BISMARCK.

One of the Most Powerful Forensic Efforts Ever Put Forth by the German Chancellor.

He Points Out Why Russia Should Be Grateful to Germany, and Carries the Reichstag With Him.

BERLIN, Feb. 6.—Bismarck to-day addressed the reichstag on the military loan bill. He said:

"I do not believe I can add anything to the true state of the case regarding the bill. I do not address you on that account. My object is to speak of the general situation of Europe. I may confine myself to referring to what I said on the same subject over a year ago. There has been very little change since then, when I feared war with France. Since then France has elected a peace-loving president and a pacific disposition has prevailed. I can, therefore, reassure the public that so far as France is concerned the prospect has become more peaceful. Regarding Russia also I am of no other opinion than when I said that we have to apprehend no attack from Russia. The situation must not be judged from press comments. The Russian newspapers I do not believe. I believe the czar's word absolutely. The situation on the whole is not different from that of 1879. I grant that the concentration of Russian troops on the frontier may appear serious, but I perceive no cause or pretext for a Russian or a European war. Russia has no interest to conquer Prussian nor Austrian provinces. Indeed, I go so far in my confidence as to say that even a war with France would not necessitate a war with Russia, although the latter eventually would involve the former. It is true that I cannot demand an explanation from the Russian foreign office regarding the concentration of troops on the frontier, but having been well acquainted with Russia's foreign policy for a generation I may have my own opinion on the matter. I believe the Russian cabinet intends to make Russia's voice heard at the next European crisis, and therefore wishes to push her military forces as far westward as possible. Perhaps Russia speculates upon a turn taking place soon in the Eastern question, and desires then to act promptly and with greater weight. Perhaps Russia intends to render her diplomatic demands more effectual from the fact of having an army ready for war behind them. We, however, are only concerned in the Eastern question in a secondary manner.

GOES BACK TO '63.

Bismarck reviewed the relations between Prussia and Russia since 1848, and showed how frequently they had assumed a menacing aspect. He said:

At all times the calmness and conscientiousness displayed by the ministers on the Prussian side towards the threatening position of Russian affairs in position of which foreign counsels had not the same succeeded in adverting mischief. As early as 1863 matters were in such a position that everybody urged me to advise striking a blow. I waited quietly until we were struck. I believe we did well in this. Despite all indications of a storm, a certain feeling of tranquility supervened owing to the intimate relations between the three emperors. Then as now, however, we were constrained to augment and organize our forces so that in case of necessity we might stand forth a strong nation, making its power prevail by our strength and so defending its authority, its dignity and its possessions.

NO SACRIFICE TOO HEAVY.

To effect this purpose no sacrifice can be too heavy. The warlike conditions of France and Russia drives us to defense. The pike in France and Russia compel us to become carp. We are better able than any other nation to withstand a coalition of two fronts. Our relations with Russia were not disturbed by the success of 1866. Prussia has always shown herself communist to Russia and has done Russia many services for which she might claim gratitude and for which she has, in fact, received acknowledgment. Prussia has at all times sought to maintain good relations with Russia, although the latter left us in the lurch at Olmuth. I myself, when minister to Russia, labored to keep up such relations and raised success. These traditional relations had always prepossession for me, and I fostered them, though my friendly feelings for Russia have cooled. I say this in order to make clear why we concluded an alliance with Austria. We were inclined to accede to the demands Russia made upon us before last year's war in the East. Russia then turned to Austria, but in vain. We were glad the storm passed over our heads. At the congress which I was only able to bring together with great trouble, I exerted myself to obtain satisfaction for all Russian interests and carry through all Russian wishes. I really believe I had acquired a right to Russian gratitude; but I could not and would not give umbrage to Austria. If I had done so we would have become isolated in Europe and completely dependent upon Russia. Some people have sought to find an ultimatum or threat in the publication of the treaty. It is nothing of the kind. The treaty is an expression of community of interests of two contracting parties. This we wished the world to know. Not this treaty only, but also that with Italy is an expression of common interests and common efforts to avert common dangers and maintain peace. Austria followed this thoughtful policy in 1870 in resisting the entreaties of France to come forward against the Germans. Austria is naturally in the dangers which threaten us from Russia and France. But there is no need to fear the hatred of Russia. No wars are waged from mere hatred; for otherwise France

WOULD HAVE TO BE AT WAR

with Italy and the whole world. The strength we possess will reassure our public opinion and calm the nervousness of the bourse and press. Our task is to strengthen this strength. We must, of course, have the best of weapons for fathers of families who will have to serve under the present bill, with the aid of which we shall be able to place a million good soldiers on each of our frontiers. Behind them stand our reserves. It must not be said that others can the same. That is just what they cannot do. We have material not only for forming an enormous army, but for furnishing it with officers. We have a corps of officers such as no other power has. When we undertake war it must be the people's war, which all approve as in 1870. If we are attacked, then the Furor-Teutonicus will flame out. No one can make headway against that. Neither the conscriousness of our strength nor the hope of victories can restrain us from continuing our peaceful efforts. I hope we shall remain at peace with our neighbors, especially with Russia, which has no pretext for war. Spy affairs with France are not worthy of consideration. No one begins a war for trifles. In such cases the sensible man gives way. We have endeavored to maintain our old relations with Russia, but we do not run after any country with regard, but guard. We have remained perfectly constant. Russia certainly has every reason to feel grateful for the loyal attitude of Germany on the Bulgarian question. If Russia calls upon us to support in our communication with the sultan's government such of her claims as are compatible with the decision of the Berlin congress, I will have no hesitation in doing so. We place our reliance on the strength of our army. If we have no cause to use it, all the better; but we must make our arrangement with the idea that we do use it. Threats do not frighten us. The threats of the press are boundless folly. Such things cannot in the slightest degree influence our actions. We Germans fear God and nothing else in the world. Fear of God makes us wish to foster peace. He who breaks the peace will arrive at the conviction that the warlike and exultant love of fatherland such as summoned the whole population of Prussia to arms in 1813 is a common possession of the entire German nation, and he who attacks will find it armed to a man, every man having in his heart a firm belief that God is with us.

During his speech Bismarck said:

In opposition to the views expressed by the Russian press, I have the unqualified word of the czar himself, having had the honor a few months ago, after an interval of several years, of being received in audience by his majesty. This occasion again convinced me that the czar entertains no warlike tendencies toward us, and has no intention to attack us or in any way carry on wars of aggression.

HOW HE SPOKE.

The speech occupied an hour and forty minutes. After speaking three-quarters of an hour, the chancelior became fatigued from standing, sat down and continued to speak from his seat. He afterward rose again and spoke with increasing animation to the end, pausing occasionally to partake of liquid refreshments. During the first part of the speche the reichstag preserved deep silence, unbroken by the slightest movement. When the speaker reminded his hearers that in 1863 it was due to the emperor and advisors of the coalition that war with Russia was avoided, applause broke out, which was repeated with renewed vigor when he declared that Germany should be equal to any emergency. The words "we don't run after any country" were received with acclaims, and his appeal to "Furor-Teutonicus" was highly effective, the cheering being loud and long. Dr. Frankenstein moved that the landwehr bill be adopted *en bloc* and that, in view of the political situation, there be no debate upon the loan bill. The motion was adopted. The loan bill was thereupon referred to the budget committee. The house then proceeded to the second reading of the landwehr bill. Dr. Frankenstein moved and Bennigsen seconded the adoption of the bill *en bloc*. Bismarck here intervened and said:

I can bear witness that the federal government will be grateful for this willingness to meet their views. They will esteem it not only as proof of the confidence of the reichstag, but because it will materially contribute to strengthen the guarantees of peace.

The bill in its entirety passed the second reading amid hearty cheers. Bismarck left the house at the close of the sitting and walked home, accompanied by a cheering crowd who, in defiance of the efforts of the police, surrounded him on all sides. The chancellor appeared to enjoy rather than resent the compliments of the people.

Gen. Von Schellendorf having explained to the budget committee the manner in which the money would be disposed of, the loan bill was unanimously agreed to.

Owing to the alarming increase of attacks of robbers upon mail trains in sparsely settled regions in the far West, and the almost constant peril in which lives of postal employes are placed by these marauders, the postoffice department has determined to arm, at the expense of the government, every postal employe on these exposed railroad routes with weapons of the most effective kind. They will be supplied with an abundance of ammunition and every convenience necessary for prompt work.

George W. Childs went to Washington to stand godfather to John R. McLean's baby when it was christened recently.

John Jacob Astor has notified the trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art that he intended to give the splendid collection of laces owned by his wife, who died a short time ago, as a present to the museum. The collection is of great variety and extremely valuable. Mrs. Astor was very fond of laces, and gathered during her life a great many of the rarest and finest specimens and designs, many of them being masterpieces from the best makers of Europe.

Otto P. Clarke, ex-commissioner of pensions, who was stricken with paralysis died in Washington. He succeeded Commissioner Dudley. He entered the army from Rhode Island and went thence to the pension office where he was promoted until he was made chief.

A few days ago Benjamin F. Butler appeared upon the floor of the lower house of congress. Very few of the members seemed to recognize him. He has grown extremely aged in appearance and hobbles about on a stout cane.

Senator Sabin appeared before the senate committee on public buildings and made an extended argument in favor of the erection of a public building at Stillwater.

The bill to incorporate the Nicaragua Canal company has been referred by the house committee on commerce to a subcommittee composed of Messrs. Cardy, Phelps, Wilson of Minnesota, Rayner, Davis, Dunham and Davenport.

The six children of Lester Singletary, a colored man of Clarendon county, S. C., were burned to death.

More tighting takes place at Shenandoah, Pa., between Polish strikers and the Police, and a serious encounter occurs between striking iron-workers and colored workingmen in Pittsburg.

At Minden, La., Jim Cornelius, a negro fourteen years old, was hanged for the murder, a year ago, of Ernest Wren, four-year-old son of G. P. Wren, member of the legislature.

A gay and festive old Benedict named Alfred Codner is now in custody at Shell Rock, Butler county, Iowa, charged with bigamy. He is confronted by two wives. The information was filed against him by his second wife. She was married to Codner in April, 1886. His first wife married him in Wisconsin many years ago and by him had twelve children, the eldest being twenty-three years of age. Codner says he procured a divorce from his first wife. Subpenas have been issued for the first wife, who now lives at Clarksville, and her relatives in Parkesburg, Cedar Falls, and Janesville.

Ex-Senator Angus Cameron of La Crosse is said to be a candidate for the Wisconsin governorship, the fourth candidate in the field.

Amos Grant, a colored farmer in Baker county, Ga., killed his wife, son and sister-in-law and hanged himself.

It is rumored here that F. N. Finney, of the Wisconsin Central, will succeed Mr. Oakes as general manager of the Northern Pacific.

At Belmont, O., by the explosion of a saw mill boiler one Arnold, Charles Sullivan, Benjamin Travis, Joseph Stubbs and Samuel Stubbs were killed, and Frank Warrick and Martin Gillon were fatally injured.

In Wisconsin, during the late warm weather the snow settled considerably, making conditions a little more favorable for the loggers. Bitter complaints still pour in. A logger who came down recently gave his opinion that a number of camps would break up in March.

On Feb. 4th, Rev. Ida C. Hutton opened the Iowa senate with prayer which is believed to be the first instance in the history of the country of such office being performed by woman.

The gymnasium of Racine college, near Racine Junction, Wis., was destroyed by fire. Loss, $22,000. None of the main buildings were touched.

At Cincinnati, the jury in the case of the United States against Benjamin E. Hopkins, late assistant treasurer of the Fidelity National bank, brought in a verdict of guilty as charged in the indictment.

Negro iron workers in Pittsburg shot three strikers who had attacked them.

The friends of pure hog lard legislation have filed in the agricultural department for analysis samples of alleged adulterated lard.

M. E. Billings, the indicted slayer of Lawyer Kingsley, alleging that his victim led Mrs. Billings astray, is using every effort to secure a change of venue from Bremer county, Iowa, on the plea that the prejudice against him will preclude the possibility of a fair and impartial trial. The feeling against Billings is very bitter, and is not confined to Bremer county alone and it is not likely that a change of venue will be granted. His trial comes off next month. He occupies the time in jail writing matter for publication. He is morose and sullen and refuses to talk.

The freight rate war threatens to involve the entire Northwest and Southwest.

A good deal of talk has been going on since the arrival of the Corean embassy in Washington, hinting that certain Americans were to be asked by the king of Corea to accept positions of importance at the head of the military affairs of that country.

The secretary of the treasury has submitted to the appropriation in the urgent deficiency appropriation bill estimates of $100,000 for clerk hire in the postoffices and $25,000 for rent, fuel and light for postoffices.

It is discovered that Charles Gordon, a Brooklyn official, who died last October, had been leading a double life. He left two widows and two sets of orphans to mourn his loss. He lived in a house on Henry street and his wife knew nothing of another family.

The Williams college alumni of the Northwest held their second annual reunion and banquet at the West hotel, Minneapolis. Judge H. R. Murdock of Stillwater presided. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Norman D. Seaver, D. D., St. Paul; vice president, Prof. H. P. Judson, Minneapolis; secretary, C. H. Biglow, Jr., St. Paul; executive committee, R. S. Nichols, St. Paul; Howe Paise, Minneapolis; F. N. Van Duzee, St. Paul.

Sunday the 5th, Mrs. Cleveland had a narrow escape from serious injury while at church at the hands of a disgraceful mob of sightseers. She had to be rescued from the jam by the police.

An express train on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio railroad was thrown from the track by a broken frog while passing Steamburg Station, N. Y. Steamburg is about twenty miles north of Jamestown, N. Y. The following persons were killed: Miss Hattie Abbot, aged seventeen, of Sheffield, Ill., passenger, en route to Boston in company with Mrs. Cyra and Miss Bessie Battey; George Ellis, Meadville, Pa., conductor of freight train, and James Dean of Meadville, Pa., brakeman of freight train. The injured number a dozen or more.

Michael Fischer, a teamster in the employ of Segelise, Kohlhous & Co., in J. J. Dumas' logging camp on the Eau Pleine river, Wis., was killed by the breaking away of a log skidway.

There is a rumor that F. N. Finny has sold out his interest in the Wisconsin Central and that he is to have an important position on the Northern Pacific to succeed Mr. Oakes.

At New Richmond, Wis., C. H. Todd's jewelry store was closed by Sheriff Campbell on attachments by the Warner Jewelry Company of of Minneapolis and Benjamin Allen of Chicago for $800. Assets $3,000; liabilities about $7,000.

The judiciary committee of the house has decided to report adversely the bill of Congressman Rogers to allow the government to appeal the French spoliation claim to the supreme court from the court of claims. The house has also directed the committee on appropriations to include the amounts in cases already adjudicated by the court of claims, so that the claimants have at last some hope of a final settlement of these long-standing claims.

Postmasters commissioned—Dakota: Sherbrook, Mary A. Berry. Fourth-class postmasters appointed—Dakota: Chandler, Mrs. Anna M. Chamberlain. Wisconsin: Sniderville, C. J. Cardinal.

Buffalo, N. Y., Special. A boy named Taylor was driving a grocery sleigh along Washington street, and just passing Eagle street, when the horse stepped on a telephone wire which had been thrown down by the storm and became crossed with an electric light wire, and was instantly killed. As the horse was falling the boy touched his whip lightly to him and received a severe shock, throwing him to the ground. Isaac Moulton, a colored porter who was passing at the time, went to the driver's assistance, and, touching the fatal wire, was instantly killed. A number of spectators who drew around to help were given shocks through handling the body of the dead man. The boy soon recovered.

FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Senate and House.

SENATE.

Senator Kenna of West Va., made a speech in reply to Senator Sherman, delivered some time ago. Mr. Sherman responded.

Mr. Spooner presented a petition from the president of the Johnson & Fuller Manufacturing Company of Madison, Wis., for the abolition of all import duties on agricultural machinery, on the ground that such duties were superfluous and useless, and that no agricultural machinery would be imported if the duties were wholly discontinued.

The bill to increase the pension of the totally helpless to $72 per month was passed.

The presiding officer announced that he had appointed as the select committee, to which had been referred the President's message on the Pacific railroads, Messrs. Frye, Hiscock, Davis, Morgan, Butler, and Hearst.

An executive session the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

After considerable debate, the bill to prevent the transmission through the mails as second class matter of cheap literature, and requiring it to be passed as third class matter, was passed—Yeas, 145, nays, 116.

Mr. Crain, of Texas, from the committee on presidential elections, reported a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment providing that congress shall hold its annual meetings on the first Monday in January. House calendar.

Mr. Ford, of Michigan, introduced a bill for the organization of the Territory of Alaska.

Mr. Gifford presented a large number of extensively signed petitions from all parts of Dakota asking for the establishment of a postal telegraph. The farmers alliance is agitating the question quite successfully in the territory. Mr. Nelson presented petitions from the Knights of Labor of St. Paul protesting against including coal lands in grants to railroads.

SENATE.

Not in session.

HOUSE.

Mr. Collins, from the committee on judiciary, submitted to the house adverse reports on the bills to create a court of claims and proposing a constitutional amendment empowering congress to grant aid to the common schools of the states. Laid on the table.

Mr. Dockery, of Missouri, from the committee on postoffices and post roads, reported a bill authorizing the appointment of 11 division superintendents of the railway mail service.

Mr. Nutting, of New York, offered a resolution calling upon the secretary of the treasury for information in regard to the refusal of the Canadian authorities to allow American wrecking vessels and machinery to assist American vessels while in distress in Canadian waters; and as to whether Canadian wrecking vessels and machinery are permitted to operate in American waters. Referred.

SENATE.

Not in session.

HOUSE.

Congressman Wilson presented in the house a petition from the executive committee of the W. C. T. U. of Minnesota signed by Mrs. H. R. Herbert and Mrs. E. S. Wright of Red Wing, Mrs. C. L. Hayward and Mrs. M. A. Henderson of Minneapolis, representing 4,000 members, asking for the abolition of the internal revenue taxation upon whisky, claiming that the imposition of the tax rendered the suppression of the alcoholic liquor traffic much harder.

Mr. Wilson of Minnesota (Dem.) spoke in support of the contestee and declared that men would be moral perjurers if they did not vote their honest convictions irrespective of every party consideration. Mr. Outhwaite of Ohio supported the majority resolution, and the house, without reaching a vote, adjourned.

The house passed with some amendments Mr. Nelson's bill providing for holding terms of court at Duluth, St. Paul and Winona. When the bill was reported from the committee it had been amended to include a term of the circuit and district courts at Winona in addition to the one proposed to be held at Duluth. The change made in the house was simply as to the time for holding terms of the court. It provides that the circuit and district courts shall meet at the same time and that St. Paul shall have two terms in a year. In the bill by the provision was that these terms should be held at St. Paul in June and January, and in the house the time was changed so that the terms will be held in June and December. The terms at Duluth will be held in April, both circuit and district.

The house continued the Lowry-White contested election case. Mr. Moore of Texas a member of the majority of the committee on elections, spoke in support of the majority resolution and contended that the contestee had failed utterly to make proof of his naturalization. Mr. Rowell of Illinois presented the case of the contestee and argued that he had completely proved his citizenship.

SENATE.

Mr. Hoar, from the select committee on the celebration of the centennial of the constitution, reported a joint resolution providing "in addition to such other celebration as may hereafter be provided for," that the two houses of congress shall meet in the hall of the house of representatives; that the chief justice of the United States shall deliver an oration, and that the president of the United States, the justices of the supreme court, the members of the cabinet, the executives of the states and territories and such other persons as may hereafter be determined upon, shall be invited to attend. Mr. Riddleberger said that the pending resolution involved an international matter, and proceeded to speak of matters in executive session, when he was called to order by Senator Sherman and sharply rebuked by President Ingalls. The presiding officer directed Mr. Riddleberger to suspend his remarks and promptly put the question on an amendment offered by Mr. Hale to strike out of the joint resolution the introductory phrase. The amendment was agreed to, and the joint resolution passed.

Senator Platt began, but did not finish, a speech on the president's message. This was one of his utterances:

Either the president in his message intended free trade, or else he was not dealing fairly with the American people. The method of reduction proposed by the president means the absolute and final destruction of the protective system. It means practical and absolute free trade; so that the spirit and the result of the message lead to the same conclusion.

HOUSE.

The house finally disposed of the Lowry-White election case. After full discussion Mr. Crisp, chairman of the election committee, moved the previous question upon the resolutions submitted by the majority of the committee. Mr. Rowell of Illinois moved as a substitute the resolution presented by the minority, declaring the sitting member (White) entitled to the seat. The substitute was agreed to—yeas, 137; nays, 105. The following Democrats voted in the affirmative with the Republicans:

Anderson of Illinois, Biggs, Bliss, Bryce, Burnes, Burnett, Bynum, T. J. Campbell of New York, Chipman, Cockran, Collins, Compton, Culberson, Dockery, Enloe, Fisher, Ford, Forney, Glass, Hare, Laffoon, Lanham, Macdonald, Mahoney, McAdoo, McKinney, McShane, Merriam, Neal, Nicholas, O'Neill of Missouri, Phelan, Randall, Rayner, Rowland, Rusk, Sayers, Shively, Sowden, Springer, Stewart of Texas, Stone of Kentucky, Tarsney, Tillman, Weaver, Whiting and Wilson of Minnesota.

The resolutions as amended by the substitute was then agreed to, thus confirming White's title to the seat.

Among the bills introduced in the house were these:

Mr. Candler of Georgia, for refunding the United States 4 per cent bonds into 2½ per cent bonds. Mr. Lawler, to protect the consumers of butter by requiring whole sale dealers to pay an annual tax of $500 and retail dealers to pay an annual tax of $1; also to repeal the oleomargarine tax. Mr. Henderson of North Carolina, to divide the surplus money in the treasury on the first of July 1888, among the states and territories to be used in aid of common schools; also, to repeal the tax on notes of state banks used as circulation.

Mr. Butterworth of Ohio introduced a bill in the house to extend the trade and commerce of the United States and Canada. The following are points in the bill:

That whenever and as soon as the government of Canada shall permit all articles of trade, and commerce of whatever name or nature, whether the product of the soil or of the waters of the United States or manufactured articles, live stock of all kinds and its products, and all minerals the produce of the mines of the United States to enter the ports of Canada free of duty, then all articles manufactured in Canada and all products of the soil and waters and all minerals the produce of the mines of Canada and all other articles of every name and description produced in said dominion shall be permitted to enter the ports of the United States free of duty; provided, however, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to any product or article upon which an internal revenue tax is imposed by the law of the United States.

SENATE.

The most important bills introduced in the senate were the following:

Mr. Sawyer, providing that all soldiers who served at least ninety days in the late war and were honorably mustered out or discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability, shall be entitled to receive the same bounty to which they would have been entitled had their full term of enlistment been served out. Mr. Stewart, to amend the mining laws by providing that no person shall acquire more than one mining claim on the same vein or relocate a vein which he has previously located, and also requiring that each patent for mining land shall reserve the right of way through or over any mining claim for roads, ditches, canals, cuts and tunnels for the purpose of working other mines, provided the damages occasioned thereby shall be assessed and paid for according to law.

HOUSE.

The house passed the following bills:

To amend section 5,209, Revised Statutes. It provides for the punishment of bank examiners for making a false entry in any report made by them to the comptroller of the currency, or for suppressing or concealing any material fact with intent to deceive that officer.

To amend the internal revenue laws by abolishing the minimum punishment in internal revenue cases, by prohibiting the issuing of warrants upon information and belief, except upon affidavits made by a collector or deputy collector or revenue agent, and by authorizing the commissioner of internal revenue to compromise any case under the internal revenue law.

Relative to the emolument returns of civil officers, it forbids the attorney general from advancing or paying any moneys to marshals, district attorneys, or clerks who fail to render their returns as required by section 833, Revised Statutes, unless and until such returns are made and a valid excuse rendered for the delay.

For the appointment of seven division superintendents of the railway mail service, at a salary of $2,500 each. This is an increase of two superintendents over the number now authorized by law.

To relieve certain appointed or enlisted men of the navy and marine corps from the charge of desertion. It merely applies to the naval service the same legislation which now applies to the army.

The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was reported to the house. It makes a total appropriation of $1,403,863, as against an appropriation of $1,419,942 for the current year.

Mr. Rice presented in the house a petition of sixty-nine citizens of St. Paul to make some classification of the clerks in the postal service in part possible. Gov. McGill, most of the state officers and many prominent business men were among the signers. Messrs. Rice and Nelson both presented resolutions from the board of trade of Minneapolis favoring legislation looking to reciprocity with Canada.

The bill for the relief of Maj. Marcus A. Reno was reported adversely by the house committee on military affairs. Senator Davis has introduced a similar bill in the senate.

Mr. Seney, from the committee on judiciary, reported adversely joint resolutions proposing constitutional amendments giving congress the power to limit the time during which persons may be daily employed in manufactories of textile fabrics and other industries, and in relation to manufacture, importation, exportation, transportation and sale of alcoholic liquors.

In reporting adversely Mr. Crain's bill to create a civil service retired list, the house committee on reform in the civil service says: The ultimate effect of the bill would probably be the building up of a burden-some civil list unnecessary to the service and unjust to those who bear the burdens of government. The established pay of employes is sufficient compensation for the labor exacted of them and sufficient to secure efficiency and faithfulness in the service as far as compensation can do this.

Encouraging to Bachelors.

A young girl reclining in an easy chair threw a novel she had been perusing upon the table at her side. A matronly lady with whom she was intimate entered and the conversation drifted to the subject of marriage. The young lady, who is quite well informed, said: "Social scientists are attempting to ascertain the causes which prevent young men from marrying. I would like them to discover the means that would induce them to marry. A majority of writers on social science attribute the decrease in matrimonial alliances to the circle called 'high society,' to the imposition of society itself. It is held that the peculiar demands are so great that few young men nowadays are in a position to assume the responsibilities of matrimony.

"My parents provide for me liberally. I am frank to confess that I would be satisfied with less. I believe all this talk about the expense of matrimony is nonsense. Many of my circle of friends I know of half a dozen young ladies who would accept an honest and industrious young man. They would like to marry and I know it, and they would if they had the opportunity. I am tired of hearing the decrease in the number of marriages attributed to woman's extravagance, because I know it is not so. Let some of the men try it and find out for themselves."—Keokuk Gate City.

The Ethics of it.

A shoe clerk in a St. Louis store thus philosophizes about feminine customers: "If a woman asks for a certain number of shoe the experience clerk will not go away and get the size. He will take off her shoe and have a look at her foot, from which he can tell at a glance just what will fit her. Get one that will make her foot feel comfortable and that will look nice, and she purchases at once. If you take her word for the number the chances are that you will be deceived, for a woman has an unaccountable objection to telling her exact number, even it it is in the threes. A green clerk soon learns this little peculiarity after he has shown everything in the store to several who will not buy. Another rule with women is not to show them too much. Let them see several nice things and their choice is easy, if they are suited, but show them your whole stock and they will want to see more. I find that ladies are not so given to cramping their feet as formerly, so as to make them seem smaller. Young misses still do that, but women of the world are not so willing to injure their feet. The introduction of English styles has done this, for English ladies always wear comfortable shoes, regardless of a tight fit."

Ben Franklin's Money.

From the Electrical World.

In 1890 will end the term of 100 years during which the cities of Boston and Philadelphia have each enjoyed the revenue from a bequest of $5,000 made by Benjamin Franklin. The money was to be loaned out to young married artificers, and the trust has been executed, although the lapse of the century requires a new disposition of the funds. It is significant that, while in Boston the $5,000 has grown to nearly $328,000, in Philadelphia $5,000 has become only $70,000, and that in both cases the amount is less than Franklin estimated it should be. But, as the natural philosophers of Franklin's day generally fell short of the sage in ingenuity, so, too, the successive boards of trustees have been far from equal to him in business ability. It is interesting to note, however, that the two funds still exist, and that part of the Boston reserve goes in the purchase of a public recreation ground to be known as Franklin Park.

Out of Order.

Col. Parafine Daw had been moving about in an uneasy manner for some time, and he now popped up and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, Dat no man worthy of de name of an American will submit to de tyrant's heel.

"Brudder Daw," replied the president after a painful silence, "did you eber see a tyrant?"

"No, sah."

"What do you mean by de tyrant's heel?"

"I—I dunno, sah."

"What's de objick of dat resolushun?"

"I jist wanted ter interduce it."

"Oh, you did! Brudder Daw, de quicker you kin sot down de healthier it will be fur you! But for de fact dat you ain a comparatively new member, an' am down on de rolls marked 'harmless,' I should fine you seben or eight thousand dollars. You has probably been made the instrument of some member who has owed his butcher fur a y'ar past an' been dunned fur it. De resolushun ar' declar'ed outer order.

A PROMPT SOLUTION.

Saturday Night.

It was the typical country store. There were soap and pins, needles and letter paper, and back combs and paper collars, and suspenders, in glass cases in the front, and crockery and calico, and tinware and overalls, and cowhide boots disposed on the shelves, and butter and dried beef, and buckwheat and kerosene, and molasses and codfish in friendly confusion in the rear. Its motley variety was, indeed, a necessity. Lamphier's was the only store at Unionville.

If Lamphier's was the typical country store, Lottie Lamphier was not the typical country storekeeper's daughter. So John Stockham, Mr. Lamphier's clerk from the next town, had thought, when he saw her tripping into the store one morning after a spool of thread, and a pound of coffee—she was her father's housekeeper.

She had seemed to John, in her crisp pink calico, and her natty straw hat, the most jauntily stylish girl he had ever seen, as well as the prettiest.

That was four months ago. Lottie came down to the store frequently. Of course it was a necessity that she should; something was always needed at the house. Certainly John was far too modest to dream that his presence could have the remotest influence on her comings and goings.

But he had not neglected his opportunities. He had talked to her as he tied up her sugar, or rolled up her lining cambric, or smiled at her from over the kerosene can and the molasses barrel, and Lottie had not been prudishly backward in responding. The first snow found them very good friends indeed.

The one blot on this extremely pleasant companionship was Mr. Lamphier. Whether Mr. Lamphier was guilty of the notion that his clerk was an undesirable party, and therefore a dangerous companion for his daughter, or whether he was possessed of an ignoble fear of the loss of a good housekeeper; or whether he had developed a streak of the unreason and contrariness not entirely unknown to old gentlemen, who are undergoing their first touches of rheumatism, and feeling the need of an older pair of glasses—what Mr. Lamphier's motive was, was doubtful.

But he was plainly opposed to John Stockham's growing admiration for his pretty daughter.

The scene which took place one snowy December morning had come be a common one.

Lottie came down to the store at a quarter to nine. It was earlier than she generally came, and the fact accounted for the blackness of Mr. Lamphier's frown.

Her new brown dress was extraordinarily stylish and becoming, and John Stockham fairly blushed with delighted admiration at the sight of her.

Lottie had nothing to get but a pound of rice, and it was impossible to be very long about getting that. But Lottie was a young person of ways and means.

"Good morning, Mr. Stockham," she called out cheerfully.

John was replenishing the fire at the back of the store.

"Good morning, Miss Lamphier," he rejoined, with subdued enthusiasm.

Mr. Lamphier's sharp eyes were upon him, and he did not venture to join her.

"What are these, pa?" cried Lottie, immediately. "Do come and show me how they work, Mr. Stockham."

They were patent mouse traps. It was improbable that Lottie was ignorant of their function, or that John Stockham believed that she was, but he got himself to the front of the store with alacrity.

"It's lovely weather, Mr. Stockham," Lottie observed, forgetting the mouse trap. "Elegant!"

"Is it?" said John, not brilliantly, but devotedly, looking his admiration of Lottie's bright eyes and red cheeks.

"Oh, yes, the snow's a foot deep, and I had to wade; but I like it."

"Do you like wading alone—by yourself?" John ventured.

"Oh, well, I suppose it would be pleasant with somebody along," Lottie responded, with her eyes on a row of stove polish boxes.

"I should say so, decidedly," said John, growing bolder.

"Stockham!" Mr. Lamphier called, snapishly, "please attend to customers."

The "customers" consisted of old Billy Murdock, who came in regularly to hover the stove, but never bought anything; but John went back obediently.

There was a period of silence, and then a clatter from the front.

"Oh, goodness!" cried Lottie, in a tone of horror, "I've knocked down a box of curtain fixtures. Mercy! do help me to pick them up!"

John rushed to her side. He did not know whether she had knocked them off purposely, but he hoped she had. Lottie knew; but she looked quite innocently regretful.

They groped about together for the missing curtain fixtures among the empty boxes under the counter. Occasionally their hands touched each other.

"We'll never find them all," said Lottie.

"I hope we won't. I'm willing to keep on hunting," John rejoined, with a sly, shy glance at the pretty face near him.

"I've got a lot of things to do at home," said Lottie smiling back at him. I'm trimming a new hat—"

"You couldn't improve on that one," John put in, with another admiring glance.

"And if I'm going to have rice pudding for dinner, it ought to be going on," said Lottie, musingly.

But she kept on feeling aimlessly about for curtain fixtures.

"I'd be glad to walk home with you if my time were my own," said John, wistfully.

"You've never been to the house, have you?" Lottie queried.

"You've never invited me," John responded with a gentle reproach. "Not that I'd dared come if you did," he added, with a faint motion of his head toward Mr. Lamphier.

Lottie sighed.

"If you could get an evening off," she suggested, timidly. "Pa isn't home till half past ten or so, and—"

John turned a radiantly grateful face upon her.

"You know I'd be delighted, Miss Lamphier," he almost grasped. "I'd—"

"Stockham!" Mr. Damphier's voice was alarmingly near. "I want that box of spices opened immediatly."

Mr. Lamphier's head projected itself over the counter; he glared down at the stratled pair beneath it.

John looked at Lottie. There was a daring light in his eyes.

"I'll come this evening."

He formed the words inaudibly with his lips, and hurried away.

Mr. Lamphier slapped the package of rice on the counter, frowningly.

Lottie brushed off her dress, readjusted her veil, extracted a piece of citron from a jar, and nimbled at it and went out with a parting smile for John Stockham.

It Lottie put on her best dress and her prettiest rushings, and her silver bairpin and bracelets that evening after her father had eaten his supper and gone back to the store; and if somebody knocked at the kitchen door about 8; and if the kitchen resounded for two hours thereafter with pleasant chat, and harmless badinage, and light-hearted laughter—if these things occurred, surely it was nobody's business.

"I don't need to tell you, how I've enjoyed the evening, Miss Lamphier," said John Stockham, earnestly, as he rose at last, lingering. "I know I shouldn't have come; but I couldn't help it, and I can't be sorry I did."

"Certainly not," said Lottie, with pretty warmth.

"I should like to come again," John pursued; "but of course, this isn't the way—"

"I don't care,—so now!" said Lottie, stoutly. "If pa will be so unreasonable, I don't know what else we can—. Goodness, what is that, Mr. Stockham?"

She sniffed the air apprehensively. John sniffed too.

"It's smoke!" he declared.

"Mercy! where?" cried Lottie.

"We'll have to investigate," said John, taking up the lamp.

They went into the back entry. It was blue with smoke. Lottie gave a little scream.

"Something's afire," said John Stockham. "Don't be alarmed, Miss Lamphier," he added solicitously.

He opened the wood house door. They were choked by the rush of smoke and hot air. Their startled gaze revealed one side of the woodhouse alive with licking, darting flames.

John Stockham's practical mind worked quickly.

"Where's the sink, Miss Lamphier?" he demanded, "and a water pail. Two if possible. We'll have to work to stop it. It's got a good start."

They did work. They rushed to and fro with heavy pails of water, half-blinded by the smoke hot from the flames, dripping with spilled water.

At the end of a confused fifteen minutes, they sat down exhausted and dizzy in the doorway, and surveyed the scene.

One wall of the woodhouse was burned black. At one point the flames had burst through, and the moonlight came streaming in.

It shone on the recumbent form of a redfaced, blousy, and obviously inebriated tramp, sleeping peacefully on a pile of kindling wood. It shone on a dirty clay pipe, thrust into a little mound of shavings, which still smouldered. It shone, furthermore, on Mr. Lamphier, standing in the wood house door and staring in.

Lottie was more than equal to the occasion. She was not a person to let a golden opportunity escape her.

She rushed over to her father and clasped both hands around his arm, with a tragic little shriek.

"Oh, pa!" she cried, "just look! Just think what you've escaped! The house would have been burned down in another minute—in one minute—all burned down! Mr. Stockham has saved it. If he hadn't been here and we hadn't smelled smoke and come out there; found the wood house ail ablaze, and worked like anything to put it out, just think what would have happened! It was that horrid tramp. He'd got in here somehow, and gone to sleep smoking, and his horrid pipe had set things afire. I'm so glad Mr. Stockham was here—ain't you, pa, dear?"

Mr. Lamphier looked at his daughter and at John Stockham, and at the blackened wall, and at the serenely slumbering tramp.

"Ah, yes!" he responded. "It was fortunate you happened along, Stockham."

There was a tinge of irony in the tone, and some grimness in his smile; but Lottie did not mind that—nor did John Stockham.

They realized that by a fortunate turn of events Mr. Lamphier was defeated, and made to appreciate and admit the fact.

They cared little for the burned beams; they were not conscious of their dripping clothes; the slumbering tramp seemed to be an angel in disguise.

"Well, it's the way to do," Lottie declared a few weeks later, when she and Stockman were safely engaged, and Mr. Lamphier had given them his blessing and intimated that he'd thought of taking a partner, and that John might possibly do—"it's the way to do. If we'd just stood back as meek as mice, and waited for pa to come round and invite you up to the house—Mercy! I can't bear to think of it!"

Value of Eggs.

Eggs are a meal in themselves. Every element necessary to the support of man is contained within the limits of an egg shell, in the best proportions and in the most palatable form. Plain boiled, they are wholesome. The masters of French cookery, however, affirm that it is easy to dress them in more than 500 different ways, each method not only economical, but salutary in the highest degree. No honest appetite ever yet rejected an egg in some guise. It is nutriment in the most portable form and in the most concentrated shape. Whole nations of mankind rarely touch any other animal food. Kings eat them plain as readily as do the humble tradesmen. After the victory of Muhldorf, when the Kaiser Ludwig sat at a meal he determined on a piece of victory—"two eggs to every man, and two to the excellently valiant Schweppenman." Far more than fish—for it is watery diet—eggs are the scholar's fare. They contain phosphorus, which performs a variety of functions in the economy. And they are the best of nutriment for children