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SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE COVETED STATE CAPITOL.

Federal Troops Preserving Order—A Democratic Demand and a Democratic Protest—The Republican House Organized—Democratic Side-Show—Wade Hampton Against Riotous Disturbances—Shot-Guns Must Be Laid Aside.

As will be readily observed by a perusal of the dispatches from South Carolina which we publish this morning, a collision between the rival political factions was only prevented by the presence of Federal troops. In anticipation of a riot and to suppress any disturbance that might occur, and at the request of the Governor of South Carolina, the troops occupied the State Capitol at midnight on Monday, and none were permitted to enter the building except those persons who had received certificates of election from the Returning Board. This regulation was subsequently changed by the orders of Gen. Ruger so as to permit those claiming to be members of the Legislature to be admitted to the Capitol, but not within the halls of legislation. The Democratic members of the lower House who held the Returning Board certificates having marched to the Capitol, and having failed to obtain the admission of their colleagues from the contested counties of Edgefield and Laurens, who held certificates from the Supreme Court only, withdrew in good order, but not without first discharging one of their customary protests, which one of their number read from the steps of the building. After the departure of the Democrats the Republican members, of which there were fifty-seven—fifty-four colored and three whites—proceeded to effect a permanent organization. The Democratic members, joined by two Republicans, organized in Columbia hall in the evening, so that there are at present two bodies claiming to be the lower branch of the State Legislature. Gov. Chamberlain will, of course, recognize the Republican branch, and so will the State Senate. It is, therefore, only a question of a little time before the Democratic side-show will give up the ghost. The greatest excitement prevailed in Columbia throughout the day, and at one time an outbreak seemed imminent. But the speech of Wade Hampton from the Capitol steps, in which he called upon his political friends, white and colored, to retire to their homes, had a most salutary effect, and checked the progress of a demonstration that was beginning to wear a dangerous look.

The hearing of the *habeas corpus* case of the four "Returners" is fixed for this morning before Judge Bond.

Taking it all in all, the condition of affairs in South Carolina is in such a chaotic state that it is difficult even to imagine an early and satisfactory adjustment. But of one thing we are assured by the President, that is, that there will be no disturbance in South Carolina.

In Florida the counting of the vote has been completed, and the result is that upon *the face of the returns* the Republican electors are chosen by a very diminutive majority, but the question is not definitely settled, because a large number of contested cases have not been finally acted upon. But in view of all the surroundings Florida is safe for Hayes.

In Louisiana but little progress was made yesterday.

Chamberlain Not In Command of Troops.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28.—No troops have been placed under the command of Chamberlain as reported. General Ruger is in command.

DEMOCRATS FAIL TO GET THE STATE HOUSE.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28.—The Democrats failed to get possession of the State House last night. Troops guarded the building.

OCCUPATION OF THE CAPITOL.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 28.—At midnight the State House in Columbia was occupied by Federal troops, who camped in the rotunda and kept the doors barred. This morning a cordon of sentinels was formed around the building and admittance denied to all except those having passes from Governor Chamberlain's private secretary, W. R. Jones. The streets of Columbia are crowded with people from all parts of the State. Quiet reigns, but the excitement is intense.

GREAT EXCITEMENT TO-DAY.

There is great excitement here to-day. The United States troops have possession of the State House and have refused admission to the Edgefield and Laurens delegations.

SCENE AT THE STATE HOUSE.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 28—1:10 p. m.—At midnight last night the State House was occupied by United States troops. No one was allowed to enter without a pass from Mr. Jones, clerk of the late House, or Mr. Dennis, one of Chamberlain's men. About 9 o'clock Gen. Gordon, United States Senator from Georgia, and Gen. Johnson, State Senator of Virginia, with Messrs. Peek and Jeffreys, members of the Legislature, demanded admittance. The rotunda was filled with troops and arms stacked around the Washington statue. The members of the Legislature exhibited their certificates from the Supreme Court of their election, and the corporal of the guard refused them admittance under the orders of Dennis, who was standing by. The Democratic members then met in caucus, and about 11:15 proceeded in a body to demand admittance. In the meantime Gen. Hampton had an interview with Gen. Ruger, who then changed the orders so as to allow any one to pass the sentinels who claimed to be elected members of the Legislature. Under this change of orders all the members are now being admitted slowly as the corporal of the guard examines their credentials. The members are thus admitted to the State-House, but not to the hall of the Senate or that of the House of Representatives.

A DEMOCRATIC PROTEST.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28.—The Democratic members of the House, after gaining admission to the State House, proceeded to the door of the House, with the delegation from Edgefield and Laurens at their head, and demanded admittance on the certificates of election taken from the records of the Supreme Court. Six soldiers were ranged on either side of the approach to the door and two officers in the centre. The certificates of the Edgefield and Laurens delegation being presented, were decided invalid by the doorkeepers, whereupon the entire body of Democrats withdrew. They assembled in front of the State House, from the steps of which the following protest was read in the presence of the military and citizens:

We, a majority of the members of the House of Delegates of South Carolina elect, protest against the refusal to admit us to the Hall of Representatives. We protest against the military power of the United States barring the passage into the State House of members elect of the Legislature. We protest against the legality of the proceeding, and especially against the army of the United States being placed for the purpose of this exclusion under the command of one John B. Dennis, a partisan of Governor Chamberlain. We protest against said Dennis' instructions to the guard to admit no one to the State House except upon his own pass or a pass of W. R. Jones, former clerk of the House, who may thus exclude all except his own partisans, and who, by the Republican programme, is to organize the said House. We have presented ourselves with the judgment of the highest court of South Carolina, certified to by its clerk, with the great seal of the court attached, as to our rights to participate in the organization of said House. We are refused, by orders of said Dennis, admission to said hall, except upon his pass, the pass of said Jones, or the certificate of H. E. Payne, Secretary of State, who is now under condemnation of said court for refusal to issue certificates in accordance with its judgment and mandates. In protesting against this barefaced usurpation, this trampling on the laws and constitution of the State, last defiance of the highest tribunal of the State, it is our purpose to offer no resistance to their armed intervention, but to make our solemn appeal to the American people, without distinction of party. Our veneration for law, our respect for the Supreme Court, and the usages of all legislative assemblages forbid our participation in such unprecedented and revolutionary proceedings.

Signed by all the Democratic members, 64 in number.

The Democrats then proceeded to the hall over the Southern Life Insurance Company's buildings, where a caucus was held, which adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock p. m., at Carolina hall.

ORGANIZING THE HOUSE.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28.—The Democratic members from Edgefield and Laurens have been refused admittance to the hall of the House of Representatives. The Republicans immediately proceeded to organize, and fifty-nine members answered to their names.

Mr. Jones, clerk of the old House, declared fifty-nine to be a quorum, and E. W. M. Mackey and N. Meyers, colored, were nominated for Speaker.

No Democratic members having yet come into the House, Mackey, on the call of the roll, received fifty-seven out of fifty-nine votes, and was declared the duly elected Speaker.

The Democrats have retired, and Mackey has taken the chair. In explanation of these proceedings, it must be remembered that the House when full consists of 124 members, and 63 being a majority are a quorum for the transaction of business.

The Democrats, including the nine disputed members from Edgefield and Laurens, have sixty-four members and the Republicans only sixty when all their members are present. The Democrats claim that sixty-three is the lawful quorum, while the Republicans claim that a majority of the members admitted by the canvassers to be elected, viz: one hundred and fifteen, is a quorum, and with their fifty-nine have gone to work.

Mackey, on taking his seat as Speaker, delivered a speech, and the fifty-nine members were then sworn in, only one Republican being absent. O. A. Jones, the former colored clerk, was elected and sworn in. The House, as now organized, consists of five whites and fifty-four negroes.

SURRENDERING PRIVATE ARMS—HAMPTON SPEAKS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 28.—The Democratic members before they reached the State House building this morning surrendered all private arms.

One of the Democratic members who bore a certificate of the board of canvassers went into the hall, and found the Republicans already organized, with a Speaker in the chair and a clerk at the desk. He returned to the door, and was refused egress until he threatened prosecution for false imprisonment.

Wm. H. Reddish, a prominent Republican member, refused to enter the hall with Federal bayonets at the door, and is now acting with the Democrats. During the excitement created by the refusal to admit the Democrats an immense crowd had assembled in front of the State House. When the Federal officer in charge approached Gen. Hampton, who was in the State House, with a request to prevent the crowd from pushing in, Gen. Hampton immediately appeared upon the front steps of the Capitol, and addressed the crowd as follows:

"MY FRIENDS: I am truly doing what I have done earnestly during this whole exciting contest—pouring oil on the troubled waters. It is of the greatest importance to all, as citizens of South Carolina, that peace should be preserved. I appeal to you all, white men and colored, as Carolinians, to use every effort to keep down violence and turbulence. One act of violence may precipitate bloodshed and desolation. I implore you, then, to preserve the peace. I beg all of my friends to disperse—to leave the grounds of the Capitol—and I advise all the colored men to do the same. Keep perfectly quiet, leave the streets, and do nothing to provoke a riot. We trust to the law and the Constitution, and we have perfect faith in the justice of our cause."

The whites immediately dispersed, and their conduct was followed by a great many of the colored people.

ACTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28, 2 p. m.—The Democratic members, after leaving the State-house, met together for consultation, and without taking any action adjourned till 3 p. m. The session was secret. Mr. Reddish, a Republican member of the Legislature from Orangeburg, left the Republican House with the Democrats, refusing to have any thing to do with the organization of that body. There are only three whites in the House of Representatives as organized.

DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS ENTERING THE HOUSE.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 28, 12:45 p. m.—At 11:45 a. m. the whole number of the Democratic members of the Legislature marched up to the State-house door with John C. Shepard, of Edgefield, at their head.

The door was guarded by United States troops and by John B. Dennis, a United States marshal. Shepard asked for admission, whereupon Dennis asked if he had a certificate of election from the Secretary of State. Shepard said that he had the certificate of the Supreme Court, and Dennis said, "If you have not the certificate of the Secretary you cannot enter." Shepard then said he demanded the right to read a protest from the Democrats, which he proceeded to do, when he was stopped by Col. Hershell, the chairman of the Democratic committee. Capt. Kellogg, U. S. A., who was at the door, after a conference said that all persons having certificates from either the Secretary of State or the Supreme Court would be admitted.

Shepard presented the certificates of the court and passed in.

The guard are now examining the certificates, and the Democrats are passing in, being first asked for their arms. There is no certainty as yet whether the Democrats will get into the Hall of the House or not. They are now in the lobby.

BUSINESS DEPRESSION IN CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Nov. 28.—The events of to-day in Columbia have caused a feeling of profound depression in all business circles here. Capitalists and tradesmen say they must contract their operations within the narrowest limits, and general gloom and despondency as to the future prevails.

TWO LEGISLATURES PROBABLE.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28.—The Democratic members elect to the House of Representatives met at 7 p. m. in Carolina hall. Sixty-four Democrats and two Republicans participated and were sworn in by Judge Cooke. The House organized, and will claim recognition to-morrow. This leaves fifty-eight members in the Republican House, one less than a quorum claimed by them, and five less than the number which the Democrats claim is necessary for a quorum. The House will demand of the Secretary of State the returns of the vote for Governor.

All is quiet to-night. The Supreme Court has not yet decided the question of counting the electoral vote.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Keogh Claims the State for Hayes.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—A Raleigh special to the *Herald* says Colonel Thomas B. Keogh, chairman of the Republican State Committee, last night filed a protest with Governor Brogden against the announcement of the vote of North Carolina for Presidential electors. He enumerates twenty-three counties to which he objects on the grounds of illegal returns. He claims that the throwing out of these counties will, with the omission of eight counties not heard from, give the State to Hayes. Colonel Keogh furthermore alleges that Wm. B. Glenn, a Democratic elector from the Eleventh district, is ineligible, being a commissioner under the act establishing the Southern Claims Commissioner.

TILDEN'S MAJORITY 16,178.

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 28.—United States Senator Ransom, whose term expires next March, was to-day re-elected to the Senate. The proclamation of Governor Brogden of the recent election in this State gives Tilden a majority of 16,178.

CALIFORNIA.

Canvass of the Vote—Good Republican Majority.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—The Secretary of State last night canvassed the votes of the State, giving Hayes 78,608 and Tilden 75,841. Marin county is not included in the count, the returns not having been received. The result will not be affected, however. The Secretary of State says unofficially there will probably be a contest between Pacheco, Rep., and Wigginton, Dem., candidates for Congress in the Fourth district, on the following grounds: In Monterey county the supervisors canvassed and certified the returns to the county clerk. In that certificate an error in footing made San Lorenzo precinct show two more votes for Wigginton than were actually cast. The county clerk subsequently changed the footing to correspond with the figures. As Pacheco has but one majority, it is expected that Wigginton will contest, on the grounds that the certificate of the supervisors was a fraudulent, and the clerk had no right to change the figures.

FLORIDA.

COUNTING THE RETURNS COMPLETED.

A Republican Majority Shown—Counties Contested by Each Party—Dispute Over Baker County—Two Sets of Returns Read—Confusion Becoming Confounded.

TALLAHASSEE, Nov. 28.—The board met at 10 o'clock. There were present for the Republicans Gen. Barlow, of New York; Messrs. Ampt and Noyes, of Ohio; Lew Wallace and Mr. Brady, of Indiana; W. E. Chandler, of New Hampshire, and several local politicians. For the Democrats appeared Messrs. Manton Marble and Paris, of New York; G.W. Biddle, D. W. Sellers, J. R. Read, Samuel J. Thompson, Malcolm Hay, G. W. Guthrie, of Pennsylvania; C. W. Wooley, of Ohio; L. Saltonstall, of Massachusetts; Mr. John F. Coyle, of Washington; Charles Gibson, of Missouri; Perry Smith, of Illinois; J. E. Brown and P. M. B. Young, of Georgia, with several local politicians.

Gen. Brannon, of the United States army, had a seat inside the railing with the board. The secretary at once began the opening of the sealed packages of votes. As the reading proceeded the Republicans gave notice that they would contest the counties of Columbia, Hillsboro', Holmes, Jackson, Levy, Liberty, Maralee, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Polk, San Laross, Sumpter, Suwannee, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton and Washington. The Democrats gave notice of contestation Alachua, Bake, Clay, Duval, Escambia, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon and Marion. The resul tof the electoral vote as read from the face of the returns was as follows on the electoral ticket from the highest votes on each considered Republican majorities: Alachua, 717; Baker, 41; Duval, 930; Escambia, 175; Gadsden, 465; Jefferson, 1,923; Leon, 2,632; Madison, 446; Marion, 594; Nassau, 135. Total Republican majorities, 7,460. The Democratic majorities were: Brevard, 58; Bradford, 504; Calhoun, 152; Columbia, 185; Clay, 164; Franklin, 76; Hamilton, 287; Hernando, 435; Hillsboro', 604; Holmes, 284; Jackson, 98; Lafayette, 247; Liberty, 64; Levy, 280; Manatee, 236; Monroe, 67; Orange, 701; Putnam, 20; Polk, 450; Santa Rosa, 359; St. John, 163; Sumter, 834; Suwanee, 168; Taylor, 169; Volusia, 274; Wakulla, 179; Walton, 582; Washington, 388; total Democratic majority, 7,418; net Republican majority, 42. Dade county is not yet in; this county cannot be over 20 either way. The Democrats have a claim of 23 omitted voters in Clay county which appear on the face of the return from that county, but are not added up in the general result, because the evidence that the inspectors were sworn is not in.

The 23 votes will be counted probably by common consent. This would leave a majority of 19 for the Republican electors. The county that made the only violent inroad on the Democrats' calculations was Baker. They have a regularly certified copy of the return from that county giving a Democratic majority of 94. This return was regular, and it was thought final. This morning a new return was read, signed by the judge and sheriff, but not the county clerk, which, by the throwing out of several Democratic precincts, gives a Republican majority of 41, making a difference of 135 votes. The Democrats were astounded at this alteration, and will produce the precinct returns to show that it is not a correct return.

Upon completing the counting of the returns the board adjourned until 4 p. m.

A DUPLICATE RETURN IN DISPUTE.

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., Nov. 28.—Upon the assembling of the board this evening Mr. Pasco, for the Democrats, demanded to know whether the board had not received another return from Baker county than the one which was read. The chairman declined to state, as Baker county was not under discussion. Mr. Pasco insisted that a paper pre-dating the one read, regularly signed by the clerk of the court and a justice, as required by law, and giving a different result, had been sent to the board, and demanded to know why that return had been suppressed, and by whom. The chairman still refused to consider Mr. Pasco's inquiry.

Mr. Pasco then read the second rule, which reiterated that all returns should be told before the board, and the board should decide which were legal and regular on their face. He then charged that a return from Baker had been suppressed and another return read to its exclusion, and he then demanded that the suppressed paper be read that the board might decide, with the aid of testimony, which was the right and proper return.

At this point the secretary, without further opposition, read a return signed by the clerk and justice and properly attested which gave a Democratic majority of 95. It appears that the returns, one signed as above and another signed by the judge and sheriff and justice, were sent up. With the returns claimed by Mr. Pasco admitted the Tilden electors have 135 majority. With both returns held subject to future decision the Democrats have 2 electors by 5 majority, 1 by 3 majority, and the Republicans have 1 elector by 1 majority.

LOUISIANA.

Urging Supervisors to Make Returns.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 28.—The returning board reassembled this morning. All the members of the Republican and Democratic committees and counsel were present. Gen. Anderson made another personal explanation. Judge Spofford suggested that the board should give a general order to compel supervisors of the following parishes to hand in their returns, viz: Franklin, Grant, Livingston, Lafayette and Tangipahoa. Judge Spofford remarked that in these parishes there were large Democratic majorities. Gov. Wells said the board was entirely independent of the supervisors.

Judge Spofford. Is it in the power of these five supervisors by withholding contrary to law returns of five parishes where the Democratic majority is 2,900, to make or unmake a President or Governor?

Gov. Wells. If returns are not here the votes cannot be counted.

Mr. Ganthrieaux asked if certified copies in the District courts could not be produced, as the law provided for the use of these copies when the original returns were lost or could not be prepared.

Gov. Wells said he had already ruled on that point, and thought it was unnecessary to say any more about it. The copies would not be received.

Mr. Ganthrieaux and Judge Spofford urged the necessity of ordering supervisors to make their returns.

Gov. Wells replied that he would give an order if the returns were not produced by Wednesday.

Col. Zacharie filed a motion to the effect that twenty-four hours having elapsed, the party proposing interrogatories shall fix the time, place and name of the United States commissioner to take testimony; that he shall notify counsel on the opposite sides twenty-four hours in advance, so that both may be present when the testimony is being taken. The motion was overruled.

The board then went into executive session.

TESTIMONY IN THE OUACHITA CASE.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 28.—In executive session were inspected returns from the remaining wards in the city and from three parishes. All of these were laid over for future action, and the parish of Ouachita was taken up much to the surprise of the Democratic counsel, East Baton Rouge being the parish fixed for to-day. Four negroes were introduced as witnesses on the Republican behalf, and were examined orally by the board according to the interrogatories.

The board ruled in the first place that unless the Democrats had cross interrogatories they would not be permitted to examine witnesses orally. Finally, after remarks by the Republican and Democratic visiting committees, the board consented to allow the cross examination of witnesses by the Democratic committee. The testimony of witnesses was as to intimidation and outrage, and they were very diffuse in their statements. The Democrats will introduce rebutting testimony tomorrow, when the consideration of the Ouachita case will be resumed.

INELIGIBLE ELECTORS.

Republican Mode of Meeting the Case.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Nov. 28.—The Governor has called an extra session of the General Assembly, to meet in this city next Friday, to elect a Presidential elector in the place of Geo. H. Corliss, adjudged by the Supreme Court to be ineligible.

THE DEMOCRATIC MODE.

TRENTON, N. J., Nov. 28.—The New Jersey board of State Canvassers, comprising the Governor and Senators Abbott, Dayton, Hopper, Learning, Magee and Potts, of Hunterdon, met in the Senate Chamber to-day to count the official vote of the State.

The result for electors is: Tilden, 115,959; Hayes, 103,511; majority, 12,445. Cooper received 712, and the Prohibition candidate 47.

John Y. Foster and John L. Murphy filed a protest against the election of Benjamin Williamson, one of the Tilden electors, for the reason that Mr. Williamson held the position of a United States commissioner, an office of profit, and under the laws of the United States not eligible to the office of an elector.

The reception of the paper was debated, and finally the board refused to receive the protest by a vote of 4 to 3, on the ground that they had no right to consider the question, that it was not a part of their duties.

ALABAMA.

The Fight for the Senatorship.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Nov. 28.—The Senate and House voted separate to-day. The Democratic caucus, in order to prevent an election being made by the Republicans, concentrated on one of the Democrats agreed to this morning that the Senate Democrats vote solid for Mr. Pugh, and the House Democrats vote solid for Gen. Morgan. The caucus meets again at 4 p. m. The Republican vote of the Senate and House aggregates 29, and was cast entirely for either Pugh or Morgan, and as the Democratic vote now stands would elect. The caucus will probably name a candidate this afternoon.

MORGAN'S CAUCUS NOMINATION.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Nov. 28.—Gen. John T. Morgan received the Democratic caucus nomination for United States Senator, and will be elected in joint convention to-morrow, and succeed Goldthwaite.

Frightful Ravages of Smallpox.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—A Toronto dispatch says: Official advices received at Ottawa confirm unofficial reports to the effect that the most terrible outbreak of smallpox ever known in the history of the Northwest is desolating Giribic, at Icelandic and Memote settlement of about 7,000 souls, on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The deaths average one hundred and eighty daily. No medical men are on the spot, but the Manitoba government is endeavoring to send doctors. The scourge is also raging with terrible fury on the west side of the lake. The Fort Alexander Indians have been decimated, and hundreds have died in se lterents on the Qu Appelle river. The Indians are fleeing South, towards the boundary line. The fur trade is stopped throughout the Northwest by order of the authorities.

SENATOR MORTON SPEAKS.

His Views on the Counting of the Electoral Vote—The Work of the Chinese Congressional Committee.

Senator Morton arrived at his old quarters in the Ebbitt House at a late hour last Monday night, after a continuous trip from San Francisco. He left the latter city one week ago last Monday, and made the journey to this city in the quick time of six days and fifteen hours. His health is comparatively good, and it is evident that he is in better physical condition than he was when he left here after the adjournment of the last long and tedious session of Congress. The Senator has altered the appearance of his face by having removed his chin whiskers. He now wears only a mustache.

The investigation into the Chinese emigration question that was made by the special Congressional committee of which Mr. Morton is a member, was as thorough and complete as it could be within the short period the committee was at work, and the testimony taken will cover about 1,500 printed pages.

THE COUNTING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL VOTE.

In conversation last evening Senator Morton gave free expression to his views in regard to some of the questions involved in the controversy over the counting of the electoral vote for President and Vice President, a subject to which he has devoted a great deal of careful study. He unhesitatingly pronounces the former joint rules of the two Houses inoperative, in which opinion he is sustained by many other gentlemen in and out of Congress. Some of the latter also believe that it will be impossible to arrive at an agreement between the two Houses upon any joint rule in relation to the exclusion of any electoral votes.

A number of interesting and important points arising out of recent events were suggested to Mr. Morton, and his opinion asked in relation thereto, and, although as previously stated, he talked freely on the general subject, he prefers not to be quoted as to some of the details, which require careful consideration.

In response to the question, "Can the political complexion of a State's Electoral College be properly or legally changed, in the event of a necessity to fill vacancies therein, however such vacancies may be occasioned?" Mr. Morton gave his opinion that such alteration could be made by a State Legislature, as, by the Federal Constitution, the appointment of electors is placed within the exclusive control and jurisdiction of the Legislatures. The provision of the Constitution upon this subject is deemed so explicit as to preclude reasonable doubt. It is in these words, (Article 2, section 1, clause 2): "Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress; but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector."

"YOU'VE GOT 'EM, AIN'T YOU?"

A Mysterious Affair in San Francisco—How a Night's Sleep was Spoiled.

(From the San Francisco Call.)

Yesterday morning at 2:30 o'clock, as Officer Wilson was patrolling his beat on Dupont street, he was approached by a citizen who wished to know if he could have his attention for a few minutes.

"Certainly," said the officer.

"Well," said the citizen, "I want to know if I can send a telegraphic dispatch to Vallejo at this hour?"

The officer informed him that it was too late, and that he would have to wait until the office opened before he could dispatch a message.

"If you have no objections," continued the citizen, "I would like to tell you why I want to send a message."

"Proceed," said the officer.

"I have a friend," said the citizen, "who lives in Vallejo, and he has a wife whose name is Kate. Last week I was up there on a visit. Last night I went to bed at 10 o'clock, and in a little while I heard a knock at the door, and a female voice saying, 'Jim, let me in.' I recognized the voice as that of my friend's wife, so I asked, 'Kate, is that you?' Well, you see, I supposed that it was my friend's wife, that she had had a row with her husband, had come to the city, found out my room, and come to me for protection; so I jumped up, dressed myself and opened the door, but no one was there. I thought she might be playing a joke and was hiding herself, so I looked around, but could not see her. I then went into my room again, and had just locked the door when the knock was repeated and Kate's voice repeated the words, 'Jim, let me in.' I went to the door again, but could not see anything or any one. Then I locked the door again and was about going to bed when the knocking was repeated and the voice said, 'Come now, Jim, take the key out of the lock and I'll come in through the key hole.' That was too much for me; I got scared and came out to look for a policeman."

"You've got 'em, ain't you?" asked the officer.

"No, sir," said the citizen, "I haven't drank a drop these three months, but I tell you what, that's a warning."

"A warning of what?" inquired the officer.

"Why," continued the citizen, "It's a warning that Kate has been killed, and that was her ghost come to tell me, and what makes me believe that, just before I went away from Vallejo, Kate's husband, who is very jealous of me without cause, said, in speaking of his wife, 'I will kill her rather than allow her to see Jimmy again.' It's on account of this that I want to telegraph up in Vallejo to find out if Kate is dead or not." The citizen was advised to go home and take a nap; but he refused to do so. He went away declaring that he would walk the streets until the telegraph office opened so he could forward the message.

—A gentleman wishing, not long since, to "pop the question," took up the young lady's cat and said: "Pussy, may I have your mistress?" It was answered by the lady: "Say yes, pussy."

CURRENT CAPITAL TOPICS.

OFFICIAL LIFE IN THE METROPOLIS.

'Twas His Last Cigar.

The Secretary of the Interior yesterday issued an order prohibiting all the employees of the Department from smoking in the building during office hours. Similar orders are already in force in several of the other Departments.

Cushing and Sickles.

Ex-Minister of Spain Sickles and his successor, General Cushing, had an interview with the President yesterday before the meeting of the Cabinet. The latter took a farewell of the President, intending to return to Spain soon.

Appointments.

James R. Hagussin was yesterday appointed revenue storekeeper for the First district of Illinois; H. Burns, for the Seventh district of North Carolina; Thomas W. Pearson, for the Sixth district of Virginia, and J. N. Blundin, for the Fourteenth district of Pennsylvania.

A "Tribune" Correspondent Retracts.

The following card speaks for itself:

The telegram published in the *Tribune* of yesterday concerning Gen. Butler being engaged in the canvass of the votes was a mistake. Col. George Butler forced me to make this retraction. The press must tell the truth sometimes.

E. B. WIGHT.

NOVEMBER 28, 1876.

Cabinet Meeting Yesterday.

No business of importance was transacted by the Cabinet yesterday. The situation of affairs in South Carolina was a prominent topic of conversation at the meeting, but no new action was taken concerning it, or in regard to any other matter connected with the recent election.

Original Franklin Printing Press.

The original Franklin printing press, which has been on exhibition at the Centennial, was returned to the Patent Office yesterday. The owner, Mr. John B. Murray, of New York city, writes to Commissioner Duell that he desires it to remain in its old place in the model-room, and does not anticipate that it will be again disturbed.

Counterfeiters' Hard Fate.

Peter McCartney, the notorious counterfeiter and brother-in-law of the famous Ben. Boyd, another counterfeiter, was to-day sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment, and Charles Walters, an accomplice to 10 years. They were arrested in Richmond, Indiana, on the 23d instant. Quick work.

Annual Appropriations.

Representative Randall writes from New York that he will be here to-day. It is expected that the complete estimates will be received from the Treasury Department, and that the quorum of the House Appropriations Committee will be in attendance to commence the work of considering the annual appropriation bills to-day. Of the members of the committee Messrs. Holman, Wells, Blount, Foster and Waldron are now here.

President Grant Among the People.

President Grant, accompanied by his son and private secretary, Ulysses Grant, jr., took advantage of yesterday's fine autumn weather to enjoy a lengthy afternoon walk on the Avenue. As the two strolled along Pennsylvania avenue they attracted unusual attention, doubtless owing to the peculiar condition of public affairs, and frequent comments by the passers-by were made on the robust and healthy appearance and cheerful demeanor of his Excellency, and that he evinced no evidence of fear consequent on the repeated threats that have been made against his life by desperate Tildenites.

The Contest Over the Potomac Islands.

The commission of arbitration to settle the boundary controversy between Maryland and Virginia held a session at the Riggs house yesterday afternoon. Attorney General Daniel, of Virginia, whose inability to attend caused the adjournment on Monday, was present. The counsel for Maryland submitted to the commission a number of patents to islands in the Potomac. The commission, which was selected jointly by the Legislatures of the two States, have yet to decide to which State numerous rights in the Potomac river belong. Some of the patents submitted by the Maryland counsel were granted by Lord Baltimore. The Virginia counsel have not yet submitted any papers. The arbitration of the commission is final.

Our Ordnance Bureau.

Gen. Benet, the chief of ordnance, in his annual report recommends a large increase of the appropriation for the use of the ordnance department for the next fiscal year over that for the present year. The report recommended the retention of Benicia arsenal, on the Pacific; Rock Island arsenal, in the Mississippi valley; the National armory, at Springfield, Mass.; the Frankford arsenal, Pa., and the erection of an arsenal in the vicinity of New York out of the proceeds of the sales of those not required. The Allegheny, Watervliet, Watertown and Washington arsenals should be sold. The Indianapolis, Kennebec, Fort Monroe, Augusta and San Antonio arsenals should be retained as places of deposit, report and issue. Under the head of "armament fortifications" an estimate of $950,000 is submitted for the next fiscal year. Several experimental guns of large calibre, both muzzle and breech-loading, that were manufactured under the act of June 6, 1872, have been on exhibition at the Centennial Exhibition, by request of the respective inventors. It is the intention of the department to have them removed to Sandy Hook, and ascertain their merits by actual trial as soon as Congress appropriates the funds necessary for the purpose.

The Washington Monument Once More.

The work of examining the foundation of the Washington monument, under the supervision of the engineers detailed for the purpose of ascertaining whether the foundation is sufficient for the structure, is still in progress, but is going on slowly. There has been as yet but one boring well dug, and that on the south side. They have now reached about twenty-five feet in depth with the digging, and have erected the boring apparatus, with which they intend to go a depth of one hundred feet. At twenty feet deep the earth was found to be a mixture of clay and sand. The appearances thus far indicate a good solid bed below. It is claimed by some that there is no necessity of going to any such proposed depth, for the surface of the water in the river is but twenty-two feet below the surface of the ground at the base of the monument, and in a little over sixty feet a point will be reached on a level with the greatest depth of the Georgetown channel. The delay in the work thus far has been occasioned by the difficulty in getting tools on the ground and rigging up the apparatus, but as everything is in place, it is to be hoped the work will go on much more rapidly. If faster progress is not made it is not likely that the depth proposed will be reached until some time next fall.

First Count of the Electoral Vote.

The first counting of the electoral votes is regarded as an important precedent, because it was done while the Constitution and the discussion which attended its adoption were fresh in the recollection of Congress, and because it was done in part by men who had a share in the making of the Constitution. This is the most significant extract from the report of the proceedings on the 6th of April, 1789:

"The Speaker and the members of the House of Representatives attended in the Senate chamber; and the president elected for the purpose of counting the votes declared that the Senate and House of Representatives had met, and that he in their presence had opened and counted the votes of the electors for President and Vice President of the United States, which were as follows. Here follows a list of the votes by States.] Whereby it appeared that George Washington, esq., was elected President and John Adams, esq., Vice President of the United States of America."

We may take for granted that what the President of the Senate declared to have been done really was done; that he, the President of the Senate, "opened and counted the votes," not that the Senate or House of Representatives counted them; that he did this "in their presence"—that is to say, they were present simply as witnesses. The first precedent, then, is plainly in support of the theory that what ever is done in the matter, the counting as well as the opening, must be done by the President of the Senate.

NEWS FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

AUSTRIA.

The Austro-Hungarian Compromise—Great Excitement Prevailing.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—A special dispatch from Vienna to the *Times* announces the existence of a crisis, caused by the agitation in Austria against the scheme for the establishment of a bank for Austro-Hungary. This scheme forms part of the plan known as the Austro-Hungarian compromise for settling the relations between the two halves of the Empire, and has excited great dissatisfaction in Austria as unduly favoring Hungary. A committee appointed by the Austrian National Bank has recommended the rejection of the bank scheme.

A special dispatch from Vienna to the *News* says there is much excitement there, as without an agreement on the bank question a renewal of the Austro-Hungarian compromise is impossible.

The *News* also has a special dispatch from Pesth which says the Hungarian Finance Minister has started suddenly for Vienna, it is said by direct command of the Emperor to confer with the Austrian Minister of Finance.

The *Pester Correspondenz* says: "Both Governments are resolved to adhere to the Austro-Hungarian compromise, as settled by the compact concluded in May. The Hungarian Government can make no future concession without risking the parliamentary majority."

A Reuter dispatch from Vienna says the rumors of a ministerial crisis are denied in well-informed circles, but the telegram shows that a very heated feeling exists between the Government and the constitutional party in the Reischrath on the bank question.

A special dispatch from Vienna to the *Times* says Turkey has formally protested against the line of demarkation fixed by the international commission between the Turkish and Montenegrin forces, and complications are feared in connection with revictualing places besieged by the Montenegrins, the regulation of which was left for settlement by a subsequent understanding.

THE EASTERN CONTROVERSY.

A Dispute Over the Neutral Zone.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The *Times'* Vienna dispatch says a dispute has arisen regarding the line of demarkation around Alexinatz. The Russian project includes Delegrad and Alexinatz in the neutral zone, while the Servians claim that Alexinatz should be evacuated, on the ground that it was occupied by the Turks after the armistice began.

A HEAVY CLAIM AGAINST RUSSIA.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The *Times'* dispatch from Berlin states that the Porte intends moving at the conference for an international arbitrament upon the question of Russia's right to dispatch volunteers to Servia, and if she has not the right, the Porte will demand a large indemnity for the prolongation of the war, occasioned by the Russian volunteers.

FRANCE.

No Increase of Priests' Stipends.

PARIS, Nov. 28.—The Chamber of Deputies last night, by a vote of 363 to 239, rejected a motion which was supported by Mr. Dufaure, president of the Council and Minister of Justice and Worship, for an increase of priests' stipends. It is expected that the Chamber will to-day reject the grant which M. Dufaure urgently demands for clerical scholarships. These differences are thought to be important in connection with a threatened ministerial crisis.

TURKEY.

England Does Not Advise Demonstrations of Force.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—The British Foreign Office publishes a dispatch from Sir Henry Elliott, the ambassador at Constantinople, strongly denying a statement made by the Pera correspondent of the *Times* that he advised the Porte to hold itself in readiness to stand upon its rights and make demonstrations of force.

MEXICAN PASTIMES.

Another Governor Overthrown.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—A San Diego press dispatch says a letter has been received from San Rafel, the capital of Lower California, confirming the report that Gov. Villagerans' Government has been overturned, but says the facts are the Governor was himself a revolutionist in favor of Diaz, and has been arrested and sent to Guaymas on charges of rebellion, abuse of the electoral law, fraudulent practices, &c.

GERMANY.

Responsibility of Journalists.

BERLIN, Nov. 28.—The Reichstag to-day adopted clause 44 of the penal code bill, which prescribes that no publisher, printer or member of the staff of a newspaper shall be compelled to give evidence in court when the responsible editor holds himself ready to answer for an offense.

GREECE.

A Crisis in the Ministry.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—A Reuter telegram from Athens announces that a ministerial crisis exists. A new Cabinet is proposed, and a modification at least of the present Ministry is regarded as inevitable.

Honors to the Arctic Explorers.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The Queen has granted medals to every person serving on the steamers Alert, Discovery and Pandora during the Arctic expedition.

AMUSEMENTS.

"Girofle-Girofla."

This pretty opera was rendered last evening at the National theatre by Madame Oates' company. A brilliant audience filled the auditorium, and we learned with pleasure that the demand for seats was greatly in excess of the supply, a state of affairs which we hope will continue so long as the management supplies the Wash