National Republican

W. J. MURTAGH.....Editor and Proprietor.

Amusements To-night.

National Theatre—Soldene: La Fille de Madame Angot.

Theatre Comique—Variety.

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The weather reports for to-day indicate fresh and brisk northeast to southeast winds, with generally clear weather, rising followed by falling barometer, and a slight rise in the temperature.

TUESDAY.....DECEMBER 19, 1876.

Abram S. Hewitt in Proportion.

Another spook of frightful mien has risen to disturb the American people. Yesterday it was reported that Abram S. Hewitt, while enjoying his Sunday lunch, said to some friends that he holds the safety of the country in the hollow of his hand; that he has full control of elements which can secure peace or foment war. Think of it, American citizens, you who have fastened your hopes on peace. Here we have one man playing with the destinies of our country, even toying with them, and that, too, in the very hollow of his hand. What a picture for history! What a theme for the epic poet! What a spectacle for the world! Here stands a man with the firebrands of desolating insurrection in one hand and the olive branch of peace in the other. All he has to do is to frown, give one blast on the bugle, shake the firebrands on high and grim-visaged war will stalk abroad and the shouts of marching columns and charging squadrons, and the thunder of cannon and rattle of musketry and fierce blasts of trumpets and strains of martial music will be heard through the land. While on the contrary if this remarkable personage, with a hollow hand attached, will but wave the olive branch, that beautiful emblem of peace, and wave it and wave it, the confusion and din and turmoil of political strife will cease and the white dove soaring above the nation will bring peace and good will to men. But there is one thing which the rumor omitted to state. It failed to make known what the honorable statesman had been eating. Those well versed in the laws of hygiene claim that pickles and mince pies are powerful stimulants to the combative nature of man, while sweet milk and small quantities of clam chowder act as opiates on the belligerent spirits. Owing to the fact, then, that Mr. Chairman Hewitt claims, or at least it is said that he claims, to hold the hollow of his hand full of a mixture of peace and war, the only way to accurately ascertain the quantity taken by him at the Sabbath repast is to carefully strike an average, and we find, not much to our surprise either, that the opiate influence of the clam chowder was sufficient to counteract the stimulating force of the mince pies. Thus we have the following interesting and instructive example in proportion: As the narcotic influence of clam chowder is to the blessings of assured peace, so is the bellicose effect of mince pies to the ravages of desolating war. Will Mr. Hewitt take his place at the blackboard and explain?

The Champion Bull-dozed District.

Mr. Frye yesterday offered a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee of six to proceed South at once for the purpose of investigating the recent election frauds in the Fourth Alabama district, and the Sixth district of Mississippi. The Democrats voted solidly against the resolution. Several attempts have been made to secure an investigation of the frauds in Mississippi, but every time they have been thwarted by a united vote of the Democratic party in the House. Conscious of the palpable and infamous outrages committed by their party friends in that State the Democracy in the House dare not have the mask torn from these iniquities and exposed to the view of a free and liberty-loving people. The Sixth district of Mississippi, now represented by Mr. Lynch, was, without doubt, the most thoroughly bull-dozed district in the South. In Warren, one of the counties composing the district, not less than three thousand out of five thousand Republican voters were denied the right to register and consequently the right to vote. In Claiborne county not more than 1,200 out of about 2,500 colored voters were allowed to register. Thus it will be seen that over 4,000 Republican voters were disfranchised in these two counties alone. The reign of terror in Claiborne and Jefferson counties was complete. The Democracy in each county was an armed military organization, and they allowed no Republican meetings to be held nor speeches to be made. In these counties, notwithstanding the disfranchisement of 4,000 Republican voters, Mr. Lynch received a majority of from 3,000 to 5,000 votes, but this was overcome by systematic frauds and swindling practiced in every county in the district. By this outrage upon the elective franchise of a free people a Republican majority of 10,000 in the Sixth district of Mississippi was overcome, and a Democrat pronounced elected by over 4,000. The Democrats in the House know this to be a fact, and are willing to screen the outrage. Their action yesterday bears us out in the assertion, and proves that Mr. Tilden's reformers are not the reformers of wrong and infamy, but rather the aiders and abettors of crime and lawlessness.

The Beginning of a General Retreat.

The Morrison dispatch has become a troublesome bur in the hair of the Democracy. At first they proposed to compel Mr. Orton by subpœna *duces tecum* to yield certain private dispatches to the examination of the House committee. Public opinion opposed this violation of the rights of private citizens, and it seems Mr. Orton agreed decidedly with public opinion, and opposed it too. Then some of the more shrewd and cunning leaders suggested that if Mr. Orton were forced to yield the dispatches of Chairman Chandler to the investigating committee it would establish a precedent by which the Senate could demand the telegrams of Chairman Hewitt. The Democrats could not afford such a transaction as this, so their Judiciary Committee referred the matter to a sub-committee which is to adopt certain rules by which they are to be governed in the case. This is the beginning of a retreat which will soon take place along their entire line.

A "Wood-Be" Impeacher Impeached.

Examine well
His milk white hand; the palm is hardly clean,
But here and there an ugly smutch appears.
Foh! 'twas a bribe that left it. He has touched
corruption.

On the first page will be found a review of Fernando Wood's life in New York. We assure our readers that it gives us no pleasure to place before the public such a chain of evidence convicting a man in a high and exalted station of some of the baser crimes found punishable by imprisonment in a felon's cell. It is with profound regret, mingled with a sense of deep mortification, that we are able to chronicle such a record against a Representative in the Council Chambers of the nation of a free and honest people. We take this retrospective view of Mr. Wood's metropolitan life that the people may know the real character of the man who has been calling the trusted servants of the Republican party rascals and thieves, and who is now urging the House to impeach the President of the United States for high crimes and misdemeanors. That a man whose life has been tainted by associations of the most corrupting tendencies, and who has passed through the way of gilded sin up to the legislative halls of our country should make himself conspicuous as a preceptor of morals and a corrector of abuses, is enough to tickle the risibilities of the Goddess of Liberty as she stands in her iron form on the Capitol, looking stolidly towards the North. With men of moral stamina, who know the vulnerable record of Mr. Wood, his influence is wholly destroyed. When he made his violent attack on the President in the Democratic caucus, charging him with usurpation and high crimes, the honest and upright men present smiled derisively at him, with as much as to say, "Let him that is without sin among us cast the first stone." His friends deserted him in his fight for the Speakership because they could not conscientiously place a man in that high position whose successful rascality alone gave him a seat in the National Legislature. The people are conscious that there are some bold, bad men in public life, but they never like to see them come to the surface in important political matters. We therefore demand of the Democracy that if they desire to attempt an impeachment of the President that they confide the work to hands freer from stain than those of Fernando Wood, who is a bold, bad man, and whose walk is slantendicular.

The Rebel Claims Again.

All through the political campaign which has just passed the Republican orators and press urged upon the people the great danger which might accrue to the country by the possible payment of rebel claims under a Democratic administration. The Bourbon press and speakers claimed that no such demand would ever be made by the Southern Representatives, and Mr. Tilden was forced into expressing his views to this effect through a circular letter that was used very extensively as Democratic campaign thunder. The resolution of Mr. Hunter yesterday tore the mask from the deception and proved that the Southern men are solidly in favor of these claims. Sixty-three Southern Representatives voted against his resolution, looking to a constitutional provision to prevent the possibility of rebel claims being paid. Had Mr. Tilden been elected and both branches of the legislature thrown into the control of the Democracy, the fears of the loyal element of the country would have been realized. The resolution having passed by a two-thirds vote the probability is that an amendment will be reported to the House shortly after the holidays, and those who voted for the resolution will be forced for consistency's sake to vote for the article, and it will probably be adopted. The country may well congratulate itself upon having escaped this threatened calamity.

WE LEARN that Sanitary Officer Connell was not shown a dressing-room of the National theatre located in the flies on the right the stage. It is a fire-trap of the first magnitude, and in the event of a fire it would be impossible to escape from it. It is the imperative duty of Mr. Connell to visit the National theatre forthwith and make a careful investigation.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY WELLS' communication relative to the course pursued in his office toward the gamblers will be found in another column. Mr. Wells' explanation appears satisfactory. But what says the Chief of Police? Come, Major Richards; we are waiting to hear from you. The floor is yours.

PERSONAL.

Home.

Hon. A. A. Brush, of New York, is stopping at Willard's.

Hon. J. H. Millard, of Omaha, is registered at Willard's.

Hon. James F. Wilson, of Iowa, is stopping at Willard's.

W. C. Wickham, of Va., has arrived at the Arlington.

Count H. St. Molhive, Paris, has parlors at the Ebbitt house.

R. D. Benedict, of New York, has registered at the Arlington.

P. C. Williams, of Watertown, N. Y., has rooms at the Arlington.

Hon. T. M. Sanderson, Arizona, is registered at the Ebbitt house.

Gen. Edward Brana, of New Mexico, has registered at Willard's.

Edward McCarthy, of New York, has arrived at the Arlington.

Prof. H. E. Davis, Boston, is among the arrivals at the Ebbitt house.

Admiral G. H. Preble, U. S. N., has a suite of rooms at the Ebbitt house.

William A. Pierce, of Providence, is among the arrivals at the Arlington.

Henry C. Kelsey, of N. J., is among the latest arrivals at the Arlington.

Hon. Clinton B. Fish, of St. Louis, is in the city, and has rooms at Willard's.

General J. Condit Smith, the popular Buffalonian, is stopping at the Arlington.

Wm. B. Moore has been appointed supervising special agent of the Treasury.

Hon. Chapman Freeman, of Philadelphia, is stopping at present at Willard's.

Hon. J. Stoddard Johnston, from Kentucky, is in town, and is stopping at the Ebbitt house.

C. P. Huntington, of U. T., president of the Texas and Pacific railroad, is a guest at Willard's.

Hon. F. E. Spinner, ex-United States Treasurer, is stopping at the Grand National Hotel, Jacksonville, Fla.

Miss Emily Soldene, Mr. and Mrs. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. (Shizzola, Miss C. Vessy and Miss C. Durand, all of England, are registered at the Arlington.

Hon. William Cameron arrived in this city last evening, having in his custody the electoral vote of Pennsylvania. He is stopping at the Congressional Hotel.

Hon. Waldo M. Potter, the bearer of the electoral vote of the banner Republican State, Iowa, (60,000 majority for Hayes and Wheeler,) arrived in the city yesterday, and is the guest of Mr. J H. Pritchard, on Massachusetts avenue.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Andrew J. Clark, Mass.; Thos. T. Nelson, Md.; William Andrews, N. Y.; Capt. T. D. Maurice, U. S. A.; Col. C. A. Woodruff, U. S. A.; H. D. Homp, U. S. A., J. F. Skillman, N. Y.; James Ashworth, Philadelphia; J. O. Scantling, U. S. A.; C. F. Black and wife, York, Pa; B. F. Randolph, U. S. A.; S. Bowman and wife, Boston; Rev. Dr. Lowin, Md.; Chas. E. Bottsford, U. S. A.; John Ericsson, Miss Sue Carlin, Mass.; Daniel P. Justice, Mich.; Chas. D. Benjamin, N. Y.; Mrs. J. D. Benjamin, N. Y.; L. T. Sparrhawk, New Orleans; Jerome M. Peth, New Orleans; Capt. J. N. Pilkington, Arizona, and S. P. Evernut, Wis., arrived at the Ebbitt house yesterday.

W. M. Broadwell, La.; P. C. Williams, N. Y.; J. S. Wright, Denver; Philadelphia; Sam'l Hays, St. Louis; G. K. Chase, New York; J. B. McMullin, Chicago; W. A. Buchanan, San Francisco; Lyman Carr, Julius Beam and J. Landis, New York; J. A. Trousdale, Texas; D. Baugh and wife, Philadelphia; Mrs. Merritt, New York; W. L. Powell, Richmond, Va.; D. Vickens, New York; J. Blastru, New Orleans; W. Cole, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. J. Underhill, Brooklyn; A. W. Hegeman, New York; M. A. McCaill, Roanoke, Va.; W. S. Fox, Philadelphia; H. E. Lindsay, Baltimore; Ed. H. Calloway and Horace Boston, Texas; Mrs. J. Logan, New York; E. McMullen, Montreal; George Stetson and wife, Miss Stetson, Master Stetson and Mrs. M. A. W. Avery, Boston, are registered at Willard's.

FLORIDA.

Congressional Committee at Work—Senate Committee to Hold Secret Sessions—The Supreme Court Has Met.

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., Dec. 18.—The Congressional committees have been at work to-day. The Senate committee will not go to Jackson county, but will await witnesses here.

Senator Sargent called the committee together at 12 o'clock to-day. Reporters and the public were denied admission, the sergeant-at-arms saying he had orders to admit no one. Cards to the chairman were returned with the statement that the sessions would be secret. The day was consumed in examining the Republican members of the canvassing board. Judge Cocke is summoned to appear before the committee.

The House committee had before it eighteen negroes whose names were on the poll-list at Richardson precinct, in Leon county, as having voted there. Who swore that they did not vote there, and were not at the precinct all day. There were votes in the ballot-box to accord with these names. The committee will summon other witnesses tomorrow. The introduction of the colored witnesses to-day, and their testimony, created quite a sensation.

The Supreme Court continued its session to-day for the hearing of argument in the mandamus case. The argument will be concluded to-morrow, and the decision announced probably on Wednesday.

General Lew Wallace arrived to-night.

Nominations Yesterday.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate yesterday:

Pascal Decemis to be United States consul at Cayenne, William Burgess, of Neb., to be Indian agent at Pawnee Agency, Neb.

POSTMASTERS—James Procock, at Gallatin, Tenn.; C. H. Beach, at St. Augustine, Fla.; E. T. Whiton, at Stafford Springs, Conn.; Lorenzo Logan, at Warren, Ohio; A. W. Kimball, at Green Bay, Wis.; A. Frost, at Belle Plaine, Iowa, and Auke H. Viensen, at Pella, Iowa.

REGISTERS OF LAND OFFICES.—J. R. Lockwood, of Chico, Cal.; at Bennett, Cal.; W. G. Ditto, of Missouri, at Ironton, Mo., and W. N. Kelly, of Arizona, at Prescott, Arizona.

ARMY PROMOTIONS.—Charles Bryant, to be second lieutenant 6th infantry.

NAVAL PROMOTIONS.—Commodores Edward Donaldson and George H. Preble to be Rear Admirals; Commodore Edward Middleton to be Rear Admiral on the retired list; Captains R. W. Shufelett and A. C. Rhind to be Commodores; Commanders W. P. M. Cann, J. H. Gillis and W. E. Fitzhugh to be Captains; Lieutenants J. D. Graham, W. K. Bridgman, A. H. McCormick and H. L. Johnson, to be commanders; Pay Inspector James Fulton, to be pay director; Paymasters H. M. Denniston and Richard Washington, to be pay inspectors; Passed Assistant Paymasters R. T. Skelling and O. W. Slamm, to be paymasters; Assistant Paymasters C. H. Thomson and J. C. Burnett, to be passed assistant paymasters; T. D. Hoxey, H. E. Drury and C. W. Littlefield, to be assistant paymasters; G. P. Lumsden, F. C. Dade, W. H. Crawford, J. C. Byrnes, to be assistant surgeons; Lieut. Col. G. McComiey, to be colonel commandant of marine corps; Maj. T. Y. Field to be lieutenant colonel and Capt. Charles Heywood to be major in the marine corps; together with a large number of promotions of a lower grade.

Railroad Matters—Question of Passengers not yet Settled.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The railroad managers admit that while the question of freight rates both East and West bound is amicably arranged, the question of passenger rates has not yet been adjusted. No serious change, however, is anticipated on this point, owing to the winter season and the scarcity of passengers. Before the war commenced, in December, 1875, freight rates from Chicago to New York per 100 lbs. were 75, 70, 60, 45 and 30 cents, according to class. In December, 1875, the war began, and rates were 50, 35, 30, 15 and finally 15 cents per 100 lbs. Under the present agreement the rates are 50, 45, 40, 30 and 25 cents, according to class.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

MONDAY, December 18, 1876

Senate.

The Senate was called to order by PRESIDENT *pro tempore* FERRY at 12 o'clock m.* and prayer was offered by the chaplain.

Senator MORTON has returned from his visit to Indiana, and was in his seat.

Bills, petitions, &c., were presented and referred, as follows:

Petitions for the

SUPPRESSION OF THE EVILS OF INTEMPERANCE, were presented by Messrs. CAMERON, of Pa., DAWES and CRAGIN, which were referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CRAGIN, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported back bill in relation to the retired list of the navy, and asked its indefinite postponement. So ordered.

Also, favorably, a bill to regulate the quartermaster department of the marine corps.

COURT TO DECIDE CONTESTED ELECTIONS, ETC.

Mr. WRIGHT offered a bill to establish a court for the trial of contested election cases in elections for President and Vice President. He said that he believed that the people were disposed and willing to settle all matters on this point in a peaceable manner, and the bill which he had offered provided for settling the contests spoken of by a peaceful method, and he believed Congress had the power to pass such a law. Ordered printed and to lie over.

By Mr. CHAFFEE: A bill to amend the act to establish the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad Company. Referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroads.

Mr. EDMUNDS called up his resolution in regard to the appointment of a committee to devise some plan for settling the differences between the two Houses in counting the electoral votes. The present consideration was ordered, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. CLAYTON called up the bill for the relief of the officers and privates of the

FOURTH ARKANSAS CAVALRY VOLUNTEERS,

which was passed without amendment.

By Mr. WRIGHT: A concurrent resolution that when the Senate adjourn on Friday, the 22d inst., it be to meet on January 3. Ordered printed and lie over.

Mr. DORSEY called up the resolution instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the expediency of repaving twenty-six streets and avenues in Washington; which was passed.

Mr. WRIGHT asked that the bill to reduce

THE PRESIDENT'S SALARY

from $50,000 per annum to $25,000 per annum, and which was vetoed at the last session by the President, be taken up and passed over the veto.

Mr. McCREARY said that Congress had been trying for some time to count in a President and now they were confronted with the important question of the Presidential compensation. He thought that the President's reason given, that $25,000 was inadequate, was rather sandy foundation for vetoing the bill, inasmuch as any person could spend more than their income if they had the necessary capital or credit. He had voted for ton down to Grant the salary was considered sufficient and ought to be so now.

He believed that the salaries of nearly all Government officials were too great and would bear a reduction. On the end of an appropriation bill Congress had voted themselves $5,000 and the President $100,000, and he should vote for putting the salary back to the old sum.

Mr. BAYARD agreed with the President, and thought $50,000 was none too much, and he would vote to sustain the veto.

Mr. TOOMBS alluded to the manner in which the salaries were raised, and said that under the pressure of public opinion, not on account of a change in judgment, the bill was passed in regard to all persons accepting the President. He believed that $25,000 was as much for the President as $5,000 for a member of Congress. He desired to see the work all undone, and if necessary, appoint a commission, or such other steps as might be necessary, to examine into all the salaries of officials and determine whether changes were necessary.

Mr. HAMLIN agreed with the veto, and thought $50,000 was none too much for the Presidents's salary. It was a well-known fact that most of

OUR PRESIDENTS RETIRE FROM OFFICE ABSO-

LUTELY POOR,

and he had in various ways, by indirection, contributed to the actual support of Presidents after they had left the office.

The vote was taken by yeas and nays, and the question was lost.

The vote in detail was as follows:

YEAS.

Alcorn,	Edmunds,	Maxey,	
Bogy,	Goldthwaite,	Morrill,	
Clayton,	Harvey,	Morton,	
Cockrell,	Hitchcock,	Price,	
Conkling,	Johnston,	Sharon,	
Cragin,	Kernan,	Thurman,	
Davis,	Key,	Wadleigh,	
Dawes,	McCreery,	Wright—25	
Eaton,			

NAYS.

Anthony,	Cameron, Pa.,	Jones, Fla.,	
Barnum,	Chaffee,	Mitchell,	
Bayard,	Dorsey,	Norwood,	
Blaine,	Ferry,	Paddock,	
Booth,	Hamlin,	Windom—18.	
Boutwell,	Ingalls,		
Burnside,			

Mr. HITCHCOCK introduced a bill to divide Nebraska into two judicial districts. Committee on Judiciary.

The morning hour having expired the CHAIR laid before the Senate the unfinished business, being the resolution introduced by Mr. HITCHCOCK in regard to

THE ELECTORS OF OREGON.

Mr. MAXEY opposed the resolution and thought the Senate had no right to inquire into the election or appointment of electors, that the Senate is its own laws on the question and Oregon had as much right as any other State, and the Governor of that State had put his interpretation upon the laws of that State and acted according to it. He then reviewed the statements of outrages in Louisiana and contended that the outrages there were not committed by white men, but by savages.

Mr. BRUCE asked Mr. MAXEY if he had understood him to say that the colored race were savages.

Mr MAXEY said that he did not say that the colored people were savages, or that these outrages had been committed by colored people; but that they were not committed by white men, but by savages, whether white or black.

Mr. BRUCE said he did not entertain the opinion that black men were any better than white men, but he certainly did not think they were any worse.

Mr. MITCHELL said Mr. LOGAN desired to speak upon this subject, but was absent to-day on account of illness, and he asked that the resolution be laid over till to-morrow. So ordered.

Mr. FERRY called Mr. MORRILL to the chair, and, as chairman of the Committee on Rules, called up

THE AMENDED RULES,

as reported from the committee. He said the secretary had been instructed to prepare a new manual of the rules, and it was desirable to have the amended rules incorporated into the manual. He said there were some changes, and an entire new classification of the rules by topics.

The rules were taken up and were being read *seriatim* while Mr. FERRY explained the changes, when Messrs. CONKLING, HAMLIN and DAVIS urged that the report and all the changes of the rules, with marginal notes and explanations for convenience of Senators, be printed so that the rules and changes could be seen properly by them. After a long debate, on motion of Mr. FERRY, the report was recommitted and ordered printed as suggested.

Mr. EDMUNDS introduced a bill to amend Sec. 750 of the Revised Statutes. Ordered printed.

BILLS FOR RELIEF.

Mr. WRIGHT moved to take up Senate bill 945 for the relief of Gibbes & Co., of Charleston, S. C., on a cotton case, which was ordered, and after and explanation it was passed.

On motion of Mr. HAMLIN, Senate bill 991, for the relief of Edwin Rogers, to reimburse him for loss of postage stamps stolen, was taken up and put on its passage, when Mr. ALCORN opposed it on principle, asserting that bondsmen should be held for such cases if they agreed, and that was why bondsmen were provided for. You might as well, he said, take a man on his honor if you were not going to hold the bondsmen.

The vote was taken and the bill was passed.

Mr. WHYTE called up the bill for the relief of Mrs. Catherine Thrush and William B. Stone, owners of the schooner Flight. It was reported from the Committee on Naval Affairs, with an amendment to remand it to the Court of Claims.

The amendment was agreed to and the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. CONKLING the Senate, at 3:25 o'clock, adjourned.

House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER, under the regular order, called the States for bills and resolutions for reference only, and the following were among others introduced and referred:

By Mr. HALE, of Me.: Authorizing citizens of the State of Colorado to fell and remove timber on the public domain to be used for mining, manufacturing and domestic purposes.

By Mr. HOSKINS, of N. Y.: To promote the

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

It appropriates $250,000 to be used as a perpetual fund to aid in the education of the blind through the American Printing House for the Blind. The Secretary of the Treasury is made custodian of the fund, which is to be invested in United States bonds.

By Mr. HEWITT: To falicitate the negotiation of bills of lading and other commercial instruments of writing and to punish frauds therein.

By Mr. O'BRIEN, of Md.: For the relief of Samuel S. Smoot, of the District of Columbia.

By Mr. DOUGLASS, of Va.: To provide for the settlement of unpaid claims of officers of the line of the revolutionary army, who served to the close of the War for Independence, and are returned on the books of the Treasury Department.

By Mr. VANCE, of N. C.: Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of North Carolina relative to the internal revenue laws.

METHOD FOR COUNTING ELECTORAL VOTES.

By Mr. KNOTT, Ky.: To provide a method for counting the votes for President and Vice President of the United States and declaring the result. It provides that at 12 o'clock meridian, on the 2d Wednesday in February, 1877, and upon the same day every four years thereafter, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States shall assemble in the hall of the House of Representatives for the sole purpose of counting the votes cast for President and Vice President of the United States, the joint assembly to be organized, after which the President of the Senate shall appoint a teller on the part of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House a teller on the part of the House; whereupon the President of the Senate shall proceed to open the certificates of the electors of the several States, opening first the votes of the original thirteen, and the others next in the order of their admission into the Union, and shall deliver the result to the Speaker. Action is made to any certificate. The certificate shall then be handed to the teller, who shall then record the vote. In case of objection on behalf of either the House or Senate, the same shall be considered by the joint convention, and the question shall be decided by a majority vote. If it shall be shown that in any case the result is changed by the intermeddling of any military or civil officer of the United States, that question shall also be considered by the joint convention.

If a difference of opinion shall arise between the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate in relation to the counting of any vote, the same shall be submitted to the joint convention to be decided by a majority vote. All questions shall, with the consent of the Speaker of the House, be put by the President of the Senate to the joint convention. No debate shall be had on differences of opinion between the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, except with reference to the counting of a vote.

The joint convention may adjourn from day to day. The Senate and House of Representatives may concurrently adopt rules for the government of the joint assembly, which may be amended or abridged by the concurrent action of the two houses. A vote by yeas and nays shall not be taken in the joint convention except on the question of opening and counting the votes of a State, and then only upon the demand of five Senators and twenty Representatives.

The proceedings had in joint convention shall be entered in full on the Journals of both Houses. The bill was ordered referred to the select committee on counting the electoral vote when appointed.

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

By Mr. DIBRELL, of Tenn.: Making appropriation for the improvement of the Tennessee river.

Also, bill to amend the internal revenue law.

By Mr. KEHR, of Mo.: Concerning expatriation and change of allegiance.

By Mr. McCRARY, of Iowa: To regulate the practice of medicine and surgery in the District of Columbia.

By Mr. FAULKNER, of W. Va.: To provide for the survey and examination of the south bank of the Potomac, in West Virginia.

By Mr. HEREFORD of W. Va.: To promote efficiency in the marine hospital service.

By Mr. HATCH, of Mo.: Providing for the appointment of a commission to report upon the best means of destroying locusts, or of providing a remedy for their ravages.

By Mr. HARRIS, of Mass.: Bill relating to suits against members of Congress in the District of Columbia.

CLAIMS OF SOUTHERN MAIL CONTRACTORS.

The call having been completed, the House took up the resolution offered by Mr. TUNCKNORTON, of Texas, in January last, requesting the Postmaster General to furnish the House with a statement showing the amount due contractors for carrying United States mails in Southern States at the beginning of the civil war, and which have not been paid in consequence of such contractors not being able to take the oath required by law.

The resolution was adopted.

PROTECTION OF CITIZENS.

Mr. HALE, of Me., asked leave to offer a resolution declaring that it was the first duty of all Governments to protect its citizens, both at home and abroad, and that as one of the highest privileges of an American was to cast his ballot freely, and that that right should be enforced in any States where voters have been deprived of the right by intimidation.

Objection arising the resolution went over under the rule.

Mr. FRYE, of Me., asked leave to offer a resolution for the appointment of a committee of six members to inquire into the manner in which elections were conducted for members of Congress in the Sixth district of Mississippi and the Fourth district of Alabama, and if there was any intimidation of candidates or voters during the canvass or on election day, and whether there was such fraud and intimidation as to affect the result of said election.

Mr. FRYE demanded the previous question, which was not seconded; and, pending further consideration, the morning hour expired.

RULE TO WORK BOTH WAYS.

Mr. GARFIELD, of Ohio, rose to a question of privilege. On Saturday the Speaker had laid before the House a dispatch from Hon. W. R. Morrison, and it was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. He now asked to have the following dispatch read in the same direction, so that the committee might have both sides:

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 15, 1876.

Hon. James A. Garfield:

Telegram received from MORRISON to RANDALL is without the knowledge or consent of the committee, who have never been consulted on the matter. S. A. HURLBURT.

The SPEAKER wanted to know what theory the gentleman based this as a question of privilege.

Mr. GARFIELD said that he did not hold that either dispatch was a question of privilege; but the Speaker had ruled differently, and he wanted this dispatch to have the same reference as the dispatch from Mr. MORRISON. The dispatch from Mr. MORRISON was not claimed when sent to him as chairman of the committee. This was also from a member of the committee, and he asked that it take the same reference.

Objection was made.

Mr. GARFIELD then moved to suspend the rules.

Mr. WOOD, of N. Y., said there was no analogy between this dispatch and the first, for the one presented on Saturday was signed by the chairman of the committee.

Mr. GARFIELD said that was a mistake. It was not signed by Mr. Morrison as chairman.

The rules were suspended and the reference was made.

On motion of Mr. FRANKLIN, of Mo., the Committee on Expenditures of the Treasury Department was directed to inquire with regard to the contract for the work for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

JUDGE H. L. BOND'S ACTION.

Mr. WARREN, of Mass., offered a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire and report whether any action on the part of the House is necessary concerning the official conduct of Hugh L. Bond, judge of the United States Circuit Court of South Carolina, and whether he has in his recent action in the case of certain persons in custody exceeded his legal jurisdiction or has improperly exceeded said jurisdiction.

Mr. KASSON (Iowa) desired to ask a parliamentary question, and that was whether this resolution does not appeal a case from the United States Circuit Court to a committee of the House.

The SPEAKER said it was not then proper for the gentleman to ask that question or for him to answer it.

The House refused to suspend the rules and pass the resolution—yeas 138; nays 75—two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

BANNING AGAIN FAILS.

Mr. BANNING (Ohio) desired to offer the resolution which was objected to last week asking the Secretary of War to send to the House the report of Gen. Sheridan in relation to the removal of J. Madison Wells from the Governorship of Louisiana in 1867. The House refused to suspend the rules and pass the resolution, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

DISTRICT DAY POSTPONED.

The District of Columbia Committee was entitled to the floor at 2 o'clock, but at Mr. BUCKNER's request to-day, January 6, was set apart for that business.

SOUTHERN REPUBLICANS.

Mr. HUNTER, of Ind., offered a preamble and resolution reciting that fears have been and still are expressed by the people of the United States that Congress will, at some future time, pay a large amount of money for services rendered out of the late war, and that therefore, in order to allay such fears, the Judiciary Committee be directed to report within twenty days an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be article sixteen, and which shall declare, in effect, that no claim shall ever be allowed or paid by the United States for any kind of property destroyed, used, or caused to be used, by United States troops, or taken by any officer acting for or on behalf of the United States in any State in rebellion against the Government of the United States, or any property seized or destroyed by such officer or army, unless the persons claiming damages for property so used were all through the rebellion loyal to the Government of the United States.

Mr. SPRINGER suggested that the resolution should be one of inquiry, instead of direction.

Mr. OLYMPIA suggested that claims growing out of the war should be included, and not only those in the Southern States.

The yeas and nays were demanded, and the resolution was adopted—yeas 152, nays 63; two thirds voting in the affirmative.

The vote in detail was as follows:

YEAS.

Adams,	Hathorn,	Reilley, John,	
Anderson,	Hayes,	Reilley, Jas. B	
Bagby,	Hendee,	Robbins of Pa.,	
Bagley, Jr.	Henderson,	Roberts,	
Beck, J. H	Henkle,	Rusk,	
Baker, Ind.,	Hewitt, of N. Y.,	Sampson,	
Baker, N. Y.,	Hoar,	Savage,	
Ballou,	Holman,	Seelye,	
Banning,	Hoskins,	Sheakley,	
Beil,	Humphreys,	Slumickson,	
Blair,	Hunter,	Smith, of Pa.,	
Bland,	Hurd,	Southard,	
Bradley,	Hyman,	Sparks,	
Brown, Kan.,	Jones, of N. H.,	Spencer,	
Buckner,	Kasson,	Springer,	
Burchard, Ill.,	Kehr,	Stanton,	
Campbell,	Kelley,	Strait,	
Cannon,	Landers, of Ind.,	Stenger,	
Ason,	Landers, of Ct.,	Stevenson,	
Cate,	Lane,	Stowell,	
Caulfield,	Leavenworth,	Swan,	
Chittenden,	Le Moyne,	Tarrou,	
Clark of Ky.,	Lord,	Tenc,	
Clark of Mo.,	Luttrell,	Thornburgh,	
Clymer,	Mackey,	Townsend, N. Y.,	
Conger,	Magoun,	Tufts,	
Converse	Malsh,	Turney,	
Cutler,	McJoll,	Van Vorhes,	
Davis,	Metcalfe,	Vance, Ohio,	
Dennison,	Miller,	Wait,	
Dobbins,	Monroe,	Waldron,	
Durand,	Morgan,	Wallace, S. C.,	
Eames,	Mutchler,	Wallace, of Pa.,	
Ellis,	Nash,	Warner,	
Evans,	Neal,	Watterson,	
Flye,	Norton,	Weller,	
Fort,	Oliver,	Whitehouse,	
Foster,	O'Neill,	Whiting,	
Freeman	Page,	Wilke,	
Frye,	Payne,	Willard,	
Fuller,	Phillips, of Kan.,	Williams, N. Y.,	
Garfield,	Pierce,	Williams, A. S.,	
Giers,	Piper,	Williams, Wis.,	
Hale,	Plaisted,	Williams, Del.,	
Hamilton of Ind.,	Platt,	Williams, W. R.,	
Hamilton of Md.,	Pompleton,	Willis,	
Hir Jon,	Potter,	Wilson, Iowa,	
Hardenburgh,	Powell,	Wood, of N. Y.,	
Harris, Mass.,	Pratt,	Woodworth—151.	
Harrison,	Rainey,		
Hartzell,			

NAYS.

Ainsworth,	Finley,	O'Brien,	
Ashe,	Forney,	Reagan,	
Atkins,	Franklin,	Riddle,	
Blount,	Gause,	Robbins, N. C.,	
Boone,	Goode,	Scales,	
Bradford,	Gunter,	Schleicker,	
Briggs,	Harris of Ga.,	Singleton,	
Brown, Ky.,	Harris, of Va.	Siemons,	
Cabell,	Hartridge,	Smith, Ga.,	
Caldwell of Ala.,	Satcher,	Terry,	
Caldwell, Tenn.,	Hereford,	Throckmorton,	
Carr,	Hewitt of Ala.,	Tucker,	
Cook,	Hill,	Vance, N. C.	
Cowan,	Hooker,	Walker, of Va.	
Culverson,	Hunton,	Walsh,	
Davis,	Knott,	Warren,	
Dibrell,	Lewis,	Whitthorne,	
Douglass,	Lynch,	Williams, of Ala.	
Durham,	Milliken,	Wishire,	
Faulkner,	Mills,	Wilson, W. Va.,	
Felton,	Money,	Yeates—63.	

Mr. MUTCHLER, of Pa., offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the Secretary of War to furnish the House with the number of men enlisted under the act of August 15, 1876, to aid in the suppression of Indian hostilities; where the troops were assigned to duty; the amount of money expended, and also to report the necessity of retaining this number of troops in the United States army.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

The House agreed to the conference asked by the Senate on the bill making appropriation for expenses of the investigating committees, and Messrs. HOLMAN, of Ind., ATKINS, of Tenn., and HALE, of Me., were appointed the conferees.

The House then, at 5 p. m., adjourned.

Snow Storm in New York City.

[NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Last night snow fell to the depth of one and one-half inches. To-day it is a heavy rain set in, which freezes as it falls, rendering locomotion disagreeable and dangerous. The telegraph wires are coated with ice, and the transmission of despatches is very slow.

President Grant has been telling Senator Gordon this story, which is not the worse for having been told before: "When the three commissioners met us at For rest Monroe Mr. Stephens came swaddled up from top to toe in an enormous overcoat. Lincoln called me aside as Stephens was disrobing and observed: 'Grant, what does that performance of Stephens remind you of?' I answered: 'Mr. President, I do not know. But what does it remind you of?' With one of his queer winks Lincoln said: 'It reminds me of the biggest shucks off of the smallest ear I ever saw in my life.'"

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

PARTIES WANTING TO RENT GOOD PIANOS at from $6 to $10 per month will find such at the Hallett, Davis & Co. Piano Rooms, 811 Ninth street northwest. New Upright Pianos daily receiving. dec19-3t

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