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GAMBLERS' CONSPIRACY.

SHAMEFUL ATTEMPT TO DRAG MASONRY INTO THE VILE PLOT.

Major Richards on the Stand—His Views of Masonic Obligations of the Same Quality as His Notions of Police Duty—Threatening Mr. Murtagh With Exposure if "The Republican" Continued its Course Against a Worthless and Corrupt Police.

The Special Committee of the House of Representatives charged with the momentous, weighty and all-absorbing duty of investigating the connections of a few swindling and villainous gamblers and their "pals" of the police force against the proprietor of THE REPUBLICAN held a session last evening at the Capitol. As usual, the Sergeant-at-Arms reported his inability to find any of the numerous witnesses for whom Mr. Murtagh's counsel had procured subpœnas. This is not surprising. The gamblers are a powerful class of criminals.

Their sway over the police of the city (and certain officials) is ample proof of the assertion. As this is purely a fight between the gamblers and THE REPUBLICAN, the gamblers will not lose a single trick if they can help it. They realize the importance and appreciate the value of ascertaining the names of all witnesses that might be summoned against them. By obtaining this information in advance, they can take the necessary steps to "fix" things and suppress damaging testimony. Nearly every person summoned on behalf of Mr. Murtagh has fled the town or concealed himself.

Jack Heath, the gambler, who vamoosed whilst the inquiry before the Police Board was pending, ran away on the same day that his name was handed to Mr. Norris, the clerk of the committee. Jack Heath is unable to read or write, and is an illiterate man, and his "pals" regarding him as an easy prey in the hands of the lawyers, ordered him into temporary exile.

Iky Jones, another gambler, on the defendant's list of witnesses, skipped at the same time as Mr. Heath, and will not return, so his friends say, until the present investigation is ended. And the same may be said of a half dozen other witnesses. Last evening, therefore, there being no witnesses for the defense in attendance, Mr. Wilson called Major Richards to the stand. Richards could but ill-conceal his astonishment. He colored up and became agitated. It was far from being the composure of innocence. Little Willie Cook and Detectives Miller, McElfresh and McDevitt also exhibited signs of mental perturbation, which were most amusing to contemplate. And the conspirators did not feel uncomfortable without cause. Their own guilty consciences made them fearful and apprehensive.

It was as good as a play to see Richards writhe under the fire of Mr. Wilson's scorching examination. When asked whether he had sent Mr. Ball to inform Mr. Murtagh on New Year's Day that he would be exposed unless THE REPUBLICAN ceased it attacks on the police for permitting the gamblers to operate undisturbed, Richards squirmed fearfully at this thrust, and to the surprise of everybody declined to reply, and requested permission to communicate to the committee privately the reason for his course. The committee thought the request would not consent to the proposition, and having consulted with closed doors for half an hour, decided that Richards must respond to Mr. Wilson's interrogatory. Then came a touching scene—so pathetic and at the same time so dramatic. If it had been acted on the mimic stage the applause greeting it would have been terrific. At the supreme moment Richards adapted his manner and tuned his voice to the exigencies of the occasion. In tremulous and sad accents he said that the answer to the question involved the violation of his Masonic oath, the most sacred and binding a man can take on earth. But since the committee ordered it no alternative was left to him but to violate his Masonic obligation. Mr. Murtagh, however, must be held responsible for it, and assume the consequences. By Jove! here was a revelation! A Masonic secret was to be revealed! The silence as Richards spoke was such that the fall of little Willie Cook's thin brown wig would have been distinctly audible in every part. All ears were strained to catch the Masonic secret about to be disclosed! Whose could it be? What unlucky confiding individual was Richards going to "give away!" But lo! *parturiunt montes nascitur ridiculus mus.* [The mountains labored and gave birth to a mouse.] Richards' dreadful secret, that he had striven his utmost to hide, concerned no other person than himself. It transpired that in violating his Masonic obligation he was only exposing Richards, and was doubtless the reason why he was so loth to tell. And yet he was so grave and solemn about it that many of those present seemed shocked that Richards should be forced to betray his Masonic brethren. But when Richards' reply showed that if there was any secret to be divulged it concerned no one but Richards, there was visible a general expression of satisfaction on the countenances of those present. It ought to be observed in this place that many Masons who heard Richards' testimony were exceedingly indignant at his bringing Masonry into the case at all, especially as there was not the slightest necessity therefor. His doing so is calculated to convey to the public erroneous impressions respecting that worthy and powerful craft. To the unimitated who read Richards' evidence it will appear as if all a Mason has to do to receive Masonic protection, and be privileged from divulging his own utterances, the repetition of which by himself might be injurious or detrimental, is to confide the same to a brother Mason, and by doing that, feel perfectly safe. If this is not the most preposterous and absurd proposition that can be advanced, it is difficult to imagine what it. Richards was not asked to betray another man's secrets. The question put to him was simply, if he had sent a message to Mr. Murtagh threatening him with exposure if THE REPUBLICAN was not withdrawn from its war against gamblers and corrupt officials. Because Richards had asked a Masonic friend to be the bearer of his threats, he declined to answer on the ground that to do so would be violating "the most sacred obligation a man can take on earth!" What a convenient cloak for criminality and knavery Masonry would be, if Richards' views of it were to prevail! Mr. Murtagh, however, enters a most positive and emphatic denial that he regarded his conversation with Messrs. Ball and Lloyd, above referred to, as partaking of a Masonic character.

The following is a stenographic report of

Yesterday's Proceedings.

The committee met at 7 p. m. Present, Messrs. Davy, LeMoyne, Milliken and Williams.

Testimony of Alexander Dodge, the Juror in the McGarrahan Case.

Alexander Dodge, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Wilson: Q. Where do you reside? A. In Washington.

Q. Are you the Mr. Dodge that was spoken of here the other day as having been on the jury in the McGarrahan and Murtagh case? A. I am, sir.

Q. Did anybody ever approach you in regard to your conduct on that jury? A. No mortal on earth.

Q. Was your son appointed afterwards on the police force? A. He was, sir.

Q. How long afterwards? A. About ten months.

Q. About ten months afterwards? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know Mr. Murtagh at the time you were on that jury? A. I did not, sir.

Q. Was your daughter afterwards appointed as a teacher in one of the schools? A. She was appointed previous to my son, but by Mr. French, school trustee of the Third district. Mr. Murtagh had nothing to do with it, pro or con.

Our Great Chief of Police Again on the Stand.

A. C. Richards recalled. By Hon. Jeremiah M. Wilson, attorney for Mr. Murtagh: Q. I hand you this copy of the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN of the 29th of December, 1876, that you may say if those letters that appear there were written to you by District Attorney Wells, and were received by you? (Handing witness the paper referred to, containing the letters of the District Attorney urging the suppression of gambling, which were submitted in evidence.) A. I think they were.

Mr. Norris, counsel for Major Richards, requested that Mr. Wilson would state to the committee for what purpose those letters were introduced, and Mr. Wilson replied that he would.

Q. Major Richards, have you the letter that was spoken of by Mr. Archie Shepherd in his testimony here the other day? A. I have not, to my knowledge.

Q. Where is it? A. I do not know. I suppose I destroyed it at the time of its receipt.

Q. You have never seen it since? A. I do not think I have.

Q. Do you keep the files of the communications that are received? A. Of all formal communications, yes, sir.

Q. This, then, was an informal communication? *A. It was a mere note.*

Q. It is not in existence now? A. I do not think it is.

Q. Did you, on the 1st of January last, send Mr. Ball to Mr. Murtagh? A. I decline to answer that question unless I am instructed to do so by the committee, and before being instructed I should like to explain to them certain matters privately, about an account of the relations existing between Mr. Ball and myself.

RICHARDS THREATENING MR. MURTAGH.

Q. Did you send Mr. Ball to Mr. Murtagh on the 1st of January last, and authorize him to say to Mr. Murtagh *that if he did not stop his attacks on the police that you would make certain exposures of him?* A. I have declined to answer that question; it is, however, put in a way now to place me in a false light; but I cannot answer it, for reasons that Mr. Murtagh ought to understand.

Q. What are the reasons? A. I decline to state. If the committee will permit me, however, I will state this: That if I did send Mr. Ball, I sent him with no such message as has been intimated by Mr. Wilson.

Q. If it was not such as intimated, what was it?

Mr. Norris objected to this question.

Mr. Wilson. I think the committee will apprehend its purpose.

The Chairman stated that he should not exclude the question, but that if the witness declined to answer he should ask for a consultation with the committee.

Q. I will ask you whether you know Mr. Benj. F. Lloyd? A. I do.

Q. I ask you now to state what message you did send, and then we will judge whether it was a threat or not? A. I decline to state it unless I am so instructed by the committee.

Mr. Wilson insisted upon an answer, whereupon the room was cleared for deliberation. The doors were then reopened.

The Chairman, Major Richards, the committee have decided that it is proper for you to answer the question.

RICHARDS TRIES TO SHIELD HIMSELF BEHIND HIS MASONRY.

By Mr. Wilson: Q. Did you send Mr. Robert Ball to Mr. Murtagh on the 1st of January last with a message to Murtagh? A. I cannot say that I sent him.

Q. Did you ask him to go? A. I suggested to him to go.

Q. Where were you when you suggested to him to go? A. At Mr. Ball's store, on Seventh street, opposite the Post Office.

Q. Did you go there for the purpose of seeing Mr. Ball? A. I called there for the purpose of seeing Mr. Ball as I came to the office in the morning.

Q. On this occasion? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you tell Mr. Ball to tell Mr. Murtagh? A. Gentlemen, I will answer that question, but it will involve the most sacred obligation that a human being can take on his part of his. Mr. Murtagh, I will tell to the committee, I called at Mr. Ball's store on the morning of January 1st, as I came from home, and saw Mr. Ball in his store. Mr. Ball belongs to the fraternity known as Masons. He is a Mason of high standing in this community. I called upon him purely as a Mason, communicated with him as a Mason. He accepted my communication as a Mason. I simply said to him that from what talk I had heard on the streets, *and between some of the members of the force, I feared these publications in* THE REPUBLICAN *would lead to some public disclosures which would not be pleasant to Mr. Murtagh and others.* I talked matter over with Mr. Ball. I believe that was about all that was said. I suggested to him that as a brother Mason it would be well for him to see Mr. Murtagh and talk with him on the subject. Either Mr. Ball or myself suggested that as Mr. Benj. F. Lloyd was also a brother Mason and a brother-in-law of Mr. Murtagh, it would be well for him to see Mr. Lloyd and they could go together, purely out of the most friendly and sacred motives. There was no threat, and nothing that could be construed in any manner into a threat was suggested or authorized by me to be communicated to Mr. Murtagh; and I ask the committee now, inasmuch as the sacredness of that obligation has been violated, that they summon Mr. Ball before them to state exactly what I said to him, and what he said to me.

By Mr. Wilson: *I will ask that he be summoned,* and also that Mr. Lloyd be summoned.

Q. Is that all that you said to Mr. Ball? A. To the best of my knowledge or recollection that is all that was said.

Q. Did not you tell Mr. Ball to say to Mr. Murtagh that unless these publications were stopped here would be exposures made that would be to his injury? A. No, sir; not to say anything to him in that light.

Q. You did not say that? A. No, sir.

Q. Did not you communicate to them what the exposures would be that would be made? A. I communicated what they might be.

Q. Did not you state what they might be? A. Probably I did, briefly; not in full—not in detail.

Q. Did not you say to Mr. Ball that you did not have any knowledge of these things, but that they would come through other people? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you not tell him that the detectives had them, and that they would expose them? A. It is possible that I mentioned one or two of them, and stated that this thing was being talked about, and that *I feared* that something of the kind might come to pass.

Q. Did not you tell them to say to him that it would be better for him to stop the publication of these articles in his paper? A. I do not think I said that. I think that I did state to Mr. Ball that he had better say to Mr. Murtagh, in the way that I wanted it said, that these personal attacks upon me must be stopped.

Q. Why did you say to him that the detectives knew about it if you had full knowledge of it yourself? A. I did not say that the detectives had full knowledge of it that I remember. I did have full knowledge of one portion of it, and so said to him, but did not connect the detectives.

Q. You told him that you knew a portion of it yourself? A. I said so before.

Q. The balance of it was known to the detectives? A. They knew more of it than I did, probably than I knew them.

USING DETECTIVES BY PRIVATE PERSONS.

Q. Major Richards, what is the practice at police headquarters with reference to detailing policemen or detectives for the use of private citizens? A. There is no such practice at headquarters that I am aware of.

Q. State whether or not it is very frequently done? A. Yes, sir.

Q. For the use of private citizens?

Mr. Wilson. Detailed on the request of private citizens.

The Witness. For private purposes?

By Mr. Wilson: Q. For such purposes as private citizens want to use them? A. They are never detailed to report to private citizens to transact business which is of a private nature and not connected with the execution of the law and the ferreting out of crime.

Q. Are they not often detailed at the request of private citizens? A. Frequently gentlemen will come to me and state that they have a case that they want worked up—very frequently. Perhaps they will intimate to me the character of the case, without giving names or details, and say that they want a good detective put to assist them. Without further inquiry I put one in communication with them, and not ask at that time or any other time their business, because I presumed it to be of a private nature, and that they did not wish to have any more known about it than possible.

Q. Did not these detectives very frequently go into matters on their own account in connection with the commission of crimes in the city? A. The first proceedings frequently are initiated by themselves.

By Mr. Norris, counsel for Richards and the detectives: Q. You have been asked whether you sent a communication by Mr. B. F. Lloyd, brother-in-law of Mr. Murtagh. Did you send any communication by him or did you see him? A. I did not see him or send any communication. I never spoke to him on the subject.

Q. Your communications were entirely with Mr. Ball? A. Entirely so.

Q. And they were in that sort of secrecy and friendship that belongs to the Masonic Order? A. Entirely.

Q. Between brother and brother? A. Entirely so. It was under the obligation that one Mason is to another, not to reveal a matter communicated to him.

Q. I will ask you to state whether you told Mr. Ball that you did not personally know anything about the Whitthorne matter? A. No, sir. I did not tell him that I personally knew nothing of...

Q. Did you allude to the matter? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you allude to it as having some personal knowledge of it? A. I did.

THE DANA MATTER AGAIN.

By the Chairman: Q. Did you ever receive any communications from the Philadelphia police about Mr. Dana? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you hear the testimony of Mr. Clarvoe? A. Yes; I was not present last night, but I have read it as published in the paper this morning.

Q. Did you see a letter that was sent from Mr. Taggart, of Philadelphia? A. I saw one printed in the paper.

Q. Did you see it at the time it was written and received here? Where did you first see it or hear of it? A. If I had not read Mr. Clarvoe's testimony this morning I should have answered that question positively that I never saw or heard of that letter, and to the best of my ability, and my memory almost to a certainty. I never did see the letter, and never heard of it until within the last ten days. In view of what Mr. Clarvoe stated, however, I will now say that it is possible I might be mistaken.

Q. Did Mr. Clarvoe make any report to you about this matter? A. The only report that I ever received from Mr. Clarvoe was after his return from Philadelphia, when he was visiting the incidents that transpired at Wilmington, and speaking of what transpired at Philadelphia after he arrived at the hotel. *It is proper* that I should say that my impression had always been, and is still, that Mr. Clarvoe's trip to Philadelphia at that time on the train on which Mr. Dana went over was purely accidental; that the arrest of Dana in Wilmington was an incident of the trip; that he happened to be in the company of another officer, who went for the purpose of shadowing Mr. Dana, and that he went on other business. That has always been my impression.

Q. Did he tell you so? A. I obtained my belief from what he reported to me after his return. I certainly had no knowledge that Mr. Clarvoe, or any other member of the police department, was shadowing Mr. Dana at this time or at any other time.

Q. Was Mr. Clarvoe at that time under your orders? A. Yes, sir.

ARTHUR SHEPHERD'S TWO POLICEMEN.

Q. Was there no letter received by you from Mr. Murtagh asking a detail of policemen at the time Mr. Shepherd was twitted to here? A. I remember receiving a note. I think, at the hands of Mr. Shepherd, requesting a detail of two officers whom he (Shepherd) should name, and that these officers be directed to report at THE REPUBLICAN office at 6 o'clock on a certain evening. Mr. Murtagh was then president of the Board of Police. I asked Mr. Shepherd what officers he wished. He named them, and I immediately telegraphed to the stations, without any questions, to direct those officers to report at THE REPUBLICAN office. That was simply a note and was signed by Mr. Murtagh.

DETECTIVES NOT SO INTERESTED WITH GAMBLERS.

Q. You have been asked whether the detectives of the force have been used in raiding gambling houses. Has any distinction been made by the Board

[See Fourth Page.]

SCENE IN THE SENATE.

THE GALLERIES CLEARED BY THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.

Disorderly Applause of an Undignified Remark—Senator Bogy's Drivelings—He Receives a Severe Rebuke from Mr. Sherman—Senator Morton on Intimidation.

The Senate yesterday was the scene of considerable excitement, and for the first time in a number of years the galleries were cleared on account of the noisy demonstrations of spectators. Senator Bogy was again inflicting one of his droning speeches upon the helpless members of that body, his pretext being to reply to some remarks made by Senator Sherman a few days since upon the subject of intimidation in Louisiana, but his real object was undoubtedly to snuggle about one half of the testimony taken by the Tilden committee in Louisiana, which the Republican Senators have considerately allowed to be printed at public expense, although it is a political document, into the *Congressional Record.* He has succeeded in doing this by causing to be read as part of his speech page after page of stuff which was evidence of the source from which it came. So long as he contented himself with this he was allowed to proceed unanswered by Senator Sherman, but when he undertook to wantonly assail the character of Gov. Packard, of Louisiana, he was not long in receiving a reply. Senator Sherman stated that he had every reason to believe that Packard was a man of honor and character, and that he bore such a character in New Orleans. "He is an infamous robber," bellowed Bogy, "and that is his character in New Orleans," he added. This sentiment seemed to meet the approbation of

THE MOTLEY GANG IN THE GALLERY,

yclept "gentlemen," and they exhibited their sympathy with the views of the Missouri statesman by clapping of hands and other noisy demonstrations. With great indignation, Senator Edmunds arose, and while the presiding officer's gavel was rapidly descending to restore order, he demanded that the galleries be cleared of all persons who had been guilty of creating a disturbance should be placed under arrest by the Sergeant-at-Arms. Senator Alcorn moved to amend the motion of Mr. Edmunds by only expelling those seated in the galleries where the noise was made, to which the Vermont Senator acceded. The Sergeant-at-Arms then expelled all who were seated in what is known as the gentlemen's gallery, but made no arrests. Quiet being restored, Mr. Sherman resumed his remarks, expressing his regret at the occurrence which had made it necessary to clear the galleries, and said that in traducing and branding Gov. Packard as the most infamous of mankind Senator Bogy had committed a breach of privilege, which he would not, however, call to his attention. During the administering of this reproof

BOGY SAT IN SULLEN SILENCE,

and did not attempt another interruption while the Senator from Ohio was giving his reasons for regarding Packard as a gentleman and a man of character. Neither did he attempt to answer when Mr. Sherman made a scathing comparison of the border ruffianism in Kansas to the system of intimidation now practiced in the South. He said that it was, at the time these ruffianly acts were committed, the custom to deny that they were perpetrated, yet to-day it was a matter of history. Kansas, however, struggled through her bloodshed and violence, and eventually became a free State, able to take care of itself, and the day would come when the freedmen of the South would assert themselves, and even make the Southern States what they are not now—free States. Mr. Sherman was never more earnest and eloquent in his manner than yesterday in denouncing the daring outrages committed in Louisiana, and his frank earnestness was in marked contrast to the pitiable effort of Bogy. Senator Morton also made a powerful speech, which caused Bogy to feel

HIS INSIGNIFICANCE AND INSINCERITY.

He referred to the Missouri Senator's remark, that the people of Louisiana were peaceful and law-abiding. With rapidity Senator Morton enumerated the more striking instances of cruelty practiced in that State; the Mechanic's Institute massacre, where two hundred were killed in cold blood, and later, the Colfax massacre, where nearly the same number of negroes were murdered miserably to gratify the political malice of the Democracy of the South. These, with two thousand other well-authenticated cases of murder in Louisiana, constituted a record of crime that took away from the people of that State all claim to being peaceful and law-abiding. This and the assertion that the sentiment or vote of a whole community could not be changed in the manner it was in Louisiana without the employment of violence made Bogy froth at the mouth, and when Senator Edmunds, who was waiting an opportunity to introduce a motion to adjourn, succeeded, he begged a minute to reply, but the Vermont Senator knew his longwindedness too well to grant his request, and told him he could get a chance to say all he wanted to-day.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Executive.

NOMINATIONS YESTERDAY.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate yesterday:

Alonzo B. Cornell, of New York, to be naval officer of customs, District of New York.

John E. Hamilton, to be United States attorney for the District of Kentucky.

Capitol Notes.

THE MASS CONVENTION OF DEMOCRATS.

There is still trouble in the Democratic camp. Mr. Hewitt caused it to be given out on Thursday night that the National Democratic Executive Committee had decided not to make a call for a mass convention to meet in this city. It turns out now that the project has not been formally abandoned; but that the committee has only adjourned to meet again at some not very remote day. The plan now is to wait and see whether the bill reported by the Electoral Count Committee is adopted. If it is, the dangerous and revolutionary proceeding of endeavoring to intimidate Congress is not to be resorted to. Should it prove, however, that it is impossible to pass the bill, the committee is determined to resort to the Waterson "wah!" intimidation method, and fill the city with thousands of ostensibly peaceful men. It is definitely ascertained that a majority of the committee will be in favor of the convention, although Tilden and Hewitt are very much opposed to it. It therefore may be set down as a matter of chance whether we shall have a convention or not.

PENSION ATTORNEYS' FEES.

Mr. Bagley, of Illinois, has introduced in the House a bill limiting the fees of agents and attorneys before the Pension Office to twenty-five dollars, in case an agreement between the agent and pensioner is filed with the papers in the Pension Office, but in case no agreement is filed, the fee shall be but ten dollars, the fee to be paid by the pension agent for paying pensions when the claim is allowed.

THE FLORIDA HOUSE COMMITTEE.

The House committee sent to Florida to investigate the election in that State have not yet reported owing to the return, owing to the fact that the testimony taken while there had not been printed. An order for the printing was obtained from the House, and a sufficient amount of the testimony has now been printed to enable the committee to resume its labors. The testimony will now be received as rapidly as possible, and a report be prepared to be submitted to the House as soon as practicable.

MASSACHUSETTS' NEW SENATOR.

George Frisbee Hoar, who was yesterday elected to the United States Senate to succeed Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, is the youngest brother of Judge Hoar, of Concord. He has represented the Worcester district in the House several terms with great credit, and was one of the famous Louisiana committee in connection with Mr. Wheeler in 1875-'6. He believed in a tariff for revenue only, and a reduction of the compensation and the uncertainty of political life. He is an industrious worker on committees, a good debater, eloquent on occasions, a fair-minded Republican, and a good representative of the sentiment and character of Massachusetts. He is a member of the committee that has reported the plan for deciding the Presidential question, and is a strong advocate of the measure, while Mr. Boutwell announced his opposition to it. Mr. Hoar has an unstained public record, and though a Republican by antecedents and conviction, he is moderate in his views and has a decided leaning towards independence.

THE CHORPENNING CLAIM BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT.

The noted case of George Chorpenning against the United States was yesterday laid before the United States Supreme Court. It will be remembered that Chorpenning, having claims upon mail contracts, applied to have them referred to the Post Office Department for adjustment. Accordingly in July, 1859, Congress passed a resolution referring the matter to the Postmaster General to investigate and adjust. In December of that year that officer found to be due on the claims the sum of $613,010.60, which was considerably more than he claimed. In February following Congress repealed the resolution referring the matter to the Postmaster General. This action was brought to recover on the adjustment in the Court of Claims, where the decision was adverse to the claimant. The case is now brought before the Supreme Court for review, the argument being that the repeal of the resolution by Congress could not in any measure affect an adjustment already made under it, and that this court will reverse the decision below on that ground.

Interior Department.

A PATENT CONTEST.

In the case of interference of Anders vs. Warner, involving priority of invention of an improvement in the art of printing telegraph, a motion has been made before the Secretary of the Interior to set aside the recent decision of the Acting Commissioner of Patents in favor of Warner. The question of the Secretary's jurisdiction of the matter, and his authority to review the judicial action of the Commissioner of Patents in interferences, was argued by Hill & Ellsworth, in favor of the jurisdiction, and by Marcus Hopkins, against. The question of the right of the Assistant Commissioner to act as Commissioner beyond the period limited by the statute may grow out of this case, but it was not presented in the arguments on the motion above referred to.

DISCORD IN THE PENSION OFFICE.

A week ago, at the request of Commissioner Bentley, of the Pension Office, Secretary Chandler asked for the resignation of Deputy Commissioner Babson and several clerks, but they decline to resign, and are supported by Secretary Morrill, Senator Hamlin and the whole Maine delegation. Babson's friends claim that he and Bentley have recently taken issue on several points of law, and that, when they have been referred to the Attorney General, Babson has invariably been sustained. This, they claim, has made Bentley jealous, and he wants to get Babson out. On the other hand, Mr. Bentley, it has proved an excellent claim agent, is supported by Senators Howe and Cameron, the entire Wisconsin delegation and many others in the Senate and House. They claim that Babson has tried continually to thwart and embarrass Bentley in such a way as to compel the latter to ask for his resignation. Mr. Chandler is now at the bar of the House was sufficient.

But the House had scarcely got rid of one prisoner, when it paved the way for getting others by bringing Messrs. Wells and Anderson, of the Louisiana Returning Board, to the bar. These gentlemen asked to be excused from answering until the other members of the board, who are now on their way from New Orleans, arrive, which request will be granted, Messrs. Wells and Anderson meanwhile remaining in custody. The rest of the time of the House was devoted to the consideration of private bills.

The news of the Senatorial election in Massachusetts reached the House about 1 o'clock, and Mr. Hoar was warmly congratulated by Republicans and Democrats. The friends of the Hill supported from the start committed in relation to the electoral vote, regard Mr. Hoar's election as an indorsement of the joint committee's report (he being a member of the committee) by the Massachusetts Republicans, especially as it is known that his chief competitor, Mr. Boutwell, is opposed to the report.

The Electoral Bill.

OPPOSITION OF HAYES' FRIENDS—HOW THE DEMOCRATS REGARD THE MEASURE—ITS PROBABLE PASSAGE—DISCUSSION AND AMENDMENTS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—The *Post's* Washington special says: While a majority of the Republicans in the Senate and House of Representatives say that they will support the electoral bill, it is regarded as very significant that the special friends of Governor Hayes, as represented in the Senate by Mr. Sherman, and in the House by Mr. Garfield, are decided in their opposition to the measure, and declare their intention to secure its rejection, if possible.

This fact is occasioning much comment, as it is undoubtedly exerting considerable influence over the minds of hesitating Republicans, who, believing that Hayes will be inaugurated, are anxious to be found working with those who are supposed to reflect his views. Whether these gentlemen have any authority to speak for Governor Hayes or not, their utterances are regarded by many persons in that light, and therefore their opposition to the electoral bill.

A great many members still decline to express any opinion about the bill, saying that they have not had time to study it carefully. There is an element among the Democrats bitterly hostile to the measure, but it is a small minority, and there is no reason for believing that the bill will fail to command the support of at least two thirds of the Democrats.

It is very doubtful whether an amendment making the judicial tribunal, to the bill will pass the House of Representatives, though it will be urged strenuously by some of the leaders. Prominent Senators say that if the bill is amended in any particular it will fail altogether, and its safety depends upon its being passed precisely as reported by the joint committee.

Union Veteran Reform Association.

CONVENTION IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY—ALL THE NORTHERN STATES REPRESENTED BUT ONE—APPOINTMENT OF STATE CHAIRMEN.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—A convention of the Union Veteral Reform Association was held at the Westmoreland hotel, New York, on the 17th and 18th last. All the Northern States were represented except Rhode Island and Oregon. The reports of committees showed a membership of 180,000.

Chairmen of State committees were designated, as follows:

Maine, Colonel A. W. Bradbury; New Hampshire, General M. T. Donahue; Vermont, Captain S. H. Merchant; Massachusetts, Major D. P. Bunker; Connecticut, General James B. Colt; New York, General William F. Smith; New Jersey, General Charles Wolff; Pennsylvania, General R. A. Mulholland; Maryland, Colonel William P. Maulsby; Ohio, General Durbin Ward; Indiana, General John Love; Illinois, General Stephen Cameron; Iowa, Colonel H. H. Trimble; Nebraska, General W. W. Lowe; Kansas, General Charles W. Blair; Minnesota, General H. H. Sibley; Wisconsin, General F. H. West; Michigan, General J. W. Romeyn; Colorado, General B. M. Hughes; California, General P. F. Welsh; Missouri, General James Shields; District of Columbia, General Duncan S. Walker.

Several members were added to the national executive committee, which now stands as follows: Gen. John M. Corse, Illinois, chairman; Col. A. W. Bradbury, Maine; Commodore Henry Walke, Massachusetts; Gen. Wm. S. Franklin, Gen. D. N. Couch, Gen. James B. Colt, Connecticut; Gen. Wm. F. Smith, Gen. Frank Sherman, Gen. M. V. McMahon, New York; Gen. S. A. Mulholland, Pennsylvania; Gen. George B. McClellan, New Jersey; Gen. Thos. Ewing, Ohio; Gen. M. D. Manson, Indiana; Gen. John M. Palmer, Illinois; Col. W. P. Maulsby, Maryland; Gen. James B. Shield, Missouri; Gen. Frank Sherman, California; Gen. D. S. Walker, District of Columbia; treasurer, Capt. A. N. Merchant, Burlington, Vt.; Capt. J. F. Lewis, Baltimore, Md., and Col. John Tracy, New York city.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.

THE LOUISIANA DEBATES REVIVED IN THE SENATE.

Mr. Bogy Strides in His War Clothes, and is Taken Down by Mr. Sherman, Who Completely Vanquishes the Missouri Senator, and Shames Him for His Foul Attack Upon the Executive of a State.

The credentials of Hon. James G. Blaine as a Senator of the United States until March 3, 1883, were presented and filed.

A number of petitions were presented, including several asking that pensions for disability may date from the discharge of the soldier; and one in relation to the settlement of the claim of the Southern Methodist Book Concern.

Several bills of local interest were reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia and placed on the calendar.

The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill was called up; some unimportant amendments were added and the bill was passed. The amendments are not such as to cause any great controversy, as was the case last year. They will probably be concurred in by the House and the bill will therefore soon become a law.

An effort was made to secure an adjournment over until Monday, but Mr. Edmunds called attention to the absolute necessity of speedy action upon the bill reported from the joint committee on the count of the electoral vote. Every day is now precious if the bill is to be available for the count this year, and Mr. Edmunds proposes to have the discussion commence to-day.

Mr. Bogy then took the floor, to continue the apology commenced on Thursday for the bulldozers of Louisiana. He read largely from the testimony taken by the Democratic committee at New Orleans, now and then stopping for explanation and comment. This thing got to be so tedious that most of the Senators retired to the cloakrooms. Mr. Paddock dryly asked what book the Senator was reading from. It was so long since he had commenced that Senators had forgotten the title even. In view of the apocryphal marvelous statements of many of the witnesses, Mr. Conkling suggested that he was probably reading from the Arabian Nights. The Missouri Senator failed to see the point of the pleasantry, and gave the title of the book so solemnly as to excite a loud laugh all over the Senate Chamber. This episode was the only ray of sunshine that pierced the gloom that had pervaded the Senate chamber from the moment that Bogy commenced his labored and rambling defense of the bull-dozing, rebellious, negro-killing Democracy of Louisiana. He said that the people of that State only asked to be let alone. True, unquestionably. They, in common with the other rebel States, only wanted to be let alone in 1850 and 1871; and then, as now, they did not wish any interference on the part of the army. What a terrible thing the army of the United States is to these ex-rebels. They would be so peaceable and happy and prosperous if the army were only withdrawn. And yet in all the mass of perjury and manufactured testimony which Mr. Bogy wearied the patience of the Senators by reading, there is not a sentence, or a line even, to show that the army interfered in any particular with the elective franchise of any man in the State, white or black.

Mr. Sherman replied to Mr. Bogy, and showed that the Senator had been reading from and upon the evidence which he had read. Mr. Bogy had denounced Gov. Packard. In his opinion Packard was all that was vile and despicable. Mr. Sherman described Gov. Packard as an honest, able and a good officer, whereupon Mr. Bogy lost his temper, and forgetting the presence he was in, and that even a Democratic Senator should be a gentleman, he hurled the epithet at him of infamous robber. This was the signal that a gallery full of Democratic rowdies and claquers wanted, and they set up the rebel yell, with applause intermingled with hisses.

Upon motion of Mr. Edmunds, the galleries were cleared, when Mr. Bogy resumed his speech and a second time denounced Packard as infamous, and we heard that "the people of the country will argue with Mr. Sherman that a man who would use such language abused his privilege as a Senator. By the use of such words as liar, scoundrel, thief and infamous Senator Bogy has proven himself a fit representative of the bull-dozing Democracy. He is trying the *role* of a bull-dozer in the Senate. His whole tirade of yesterday was on the bull-dozing order. Gov. Packard's character was ably defended also by Mr. Morton; and while Mr. Bogy may have made friends with the rowdy rebel element in the galleries by his coarse language, he has certainly lost with the entire Senate, his brother Senators, as he will in the estimation of the thinking public when they come to read his speech.

House of Representatives.

The proceedings in the House were not particularly interesting. The first business was the presentation of a large number of petitions in favor of the adoption of a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution for the enfranchisement of women. The Women's Rights Convention, which had just adjourned at Lincoln Hall, seemed to have transferred itself bodily to the galleries of the House of Representatives, and while the petitions were being presented Belva A. Lockwood, Esq., Cady Stanton, Phebe Couzins, Susan Anthony, Sister J. K. H. Wilcox and a large number of the other female participants in the late convention stationed their necks and opened wide their ears to catch every word that was uttered.

They made a concerted movement to have the petitions all presented at one time, and think they have gained a first-rate victory in getting upon the House in force. But the Judiciary Committee will have more momentous questions to consider between now and the 4th of March than are relating to the right of suffrage for women.

The Committee on the Judiciary, through Mr. Hunton, reported a resolution authorizing the discharge of Thos. M. Orton from custody, the result of the order of the executive committee to give up the telegrams, although the committee in their report try to create the impression that the answer given Mr. Orton when he was at the bar of the House was sufficient.

But the House had scarcely got rid of one prisoner, when it paved the way for getting others by bringing Messrs. Wells and Anderson, of the Louisiana Returning Board, to the bar. These gentlemen asked to be excused from answering until the other members of the board, who are now on their way from New Orleans, arrive, which request will be granted, Messrs. Wells and Anderson meanwhile remaining in custody. The rest of the time of the House was devoted to the consideration of private bills.

The news of the Senatorial election in Massachusetts reached the House about 1 o'clock, and Mr. Hoar was warmly congratulated by Republicans and Democrats. The friends of the Hill supported from the start committed in relation to the electoral vote, regard Mr. Hoar's election as an indorsement of the joint committee's report (he being a member of the committee) by the Massachusetts Republicans, especially as it is known that his chief competitor, Mr. Boutwell, is opposed to the report.

THAT "HUNDRED THOUSAND."

Arrival of the Pickets of Watterson's Unarmed Lambs.

AN INTERVIEW WITH ONE OF THEM AT THE CAPITOL—HIS WARLIKE APPEARANCE, PATRIOTIC UTTERANCES AND LAMENTABLE IMPECUNIOSITY—THE TRUE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY ENUNCIATED.

There was a man lounging about the Capitol yesterday whose appearance would lead one to suppose that he belonged to that class of gentlemen of leisure classified as tramps. A seedy coat, much too short and too tight under the arms, was fastened up to his throat. There was one button on the buttonside of his coat, which looked as if it was being pulled on by the roots. Two or three pins and a string were doing duty for the absent buttons. A sleek body and an unctuous look showed that the wanderer had some way of providing for the inner man, which was a mystery to every one except himself. A fragrance of stale whisky pervaded the atmosphere in his vicinity. A pair of ancient rubbers, which had, at some forgotten period, been scuffled and abandoned in a storm, served the son of the weary foot instead of boots. A piece of red flannel enveloping his throat, a frowsy head of hair and beard, and a good-natured smile, as if the smiler was in harmony with all the world, completes his description. He stood in front of the portrait of Henry Clay in the old House of Representatives. He assumed a statesmanlike air, appropriate to the occasion. One red and pudgy fist was thrust into his bosom and the other was raised as he silently apostrophized the great Kentuckian. Around him were the statues of statesmen and warriors, but there was no statue more motionless than himself. While engaged in this act of devotion to the illustrious Commoner he was accosted by a reporter.

"Sir, are you a descendant of Henry Clay?"

Hearing himself addressed, the tramp turned. He was not displeased to find some one to whom he could unbosom himself. He was a fluent talker, and his voice had once been glib, but was roughened a little by bad liquor.

"I am. He was one of the people, one of us," he replied, stamping himself on the floor. "We'll never have another like him. Honorable, eloquent, affectionate, every pang of grief that shot through the people's heart cut his in like a beef-chipper. But he is gone, and the people are friendless."

Here he gave way to his emotion; and a tear stole out of one eye, and rolled down to the end of his nubbly nose where it hung a pendant, while the owner of the nostril blinked with a rueful countenance at Henry Clay. The reporter assuaged his grief as best he could, and John Quincy Smith, for that was his name, brushed the tear off with his coat sleeve. John Quincy and his interlocutor retired among the statuary, and the latter inquired into his personal history.

A LAMB.

"I'm a lamb," said Smith, drawing the reporter to him so that his ear almost touched his mou