National Republican

W. J. MURTAGH.....Proprietor

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For to-day the weather indications are: Falling barometer, southeast to southwest winds, partly cloudy, warmy weather, followed by rain or snow in the north.

FRIDAY.....FEBRUARY 16, 1877.

BLUE GLASS is superceding blue mass, and the country may yet be saved.

IT IS generally believed now that it will be impracticable to have an inauguration ball.

COUNT BROTHERS, count, count with care, count in the presence of the commissionaire; a good square count, a count that is fair, will surely count in Hayes and Wheelaire.

Two important things are to be settled within the next twenty days. The first is, shall bull-dozing be allowed to carry a State? The second is, shall a filibustering Congress thwart the decision of the Commission?

PRESIDENT GRANT is packing up, preparatory to moving out to make room for President HAYES. The people will say GOD blessed the old; may GOD bless the new occupant of the White House. We hail with joy the rising sun, and honor him whose race is run.

TWEED has sunk into oblivion. He won't allow a newspaper reporter to look into his cell. He refuses to break jail or offer the warden a million dollar check to let him escape. He lives a sort of hum-drum life, waiting patiently for death or a Democratic triumph to release him from his troubles.

IT is now proposed by several gentlemen interested in telephone, now in this city, to give a practical demonstration of it by having a dance here which is to be furnished by music in Baltimore. They are sanguine that it can be accomplished successfully. It was tried in Chicago recently, the music being furnished in Milwaukee, and was a great success.

PHYSICALLY afflicted humanity has for years been passing through eras of water-cure friction, Swedish movement, quassia-wood drinking cups, steam baths, galvanism, grape cure, milk cure, sun cure, cundurango, warm blood baths, extreme vegetarianism, will-cure, and now it is suddenly thrown into the benign light of PLEASONTON'S blue grass cure, which is said to cut-remedy old remedy itself.

THE rotunda of the Capitol is, in its present condition, a disgrace to that magnificent edifice. No part of the building is susceptible of greater improvement or needs it more than the rotunda. With walls beautifully frescoed, as they should be, and a flooring of mosaic or marble, it would rival the great St. Peter's, St. Paul's, and the Pantheon, and would be more in keeping with the graceful outlines of the exterior of the dome.

SPEAKING of the *physique* of the United States Senate, it is probably composed of a greater number of handsome men than ever before in the history of our Government. It would be difficult to select from American statesmen seventy-eight finer types of the Caucassian race than those who now go to make up that august body. That's the verdict of the ladies, and they ought to know.

A BOSTON woman had three thousand dollars left her a few days ago by a western farmer whom she refused to marry several years ago. Wonder what she would have had now if she had married him?—*N. Y. Graphic.* Taking everything into consideration, should probably have had a fractional part of HENRY WATTERSON'S unarmed infantry.

BISHOP WILMER is here. Everybody knows Bishop WILMER. He was sent out of Baltimore for preaching political heresy, and was afterwards arrested for smuggling quinine through the Confederate lines. Two years ago he swore before a Congressional investigating committee that he knew of no cases of violence in Louisiana, when a short time before two colored men were brutally murdered on the threshold of the very chapel in which he was officiating. Yes, everybody knows Bishop WILMER—the same who is now in town.

REPRESENTATIVE BEEBE yesterday relieved himself of a measure of spleen in his speech against the Secretary of the Navy. His remarks were so uncouth and out of place that the intelligent members on the Democratic side breathed freer when he sat down. He made several unfounded charges against the Secretary, which were proven baseless by a few pithy remarks from Mr. CONGER. It would be well for Mr. BEEBE to revise his speech and take out a few of his slang words and foolish utterances, before he allows them to go down into posterity by the way of the *Record*.

AN exchange says: "What if the Democracy, after the Commission has declared Louisiana for HAYES, should find great difficulty in deciding to accept or reject the decision, and should prolong the discussion up to the 4th of March? What would be the result?" If the Senate has the power to legislate during the count it could elect a new President of the Senate, who would hold over and call for a new election. According to the bill the Commission must complete its work before the 4th of March. After that time it will be powerless to act. If, therefore, the Senate should fail to elect a new President, or fail to re-elect Mr. FERRY, and the House should prolong the discussion up to the 4th of March, the old Ship of State would go bobbing about on the sea of political certainty until one party or the other took forcible control of the Government. In that case possession would be nine points in the fight, and therefore the Republicans would win.

THAT quadroon ball! What a study for an appreciative artist! What points and piquancies, and perspective and background! How the vision of the dazzling gas-light, the whirling, bustling, whisping, lively waltz; the graceful sweep and wavy surges of the Boston! How all these linger for a moment, and then drift away to dream and shadow, leaving the venerable Deacon TRUMBULL and Elder PALMER in the foreground, clothed in lean and slipper-ed pantaloons, and full of chagrin at the mortification they have brought upon their friends. Look again, and behold Deacon TRUMBULL, with his specs firmly set on the bridge of his nose and his face wreathed with beaming smiles, as he promenades with a languishing, pink-eyed, muslin-encased quadroon, beneath the rays of a tropical moon, while the soft notes of the bassoon float gently out from the room where the merry dancers move, obedient servants to the will of the Terpsichorean queen.

Look again, and behold the same venerable Deacon TRUMBULL, as he stands before the august presence of the mighty Tribunal arguing the life and death of the Democracy. What a contrast is this, fellow-countrymen!

THE LAST LOUISIANA INFAMY.

The devilish work has begun in Louisiana. From the inception of the present struggle in that State, the Democratic leaders, whose chief is Mr. NICHOLLS, have announced that, if necessary as a final resource, they would not scruple to countenance and even organize assassination as a political method. The people of the North, irrespective of party, have too often discredited reports of the Democratic temper at the South, but they are now confronted with a damnable fact, which denotes how utterly abandoned the insurgent partisans of NICHOLLS are, and to what desperate measures they are ready to resort in order to establish an administration, whose only conscience is hatred of the national government and of its honest adherents.

The recent canvass in that State was signalized by a series of crimes which could hardly be expected even in Mexico. Murder, violence and intimidation were the especial factors in the Democratic scheme to carry the State. Now that these leaders despond of success, both at the hands of the Returning Board and the Electoral Commission, they again whip out their knives and their pistols and announce assassination to be their only method of argument.

The wanton assault upon Governor PACKARD yesterday shocked this whole community. As soon as the news was bruited through the Capitol, even the more conservative members of Congress were seen to frown and heard to denounce the iniquity of a people whose only virtue seems to be a course of cowardice.

Of course, there are Democrats in our midst who are willing to lend themselves as apologists for any misdemeanor committed by their Southern brethren. These men sought to create an opinion that the assault was simply an element of a personal altercation, and was destitute of all political significance. Certain more brazen aplogists declared that the assailant was a relative of Governor PACKARD, and we have been assured that NICHOLLS himself communicated here by telegraph to that effect. We are glad to be able to denounce the latter statement as an utter falsehood, and are furthermore assured that there was no personal difficulty between Governor PACKARD and the miscreant, who, indeed, was a total stranger to the Governor, and sought access to his private office in the guise of a Philadelphia newspaper correspondent. A despatch received last night by Marshal PITKIN is as follows:

"Enough has been gathered, concerning the attempted assassination, to show that an organization exists for that purpose, and that lots were drawn. WELDON drew the lucky prize. For several days Governor PACKARD has been in receipt of information of the doings of this organization, and the country will be astounded when the whole truth about this affair comes out. The ball raised a welt across the Governor's knee, and his right hand is much swollen. The assassin is shot through his left arm. Only one accomplice captured unhurt."

Official information arrived last night to the effect that four of WELDON'S confederates were known. Perhaps the most puerile comment by Democrats last night was that the episode had been concocted to excite prejudice against the Democratic case before the Electoral Commission. When, however, it is considered that whatever the merits or demerits of the Republican case, the TILDEN electors, so called, from Louisiana, have no other credential than that subscribed by the pretender MCENERY, who never exercised an executive function from 1872 to 1876, and when, moreover, it is wholly improbable that Governor PACKARD would present himself as a target for Democratic bullets, and possibly sacrifice thereby his life, we apprehend that our Democratic friends are somewhat dissatisfied with their own awkwardness at an explanation. It is only by the mercy of Heaven and the swift launching of his own sturdy fist that the bullet did not lodge in his heart instead of his knee, and we have about made up our minds it is due time that the National Government, whose laws are made a constant scoff in Louisiana, should likewise clench its hand at this crisis and deal a blow which may stun insurrection into peace.

In conclusion, and in order to show the Satanic deliberation with which the Louisiana Democrats approve assassination, we subjoin the following excerpt from the NICHOLLS official organ, to wit:

"We hope that this people may be exempted from the necessity of ever resorting to the fearful and desperate measure of assassination, to protect their liberties and their manhood."

Such a gang certainly deserve as meagre a measure of liberty as they exhibit of manhood.

THE LATEST DANA LIE—GENERAL BABCOCK.

True to its characteristics, the New York *Sun*, controlled by that dirty dog DANA, keeps up its infamous libels on gentlemen who are friends of President GRANT'S administration. The last, and certainly one of the most atrocious of its villainous lies was printed yesterday in a sensational article accusing General O. E. BABCOCK of embezzling $300,000 of the public moneys. The interview with General BABCOCK, published in another column of our issue this morning, establishes in a most unequivocal and emphatic manner, the utter falsity of those charges. The accounts of General BABCOCK are all settled, and his vouchers are properly filed in the Treasury Department. Indeed, in all the years that this worthy and efficient officer has been in public life disbursing millions of money, there never has been a word of dispute concerning a single voucher of his disbursing account, with but the single simple exception of $3, referred to in the interview, and which was satisfactorily settled. But there was method in this mad statement of the *Sun*. Mr. PELTON, the private and confidential clerk of the would-be President, has been recently placed in an embarrassing position on account of some unexpected revelations of the true "inwardness" of those mystic ciphers. The very same day on which the translated cipher telegrams were to be published was the day chosen to make this terrible announcement of General BABCOCK'S defalcation. What a nice strategy to draw away public attention from PELTON to BABCOCK, from TILDEN to GRANT. Thus will be seen the motive of the attack, and its weight will be considered accordingly. But when the dirty editor of the N. Y. *Sun* mounts his throne of judgment and pronounces eternal suspicion and disgrace upon every man who has been wrongfully charged with offences, and judicially proven innocent, he establishes a dangerous precedent for the high standing of his own not at all coveted reputation. True, Gen. BABCOCK was indicted, tried and acquitted, and he is at liberty to visit any city in the country without fear of arrest for any crime or offence. He has never skulked away from the portals of justice in fear of trial like the cowardly vagabond who edits the *Sun*, but he has in every instance met the charges as a man of offended honor and anxious for vindication. Of course the *Sun* in this article indulges in a direct thrust at the President. It declares that when BABCOCK was pronounced innocent of the trumped-up charges of dishonesty, the President who had been his friend upon the field of battle and in the "house of peace," must forever turn his back upon him. General GRANT is not affected by these assaults. His good works and noble character are every day recognized, even by those who have been heretofore his political enemies. He will leave the Presidential mansion, after eight years of veteran service, without one spot or blemish upon the escutcheon of his fame as a man, soldier and statesman.

THE OREGON OUTRAGE UNMASKED.

ALFRED W. SHAW has come to sit in judgment on the part the Democracy played in the Oregon infamy. Fortunately for the cause of justice, he is able to translate the famous cipher despatches, and has been before the Senate committee doing his good work. The developments made by him have astonished the better element in the Democracy and chagrined the rest. We have been rather inclined to believe heretofore that neither Col. PELTON nor Senator KELLY were guilty of attempting to purchase the Oregon vote. But unless these cipher despatches have been falsely interpreted, and we believe that they have not, both of these gentlemen are guilty of a crime which, in some States, is a penitentiary offense. Read the following:

PORTLAND, November 28.

To W. T. Pelton, No. 15 Gramercy Park, N. Y.:

Certificates will be issued to one Democrat. Must purchase Republican elector to recognize and act with Democrat and secure vote to prevent trouble. Deposit ten thousand dollars to my credit with Kountze Bros., Wall street. Answer.

J. H. N. PATRICK.

I fully indorse this. JAMES K. KELLY

"Must purchase one Republican elector," and Senator KELLY says "I fully indorse this." If crime were ever more boldly indorsed, we cannot find it in the catalogue of iniquities, the crime itself being augmented by the eminent position of the endorser. What does this endorsement mean? Simply this, that the Hon. JAMES K. KELLY, in collusion with J. H. N. PATRICK, was willing to thwart the will of a sovereign people, expressed at the ballot-box, by corruptly purchasing the man whom they had chosen to cast an electoral vote for HAYES. This despatch alone, to say nothing of several others, will drive the last nail into Mr. KELLY'S political coffin, and he will be laid away in the tomb prepared for those who have been recreant to the principles of integrity, honor and respectability, where he will remain as long as he lives in the flesh.

Here is another one:

NEW YORK, Dec. 3—6.

Hon. Jas. K. Kelly, Telegraph Emestic. Go ahead, you shall be re-embursed. Do not fail—all important.

No SIGNATURE.

This also is in Pelton's hand-writing.

"Go ahead, you shall be re-embursed." These are said to be the words of Colonel PELTON. Now what was the Colonel to re-emburse Senator KELLY for? If we are to believe these despatches, and everybody seems to believe them, he was to reemburse him for corruptly buying up the rights of the people which had been invested in a Republican elector. Honorable men never stoop to such infamous deeds as this. None but knaves would condescend to such low and disreputable trickery.

"Don't fail." In this expression Col. PELTON seems anxious. And what for? Anxious to not have Senator KELLY fail to use every honorable means to secure the State for Mr. TILDEN? Not at all. But anxious to have Senator KELLY use every means in his power to purchase a Republican elector; and why? Because it was all-important to the Democracy that they should grasp the prize of national power at all hazards. Grasp it by corrupt means; grasp it by an infamous bargain and sale; grasp it by any and all means. From Col. PELTON'S reputation as a gentleman of honor, we had expected better things, and from Senator KELLY'S position as an eminent servant of the people we had hoped for at least some respectability in his political transactions in the Oregon case.

CONFLICTING OPINIONS.

Hon. MATT CARPENTER went considerably out of the way in his argument in the Louisiana case, to denounce the KELLOGG government as having been without the shadow of legality, and was in fact nothing more or less than a military despotism. It appears to us that the Hon. MATT CARPENTER has forgotten that in the year of 1873, during the holidays, he made a speech in Milwaukee, in which he most solemnly denounced the Kellogg government as a *bona fide* and legitimate affair, and that it had been recognized by the President as such. Does the Hon. MATT CARPENTER remember that very able speech? Was he in earnest when he called the Kellogg government a legitimate affair? If not, what intelligent man is there now who can believe that he is in earnest when he bitterly denounces it as having been a military despotism? Too many cooks spoils the broth. Too many conflicting opinions from one man destroy their force and character. The Hon. MATT CARPENTER has missed the mark.

Mr. Evarts' Great Speech.

The case of Louisiana has excited the most determined fight the Democracy can make. They have been busy for weeks constructing by the tricks of lawyers and perjured testimony, what they hoped would be an impregnable position; but yesterday it was all swept away by the powerful argument of WILLIAM M. EVARTS. The certificate of the pretended TILDEN electors were proved to have no standing at all—not even the marks of regularity or authority. Their claim that the Returning Board was not constitutional, that it was not composed according to law, and that two of the electors were ineligible, was demolished in a manner which ought to make the Democracy regret that they ever set up such a claim at all. Mr. EVARTS proved beyond controversy that it is perfectly competent for any State to vest its Canvassing Board with judicial powers, and, so far as the choice of electors is concerned, that the Constitution puts the matter entirely under the control of the State. He claims that the proceedings of the Board was invalidated because it was composed of but four members when the law requires five; was overthrown by the proving that the law is directory, not mandatory; that the Board did have five members, and one of them resigned. In regard to the ineligibility of two of the electors, it was shown that they failed to appear at the meeting of the college. Vacancies were thus created, and they were selected after their ineligibility had been removed. Another claim of the Democracy, which was especially presented by Judge TRUMBULL, was that the KELLOGG government was not a legitimate affair, and therefore that the certificates of the HAYES electors were of no force. This Mr. EVARTS disposed of in a most logical and convincing manner. He said that the KELLOGG government had been recognized by every department of government for five years, and no other Governor had ruled over the State once during that time, and that it would be impossible and unjust for the Commission to discard the decision of the political branch of government on a question which, by law, is entirely and solely under the control of the State. These facts were presented in such a comprehensive way as to prove that the vital points of law and fact in the Democratic case in Louisiana are far weaker and more vulnerable than in the Florida case.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.

The Naval Commission Bill Goes to the House—Printing of Appropriation Bills in the Record, Because There Are "No Funds" to Print Them in the Usual Form.

A large number of private bills were disposed of, and among the pension bills reported favorably was one for the widow of Fletcher Webster, and another for the widow of the late General James A. Hardie.

Was there fraud in the awards made by the United States and Mexican Claims Commission? That is the important question which the Senate is called upon to decide before it passes a bill for the distribution of the award. When Mr. CONKLING called the bill up on Wednesday, Mr. SPENCER made the suggestion of fraud, and yesterday Mr. STEVENSON said his attention had been called to the matter by a gentleman from Mobile, who was now in the city. Mr. CONKLING stated that the alleged fraud referred to by Mr. SPENCER had been examined by the Commission, and they had found nothing in it, but as the charge has been made so specifically, justice would seem to demand that the question should be settled before any law is passed to distribute the large sum of money involved. The fraud in this case is said to amount to $400,000, which is entirely too much money to be thrown away. It was very proper, therefore, to postpone the bill until the truth can be ascertained.

The special commission on the silver question, which was appointed at the last session of Congress, and which was to report early this month, was granted leave to postpone the report until the 24th of February. The resolution was subsequently adopted by the House.

Mr. SPENCER then succeeded in getting up the District of Columbia tax bill, and it was passed with some amendments, the most important of which were to make the rate of taxation uniform throughout the District at $1.50 per $100; striking out the thirty cent tax for the support of schools, and exempting school property in actual use for educational purposes, from taxation. The bill now goes back to the House for concurrence or non-concurrence in the amendments.

The consideration of this bill crowded out the Pacific Railroad bill, which has been pending for several days. The state of the business before Congress was also incidentally discussed, and it was shown that both Houses are considerably behind on the appropriation bills. In fact, only one of the twelve, viz., the pension bill, has become a law. The majority of the others are pending in the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and have not even been printed, on account of the exhaustion of the printing fund. There are but fourteen working days more to do all the work in.

House of Representatives.

As usual yesterday a few faithful members were present in the hall of the House at 10 o'clock, but there were not enough there to go on with the public business, and a further recess had to be taken. A little more time was gained, and that was all that the Bourbons wanted.

At 11 o'clock the House went into Committee of the Whole on the naval appropriation bill, although there was not a quorum present; then Admiral WHITHORNE, of the Tennessee navy, indulged in another fling at the management of the Navy Department, and asserted, upon what he admitted was mere hearsay evidence, that the department had disposed of public property at private sale for the purpose of paying debts which had been illegally incurred by certain bureaus of the department.

Mr. CONGER, in a few well-directed sentences, ridiculed WHITTHORNE so badly that he would have been happier if he had not made the attack. Mr. TARBOX, of Massachusetts, who has not been heard of much since BLAINE mashed him to a political jelly last summer by some process or other, has had the breath of life blown into him again, and came to the front with a newspaper extract to show that there had been a leaven of Republican politics in the Charleston Navy Yard. And then the Committee of the Whole reached a point where they had to consider Admiral WHITTHORNE'S proposition for a commission to determine and report upon the future naval policy of the United States. Several points of order were at once made against it by Mr. CONGER, Mr. HALE and others—points that would have held good if the Committee had had an unprejudiced presiding officer. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole was Mr. MILLS of Texas, a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs, which reported the bill, and an earnest advocate of the appointment of the commission. It has not been usual in the past to appoint as chairman of the Committee of the Whole, a member interested as a committee man in any proposition or amendment that is likely to be made a part of the subject matter. Mr. Speaker RANDALL has done, and suppose will continue to do, unusual things, and so he put Mr. MILLS in the chair, knowing beforehand that the WHITTHORNE proposition was amenable to the point of order, and that Mr. MILLS was committed to the theory that it was in order. In ruling the amendment in order, therefore, he only ruled in accordance with his convictions.

Mr. HOLMAN, the great economist, voted for the amendment, with a proviso that there should be no expense except the regular and current salary of the members of the commission. Mr. HOLMAN certainly could not have been sincere in the belief that the work contemplated by the amendment could or would be performed without the expenditure of more money than the salaries of the members of the commission. If he was sincere, he is as innocent as a sucking dove. He knew very well that it could not be done, and nothing more than the truth was uttered when he was told that he was misleading the House, when he said that there would be no cost to the Treasury. But perhaps the great Indiana economist was as ignorant on this question as he was on Wednesday night on the subject of the reduction of the observations of the transit of Venus.

The bill passed as amended, with the commission and all attached, but it is not very probable that the Senate will agree to it. The House has now disposed of all the appropriation bills, as original propositions, except the Sundry Civil, the Army and the River and Harbor. As at present advised, the Army bill will be the last reported, for the reason that the form of the items will depend upon the result of the Presidential contest.

Mr. ROBERTS, of Maryland, thinks that there have not been investigations enough, and in the last hours of the session he proposed that the Post Office Committee should investigate the subject of mail contracts, but Mr. CANNON, of Illinois, very properly objected, on the ground that that subject had been investigated to death already.

The bill to satisfy the treaty with the Sioux Indians, for the sale of the Black Hills, was taken up and passed, after which the House went into committee on the bill to regulate tolls over the Omaha bridge, but took a recess without disposing of the question.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, February 15, 1877.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at ten o'clock, and immediately took a further recess till 12 m., at which hour it reassembled.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the bill for the relief of the late Admiral Wilkes, by authorizing the accounting officer of the Treasury to credit him with $350, with House amendments. The amendments were concurred in.

Mr. DAWES introduced a memorial from Isaac Taylor & Co., of Boston, praying Congress to take some steps to rescue the commerce between South Africa and this country from the British Government. Mr. BOUTWELL said this was an important memorial, and involved questions of importance to the commerce between this country and South Africa, at which place a large colony with an increasing trade was now growing up. Referred to Committee on Commerce.

Mr. CAMERON, Wis., presented a memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of Milwaukee, asking for a new reciprocity treaty between this country and Great Britain to restore the trade with Canada. Referred to Committee on Commerce.

Mr. McDONALD reported favorably from the Committee on Pensions a bill for relief of Nathaniel B. McKay. Placed on calendar.

Mr. KERNAN introduced a petition asking for some remedy for damages incurred by infringements of patents. Referred to Committee on Patents.

Mr. CRAGIN, from Committee on Naval Affairs, reported adversely on the bill for relief of Robt. Small; also on bill to authorize payment of prize money in certain cases; also bill for relief of John C. Whitehead; also bill for fixing and determining rank of naval officers; also for relief of James M. Carpenter, praying that he be allowed certain credits, all of which were indefinitely postponed. He also reported a general bill for relief of certain contractors for destruction of certain vessels of war in process of construction, including Donald McKay, Wm. Rind, C. W. McCord and others, which was placed on the calendar.

He also reported favorably on the bill for the sale of certain lands in Wallabout Bay, Brooklyn, to the city of Brooklyn. Passed.

Mr. CONKLING introduced a petition and accompanying bill proposing the survey of the territory of Alaska. Referred to the Committee on Pensions. Also, petitions of citizens of New York, praying for arrears of pensions. Referred to Committee on Pensions. He also called up again the bill to provide for the distribution of

THE MEXICAN AWARDS.

He said that when the bill was up for consideration yesterday, the Senator from Alabama interposed an objection on the ground that he had information that there were certain frauds in the awards. He had been informed this morning that the evidence in support of that charge was all laid before the Commission and received their consideration, and they had not thrown out the claim, and he presumed it was groundless.

Mr. STEVENSON said he had been introduced to a gentleman from Mobile this morning, who says that he has the evidence to prove that one claim in this award, amounting to $400,000 and over, was a clear fraud, and he was prepared to show it.

Mr. STEVENSON said he knew nothing about the matter, he only knew that the gentleman was introduced to him as a reliable and responsible gentleman, and he believed it to be his duty to call the attention of the Senate to it, and until it was ascertained that this charge was groundless, he should object to the passage of the bill.

Mr. CONKLING asked that a day be named when the Senator would be willing to have the bill taken up. Let the charge be investigated, and then let the bill be taken up.

Mr. STEVENSON said the gentleman making the charge was in the lobby, and could be seen at once.

Mr. CONKLING said he did not propose to go out and hunt up evidence against the bill, and after the statement from the Senator from Kentucky, he did not feel disposed to press the bill to-day, but he thought it best to have the matter speedily attended to and disposed of.

The bill then went over.

Mr. INGALLS, from the Committee on Pensions, reported adversely on the bills for relief of Frederick W. Smith, John Fry, Rachael Holliday, Julia Scroggin, Daniel Huntsley, Isaac Herring, and the widow of Fletcher Webster, and they were indefinitely postponed, excepting the latter, which, at the request of Mr. BOUTWELL, was placed on the calendar.

He also reported favorably on the bills for the relief of Julia A. Shute, Daniel Cullhan, James Johnson and Sarah A. Chamberlain, all of which were placed on the calendar.

Mr. WITHERS, of the same committee, reported adversely on the bills for relief of Jane Dulaney and Wm. H. Babcock, and they were indefinitely postponed. He also reported favorably on the bills for the relief of Edmund H. Cobb and Margaret Scott Hardie, widow of Gen. James A. Hardie, which were placed on the calendar.

Mr. CONOVER introduced a bill to regulate the appointment of sail makers in the United States Navy. Referred to the committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. BOUTWELL introduced a resolution to allow the Special Silver Commission till Feb. 24, 1877, in which to submit their report. Passed.

Mr. LOGAN said he should avail himself of the first opportunity to call up the bill to remonetize the silver dollar, without regard to the report of the Silver Commission, which need not interfere with the passage of the bill, he said.

Mr. HAMLIN introduced a resolution to allow the Electoral Commission to use the Senate Chamber for holding their evening sessions after the Senate takes a recess in the afternoon. Adopted.

Mr. SPENCER called up the bill known as the

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAX BILL.

Pending its reading the CHAIR announced the expiration of the morning hour, and laid before the Senate the

PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

On motion of Mr. SPENCER, the latter bill was laid aside, and the consideration of the tax bill was resumed, subject to the call of the regular order.

The first amendment of the Senate Committee to the House bill, was to strike out after the words, "there shall be levied," in the first section the following: "upon all land outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, held and used solely for agricultural purposes, a tax of one dollar on each one hundred dollars of the assessed value thereof."

Mr. MORRISSEY and Mr. DAVIS opposed the amendment, saying that to strike out the above and leave the tax on the citizens residing in the suburbs of the city, $1.50 per hundred dollars, was unjust. The citizens outside the city did not derive near so much benefit from the improvements as those residing in the city, and $1.50 tax on a hundred dollars was tax enough for them to pay.

Messrs. INGALLS, DORSEY and SPENCER favored the amendment. The yeas and nays were demanded on its adoption, and resulted: yeas, 34, nays, 19, most of the Democrats opposing and the Republicans favoring it.

The next amendment to strike out the end of the first section, the following words, viz: "thirty cents on every hundred dollars valuation of real and personal property as a special tax for the support of schools," was adopted *nem con.*

The section as amended provides that there shall be levied upon all real and personal property, in said District, except property belonging to the Government, and that hereinafter stated, a tax of $1.50 on each one hundred dollars of the assessed value thereof.

The next amendment of importance, providing for taxing goods brought into the District for sale at auction, one and one-half per centum, was adopted. The last amendment providing that the Secretary of the Treasury shall advance to the Commissioners such sums as may be required between July 1 and November 1, for current expenses, and the Commissioners shall repay the same on or before the expiration of the fiscal year, was reached, and Mr. SAULSBURY moved to amend by compelling the Commissioners to pay interest on the sums so advanced, on which the yeas and nays were demanded and called, resulting in yeas 16 nays 26. Mr. SAULSBURY'S amendment unto the amendment was lost. The amendment was then adopted.

Pending the discussion on the bill, at 3:30 Mr. WRIGHT demanded the regular order. Mr. SPENCER moved that the regular order be laid aside temporarily. Mr. WRIGHT objected to such a course. Mr. SPENCER then moved that all prior orders be laid aside and the consideration of the tax bill be continued.

Mr. ALCORN said it was manifest to all that it would be economy to go on with the bill at this time, and the Pacific Railroad bill could be taken up to-morrow.

Mr. SARGENT said it was all well enough for Senators to go on and parcel out the time, but he wanted to tell them that the appropriation bills would soon be before the Senate and would push everything else out of the way.

Mr. WINDOM said that only one appropriation bill, viz: the Pension bill, had yet been passed by both Houses. He gave the condition of each of the appropriation bills, and said some of them were hanging because they were not printed, and they could not be printed because there was a deficiency of the appropriation for printing amounting to about $75,000, and the public business was now all being hindered on this account. All the appropriation bills but one were behind. This he said was not a favorable showing, and there were only fourteen days more of Congress, and the prospect for a special session was staring them in the face.

Mr. SARGENT moved that the Consular and Diplomatic bill be printed in the *Record*, so as to give him an opportunity to examine it. So ordered.

Mr. WEST said the friends of the railroad bill had allowed two and a-half hours for the passage of this district bill, and it was a poor return for the courtesy shown, for the Senator of Alabama to move to place the railroad bill in a position where it could not be recalled again this session.

Mr. DAWES said it was not the fault of the Senator from Alabama, but rather the fault of the Senator from Iowa, (Mr. WRIGHT,) who refused consent to have the railroad bill laid aside temporarily.

Mr. WRIGHT said that under the circumstances he would not insist on the regular order, but would allow the tax bill to go on, with the understanding that it should be disposed of to-night.

Mr. SPENCER then withdrew his motion to lay aside all prior orders, and the consideration of the tax bill was resumed.

Mr. KERNAN proposed an amendment to exempt all school property, actually occupied for purposes of education, from taxation.

The amendment was favored by Messrs. DAWES, KERNAN, ALCORN and SAULSBURY and opposed by Messrs. INGALLS, CAMERON, of Pa., and CLAYTON.

The vote was taken by yeas and nays, and the amendment was adopted—yeas 33, nays 19.

Mr. SAULSBURY moved to amend, by exempting the Louise Home and furniture from taxation. Adopted.

Mr. MERRIMON moved to insert after the words "Corcoran Art Building," the words "and works of art therein," that such words be exempted. Adopted.

The bill was then further amended in slight particulars, and then passed—yeas 39, nays 12, and at 5 o'clock the Senate, on motion of Mr. SARGENT, took a recess till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 10 o'clock, and seven out of the eleven members present wanted to go on with the business, but as there was a disposition to insist upon a quorum it was eventually agreed to take a further recess until 11 o'clock.

At this hour the House went into Committee of the Whole on the

NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL,

Mr. MILLS, of Texas, in the chair.

The pending question was on an amendment offered by Mr. CONGER, of Michigan, to make $500,000 of the appropriation for the Bureau of Construction and Repairs available in the discretion of the President during the current fiscal year.

There was manifestly no quorum, and Mr. CONGER at first insisted upon having one, but finally withdrew the demand and the amendment was rejected.

Mr. WHITTHORNE, Tenn., made a *pro forma* amendment, to say that the House could not be too careful in making appropriations for the bureaus of the Navy Department.

Mr. CONGER, of Mich., said that the gentleman had so long condemned the Secretary of the Navy that he was known as the great regulator and reformer of the Navy Department.

The bill having been read through Mr. WHITTHORNE offered as an amendment his bill for a commission to determine the future policy of the navy.

Points of order were made by Mr. CONGER, Mr. HALE and others on the ground that the amendment was not germane to the bill, that it was new legislation and that it was not in the line of retrenchment.

The CHAIR overruled the points of order, and pending an appeal from the decision the committee rose and the House was called to order as of Thursday's session.

Mr. MAUKEY, of Pa., introduced a joint resolution for the establishment of a commission for the exploration of the northern States of Mexico and the adjoining territories of the United States. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. MONROE, of O., from Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill to absolve Frederick Nichols from his allegiance to the United States. Passed.

On motion of Mr. BROWN, Ky., the Senate bill for the removal of the political disabilities of Joseph C. Johnson, of Virginia, was taken up and passed.

Mr. KEHR, Mo., introduced a bill for the relief of the Iron Mountain Banking Association of St. Louis. Referred to Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. MCFARLAND, Tenn., Senate bill for relief of settlers on indemnity school selections of lands, was taken up and passed.

Mr. ROBERTS, Md., asked leave to offer a resolution directing the Committee on Post-offices to enquire into any irregularities, abuses or frauds that may exist in the letting of mail contracts, and to report what change is necessary to promote economy and efficiency.

Mr. CANNON, Ill., objected. That subject had already been investigated to death.

The House again went into committee on the naval bill, and the appeal from the decision of the CHAIR was withdrawn.

Mr. HOLMAN, Ind., offered an amendment pending that there shall be no expense attending such commission, except the regular and current salaries of the members of the commission.

The amendment as amended was adopted, and Mr. WHITTHORNE'S amendment as amended was adopted.

Mr. BEEBE, N. Y., then offered a resolution that the Committee of the Whole report the bill back to the House, with a recommendation that it be committed to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions to reduce the amount of appropriations to nine million dollars.

After further discussion, Mr. BEEBE'S motion was rejected, and the bill, as amended, was reported to the House and passed.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a message from the President vetoing the bill for the perfection of the Revised Statutes. He vetoes it simply because of the insertion of a clause in relation to section 3,822 in relation to the advertisements in newspapers by the departments, which the President thought was an encroachment upon the Department.

Mr. DURHAM, of Ky., Chairman of the Committee on the Revision of the Laws, said the committee and the Senate Committee were of the opinion that the veto should be sustained, and he would then report back another bill with the vetoed clause omitted, and that would be approved by the President.

SUSTAINING A VETO.

The question was then taken, and the veto was sustained.

Mr. DURHAM then, in accordance with notice, introduced the bill with the objectionable clause omitted, and it was passed.

Mr. SINGLETON, of Miss., called up the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill, and the amendments of the Senate were concurred in with amendments, none of which were material.

Mr. HENDEE, of Vt., introduced a bill to prevent default and delay in the payment of the interest on the bonds of the District of Columbia authorized by act of 1874. Referred to the Committee on District of Columbia.

Mr. BAKER, of Ind., offered a resolution which was agreed to to print 2,000 bound copies of the eulogies on the late Speaker KERR, with a portrait of deceased.

The House then, as the regular order, proceeded to the consideration of the bill to ratify the treaty made with the bands of the Sioux and with the northern Arrapachoes and Cheyennes and pending for their removal from the Black Hills.

Mr. MILLS, of Tex., offered an amendment to prohibit the removal of the Indians to the Indian Territory.

The amendment was agreed to and the bill was passed as amended.

The House then went into a Committee of the Whole, Mr BUCKNER in the chair, and took up the bill to regulate the rates of toll for freight and passengers over the Omaha bridge.

After debate, and without reaching a conclusion, the committee rose, and the House then at 4:40 took a recess until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

PERSONAL.

Jas. L. Marvin, of Newark, is at Willard's.

John Wellis, of New York, is a guest at the Arlington.

Hon. A. G. Curtin, of Pennsylvania, has rooms at Willard's.

Dr. Huggins, of the West Indies, is stopping at Willard's.

Chas. W. Butler, of Lansing, Mich., is stopping at the Arlington.

Bishop J. P. B. Wilmer, of New Orleans, has rooms at Willard's.

Jay Hial, of the Kellogg Opera, registered at Willard's yesterday.

John B. Dixon and wife, of Baltimore, are registered at the Arlington.

John K. Valentine and wife, of Philadelphia, arrived at the Arlington yesterday.

D. Moore, Brooklyn; C. A. Phelps, Boston; Wm. Davis, New York; James Barr, Pennsylvania; W. E. Roberts, B. S. Colby, Franklin, New York; W. G. Ford, H. G. Stevens, Columbus; A. C. Gibson, Philadelphia; H. F. Williams and wife, Utica; H. W. Slatter, Georgia—arrived at the Imperial yesterday.

Wm. A. Flanigan and son, Phila.; Thomas F. Rowland, N. Y.; W. A. Brazier, N. Y.; James Monteith and daughter, N. Y.; A. E. Cox, N. Y.; E. T. Wood, Brooklyn; Mr. Vaux, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Kingsland, J. C.; Francis Silver, N. Y.; S. H. Winslover, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Stone, N. Y.; F. Wiebusch and wife, N. Y.; Ch. Knoblanch and wife, N. Y.; A. Hammacher, N. Y.; Miss Konigs, N. Y.; Mrs. and Miss Ware, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jones, N. Y.; Miss Annie McCell, N. Y.; D. G. Campbell, Md.; Chas. Williams, N. Y.; R. Falsom, Cincinnati; C. B. Wright, Philadelphia, are among the arrivals at the Arlington.

H. Knowles, N. Y.; F. T. Longhborn, N. Y.; Robt. Mayers, Baltimore; L. D. Townsend and wife, Philadelphia; C. E. O'Hara,