National Republican.

VOL. XVI — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 25, 1876. — NO. 1

CAPITAL TOPICS.

NEW FIVE-TWENTY BONDS.

RESUMPTION OF SPECIE PAYMENTS

REPUDIATION BY IMPLICATION

PERMISSION TO PAY GOVERNMENT DEBTS

DISTRICT INTEREST THUS PROVIDED FOR

WORK OF THE SEVERAL COMMITTEES

WHAT SOME OF THEM HAVE NOT DONE

WHAT OTHERS HAVE TALKED ABOUT

LOW-RATE FIFTY-DOLLAR CONSOLS

Repudiation of the Sinking Fund

Disposition of the Japanese Indemnity Fund

Pay and Allowances of Army Officers

Confirmation.

The Senate confirmed but one nomination yesterday afternoon, that of Thos. H. Mosely, to be pension agent at San Francisco.

The Granger Cases in the Supreme Court.

The general expectation was that the Supreme Court would decide the famous Granger cases yesterday, but they were postponed until next Monday.

Suspension of the Sinking Fund.

A bill to provide for the suspension of the sinking fund until June 30, 1880, introduced by Mr. F. Wood in the House of Representatives, suspends all laws relating thereto in their operations from June 30, 1876, until the above date.

The Japanese Indemnity.

Mr. Monroe's bill in relation to the Japanese indemnity fund provides that after the payment of all just claims against the fund the surplus shall be returned to the Japanese Government for the purpose of the education of American and Japanese youth.

Deposits in National Banks.

Mr. Wright introduced a bill to authorize clerks and other officers of courts to make deposits in national banks other than designated depositories, in places where there are no designated depositories or Assistant Treasurers of the United States. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Indictment of Late Officials.

Intimations are not wanting that the grand jury has presented true bills against ex-Secretary Sprague and ex-Commissioner of Customs Hilaire, as well as several others, charged with complicity in alleged action fraudulent but up to this time nothing has been promulgated officially on the subject.

The Mexican Border.

The committee on the Mexican border troubles had a meeting yesterday and heard several witnesses regarding the subject of their investigation. It came out in the views of those present that the Texans would like very much to have authority from Congress to go in and take care of themselves. They say that with such authority they could clean out all the bandits of the Zona Libra and hang the leaders.

Financial.

The receipts from internal revenue yesterday were $[illegible], and from customs $342,[illegible]. At the close of business yesterday the following were the balances in the Treasury: Currency, $6,[illegible]; special deposit of legal tenders for redemption of certificates of deposit, $[illegible]; coin, $[illegible], including coin certificates, $[illegible]; outstanding checks and drafts, $[illegible].

The Five-Twenty Bonds.

The bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Biddle, of Tennessee, for the payment of the five-twenty bonds of the issue under act of February 25, 1862, provides that United States notes, not bearing interest, payable to bearer at the Treasury of the United States, shall be applied to the payment of the five twenty bonds still outstanding.

Burning Fluids.

Mr. Buckner's bill for the inspection of illuminating oils and other burning fluids in the District of Columbia provides for the appointment by the District Commissioners of an inspector and five assistant inspectors, who shall carefully inspect and test all burning fluids, &c., and certify the inspection of the same, and impose a penalty for the sale of any such fluids without such certificate of inspection.

The Union Pacific Railroad.

The bill reported by Mr. Wright, from the Judiciary Committee, provides that none of the Union Pacific railroads are shall be construed to authorize the issuance of any bonds or land grants to the Hannibal and St. Joseph or the Central Branch Union Pacific railroad for any portion of road in excess of 100 miles next the Missouri river.

The Coinage of Gold.

Mr. Morton's bill to establish a mint for the coinage of gold and silver at Indianapolis, makes provision for the appointment of a superintendent, assayer, coiner and melter and refiner, and for all necessary clerks and workmen; appropriates $50,000 for machinery, &c., and provides that the arsenal buildings, and so much of the eighty acres of ground as may be needed, shall be devoted to the purposes of the proposed establishment.

Internal Revenue Laws.

The bill offered in the House of Representatives by Mr. Roberts, of Maryland, to amend the internal revenue laws, limits the time for the presentation to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the redemption of internal revenue documentary stamps, the use of which has been rendered unnecessary by a repeal of the taxes for the payment of which such stamps were provided, to the 1st of October, 1876, and no redemption of such stamps shall be made after that date.

Extension of Time to the Northern Pacific Railroad.

The Senate Committee on Railroads yesterday considered the bill granting an extension of ten years' time in which to complete the main line of the Northern Pacific railway, and authorized Mr. Kelly to report the same, with amendments. One of the latter fixes the time at eight instead of ten years. The committee also struck out the section repealing the section of the act of July 15, 1870, which requires the payment of the cost of surveys by said company.

The Painting of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Waddell, of North Carolina, a member of the Committee on the Library, introduced a joint resolution in the House yesterday, accompanied by a memorial signed by nearly one hundred of the most prominent citizens of New York, asking that Congress make an appropriation of $10,000 for the purchase of the picture of the House of Representatives painted by the late S. F. B. Morse. The painting is now on exhibition in the Corcoran Art Gallery.

The 3 65 District Bonds.

It is evident from the tone of conversation with members of Congress regarding the interest on the 3.65 District bonds, that nobody in Congress wants those bonds to default in interest, and that if the District had no money they would vote for the appropriation paying it. But they say they want the District to pay the interest out of the money it has, so as to let the Democrats out of any squabble it might create at the next fall elections.

Reversing Departmental Decisions.

Secretary Chandler has overruled a decision of ex-Secretary Delano, granting a donation claim to Andrew Rickard, in the Roseburg district, Oregon, on the ground that the claim was, without doubt, based upon false entries in the local offices. In setting aside the decision of his predecessor the present Secretary enters into a discussion of the right of the head of a Department to do so when evidence is before him that the claim is based upon fraudulent testimony, as this has proven to have been.

Reading Clerk of the House.

It is understood that Dr. W. K. Mehaffey, the veteran reading clerk of the House, will be superceded to-day by Mr. A. C. Buell, correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* and St. Louis *Times*. There is a beautiful "fitness of things" in this fact. It is also understood the appointment is made at the instigation of ex-Governor Allen, of Ohio, as a reward for the services rendered the party by Buell in libeling Secretary Chandler and other prominent Republicans during the late unsuccessful canvass in Ohio. He certainly earned the position.

Failure of the Sioux Appropriation.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs was before the Appropriations Committee yesterday in reference to a deficiency in the appropriation for the Sioux Indians. It appears that through some mismanagement the appropriation has been exhausted, and that the Indians are utterly destitute. No action was taken, but the committee agreed to consider the request. The Commissioner also stated that a number of delegations of Indians want to visit the Centennial Exhibition, but that there is no money available for the expenses of their visit.

Economy in the Medical Service of the Army.

The bill of Senator Logan, now before the Committee on Military Affairs, provides that the number of assistant surgeons now allowed by law shall be reduced to one hundred and twenty-five; that the office of medical storekeeper is abolished; that from and after the passage of this act, in addition to the grades now allowed by law, there shall be four surgeons, with the rank, pay and emoluments of colonels; eight surgeons, with the rank, pay and emoluments of lieutenant colonels, to be promoted by seniority from the medical officers of the army.

Centennial Importations at Pembina.

The Treasury Department having been informed that it is the purpose of residents of the Province of Manitoba, Dominion of Canada, to forward articles to the United States intended for the International Exhibition at Philadelphia, article 2 of the Department circular, No. 141, dated November 1, 1875, is extended to embrace the port of Pembina, in the collection district of Minnesota, at which port importations for the exhibition aforesaid may be made under the regulations prescribed for such importations at other designated ports on the frontiers.

The Suburban Railroad.

The Villa and Suburban railroad is the title of the last District railroad scheme introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Anderson, of Illinois. The proposed route commences at the corner of High and Bridge streets, Georgetown, runs along High street to Fourth, to Fayette, to High, and to its intersection with the Rockville turnpike, and thence to Tennallytown, with the privilege of extension towards Rockville to the District line. The capital stock is fixed at not more than $50,000, nor less than $25,000, in shares of $25 each. The road is required to be completed within one year from the passage of the act.

Nominations by the President.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate yesterday: Charles Hartett, of Maine, consul at Martinique; Frederick R. Foster, consul at Manilla; Alfred Fairfax, assistant appraiser of merchandise, New Orleans, La.; Thomas R. Mosely, pension agent, San Francisco, Cal.; Adolphus Waltz, register land office, Carson City, Nevada.

Postmasters—George Burgess, at West New Brighton, New York; Allan Monroe, Marysville, Ohio; Willard N. Smith, Englewood, Ill.; Thos. L. Stephens, Glenwood, Iowa; Julius Junkermann, Greenville, Miss.; Albert E. Gibson, Greeley, Colorado.

The Southern Pacific Railroad, Etc.

Colonel Thomas A. Scott will appear before the Senate Committee on Railroads this evening to deliver an argument in support of the building of the Texas Pacific railroad. Mr. A. K. Owen, civil engineer, will also appear before the committee in support of the bill authorizing the Secretary of War to survey the route to find out the most practicable route for a national rail highway from Austin, Texas, to Fort Leaton, on the Rio Grande, and to extend said survey, application for which has been made to the Government of Mexico, to the harbor of Topolovampo, on the Gulf of California; and appropriating $25,000 for the purpose of paying the expenses of said survey. Mr. C. P. Huntingdon will also appear against Mr. Scott.

Allowances of Army Officers.

Mr. Banning's bill to regulate the pay and allowances of army officers fixes the pay proper at the following rates: The lieutenant general, $13,500; lieutenant general, $11,000; major general, $7,500; brigadier general, $5,500; colonel, $3,500; lieutenant colonel, $3,000; major, $2,500; captain, mounted, $2,000; not mounted, $1,800; adjutant and regimental quartermaster, $1,800; first lieutenant, mounted, $1,600; not mounted, $1,500; second lieutenant, mounted, $1,500; not mounted, $1,200; chaplain, $1,500; storekeeper, $1,800. Forage is allowed major generals for three horses, brigadier generals, colonels, lieutenant colonels and majors for two horses, other mounted officers one. Officers receiving over $1,000 are to receive commutation for quarters, fuel, forage, servants' wages or clothing or any allowance of any name or nature.

National Bond and Mortgage Company.

Mr. Landers, of Indiana, has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to incorporate the National Bond and Mortgage Company of the District of Columbia, naming as corporators John C. New, Elijah B. Martindale, Charles Gibson, Americus L. Fry, Shelley M. Cullom, Melville B. Anderson, Geo. K. Gibson and Thos. M. Bridges. The object of the company is to loan money upon bonds and mortgages secured by real estate, and issuing their own bonds, based upon such mortgages. The capital stock is $1,000,000, with authority to increase the same by a vote of the stockholders. The office of the company is to be located at Washington, but its contemplated operations extend over the several States and Territories.

The Northern Pacific Railroad.

The bill reported by Mr. Kelley from the Committee on Railroads provides, as amended by the committee, that the Northern Pacific Railroad Company shall have eight years' additional time to complete its main line, via the Columbia river valley, to its terminus on Puget Sound; that no extension of time shall be given for the branch line from Lake Pend d'Oreille across the Cascade mountains to Puget Sound. The bill also provides that grants of lands shall be made on account of the increase in price of the even sections within the limits of the grant, when the same were based on settlement prior to the receipt of order of withdrawal, and that such grants be adjusted and carried to patent; and the same provision shall apply to similar private entries on the odd-numbered sections, provided the company shall renounce to indemnity therefor, as under existing law.

Interest on District Bonds.

The following is the text of the joint resolution directing the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to pay the interest on the bonds issued in pursuance of the act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, out of any funds in the United States Treasury subject to the requisition of said Commissioners, and for other purposes:

Be it resolved, &c., That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are hereby directed to transfer to the Treasurer of the United States, for the payment of the interest due the 1st of February, 1876, on the bonds of the said District, issued under the act of June 20, 1874, of Congress, approved June 20, 1874, entitled "An act for the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," the sum necessary to pay the same from any unexpended appropriations heretofore made by Congress, or from any revenues derived by taxation on the property of the said District of Columbia, subject to the requisition of said Commissioners, or from moneys raised for the support of public schools: *Provided*, That any further issue of 3.65 bonds is hereby prohibited: *And provided further*, That nothing in this resolution shall be construed to authorize the payment of the United States in any obligation to pay principal or interest of any such bonds which have been issued contrary to or not in pursuance of law.

Refunding the Public Debt.

Mr. Wood's bill, introduced in the House yesterday, to amend the acts in relation to refunding the public debt, is as follows:

Section 1. In lieu of the $300,000,000 of bonds bearing interest at the rate of 4½ per cent., payable semi-annually, authorized by the act of Congress approved July 14, 1870, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized, for the purpose of said refunding as authorized by said act, to issue, in a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate $300,000,000, coupon or registered bonds of the United States in such form as he may prescribe, or of the denomination of $50 or some multiple thereof, redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after thirty years from the date of their issue, and bearing interest, payable quarterly in such coin, at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum, which bonds and the interest thereon shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes or duties of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under State, municipal or local authority, and the said bonds shall have set forth and expressed upon their face the above-specified conditions, and shall, with their coupons, be made payable at the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 2. This act shall not be construed to authorize any increase of the total amount of bonds provided for by the acts to which this act is an amendment, nor to authorize any increase whatever of the bonded debt of the United States; and all provisions of the acts to which this act is amendatory, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby continued in force and effect.

That Bad Majority in the House.

It was conceded by all the members of the Appropriations Committee at their meeting yesterday that they had gone forward, and delayed matters in direct violation of rule 77. This rule dates as far back as 1837, and is very stringent in its requirements, with the view of settling at as early a day as possible the policy of the House in regard to the provisions for receipts and expenditures during the fiscal year for which they appropriate moneys. That rule is as follows: "It shall also be the duty of the said committee, within thirty days after their appointment, at every session of Congress, commencing on the 1st Monday of December, to report the general appropriation bills for legislative, executive and judicial expenses; for sundry civil expenses; for consular and diplomatic expenses; for the army; for the navy; for the expenses of the Indian Department; for the payment of Indian and other pensions; for the support of the Military Academy; for fortifications; for the service of the Post Office Department and for mail transportation by ocean steamers, or, in failure thereof, the reasons of such failure. And said committee shall have leave to report said bills (for reference only) at any time. In all cases where appropriations cannot be made specific in amount the maximum to be expended shall be stated, and each appropriation bill, when reported from the committee, shall in the concluding clause state the sum total of all the items contained in said bill."

The Ways and Means Committee is restive and the Senate pants for work. Never before, since there was an Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, has there been such chaos and such utter lack of discipline. The business of the session so far seems to have been the mapping out of investigations that will take two years at least to complete, and will require the services of at least two hundred extra clerks. In the face of this and in the face of the fact that these investigation committees will cost at least half a million dollars, to be paid as stipends to a few hundred people, the Appropriations Committee has not yet reported a single important bill, nor have they come to an agreement about one. Mr. Randall yesterday told the committee that he would to-morrow lay before them the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which is for salaries of the various officers of the Government.

In that bill he proposes, instead of increasing the number of clerks to carry on the business of furnishing information for the investigating committees, to cut down the number of clerks. To say the least, this looks like a long step away from the reforms they talked of, and as if the intention was to ferret out a few little discrepancies and let the sharks, who now infest the floor of the House each day with impunity, (the noted lobbyists of the time,) to walk away with the big piles of money. If they keep on in this way this Centennial year will be the perennial year of Congress.

Texas and Pacific Railway.

The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted by the great railway convention held at St. Louis, Mo., November 23 and 24, 1875:

Hon. Jacob Thompson, of Tenn. Mr. Chairman, the committee on resolutions are now ready to report.

The President. The report will be received.

Mr. Thompson. Mr. President, I hold in my hand a preamble and resolutions which have been agreed upon by the committee on resolutions, which I will proceed to read:

This convention of delegates, duly appointed from thirty-one States and Territories, many cities and boards of trade, merchants' exchanges and other commercial bodies, constituting a body of 869 delegates, representing not only a large proportion of the people of the United States, but of the active, producing, business capital of the country, and now assembled to take action upon the construction of a Southern line of railroad to the Pacific, do respectfully represent to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled—

That a Southern trans-continental railway from the waters of the Mississippi, via El Paso, to the Pacific ocean, on or near the 32d parallel of latitude, is imperatively demanded:

1. As a measure of sound statesmanship.

Because it is only by constant intercourse, business and social, that the great States now growing up on the Pacific slope can be permanently bound in common interest with our Eastern and Southern communities, and it is therefore sound policy and wise foresight to promote the most intimate relations between the sections of our common country—a necessity already recognized by the Government in its grant of bonds and lands to the Union and Central and Kansas Pacific roads, and of lands to other trans-continental lines on the 32d, 35th and 47th parallels, under the belief that private capital would furnish the needful funds to complete these highways; but owing to the great commercial depression, they are unbuilt by individual capital, and the responsibility still rests upon the Government to secure the completion of at least one additional trans-continental line.

2. As a means of national defense.

Because it is the duty of the Government to protect the citizens whose guardianship it assumed under treaty obligations in the acquisition of the Mexican territory in which they were resident, and to all other citizens who have been induced, by the grants made by the Government to aid the building of railroads, to settle in the Territories which those roads were intended to develop.

3. As a prudential and proper act to encourage the people of the South, who may very justly, and with great force, argue that while $75,000,000 of the public moneys have been appropriated in the Northern States and Territories since the organization of the Government, there has been but $20,000,000 expended in the Southern States and Territories.

4. Because not only will this road, as a means of national defense, strengthen the military arm of the Government, and at all times perfect the security of our Pacific coast against attack by foreign Powers, reduce the expenses of its local administration, bind our country more closely together, facilitate communication with the Pacific and with Old Mexico, develop the immense resources of agricultural products and great mineral wealth of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, but it will also, by the demand for manufactures and productions of every description, including iron, steel, cotton, wool, timber, and other material needed in the construction of engines, cars, bridges, machinery, buildings, etc., for the use of the road, and by the labor required in its construction and maintaining the same, give employment to the furnaces, mills and machine shops of the country, and once more revive and stimulate the depressed industries of all sections.

And whereas, to secure to the Government and the people these several advantages, and in addition thereto secure the return to the people of 50,000,000 acres of land heretofore granted to build the 32th parallel line and save the building of 1,500 miles of road, it is, in the judgment of this convention, not only the right, but the duty of the National Government to render such aid, properly secured, restricted and guarded, as will secure the prompt completion of the line referred to, and of such extensions as will put the United States in such form as he may prescribe, or of the denomination of $50 or some multiple thereof, redeemable at the pleasure of the present standard value, at the pleasure of the United States after thirty years from the date of their issue, and bearing interest, payable quarterly in such coin, at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum, which bonds and the interest thereon shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes or duties of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under State, municipal or local authority, and the said bonds shall have set forth and expressed upon their face the above-specified conditions, and shall, with their coupons, be made payable at the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 2. This act shall not be construed to authorize any increase of the total amount of bonds provided for by the acts to which this act is an amendment, nor to authorize any increase whatever of the bonded debt of the United States; and all provisions of the acts to which this act is amendatory, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby continued in force and effect.

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FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

EXAMINATION OF TREASURY ACCOUNTS

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO MAKE IT

COMMISSION ON THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC

PROPOSITION TO FUND THE LEGAL TENDERS

TINKERING THE CONSTITUTION

February Interest on District 3-65's

MONDAY, January 24, 1876.

SENATE.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the annual report of the Commissioner of Patents; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SHERMAN presented a memorial, numerously signed by citizens of Ohio, in favor of the Texas Pacific subsidy. Railroads.

Mr. WINDOM presented a memorial of 600 citizens of Wisconsin, asking the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. Commerce.

Mr. GOLDTHWAITE presented the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama, in reference to the alleged illegal election of Senator SPENCER; also, the commission of and a communication from Jos. J. W. Johnson, appointed by the Legislature of Alabama to lay the facts in the case before the United States Senate. The papers were all, on motion of Mr. GOLDTHWAITE, referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. CAMERON and Mr. WALLACE presented petitions asking aid to the Texas Pacific railroad, including resolutions of a mass meeting of the citizens of Monroe county, Pa.

Mr. CLAYTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported favorably a bill for the relief of S. K. Thompson, providing for his appointment as second lieutenant in the army; which, after some discussion, was passed.

Mr. COCKRELL, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported formally a bill relinquishing to the counties through which it passes the military road from Astoria to Portland.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURTS.

Mr. CONKLING, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill fixing the time for holding United States circuit courts in California, Oregon and Nevada, with an amendment; which was agreed to, and the bill passed.

Mr. MORTON introduced a bill to establish a mint for the coinage of gold and silver at Indianapolis.

Also, a bill granting a pension to the widow of Gen. S. H. Rosseau. Pensions.

Mr. SARGENT introduced a bill to establish certain mail routes in California. Post Offices.

Mr. WEST introduced a bill for the relief of J. Madison Wells. Claims.

Mr. DAVIS introduced a bill to amend the bankrupt act. Judiciary.

Mr. MORTON said that on inquiry he believed it would be the most satisfactory course to refer to the Committee on Privileges and Elections the credentials of J. B. Eustis as Senator from Louisiana. He made that motion, which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. MERRIMAN, the Committee on the Judiciary was instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing that a regular fixed salary shall be paid to the reporter of the Supreme Court.

Mr. SHERMAN called up the bill to provide for the appointment of a commission in the alcoholic liquor traffic. He said the same bill in substance had passed the Senate at the last session.

Mr. BOGY stated his objections to the bill, and held that it involved the consideration of questions with which Congress had nothing to do.

At the expiration of the morning hour Mr. MORTON said he was not prepared to go on with his speech on his Mississippi resolution, which came up under unfinished business.

Mr. SHERMAN gave notice that the bill providing for an alcoholic liquor commission would be pressed by him in the morning hour until it was disposed of.

EULOGIES ON SENATOR FERRY.

Mr. EATON gave notice that on Wednesday of next week the memorial eulogies on his late colleague (Mr. Ferry) would be delivered.

The floor was then awarded to Mr. DAVIS, of W. Va., who called up his resolution providing for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the Treasury accounts.

Mr. DAVIS then replied to the explanations made by Messrs. SHERMAN and BOUTWELL of the discrepancies which he had previously pointed out in the Treasury statements. He said that these two Senators in their explanations did not agree with each other. He then reviewed the explanations made by the two Senators, and argued that they did not cover the case as made out by him at all. He claimed that the expenditure of millions to which he had alluded had not in the least degree been explained away by the Senators.

He then further reviewed the Treasury statements, claiming that the discrepancies which he had heretofore spoken were fully proved.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. EDMUNDS, that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee for examination instead of to a select committee.

The amendment was agreed to by a party vote, twenty-eight to twenty-two, with the exception of Mr. BOOTH, who voted in the negative.

The resolution, as amended, was then passed.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vt., then moved to lay the preamble on the table. Carried.

Mr. CONKLING called up House bill to amend and correct an error in section 4139 of the Revised Statutes. Passed.

Mr. ALCORN called up House bill to remove the disabilities of Thomas S. Ghalson, of Mississippi, but objection was made, and the bill over had and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. STEVENSON called up the bill to remove the disabilities of George S. Hawkins, of Florida. Passed.

Mr. SHERMAN called up the bill to provide for the appointment of a commission on the alcoholic liquor traffic, which had been under consideration in the morning hour. He replied to some of the objections which had been raised against the General Government embarking in a matter of this kind. He said the bill had been thoroughly discussed at the last session, and on that discussion he was willing to rest it.

Mr. BAYARD opposed the bill on constitutional and other grounds. He also deprecated it as being, in the nature of a paternal act.

Mr. SHERMAN said he had not thought of this as a party measure, but if those who were opposed to it brought in the Constitution in opposition, looking at it from a Democratic point of view, he believed there was ample authority in the Constitution to do everything that is proposed by this bill.

Mr. BAYARD believed the measure was disastrous, and would do more harm than good.

Mr. HOWE discoursed on the evils of the alcoholic traffic, and thought it very proper to make the investigation.

Mr. BAYARD moved to include opium in the scope of the inquiry of the committee. Rejected.

Mr. MORRILL, of Me., read some of the statistics of the liquor production of the country. He said that the result of the action of the General Government in taking charge of the retail liquor trade of the country had been to increase the production and consumption of alcoholic liquors. By licensing the traffic the General Government had given its moral sanction, and the consumption had increased to such an extent that we were now known all over the civilized world as a nation of drunkards. The Government raised an immense revenue on this account, and it would not do to say that it had nothing to do with it. This alcoholic traffic was the gigantic crime of crimes. It caused more pauperism and more misery than all other agencies combined. He had no doubt of the power of the Government to institute a commission.

Without action the Senate went into executive session and adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Under the regular Monday morning call for bills and resolutions for reference only, the following, among others, were introduced and referred:

By Mr. HALE, of Me., (by request:) A bill to amend the bankrupt act.

By Mr. HENDEE, of Vt.: A bill to extend the limits of the city of Washington.

By Mr. SELLYE, of Mass.: Bill to extend the patent of Thomas A. Wesson.

By Mr. CRAPO, of Mass.: Bill to amend the law relating to wills and to probate business in the District of Columbia.

By Mr. WOOD, of N. Y.: Bill providing for the suspension of the sinking fund until June 30, 1880.

Also, bill to amend the act authorizing the refunding of the national debt.

By Mr. CHITTENDEN, of N. Y.: Bill in relation to the legal-tender deficit of the United States.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE, of N. Y.: Bill to fund the legal-tender notes of the United States in four per cent. bonds.

[The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to prepare bonds, with or without coupons, not to exceed $400,000,000, to be issued in denominations of $50 and $100, or the multiples thereof, payable in gold at the end of forty years from the 1st of July, 1876, and bearing interest at the rate of four per cent. in gold, and to be exchangeable at not less than their face value for legal tenders; but said exchange shall not exceed three million dollars in any month, and said bonds shall be taken as security at the Treasury for the circulation of national bank notes.]

By Mr. COX, of N. Y.: Bill to abolish the Board of Education.

By Mr. WILLIS, of N. Y.: Bill relating to the jurisdiction of circuit courts of the United States.

By Mr. LAPHAM, of N. Y.: Bill to change the time of the meeting of Congress from the 4th of March to the 1st of May of each year.

By Mr. WARD, of N. Y.: Bill to protect life on steamboats, steamships and sailing vessels.

Also, bill to provide measures to cheapen transportation on the interior waters of the United States.

Also, a bill to amend the internal revenue laws so as to admit proprietary medicines free of duty.

By Mr. MAISH, of Pa.: Bill for the relief of certain citizens of Pennsylvania who suffered from Lee's invasion in 1863.

Also, a bill to amend the act for the relief of certain drafted men.

By Mr. JENKS, of Pa.: Bill to regulate the practice of pharmacy in the District of Columbia.

Also, a bill for the protection of game in the District of Columbia.

By Mr. SMITH, of Pa.: Resolution of the Legislature of Pennsylvania instructing Senators and requesting Representatives to vote for the Centennial appropriation bill.

By Mr. ROBERTS, of Md.: Bill to amend section 14 of the act of March 2d, 1861, for the erection of a monumental shaft at Yorktown, Va.

By Mr. HUNTON, of Va.: Bill in relation to the occupation of the Pioneer mill and adjoining wharf at Alexandria, Va.

By Mr. CABELL, of Va.: Bill to repeal the internal revenue tax on spirits distilled from fruits.

A POSTAGE BILL.

By Mr. WADDELL, of N. C.: Bill to classify and equalize the postage on all manuscript intended for publication.

Also, a joint resolution to provide for the purchase of the picture of the House of Representatives by S. F. B. Morse.

By Mr. SUALES, of N. C.: Bill to reduce the tax on manufactured tobacco and distilled spirits.

By Mr. HILL, of Ga.: To amend the Revised Statutes in relation to the Treasury Department.

By Mr. LUTTS, of La.: A bill to amend the Revised Statutes so as to preclude an oath to be taken by grand and petit jurors in United States courts.

By Mr. DARRALL, of La.: A bill relative to the rank of officers in the United States army.

By Mr. MONROE, of Ohio: Bill in relation to the Japanese indemnity fund.

By Mr. VANCE, of Ohio: Bill to regulate the pay and allowances of army officers.

By Mr. LANDERS, of Ind.: Bill to incorporate the National Bond and Mortgage Company of the District of Columbia.

By Mr. FURBAY, of Ill.: Bill to provide for cheap