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CAPITAL TOPICS.

WITNESS HARNEY ESCAPES

IS IT ANOTHER MARSH AFFAIR?

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A BILL THAT WAS PASTED

EX-CONFEDERATES AND THE NAVY

THE RESULTS OF THEIR SEARCH

THEY SEEK BUT DO NOT FIND

More of the Blaine Investigation

Cabinet Changes.

The recent Cabinet changes will take place to-day. Judge Pierrepont will remain here several days before leaving for Europe, and will sail June 22. Hon. Don Cameron arrived Tuesday, and will take charge of the War Department to-day

Fitzhugh's Assistant on His Muscle.

A diminutive-sized man named Wroe, a grocer, yesterday presented a bill to Schell, the two-ton deputy doorkeeper who calls the House to order each day at 11:45 and then proceeds to frighten the pages. Wroe went to the Clerk's office to try and collect $100 out of Schell's pay. Schell got angry and abused Wroe for taking that course when the grocer told him he had kept his family three months and wanted his pay. Schell then proceeded to beat the little fellow's head into jelly, when somebody stopped him before the man was badly hurt.

The Prospects of Adjournment.

It is estimated that the trial of General Belknap will occupy the Senate about two months. A number of Senators are anxious that the matter be postponed until after the 1st of July, so that the appropriation bills can be got through with before the beginning of the fiscal year. Unless these bills are passed the Secretary of the Treasury must refuse payments on many millions of dollars of accounts. Congress has been in session six months, and has not yet passed an appropriation bill. This is a most remarkable showing of delay, and unless this kind of work be credited ahead the appropriation bills themselves will take until the 1st of next September to finish.

The tariff has laid on the calendar for several weeks, and is now practically shelved, though there will probably be two or three weeks' discussion on it. The dead-lock on the appropriation bills will be tested very soon, so as to see which body will yield or what sort of compromise will be made. There is some talk of postponing the Belknap impeachment trial till next session, but the trouble is that that will be the short session, and it is bound to take about two months out of the time. Legislative affairs are in a fearful muddle, and a good many experienced men express an inability to see how they can get out of it. The investigating committees will use up a good deal of time yet in the discussion of reports, &c., and several prominent bills are still in the early stages of incubation.

The Blaine Bond Investigation.

The sub committee of the Judiciary Committee of the House yesterday morning examined Warren Fisher and Ezra B. Atkins, both of Boston. Fisher denied (as alleged in the Boston *Herald*) that he had ever given Mr. Blaine bonds to the amount of $130,000 without any consideration.

The most important witness examined was J. Mulligan, of Boston, at present treasurer of the Globe theatre. Mulligan was in 1871 in the employ of Warren Fisher as bookkeeper. The latter delivered $130,000 of bonds to Mr. Blaine, who sold them to parties in Maine. Subsequently the investment proved a failure, and Blaine was pressed by the parties to whom he made the sales, and took them up. The transactions between Blaine and Fisher were voluminous, and when a settlement was made Fisher owed Blaine a balance gravanged it for him. At one of the interviews Mr. Blaine told Mr. Fisher in the presence of Mulligan that he had not realized a large sum of money from the sale of the Union Pacific, because he had to take the bonds up. Witness had at one time heard Mr. Atkins say that, though Mr. Blaine did take up the bonds, he got them oil on Tom Scott, who had bought them of the Union Pacific Railroad Company at eighty cents on the dollar. This testimony produced quite a sensation. If this witness is telling the truth, he is contradicted both by Atkins and Fisher, as both proceeded him as witnesses, and swore with much positiveness that they knew nothing of the seventy-five bonds held by the Union Pacific Railroad Company. He is also flatly contradicted by the previous testimony of Col. Scott. He gave his testimony with a good deal of assurance and without hesitation, and was quite willing to disclose all he knew; in fact, seemed anxious to do so. The investigation will be resumed to-morrow, when Mr. Blaine's friends say they can completely break him down. Atkins, who contradicts him, is one of the most prominent and respectable citizens of Boston.

Mr. Atkins is preparing a statement denying that he ever told Mulligan that Col. Scott took the bonds from Blaine which were afterwards sold to the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Secretary Robeson Before the Naval Committee.

Secretary Robeson yesterday appeared before the House Committee on Naval Affairs, in response to an invitation extended to him by the chairman, Mr. Hurlburbut, on behalf of the committee. He stated his desire to be heard on the subject-matter of his relations with the Cattells, the publication of the testimony concerning which, in advance of a large bulk of evidence taken during the two months' preceding, he considered as, inferentially at least, an attack upon himself. This testimony, he said, standing alone, without proper explanation on his part, had prompted insinuations and charges with respect to him individually, which he felt it his duty to repel at least as quickly as an opportunity could be afforded him for doing so.

He said that he was ready at any time to defend the administration of his Department, and to do so with all the fullness and deliberation that the committee might require, but that his character he wanted to defend at once, when it was assailed, for if it were proven that his integrity was unsound his advice would be worth little or no further analogies. He repeated his demand that his hearing, at least so far as it explained his transactions with the Cattells, should be had in the presence of the committee, for the reason that care had not been observed in the matter of sending forth the testimony without his explanation of certain portions thereof, and he did not desire to await the slow process of the public printing office for his vindication.

The committee assented, after some deliberation, to his request to be first heard on his transactions with the Cattells, but the question of granting him a hearing in open session is reserved for decision until 10 o'clock, at which time the Secretary will again appear, with such papers as he may desire to lay before the committee, and such witnesses as he may at that time produce to corroborate his statements.

Close of Testimony in the Insane Asylum Investigation.

The Committee on the Expenditures of the Interior Department resumed their investigation of the management of the United States Insane Asylum yesterday.

J. W. Wallace, formerly an attendant at the asylum testified that he saw Hatterman, the head attendant of the Ninth ward, strike the patients with a broom-stick, also with his fist; was employed there four weeks; saw vermin on the patients' heads. Witness, on cross-examination, denied that he was discharged for drunkenness. He said that he would not have told the Doctor of outrages upon the patients, even if he saw an attendant cutting a patient's throat. In answer to a question by Mr. Tuft, the witness said the meat furnished the patients was tainted 25 often as two or three times a week.

Dr. Morrell was recalled, and gave testimony in regard to Wallace. He said Wallace was discharged from the asylum for being absent without leave; thought that Hetterman was a kind attendant; has watched him pretty closely of late; thought it was better to keep some patients tied down than to lock them up in a strong room; do not apply restraints to more than one case in a hundred.

B. G. Blakesley testified that he resides in Charlotte, Ohio; is engaged in the lumber business; was formerly a clerk in the Pension Office, and accompanied Mrs. Ambrose when she visited the Insane Asylum to see her son; went with her upon the invitation of Dr. Daly and Mrs. Ambrose; waited fifteen minutes to see Dr. Nichols; Mrs. Ambrose spoke to him; she said to the Doctor, "you did very wrong in putting my son in a strong room;" the conversation was pretty warm, and finally Dr. Nichols said he did not want to talk longer on the subject; Mrs. Ambrose asked to see her son, and started towards the room in which he was kept; Dr. Nichols refused to allow the witness to accompany her to see the boy; after waiting a little while the boy was brought down to the reception-room; he was ragged, dirty and very much emaciated; think he wore blue soldiers' clothes; did not examine him very closely; Mrs. Ambrose complained very bitterly of the treatment of her son, asking why was not the clothing that she sent her given him; can not recall the details of the visit; did not examine the body at any time; Mrs. Ambrose charged Dr. Nichols with allowing vermin to get on her son; Dr. Daly and Mrs. Ambrose visited the room in which young Ambrose was kept; the physician in charge refused to allow witness to accompany them; they said it was against the rules for persons not relatives of patients to visit the rooms in which patients were kept.

In cross-examination witness said he resigned from the Pension Office in September, 1875. Dr. Daly is the uncle of young Ambrose. Knew that he had been at the asylum some considerable time. Young Ambrose was taken away soon after witness visited the asylum. The assault on Dr. Nichols, by striking him over the head with the vermin-covered shirt, by Mrs. Ambrose, did not take place on the occasion of the visit of witness. It may have occurred the visit afterwards. Witness only visited the asylum once. Do not think that the occurrences referred to by Mrs. Ambrose took place when witness accompanied her.

Letters from a number of prominent citizens of Chicago, indorsing Mrs. Van Kewan, were then placed in evidence. One of them was from Professor G. Thayer, of the Jacksonville, Ill., Female Academy, denying the statement of Dr. McFarland in regard to Mrs. Van Kewan. Another was from W. J. Mayo, of Chicago, denying Dr. McFarland's statement, and particularly the part where McFarland gives Mayo as authority for certain rumors.

Dr. Nichols then read a statement of the causes of the large number of patients—755—now in the asylum. He said a very careful ascertainment had been made in Massachusetts recently, when it was found that there was one insane person to every 427 of the population. The last census does not give half that number, and is very far from the truth. During the past year there were 48 army patients admitted to the asylum. Homesickness is the greatest cause of insanity in the army and navy. The ratio of insanity in the navy is less than in the army, as most sailors make it a life business. Last year there were admitted 14 patients from the navy, and on the previous year 25; before that it averaged about 14.

By Chairman Hurlburbut: Did the asylum, then made a statement, denying that he ever attempted to bribe the witness, Williams, or that he inhumanely treated the witness, Clarke, while a patient there.

Mr. Mutchler, chairman of the committee, in answer to a question, said the committee would have a session to-morrow, but would not examine any witnesses. He said he did not know that any more witnesses will be examined.

The committee then adjourned.

Survey of Baltimore Harbor.

By direction of the President, Brig. Gen. A. A. Humphreys, chief of engineers; Carlisle P. Patterson, esq., superintendent of the Coast Survey, and Major William P. Craighill, corps of engineers, are constituted a board for the survey of the harbor of Baltimore city and the adjacent waters and the establishment of the river and bulkhead lines thereof. The board will convene at the earliest practicable date, and will report to the Governor of Maryland before entering upon their duties.

Rice and Sugar Interests.

Lieutenant Governor Antoine and Mr. John C. Potts, of the delegation from Louisiana, and some delegates from South Carolina and Georgia, had a hearing before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations yesterday in opposition to the pending bill to carry into effect the Hawaiian treaty. These gentlemen represent the sugar and rice planting interests of their sections. They made arguments to show that the provisions of the bill admitting sugar and rice free of duty would prove a heavy blow to the labor interests of South Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana. Governor Antoine devoted his remarks especially to the blighting effects which would menace the colored laborers of Louisiana in the event of the passage of the bill. His argument was forcible, and produced a marked effect upon the committee. Governor Antoine received last evening the following telegram from the chairman of the Republican convention, now in session in New Orleans:

NEW ORLEANS, May 31, 1876.

C. C. Antoine, Lieut. Gov. La., Willard's Hotel, Washington, D. C.:

The following resolution was unanimously passed at the Republican convention now sitting at New Orleans:

Resolved, That the protection of capital and labor employed in the production of the great staples (sugar and rice) is of the utmost importance to these interests in the State of Louisiana; and whereas a treaty now pending between the Government of the United States and the Sandwich islands is understood to threaten the introduction of the cheap sugars and rice of foreign countries duty free into the ports of the United States, thereby exposing the capital and industry of Louisiana employed in the production of those staples to the ruinous competition of foreign slave and cheap labor products; and

Resolved, That this convention cordially approve the action of our representatives of both parties at Washington, for the able and strenuous opposition to the ratification of the Hawaiian treaty, and especially and earnestly requests our Senator and Representatives in Congress to employ every honorable effort to defeat the consummation of such a treaty or any other treaty authorizing the repeal or reduction of the duties on sugar and rice, or admitting the competing products of foreign labor duty free for consumption in the United States. P. BARDEY, President.

JNO. P. HARLOW, Secretary.

The Kerr Investigation—The Witness Harney Escaped.

The Committee on Expenditures in the War Department met yesterday at 1 o'clock, and everything was in preparation to continue the examination of the witness Harney in regard to the alleged payment of money to Speaker Kerr for a lieutenancy in the army. The room usually occupied by the committee was abandoned for a larger one, that of the Committee on Appropriations. There was a silence, and the gentlemen looked at one another until it was finally discovered that Harney was not present. Mr. Clymer then adjourned the committee until 2 o'clock. At 2 o'clock the room was again crowded with anxious spectators, and the committee walked solemnly from the adjoining room to begin work. Mr. Clymer soon stood up at the head of the committee, and dolefully remarked that as the witness Harney could not be found the committee would adjourn until today at 3 o'clock.

It appears that Mr. Clymer met Mr. Harney on Monday evening and was told by the latter that he had severe neuralgic pains in the head; that his head ached badly, and he must go to New York and see his doctor. He asked if he could go when Mr. Clymer said the committee had ordered him to be on hand on Wednesday at 1 o'clock, and that they expected to be ready to examine him. He said he would take the train that night and return here by Wednesday or Thursday. It was rumored last night that Mr. Harney has large property interests in Japan, and that he was seen in the vicinity of the fire there he took the next train for St. Albans and Quebec. It was rumored further that the doctors think his health would be much benefited by a stay in a southern climate. The committee adjourns. In answer to an inquiry at the Arlington last night, Mr. Roessle said that Harney had probably skipped, but he knew nothing of his whereabouts. Mr. Roessle said he was very sorry that Harney should not be on hand, and seems to fear that the newspapers will attack him the same as they did when he allowed Marsh to leave. But he has faith in the witness, as he has in all witnesses, except Webster, the moth man, and says he thinks that Harney will be on hand to-day.

Mr. Kerr is anxious that the case shall be finished as soon as possible, because he feels confident that he can prove his innocence of the charge, which has preyed upon his mind considably. He has had a chill each day for several days, which is something extraordinary for him. He is quite weak. He proposes to prove that Harney is a man of very bad character and unworthy of belief.

Miscellaneous.

Mr. Cameron will take the oath of office and enter upon his official duties as Secretary of War to-day. Judge Taft will also take charge of the Department of Justice to-day.

The total amount of silver issued from the Treasury up to the 29th of May was $7,389,188, of which $2,974,731 was paid on account of currency obligations. The amount of fractional currency redeemed with silver is $4,414,457.

The following is a statement of the operations of the national bank redemption agency from July 1, 1875, to May 31, 1876, inclusive, being the first eleven months of the current fiscal year: National bank notes fit for circulation and returned to the banks of issue, $81,391,000; notes unfit for circulation, assorted and delivered to the Comptroller of the Currency for destruction, $71,290,855; notes of failed, liquidating and reducing banks, assorted and deposited in the Treasury, $21,156,900; notes fit for circulation deposited in the Treasury, $5,000,000. Total, $178,722,755.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Winslow Again Remanded to Jail Without Date.

LONDON, May 31.—On the application of the Government Winslow was to-day again remanded until after June 15 without date. The members of the United States legation here think that eventually he will be surrendered, but do not say they possess any new facts to support such a belief. It is learned, however, from good authority, that Lord Cairns, the Lord High Chancellor, thinks the arguments of the United States Government are sound and their position correct.

Religious Convention.

BALTIMORE, May 31.—The annual convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the diocese of Maryland met in this city to-day, at St. Peter's church. Bishop Whittingham presided, and Rev. Dr. Kerkins preached the annual sermon. There was a full attendance.

CORNER-STONE CEREMONIES.

BALTIMORE, May 31.—The corner-stone of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, in course of erection within the grounds adjoining St. Mary's Theological Seminary, on North Paca street, was laid this morning, with the usual ceremonies, Archbishop Bayley officiating. The ceremonies were very quietly conducted, none being admitted except the clergy. Among those present were Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati; Williams, of Boston; Monsgr. Bell, General Superior of the Order of Sulpicians in Montreal; Monsgr. La Casey, of Canada; Bishops Gibbons, of Richmond, Foley, of Chicago; Kain, of Wheeling; Becker, of Wilmington; O'Reilly, of Springfield, Mass.; Shanahan, of Harrisburg, and Wadham, of Ogdensburg, N. Y., and about two hundred clergymen and seminarians from various parts of the country. Bishop Foley, a graduate of St. Mary's, delivered the address. At the conclusion of the services a meeting of the alumni of St. Mary's was held in the chapel, to take action looking toward aiding the construction of the new building.

Passenger Rates.

NEW YORK, May 31.—The Erie railroad has made the following further reductions in passenger rates: To Cincinnati, $13; Indianapolis, $14; Louisville, $17; Chicago, $15; Milwaukee, $18; Quincy, $23; St. Louis, $19; Kansas City, $30; Omaha, $31; San Francisco, $131.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

SENATE WORK YESTERDAY

THE SUBSIDIARY SILVER COIN

THE JAPANESE INDEMNITY FUND

BILL TO REPEAL RESUMPTION ACT

THE SPENCER-MOREY CONTESTED CASE

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, May 31, 1876.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, indorsing the report of George Davidson on the method of irrigation in India, &c.

Mr. SARGENT submitted a resolution to print the same, which was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Also, a communication from the District Commissioners, calling attention to the necessity of passing a tax law for the District of Columbia. District of Columbia.

Mr. SPENCER said the Committee on the District had been for three weeks industriously considering the tax bill, but had not yet been able to perfect it.

Mr. WEST presented a memorial of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce on the Hawaiian treaty. Commerce.

Mr. CAMERON, of Wis., presented a memorial of several hundred citizens of Wisconsin, against the repeal of the bankrupt law. Judiciary.

Mr. WRIGHT, from the Committee on Claims, reported adversely on several private claims; and the adverse reports were concurred in.

Also, adversely on bill for the relief of Mark W. Delahay, late United States judge for Kansas. Report concurred in.

Mr. CONKLING presented a memorial of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, in favor of the signal service. Commerce.

Also, a memorial of the New York Cheap Transportation Association, against any further subsidies to railroads. Railroads.

Mr. ANTHONY presented the report of Professor Baird, fish commissioner; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. COCKRELL, from the Committee on Claims, reported favorably bill for relief of Wm. H. Woodward, of Indianola.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vt., from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported, with amendments, bill authorizing further appropriation for the erection of a public building at Dover, De aware.

Mr. MORRILL, of Me., introduced a bill to provide for the payment of the eight per cent. certificates issued by the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. HITCHCOCK introduced bill for the relief of John A. Grawland and Henry Turner, of the District of Columbia. Referred to Committee on District of Columbia.

Mr. MORRILL, of Me., gave notice that tomorrow or next day he would call up the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill.

Mr. SHERMAN said he hoped the Senate would not delay taking up and disposing of the bill relative to subsidiary silver coin.

Mr. SARGENT moved to take up the bill relating to indemnity school selections in the State of California, upon which discussion arose, and Mr. BOOTH offered an amendment, after which the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. WRIGHT, from the Committee on Claims, reported, with two amendments, the bill for the relief of Samuel H. Canfield, postmaster at Seymour, Connecticut. Also, from the same committee, with amendments, bill for the relief of Howell Glover for property unlawfully seized and sold by the United States Government. Also, adversely on bills for the relief of Erastus Lathrop, E. J. Dalrymple and Henry B. Brown. Reports concurred in.

Bills were introduced and referred, as follows:

By Mr. CRAGIN: For the advancement of medical and surgical science, and for the protection of cemeteries in the District of Columbia. District of Columbia.

[A duplicate of the bill introduced in the House by Mr. Burchard on the 22d instant.]

By Mr. PATTERSON: To appropriate public lands to aid in establishing and endowing a national scientific industrial institute in Washington county, District of Columbia. District of Columbia.

By Mr. INGALLS: To readjust the rates of pensions for specific and other serious disabilities. Pensions.

By Mr. SPENCER: To attach the counties of Lee and Bullock to the middle judicial district of Alabama. Judiciary.

Mr. CRAGIN called up the bill for the relief of Martha J. Coston, which was passed—yeas, 27, nays, 13.

The unfinished business, being the bill in relation to the Japanese indemnity fund, came up, when Mr. WILLIAMS moved to postpone it, in order to take up the silver bill.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN expressed the desire that the Senate should proceed with the unfinished business, and gave notice of certain amendments that he wished to offer.

Mr. SHERMAN then withdrew his motion for the present.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN said that the total amount of the fund, with accumulations of compound interest, difference in exchange, &c., was about $1,414,000. From this he would deduct the $125,000 for prize money, of which he was properly charged against it by the Navy Department. He would then pay to Japan the original amount after these deductions, with five per cent. interest. This would make the amount to be paid to Japan $766,656, and there would be $473,000 in gold to be covered into the Treasury.

Mr. EDMUNDS said according to the arguments of Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, this money had been unjustly exacted from Japan, and inquired if this was the case, Japan was entitled to all of it—accumulations and all.

Mr. INGALLS said he believed that Japan was entitled to the money, and he had been more convinced in this opinion after hearing the arguments of the Senator from New Jersey. He was much surprised now to hear the Senator propose that only a part of the sum should be returned. He would vote against the amendment, and, if it is not adopted, he would vote against the bill.

Mr. SHERMAN expressed the opinion that the money had been properly exacted, that money ought to have been covered into the Treasury of the United States the day it was received, and then there would never have been this discussion about it.

He resented the intimations that our Government had plundered and robbed a weak and inoffensive nation. He did not blame the present Secretary of State because he had followed the example of his predecessor, but it was a violation of law that this money had not been covered into the Treasury.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. THURMAN that the sum paid by Japan without interest shall be returned; which was rejected—ayes 18, noes 28.

After considerable further discussion, Mr. HAMILTON moved to strike out the second section of the bill. Rejected—ayes 15, noes 29.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN moved to amend the first section by providing that the principal sum only shall be repaid, and not the accumulations of interest; which was carried—ayes 22, nays 21.

Mr. SHERMAN moved a further amendment, providing for the canceling and retiring of so much of the residue as is in bonds, and of covering into the Treasury so much as is in money. Adopted.

The question was then taken on the motion to strike out the first section as amended, when it was lost by a vote of 20 to 22.

Mr. HOWE moved to amend the second section by excluding the claims for prize-money of the officers and crew of the United States ship Jamestown, who manned the Takiang; which, after debate, was rejected.

The bill was then passed by a vote of 24 to 20.

The Senate then went into executive session and then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Prayer was offered this morning by Rev. Dr. Butler, chaplain of the House in the Forty-third Congress.

Mr. JONES, of Ky., offered a resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency, declaring it to be the sense of the House, as well as of the country at large, that Congress should speedily repeal the resumption act of 1875, or so much thereof as requires resumption at a speedy day; that the bill to be reported should provide that there be no contraction; that it should provide for the gradual abolition of the national bank system; for a speedy return to the payment of gold and silver consistent with the interests of the country, in order that the people may be relieved of the distress under which they now labor.

Mr. BAKER, of Ind., asked leave to offer a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Treasury, if not incompatible with the public interests, to report the amount of internal revenue taxes paid by the Baltimore and Ohio railroad and the Central Pacific railroad from 1864 to to 1871 on their undivided profits.

Mr. O'BRIEN objected.

A contest then arose on the question of consideration, whether the House should take up the contested election case of Spencer vs. Morey, the army bill, or some other measure.

Mr. MOREY asked that the contested case be taken up, and, under a personal explanation, stated his reasons. He wanted to say that a man named Scelye has testified before the special committee on affairs in Louisiana, and made certain charges which, so far as they affected his (Morey's) honor and integrity, were utterly false and infamous. Scelye, according to his own testimony, was a criminal, and tried to fix criminality upon him. (MOREY.) Last summer this man sent MOREY a paper which he said contained charges, and for which he demanded money to prevent their publication.

In December, 1875, he was aware that he would have to meet a contest here; that most of the members were strangers to him; and he wanted the case tried upon its merits. He wanted no prejudice to enter into the case, and therefore he felt that he could pay a few hundred dollars to have the falsehoods suppressed. Whether this was an error of judgment or not, he had paid the money. If he had been told twelve months ago that he would be subjected to blackmail he would have scouted the idea; but no man can tell what he will do till the time comes. Among other charges made by Seelye was one to the effect that MOREY virtually controlled the army in 1874 in Louisiana. He had read testimony taken by the Wheeler committee in 1875 to show that he always opposed the employment of troops, and that he had, also, always opposed extreme measures. He wanted to add, in conclusion, that all of Seelye's testimony affecting his integrity was false. He appealed to the House, however, to take up the case to-day and dispose of it, because he wanted to go to New Orleans and be present at the investigation now in progress there.

The House then took up the election case, and Mr. McCRARY, of Iowa, advocated the recommitting of the case to the people.

Mr. MOREY then addressed the House on his own behalf.

Mr. McCRARY gave notice that he would offer a substitute for the resolution of the committee, authorizing a further investigation and to extend the time in which testimony may be taken for sixty days longer.

The previous question was then seconded, and Mr. BEEBE, of N. Y., closed the discussion.

Mr. McCRARY's substitute was then rejected.

The question then recurred upon the first resolution, reported by the minority, that W. D. Spencer was not elected and is not entitled to the seat; which was also rejected.

The resolution declaring Mr. Spencer entitled to the seat was then adopted.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting a petition of officers of artillery, asking the establishment of the office of chief of artillery. Referred.

Mr. FORTHAM, of Ky., from Committee on Revision of Laws, reported a bill to perfect the revision of the statutes of the United States. He stated that this was the joint work of the Committees on Revision in the House and Senate, and all it was intended to do was to correct errors. There is no new legislation whatever.

The vote on the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. CALDWELL, of Tenn., the the testimony of Col. Boughton taken by the Military Committee in relation to Mr. Bridgland, United States consul at Havre, was referred to the Committee on State Department Expenditures, who were authorized to continue the investigation.

Mr. COX, of N. Y., called attention to the fact that on yesterday thirteen young ladies of the Franklin school building had decorated the statuary and pictures in the Capitol. He thought the graceful act should be commended, and he would therefore move a vote of thanks. Adopted.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a message from the President, in answer to a resolution asking what steps had been taken to protect American citizens in Turkey. The message embraced telegrams passing between Minister Maynard and Secretary Fish in relation to the trouble at Salonica, and asking protection. On May 29 Secretary Fish telegraphed that the Navy Department had directed Admiral Worden to proceed at once to Smyrna and Constantinople, and Worden, who was then at Nice, said he would sail at once in the Franklin and afford protection to Americans. Foreign Affairs.

The House then, at 5:30 o'clock, adjourned.

OLIVER P. MORTON.

His War Record as the Soldiers' Friend.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: "Liberty may be wounded, but never slain," were his words of welcome to Abraham Lincoln when he stopped at Indianapolis, Ind., on his way to Washington to be inaugurated. It will be remembered that on the 12th of April, 1861, Fort Sumter was surrendered to the rebels, and on the 15th President Lincoln issued his proclamation for 75,000 men, and on that very day Governor Morton telegraped to the President:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA,
INDIANAPOLIS, April 15, 1861.

To Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States:

On behalf of the State of Indiana, I tender to you, for the defense of the nation and to uphold the authority of the Government, a thousand men. OLIVER P. MORTON,
Governor of Indiana.

It will be seen by this he was the first Governor to answer the call, and on the 24th of April he stated that "Indiana now stands by her flag," and in his message he said to them: "We have passed from the field of argument

TO THE SOLEMN FACT OF WAR."

The Legislature immediately appropriated $1,000,000 for military purposes.

On the 3d of May following Governor Morton issued his proclamation to the people of Indiana, when Kentucky was invaded by rebel troops, and said: "When our State was in her infancy the Iroquois came to the rescue of our women and our people from the scalping-knife of the savage, and their blood is mingled with our soil on many a field, and shall we not stand by Kentucky now, in this her infancy, and by the Union, which has ingratitude and criminal folly." That call was promptly answered, and George D. Prentice, editor of the Louisville *Journal*, then said: "Kentucky cannot forget the generous response from a large debt of gratitude. Oh, that all the public functionaries of the country were as vigilant, as clear-sighted, as energetic, as fearless, as chivalric as he is."

In the fall of 1861 Indiana soldiers were not supplied with overcoats from the Government. He went to New York city and purchased 20,000, saying, "Indiana will not allow her troops to suffer, if in her power to prevent it."

KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE.

This treasonable organization was organized in every county and township in Indiana. A committee of thirteen was appointed to assassinate him, (Governor Morton.) The attempt was made on two occasions. Once as he was going from his Executive office. The other occasion, late at night, the bullet grazing his hair; and again, when he, in company with physicians and nurses, was going down to administer to the wounded, unarmed, and in the darkness of night, he was placed across the track. One of the company was killed—Dr. Fletcher, a noble man and patriot. In all the efforts made and plans laid to take the life of Governor Morton, the All-Wise Providence seemed to guide and guard him.

On the 7th of November, 1861, in a speech at Indianapolis, he said: "The right of secession cannot be admitted or discussed. We must cling to the idea that we are a nation, one and indivisible; but one people, the citizens of a common country."

HE STOOD AS A WALL OF FIRE

to the attacks of the enemy in the dark hours of this Republic, amid defeat and disaster, surrounded by traitors, surrounded by false friends, ready to strike the fatal blow severing Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Missouri from this Union, with a fearless courage equal to the danger, and an energy and vigilance which never tired. Oliver P. Morton stood upon the watch-tower of liberty, guarding with a sleepless eye the entrance to its sacred citadel.

He was the young giant of the Union, and was the first to inaugurate a sanitary system—other Governors followed in his wake. I have heard many a wounded and sick soldier on the field of battle and in the hospital exclaim, when the sanitary commissions were distributing the delicacies to the sick and wounded, "Would to God we had such a Governor as O. P. Morton!"

But few men could have stood the mental and physical labor which he underwent. He was way of encouragement, addressed nearly every Indiana regiment on the eve of its departure for the field, and addressed them in words of welcome on their return. Surrounded by

DEATH FROM THE ASSASSIN,

he knew no fear. He was posted in every move of the enemy, for he had his own private detectives scattered throughout the Union. He knew the very moment the agent of the Knights of the Golden Circle were shipped from New York, and when they arrived at Indianapolis, marked "Sunday-school Books," he had them promptly seized and opened in the presence of the Sentinel office, the leading Democratic organ of the State of Indiana.

When under the name of a Democratic convention legions from every county and township in the State assembled at Indianapolis to deliberate and fix the hour to release the rebel prisoners and strike the blow which was to sever Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri from the Union, they learned that Governor Morton was posted in their movements, and after mature deliberation deferred the day (which had been fixed upon) to sever these States from the Union. The thousands of Democratic delegates, as they styled themselves, found, when seated in the cars to return home, that on every railroad track leading from the city cannon were planted, whose open, sullen mouths betokened death. Each locomotive halted, and the cars were entered by soldiers and each delegate disarmed, some having two and three pistols, while hundreds of them threw pistols out of the car window.

IT WAS THROUGH THE ENERGY,

perseverance, watchfulness and prompt action of Governor Morton that Indiana, Illinois and Missouri were rescued from the traitor's grasp and, no doubt, the Union saved. As an Indianian, I know the danger, and being deputy provost marshal I had ample opportunity of knowing the surroundings. There were traitors in every county and township, and young men in the army were written to "desert and come home; we have a powerful organization than can and will protect you." Many deserted from instructions and advice from friends belonging to the Knights of the Golden Circle. I defended two young men from my own county who deserted under instructions from friends at home. They were arrested and brought back to Tennessee. I urged their youth and the influence from home, urging them to desert, as a sufficient excuse for their crime, but that court-martial looked to the letter of the law and found them guilty.

I know something of the trials and dangers which surrounded O. P. Morton in the dark hours of this Republic. President Lincoln often consoled him. Had he not been a man of iron strength and nerves of steel, he could not have stood the tax upon his physical and mental constitution; at Washington city, counselling with Mr. Lincoln; attending to his duties as Governor,

WATCHING WITH EAGLE EYE

the movement of traitors in Indiana, and going personally to the field to look after the welfare of Indiana troops, was a tax upon his energies which but few men could have stood. He emphatically the soldiers' friend. General Sherman said of him in a speech made at Rockville, Ind., on the 6th of last September:

"Governor Morton was one of the few civilians who seemed to be unable to do enough for his soldiers, fever hesitating to count the cost or sacrifice, but acting speedily and in season. General Grant and all of us thought him one of the noblest men at home. I wish to repeat what I have heretofore said so often, that to Governor Morton the army owed much in many ways. He never failed us. He never said our State had stood the draft, or we had furnished our quota, but answered every call, and when the State was well-nigh impoverished he used his own credit. To-day the record of his fame as the soldier's friend is bright and untarnished as glittering gold. G.

Body of Commissioner Burdette.

NEW YORK, May 31.—The body of a man found yesterday in a creek at North Bergen, N. J., was to-day identified as that of S. L. Burdette, of Washington, D. C., ex-Commissioner of the Land Office. Deceased was last seen at the Astor House on the 12th instant, and at that time had in his possession several thousand dollars and some valuable jewelry.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

SEVERAL POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

LOUISIANA, IOWA, MISSOURI, ALABAMA

THE GREAT FIRE IN QUEBEC

THOUSANDS HOMELESS AND PENNILESS

BODY OF COMMISSIONER BURDETTE FOUND

IN A CREEK, NEAR NORTH BERGEN

IOWA.

Supposed to be for Blaine.

DES MOINES, May 31.—It is believed that the Republican State convention, which meets here to-day, will not instruct the delegates to the National convention, though the feeling seems to be very strongly in favor of Blaine for President.

THE DELEGATES.

DES MOINES, May 31.—The Iowa Republican State convention met this morning. Seven hundred and thirty-five delegates were present, making the largest political convention ever held in this State. The caucuses of delegates of the various Congressional districts selected district delegates to Cincinnati. All the delegates chosen are for Blaine, and nearly all were pledged for him before or after their election.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

DES MOINES, May 31.—At 2 o'clock the contion reassembled. Hon. J. F. Wilson, of Fairfield, was chosen president. Hon. J. H. Gear, chairman of the committee on resolutions, presented the following platform, which was unanimously adopted:

We are for maintaining the unity of the nation sacred and inviolate; for the just and equal rights of all men; for peace, harmony and brotherhood throughout the country; for men of unsullied honesty and purity of character for public trusts, and for the swift pursuit and unsparing punishment of all dishonest officials, high or low. Second. We demand rigid economy in the administration of governmental affairs, State and national. Third. We favor the attainment of a currency convertible with coin, and therefore advocate the gradual resumption of specie payments by continuous and steady steps in that direction. Fourth. We demand that all railway and other corporations shall be held in fair and just subjection to the law-making power. Fifth. We stand by free education, our public school system, the taxation of all for its support, and no diversion of the school funds from public school purposes. Sixth. We cordially invite immigration from all civilized countries, guaranteeing to the immigrants the same political privileges and social and religious freedom we claim for ourselves, including the free and unsectarian system of common schools for their children with ours. Seventh. In James G. Blaine we recognize a pure Republican and patriot, and one we will vote to be our standard-bearer of the National Republican party in the coming campaign. An unsuccessful attempt was made to strike the word "gradual" from the currency resolution, and add the words, "and no State banks."

The following State officers were then nominated: State auditor, Judge Sherman; register State land office, Captain Secor; for Supreme judge, Sevans; Secretary of State, Mr. Young. These are all renominations. J. F. McJunkin was nominated for Attorney General. The following were elected delegates at large to the National convention: **James F. Wilson, Hiram Price, John Y. Stone** and **Gen. D. Perkins.** Just as the convention was adjourning a resolution was offered instructing the delegates to support the choice for President, but was withdrawn, and one instructing the delegates to vote as a unit was carried. The delegation is said to stand Blaine, 17; Conkling, 6; Morton, 1. Blaine's friends, however, claim it is solid for him.

DELEGATES NOT INSTRUCTED.

[Special to the National Republican.]

DES MOINES, May 31, 9:45 p.m.—A motion to instruct for Blaine was withdrawn to save it from going on the table; also, a motion to have the delegation vote as a unit.

VIRGINIA.

The Convention Yesterday—List of the Delegates.

RICHMOND, May 31.—Upon the reassembling of the convention the various district delegations presented the names of those selected as delegates to St. Louis, electors, &c.

Hon. W. A. J. Sparks, member of Congress from Illinois, being present, was invited to address the convention. Being of Virginia extraction, he said he loved the old Mother of States next to his own State. Her history was the history of the country. He thought Virginia had for fifteen years been trodden down. He had thought Virginia was a pretty well cleaned out State, but when he went to Congress and met her Representatives he knew she was the Old Dominion still. He thought there was more patriotism, as well as heroism, in Virginia than in almost any other State, and he almost thought it would be a good thing if all the Representatives in Congress were from Virginia. There were two millions of dollars expended and fifty lives lost in Illinois, and they had found that loyalty meant holding money-bags. He had seen in Congress large game bagged lately.

He then proceeded in forcible language to review the doings of some of the public peculators, interspersing his remarks with humorous and pointed hits at the "loyal" men of the d