

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Windom, from the committee on appropriations, reported, with amendments, the House bill making appropriations for the support of the army, and it was placed on the calendar.

Cockrill said he would not object to the bill being taken up now, with the understanding that its consideration be deferred until tomorrow. It had just been printed with amendments and Senators had not time to examine it.

Windom accepted the proposition of Cockrill, and the army bill was taken up, with the understanding that it should come up as unfinished business tomorrow.

Whyte submitted an amendment to the deficiency appropriation bill, appropriating \$17,500 for continuing operations under the direction of the United States fish commission connected with the propagation and distribution of shad and other food fishes during the present fiscal year. Referred.

Windom submitted an amendment to the same bill, appropriating \$1,200 for expenses of preparing for publication and indexing a volume containing the proceedings of the electoral commission and of the two Houses of Congress, in regard to the counting of the electoral vote. Referred.

Hamlin introduced a bill authorizing the purchase of the picture known as the "Polaris, in her winter quarters in Robeson Channel," providing the cost of the picture does not exceed \$10,000. Referred.

The Vice President was authorized to fill the vacancy on the committee on pensions, occasioned by the resignation of Davis, and on the committee on transportation routes to the seaboard, occasioned by the resignation of Saunders. He thereupon appointed Voorhees to fill both vacancies.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 15.—Dawes presented a remonstrance of 45 national banks of Boston against the passage of the bill for the remonetization of silver. The petitioners set forth that they are required by law to hold many millions of U. S. bonds, and are apprehensive that the passage of the bill will greatly depreciate their value and have a bad influence on the business of the country; referred.

Sargent reported, without amendment, a bill providing for certain deficiencies in the pay of the navy and marine corps and for other purposes and it passed without discussion. It now goes to the President for his signature.

Eaton introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, providing for a tribunal by States for the decision of all contested issues arising in choice of electors for President and Vice President; referred.

At the expiration of the morning hour, the Senate proceeded with the consideration of the army appropriation bill.

WASHINGTON, 15.—The army appropriation bill was passed with the amendments reported by the committee on appropriations, and also an amendment providing that the army shall not be recruited above 25,000 men instead of 20,000, as authorized by the House.

Eaton demanded a separate vote on the amendment limiting the army to 25,000 men, instead of 20,000. Twenty thousand men were enough to take care of our interests on the frontier. If soldiers had not been stationed where they should not have been six months ago, there would have been no need of that carnage on our frontier which we have seen. The amendment made in the committee was agreed to—ayes, 39; nays, 19.

Other amendments were made in committee of the whole and concurred in without division, and the bill was then read the third time and passed. It now goes back to the House of Representatives for the action of that body on the Senate amendments.

Davis, of West Virginia, gave notice that tomorrow he would call up his resolution regarding discrepancies in the books and accounts of the Treasury.

The Senate then went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 16.—At the expiration of the morning hour Davis, of West Va., called up the resolution, recently submitted by him, providing for a committee to en-

quire into discrepancies in the books and accounts of the Treasury Department, and made a speech thereon.

WASHINGTON, 16.—Morrill submitted as a substitute for the resolution of Davis, the following:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to investigate the finance reports, books and accounts of the Treasury Department, particularly the reports from 1869 to 1872, inclusive, to ascertain whether or not any actual differences or discrepancies, exist and also whether or not any alterations in the amounts or figures have been made, and report the facts to the Senate, and that said committee shall have power to employ a stenographer.

Davis spoke at length, declaring that differences and changes involving millions were evident from the reports; that Secretary Bristow and the finance committee omit such unexplained corrections; that only since 1871 the reports have differed, and that other reasons existed for the passage of his resolution.

Morrill declared that all Davis' allegations had been satisfactorily explained by the reports of Sherman and Kernan in 1876.

Thurman did not think Sherman's report explained the alleged discrepancies. He urged that an investigation be made, and moved an amendment that the committee authorized do not expire with the end of the present session. Agreed to.

Hereford quoted from the finance reports to show the existence of discrepancies, and denied that they were attributable to defective book-keeping. The previous explanations were unsatisfactory.

Dawes promised to amend the resolution.

Jones submitted the following:

Resolved, That the Attorney General and Secretary of the Interior are hereby directed to communicate to the Senate the instructions given agents and marshals of the United States in the States of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi, touching the seizure of logs, lumber and naval stores, suspected of having been taken from public lands of the United States, whether or not under the orders given to said agents and marshals large amounts of property in possession of citizens of the United States, held under the claim of valid titles, have been seized without a warrant supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing things to be seized.

After a brief discussion the resolution was amended to request the President to furnish the information to the Senate, and on motion of Chaffee it was further amended to include the instructions given to agents and marshals in all other States and Territories, as well as the States named. As thus amended the resolution was agreed to.

Ingalls introduced a bill repealing the act authorizing the coinage of the twenty-cent silver piece. Referred.

On the motion of Ingalls it was ordered that when the Senate adjourn to-day it be to meet on Monday next.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Wright offered a resolution instructing the committee on banking and currency to inquire into the propriety of so amending the banking laws as to require in the election of directors the principle of cumulative voting in States where such laws may exist, and also the propriety of amending said law so as to limit the efficiency of proxies to two months. Referred.

Townsend offered a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the facts of the imprisonment of Robert Smalls, colored member of the House from South Carolina, and to report whether such imprisonment is or is not a violation of the constitutional privileges of the House.

Butler offered as a substitute a resolution giving the judiciary committee power to send for persons and papers in making such investigation. Adopted.

Wood, chairman of the committee on ways and means, reported back the resolution for the final adjournment of Congress on the 22nd instant, at 6 o'clock. He said he would not call for present action, but would call it up in a day or two.

The House then resumed consideration of the bill for the repeal of the resumption act.

After further debate, the matter went over without action and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 15.—Bills were introduced by Schleicher, for cheap transportation between tide water on the Atlantic and the Ohio and Mississippi valleys.

By Mills, for the appointment of the commissioner of agriculture as a cabinet officer.

By Sapp, for the construction of a railway from New York to Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Cobb, from the mileage committee, reported against the allowance of mileage for the extra session. Tabled.

The House resumed consideration of the resumption repeal bill.

WASHINGTON, 16.—Swann reported a bill relative to the Paris Exposition. It accepts the invitation from France to take part in the Exposition, and appropriates a substitute, appropriating \$50,000; referred.

Waddell reported a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay in full to mail contractors in the Southern States, the amounts due under their respective contracts for 1859, 1860 and 1861, out of the appropriation of \$375,000 made by Congress March 3d, 1877; referred.

Mills offered a resolution directing the military committee to inquire into the strength of the cavalry and infantry regiments of the army; how many regiments are employed; their military management of the frontier, and what additional force is necessary to protect the people of Texas from Mexican raiders.

Banning offered a substitute resolution, directing the military committee to inquire into the strength of the army on the first of June, first of September, and first of November, 1877, and into the expediency of reducing and consolidating the army, and giving the committee power to send for persons and papers.

The Speaker ruled out the substitute and Mills' resolution was adopted.

Singleton reported the deficiency bill, which he will call up tomorrow. The bill appropriates the following items: For the payment of judgments in the court of claims \$7,825, library of Congress \$22,800, Treasury Department, various items, \$125,000; Postoffice Department salaries \$681,681, other items \$12,500, executive office contingencies \$3,100, the House of Representatives, various items, \$11,365, Supreme Court, printing, \$15,000, expenses of payment of bounty money, &c., \$10,000; total appropriated \$1,560,623. The postoffice item is a re-appropriation.

WASHINGTON, 16.—The consideration of the bill relating to resumption being resumed, the House was addressed by Hart, who opposed its passage.

Garfield said that this was a well-discussed topic. Its features were old. He appealed to the general judgment of mankind on the question of currency. In 1860 there was general prosperity, and then it was the best settled of all questions that the only safe and trustworthy standard of value was coin of ascertained weight and fineness, or a paper currency convertible into coin at the holder's will. That was then, and had been for a long time, the unanimous opinion of the American people. Only twelve years had passed since the House, with only six dissenting votes, resolved to stand again by the old ways to bring the country to sound money, and now what was found? Groups of schoolmen and doctrinaires, the latter unknown twelve years ago, were found in favor of what they called "absolute money," declaring that a piece of paper stamped "one dollar" was a dollar, that gold and silver were a part of the barbarism of the past, which ought for ever to be abandoned; that resumption should never take place, and that the eras of prosperity were paper eras. Coming back to the prosperous era of 1860, he asserted that although banking was free there was but \$207,000,000 of paper money in circulation, and about \$200,000,000 in coin. How much was in circulation to-day? Seven hundred and twenty-seven millions in greenback fractional currency and fractional silver and about nine millions of copper; in all, \$736,000,000, exclusive of the gold circulating on the Pacific coast. He put it to the judgment of the House, whether, if in 1860, under free banking, with no restrictions, \$407,000,000 was the limit of the possible currency in circulation, almost twice that amount was needed, and

hardly enough in 1877. He affirmed that the vast majority of the creditors of the country were poor men, and that the vast majority of the debtors belonged to the rich classes. In the first place the poor man had to borrow money, and in the second place it was the laboring man who placed his surplus money in the savings banks, and it was the rich who borrowed from the savings banks. Thus did the poor lend to the rich. In the name of the laboring man, therefore, he denounced the attempt to repeal the resumption law. If it were repealed the country would be plunged into the necessity of sailing the same tempestuous ocean with an uncertain result. If it were repealed and no substitute made for it, the day would not be far distant when Congress would look back from the depths and horrors of the evils which would surround the country for the second time, and would earnestly regret the day when the resumption act was repealed. The struggle now pending in the House was, on the one hand, to make the greenback better, and on the other to make it worse. In the name of every man who wanted his own when he earned it, he demanded that Congress should not make the earned wages of the poor man to shrivel and shrink away, but the greenback should be made better until the plow-holders' money should be as good as the bond-holders' money. This was an era of pacification of the States, and the citizens were equal before the law, so that the motto of the country might be "equal States, equal men and equal dollars," and a complete pacification would be achieved. Two years ago his colleague (Ewing) had predicted that the silver currency then proposed to be issued would be immediately absorbed and withdrawn from circulation. So his colleague thought now that the gold coin would be absorbed and withdrawn from circulation.

Ewing explained that when he made that statement the country was not aware of the rascally act of demonetizing silver, and silver was then at a high premium over the greenback.

Garfield suggested that the trouble about the explanation was that silver coin was of 12 per cent. less value than old silver, so that there never was the slightest danger of it being bought up for silver. The gentleman (Ewing) thought there was some danger about gold, but if an eastern farmer removing to the west sold his farm for \$10,000, he was likely to load himself with forty pounds weight of gold, or 640 pounds weight of silver. He would rather take his pay in ten \$1,000 bills and carry it west in that convenient form.

In conclusion, he said: If any of the amendments propose to make the resumption act more safe, more certain, more careful of the interests of the country, I shall cheerfully join in voting for it, but anything that takes back a promise, anything that gives up what we have gained, anything that sets us afloat again on the wild waves from which we have nearly escaped, I will oppose, if it should cost me all the political future that can be offered to any American. (General applause on the republican side of the House.)

Buckner advocated the passage of the bill for the repeal of the resumption act, and said, if the present policy were persisted in, the whole social fabric of the country would be stricken to the foundation.

The Speaker stated that the operation of the resolution adopted on the subject was that at the close of the debate the previous question would be considered as seconded; that then, if the House refused to order the main question, it would throw the bill back and strip it of past agreements. The whole matter, however, was in the control of the House.

The House then took a recess till 7:30 in the evening, the session to be exclusively for debate on the bill.

At the evening session speeches were made by Keefer, Dannel, Sampson, and Loring, against the repeal of the resumption act.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Atkins reported back the army appropriation bill with the Senate amendments, recommending concurrence in some of the amendments and non-concurrence in others. Atkins explained that the Senate amendments were mainly immaterial, the

chief point of difference between number.

Foster moved to concur. The vote was taken and resulted, yeas 134, nays 130.

The next amendment of the Senate, to strike out the words "of whom four full cavalry regiments shall be kept in service on the Mexican frontier in Texas," was concurred in without opposition. The paragraph now reads: For the purchase of horses for cavalry and artillery and for Indian scouts, and for such infantry as may be mounted, \$200,000; *Provided*, that the cavalry regiments may be recruited to 100 men in each company, and kept as near as practicable at that number, and a sufficient force of cavalry shall be employed in defence of the Mexican and Indian frontiers of Texas. *Provided*, that nothing herein contained shall authorize recruiting the number of men on the army rolls, including Indian scouts and hospital stewards beyond 25,000.

WASHINGTON, 17.—The amendment striking out the appropriation of \$50,000 for the conversion of ten inch smoothbores into rifles was non-concurred in. The bill now goes back to the Senate for action on such amendments as were not concurred in.

L. S. Metcalfe was then sworn in as representative from the third district of Missouri, taking the iron-clad oath.

Stephens, of Georgia, introduced a bill for the financial relief of the country, and to facilitate the return to specie payments without injuriously affecting the commercial business and general industries of the people. Referred to the committee on banking and currency.

Swan called up the bill appropriating \$150,000 for representation at the Paris Exposition. The House voted to consider it—yeas 144, nays 123—and the House went into committee of the whole on the bill.

Swan, chairman of the committee on foreign affairs, sent to the clerk's desk and had read the report of the committee on the subject. He addressed the House upon the subject.

Hamilton, of the committee, sent to the clerk's desk and had read the report of the minority adverse to making an appropriation out of the Treasury, and spoke in support of that in view of the popular demand for economy. He said he had voted for the repeal of the obnoxious resumption act, for the bill to remonetize silver and for the reduction of the army, and he would vote against any expenditure of public money for such a purpose as that proposed in the bill.

Calkins, saying his district contained several large manufacturing establishments, was much interested in the matter, and he advocated the bill.

Williams, of Wisconsin, urged the necessity of congressional action in the matter.

Without action the House adjourned.

BEAR LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Quarterly Conference of the Bear Lake Stake convened at Paris on Saturday, November 10th, at 10 a.m.

On the stand were Elder C. C. Rich of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles; Elders Wm. Budge, Jas. A. Hart and George Osmond of the Presidency of the Stake; members of the High Council, president of the High Priests' Quorum, and the bishops of the various wards.

The congregation was called to order by President Wm. Budge.

Choir sang—

The morning breaks.

Prayer was offered by President Wm. Budge.

Singing by choir—

Let Zion in her beauty rise.

The bishops were called upon to report the condition of their wards.

George Town—H. B. Lewis, bishop. Ward contains fourteen families; health of people good; no death in six years and a half, the time of the location; liberal donations for the Temple; no Relief Society; crops good, wheat on some farms forty-five bushels per acre.

Bennington—Jos. Moore, bishop. Ward numbers sixteen families; faith of people good; meetings and Sunday schools well attended; a willing spirit manifested to assist in building the Temple and answer other calls; no Relief Society; Y. M. M. I. A. doing a good work. Montpelier—Charles Robinson,