National Republican.

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MISTHER FERNANDY WUD

GETS A CERTIFICATE OF CHARACTER

From the Librarian of Congress, one Spofford—And the Latter Abuses the "Republican" and Calls its Writers Hard Names—All of Which Being Irregular, the "Republican" Retorts—And the Result is that "Mistber Wud" and the Librarian are Completely Extinguished and Everlastingly Annihilated, as a Warning to All Evil-Doers.

Mr. Fernando Wood arose to a question of privilege in the House of Representatives yesterday, for the first time since his advent in Congress, and made the following speech in reply to the several articles that have appeared in the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN touching his past career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the indulgence of the House for a few moments on a matter personal to myself.

It is the first time that I have obtruded anything upon its attention of a merely personal character.

A newspaper of this city has been made the vehicle for circulating false and calumnious charges against me. Most of these refer to business transactions which took place over thirty years ago, and which were then refuted, and retracted by their authors. Those which purport to have occurred since that time have been proven equally without foundation.

These facts are known or should have been known to the parties who are now reviving them, doubtless for the purpose of deterring me from the performance of my public duties at this juncture. I have risen, therefore, to say that each and every allegation affecting my personal integrity in these publications are void of foundation; that they were originally created for purposes of blackmail; that they were promptly met by me then and completely refuted, without yielding to the money demands which had been made on me, and have been revived now for purposes of personal enemies for objects obvious to every one.

I ask the Clerk to read a letter sent to me this morning, without solicitation, from Mr. Spofford, the highly-esteemed Librarian of Congress, which properly characterizes the nature of these assaults, and the source from which they now emanate.

The Clerk read as follows:

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, } WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19, 1876.

DEAR SIR: My attention has just been called to a highly scurrilous assault upon you in this morning's NATIONAL REPUBLICAN of this city. My purpose in writing this note is to pronounce the assertion predicated of the article, that one of the library attendants told the writer that the pamphlet referred to had been "stolen from the library," a falsehood in every particular. Mr. Morris, the assistant who informed the REPUBLICAN reporter of the absence of the pamphlet, informs me that the interview as printed is throughout a base and wilful fabrication. Its author, I understand, is one A. M. Soteldo, lately of the New York *Free Lance*, a journal devoted chiefly to libels.

Very respectfully, A. R. SPOFFORD, Librarian of Congress.

Hon. Fernando Wood.

I repeat that every charge, of every nature or character, which the paper referred to has made, is like the one referred to by Mr. Spofford, equally without foundation.

I thank the House for granting me this indulgence. I promise not to trouble it again about any matter so purely personal.

The fact must not be omitted that at the conclusion of Mr. Wood's remarks a few Democratic Congressmen—birds of the same feather as Mr. Wood—smiled sickly smiles and gave vent to applause that was charming to the ear for its soothing feebleness.

Mr. Wood's principal defense, and the one upon which he evidently chiefly relies for a verdict of *not guilty*, is the certificate of character given him gratuitously and "unsolicited" by the "highly-esteemed" Librarian of Congress, Mr. Spofford, a person more remarkable for his grotesque appearance and personal eccentricities than for a knowledge of his duty. In other words, Mr. Wood, in his personal explanation, takes the ground that as the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN was guilty of a falsehood in its narration of a conversation that occurred between THE REPUBLICAN writer and one of the Library attendants, (as stated in Mr. Spofford's letter,) that then every other charge against Wood published by us is equally tainted with mendacity.

So be it. We heartily concur in Wood's view of the well-established legal principle, "False in one, false in all," and are perfectly willing to subscribe to the highly-esteemed librarian's certificate of character to Wood if we fail to convince an impartial mind that the veracity of Spofford's statement is of no better quality than Wood's.

In this connection we crave reference to the article alluded to by Spofford, which appeared in our issue of the 10th instant, and reads thus:

Whilst at the Congressional library engaged in searching for a biographical sketch of Fernando Wood, representative in Congress from the Tenth district of New York, the following entry in the official catalogue met the writer's eye:

WOOD, (*Fernando.*)

History of the private, political and official villainies of Fernando Wood, 8vo. New York. (1857.) *Miscellaneous Pamphlets, Vol. 33.*

A request was made of one of the Librarian's assistants for the volume in question.

"I haven't got it, sir. It has been *stolen* out of the library," was the reply.

"By whom?"

"By Mr. Fernando Wood. He sent for that volume one day, and has persistently refused to return it, although we have made frequent demands for it."

"What reason does he assign for retaining the book?" was asked.

"He says he won't permit any such book to exist if he can help it, and he therefore *steals* it."

"But is there no way of compelling restitution?"

"Oh, yes; we could do so by invoking the law, however, of the courts; but we are so busy that we have had no time to attend to the matter. We may do some of these days, however. It is a book, like many of miscellaneous pamphlets, you know; so that there are other pamphlets in it beside the biographical sketch of Mr. Wood. In my opinion it is a clear case of petty larceny."

As will be observed by a careful perusal of Spofford's letter, the above conversation is pronounced "a falsehood in every particular" by Spofford *on the authority of Mr. Morris*, a Library attendant, *who informed* Spofford that the interview as printed is "a base and willful fabrication." Spofford, therefore, knows nothing about the matter beyond what his subordinate had informed him, although from the avidity with which he rushed to Wood's rescue with his certificate of character very few of those who read the emphatic terms in which he impugns our writer's veracity would believe that Spofford has never in his life exchanged a word with the gentleman he thus atrociously libels. Our dealings have thus shifted from Wood to Spofford and from Spofford to Morris. The latter is an attendant at the library, and in justice to him it must be stated that he is an exceedingly courteous and gentlemanly official. When THE REPUBLICAN writer entered the library last Saturday afternoon he sought for Morris, having a previous acquaintance with him, and having found him stated that he was in quest of a certain biographical sketch of Fernando Wood, and asked Morris if such a book was in the library. Mr. Morris replied that the desired volume *had been* in the library, but that Fernando Wood had ascertained the fact of its presence in the collection, and, having ordered it, he had never returned it, although repeated demands had been made therefor. Morris also said that Wood had made a speech in the House on the subject, in which he censured the Librarian of Congress for harboring a libel against him among the books of the Library. THE REPUBLICAN writer characterized Wood's act as theft, and Morris fully indorsed the statement, as narrated in the interview published in our issue of Tuesday last. He was then urged by THE REPUBLICAN writer to institute a diligent search for another pamphlet on Wood, which had been circulated among Congressmen at the beginning of the last session, Morris asked Representative Burchard, of Illinois, who was in the library at the time, whether he had received such a pamphlet. Mr. Burchard replied affirmatively, but added that he had it at home among his papers. Morris then returned to the south wing of the library, and, after a consultation with a fellow-attendant, produced the desired pamphlet, and very kindly loaned it to THE REPUBLICAN writer, which the latter used, together with other data, in the compilation of his review of Wood's virtuous life, the publication to which caused the much-abused Fernando to make his *debut* as a personal explainer, and was so shocking to Spofford's nerves. On Tuesday evening THE REPUBLICAN writer received the following note from Morris, which the latter penned in our publication office, and sent to the editorial rooms:

DEAR SIR: I wish you would return immediately the pamphlet I loaned you to me at my house, 1714 K street, confidentially and under seal.

Very respectfully, Geo. A. Monnts.

The pamphlet could not be returned to Morris *immediately*, as requested, because several pages had through inadvertence been detached in our composing-room whilst extracts therefrom were being printed. But yesterday morning after the pamphlet had been "repaired" at the bookbinder's (the traces of which "repairs" are visible to the naked eye) the same was delivered to Morris at the Library by Mr. I. A. Dapray, a gentleman who accompanied THE REPUBLICAN writer to the Capitol last Saturday, and whose statement is as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20, 1876.

A. M. Soteldo, Jr., Managing Editor National Republican, Washington, D. C.

SIR: Considering the awkward position in which the Spofford-Wood letter must at first naturally place you, I deem it my duty to offer such corroborative statements as are in my power to make of the interviews between yourself and Mr. Morris, of the Congressional Library, on Saturday last, on account of which was published in yesterday's issue of THE REPUBLICAN.

On the day above mentioned I accompanied you to the Capitol, and with you visited the Congressional Library for the express purpose of obtaining a certain book relating to Fernando Wood. Upon entering the library you addressed yourself to Mr. Morris, the assistant librarian. Although not near enough to hear the conversation, I could readily observe your actions, which fully correspond with your statement of what passed. After some question put by yourself to Mr. Morris, I saw him refer to a catalogue of books, at the same time making a remark which occasioned quite a changed look of apparent surprise from you. Mr. Morris and yourself then retired to the furthest south end of the library, and after some quiet talk you returned to the desk, near which I was standing, and we departed. You showed me a pamphlet that Mr. Morris had loaned you, which you informed me was not the one you were in search of, but which would answer certain purposes in your contemplated article on Wood. Immediately after leaving the Library you repeated a part of your conversation with Mr. Morris, which, as near as I can remember, strictly conformed to your published interview. The fact that you almost instantaneously repeated verbatim the conversation is presumptive proof that the same was spoken. Certainly in the short space of time that elapsed between the conversation and the time you related it to me, you could have scarce devised so ingenious a so-called "fabrication." At your request I called at the Congressional Library this morning, for the purpose of returning the borrowed pamphlet, and there saw Mr. Morris, who, as I was leaving, followed me to the door and made the following remarks: "Mr. Soteldo had no right to publish what I said about the book being stolen. I don't think a newspaper man has any right to publish anything that is told him in confidence, especially when told him by one who has been kind and attentive. While I did not say a Member stole the book, I did tell Mr. Soteldo something in confidence which he had no right to publish. It places me in an embarrassing position and may just oust me my position." These remarks speak for themselves and need no comments. But before concluding the foregoing statement I would add that so far as the question of veracity is concerned your simple word will go equally as far as that of any other gentleman. Aside from this, however, you have corroborating proof of certain incidents and facts that combine to make up a conclusively presumptive case as against the simple denial of Mr. Morris. His admission to me of a certain confidential disclosure to you, only adds more to the proof against his denial of the interview.

And now, whatever may have been the equities governing your relations in the matter, it cannot be denied that the action of Mr. Spofford in his scurrilous composition was uncalled for, and his anxiety to keep in the good graces of a Democratic House will not justify the slanderous language used.

Very respectfully, J. A. DAPRAY.

The next chapter in the affair was Wood's personal explanation and the reading of Spofford's lying letter to the House of Representatives, which was followed by a visit to us last evening from Mr. Morris, who came to request, on behalf of himself and Librarian Spofford, that we would drop the matter so far as they were concerned, although they had no objection to the continuation of the war against Wood. We, of course, declined to accede to the wishes of the apparently repentant pair, after their shameful conduct, and plainly informed Morris that we had no alternative but to present the facts of the case to the public. Mr. Morris emphatically denied having said that Wood had *stolen* Vol. 33 of Miscellaneous Pamphlets from the Library, upon which denial our writer took issue with him. Morris admitted, however, that he did say that Vol. 33 had been taken from the Library by Wood and *had never been returned*. And what is this but theft? If anybody gets a book out of the Library and refuses to return it, what is it but theft? The books in the Congressional Library are the property of the people, and any man who appropriates one of the volumes to his use is morally just as guilty of larceny as if he stole the statue of the "Goddess of Liberty," on the summit of the Capitol's dome. Such are the facts of the case, so far as relates to Morris, upon whose statement Spofford based his grossly scurrilous attack upon our writer. Respecting Spofford's characterization of our sketch of Wood's life as "a scurrilous attack," we cannot reply better than by reminding Spofford that Wm. M. Evarts, ex-Judge Hilton and Hon. John Cochrane were among those who conspired to blackmail Wood, and who (as referees of the blackmailing Superior Court of the city of New York) pronounced Wood guilty of swindling his partner, Mr. Marvine, and adjudged that he should refund the latter gentleman nearly $8,000, out of which he had tried to rob him. Upon appeal to the highest blackmailing court in the State the latter tribunal in the most scurrilous manner affirmed the judgment of the three blackmailers, Wm. M. Evarts, ex-Judge Hilton and Hon. John M. Cochrane. We would also remind Spofford that the grand jury of the city of New York, in the most infamous and "scurrilous" manner, on the 7th of November, 1861, joined the band of conspirators and blackmailers who, clamoring for Wood's money, came into the Court of General Sessions with a true bill against Fernando Wood, for obtaining money under false pretenses from Edward C. Marvine. We would also remind Spofford that the pure and chaste Fernando in the most innocent and virtuous manner "refuted" the "false and calumnious charges" of the grand jury, and forced "a retraction" from that body of the "allegations affecting his personal integrity," by *pleading the statute of limitations.*

Respecting the libelous fling in the closing paragraph of Spofford's letter at A. M. Soteldo, jr., who is the managing editor of this journal, and responsible for the accuracy of the article on Wood, it would be doing Spofford the greatest injustice not to inform him that he is as mendacious in this last statement as in anything that precedes it. So far from being "a journal devoted chiefly to libels," the *Free Lance*, which Mr. Soteldo was editor and proprietor, was "chiefly devoted" to exposing such rascals and frauds as Fernando Wood. And as the files of the New York *Times* will attest, the *Free Lance*, by its effective cartoons and bold utterances, did excellent work in routing the Tammany Hall corruptionists at the fall election of 1875, when Tammany was ignominiously defeated by the combination of Republicans and Independent Democrats.

We cannot but regret that Morris, by his course, should have compelled us to publish in self-defense what, under no other circumstances, we would have divulged. But as it was his information to Spofford that caused the latter to pronounce our statements "false in every particular," and "a base and willful fabrication," it became imperatively necessary to do as we have done.

We don't think there is very much left of Librarian Spofford's certificate of character to Fernando Wood, although we have no doubt the latter will prize it very highly, as it is the first he has ever had during the sixty-five years that he has lived.

NEVADA.

An Address to the State Senate Urging the Passage of a Bill Restoring the Value of Silver as a Circulating Medium.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—A number of prominent business men of Virginia City have signed an address to the Nevada Senators asking their co-operation in obtaining the passage by Congress of a bill providing for the issue of legal-tender silver notes with a view of restoring the value of silver as a circulating medium.

NOTICE.—*All persons with "crooked" records desiring a certificate of character can obtain the same upon application to Spofford, the Librarian of Congress.*

HEWITT.

Quick Response of Postmaster James, of New York, to the Charges Made in Congress Yesterday.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Mr. James, postmaster, has sent the following to Hon. A. S. Hewitt, at Washington: "I am informed that you charge on the floor of Congress that your letters passing through this office are or have been opened before reaching your hands. Do you charge that it is or has been actually or probably done in this office? If so, please supplement your charge with a motion for an immediate investigation, as I pronounce such an accusation utterly and absolutely false.

Lawyers who are hard up for certificates of character for clients who stand in need of them can be accommodated by applying to Spofford, Librarian of Congress.

MURDEROUS RED MEN.

A Band of Indians Attack a Wagon Train and Kill the Attendants—Recovery of the Dead Bodies.

HOT CREEK, W. T., Dec. 20.—Four freight trains, accompanied by five men, were attacked by Indians in camp on Indian creek, six miles north of this place, about 9 o'clock last night. Three of the party escaped, and arrived here bare-footed and half clothed. A detachment of soldiers and a party of citizens repaired to the scene of the fight early this morning, and found the bodies of the seven men, (B. C. Stephens, of Salt Lake, and a German named Fritz from Colorado, horribly mutilated, with a butcher's cleaver taken from one of the wagons, and the contents of the wagons scattered over the ground. Six horses are missing, and over forty bullet holes were found in one wagon. The shells found were of Sharpe's rifle cartridge. The dead were brought here and buried. Two hundred and forty-eight Arrapahoe and Sioux scouts from this agency, in charge of Louis Richards, a half-breed, passed here on Sunday en route to join Crook.

MEXICO.

Outrage Upon American Citizenship—Arrest of a Banker and Heavy Ransom Demanded.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—A dispatch from New Orleans says a dispatch from Fort Davis says Mexican revolutionists have captured Miller, an American banker, at Chihuahua and demanded $50,000 in gold as a ransom for his release. Col. Andrews, with a force of infantry, cavalry and artillery, has gone to the rescue. Revolutionists are reported 400 strong, and have threatened to shoot Miller, if they cannot hold him.

CHAMBERS OF CONGRESS.

GROVER'S WANTON ACT OF FRAUD.

Interesting Debate on the Oregon Muddle—Fernando Wood Rises to Explain the "Republican's" Sketch—Passage of Proctor Knott's Substitute to Violate the Secrecy of the Telegraph—Hewitt Says His Letters Are Tampered With—An Investigation Declined.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.

Senate.

The Senate yesterday again indulged in a discussion of the Oregon resolution, and this was the main feature of the proceedings. Mr. Bogy again undertook to defend Governor Grover, and in the course of his speech grew facetious on the subject of returning boards. These returning boards seem to worry the Democrats in a most extraordinary manner, and they did not seem to know, until Mr. Morton informed them of the fact, that they were no new things, but had existed in almost every State and at all times almost since the foundation of the Government. Mr. Eaton apologized for Grover, but he did not attempt to defend his action in giving the certificate to Cronin. All he could say was that Grover had acted from the best motives. In fact, this is the most that the majority of the Democrats have said about him, and Mr. Sherman took proper advantage of this fact by showing that the Democrats were not willing to concede even good motives to the returning boards, and that in that course they acted with the greatest injustice. The Oregon resolution was not finally disposed of.

House of Representatives.

In the House Mr. Fernando Wood rose to a personal explanation. The spurs of the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN must have cut deep when the charges could have induced him to depart from his general custom and make a personal explanation. But what did it all amount to? He simply gave a general denial to the charges, and then produced a letter from Mr. Spofford, the Librarian of Congress, to show some defects in an interview with an assistant librarian. Mr. Wood said the letter was unsolicited. That statement may go down with the ordinary reader, but to any one familiar with Congressional proceedings the fact is well known that officers of Congress do not write such letters "unsolicited." Mr. Wood, of course, denies the charges made by THE REPUBLICAN. No one expected that he would do otherwise. But can he prove that the charges are false? Denial is one thing. Proof another.

After the Democratic side of the House had applauded Mr. Wood's assevveration of innocence, it took up the subject of the address of the Irish people on the occasion of the American Centennial. Last summer when Mr. O'Connor Power appeared here with that address, President Grant felt that it would not be becoming for him to receive it unless it was presented through Sir Edward Thornton. The latter declined to be made the agent of presentation because the address contained reflections upon the British Government. The President could do nothing else than as he did, and if the House can devise some means whereby it can be received without giving offense to the British Government it will do a good work. An address of congratulation from Irishmen would at all times be most acceptable to this country, but when offered to the President must be couched in such language as not to offend a friendly Power.

The House then took up the reports from the Judiciary Committee in relation to the production of telegrams in answer to the subpœnas of committees of investigation. The majority finally adopted Mr. Knott's recommendation that telegrams were no more privileged than oral communication—a heresy which none but a Democratic House would ever advance. Under this rule they may demand all the telegrams from all the offices in the country under the most flimsy pretences. Well might Mr. Garfield remark that the next step would be to take the sanctity of private correspondence as transmitted through the Post Office.

Mr. Hewitt, by the way, thought that the sanctity of his correspondence had been invaded; but it was noticeable that when a resolution was offered by a Republican to investigate the charge that a Democrat objected, and the resolution fell to the ground.

While the Democrats so prom ptly adopted Mr. Knott's proposition, and thus propose to throw out a drag-net, they, with almost the same unanimity, rejected that of Mr. Hurd, which simply asked that the telegrams required should be specified. Thus they have placed themselves on the record as going to the most extreme measures in the matter of searching through private correspondence and individual telegrams.

According to Spofford, Librarian of Congress, Wm. M. Evarts is a party to a scurrilous attack on Fernando Wood.

LOUISIANA.

The Congressional Committee Indulging in a Ramble.

GALVESTON, Dec. 20.—The House sub-committee on Louisiana affairs, consisting of Congressmen Meade, Danford and House, arrived here this morning en route for the upper Red river parishes. They will be absent about ten days.

SENATE COMMITTEE DISCUSSING THE DUCES TECUM—CONSIDERING WHAT DOCUMENTS THE RETURNING BOARD WILL BE CALLED UPON TO DELIVER.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 20.—The Senate committee met at 11:30 a. m. A statement of the votes registered in each parish and at what polls rejected was received from the Returning Board. Senator McEnery made a motion to take a subpœna *duces tecum* issue to the Returning Board for all protests and affidavits accompanying the consolidated statements of supervisors, also for the returns of the commissioners of each poll in each parish.

Senator Howe, chairman, said he could not understand what figure the protests and affidavits which formed the subject of controversy in the Returning Board could cut in the investigation, unless the committee proposed to review the action of the board in an appellate capacity.

Senator McEnery said it was not the province of the committee to determine anything. The committee wanted only the facts for the information of the body from which the committee derive its authority. The committee wanted to know the facts upon which the board rejected the votes, which, by their statement received, they admit they did reject. The question of calling for other documents of the Returning Board is being discussed by the committee.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Speaker Mackey Preparing Detailed Statement for the Public—Republican House to Adjourn Sine Die.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—A dispatch to the *Times* from Columbia says that Speaker Mackey is preparing and will give to the public in a few days a detailed statement of all proceedings resulting in the organization of the present Legislature, showing its perfect legality and constitutionality, together with the evidence on which the vote of Edgefield and Laurens counties was thrown out for Governor and Assembymen, and why those counties refused certificates. The Republicans of both branches of the Legislature held a joint caucus last evening and agreed to adhere to the original resolution to adjourn *sine die* on next Friday. Gov. Chamberlain was present and approved of this course.

THE SENATE AGREE TO ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE—TAX BILL PASSED—WADE HAMPTON'S STRATEGY TO RAISE FUNDS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 20.—The Senate to-day decided by a strict party vote to adjourn with the Republican House *sine die* on the 22d instant. The tax and appropriation bills passed the second reading in the Senate. The tax levy aggregates seventeen mills, exclusive of local taxes, and is equal to $2,010,000. Resolutions passed the Democratic House to-day instructing Gov. Hampton to issue a proclamation calling upon citizens to pay to such persons as he may designate 25 per cent. of the State and county tax for last fiscal year, and persons paying such tax shall receive certificates receivable for taxes hereafter.

NEW YORK.

Congressional Committee at Work—The Duces Tecum Telegraphic Resolution Reconsidered and Amended—Examination of Witnesses.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The Congressional committee appointed to investigate alleged election frauds in the cities of Brooklyn, Jersey City and Philadelphia met again this morning. The resolution in regard to the telegraphic dispatches, passed yesterday, was reconsidered, and again passed, so amended as to direct the issuing of subpœnas *duces tecum* to all officers of any telegraphic company to produce all dispatches relating to elections sent or received by Smith Weed, Jr., Fernando Wood, A. S. Hewitt, John Kelly, John Morrissey, D. Magone, jr. and Colonel Pelton.

Proceedings under the resolution were postponed by unanimous consent until the question pending before the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives shall have been decided. Charles E. Miller, of Brooklyn, was then called on as a witness and examined by Mr. Abe Dougall. He testified that at the last election in New York there was fraud and imposition so far as honest voting was concerned, and that this fact was admitted by both parties. He had charged frauds in the presence of Democrats and they did not defend it.

When a Congressman is indicted by a grand jury for swindling, and pleads the Statute of Limitations as a defense, Spofford, the Librarian of Congress, will give him a certificate of good character.

GREECE.

Increasing Her Military Forces to 200,000.

ATHENS, Dec. 7.—The Chamber of Deputies has unanimously passed a bill increasing the strength of the military forces to 200,000 men.

THE GORHAM-BASSETT NUPTIALS.

Brilliant Assemblage at the Old Fourth Church—Description of Toilettes, Wedding Presents, &c.

Last evening the much talked-of marriage of Mr. Geo. C. Gorham and Miss Effie E. Bassett took place at the Fourth Presbyterian church, on Ninth street. The ceremony was announced to take place at 6 p. m., and long before that hour the church was filled with a fashionable audience, so great was the interest manifested in the event. Promptly at the hour named the bridal party entered the church, and the ceremony was performed by the reverend and much-beloved pastor, Dr. John C. Smith, assisted by Mr. Joseph Kelly. The bridal party entered the church by the right aisle, in accordance with an old custom of Dr. Smith's, to the glorious strains of

WAGNER'S MARCH, "TANNHAUSER,"

performed by Professor Walter, in the following order: The bride's mother, escorted by Ms. Isaac Bassett, followed by Mr. Joseph Tyssowski and wife, a sister of the bride, and her two children; Master Charles Bassett and Miss Sarah Bolle Gorham, Mr. H. H. Gorham and Mary G. Gorham, a son and daughter of the groom; Masters William and Paul Gorham, younger sons of the groom; Mrs. Wm. L. Fairbrother, a cousin of the groom, with her interesting children, Miss Minnie and Master Leon; Miss Callie Jones, a California guest of the groom; Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Hills and daughter, and Miss Lizzie Carroll; the ushers, Messrs. John Young, Howard French, Jacob Moore and Ed. Goodrich; the groomsmen and bridesmaids, Hon. Thos. W. Ferry, Vice President of the Senate, with Miss Aurelia P. Bassett, a sister of the bride, and Mr. John W. Flagg, legislative clerk of the Senate, with Miss Christiana Callan; and, last, the bride and groom.

The groom, Mr. George C. Gorham, well known as the popular and affable Secretary of the United States Senate, is a native of Connecticut, but emigrated to the Golden State a number of years ago, where he held several important positions. In 1867 he was nominated for Governor on the Republican ticket, but failed of an election. In the fall of 1868 he came East to attend the National Convention and spent the winter in Washington. He was at that time appointed to his present position, at the instance of the entire delegation from the Pacific coast. How acceptably he has filled it for the past eight years the public knows. The bride, Miss Bassett, for years a pupil of the late David Bassett, for many years a trusted and valued clerk in the Sixth Auditor's office, and an elder and a greatly esteemed member of the Fourth Presbyterian church. In figure she is slight and graceful, and rather on the blonde style of beauty, with "bonny brown hair."

A LADY OF MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS,

who by her grace of manner and amiable disposition has endeared herself to many of her friends and best families. The toilettes displayed on the occasion were exceedingly rich and tasteful. The bride wore a superb cream-white silk, cut with impromptu train and light-cutting esoteric bodice, trimming of lily of the valley fringe, illusion and sprays of orange blossoms. The veil was held in place by a magnificent wreath of the same combination. Her bridal gloves were those (one of the presents) sparkled in her ears. The bridesmaids wore dresses similar to that of the bride—white silk trimmed with tarletan and garnished with flowers, a peculiar arrangement of which made it appear that the leaves were falling. Among

OTHER NOTICEABLE TOILETTES

were those of Miss Mary Gorham, who wore a delicate *ciel* plue silk, cut *en traine*, and trimmed with delicate rose. Mrs. Tyssowski, in rich apricot silk, trimmed with lace; Miss Sarah Belle, the *petite* daughter of the groom, who looked "very cunning" in white muslin, with pink insertion and pink sash and hair ribbons.

As soon as the party had reached the altar, two of the attendants extended satin ribbons from the door along the entire length of the aisles, which effectually prevented the usual rush upon the conclusion of the ceremony.

The floral tributes and decorations were exceedingly fine, the pastor's desk resembling an oasis in a wilderness of rare exotics, and the pulpit gai jetti on either side were tastefully entwined with Boston smilax. Upon the table by his side was a

MAGNIFICENT PYRAMID OF FLOWERS,

with four branches and a superb centre piece, a marvel of the florist's art. Each member of the bridal party carried a bouquet. After the ceremony a brilliant reception was held at the residence of the bride's mother, No. 929 New York avenue. A few intimate friends, among whom were Senator Stewart, Judge Field, and Ex-Gov. Shepherd, together with the bridal party, being the only guests. The parlors were handsomely decorated with flowers and vines, and upon the several tables were displayed the wedding presents. A sumptuous collation was discussed, after which the happy couple departed loaded with congratulations to take the 9:20 train for Baltimore, New York, Boston, and New London, Connecticut, the old home of the groom. They will return about the 8th of January, when no regular reception will be held, but they will be at home to their many friends at No. 929 New York avenue. As our lady readers are always interested in

BRIDAL PRESENTS,

a description of a few of them are presented. The California friends of Mr. Gorham sent a large package containing the following: First, a highly-polished cabinet, 2½ feet long and and about the same width and depth, made of laurel and other woods native to that country, and inlaid with pink and blue satin, and ornamented with silver. Its contents consisted of the following gold-lined articles: Soup ladle, cream ladle, pie knife, berry spoon and a dozen small coffee spoons. Also, the following massive silver pieces: Pickle knife and fork, one dozen table spoons, one dozen dessert spoons, one dozen tea spoons, two dozen forks and two dozen dessert knives, with ivory-lined handles. The case and contents are estimated to be worth about $800. Second, a Turkey morrocco case, 2 feet long, containing ivory-handled silver-mounted cutlery, consisting of dinner and breakfast knives, knife and fork, steel, corkscrews and champagne cutter. Third, an elegant set of the purest solitaire diamond ear-rings and a black onyx cross, with solitaire diamond. The jewelry is valued at $1,500. These mementoes of the Golden State will be placed on exhibition at Galt's in a few days.

Among the other presents were a large and superb black marble clock and side ornaments, trimmed with oxidized silver, from ex-Senator Stewart; a plate-glass jewel case with gold and silver base, from Senator Ferry; a very exquisite silver bronzed greyhound, from Mr. Flagg; a black onyx and gold neck-chain, from Miss Mary Gorham; a handsome tortoise-shell opera glass, from a silver and crystal card-receiver, from Mr. Wm. Galt; a silver toilet stand, with cut-glass bottle, from several lady friends; a cylindrical silver jewel case, with satin lining, from Mr. Wm. L. Fairbrother; a handsome Russia leather and cut-glass glove and handkerchief box, from Sir. and Mrs. Wm. L. Drury; silver card cases, from Mrs. E. A. Hills and Mr. Charles E. Hughes; costly lace handkerchief and gold holder, from Mr. Aurelio Badiqui; delicate Nile silk dress pattern, from Mrs. Tyssowski; a handsome toilet set, from Mrs. Price; a tea-caddy of China, from Mrs. J. Tabor Johnson; a work basket and stand from Mrs. Wm. Nourse, two floral pictures from Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Danenhower; a rich white satin fan, with carved handle, from Miss Mary Tyssowski; a chased silver berry-spoon, gold lined, from Mr. B. Moses; a jewel case, from George F. Dawson, librarian of the Senate; a beautiful bouquet, from Senator Edmunds; group of three large magnificent bronzes, from the clerks in the office of the Secretary of the Senate; a large and massive chased silver salver and fruit urn, upon which is the following inscription: A wedding gift to Mr. and Mrs. E. Bassett from Senators of the United States, friends of Mr. George C. Gorham, secretary of the Senate." This a present from Senators, irrespective of party, as we think, the first compliment of the kind ever paid to a bride by the Senate of the United States. It is also a marked recognition of the valuable services rendered by the distinguished Secretary of the Senate, by which have won for him the respect and esteem of that body. The presents from the groom were a very elegant and heavy pair of gold bracelets and a handsome set of diamond and elegant bridal *trousseau* was the gift of the bride's mother. The bridal boquet and other floral ornamentswere presented by General Bab cock.

Spofford is responsible for vol. 33, Miscellaneous Pamphlets, which Fernando Wood stole from the Congressional Library.

FLORIDA.

Movement of Committees—Congressional Committee to Report Finally by January 1st—Work of Senate Committee Progressing.

TALLAHASSEE, Dec. 20.—The House special committee left to-night for Live Oak, where it will be met by the witnesses from Jasper precinct, in Hamilton county. It will go thence to Jacksonville, where the Duval and Alachua witnesses are awaiting. The investigation will be closed there. It is probable that the final report will be made by January 1. The sub-committee will proceed to Jackson county and canvass that county. The Senate committee still holds secret sessions and spent to-day in examining witnesses from Monroe, Manatee and Jackson. The Supreme Court did not render a decision to-night, but adjourned till 10 o'clock tomorrow, when the decision is looked for.

The Senate committee called on the Secretary of State to-day for a tabulated statement of the vote for Presidential electors on the face of the returns, which was furnished, figuring up: Hayes, 24,370; Tilden, 24,312. This includes the return number one from Baker county, which was, by unanimous action of the board, rejected and the other returns substituted, which give Tilden 119 majority. The investigation of the Jackson county returns showed that at Friendship Church precinct the votes were compelled to pass their tickets through a window a foot above their heads, and lost sight of them before they were deposited in the box; that the Republican supervisor was driven from the room, and that the votes were canvassed two miles from the polling places. The committee also took the testimony of the judge of Manatee county, whose evidence was about the same as before the House committee, and showed that the county commissioners wholly neglected to revise the registration list, to appoint precincts or precinct officers, or give any notice of the election, and no single vote was cast, mostly Democratic. There were many who refused to vote.

When a Congressman is indicted by a grand jury for swindling, and pleads the Statute of Limitations as a defense, Spofford, the Librarian of Congress, will give him a certificate of good character.

VIRGINIA.

Democratic Sympathy for South Carolina—Passage of the Resolution by a Party Vote.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 21.—In the Senate to-day Senator Johnson's resolution condemning Federal interference in the affairs of South Carolina, and expressing Virginia's sympathy for the people of that State, were further discussed, and an amendment inserted calling on South Carolinians to continue in their forbearance, &c., after which they were adopted—yeas 31, nays 4. The negative votes were cast by Republicans.

STOLEN INDICTMENTS.

TRIAL OF CHARLES G. FISHER.

Testimony of the Government Closed—More About the Black-and-Tan Pup—He Had It and He Didn't Have It—Curious Actions Around the City Hall—Efforts to Sell the Stolen Records—Opening for the Defense.

The second trial of Charles G. Fisher, late United States Assistant District Attorney, indicted for abstracting certain papers from the clerk's office of the Supreme Court of this District, was continued yesterday morning before Judge MacArthur. The progress of the trial on the previous day showed that certain indictments and appeal bonds were taken from the clerk's office, in the City Hall, on the night of September 13, 1875. On that evening the accused, in company with Sayre and Donohue, came to the City Hall in a carriage, the defendant stating that he wished to procure a black-and-tan dog, and it was near there that he could obtain it. When they reached the City Hall Fisher and Donohue left the carriage and went back of the building. After being absent a short time Fisher returned and inquired of Sayre if a boy had passed, and, being answered in the affirmative, replied that he would go back and get the dog. He did return, and remained so long that Sayre became impatient and directed the driver to move off slowly in a westerly direction and perhaps they would come on. When he arrived in front of the Columbia Law building the carriage was stopped. Fisher came up and got into it, saying that the other man had got the dog and gone. They then proceeded to different places, and about 10 o'clock, at the Imperial hotel, separated for the night.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

There was about as large an audience in the court-room as has been in attendance during the term, and the proceedings were at times unusually interesting, especially when Charles Hurdle testified. He seemed to unburden his bosom with a freedom that, while it astonished the spectators, at the same time caused considerable merriment. The counsel on both sides were promptly in attendance, and the trial was pushed forward with becoming speed.

Charles Hurdle, sworn: Witness' place of business in September, 1875, was 452 Twelfth street. Had known Fisher for a long time; saw him in September almost daily at the Theatre Comique. Had an interview with him. Witness' wife came to him when he was sleeping on the night of September 13 and woke him up, saying that Fisher had done, as District Attorney Fisher was at the door and had been ringing for half an hour. Went down and let him and a man named Curran in the house; Fisher and Curran asked for them. While drinking Fisher took out some papers, saying this was good and that was not, and throwing them into two piles. He left the bundle, and asked witness to keep them until the next morning, when he would call for them. He failed to do it for two days, and witness put them in the safe of Barbee's law office, Twelfth and E streets. Mr. Barbee's office was broken for them, and they were given to him. Saw Fisher next at a trot or boat race, the next day after

THE PAPERS WERE LEFT WITH WITNESS.

Was standing in front of witness' door one morning when a party came up in a carriage, Fisher among them. Witness was invited to take a ride. Went, and they were driven to Simon Dents's place, in Georgetown. Took a glass of beer there with him, and then came back home. Next day Fisher came and told witness he could get Simon Dents papers to him and get $40. Went there, but Dents would not do anything without seeing his lawyer. Told Fisher, and he said, "Let the devil take the papers." Witness did so. Fisher sent him to Thompson, a huckster in the market, to sell the papers, and he said he would have nothing to do with it. Fisher told witness to take the bonds "confiscated," and the papers to him, and get $5. Did take them, but he refused to touch them. Had known Curran six or seven years. On the night they came to witness's house Curran said Fisher said that he broke a screw in the door of the court-house.

Cross-examined: Had lived here forty-two years; had done most anything; been in the gin business, a politician, and, when people said, a rowdy, but never stole anything; was now promoted to

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CHAIN GANG.

His place of business was frequented by most anybody that had ten or fifteen cents. He first kept the Tem Drop, on Tenth street, and then went across to the Screw house afterwards on C street; then near the National theatre. Witness had everybody for patrons. Had been sent to jail for hitting the Mayor in the stomach with a gun, and got six months. That was some time ago. Had been married about eighteen years. The first wife died, the second was divorced and the third is now living. Has married the second one under protest. He knew Annie Miller; she was his outside girl. Went to bed in the afternoon and got up at 3 p. m. Fisher came after him, and witness told his wife not to let him know that witness was in the house. In the afternoon Fisher asked witness where he could get a good black-and-tan dog, as he wanted it for service. Witness referred to Patsy Morgan. He told witness to take care of the papers; that they were court papers, and he would be after them the