National Republican.

VOL. XVI — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 11, 1876. — NO. 91.

CAPITAL TOPICS.

VOICE DIRECT FROM WILMINGTON

THE DISMAL SWAMP BRIBE-TAKER

ROBBINS AT HIS OLD PRICE

BOUGHT AGAIN FOR $20

A RAILROAD THIEF MAKES THE PURCHASE

SAWBUCKS, OR THE "TWICE-TOLD TALE."

UNCLEAN HANDS OF THE GREAT UNWASHED

THE DEMOCRATIC FRAUD OF NORTH CAROLINA

ONE OF THE LEADERS TO BE ARRESTED

AIDING AND ABETTING ELECTION FRAUDS

"WE THREE," OF THE COMMITTEE

ARISE FOR PERSONAL EXPLANATION

COMING SENATOR FROM LOUISIANA

Robbins and His Old Price.

[Special to the National Republican.]

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 10.—Twenty Dollar Robbins also received two XX from General Littlefield, the great North Carolina railroad thief, according to Robbins' own admission after Littlefield had testified to it before the House of Representatives of North Carolina.

United States Commissioner Jesse I. Cassidy issued warrants to-day for the arrest of General William R. Cox, chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee of North Carolina, and the commissioners of Robeson county for conspiracy and changing the election returns of Robeson county, whereby the Republicans were defrauded out of their majority in the State.

"WILMINGTON."

Confirmations.

The Senate in executive session yesterday confirmed the following nominations: A. G. Price, pension agent, Little Rock, Ark.; First Lieutenant Thomas J. Thornburgh, of the Second regiment of artillery, to be paymaster, with the rank of major.

The Navy Investigation.

Mr. Whittborne has given notice that the committee is tired out, and will take a few days rest. The testimony of Wolf has amounted to nothing, for the clerks charged with malfeasance, and the records of the Department and S. P. Brown's office showed, without recourse to the testimony of Mr. Brown, that the son, both of whom have been subpoenaed, that there was nothing in it.

The Louisiana Senatorial Succession.

A rumor prevailed around town last night that Governor Kellogg had determined to appoint ex-Governor Warmoth as United States Senator. There are improbabilities about it, such as Warmoth's well-known former opposition to Kellogg, and yet there can be no fathoming of the motives that guide Louisiana compromises and Mr. Kellogg's eccentricities as a politician.

The Newspaper Men.

Mr. Clymer's committee yesterday were very anxious to examine certain newspaper men; but this was done by the chairman before Mr. Blair came. After that event there was much less anxiety to consult the members of the press. Neither General Boynton, whose little trip home was interfered with so unceremoniously, nor Mr. Nordhoff will be of any use to the committee now. The explanation of Mr. Bass, in another column, will answer every other purpose.

The Distilled Spirit Trade.

A large delegation from New York, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, representing the Wine and Spirit Traders' Society of the United States, appeared before the Ways and Means Committee yesterday. Hon. Milton Sayler offered to represent Cincinnati and Louisville, and Hon. Carter Harrison, of Illinois, to represent Chicago, Springfield, and Peoria.

Col. John Tracey, of New York, chairman of the delegation, then addressed the committee. After that the committee asked questions, and the delegation had a pleasant hearing of two hours.

The Mexican Border.

After the Cabinet meeting yesterday, the following telegram was sent from the War Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, March 10, 1876.

Commanding General, Department of Texas, San Antonio, Texas:

The Acting Secretary of War directs that you prevent any revolutionary movements from our side, and also all military expeditions in aid of the revolutionists and all violations of neutrality. Also to arrest, disarm, and intern any troops who may cross from Mexico.

Acknowledge receipt.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

Arrears of Pension.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 7, 1876.

Whereas the pensioners of the United States who from various causes found it impossible to comply with the pension laws and in consequence thereof were debarred from procuring the arrears of pension contemplated by the original enactment; and whereas many of the late soldiers of the Union and their widows and children are struggling with their various disabilities and the poverty incident to a want of proper indemnity by the Government; be it therefore

Resolved, That this association do hereby recommend the Representatives in Congress from the States of Kansas and Nebraska to support the bill pending in the House of Representatives, which has for its object the granting of such pensions, which is intended as partial indemnity and for the relief of those who should always receive the generous consideration of the citizens of this Republic.

Resolved, That a copy of the preamble and resolution set forth be transmitted to each Senator and Representative from the State of Kansas now in the Congress of the United States.

The above resolutions of the Kansas and Nebraska Republican Association. March 7, 1876.

J. H. HAMILTON, Sec.

The Belknap Impeachment.

At last the Star Chamber tactics of Lachrymose Clymer, Guerrilla Blackburn and Twenty-dollar Robbins has been disclosed, between the speeches of Mr. Bass and Guerrilla Blackburn. It appears that the meetings of the Committee on War Expenditures were set for Tuesday and Friday of each week. Two weeks ago yesterday the committee adjourned regularly, after summoning the scoundrel Marsh. There was no intimation that another meeting was to be held before the regular meeting, but Marsh arrived in town on Monday, and at 2 o'clock on that day a special meeting of the committee, composed of Messrs. Lachrymose Clymer, Guerrilla Blackburn and Twenty-dollar Robbins, was called, and Marsh's testimony was taken. On Tuesday another meeting was called, with the same three persons present, besides the witness. The testimony was written out, and Messrs. Bass and Danford, the two Republicans of the committee, first heard that Marsh had given testimony on Wednesday, when they went in and found Gen. Belknap reading the testimony, when they were called to a meeting of the committee and to examine the testimony.

On Thursday another meeting of the full committee was had at 11 o'clock. Shortly afterwards the news was received that Belknap had resigned. Then came the question of jurisdiction, Twenty-dollar Robbins holding that no jurisdiction was left and that the committee could do nothing further. During this discussion Lachrymose Clymer said the witness ought to be discharged. Mr. Bass said they ought to hold him until they got through with the affair. Clymer afterwards, in the presence of Mr. Blair, counsel for Gen. Belknap, told the witness that he was dismissed, and offered to send his pay to him. There was neither assent nor dissent, but Mr. Bass claims that he did not assent to such a proceeding, and was opposed to it. Mr. Bass received a request from the President to call on him, and left at 12:40, being in the committee only forty minutes that day. Between the time Mr. Bass left and the time he got back to the House the lachrymose chairman had permitted the witness to escape. Whether this was a deliberate act on the part of the lachrymose, or whether it was through the nudgings of the guerrilla, (Blackburn,) and whether those two worthies joined with Twenty-dollar Robbins to put up a job to carry the New Hampshire election through a fraud has not been determined. It is sufficient to know that the witness escaped against the protest of Mr. Bass.

Now it would be interesting to know why, when Messrs. Bass and Danford, two members out of five on the committee, were in their seats in the House, a Star Chamber cabal was originated and perfected by the three worthies who had been considered their honorable associates. There are dark rumors floating about that the man to blame in the case is the gallant guerrilla, who wanted to shield two innocent Kentucky ladies—the one dead, the other living, and that he had procured the assent of the lachrymose and the twenty-dollar man to suppress the testimony unless it implicated the then Secretary of War. The investigation that has been so loudly talked of having proved futile through the fact that the lachrymose chairman of the committee fairly heistered the only witness in the case from Washington to Montreal, it is due to the dignity of that tumultuous assemblage known as the National Bear Garden, that they shall set another committee to investigate the lachrymose, the guerrilla and the twenty-dollar man. And yet there is a rumor in the air that the Secretary of War was to be impeached. Somebody says that two weeks ago this was threatened. The Secretary of War resigned, his wife went into hysterics, he was hauled before the Police Court and gave $25,000 bail. His house was guarded by policemen, and detectives thrust their bodies in his face, and yet that man stands a living monument to the violation of that clause of the Constitution of the United States which provides that no man shall be deprived of his life, liberty or property without due process of law. He was guarded in his house by uniformed policemen and bailed out of prison when no charge was against him. Where are the charges? Why keep the man in suspense—a man who actually has not money enough to keep his family for the next six months, and who has retained such expensive attorneys as Hon. Matt Carpenter, Judge Jeremiah Black and Hon. Montgomery Blair? If this is not an outrage, then what is? Some of the people of the United States believe Gen. Belknap to be guilty of a serious crime, because the lachrymose, the guerrilla and the XX say he is; and yet these men, after having the effrontery to advise that articles of impeachment based upon evidence taken in a Star Chamber council should be presented to the Senate, have done nothing to forward the impeachment. If these articles, had they kicked the witness out of town, so they could not be presented, and say there is no evidence against the imprisoned and arrested ex-Secretary, they could consistently claim that the Republican has been lacking in zeal in this matter. In fact, the zeal has all been on the Republican side. It is but reasonable to hope that the Democrat will now insist that there is an investigation into the doings of their [illegible] suspicious committee. The lachrymose [illegible] yesterday gave way to fear and trembling, and has lost all faith in newspaper men. The suspicious guerrilla is moved to warlike threatenings of ulcers, festers and other odious things that seem to afflict his mind or body, while the XX blubbers over nothing but resent. The REPUBLICAN and wish that the building would take fire or something would happen to its editors. And yet they are not happy.

PERSONAL.

The contestant Senator Pinchback is freely admitted to the floor of the House, though deprived of that privilege in the Senate.

T. Ryan, esq., Kansas; Col. John Lawrence, Dakota; H. L. Sprague, New York, and Dr. Price, Ashley, Maryland, are stopping at the National.

J. Hirch, esq., Macon, Ga.; Mrs. E. Kennedy, New Haven; Mr. S. G. Grafton, New York, and H. M. Ralston, esq., Chicago, are registered at the Metropolitan.

Hon. Alphonso Taft, the new Secretary of War, arrived in Washington last evening, and is quartered at the Arlington. Judge Taft was at once the recipient of numerous calls and congratulations from his Ohio friends.

Colonel J. H. Baxter, Chief Medical Purveyor of the United States army, was married this week in Boston to Miss Florence Tryon. The wedding took place at the residence of Otis Norcross, and was attended by Governor Rice, ex-Governor Gaston and a large number of army officers and distinguished civilians.

Mr. Geo. H. Pendleton came into the city last evening and took parlors at the Arlington. To-day he will appear before the Committee on War Expenditures to give his testimony. He was waited upon by nearly all the Ohio Democratic delegation in the evening, and to his friends he expresses the greatest readiness to vindicate himself before the committee, remarking to one that "he wished the examination could take place before morning."

The Colored People Come to the Rescue of Mr. Pinchback.

NEW ORLEANS, March 10.—Lieutenant Governor Antoine and sixteen other prominent colored Republicans signed a card addressed to Senator Ferry protesting against his action in ordering the exclusion of Senator Pinchback, an ex-Governor, from the floor of the Senate. They say this action is a hasty, unjust and painful reflection on their race through its highly-honored representative.

Two Visits to the Ex-Rebel House.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: A few days since I made my first visit to the "ex-Rebel House of Representatives," now sitting in the city of Washington. On my first visit I was seated in a quiet place on the Democratic side, ostensibly reading the *Tribune*, which facts were *prima facie* evidence of my being "sound on the goose," and therefore when two Dem M. C.'s canvassed the "situation of things" in my immediate neighborhood they did so with full confidence that whatever was said would be heard only by friends' ears; therefore, I feel just a little bad in exposing the essence of what was thus innocently learned, the sum of which was that Mr. Hill and his friends had done more harm to the Democratic party in this investigation than exposures, even if successful, would do good, and the worst of it was that Ben & Co. could not be contented, and the "what shall we do?" of one was only met by a loud "shouting down" of him and friends—"they are a set of d—d fools at the best" by the other. Yesterday I again ventured within the atmosphere, redolent of Andersonville, Libby, Salisbury, Belle Isle, Andersonville, Lawrence and others were vainly endeavoring to get a word in answer to their opponents, and the endeavor to prevent the same by the previous question was being pushed, one or two quite clever Western Democrats near me suggested to their friends around them that "we only lose ground by such attempts, the minority have rights which should be respected, and the time ought to be divided," which suggestions met with this answer from their friends: "Yes, and that's just what we have done every time; when we have allowed them to say anything they get us every time; the only way is to prevent their speaking." Another one remarked, "It will never do to give them any time, don't you know how it's been every time? and we have had enough of such work. D—n 'em, they whip us every time when we let 'em in." Another one said: "Let's stay in and vote, and all night long, if we have enough of it, but by — they can't speak with my consent." Poor fellows! I really pitied them; what awful nightmares must haunt them. Ghosts of skeleton forms, pestilence, pining, mixed up with an unscored, well trained Republican minority making faces at them; investigations, impeachments, whisky straight and crooked, Clymer's mind-reading, Blackburn's bulldog, Hill's the ragged edge, Kerr feeble, little Sammy mad and fluttering, and the devil to pay generally, are evidently frightening the House majority beyond endurance, and what is such to them, when all of this trouble there comes the startling fact that on the finance question the Dems are hopelessly split. No wonder the cry comes up from these affrighted "birds of prey," "what shall we do?" ARGUS.

The House then went into

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

on the executive legislative bill—Mr. COX, of N. Y., in the chair.

Mr. PHELPS, of Kansas, was recognised, and spoke in favor of expansion of the currnecy, and in favor of the repeal of the specie resumption act.

MR. HOSKINS, OF N. Y., ARGUED

that it was not a want of currency, but a want of fixed value to our money, that was the cause of the present depressed condition of trade. The fluctuation of its value had the effect to make investments uncertain, and, under those circumstances, capital would not seek investment. He reviewed the history of the financial legislation of the country from a period anterior to the war, claiming that the legal tenders were always intended as a temporary and warimeasure. He advocated the gradual return to specie payments in a forty-year bond at a low rate of interest, which would lead the national banks to redemption, and, giving a firm basis to the finances of this country, would invigorate and revive the business industries.

Mr. WILLIS, of N. Y., said the contrast between the two parties in this time of depression and prostration was marked. When the chairman of the Appropriation Committee announced an intention to reduce the expenses of the Government thirty millions, they were met by the cheers of the other side with an unbroken front, and unexplainable comparisons were made between the mode in which the Government was administered here and in Europe. The shifting and changing financial policy of the Republican party had run the country into the black midnight of winter. And yet they were asking the country for further confidence. He charged that the issue of legal tenders was unconstitutional and, in the succeeding acts in relation to the finances were either breaches of the faith of the nation or gross financial blunders. The result of an aggressive

POLICY TOWARDS THE SOUTH,

too, had the effect to paralyze industry and prevent production, and in this way destroy trade and commerce and prevent resumption. There was nothing in the Republican party that promised relief. Their past record showed that there was no hope in that quarter. He then took up and examined the measure proposed. First, the 3.65 interchangeable bond proposition of Mr. KELLEY. This, he asserted, was inflation, and a violation of the pledges of the nation. It also brought an army of office holders and attendant expenses, which was not retrenchment, and retrenchment was what was wanted.

At 4 o'clock Mr. WILLIS gave way for a motion to that effect, and the committee rose.

Mr. Cox here took the chair as Speaker *pro tempore*.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

Mr. BASS. I rise to a question of privilege. During the past few days, owing to my condition of health, I have not been able to attend regularly upon the sessions of the House, nor to attend upon the duties of the committee of which I am a member, although I am advised that committee has been diligently at work in the discharge of its duties. But during these few days I find, on examination of the record, that a subject has been under discussion affecting the conduct of the various members of the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, and in the course of which, as appears,

CERTAIN CHARGES WERE MADE

tending at least to reflect upon two gentlemen who are the Republican minority of that committee. Unless this had been done, sir, I should have taken no occasion to rise upon this floor, detaining the House from its regular business, to make any statement in regard to myself. I have never taken any time of the House while I have been a member of it on any subject of that character, personal or otherwise.

I find published in the *Congressional Record* of March 8 the reported speech of the gentleman from Kentucky, a member of the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, in which the following language occurs:

"I will not undertake to say who it was that prosecuted this investigation from its inception to its conclusion. I will not say that no member of a certain political organization from the day that Congress convened until this proof was all in, signed and sealed, ever crossed the threshold of that committee-room. I will not say that. But if it is true, let the gentlemen answer whom it strikes. But I will say this: That upon the floor of the House the other day—and the *Record* bears me out in this—I did those gentlemen of the other side of the House upon that committee more than justice by my silence. I then said they had *agreed* upon this report as promptly as the Democratic members. I did not say *more*. Whether it was because I could not truthfully I leave the country to infer."

At a later period in the same debate the gentleman is reported to have used the following words:

"I feel authorized to say that from the day when Congress convened until last Wednesday, when the proof was all in and signed and sealed, no one Republican member of that committee ever crossed the threshold of the committee-room, although, as the gentleman from Ohio admits, he was notified more than once to attend. It was then, when a culmination had been reached in the inquiry, that a special messenger was sent to ask these two Republican gentlemen to come to the committee-room and read the proof before we made a report to the House; and I now reiterate what I said upon this floor last Thursday, that from that time no Democratic member of that committee was more earnest, more vigilant or more honest in his efforts to bring this guilty party to justice than the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. DANFORD] and the gentleman from New York, [Mr. BASS.] That is the whole truth."

As the two statements are directly in conflict as to a very material fact, I have been unable to reconcile the same to this House and to his own conscience. If he stated the whole truth in the last allegation, how is it that he has saved the imputation of the Republican minority of the committee by withholding the truth in the previous speech delivered in this House? But to give any pertinence or force whatever to the charge against the members who were not present on the first day

OF THE BELKNAP INVESTIGATION,

it became necessary to show that that investigation was commenced on a regular committee day; and I find the impression has been conveyed to this House that the absence of the two members, for the House will recollect that my colleague upon the committee, the gentleman from Ohio, expressly stated in some remarks the other day that the meetings of the investigations were being conducted at regular meetings. The first statement of the proceedings of the committee, as reported to this House and set forth in the copy of the journal of the committee, is as follows:

"TUESDAY MORNING, Feb. 29, 1876.

"The committee met. Present: Messrs. CLYMER, BLACKBURN and ROBBINS. Mr. Marsh, a witness, being present, was duly sworn by the chairman and was examined by the committee. (Proceedings, etc.)

"Messrs. BLACKBURN, CLYMER and ROBBINS submitted statements regarding an interview had by Mr. BLACKBURN with the wife of the Secretary of War, which were ordered to be filed respectively, and ordered to be made part of the evidence. Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock."

Tuesday was the regular committee day, and as the first statement that appears in the Journal in regard to this investigation is of the date of Tuesday morning, February 29, the members of this House would infer that the proceedings set forth in the first proceedings by the committee with reference to the investigation through witnesses of the charges against the Secretary of War.

But, sir, what is the fact? I call the attention of the House to a statement made by the witness Marsh, which is contained in the report of the committee. The testimony of that witness in chief, it will be observed upon

AN EXAMINATION OF THE REPORT,

was taken and subscribed to and sworn to on Tuesday, February 29. But upon page 6 of the report it will be seen the witnesses testified as follows on that day:

"Shortly before 2 o'clock p. m. yesterday I came to the Capitol to meet the committee, and Dr. Tomlinson found me in the corridor, near the committee-room door. He said: 'You are going before committee, and I want you to remember that there was no arrangement with you and the Secretary of War at the time of the funeral, and that the money you have always paid to Gen. Belknap was not for official favors.' I said I remember. I told him I was going before the committee to tell the whole story, as far as I could recollect it. I said I had thought of leaving the country, but was convinced that I had done no wrong in this and the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. He said: 'I don't want you to tell any lies; I only want you to tell the truth, and that is the truth.' I said that I shall certainly tell, and if it does not hurt Gen. Belknap, no one will be more rejoiced than myself. I entered the committee-room at about two o'clock yesterday, and without being sworn I gave the substance of my interview to members of the committee of the facts in the case—mere briefly, but substantially as I have now answered in reply to your chief interrogatory."

It appears from the record of the committee and the testimony of the witness Marsh, upon the faith of which an important resolution of impeachment has been passed by this House, that the first session of the

COMMITTEE ON EXPENDITURES IN THE WAR DEPARTMENT

when the witness Marsh was present was held on Monday, the 28th day of February, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, at which two members on the other side why the Republican minority of the committee were not advised of that meeting? The House will recollect at that time permission had not been granted to the committee to sit during the sessions of the House, such authority having been given them a few days later.

Who were the members of the committee, purporting to be a quorum, who met and thoroughly interviewed the witness Marsh so secretly on this Monday afternoon? Why were not the Republican members, who were sitting face to face with gentlemen on the other side, advised, too, of that meeting, which was not upon a regular committee day, as to which there had been no previous notice, and which must be conceded to have been a special session of the committee? I was present in my seat in the House that day, and I am assured that my Republican colleague was in attendance upon his duties in this House at the same time.

It would appear further from the examination of the testimony of the witness Marsh that this first meeting was a prearranged and concerted meeting. He arrived in this city on the night of 6:30 of that morning; that at 8 o'clock Dr. Tomlinson called upon him to see him; that thereupon he, the witness Marsh, wrote a note and a letter to the honorable gentleman from Ohio, and that in pursuance of some arrangement he expected to meet the committee at their room at 2 o'clock. Dr. Tomlinson evidently knew of the same arrangement, for he was present and met the witness "near the committee-room door." The following is the testimony of the witness upon these points:

"I reached Washington yesterday morning at 6:20 and stopped at the Arlington, my wife with me. Was shown to a temporary room at about 7 o'clock. Dr. Tomlinson, a member of the committee, called on me. Was shown to the room. He said he had been Blackburn, and that he still thought this matter could be hung up on him. He said he had written me if I had the letter I had written to the committee on Thursday night. I said 'I had not.' He said, 'Blackburn says you had better write another.' I said I would write a letter to the committee, with a note explaining why it did not come sooner.' I did so. [The note and letter are marked B and C.]"

It would be interesting to know in this connection whether Dr. Tomlinson, the brother of Mrs. Belknap, whose mission it seemed to be to get this matter "fixed up without trouble," was the messenger to the witness Marsh from the members of the committee present at that meeting.

The first notice I ever had of any official proceedings before the committee was on the morning of Wednesday, the 1st of March. On Tuesday I was in my seat in the House, near the gentlemen of the committee, who for two days it would seem had been pursuing this investigation, and no hint or advice of the proceedings in this matter reached me from them or either of them.

Why such concealment, when the members of the committee were sitting in each other's presence, and, if it was a matter of such importance to the committee, with a note explaining why it did not come sooner.' I did so. [The note and letter are marked B and C."]