in history, or had a greater and more salutary influence upon the lives of men. Upon his death not only the whole American people, but the civilized world, mourned his loss as one of the greatest and best of earth. The President, Mr. Adams, announced the distressing event to Congress in a message, in which he speaks of the purity of Washington's character and the long series of services to his country as having rendered him illustrious throughout the world. The letter which brought the sad intelligence to the President, and which was transmitted by him to Congress, was written from Mount Vernon, December 15, by Tobias Lear, who was with Washington in his last hours. The letter states: "His last scene corresponded with the whole tenor of his life; not a groan nor a complaint escaped him in the extreme distress. With perfect resignation, and with full possession of his reason, he closed his well-spent life."

After quoting from several letters written at the time of his death, highly eulogistic of Washington, and the several subsequent efforts made by earnest men in Congress to secure appropriations for the erection of a monument of some kind, Mr. Chipman continued:

FOR FIFTEEN YEARS

the annals of Congress do not show that gratitude for the services of Washington had an abiding place in the hearts of the American people, and that such a man had ever lived one would doubt his personal existence. Except incidentally, his name is nowhere mentioned. Once in 1810, upon the death of his kinsman, Colonel William Washington, a spasm of patriotic feeling seized upon a member of the House, and he moved a resolution in honor of the deceased; but this ebullition of feeling was quickly suppressed, and, lest the contagion might spread and the memory be disturbed at so early a moment, the resolution was rejected; and afterward when a feeling of compunction seized upon some who had so promptly suppressed the attempt to revive any recollection of Washington, an effort was made to expunge the record so slighting to his family. It was refused, and the record kept as a warning to any who should hereafter attempt to honor his name.

In 1816 Mr. Huger, who was on the committee in 1799, moved a joint committee to inquire as to how the act of 1799 could be carried out. The Senate concurred, but no report was made, so far as there that I can find. The House committee reported favorably to a monument. In moving the law Mr. Huger said his heart sank within him as he recalled to mind the scene which had once witnessed, and in which he had personally acted a part on the floor of that Congress, which represents the American nation, on the death of this great man. He had often since thought with astonishment, and more than regret, of the apathy of the American people on this subject. The only action taken is recorded in the following ghastly, laconic language: "And that said bill be indefinitely postponed." And so this first effort for fifteen years to redeem an early pledge died in the deadly atmosphere of indefinite postponement—killed at the shrine of that South of congressional indifference, apathy, and disloyalty to the name and fame of a man whose loss had once moved not only the American people but the whole world with profound sorrow.

In 1819 Mr. Goldsborough, in the Senate, moved a resolution to erect an equestrian statue to Gen. Washington, which passed July 19. The House next day had it laid upon the table and a committee of five appointed to report. There it took a long sleep under the humiliating shade of forgetfulness, and died the lingering death of postponement. The memory of Washington was allowed to repose peacefully in oblivion until 1824, when James Buchanan, just in the House fresh from the old Keystone State, made an abortive attempt to convince Congress that by neglecting for so long a period to accomplish the object of the act of 1799 it had subjected itself to the imputation of perhaps, as well as ingratitude. He said:

"We owe a solemn promise to the widowed partner of Washington and to the people of the United States by a legislative act that we would erect a monument to his memory. That distinguished lady has long slumbered with him in the grave, and this pledge has never been redeemed."

He continued:

"It is difficult to determine whether this neglect be more impolitic or ungrateful. Every wise nation has paid honors to the memory of the men who have been the saviours of their country. Sculpture and painting have vied with each other in transmitting their images and the memory of their deeds to the remotest posterity. By these means the holy fire of virtuous emulation has been kindled in the bosoms of the youth of succeeding ages."

Mr. Buchanan was a young member, and so far as the annals of Congress show, he was tolerated by the House in this flight of fancy. On account of his youth and inexperience he was not reminded that the subject of his remarks had long since been consigned to oblivion and had become obsolete. If there was a member courageous enough to take him aside and congratulate him on the success of his first effort, the record does not show it. But it does show that the House was there that I can find. The House committee reported favorably to a monument. In moving the law Mr. Huger said his heart sank within him as he recalled to mind the scene which had once witnessed, and in which he had personally acted a part on the floor of that Congress, which represents the American nation, on the death of this great man. He had often since thought with astonishment, and more than regret, of the apathy of the American people on this subject. The only action taken is recorded in the following ghastly, laconic language: "And that said bill be indefinitely postponed." And so this first effort for fifteen years to redeem an early pledge died in the deadly atmosphere of indefinite postponement—killed at the shrine of that South of congressional indifference, apathy, and disloyalty to the name and fame of a man whose loss had once moved not only the American people but the whole world with profound sorrow.

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"ORDERED TO LIE UPON THE TABLE."

I wish, Mr. Speaker, I could find somewhere along this period a bright spot but as touching this holy duty it is all black with the darkness of darkness.

I would close the book of this Congress if I had not resolved to spread before you all I have found on this interesting subject.

At the same session, Mr. Johnson moved in the Senate to purchase the equestrian portrait of Washington by Rembrandt Peale, provided it should cost no more than $6,000. A similar motion was made by Mr. Buck in the House. These propositions were consigned to the table gently that they might not disturb the quiet repose of the dead soldier and sage.

About the same time the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds was instructed to inquire into the expediency of purchasing three busts of Washington by Capellano. The committee subsequently reported that—

"However laudable it may be in the Government to cherish a disposition friendly to the fine arts, and to patronize ingenious artisans, or public to adorn our public halls or libraries with the likenesses of departed sages and heroes, it is inexpedient to purchase these busts at this time under existing circumstances."

The brief record is that the report was concurred in.

Mr. Speaker, I challenge the civilized world, and I will include the semi-barbarous portion, to present a specimen of loftier contempt for the memories of the past, a more heartless and cavalier disposition of a sacred subject. Twenty-four years before, with one voice, the nation voted a monument to Washington, since which time no action had been taken toward it. The monument was again and again postponed; a portrait was declined, and now three little busts could not be purchased "under existing circumstances." What were the "existing circumstances," I know not, unless it be that Congress was composed of men filled with personal ambitions, men absorbed in personal success, forgetful of the past, indifferent as to the future, and who lived in an atmosphere of dead memories and unpatriotic and selfish motives.

Washington and his great services had disappeared. The question had become one of patronage of art, the embellishment of our halls and libraries, or the commemoration of our heroes and sages generally. I shall go no further for proof that the so-called golden age of the Republic was an age of selfish and mean motives no better than our own, and that the evidences of patriotic devotion to the country and to the memories of our revolutionary struggle are fourfold stronger and more intense now than in the days to which we are apt to turn for high aspirations and lofty motives.

In 1836 the House tabled a resolution to adjourn over the 22d of February in honor of Washington.

In 1852 an attempt to make some arrangements to celebrate his centennial birthday was dropped, owing to the refusal of Mr. John A. Washington to permit the remains to be removed from Mount Vernon.

This Congress did, however, agree to employ John Vanderlyn, of New York, to paint a full-length portrait of Washington to be placed in the Hall of Representatives opposite the portrait of Lafayette, the head to be a copy of Stuart's Washington, and $1,000 were appropriated.

This admirable painting is before you at the right of the Speaker, and I hope before we refuse to complete the unfinished monument that this picture may be veiled forever from the sight of man. I could never, Mr. Speaker, look toward your desk with those eyes full upon me and solemnly vote that our centenary may come and go without removing the national disgrace daily uttered by yonder

UNFINISHED SHAFT.

At the same session, also, the statue now in the East Capitol grounds, by Horatio Greenough, was ordered; the head was to be a copy of Houdon's Washington, the accessories according to the artist's judgment. This statue was designed for the Rotundo, but why it has been cast out and left utterly exposed and forsaken no one can tell.

Two unsuccessful efforts in the Senate in the same year, one to purchase Rembrandt Peale's Washington, and one to erect a full-length bronze pedestrian statue, closes the record. If we include the equestrian state by Clark Mills, of all that has been done and refused by the American Congress toward redeeming a sacred promise.

This, Mr. Speaker, is the history of thirty-two years of the American Congress in its effort by a suitable monument or furniture to testify the gratitude of the American nation toward the Father of his Country; a man renowned throughout the world, whose name is now and ever shall be the synonym for liberty and for free government.

We come now to the period when the people, despairing of Congressional action, resolved to erect a monument from contributions out of their own purses. The story of this well-meant effort is soon told. Its details are fully presented in the report of the committee which gentlemen have before them.

In September, 1833, a number of patriotic citizens of Washington assembled together, and on that and subsequent meetings devised a plan for erecting a national monument.

It was hoped that, a monument once erected by the voluntary contributions of the whole people, permission would be given to remove the remains of Washington for deposit in it, and whether this should be done or not it would be a rallying point for patriotism, and would be a noble emblem of attachment to the Union and its founders.

Of the original number who founded the society, not one survives. The names of these patriots should not be forgotten, and I shall do them the poor honor of connecting them with what I hope we intend to be the last and successful effort to complete what

THEY SO NOBLY BEGAN.

They were Wm. Brent, Daniel Brent, James Kearney, George Watterson, Joseph Gales, Joseph Gales, jr., Peter Force, Wm. W. Seaton, John McClellan, Pliney Thompson and Thomas Carberry.

Chief Justice Marshall was its first president and at his death Madison was chosen, since whose death the successive Presidents of the United States have held the position.

It was first determined to limit the subscription of any one person to one dollar, but this restriction was afterward removed.

In 1836 the subscriptions had reached $28,000; in 1847 they had reached $87,000.

On the 31st of January, 1848, Congress passed a resolution authorizing the society to erect the monument upon one of the reservations of the Government.

On the 4th of July, 1848, the corner-stone was laid in the presence of persons from all parts of the country and amid the prayers and plaudits of the whole people, and by 1854 the funds of the society were exhausted; the obelisk had reached the height of one hundred and seventy feet, at a cost of $230,000, since which only four feet have been added.

The society appealed to Congress for aid as subscriptions had ceased, and a committee of the House reported a bill appropriating $200,000, but at this critical juncture rival aspirants got possession of the organization, thus preventing action, and held it until the latter part of 1858, when Congress incorporated the society and confirmed its title to the reservation; but after appealing to the country in every way it could suggest, the society frankly avows its belief that if the monument is to be completed by the Centennial Congress must provide the means.

This brings us face to face with our duty. The committee in recommending that Congress should promptly accept the trust tendered have not been unmindful of public sentiment as to the duty to economize expenditures in every branch of Government, but the committee thought there was that which withholdeth yet improvetheth in this case. We did not believe that the enlightened public sentiment of the country would sustain us in refusing a reasonable appropriation to complete this monument. We felt that if no attempt had ever been made to erect a monument we would not honorably escape the duty imposed by the act of 1799, but we find here an unfinished monument started by the people which from lack of administrative machinery to reach contributors must utterly fail, unless the Representatives of the people come to their assistance, and we must either refuse or make

THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATION.

Every question as to cost, stability of shaft and appearance when completed is answered in the report.

In brief, it is found not advisable to complete the obelisk to the height originally intended, (560 feet,) but to reduce it to the height of about 440 feet. It is found also that the pantheon or colonaded structure at the base may be dispensed with, and thus make not only a less expensive monument, but a much more graceful, in better proportion, and altogether more desirable.

For the pantheon is substituted a terrace with massive steps and balustrade, forming admirable pedestals for future statues. The obelisk will cost $245,145.17, the terrace $65,340.75; total cost of obelisk, $310,485.92. With the funds now in the hands of the society an appropriation of $300,000 will finish the monument, and of this $75,000 will be required this year.

It is found that the work will require five hundred and thirty-seven days, so that a delay till next session is fatal.

A word, Mr. Speaker, as to the plan. I know this has been criticised, but the criticism has been based not upon the effect produced by a shapely and graceful shaft abandoned, but by substituting this pure and simple style of Egyptian architecture with the Grecian pantheon or colonaded building surrounding its base. But this is now disposed of by the adoption of the plan recommended by the committee, and a terrace of proper proportions substituted in its stead.

If the question were entirely a new one, and we were now for the first time to determine what character of monument should be erected to the memory of Washington, it may be that something more artistic and ornamental would be approved; but the people of the country, the rich and poor from the remotest boundaries of the Union, have subscribed to the monument upon the present design, and have expended over a quarter of a million dollars in its erection, and it is now nearly finished. The committee felt that this consideration alone, admitting no others, would constrain them to adhere to this plan rather than to tear down the structure and begin over the question anew as to the design of a monument. It was felt that the moment this was done the whole army of empires and charlatans in art would open their shafts upon every plan advised, and that great difficulty would result in determining upon any plan.

Some gentlemen here may remember that some years ago the committee for erecting a monument to Washington assembled in New York, advertised for plans, and forty or fifty were sent in and exhibited at the Art Union. Mr. Varnum tells us in his "Seat of Government" that a more grotesque and absurd group of lighthouses, pyramids and nondescript structures never were got together; one only, that of Frazee, received the faintest praise, and it was a mere copy of the Parthenon, to cost about $6,000,000.

But, Mr. Speaker, there is something in this

SIMPLE, MAJESTIC OBELISK

to my mind eminently proper as commemorative of the character of Washington, aside from the fact that the early fathers preferred it to one more involved and complex in its design. There is something in this obelisk without ornament, simple and pure in its design, not unlike the character of Washington. Strong and enduring, it cannot be more so than his fame; lofty and majestic, it cannot be more so than his motives which governed his life; higher than any like structure in the world, it cannot excel them by so much as he stands above all others in the spotless purity of his character.

Do gentlemen object to the site? Not to speak of its location as presenting a beautiful view of the Potomac, and from the top of the monument a full view of Mount Vernon, where rest the ashes of this chief, it was selected by Washington himself as the spot for a monument to the American Revolution which in 1795 was proposed should be erected at the permanent seat of Government; and adopted on Major L'Enfant's plan of the map of Washington city as the site for the equestrian statue of General Washington ordered by the Continental Congress, which map was examined and approved by Washington himself; besides its elevation is but little below the foundations of this Capitol building.

There is another consideration, Mr. Speaker, which will appeal to the hearts and minds of some members quite as strongly as the question of honor or sentiment involved. In 1859 Congress confirmed to the monument association their title to the reservation No. 3, where the monument now stands, embracing about thirty acres, which had been deeded to them by President Polk in 1848. The deed gave to this society this reservation "to use, possess, occupy and improve peaceably and free from all let or hindrance," for the purposes of the society. This reservation forms an important link in the cordon of reservations extending from the Capitol grounds to the Executive Mansion. It is worth many times its value the amount required to complete the monument. The society have expressed a willingness to reconvey this reservation to the United States if this appropriation is made and the monument completed. As a question based entirely upon business principles, and laying aside all others, this alone should impel members to vote for the appropriation.

The United States are to-day trespassers in establishing a propagating garden on one portion of this reservation. Congress cannot with honor revoke the deed made to the society and refuse to carry out the trust coupled with the former deed.

I submit, then, to gentlemen with whom considerations of

PATRIOTISM AND NATIONAL HONOR

will not avail, that here is a motive worthy the most economical, and which can be defended upon business principles, however exacting.

But, Mr. Speaker, I am impelled almost to apologize to the House for having even suggested such a consideration. It cannot be that patriotism and national gratitude are dead in this land. It cannot be that the name and fame of Washington are things of the past. It cannot be that we do not near to him, his own countrymen, must alone refuse to do him honor.

Erskine wrote to Washington himself:

"I have a large acquaintance among the most valuable and excellent classes of men; but you are the only being for whom I ever felt an awful reverence."

Said Fox of him in the British House of Commons in 1794:

"Illustrious man! deriving honor less from the splendor of his situation than from the dignity of his mind. Before him all borrowed greatness sinks into insignificance, and all the potentates of Europe become little and contemptible."

Napoleon proclaimed, on hearing of the event: "Washington is dead! This great man fought against tyranny: he established the liberty of his country. His memory will be always dear to the French people, as it will be to all freemen of the two worlds."

Said Lord Brougham:

"It will be the duty of the historian and the sage in all ages to let no occasion pass of commemorating this illustrious man; and until time shall be no more will a test of the progress which our race has made in wisdom and virtue be derived from the veneration paid to the immortal name of Washington."

Said Lamartine:

"Either he overtopth the name of Machiavel from our titles of glory, and substitute for it the name of Washington. That is the name of modern liberty. It is no longer the name of a politician or a conqueror that is required; it is that of a man the most disinterested and most devoted to the people. This is the man required by liberty. The want of the age is a European Washington."

Is this, Mr. Speaker, a just estimate of the charcter of our Washington? It is we believe it. And believing it, can we turn toward yonder unfinished monument, which overlooks the final resting-place of the Father of his Country whose shadow in the evening sun reaches to the spot where we now stand, and deliberately vote to perpetuate that evidence of national dishonor and national ingratitude?

No, sir. Complete it ere your Centennial day arrives, or let no American citizen look toward heaven on that glad morn and thank God that this is a land of liberty and that we are a free people. Complete it, or look not back to a noble ancestry; but confess that your nation is in its decadence, and that its days are already numbered.

*DR. HENRY WILSON'S CASE.*

Dr. Henry Wilson was arraigned yesterday at the Police Court for having committed an assault and battery on one a female child three days old. Dr. Henry Wilson is a notorious character, with cross-eyes attached. He is a reputed baby-farmer, and has an unenviable reputation in the community, and his connection with this crime will, if proven, be very likely to send him to the penitentiary. It appears from the evidence introduced at the trial that Wilson took to the house of Martha Brown, in Shepherd's alley, an infant two days old, and told Martha that her husband had promised to keep the child for three dollars a week in advance. Martha testified that on Thursday, about a month since, Wilson brought the child in her wrapped up in a water-proof cloak, and placed it in the bottom of a bureau. She took the child out and upon unwrapping the cloak she found it nearly suffocated, and as she supposed dying. It was bruised in many parts of its body, and as soon as she had taken it into the house it commenced having violent spasms. After nursing it for several days it suddenly grew worse and died. She then went to the police authorities and informed them of the whole transaction, describing Wilson so completely that no doubt was entertained but that he was the perpetrator of the infamous act. After the prosecution had closed, the Messrs. Carrington, for the defense, stated that the child was the offspring of a poor crippled woman, who employed Wilson as her agent to secure the child board. The Court said that if the mother of the child was not brought hit into court he would have to send the defendant to the grand jury. Mr. Carrington, in reply, asked the court to allow the defence two or three days in which to produce the witness, but this was granted, next Tuesday was fixed as the day of trial, and the bonds were placed at $3,000.

# THE RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

*MEETING OF MERCHANTS AND BUSINESS MEN LAST NIGHT.*

THEY WANT THE SURVEY AND IMPROVEMENT MADE—THE CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION TO BE EXPENDED—THE WASHINGTON CITY AND POINT LOOKOUT RAILROAD BILL INDORSED.

A large meeting of the merchants and business men of Georgetown was held last night at the custom-house. Mr. Evans Lyons was called to the chair, and Mr. Granville Hyde chosen secretary.

The Chair stated the object of the meeting to be for the purpose of taking into consideration the appropriation of $50,000 made by the last Congress, approved March 3, 1873, "for the improvement of the Potomac river between the Long bridge and the city of Georgetown, in the District of Columbia." On July 12, 1873, proposals were issued by the United States engineer department for dredging in the harbor of Washington and Georgetown, and the proposals were forwarded to the Secretary of War for approval. No action has been taken. He further said it was necessary that some action should be taken to have this money properly applied. By some means unknown the appropriation has been suppressed.

Mr. Alexander Ray made a statement substantially as above.

Mr. Tenny moved that a committee be appointed to express the sentiments of the meeting. Adopted.

The Chair appointed W. H. Tenny, Alex. Ray, John Marbury, jr., Wm. King and D. L. Shoemaker as the committee.

During the absence of the committee Mr. Hardy made a few remarks, in which he set forth the wants of business men, and claimed, if the appropriation were properly used, it would be of great benefit to Georgetown. He thought the matter should be fairly represented to Congress and all would be made right.

Mr. Libbey stated that a vessel drawing thirteen-and-a-half feet of water had grounded in the channel, and had remained there six hours before being pulled off. He exemplified the necessity of deepening the channel.

Mr. Hardy next read the following from the Alexandria *Gazette* of the 25th of May:

"THE REASON WHY.

"Twelve vessels are now lying aground at Georgetown, unable to move even at high tide, though some of them have not taken on full cargoes. Almost daily a vessel that has taken on part of a cargo at Georgetown stops here on her way out to complete her cargo. The American Coal Company here is now handling coal at the rate of 1,000 tons per day, and intends to double this. The Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Company, with a single gang of laborers, shipped this week over three thousand tons, and Mr. F. Agnew has facilities for doing as large a business as either of the companies above named. Vessels drawing twenty and twenty-one feet of water have no difficulty in lying in the docks here and receiving coal, and why, with these advantages and with the disadvantages of Georgetown, vessels should pass here to go to the latter port, seems passing strange."

The committee returned and reported the following resolutions:

THE RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas the Congress of the United States passed an act called the river and harbor bill, approved March 3, 1873, in which an appropriation was made of $50,000 for improving the navigation and improvement of the harbors of Washington and Georgetown, District of Columbia, fifty thousand dollars; and whereas the nature of the improvement thus provided was understood—no less by that branch of the War Department having this class of improvements in charge than by the people interested and the public generally—to consist in the process of dredging and deepening, as step in the advertisement for proposals issued by the Engineer office, dated July 12, 1873; and whereas both the enactment of Congress and the construction thereof by the Engineer bureau have failed to be effective, to the serious present injury and yet greater threatened detriment to the commercial interests of the people of this District and elsewhere; and, whereas, for all the Eastern and Northern ports: therefore

*Resolved*, That a committee of five, including the chairman, be selected by this meeting to represent the interests of the people, to make known without delay, the grievous wrong and hardship of the case—wrong that the will of Congress should be disregarded, and hardship to our commerce and navigation, which was the obvious end sought to be expressed design of Congress to encourage and protect.

Mr. Tenny said Mr. Ray had interviewed Mr. Chipman, who appeared to be in complete sympathy with the District of Columbia, and the committee had come to the conclusion from the tenure of the interview that the resolutions would cover all the ground and reach the point sought.

He also spoke of the great importance of the canal, and the coal companies in Georgetown, to this city, and claimed that from $2 to $2.50 per day were being paid as freight, the greater portion of which went to laborers on the canal.

An average of thirty-six boats arrive in Georgetown daily. Those employed on these boats leave considerable money in the District in the payment of their wages, and that money should not leave money, and all that is wanted is the action of the Secretary of War to carry out the objects of the appropriation.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

POINT LOOKOUT RAILROAD.

The secretary read the House bill supplementary to the act entitled "An act to authorize the Washington City and Point Lookout Railroad Company to extend a railroad into and within the District of Columbia," which was approved January 22, 1873.

Mr. Tenny offered the following:

*Resolved*, (by the merchants, coal shippers millers and the citizens of Georgetown, in town meeting assembled,) That we do hail with feelings of liveliest satisfaction the efforts making by the president and directors of the Washington City and Point Lookout Railroad Company to extend their road, in the direction of Georgetown, as proposed in House bill No. 3025, now pending in the Senate, and that we deem it to the highest interest to the people of Georgetown that the efforts of this company be encouraged by the earnest support of the community, and to this end a committee of three be appointed to convey to the Senate a copy of this resolution, and assure the members thereof that to the interest of this meeting the completion of this connection will prove of incalculable benefit to all classes of our citizens, and the passage of the bill will meet our hearty concurrence.

The road referred to is a railroad to begin at a point on the northern boundary line of the District; thence to the mouth of Piney branch, by Rock creek, by a route north of the Soldiers' Home in Washington, as selected by the United States; thence, by way of Rock creek, to a point near its mouth; thence, by way of Water street, Georgetown, to a point near the northwestern terminus of the Aqueduct bridge, and along the Potomac river to the northwestern boundary of the District of Columbia, so as to connect with the Washington and Ohio railroad, with authority to construct across Rock creek river a branch road outside of the limits of the city of Washington, to connect its line with the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. The company shall establish a depot in Georgetown.

A SLIGHT DEBATE.

Mr. Tenny said he introduced the resolutions knowingly, and he felt the necessity of a road into this city. For two or three years a railroad has been talked of. There is now a surety of a road, as the bill has passed the House, and with a little effort it can pass the Senate. A petition had been circulated on the subject and has received the signatures of prominent citizens in the town. The bill obviates our difficulties; it guarantees a bridge across the Potomac and a depot.

After some discussion the resolutions were adopted almost unanimously, there being but one vote in opposition, and the meeting adjourned.

*AUCTION SALES TO-DAY.*

By Wm. L. Wall & Co.:

At 10 o'clock, at their salesroom, contents of house 1216 Massachusetts avenue.

At 5 o'clock, frame house No. 1025 Third street southwest.

At 5:30 o'clock, valuable real estate on New York avenue, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets northwest.

By Thos. Dowling:

At 5 o'clock, improved property in Georgetown, D. C.

By B. H. Warner:

At 5 o'clock, a two-story frame dwelling house, located on E street, between Ninth and Tenth streets northwest.

By Geo. Truesdell:

At 5 o'clock, a desirable residence on Rhode Island avenue.

*THE COURTS.*

EQUITY COURT—JUSTICE WYLIE.

This court made the following orders yesterday: Grant, administrator, vs. Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company. Decree quashing attachments, modifying former decree and granting leave to plead further.

Secor vs. Secor. Decree dismissing bill, with leave to renew upon a subpœna.

Jannin vs. Cushing and Gaines. Order overruling demurrer of defendant, Gaines.

Cook vs. Republic Savings Association. Decree dismissing bill. The merits of this case are reported in another column.

Morris vs. Morris. Decree taking bill for confessed.

Platt vs. Platt. Order confirming trustee's sale.

A number of routine orders were made. Adjourned.

CIRUIT COURT—MR. JUSTICE MACARTHUR.

This court was occupied all day with the case of Bowie vs. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. Action for injuries to the race mare Australia. The jury returned a verdict of $10,000 for the plaintiff. Adjourned.

*LOCAL MISCELLANY.*

Wm. Frazell, esq., of the Government printing office, has built a fine residence at "Ivy."

"John Knox, and his time," lecture by Rev. Prof. S. J. Wilson, next week, at Metropolitan Presbyterian church, Capitol Hill.

Street-cleaning—"Hallo, Jim! do Sacks make good shoddy?" "I'd n know, Bob, but shoddy makes poor Sacks."

A meeting of the Washington Monument Association was held yesterday noon at the office of J. Carroll Brent, but no business of public interest was transacted.

Union school was ablaze with excitement last night. The choir attached to that church gave one of their sociables, and everything was done by the ladies to make the evening pleasant and agreeable to all. They propose to repeat their programme to-night.

The navy yard bell cracked yesterday morning after calling and dismissing the workmen twice a day, Sundays and holidays excepted, for the past thirty-five years. Bell-metal, like human nature, will wear out on a monotonous subject.

Who regulates the lighting and dousing of the street glims? This business should be under the direction of the police board. It so happens that the streets are often darken at hours when light is most needed. Are the lights turned off a half an hour to an hour before day for the accommodation of the thieves, burglars and lamplighters?

*REAL ESTATE SALE.*

B. H. Warner, real estate broker and auctioneer, sold yesterday afternoon at auction lot four, in square forty, fronting fifty-six feet on Twenty-fourth street and seventy-five feet on I street northwest, to John Lyons at $1,860.

*SEVENTEEN NEW LAWYERS.*

LAW COMMENCEMENT OF GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY.

Beauty and gallantry, intelligence and refinement, were the prominent characteristics of the very numerous audience that gathered in Ford's opera-house last night to witness the interesting exercises of the annual commencement of the law department of the University of Georgetown. The auditorium and galleries were crowded in every part long before the hour appointed for the commencement of the proceedings. The front of the stage was handsomely embellished with floral offerings in the shape of bouquets and baskets, the gifts of the lady friends of the graduates. The faculty and students of the University, with General Sherman and Hon. J. R. B. Latrobe, occupied seats arranged in semi-circular form on the back part of the stage.

At 8:30, the Marine band, under the leadership of Prof. Louis Schneiper, opened the programme for the evening by performing in admirable style, Auber's beautiful overture from "Massaniello." This was followed by a grand march composed for the occasion by Prof. Schneider.

The act of Congress of March 1, 1815, raising Georgetown College to the rank of a university, was read by John Pope Beardsley, F. M. Daley, W. H. Du Hamel, James B. Fowler, D. D. Kane, Harold W. Illman, Thomas Robinson, William B. Renner, and J. Howell.

*PROPOSED REGATTA.*

SEVERAL FINE RACES IN PROSPECT.

The lovers of boating and sports on the water will soon have an opportunity of enjoying the pleasure of a yacht race. Mr. George Sheckells, who delights in this pastime, and has done as much if not more than any other man to promote the interest in aquatic amusements, is, as was to be expected, the prime mover in the approaching regatta, which takes place next Monday week. The entries will be made in three classes, and there must be two in each to fill, those short being decided out. The first will admit boats of 47 feet keel and under to 27 feet, when the second class begins and runs down to 21 feet; from this figure the third class begins, and embraces all boats beneath these figures. The prizes will be offered for the winning boat of the first class, $100; that of the second class, and $60 for the successful one of the third. If the winners desire it instead of the money, silver cups will be given to the full value of the purses.

This will be an excellent opportunity for the sailing crafts to give an exhibition of their speed and the public a chance to view a fine race. The Ella Trueswell, which is now on the way, has her admirers, has as yet given little display of her sailing qualities, and now has an opening to fulfill the assertions of her friends. Of course, the American will be in the race, because the members of the club love the fun too well to be kept out for any trivial reasons. The natty boat will undoubtedly be found among the entries, and the knowing ones think her chances for success are by no means poor. A pleasant day and pretty sail will certainly afford a day's pleasure for the public. The race will be from off Seventh street to Glymont and return.

*TRADES UNION.*

MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The Central Committee of the Trades Union held a regular meeting last evening, at Mechanics' hall; Mr. J. F. Whitemore, president, in the chair, and J. E. Nugent secretary. Dr. Thomas offered a resolution changing the time of meeting from weekly to semi-monthly; laid over for a month. Mr. Reed gave notice of his intention to offer an amendment to the constitution, reducing the quorum from thirteen to nine members. The committee then adjourned.

*NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.*

Summer hats at B. H. Stinemets's.

A new brick house for sale.

Storage at C. A. Vedder's.

Agricultural implements at John A. Baker's.

Carriages on hand at Robert H. Graham's.

A desirable house for rent by J. C. Haviland.

A new seven-room house for sale.

See card of J. Latham & Co.

Great sale of building lots by Geo. M. Lanktor.

A country seat to exchange for city property.

New goods at W. H. & O. H. Morrison's.

A gentleman's blooded saddle horse for sale.

Furnished dwellings for rent by Thos. E. Waggaman.

Election of officers I. O. O. O. Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria.

Bloomingdale is prepared to receive summer boarders.

George Truesdell will sell on Monday, June 15, at 6 p. m., beautiful building lot.

George Truesdell will make a sale on Thursday, June 25.

Green & Williams will sell on Tuesday the 9th inst., at 10 a. m., first class furniture.

Young Men's Christian Association Circulating Library.

*THE NON-EXPLOSIVE KIND.*

Wednesday, about 9:30, fire was discovered in house No. 1103 Ninth street northwest, occupied by John Busbee. On investigation it was ascertained to have been caused by the explosion of a coal oil lamp. Mrs. Busbee was severely burned in endeavoring to extinguish her burning clothes. Officers Yoe and Simonds extinguished the flames without turning in an alarm.

*POLICE COMMISSIONERS.*

The Board of Police Commissioners, at their meeting yesterday, re-appointed Benjamin F. Harper an additional private for twelve months, to do duty on Bridge street, Georgetown, and Wm. Lane for six months, to do duty at the Department of Justice.

# SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.

*PROCEEDINGS IN SEVERAL DISTRICTS YESTERDAY.*

THE EFFICIENCY AND APTITUDE OF THE FEMALE TEACHERS—ENCOURAGING PROGRESS OF THE SCHOLARS—NAMES OF THE FORTUNATE GRADUATES—GRATIFICATION OF THE PARENTS AND OFFICERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

Female Primary school, No. 2, taught by Miss Flora B. Wiggin, a graduate of the Boston Normal school, appointed to a teachership here two years since, was examined yesterday morning in the room occupied by the school in the Franklin building. All of the 64 scholars now on the roll were present. The school was examined by Trustees Hart, Warner and Harris in the presence of a large number of the parents and friends of the children, who expressed much gratification at the evidence of progress for the year. The following is a list of the lucky ones whose names were found upon the roll of merit: Medal scholar, Mary Eva Wing; diplomas for attendance, deportment and scholarship were awarded to Kate Nixon, Kate Scherger, Hattie White, Bessie Burche, Irene Hall, Lula Robinson, Lillie Shattuck, Sallie Gibson, Ella Briggs, Lizzie Tennuel, Mamie Manger, Louisa Fenwick, Henrietta Altmannsperger, Annie Morgan, Nettie Stinemets, Blanche Parkhurst, Kate Bernhardt, Olive Adams, Estelle Chapman, Anita Vilke, Maggie Hilton and Mimie Hice. Miss Wiggin has had 129 scholars in her school during the war, 10 of whom have been transferred and 83 of those remaining will be transferred to higher grade schools next year.

Female Secondary school, No. 4, taught by Miss Dora N. Brown, a lady of most charming manners and enviable mental culture, who has been teaching in the public schools of the city for the past six years, was examined at Franklin School Building yesterday morning, by Trustees Harris, McKee and Rocker, also, Mr. Hill and Superintendent Wilson and ex-Trustee Capt. Fred. D. Stewart, whose interest in the schools is most commendable. There are 54 scholars on the roll, all of whom were present. All available space was occupied by the parents and friends of the school, who expressed a high degree of satisfaction at the improvement manifested by the children for the year. Thirty-eight of the scholars of this school have been prepared for transfer to a higher grade school next year. Miss Brown having been seriously ill during a portion of the school term, Mr. Wilbur, who taught during her absence, is entitled to a share of the success attained by the school. The following is a list of the fortunate graduates who were awarded medals, diplomas, and scholarship: Mary Burris, Mary McWilliams, Belle Perkins, Frances Martin, Annie Davidson, Huldah Imhoff, Belle Martin, Emma Phoenix, Ella Trueman, Ella Bishop, Alma Ebert, Florence Turton, Ella Jennings, Julia McGrotty, Addie Kieser. The last named will be graduated in instrumental music. Miss Agnes Brown was the medal scholar.

Female Primary, No. 6, taught by Miss Fannie E. Jullien, at the corner of Twenty-second and I streets, was examined at 1 p. m. by Trustees Wilson, Roesser and Hart, and Ex-Trustee Capt. Fred. D. Stuart. Miss Jullien is a lady of most genuine worth, and is a graduate of the public schools of this city. Her success is evidenced from the appreciation manifested by the children that she has, during six years of efficient teachership, learned well how to intermingle a winning gentleness with the strict discipline required of her by the rules of the Board of Trustees. The exercises were varied and interesting. Those of the interrog