

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

Sumner presented a memorial from the Laboring men's Committee asking the intervention of Congress in behalf of colored laborers in the Southern States, asking a division and distribution among them of public lands, etc.

Hamlin from the Committee of the District of Columbia reported with amendments the bill to encourage the Industrial Exhibition at Washington in 1871. The bill contains no appropriation but is simply an act of incorporation. After some discussion the bill was laid over for the present.

Howard, from the Pacific Railroad Committee, reported a joint resolution relative to lands withdrawn from the benefit of the Southern Pacific Railroad of California, with amendments, providing for the passage of the resolution suspending the order which restores the lands to market, but is not to be construed as a recognition of the rights of the adverse parties. Casserly offered a resolution which was agreed to, directing the secretary of the interior to transmit to the Senate a copy of all orders and decisions of his department with reasons for orders and information concerning the area and settlement of said lands.

Brownlow read a long personal explanation with regard to his connection with the late political events in Tennessee, denying that he aided the attempt to elect Andrew Johnson Senator, &c.

Carpenter made an elaborate speech in support of his resolution declaring the Spanish gunboats should not be permitted to leave New York and moved to put a restriction on their passage. Sumner objected and made a brief argument against any interference with the gunboats or its recognition of the Cuban belligerents. The resolution was laid over under the rules.

Morrill made a long speech favoring the repeal of the eight hour law.

Various bills have been introduced and referred, including one to provide reports for the circuit courts of the United States.

Wilson offered a resolution, which was adopted, for information from the Judiciary Committee whether further legislation be necessary for the protection of public meetings in the District of Columbia.

Thurman offered a resolution requesting the Attorney General to inform the Senate whether any arrangement, to which he is a party, exists whereby Yerger, of Mississippi, be discharged or turned over to the civil authorities, in case Congress, by any legislation, takes away or restricts jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to delay proceedings before said Court for the discharge of said Yerger, etc. Sumner objected to the resolution which went over.

Cragin introduced a joint resolution to close the accounts of the late Secretary of the Senate, J. W. Forney. Cameron said he was satisfied Forney's accounts were correct. Although he had suffered from the misrepresentation of moneys by his confidential officer, Government would not lose a cent. The statement of the first comptroller, who examined the accounts, says they have been fairly adjusted. The joint resolution passed.

On motion, the Senate took up the bill to perfect the Reconstruction of Georgia. Morton's amendment was read, providing that the legislature shall be provisional until it ratifies the 14th and 15th amendments, and the State be represented in Congress.

Carpenter thought the amendment unnecessary and pernicious, and might give the Southern people good reason to say that while in a condition of duress from admission, war was declared by Congress. He didn't want another Jefferson Davis to bring in a bill of exceptions and move for a new trial.

Drake said the rebels of the South should be made to feel the power of Congress which could not be strangled by the Supreme Court or any State authorities.

Morton spoke in support of the bill.

On the expiration of the morning hour, the unfinished business came up in order. The bill relating to the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was taken up. Trumbull made a set speech in support of the bill. He said he fully recognized the necessity for a division of the powers of the government, believing that the concentrating of all powers in the hands of a few

tended towards despotism; that the liberties of the people could only be promoted and maintained by a faithful regard for the rights and powers of the various departments of the General Government and of the States. While yielding all just respect to the Judiciary, the object was simply to define by this bill, the powers of that department. This definition could not exceed by one step the limit which the Supreme Court had already laid down. The bill had not been framed with any view of interference with any question now pending.

Trumbull submitted an amendment restricting the powers of the Supreme Court to issuing writs of *habeas corpus* to the cases of persons within their respective districts. Without further action, the Georgia bill was again taken up. Carpenter submitted a few more remarks and Thurman spoke at some length against the bill.

Rice introduced a bill to encourage the establishment of lines of steamships, under the American flag, for the conveyance of U. S. mails to Europe, also to India and China via the Suez Canal, and for the promotion of emigration from Europe to the Southern States.

WASHINGTON, 17.—In the Senate various bills and resolutions were introduced and referred. The Senate took up the bill relative to telegraphic communications with foreign countries, which provides that the government of the United States shall enjoy equal privileges with foreign governments with regard to the use and control of such cables, and shall have power to control the rates to be charged and otherwise regulate the use of the line etc. Thurman suggested that the legal question had been broached with regard to the right of a State to permit the landing of a cable without permission from the General Government. It was moved to refer the bill to the Judiciary Committee, pending the discussion the morning hour expired, when the Georgia bill was taken up.

Bills were introduced to abolish the franking privilege and to produce stamps for the payment of postage on official correspondence and other public matters; also a bill to provide for the settlement of the expenses incurred by the authorities of Montana in the suppression of Indian hostilities in 1867.

Wilson introduced a bill to provide for the reduction of officers in the army. The bill authorizes the Secretary of War to honorably discharge infantry officers who apply, provided the number left in the service shall not be reduced below the requirements of twenty-five regiments. The officers thus discharged shall receive one or two years' extra pay and allowances, according to the terms of their service.

The Senate held a short executive session, after which it resumed the consideration of the Georgia bill.

CHICAGO, 18.—The Senate, last evening, in its session, resumed the consideration of the Georgia bill. Davis made a lengthy speech against the bill because it assumed to dictate arbitrarily and imposed unheard of restrictions on the legislature of Georgia, as to the method of procedure in the details of its organization, and that it was *ex post facto* in its provisions, providing penalties for that which was not previously criminal, etc. A discussion followed, assuming a wide range on political affairs. Casserly said that four years of government by the bayonet in the South had demonstrated the fertility of the Reconstruction policy of Congress, and that violent disorders were the legitimate result. The Senate finally voted on Williams' amendment, requiring the legislature to ratify the 15th amendment, which was adopted, 38 to 15.

Morton withdrew his amendment respecting penalties upon all persons ineligible to hold office, who attempt to exercise official powers intending to inaugurate the proposition *ex parte* in the bill. Senators Nye, Thayer, Morton and Thurman severally took part in the discussion. Casserly moved an amendment, making a distinction in the administration of the oath provided in the bill between those voluntarily giving aid to the rebellion, and those forced into it. Adopted, 29 against 2. Several other amendments were offered by Casserly, and adopted. The bill was reported in a Committee of the Whole, and all the amendments adopted in a body, except Casserly's, discriminating in favor of those who involuntarily aided the rebellion, on which a debate arose. Howard as a compromise, moved an amendment, excluding from seats in the legislature all persons who aided the rebellion, except such as were forced into the rebel service in consequence of direct physical force. This was offered to take the place of Casserly's and was

adopted. The bill was then read the second and third times, and passed 45 to 9, by a strict party vote, except Fowler, who voted nay. The bill was amended to read a bill to "promote" instead to "perfect" the reconstruction of Georgia.

HOUSE.

On motion of Schofield, the Secretary of the Treasury was asked for information relative to the disposal made of \$600,000 received for the aggressions on American commerce under the treaty with Japan.

Clarke offered a resolution declaring that in the judgment of the House whenever any public lands are disencumbered of Indians they shall be immediately open to settlement under the existing law, or such regulations as Congress may prescribe; that the sale of Indian lands to corporations and speculators is contrary to the rights of the people; referred to the Committee on Indian affairs.

Dyer introduced a bill to increase the tax on the circulation and deposits of the average capital of national banks beyond the amount invested in the United States bonds; referred to the Committee on Banking.

Hayes offered a resolution requesting the committee on mines to investigate the cause of the late horrible accident at the Avondale mine and to report a bill to prevent the recurrence of such accidents.

The House went into a committee of the whole on the census bill. Various propositions were made and discussed relative to the details in the schedules of inquiries. Bingham moved the adoption of a new section, instructing the Superintendent of the census to report to Congress on or before September 1st, the actual enumeration of the people in the several States. He supported the motion by an argument in favor of the right to be represented in Congress according to population in 1870. The amendment was rejected by sixty-nine to seventy-six. The committee reported the bill to the House.

The House proceeded to vote on the amendments agreed to in committee of the whole which were mostly mere verbal changes. Jenckes' amendment was adopted in committee for the appointment of special deputies to collect and rearrange the manufacturing and social statistics; agreed to. Without disposing of all the amendments, the House adjourned.

While the House then went into a Committee of the Whole on the President's Message, Kerr said the Democratic party was not in favor of repudiation. Slocum and Randall emphatically opposed repudiation, and protested against the enunciation of such a doctrine on the floor of Congress. During the discussion the Republican Members gathered around the speaker's stand evincing intense interest. Garfield, by unanimous consent, moved the Committee report to the House the resolution that any proposition to repudiate any portion of the debt is unworthy of the honor and good name of the nation, and that the House without distinction of party hereby sets its seal of condemnation on all such propositions. The Committee then rose and the Chairman reported the resolution of the House. Garfield moved the previous question which was seconded. Yeas and nays were then ordered. Jones, of Kentucky, moved to table the resolution. A vote was then taken by a division. The motion was lost, there being only one affirmative vote, that of Jones himself. It was suggested to postpone the vote on the resolution until next meeting, as many members were absent. Schofield, with this object in view, moved to adjourn, which was lost, and the vote taken, resulting in yeas 123, nays 1. Jones, who was allowed to explain his position, said he was not now in favor of the resolution and probably never would be. A message from the President, announcing the ratification of the 15th amendment by the State of Alabama, was presented to the House.

A letter from the Secretary of the navy was presented, asking authority to enlist 1,500 men for the navy in addition to the 8,000 now allowed. Referred to the matter on naval affairs. The House then disposed of the remaining amendments to the census bill. The title has been amended to read an act to provide for taking the ninth census of the United States.

Allison introduced a bill to fix the number of Representatives and provide for their apportionment among the several States. Referred to the Committee on the Census.

The speaker announced the assign-

ment of new members to committees, also presenting a message from the President in reference to the house resolution calling for correspondence with the American minister at Madrid, on the subject of Cuba.

The Secretary of State says it is not deemed advisable at present to comply with the request.

GENERAL.

CHICAGO 15th. The Illinois Constitutional Convention at Springfield has spent the entire day discussing the question whether its members should take the oath to support the Constitution of the State. Finally an amendment was adopted for the members to take an oath to support so much of the State Constitution as was not incompatible with the duties imposed on them. The Convention then adjourned until to-morrow. A lively fight will probably transpire over the organization of the Convention.

A banquet was given last night by the Raritan and Delaware Bay Railroad Company, to the officers of the Camden and Amboy Railroad. This is memorable by fact that the Representatives of the latter Company formally gave up the monopoly which they held in New Jersey for the last quarter of a century.

A desperate fight occurred on Monday night between a party of Whites and Negroes at Maiden, Iowa. Several were wounded on both sides.

INDIANAPOLIS.—The society of the army of Cumberland commenced its meetings at the Academy of Music at 2 o'clock; General Kimball in the chair. The Executive Committee called the meeting to order and in the absence of Colonel Tresseler made the welcoming address, at which he presented General Sheridan who was chosen chairman in the absence of General Thomas. Every allusion to General Thomas by all the speakers was received with enthusiastic applause. General Sheridan made a brief speech on taking the chair. General Rosecrans was vociferously called for and made a brief speech, which was received with rounds of applause. Generals Wood and Schofield were successively called for and made brief speeches, after which the regular order of business was taken up. The reports of the commissioners and letters were read from General Thomas, who expressed regret at his inability to be present. Letters from General Garfield and a large number of other officers were also presented. A committee was appointed to report a plan for the investment of the funds of the society. The proceedings were then adjourned until to-morrow.

NEW YORK.—It is said the Spaniards are enlisting men here to serve against Cuba. Legal evidence of the fact has been offered to the law officers of the United States who decline to receive or in any way act upon it, everything is in readiness aboard the Spanish gunboats.

The Spanish fleet is expected to leave to-day. There has been a plot for the destruction of the gun boats by torpedos which was frustrated by their sudden removal to an anchorage in the stream on Monday. It is reported that an attempt will be made by the Cubans to burn some of their vessels before their departure.

WASHINGTON.—The President has nominated Attorney General Hoar as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, L. D. Latimer United States Attorney for California, Edgar W. Hillyer Judge of the District Court of Nevada, Richard Beardsley, of Indiana, consul to Jerusalem, Henry Rogers, receiver of public monies at Helena, district of Montana.

The Post Master General received a telegram yesterday from the British Postmaster General, announcing the execution of the new postal convention, to take effect on January 1st. The articles named to be drawn and executed at Washington, Dec. 30th.

SAN FRANCISCO, 15.—Madame Camille Urso proposes to organize a grand musical festival similar to the Boston Peace Jubilee for the benefit of the Mercantile Library Association of this city.

A joint resolution has been introduced into the Legislature requesting the Secretary of the Interior to suspend for six months the order authorizing the sale of lands heretofore withdrawn for the benefit of the Southern Pacific Railroad in California. It is believed that the greater portion of the lands will be purchased by speculators and desires their restoration. It is deemed for the interest of the State that they should not be sold in large tracts but