

TROY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10, 1873.

THOS. D. FISHER, } Editors.
JOS. A. RUDD, }

Callaway county has nineteen granges, according to the *Telegraph*.

A bill has been introduced in the United States senate to remove all political disabilities.

A bill has been introduced in the lower house of congress to repeal the bankruptcy law.

A bill to recognize Cuban belligerency is among the bills presented in the lower house of congress.

Congress is talking about restoring the franking privilege. Better repeal the grab act first.

There is considerable, and an increasing, opposition to the approval of Williams' appointment as chief justice.

Eight cents, instead of fifteen, is to be the fee for registered letters to any point in the United States, after January 1st, 1874.

The Texas election took place on the 2d inst. The Democrats of course carry the state, but by what majority is not yet known, as the returns have not all been received.

Col. Benjamin Bristow has been appointed attorney-general to fill the vacancy occasioned by the appointment of Williams to the chief-justice-ship. He is said to be a better law adviser than the late attorney-general.

Cannon, the Polygamist representative of Utah, creates quite a sensation in congress, especially among the ladies who crowd the galleries. We suppose it is a sensation of sympathy because of his having to please so many wives.

Representative Kellogg of Connecticut has offered a resolution directing a special committee on reduction of salaries to investigate the actual amount paid to the members of the last congress on salaries, mileage, stationary and other allowances.

T. R. Allen, master of the state grange of Missouri, says the charters will be withdrawn from those granges that admit editors of political papers as members. That is right. Hutton of the *Mexico Intelligencer* and Bryson of the *Louisiana Press*, will have to lay aside their hoes and rakes, and clean the hay seed out of their hair. 'Tis sad.

There appears to rise some doubts in the minds of the government as to the ability of Spain to carry out the agreement of that government in the the *Virginus* affair. It is said Secretary Fish's confidence is shaken, and war is not at all improbable. Any further diplomacy with Spain on this question will probably be declined. In the meantime work in the navy yards is progressing as fast as possible. An emergency is being prepared for.

The *Republican's* Washington special thus describes the ex-confederate Vice President in his seat in congress: Alex. H. Stephens occupied the front desk at the left of the central aisle during the organization. He was the observed of all observers. He sat most of the time with his hat on, and seemed to be buried in deep reflection. Occasionally, when some member would approach to shake hands or converse with him, his pale ghastly face would light up with a wan smile; but otherwise he remained wholly impassive.

The Forty-third congress assembled on the 1st inst, and there is a larger element of confederates than has yet been seen in the house. Alexander H. Stephens, ex-Vice President of the Confederacy, thin and emaciated by disease, is there, together with twenty-five or thirty others. It is said the personnel of the house is superior to that of the last two congresses, and a lady in the reporters' gallery remarked in this connection, that so far as the appearance of the men was concerned, the confederacy was better represented in the Forty-third congress than the Union.

The congressional committee to draft a bill repealing the salary act, has agreed upon the following: The repeal of so much of the salary act as relates to the pay of members, senators, the vice-president, speaker and other officers of the house and senate, thus reducing the salaries to the original figure. The salaries of the president, supreme judges and officers of the cabinet remain as increased last session. There was a sharp fight in the committee over the president's salary, the two Democrats and one Republican favoring its reduction, and the other five Republicans opposing.

The Radicals of congress are anxious for Sumner and Schurz, the great liberal leaders, to come back to the Radical fold, and at their caucus in Washington on the 1st inst, they left the latch string hanging out, hoping that one or both of them would give it a gentle pull, when they would receive them with open arms and offer them conspicuous seats. These independent statesmen, however, did not attempt to raise the latch—the string dangled unnoticed. Sumner and Schurz will need some wooing, after the abuse that has been heaped upon them. They are not such enamored swains as to fall into open arms without a little gentle persuasion.

The Republicans in congress are as radical as ever; indeed, if they continue as they have opened, the prospect is they will exceed any of their former acts. Beast Butler stands up with his long party lash, and the petty minds around do his bidding. It is a disgrace even to as corrupt a political organization as the Republican party has proven, that it will allow itself to be lead around by the nose by the lowest and meanest of female insulters, and a beastly mind that glories in defending his own and his party's corruption, and browbeating every one who is just and honest enough to remember that he has constituents at home that are disgusted with such things.

A New York telegram gives intelligence of a private letter having been received by a gentleman in that city from Cuba, saying that Mixma Gomez, an insurgent leader, to avenge the shooting of those captured on the *Virginus*, attacked and captured a number of Spanish fortified camps in the vicinity of Santiago. He made over 200 prisoners, and marching them close up to Santiago, shot them in full view of the Spanish fortifications, and then sent to Bu-ri-el to come out and bury them. Bu-ri-el left immediately for Havana. In view of this it is also said that the Spaniards residing in this city have appointed a committee of their number to prepare an address protesting against the terms of the protocol agreed to by Admiral Polo, at Washington, and calling for its rejection by the home government.

Attorney General Williams has been appointed Chief Justice, and his name sent to congress for approval. It is believed the appointment will be confirmed, although he is avowedly unfit to fill the position. The party lash will carry him through, as Butler, the one who wields that persuasive instrument is reputed to have said: "Some people know too much—Williams just enough. For the uses we have for him, he is the man after the heart of the party." Such an expression shows the tool the Radical leaders expect to make of Williams. Senator Sumner, doubtless gave the true standing of this prospective chief justice, when, in speaking of the appointment, he said: "Such a precedent had never been set before—a precedent that selected for one of the most exalted offices in the nation, a man who had neither learning, natural ability, a broad, enlightened intellect, nor in any degree that exalted sense of justice which makes the position one almost sacred in the eyes of the American people."

In congress on the 3d inst., notice was given of a bill to repeal so much of the postal act as prohibited weekly newspapers from passing through the mails free of postage.

The total debt of St. Charles county is \$43,694 42. The taxable value of all property, assessed for '73, is \$3 772, 772.

The District of Columbia will probably get its grabbers into the public treasury. Grant approves of it in his message. Thinks the district ring has made great improvements in the streets of Washington and otherwise, and that it being the capital, the government ought to help it out. It will be remembered the debt of the District has been greatly enlarged by the ring now controlling it, and bankruptcy is imminent. A committee has been appointed to watch and look into the management of the ring, which has the reputation of being a swindling concern, but this committee consists of that class of whitewashers who will wink at any amount of stealage, so the profits have been reaped by brother Radicals, such as Shepard the ruling spirit of the District ring. In the language of a disgusted Republican, "the committee appointed to keep watch of the ring is a d—d sight worse than the ring itself." Washington is a sink-hole of iniquity, and the sooner the seat of government is removed from there the better.

The *St. Louis Dispatch's* Washington special, speaking of William's appointment as chief justice, says of the influence it will have: A violent partizan, insufferably vain of what few acquisitions he does possess, looked upon by all the lawyers who know him as a fifth-rate man in the profession, slow in action, and heavy and plodding in mind, it is not believed that even with the reputation and ability of some of Williams' colleagues, the Supreme Court can be saved from the ridicule and the contempt of the people. Respect for the laws has always been a distinguishing trait in the national character—the very frame work, indeed, upon which the internal management and administration of the country depend—but respect cannot endure for the laws when it is known that the laws themselves are made by a set of narrow-minded, uneducated, unpatriotic partizans and politicians, and when the very Chief Justice of the whole country has received his appointment as the reward of outrageous decision in favor of unparalleled usurpations.

At a Republican caucus in Washington on the convening of congress, the backpay question raised quite a dust. There are some members of that party who hold the party responsible for this vile piece of legislation, and there are others who know that they are individually responsible for it. These two classes, embrace the whole party, excepting B. B. B. (Beast Ben Butler) and probably one or two more. Repentance is now the order of the day—a sort of sham repentance—a demagoguery that wants to present to their constituents a holy front with the secret inward consciousness that they have pocketed the money and intend to stick to it like grim death to a deceased freedman. The B. B. B. of the Republican menagerie is an animal that stands on his own bottom, and defiantly and brazenly defends all his horrible deformities. He opposed anything like a back down of the salary grabbers, of whom he is chief. He called his colleagues a pack of infernal poltroons to be browbeaten by public opinion. One Kasson arose to say that he respected the wishes of his constituents, which had never been blunted by ten thousand dollar fees. This saying hit the beast in a tender place, and he sprang to the floor, paced back and forth, and roared aloud—he wouldn't allow any man who stood branded as a seducer and a violator of his marriage, to assault his character; and soon the dust was so thick that the caucus had to disperse to save itself and the party from suffocation.

Several influential newspapers are advocating the re-appointment of the Congressional districts in this state, at the next session of the Legislature. Re-appointment may be needed, but we think the Legislature should look to the interests of oppressed tax-payers before devoting itself to other duties.—*Sedalia Democrat*.

It is better to be born lucky than rich. A Howard county land owner, near Higby, on the M. K. & T. Railway, receives \$10 per day as royalty for coal mined on his land.

Raphael Semmes, who commanded the Alabama, is a candidate for Mayor of Mobile.

The Work of Sixteen Years.
The Hoosac tunnel in Massachusetts, which at last has been bored completely through the mountain, though not yet completed for use, is five miles long. It was begun in 1857, sixteen years ago. Its estimated cost was \$3,850,000, and a contract was made to excavate the tunnel and build a double-track railroad through it for that sum. In reality, it has already cost \$12,800,000, and it will require the expenditure of \$800,000 more to prepare it for traffic. These facts are of interest in connection with the project to tunnel the Alleghany Mountains, in order to extend the James River and Kanawha Canal, at the national expense, so as to make a connection with the great natural water courses of the West. Judging from the experience of Massachusetts in relation to the Hoosac tunnel, it would require about thirty-two years and an expenditure of some \$25,000,000 to construct the proposed tunnel through the Alleghanies, leaving altogether out of the question the cost of the canal proper. Western farmers who place their reliance for their crops upon the construction of this canal, if there are any such, must prepare themselves for a great exercise of patience.—*Ex.*

Collision at Sea.
At 2 o'clock on the morning of Nov. 23, the British steamer, *Loch Erne*, from London to New York, ran into the French steamship *Ville du Havre*, which sailed from New York for Havre on the 15th of Nov. The *Ville du Havre* was struck amidships and sunk in twelve minutes from the time of the collision. One hundred and twenty-six of the passengers were lost. The *Loch Erne* rendered all the assistance in her power; her boats were immediately lowered and eighty-seven of the crew and passengers were saved, amongst them the captain of the unfortunate vessel. Next to the *Loch Erne* was the *Ville du Havre* the largest steamship ever in the port of New York, being four hundred and thirty feet by forty-eight deep. Her carrying capacity was 3500 tons, and her cabin was finished in the most elaborate style. The survivors were transferred to the *La Mountain* and taken to Cardiff. Amongst the passengers of the *Ville du Havre* were the following distinguished gentlemen who had attended the Evangelical Alliance, and were returning home: Rev. Antonio Carasco, of Spain, Prof. E. Provier, of Geneva, and Rev. A. Weiss, Emile Cook and Mr. Lorraine, of Paris. A. Barbanson, of the Belgium Legation at Washington, was also a passenger.

The Texas Election.
From the first there has never been any doubt about the result in Texas. The sole question to be considered was one alone of majorities. Several days must elapse before the full measure of the victory is known, but it is overwhelming enough, in all reason, to satisfy even the typical Bourbon Democrat of Kentucky. Indeed, if Texas were peopled with Massachusetts Puritans, it would be Democratic in a generation, no matter how near unto Plymouth Rock the original stock had dwelt. Radicalism cannot live in a land where they have flocks and herds, where, all are "equal before the law," where special legislation makes no other monopoly nor protection, and where there is a delightful climate and a wilderness of prairie. Somehow or other, no matter how, nature makes men conservative. To have plenty of elbow room is to be Democratic. To own cattle, to have leagues upon leagues of grazing lands, to live much on horseback, to be out greatly in the pure air and under the bright sun, why a man could not, influenced by such circumstances, be a gloomy, narrow-minded, conscientious Radical, if he would. Hence there is nothing strange about the Democracy of Texas. Once, when fifty-five out of every one hundred white men were disfranchised; when majorities were manufactured in Austin as Rodman manufactured them in Jefferson City, and when United States soldiers dotted the state over with garrisons as thick as their partizan necessities were great, a Radical governor was elected barely, and after a system of frauds that had no parallel anywhere save in Missouri and the South. It did no good, however—this election. It emboldened the carpet-baggers without granting them the protection their own confidence made obligatory, and as a consequence there was a system of sacrifices inaugurated that thinned out the lean kine visibly and gave all who had notions of plunder in their heads a scare that was as wholesome as it was effective. Hence, when enfranchisement took place, and a free election was permitted to the people as was done last Tuesday, the state not only went Democratic by a majority anywhere up from 25,000 to 80,000, but its financial condition was healthy, and its citizens comparatively free from debt. Add another state to the Democratic Pyramid of 1873.—*St. Louis Dispatch*.

James Harlan while cutting wood, last Wednesday, at his home in Gentry county, the axe glanced from the log and inflicted what at first was supposed to be a slight wound upon the big toe. In two hours, however, he was taken with the lock-jaw and died in three hours.

Latest Spanish News from Washington.

The following, which was to appear in the *National Republican* the 8th, was dispatched from Washington to the *St. Louis Republic* the 7th:

"It may be positively announced that Minister Slekles will soon return from Madrid. This action is not a direct result of unfriendly relations growing out of the diplomatic negotiations between the United States and Spain. It is rather the result, Gen. Slekles' own action, and the consequence of the construction placed by him upon the manner in which negotiations have been carried on. It is unofficially announced that intercourse with the Spanish foreign office has been of such a character to impair his usefulness, and it is believed this will be the cause assigned for his retirement.

"It may also be positively announced that the *Virginus* will be surrendered to the United States and being delivered into the custody of the United States navy within a few days. The government has renewed assurances, not only of the sincerity of the Castelar government in making the promises embraced in the Polo-Fish protocol, but in its ability to execute them. The assurance regarding the latter point are based upon the knowledge that the *Virginus* is now virtually under the control of the Spanish navy which is understood to be loyal to the Madrid government. While some of its officers may entertain a warm sympathy for the volunteers on the island, it is believed that they will not hesitate to yield a cordial obedience to the commands of their superior officers at Madrid. The surrender of the vessel will be made in such a way and at such a time in some Cuban port as to satisfy the dignity of the interested parties. This statement effectually disposes of the sensational tales alleging that the surrender will be made at night or in a surreptitious manner. It is proper, therefore, to repeat most emphatically that the surrender will be made in a satisfactory manner without doing injustice to the dignity of either nation.

"The government has received an informal proposition for an amendment to the protocol which has been rejected. It was the result of suggestions from leading members of the *Casino Espanol*, and was therefore accepted as an offer of compromise from the volunteers. The Madrid government had no formal connection with it whatever, as stated in Saturday's *Republican*. No proposition has been received from the Madrid government but it is probable that its reception from the volunteers was the occasion of the rumors which were prevalent yesterday that the Madrid cabinet had submitted it. The nature of the amendments is not in view of its immediate rejection, of significant importance, except as a part of the history of the case. They are understood to have been virtually that the *Virginus* should be placed in the hands of a neutral power, pending arbitration, to define her nationality and to settle other points connected with her capture.

"The surviving members of the *Virginus* crew, now at Santiago, will be returned to the jurisdiction of the United States at, if not before, the time of the surrender of the vessel. Lieut. Chipp of the *Junata*, one of the American vessels in the harbor of Santiago, arrived at Key West today. Interesting information regarding the condition of the prisoners and the condition of affairs in that section of the island is expected from him in a few days."

At a church meeting in Clark county recently Arch Craven shot and dangerously wounded J. L. Campbell. The last was a witness against the first.

Judge Joseph Underwood, of Bowling Green, Ky., is the oldest law practitioner in the United States, having been sixty-six years thus actively engaged.

Week before last two highway robbers met Mr. Jerry Peck, who lives on Young's creek, in Audrain county, and robbed him of \$400 within a short distance of Mexico.

According to article 1st of the By-Laws of the National Grange, the fourth of December, the birth day of the Patrons of Husbandry, shall be celebrated as the anniversary of the order.

Two young men by the name of Wm. P. Dunn and David Clark, were shot and killed near Lexington, Mo., on the 24th inst, for insulting a couple of ladies, at whose house they made a halt during a drunken frolic.

This is what the secretary of the National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, proposes to do with the politicians who may get into the order for political purposes. He says: The order has strength enough to run without the aid of any congressional or other government nurse and we don't solicit either of them or coalitions of any kind. The order started out with the idea that the farmers can maintain an organization of their own. We have done well for six years, without any contamination, and I venture to say if any politicians get into our order with the intention of securing office, they will get plowed in so deep that Gabriel's trumpet will never resurrect them.