

Washington City, D. C.
OFFICE FOR THE NEW YORK OFFICE
W. J. MURTAGH, PROPRIETOR.
TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 24, 1908

ALL communications, whether on business or for publication, should be addressed to W. J. MURTAGH, PROPRIETOR, NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECEPTIONS.

We are authorized to announce that the ladies of the Executive Mansion, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Stover, will be home on Monday evening. The evening has been fixed in lieu of the afternoon reception, which they were last season.

SPENCER COLMAN'S last weekly reception for the season will be Friday evening, March 20th and 21st. Mrs. and Miss Matthews' closing afternoon reception will be on Wednesday, March 25th.

THE IMPROVEMENT TRIAL.

The High Court of impeachment came to order at precisely 1 o'clock yesterday, and the Chief Justice took the chair.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the opening of the court in due form. The members of the House of Representatives entered the south door of the Senate Chamber, and were announced, and then proceeded to their seats on the left of the President's desk. The counsel for the President of the United States, consisting of Messrs. Stansbury, Curtis, Evans, and Nelson were seated on the right of the President's desk.

Great decorum and perfect order was preserved throughout. Hon. Garrett Davis, Senator from Kentucky, made a motion in writing, to the effect that the Senate could not constitutionally proceed to the trial of the President, inasmuch as ten States were unrepresented in that body. This motion was not seconded, and the House proceeded to the trial.

The President's answer to the articles of impeachment is a voluminous document. It was read by Judge B. B. Curtis. We give as much of this paper as we can possibly find space for in our columns to-day.

The galleries were full, and of the persons occupying them two-thirds were ladies. Many of these represented the fashion and ton of the National Metropolis, and on this occasion they were dressed in the most elegant and becoming style, in which the large majority predominated. It is rare that such an assemblage of pretty and fashionably-dressed ladies grace the Senate Chamber of the nation. Many distinguished men were also there, and the scene and the circumstances will long be remembered. It was no ordinary ceremony, and though there was an absence of all feverish anxiety, still there was that earnest attention and deep solicitude which is inseparable from an event of this nature.

The people's choice ruler, the Chief Magistrate of this great nation, was about to be tried for the alleged commission of "high crimes and misdemeanors," and all seemed to feel that the occasion—which is the first event of this kind that ever occurred in our history—was one of no ordinary moment.

The gravity of the proceedings impressed themselves upon all minds, and every friend of Democratic institutions must have felt that we were now testing the quality and strength of our government, and were about to exhibit to the world whether it is competent, in accordance with the provisions of our Constitution, to bring to trial a President of these United States, and even, should he be found guilty, to remove him from office.

We do not predict results, but we do say that thus far the action presents a marvel in this quiet and dignified decorum which argues respect for the forms of constitutional law that is commendable.

The following distinguished persons were in the diplomatic gallery: Baron Stokor, Russian Minister; Baron Grotz, Prussian Minister; A. R. Hanger, German Minister; C. F. Harris, Italian Minister; Representatives of the French and English Legations were also present.

Reception at the Executive Mansion. The first reception of the day was at the Executive Mansion, where a large concourse of people. The reception was similar to all others of the kind, and the ladies of the Executive Mansion, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Stover, were present.

The President appeared in excellent humor, and made all feel at home by his cordial hand-shaking. Among the many distinguished persons present we noticed Assistant Secretary Seward and Lady Foster, General Randall and Lady, Secretary McCulloch and Lady, Secretary Browning and Lady, Secretary Welles and Lady, and others of the Executive Mansion.

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The President's Answer and the Trial.

We before our readers complete a synopsis of the President's answer to the impeachment articles as we can possibly find space for. It will be found to contain all the substantial points.

The President affirms his right to remove Mr. Stanton from the War Office, on these grounds, among others, that the Constitution gives him the right to do so, because Mr. Stanton was appointed by his predecessor, and that therefore his removal of him was not covered by the tenure-of-office act. He considers this act unconstitutional. He denies many things that are charged, and affirms his right to free speech.

The House makes its reply to the President's answer, and the trial will proceed as rapidly as possible, much more expeditiously than many heretofore have thought.

Whatever shall be the final decision of the court, whether it shall be acquittal or conviction, and removal from office of the President of the United States, of one thing we may now be assured, and that is, there is no unnecessary delay. The indications on the part of the Court are unmistakable that the wish is to go forward with as much celerity as possible.

Arkansas. We were misled by a Memphis dispatch, and the grave current, to the error that is going the rounds of the papers, that the new constitution in that State had been defeated. A gentleman from Arkansas, who knows whereof he affirms, tells us that the polls there do not close until the 27th inst., and that, therefore, it cannot be known yet what the vote will be. He has not much expectation that the constitution will be carried. He says that many Republicans will refuse to vote for it, as there are some features in it of a very objectionable nature. Our informant was an officer in the Union army, and now resides at Little Rock, and acts with the Republican party. He says that the Union men in the State of the Republic will support the constitution, and that the Democrats will oppose it. He is not certain but this will be accepted after all.

FROM EUROPE BY CABLE. London, March 23.—Advices from Abyssinia continue favorable. At least accounts nearly all the expedition reached the high table lands. Though the roads were found to be very bad, the advance had arrived in the vicinity of Lake Ashangul, and had met with no opposition from the natives. The country yielded little to support the army, excepting grain and honey, but a great quantity of stores were accumulated at Antalo. A report had been received from the interior that Theodoros had entrenched himself with his whole army at the Talanta Plateau. The expedition was expected to reach the plateau in a few days, and the result would be of great importance to see whether it is true or not.

Vienna, March 23.—Evening.—The civil marriage law has finally passed both Houses of the Reichsrath.

London, March 23.—In the House of Commons this evening Mr. Gladstone introduced three resolutions on Church reform in Ireland. First, That, in the opinion of the House, the Irish Church should exist as an established church, due regard being had to the religious interests and the rights of property. Second, That no new personal rights should be created, and the Commission on the Irish Church should limit its operations to matters of internal administration, and not touch the question of the whole question. Third, That a petition should be presented to the Queen praying that the Church patronage of Ireland be placed at the disposal of Parliament.

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Political Affairs in North Carolina.

WILMINGTON, March 23.—The radicals claim that the constitution will be ratified, and the Conservatives have speakers in every county in the State, and feel confident of the success of their cause.

Quite a meeting was created yesterday morning by the appearance of a number of mysterious notices posted in prominent places, and supposed to emanate from the Kluxian Klan. It is not believed that any formal organization of this society has been effected here.

From New York—Religious Affairs.—Banking House Robbed. New York, March 23.—A gentlemanly attended meeting of the clergy and laity of the Episcopal Church was held this afternoon to devise means for the poor of their faith now in a destitute condition at the South. Bishop Potter made an address, and the meeting was a success. A committee appointed to carry out the object.

The banking house of King & Hor was broken into yesterday and robbed of \$40,000.

Shooting Affair in Indianapolis.—INDIANAPOLIS, March 23.—L. O. Burnside, the proprietor of the American House at Marion, Ohio, was shot, and probably fatally wounded, this morning by Geo. Hunt, night telegraph operator for the Bellefontaine railroad. The difficulty occurred between the parties about remarks made by Burnside detrimental to the character of Hunt's wife.

Political Affairs in Georgia.—ATLANTA, March 23.—Latters have been received here from Gov. Jenkins, counselling non-resistance to the proposed amendment to the constitution. The state committee will probably act on advice.

Attorneys.—THOMAS KEATON DONOHUE, Attorney-at-Law, REAL ESTATE, AND CLAIM OFFICE, Intelligence Building, Seventh street, near D. Legal Papers, &c., prepared. Titles properly examined. mh1-17

MILTON J. SAFFOLD, Attorney-at-Law, REAL ESTATE, AND CLAIM OFFICE, Intelligence Building, Seventh street, near D. Legal Papers, &c., prepared. Titles properly examined. mh1-17

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