The National Republican.

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CURRENT CAPITAL TOPICS.

Another Caucus of Democratic Congressmen.

Plans to Defeat the Appropriation Bills Discussed—Devices to Secure an Extra Session—A Labor Reformer on His Ear—The Sugar Tariff Bill—A Necessity for Speedy Action Upon It, &c.

The Democratic Caucus.

At the Democratic caucus on Saturday night it was decided to attach amendments to the legislative appropriation bill repealing the law authorizing the appointment of supervisors of elections and deputy marshals and to abolish the test oath. The principal discussion was whether the amendment should be attached to the legislative, executive and judicial or to the sundry civil appropriation bill. The former was decided upon, because its failure would most cripple the Administration and necessitate an early call of an extra session, and because the failure of the sundry civil bill would imperil sundry local improvements for which certain constituencies would hold their Representatives responsible.

Upon its face it would appear that the Democrats in Congress are unduly excited over the repeal of the two provisions of the law cited, inasmuch as there are to be no elections held where these laws would be operative until after the regular meeting of Congress in December next, when the Democrats, being in a majority in both Houses, could repeal the laws as an independent measure, without requiring a resort to the questionable mode of tacking on to an important appropriation bill.

It is is hinted that the spoils of office had more to do with this movement than any political necessity or personal convictions. There is an army in and around the House, all of whom expect to march to the other end of the Capitol when the Senate becomes Democratic. Again there is a lurking fear that by some fatality the Republicans may, if is delayed, secure the organization of the House; and again there are certain cliques in the Democratic party who feel better assured of securing the offices of that body at an early than a late meeting of the Forty-sixth Congress. Engineering in this latter matter has been going on for some time, and the appointees of retiring members have been removed to make room for proteges of those who hold over or new members elected to the next Congress. So, after all, the disguise is a flimsy one, and the action of the caucus is rather a question of spoils than of political principles.

An Irate Congressman.

A "horny-handed son of toil," who claims to be the especial Representative in Congress of the laboring masses, on reading in THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN some of the items of "stationery" issued to members of Congress, became highly indignant, and rushed into the Clerk's office, demanding to know "where these fellows get those statements they print in the newspapers. Do you allow them to come in here and examine your books?" exclaimed he. He was informed that by law the Clerk was required to make an annual report of the stationery issued to each member, and that report was printed and became a part of the public records. "If I had known that," exclaimed he, "I would have had nothing to do with the d—d thing! Do you suppose I want my constituents to know that I go and get a knife for seventy cents and have it charged to the Government, or a magic pencil for $3.50? A workingman's champion fooling with a magic pencil. Does not that sound nice? Or a dictionary? Ten dollars for a dictionary! What do you suppose my constituents will say to that? Had it been whisky and tobacco I could have stood it; but $10 for a dictionary, and that magic pencil! "O, my! how can I explain that?"

The injured member received the warmest expressions of sympathy and the newspapers an unlimited amount of abuse, which seemed to have a pacifying influence, and he returned to his seat in the House to draw up a bill for the suppression of newspapers in general and THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN in particular.

The Sugar Tariff.

It is evident from the prolonged and animated discussion on the necessity for a revision of the sugar tariff by the press throughout the country, and from the earnest recommendations to that effect by the Secretary of the Treasury, that some action should be taken by Congress before its adjournment. The able and conservative New York *Shipping List*, which has not hitherto favored any action, in its issue of last Saturday says: "The proposed sugar bill comes before the House on Monday next, and it is to be sincerely hoped, on behalf of the large vested interests, as well as the important foreign trade and commerce which this measure represents, that our Representatives will give it such a place and such a hearing as will insure it becoming a law before the adjournment of the present session. A great deal of time and money has been expended in bringing the bill to its present position. The various conflicting proposals which at one time threatened to thwart any attempt at improving the existing tariff have been harmonized, and a majority of the many important interests which represent the sugar business of the country have expressed satisfaction with the measure brought forward by the Committee on Ways and Means, and in many instances have petitioned the House through its various members, asking the passage of the measure. We according but express the earnest wish of a very large portion of the sugar trade when we urge its passage. The experience of the past six months has shown with what difficulties the way is beset which leads to a change that will meet the approval of all, and now that the ground has once been gone over and a conclusion reached that may be called satisfactory, do not let the fruits of this valuable labor be lost. Again we say, both Houses must earnestly let the sugar bill pass."

Mrs. Hayes' Reception.

Mrs. Hayes' reception on Saturday was the largest of the season. The ladies assisting Mrs. Hayes were Mrs. Justice Bradley and Mrs. Senator Bailey. Mrs. Hayes wore a silk of gray and brown; Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Bailey wore black, with duchesse lace and flowers. Secretary Schurz, Attorney-General Devens, General Tyner, General Hawley, Senator and Mrs. Matthews, and several attaches of the different legations were among the hundreds who called. One needed change has been made. The cloak room, with its shabby furniture, has been refitted, and the improvement has been marked. The chairs and sofa are upholstered in raw silk, in the delicate shades so much in vogue. Many more changes are needed to make the White House presentable.

The Eads Jetties.

Captain J. B. Eads has laid before Congress review of the report of the board of United States engineers, appointed under the act of June 9, 1878, to inspect and report upon the jetty system on the Mississippi River, in which he complains that, while the board make a favorable report upon the success of his plans, they practically tie his hands in recommending that the money already earned be paid to him to be expended upon the work, instead of allowing him to use it in discharging obligations incurred by him in securing the depth already attained. He holds that as his work already far exceeds, in proportion to the entire work, the amount of money paid by the Government the full contract price, in the proposed modification of the terms of payment the $250,000 installment should be permitted to be applied to the payment of contractors under him who have devoted their means and energies to the work, and to relieve him from the mountain of debt he has incurred in carrying out the work pronounced successful by the board of United States engineers.

Arrivals from Foreign Countries.

An official report of the Bureau of Statistics in regard to immigration into the port of New York shows that there arrived at the port of New York during January, 1879, 3,982 passengers, of whom 2,331 were immigrants, and during January, 1878, 2,753 passengers, of whom 1,711 were immigrants. Of the total arrival of immigrants at the port during January, 1879, there were—from England, 561; Scotland, 123; Wales, 12; Ireland, 209; Germany, 667; Austria, 36; Sweden, 46; Norway, 14; Denmark, 19; France, 136; Switzerland, 127; Spain, 4; Italy, 234; Holland, 23; Belgium, 11; Russia, 50; Poland, 5; Hungary, 17; Turkey in Europe, 4; Dominion of Canada, 8; Mexico, 6; Greece, Japan, Panama, Guatemala, Peru, and Hawaiian Islands, 2 each, and from other countries, 5. The arrivals at the same port during the twelve months ended January 31, 1879, and for the twelve months ended January 31, 1878, respectively, were as follows:

	1879.	1878.
Immigrants	82,123	66,170
Citizens of United States returned	34,797	25,204
Sojourners	6,002	4,799
Total	122,924	96,273

The Mississippi River Bill.

Captain Cowden, the father of the outlet system, has prepared a memorial to the Senate in opposition to the Mississippi River commission bill. Captain Cowden makes these points: That the bill virtually places the fortunes of the Mississippi Valley in the hands of five men, whose interest it is to continue their office as long as possible without accomplishing anything; that the commission, which requires $250,000 for expenses, will simply recommend the levee plan, costing $44,000,000, for the beginning. Captain Cowden recommends that a joint committee be appointed to investigate the subject, taking the testimony of practical river men and civil engineers, who shall collect all evidence on the subject of outlet jetties and levees. This, he claims, would not cost $10,000, and would result in saving hundreds of millions to the government.

Capitol and Departmental Notes.

Subscriptions to the 4 per cent. loan Saturday amounted to $3,471,450.

Revenue receipts Saturday were—from internal revenue, $298,377.07; from customs, $713,454.07.

The Suffolk National Bank of Boston, Boston, Mass., has been designated a depository of public moneys to receive deposits on account of subscriptions to the 4 per cent loan of the United States.

Outstanding circulation of legal-tender notes and fractional currency: United States notes, new issue, $17,753,910; United States notes, series 1869, $129,927,921; United States notes, series 1874, $33,323,772; United States notes, series 1875, $134,204,202; United States notes, series 1878, $31,471,211; total United States notes, $346,681,016; fractional currency, $16,027,500.06; grand total, $362,708,516.06. United States notes redeemed, $675,100.

SUPPOSED MURDER.

Colored Female Miser Found Dead.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Feb. 9.—The body of Mrs. Elizabeth Washington, colored, eighty years old, of this city, was found on the floor of her house on Saturday afternoon. Near the head was found a stick of wood covered with blood, while a short distance off was a man's necktie. The floor was also stained with blood. On the exposed side of the face the flesh was eaten to the bone, the nose entirely gone, and part of the tongue gone by pet cats, which were driven away by the approach of persons entering the house in search of the woman. She had been dead probably twenty-four hours when discovered.

She had lived alone for about forty years, and when last seen, on Thursday evening, was entertaining company. The deceased had been assisted by the Episcopal parish of the city, but within her apartments were found stored away a large quantity of provisions, a bank book, deeds, coin, scrip, a large quantity of dresses, linen, watches, &c. It is believed that she was murdered for money, but that the murderer was frightened away before securing anything.

DESTITUTION AND DEATH.

A Shocking Story of Starvation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—A three-year-old child of Mrs. Stewart died this morning of starvation, in a fireless room at No. 30 Broome street. Stewart and his wife hail from Harper's Ferry, Va., and came lately from the West to this city in search of a living. They have been in a state of terrible destitution for some time past, being unable to obtain work. The child's body was thin and emaciated. The neighbors subscribed to give the child a decent burial.

The Disarmed Cheyennes.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 8.—The *Globe-Democrat* has a special dispatch from Leavenworth, Kan., which says that the Cheyennes who left Fort Robinson a few days ago to be turned over to the State authorities for trial for raiding, depredating, and murdering citizens in Western Kansas last fall, arrived at Fort Leavenworth to-day under a strong cavalry guard and were confined in the post guard-house. The time for their trial has not yet been set. The cavalry, two companies of the Third regiment, under Captain Vroom, left for Fort Robinson this afternoon.

More Disorders in Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Feb. 9.—A dispatch to the *Courier-Journal* from Lebanon, Ky., dated February 8, says the state of affairs in Green County, growing out of the collection of the Cumberland and Ohio Railroad tax, is growing worse. The tax collector's barn has been burned, his life threatened, and a reign of terror inaugurated. The Governor will be called upon for assistance.

Free Flour for Glasgow.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 9.—A dispatch from Omaha says the citizens of that place and vicinity have shipped a car load of flour to Glasgow, Scotland, for the relief of the unemployed and distressed in that city. Free transportation was furnished to New York by the railroad companies, and from there to Glasgow by the Anchor Line Steamship Company.

Variety Theatre Raided.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8.—The police raided Enoch's Variety Theatre to-night, capturing in all 165 persons, among them the proprietor and his wife, 41 females, and 118 boys. Enoch was held in $1,800 bail for keeping a disorderly house and selling liquor to minors, and the remainder of the prisoners were held in various smaller sums.

Burglar Surrendered.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Detective Skelly to-day arrested J. W. Carpenter on a requisition from Governor Bishop, of Ohio, charging him with burglary and larceny in Loraine County, Ohio. The prisoner was delivered into the hands of Sheriff Dobbs, of Loraine County, who started for Ohio to-night with him.

TILDEN'S TESTIMONY.

Where Ignorance is Bliss 'Tis Folly To Be Wise.

The Sublimity of Childlike Innocence—None of the Telegrams to Gramercy Park Reached the Old Man—He Hardly Knew that an Election Had Been Held—Model Private Secretaries.

The Cipher Investigation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—At the reassembling of the Potter committee this morning ex-Mayor Wickham and Corporation Counsel Whitney were among the spectators. At 11:15 o'clock Governor Tilden entered, accompanied by his brother, Henry A. Tilden, of Lebanon; John Bigelow, and Henry S. Dimmock. The Governor came in smiling, and took his seat quietly. He was at once sworn by Mr. Hunton, chairman, who said, "Governor Tilden, we received your note expressing your willingness to testify." Mr. Tilden replied, "I have read the publication and translation which I have never seen before. I never entered into any arrangement to purchase the votes of South Carolina or Florida. I had no information or suspicion that any such communications were being carried on until I saw dispatches published in the New York *Tribune*. I had no knowledge of nor any dealings with any parties to these negotiations. I never authorized any such negotiations in any form whatever. On the morning of November 20, 1876, Mrs. Colonel Pelton mentioned in my presence that her husband had gone for the day. I didn't know he had gone, or was going out of the city. He went to Philadelphia, I believe. Later in the day I was called on by Mr. Cooper, who was on his way down town, and was told by him that he had received an offer from some party offering to obtain for money the vote of South Carolina. I said I would authorize no such transaction nor spend money for any such purpose. The whole conversation occupied only a few moments. I obtained Colonel Pelton's address in Baltimore and telegraphed him to come. I knew nothing of ciphers that had been passing between him and others, and I could not have translated them. With regard to Florida, I never saw one of the telegrams either in cipher or translation. I did not know—I was not informed that any negotiations were going on in regard to illegally obtaining certificates of returning boards. Mr. Marble told me in a casual kind of way about the corruption of the returning board of Florida. I never saw any one of those dispatches relating to Florida, either in cipher or translation. In regard to Oregon dispatches, I did not know they came in cipher until after the meeting of the committee to investigate them. Some of the dispatches were addressed to my residence, 15 Gramercy park. I do not know that any of those dispatches were ever delivered there. Colonel Pelton's habits of mind and mine are very different. A day or two after election General Grant wrote a letter recommending that committees go South to see a fair count. I had nothing to do with the selection of those committees. I never heard of them but once, and that was a communication signed by Mr. Ottendorfer and others. I was very busy all that time, and did not undertake to correct the idea that they were my personal agents. That idea has no foundation. They represented the Democratic party. None of them, so far as I know, went to those States authorized to do anything that gentlemen might not do. From the 7th of November, 1876, to December 6, of the same year, under no circumstances did I enter into any competition for seeking of certificates by venal inducements. There never was an hour nor a minute that I entertained such a thought. To the people who, as I believe, elected me President of the United States—to 4,000,000 of citizens who were defrauded, I owed it as a duty to proclaim I would not yield one jot or tittle of my right. Whatever evils may result from this subversion of electoral system and of free government, I resolved I would enter into no auction for the purchase of the Chief Magistracy. [Cheers, which the chairman suppressed.] I was resolved that I would continue to protest against the wrong by which the people were defrauded out of their rights."

Mr. Tilden's voice was husky and it was difficult to hear him. He said his private secretary is G.W. Smith. Dispatch No. 40, dated Tallahassee, November 27, and signed M., was shown him. He had no knowledge or recollection of it. "Mr. Smith never showed any of these dispatches to me. I do not know if he had a cipher. When Pelton returned from Baltimore I said something to him about his action and he made no reply. I did not get from him any information about ciphers or negotiations until I saw them published. I did not believe that Pelton had any power, because he had no authorization. Edward Cooper came to me and said he had received a proposition to get the votes of South Carolina for money. The substance of our conversation was that the votes were for sale. I never heard of any attempt to bribe until the publication of the fact. I first heard of the Florida bribery from Mr. Marble. He simply mentioned the circumstance after he had returned from Florida. He gave me no details and I made no inquiries. I made no inquiries from my nephew about these corrupt propositions to buy and sell."

Q. Then you had no interest in it?—A. Only an interest in stopping it. Colonel Pelton ceased about the 1st of January to reside at my (Tilden's) house. I made no request to Mr. Pelton to cease being my secretary. I manifested my displeasure, but did not ask him to resign his position. I kept up no confidential relations with Smith M. Weed in regard to these transactions. I knew nothing of his presence in South Carolina. I heard no proposition from him to buy votes. I had not the most kindly feelings toward him

Mr. Tilden admitted that he had had confidential relations with Manton Marble. That the latter, before going to Florida, called to bid him good-bye. There was nothing in their conversation at the meeting bearing on this question. It was little more than a formal leave taking. He reiterated, in reply to questions, that in his interview with Mr. Cooper no idea of accepting a proposition to purchase votes was debated between them or thought of for a moment. As for Colonel Pelton, he was the last man in the world he (Tilden) would have selected if he had intended to enter into such transactions as purchasing the electoral votes. Being asked why in his card to the public he did not refer to the Baltimore transaction, Mr. Tilden replied that it was not pertinent.

Q. Do you not see that your statement that you had no knowledge of the negotiations, except through the *Tribune*, is likely to deceive, because you had heard of the Baltimore negotiations?

This question seemed to stagger Mr. Tilden somewhat, but he said he did not know of the cipher telegrams which had passed on the subject nor of any negotiations, but did know that there had been an offer in South Carolina, which he had put an end to by his intervention.

Q. You made your statement conscious that you knew something which the public did not, and which you did not make in your published statement?—A. I made my statement in accordance with truth.

Q. Did you intend to convey the idea that you had no knowledge of this offer?—A. I did not intend to convey any idea on the subject. I had been advised by a hundred people to do one thing and another, and I did not think it was necessary to refer to the fact of the Baltimore transaction.

In reply to very able and close examination, Mr. Tilden reiterated that it was not pertinent to the subject to refer in his statement to the public to the corrupt offer he had heard of, and denied that he drew up his statement with special design of keeping this information from the public. Sharp cross-questioning, in which Mr. Tilden was occasionally requested to be frank, failed to get him to admit that he remembered any conversation at the Third National Bank with Mr. Smith Weed prior to the latter's departure for North or South Carolina.

This finished Mr. Reed's cross-examination of Mr. Tilden. Mr. Hiscock now took him in hand. In reply to a question if he was informed of the nature of the dispatches received by Mr. Smith from Florida, he said: "I did not occupy myself much with the progress of the Florida proceedings; never saw the dispatch advising the employment of some man, reading, could be trusted for a week. I heard I had one majority in Florida, but did not see the dispatch referred to as conveying that and other information. Did not see the dispatch to George W. Smith saying: 'See my dispatch to Spain.' I have no recollection of seeing or hearing read any such dispatch. I assume the Democratic National Committee here were in communication with the gentlemen in Florida during the canvass."

Q. You have said that if you had had any idea of influencing these boards venally the last person you would have chosen would have been Colonel Pelton. Why did you not deem it proper to call Mr. Cooper's or Mr. Hewitt's attention to this matter and ask them to take charge of the matter, lest Pelton might compromise the Democratic General Committee?—A. In the first place, I supposed they had full knowledge and would be able to take care that nothing wrong should be done. Civil law does not recognize purposes until they are embodied in action; church punishes purposes of criminals, even if they are not carried out. The atmosphere at that time was full of rumors of fraudulent returning boards. I declare before God and my country that the votes of Louisiana and Florida were bought (meaning by Republicans). I would scorn and condemn my righteous title if the Democratic party had secured my seat by fraud.

Mr. Hiscock said that McLinn testified that he was approached by Manton Marble with an offer for the purchase of votes. He deemed it his duty to note this refutation, in the face of Governor Tilden's aspersions on his character.

Mr. Hiscock—Governor Tilden, are you entirely clear that McLinn was influenced in his action by hope of office?—A. I swear so to the best recollection. I believe I shall be just to every one in this examination. Shall protect myself fully without going into matters connected with my family relations.

Mr. Hiscock said: "This investigation is for the benefit of the whole people, and I believe it to be in the conscientious discharge of my duty to fully investigate Colonel Pelton's relations to you."

Mr. Hiscock to Mr. Tilden—Had you any information at that time that the returning boards of South Carolina or Florida were for sale? Give the name of the gentleman who told you.—A. I can't give you the name of any man. I state it on evidence that would convict any one.

Q. Give me the name?—A. It appears in the papers.

Mr. Hiscock—We will now go back to the time when Pelton visited Baltimore. I ask you again to give me any evidence you have that these boards were being corrupted by Republicans. I limit you up to the time of the final action of these boards.—A. I have no evidence up to that time. What I learned was from subsequent investigation.

Mr. Tilden admitted that up to the time that Polton went to Baltimore he had none except newspaper knowledge about the alleged corruption of Republicans in dealing with returning boards.

Mr. Hiscock called Mr. Tilden's attention to the dispatch No. 34, dated Tallahassee, November 22, and signed Marble. He said: "I don't understand what it means." He could not say whether or not any large sum of money was raised by Democrats in New York which might be used for political purposes. In regard to dispatch No. 14, addressed to Smith Weed, and signed Denmark, he said Colonel Pelton did not consult him about it. Did not know Pelton was in communication with Weed and others in the South. These telegrams never came to his house with his knowledge.

At 1:45 the examination of Mr. Tilden was concluded.

E. L. Parris testified he went to Florida to see that matters were conducted properly. Was a lawyer, and went there in that capacity. Had conversations with Abram. S. Hewitt. Was shown telegram No. 52, dated Tallahassee, and addressed to Henry Havemeyer. Said it was incomplete. Had some conversation with Mr. Marble. Never led him to think negotiations were going on. His telegrams, though addressed to Mr. Tilden, were intended for the National Committee.

George W. Smith, private secretary of Governor Tilden, was called. His attention was directed to telegram 39, by Marble to the Governor of Oregon. Said he remembered nothing about it.

Q. Suppose this is about the same answer you intend to give to all those other telegrams?—A. I have no recollection of any telegrams at all. [Laughter.]

Q. Was Governor Tilden in Albany between the 20th of November and the 6th of December?—A. I cannot recollect.

Q. Now be sure.—A. I have, as I have already stated, no recollection of any of these telegrams. I remember telegrams signed Marquette. They were in cipher. I was out of town when a number of them were received. My private telegrams were not opened, but cipher ones were.

Mr. Hiscock—That is all. We are much obliged to you for your information.

The committee then went into executive session. In executive session it was decided to examine no more witnesses. The committee leaves for Washington by nine o'clock train to-night

BALTIMORE DISORDERS.

Shooting Affrays—Two of Them Fatal.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 9.—Notwithstanding the stringency of the law in this State against carrying concealed weapons, their frequent use in this city, often on the most trivial provocation, proves that the statute in this respect is generally violated. Last night the pistol was used freely in various parts of this city. In the Eighth Ward John M. Douglass, a hackman, shot and mortally wounded Joseph W. Landers. The latter died this morning, at four o'clock, from the effects of the shooting. He was a young man, a cousin of Douglass' wife, and came to Baltimore about three months ago from Parolia City, in Butler County, Pa. Jealousy on the part of the husband is said to have been the cause of the shooting. Douglass was arrested.

In the Eighteenth Ward a quarrel occurred between Daniel Graham and William Butler, both negroes, during which Butler shot at Graham, and the ball, missing Graham, entered the stomach of Benjamin Taylor, also colored, inflicting a probably fatal wound. Butler was arrested.

In the Fifth Ward John Hebrews and Frederick Taylor, both negroes, quarreled over a game of cards, when Taylor drew a large cavalry pistol and shot Hebrews, who was running from him, in the back. Hebrews may recover. Taylor was arrested.

Election Frauds Punished.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 8.—In the United States Circuit Court to-day Daniel Sullivan, indicted for voting illegally in the fifteenth ward at the late Congressional election, was found guilty, and was sentenced by Judge Bond to pay a fine of $5 and costs, and to imprisonment for twelve months. In the same court Charles Getzendanner pleaded guilty to having assaulted a deputy United States Marshal and a colored voter in the eleventh ward at the late Congressional election. He was fined $50 and costs and sentenced to imprisonment for twelve months.

PAUL BOYTON'S COLD SWIM

A Four Days' Voyage Down the Alleghany.

Surrounded by Floating Ice—Bumping Over the Rocks in the Rapids—Popular Demonstrations Along the Route—His Arrival at Pittsburg—A Greeting from Fifty Thousand People, &c.

A New Mode of Traveling.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—The *Herald* correspondent, who accompanies Captain Paul Boyton in his trip down the Allegheny River, sends the following, dated Freeport, Feb. 8:

Captain Paul Boyton left Mahoning at six minutes of nine o'clock this morning in a very critical physical condition, his hands and wrists being swollen with intense cold and causing him acute pain. He was loudly cheered as he entered the water and started down the Allegheny, making the first mile in thirteen minutes; then he became surrounded by heavy ice, which had formed in the creeks running into the river. Kittanning was reached at ten minutes to one p. m., and there Boyton was given a grand reception, with music and mounted cavalry. He was forced from the water to the hotel, where a speech of welcome was made by Mr. Nell, of the *Free Press*, offering Boyton, in the name of Burgess McCain, the freedom of the town and borough.

Boyton and the *Herald* correspondent entered the water at ten minutes past one and paddled away amid the booming of cannon and strains of music. Very soon we were surrounded by cakes of ice, and the blinding glare of the sun almost made progress a matter of impossibility. The cold seemed intense, and, in spite of abundant wrappings, thoroughly chilled the swimmers in a few minutes. Just above Rosston we shot a small rapid, and the current was so swift we could not avoid the rocks at the bottom, but went bumping over them in most unpleasant style. In two hours we sighted Rosston, arriving at twenty minutes past two, having made six miles in two hours. Here your correspondent was obliged to seek safety on shore to escape being crushed by a broken mass of gorge ice which could be heard coming behind us.

After a weary pull through a number of eddies Boyton arrived here at twelve minutes to seven o'clock this evening, and was received with ringing of bells, whistling of engines, and firing of cannon. A band played the French national hymn as he landed and was escorted to his hotel by the municipal dignitaries. He received numerous presents from the kind-hearted people, and retired early for a rest before undertaking the balance of the swim in the morning to Pittsburg, which he intends to do without landing.

ARRIVAL AT PITTSBURG.

PITTSBURG, PA., Feb. 9.—Captain Paul Boyton, who entered the Allegheny River at Oil City Thursday morning, arrived here at 3:30 this afternoon, and was enthusiastically greeted by nearly 50,000 people, who lined both sides of the river from the mouth of the Allegheny to the eastern city limit. He expected to make the trip of 132 miles with but one stop, but the weather was so severe Thursday night that he had to stop at Emlenton. Friday night he stopped at Mahoning, and last night at Freeport. He made forty-three miles on Thursday, thirty-five miles Friday, twenty-seven miles yesterday, and twenty-seven miles to-day, and was in the water altogether about forty-one hours. His face was badly frosted, and when he arrived here he was greatly exhausted. He regards this as the most severe exposure he has had yet, but expects to be all right again in a few days. The weather was unfavorable, being bitterly cold, with occasional snow storms, and considerable floating ice in the stream.

THE CITY POST-OFFICE.

Judiciary Square Suggested As the Location.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: Among all the communications and statements which have been published suggesting locations and plans for the city post-office I have seen no mention of one which, for several reasons, seems to commend itself to favorable consideration. Perhaps the reason that it has not been suggested may be found in the fact that it involves no "job" or sale of private property to the Government, and, therefore, has found no advocate to push it into notice.

The southwest corner of the reservation on which the City Hall is located has been mildly mentioned, coupled, however, with the qualifying suggestion that that reservation had, perhaps, better be retained for use as a park. But no matter how much that reservation may be improved and beautified as a park, those who frequent or pass through it will, on looking toward its southern border, be confronted by the blank, rough, and unsightly brick wall of the unfinished City Hall building. It would be contrary to all esthetic taste and the fitness of things to let that eye-sore remain to mar the appearance of the park.

My suggestion is that the City Hall be extended north to E street, in accordance with the original plan, modified as may be necessary to adapt to the purposes for which it is to be used. This would leave remaining as a park to the north, and at the east and west sides of the extended building a larger area for a park than is contained in any other reservation north of Pennsylvania avenue.

There would be ample room on the ground floor of the suggested extension for the accommodation of the city post-office. The United States own the City Hall and the reservation north of it and there would be no expense incurred except for the extension of the building already belonging to the Government.

The location is central and conveniently accessible from all directions—from the south by Four-and-a-half street, from the southeast by Indiana avenue, from the southwest by Louisiana avenue, and from the north, east, and west by several streets.

Furthermore, the building, when completed, as suggested, would be fire-proof, and would afford ample room in its second story for the accommodation of the District government offices as well as the District courts, thus concentrating all the District government business, together with the city post-office business, at one point, which would undoubtedly greatly subserve the public convenience and result in the saving of a large sum now paid as rent for buildings which are not fire-proof.

Or, in the alternative that the suggested extension should not be used for the District government offices, it would, in addition to the space required for the city post-office, furnish ample accommodations for the Congressional Library—even when increased to several times its present size. But, as the people of Capitol Hill are on the alert and anxiously laboring to induce the Government to purchase a site for the location of the latter in their vicinity, it may be well, in the interest of good-fellowship and fraternity, to accord them that sop to soothe and quiet their perturbed feeling and perchance reconcile them from the remoteness of their residence to the business portion of the city. Anagrammatically, yours,

J. A. RANWOLD.

PULPIT NOTES.

The Unitarian Idea of God—Bishop Simpson's Sermon.

Rev. Dr. A. P. Peabody, of Harvard College, preached the fourth of the series of special sermons of "Unitarian Affirmation" yesterday morning at All Souls' Church. Every seat in the auditorium and gallery was occupied. The aisles were filled with chairs, and yet there were not enough seats to accommodate those who wished to be present. Dr. Peabody selected as his text St. James iii., 9—"God even the Father." The three cardinal points of the sermon were "Nature," as showing an intelligent God; "Evil," which is the difficulty in the way of this proof, and which, when examined, is seen to minister to right and good, and the "Gospel" records show the revelations of God in Jesus Christ.

Upon these points Dr. Peabody elaborated and expended the force of his argument. He said that even if he had not the remotest idea of God, his arithmetic and philosophy would make him sensible of his being. If he should say in his heart there is no God, he would be compelled to acknowledge His presence through the force of nature. How can we then set any limits to our gratitude. He is at once our God and our brother. The testimony of nature being so strong, it is not wonderful that all men acknowledge the existence of an omnipotent personage, which we know as God. If evil is beyond his control, should we say "Hallowed be Thy name; deliver us from evil?" We cannot expect any solution of ours to be entire and perfect. If God is God, He alone can interpret God. We cannot make right wrong, or wrong right.

So far as we can trace the seeds of evil, it would be the worst possible thing to believe else than good arises therefrom. Which is the more worthy, a continuous life of ease and enjoyment or that of conflict with seeming evils which can be made good by man? All evils can be conquered only through persevering efforts. Nature presents no obstacles that human beings cannot surmount. They do gradually yield to man. We may anticipate a time when man's control over nature can be supreme, and by God's help he could sustain the ascendancy. In the words of Milton, "Evil be then my good." Men who have gone forth to conquer for God and heaven have conquered almost insurmountable evils. Look at St. Paul. He was beaten from city to city, and at last, when in the grasp of Nero, he called on his fellow Christians to make joy with him.

If we have immortal life, here only is the beginning. Evil is the means of higher and enduring good. All nature bears testimony to the goodness of God. God the Father implies tenderness and sympathy for each human being. He enters in all our little joys, solicitudes, and sorrows to enhance every pleasure and soothe every sorrow. This inbreathing of our spirit makes our home loves give us so much pleasure and comfort. The more we approach Him the dearer those become He gives us. The father loves his child, though wayward, disobedient, and profligate. The undying love of a mother or father often wins back the almost irretrievably lost child. They sorrow for his waywardness; rejoice over his restoration. As is the loving parent, so is God to His children. He is such a father as we know Him to be when we were children. He is the Almighty, the All-wise.

BISHOP SIMPSON'S SERMON.

Bishop Simpson preached yesterday morning at the Foundry Church to one of the largest audiences ever gathered within that edifice. The President and Mrs. Hayes, General Garfield, and many other distinguished persons were present. Immediately after the sermon subscriptions were solicited to pay off the church debt, and the sum of $15,500 was raised.

The Bishop selected for his text St. Luke ix., 30-31, "And behold there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias; who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease, which he should accomplish at Jerusalem." From this he preached an eloquent and powerful sermon, deducing the highest moral lessons.

GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN.

Perfecting Arrangements for a Grand Reception.

The Illinois Association, National Veteran Club, Southern Republicans, and other organizations are actively at work in perfecting arrangements to give General John A. Logan, Senator-elect from Illinois, a grand reception upon his arrival in this city. In furtherance of this object several meetings were held Saturday.

THE VETERAN CLUB.

A meeting of the National Veteran Club was held at Willard's Saturday afternoon. Colonel J. S. Tichenor, president of the club, occupied the chair, and Major A. H. L. Richardson acted as secretary. A letter was received from Mr. A. F. Kingsley, secretary of the Illinois Association, inviting the club to co-operate with them in tendering a reception to Senator-elect Logan. The following was adopted:

Resolved, That the National Veteran Club co-operate with such other organizations as desire to participate in extending to our old comrade, General John A. Logan, a complimentary reception upon his return to the national capital.

Resolved, That a special committee of seven be appointed by the chair to act with committees from other organizations in making all necessary arrangements to make the reception worthy of the club and of the distinguished recipient.

The following gentlemen were appointed as the committee: Comrades J. O. P. Burnside, E. R. Chapman, W. H. Turner, C. C. Adams, J. J. Stine, J. R. Thompson, and J. T. Smith.

The club adjourned to meet next Saturday, at 3:15 p. m., at Grand Army Hall, corner of Ninth and D streets.

THE SOUTHERN REPUBLICANS.

The committee of arrangements of the Southern Republicans appointed to confer and co-operate with similar committees of other bodies, met at the office of Dr. Bliss, at three o'clock on Saturday. Subcommittees upon music, on electric light for the Avenue for that occasion, and to confer with the National Veterans, the Illinois Association, and for other purposes were appointed.

The following gentlemen were elected to fill up the committee: Colonel N. B. Fugitt, of Maryland; Judge A. A. Freeman, Tennessee; Charles Murphy, esq., West Virginia; Hon. D. T. Corbin, of South Carolina; Colonel William Brown, of Kentucky; Hon. N. Cole, of Missouri; Hon. W. E. Horn, of Texas.

On motion, the various colored organizations of the District favorable to the object contemplated were invited to join in the demonstration of welcome to Hon. John A. Logan.

The committee adjourned to meet at 7:30 o'clock Monday evening, at the office of Dr. Bliss, opposite the Ebbitt House.

A CONFERENCE MEETING.

Pursuant to adjournment the Illinois committee met on Saturday evening at 701 Seventh street. After the transaction of necessary business, and hearing reports from subcommittees, &c., received delegates from the Veteran Club, Southern Republican Association, Grand Army of the Republic, and other organizations, organized in joint convention, with Colonel F. D. Stephenson as chairman, and A. F. Kingsley as secretary, and proceeded to perfect arrangements for the intended reception of Senator John A. Logan on his arrival.

The following programme was reported and adopted: The different organizations will meet at the City Hall, where they will be assigned places in the line by the chief marshal. As soon as the procession is formed it will proceed to the depot, headed by the Marine Band. Upon the arrival of the train containing Senator Logan, Major Hanneman's battery will fire an appropriate salute. The reception committee will then escort the Senator to a carriage, and the procession will march to his hotel, where speeches will be in order.

The following gentlemen were appointed to select a committee on reception, which shall consist of ten members, and will report at the meeting next Thursday evening: Colonel J. O. P. Burnside, L. J. Barnes, F. D. Stephenson, Harrison Dingman, and Colonel Wood.

Captain L. B. Cutler was unanimously elected chief marshal of the procession. Messrs. Chapman, Barnes, and Stein were appointed a committee on pyrotechnics.

Progress of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

[Special dispatch to the Republican.]

END OF TRACK S. P. R. R.,
ARIZONA, Feb. 9.

Track laid seventy-five miles east of Yuma yesterd y.

J. H. STROBRIDGE,
Chief of Construction.

Defaulting Bookkeeper Missing.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Feb. 9.—James G. Barton, the defaulting bookkeeper of the West Chester County Bank, has mysteriously disappeared, and there are no tidings of his whereabouts.

THE OLD WORLD'S NEWS.

The Plague Still Causing Serious Apprehensions.

Sudden Dash Upon British Troops in Afghanistan—England's Embargo on American Cattle—British War Ship Gunnery—A Double Charge Bursted the Thunderer's Gun—German Affairs, &c.

The Plague in Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 9.—An official dispatch, dated Astrachan, February 8, reports that there are no cases of the plague at Wetlianka. A doubtful case has appeared at Nicolajehoski, in the government of Saratoff, 6,000 verstes from Astrachan. Several new and fatal cases are reported at Selitreno. General Loris Melikoff arrived at Tzaritzin this morning. Troops for the sanitary cordon, convoys, stores, provisions, &c., are continually arriving at Tzaritzin.

ATHENS, Feb. 9.—Greece has established a rigorous quarantine both on land and sea as a precautionary measure against the plague.

ENGLISH CATTLE IMPORTATION.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—In regard to the importation of cattle from America no action of the Privy Council has been made known since the notice read in the Liverpool town council on February 5 that cattle cannot be landed at the Liverpool docks after March 18 unless provision is made for slaughter on the quay.

AFFAIRS IN AFGHANISTAN.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—A dispatch to the *Times* from Hazarpir says Wali Mahomed's presence at Jelalabad is necessary because of the negotiations proceeding between the government and Yakoob Khan. Mahomed thinks Yakoob will continue to resist until the Ameer is dead.

At Candahar five fanatics dashed into the British camp on Thursday and wounded seven men. Three soldiers were also accidentally shot, one fatally, during the disturbance. The fanatics were killed.

LIVERPOOL LABOR TROUBLES.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 9.—The steamer Nevada, announced to sail yesterday for New York, will not