

BY TELEGRAPH. FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS, SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Edmunds submitted a resolution declaring that, in the judgment of the Senate, the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States have been legally ratified and are as valid, as the other parts of the constitution; that it is the right and duty of Congress to enforce such amendments by appropriate legislation, and the duty of the executive department of the government, faithfully and with diligence, to impartially execute such laws; that it is the duty of Congress to appropriate money to that end, and instructing the judiciary committee to report a bill for the protection of the rights of citizens and the punishment of infractions therefor. Laid on the table at the request of Edmunds, to be called up hereafter.

Voorhees called up his resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of making the trade dollar legal tender, and providing for its recoinage into the standard silver dollar. He addressed the Senate at length, denouncing the trade dollar as fraudulent money, which having failed in its mission abroad, had returned home to cheat honest people of this country. The number of trade dollars in existence was much larger than people had any idea of. Thirty-five million had been coined and sent forth into the channels of trade and commerce. The people had suffered the loss by reason of the deception practised on them with the trade dollar. The best method for a cure of this trade dollar wrong was to make it a legal tender and recoin it into the standard silver dollar. He argued that silver money was not receiving fair play at the hands of the present administration and those who drew their inspirations from it. He reviewed the course of Secretary Sherman in relation to the standard silver dollar law, and said the execution of this popular law was in the hands of its most conspicuous and pronounced enemy. The hard specie dollar of our fathers had been denounced as a dishonest dollar, and the Secretary of the Treasury had lent his office to a conspiracy to destroy it. The Secretary admitted, in his answer to the recent resolution of Senator Beck, that he allowed the bondholder to say what kind of coin he would receive in payment of interest on his bonds. It was the plain duty of the Secretary to use both gold and silver in proportion to the amount of each he had under his control. He referred to the action of the national banks of the city of New York last November, and said that they proclaimed rebellion against the lawfully constituted authorities of the government. Their documents in regard to specie resumption was addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury. The Boston banks endorsed it but he, (Voorhees) believed the rebellion had gone no further. He had seen the bill, the passage of which he was assured, would be urged before the New York legislature, which virtually demonetized silver in that state, but no such unconstitutional act could stand. In spite of all adverse circumstances, he predicted the final triumph of the silver dollar. The country had just entered upon a crude experiment of forced resumption of specie payments, leaving behind the five years of bankruptcy and ruin. An appalling penalty had been paid for the bare proclamation of specie resumption, and in his judgment the results to follow specie resumption would be full of disasters and hardships to the people of this country. The people whom he had the honor in part to represent demanded that resumption should not rest on gold alone, but should rest on a basis as strong as the unlimited coinage of silver as well as gold could make it. This was not a mere party issue. The producing classes plead for finance reform, for justice, for relief and for honesty. Our whole financial system was the work of the republican party and upon the leaders of that party rested the defense of that system, if any defense could be made of it, after having brought such suffering to the people.

Beck submitted the following:
Resolved, That the communication of the Secretary of the Treasury, in answer to the resolution of

December 3d, 1878, relative to the amount of silver coin received in payment of customs dues in the current fiscal year, and the disposition made of it, be referred to the committee on finance, and the committee ascertain whether the laws relative to the payment of customs dues and the payment of interest on the public debt, with the coin received therefrom, have been and are being complied with, and report by bill or otherwise.

Laid over, upon objection of Edmunds.

Consideration was resumed of the bill to revise, consolidate and amend the patent laws.

Edmunds, from the judiciary committee, reported back the petition of the citizens of Alaska, asking that the Territory be attached to the State of Oregon for judicial purposes, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the subject, as they were of the opinion that no legislation was expedient at this time. The committee was discharged from further consideration.

He also reported back, from the same committee, the bill supplemental to the several acts relative to the Union Pacific railroad and its branches, providing for the eligibility of certain persons to the office of director, etc., and moved that the bill be referred to the committee on railroads, as it involved no question of law for the judiciary committee to consider. So ordered.

He also reported, from the same committee, favorably on the Senate bill authorizing the proper accounting officers of the Treasury department to audit and pay to Samuel McLin, of Florida, who was appointed by the President an associate justice of the Territory of New Mexico, the salary provided by law for said office for the period during which the said McLin performed the duties of that office. Placed on the calendar; also, from the same committee, adversely on several bills to authorize the appointment of stenographers in United States circuit and district courts, and they were indefinitely postponed.

The Vice-President laid before the Senate the memorial of the legislative assembly of the State of Oregon, praying for a modification of the treaty between the United States and the Emperor of China so as to stop and prohibit the importation or immigration of Chinese or other Asiatic laborers to the Pacific coast. Referred.

Mitchell submitted a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit to the Senate the report of William Gouverneur Morris, on the condition of the public service, resources, etc., of Alaska Territory.

An amendment, which Davis, Illinois, submitted before the holidays, giving any circuit court power to recognize the decision of another circuit court in case of infringement of patents, and to grant injunctions to continue pending an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, was agreed to.

Pending discussion, Morrill introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 for the erection of a fire proof building for a national museum to adjoin the Smithsonian Institute.

After executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Acklin called attention to the scandal in Louisiana with which his name is associated, and presented a resolution authorizing an inquiry. Defeated on the ground that the resolution did not embrace a question of privilege.

Harrison rose to a question of high privilege, and offered a resolution reciting that Henry W. Blodgett, United States district judge for the northern district of Illinois, had been guilty of gross misconduct and corruption, and providing for the selection of a committee of five members to examine such charges, to inquire into Judge Blodgett's official conduct and to report what action the House should take in the premises, with the power to send for persons, papers, etc.

Garfield suggested that the resolution should be referred to the judiciary committee.

Burchard moved to amend by substituting the judiciary committee for a special committee. The amendment was advocated by himself, Tucker and Hanna, and was resisted by Harrison, but finally the amendment was agreed to and the resolution so amended adopted.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the Geneva

award bill. After a short discussion, further consideration of the bill went over until to-morrow.

Carlisle introduced a bill to include newspaper periodicals and proof sheets in mail matter of the third class. Referred.

Waddell, chairman of the committee on post offices, reported a bill relating to the classification of mail matter and the amount of postage thereon. Ordered printed.

Wilson, West Virginia, submitted a resolution calling on the President for a copy of all papers on file in the State Department touching the claim of J. C. Landeau against the government of Peru. Adopted.

Marsh, from the committee on coinage, submitted the report of that committee on the subject of the metric system. Ordered printed and recommitted.

Cox, of New York, introduced a bill providing for taking the census on the 1st of June in 1880. The superintendent of census is to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate; the clerical force to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and one or more supervisors for each State and Territory, not exceeding in all 150, are to be nominated by the governors of the several States. The schedules of inquiries at the tenth census are the same as those contained in the act for taking the census of 1850 with some additional provisions. \$3,000,000 is fixed as the maximum cost of the census. The bill proposes subvention to any State or Territory which, at intermediate five years, may take the census and report to the Secretary of the Interior, the government in such case to pay half the cost.

The deaths of B. B. Douglas, of Virginia, and A. S. Williams, of Michigan, were then announced, and the House, in respect to their memory, adjourned.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 7.—The Teller committee met at the custom house. J. Ernest Breda testified that he was a native of Natchitoches and has always resided in the parish; served during the war in the Second Louisiana regiment; has been a republican since 1871; has been a stump speaker, but did not take a part in the late campaign, having been driven from home September 22d.

WASHINGTON, 7.—All the members of the cabinet were present today, except the Postmaster General. A large amount of routine business was transacted and the condition of the finances of the country again discussed. All expressed gratification at the success so far attending the resumption of specie payments, and saw no reason why it should not be maintained successfully. Secretary Sherman called attention to the fact that the treasury now holds large amounts of gold, silver and greenbacks, much more than there is any necessity for at present. Reference was also made to the reports from all parts of the country that resumption had given confidence to business and that both at home and abroad business seems to be stimulated and is being conducted with renewed activity. The arrangement of the treasury department with the national bank depositories is that all subscriptions to the 4 per cent. loan made through them are to be paid in coin; subscriptions through other sources can be paid for in greenbacks, the subscription of \$30,000,000 made recently was payable partly in greenbacks. The subscription made on the 3d inst., by a New York national bank, of \$800,266, was paid in coin. On January 1st, the national bank depositories held \$41,996,346 in coin on account of subscriptions to the 4 per cent. loan.

The report made by Representative Marsh, to-day, from the committee on coinage, presents a condensed history of the metric system, and assumes that the first essential thing for the civilized world is to establish at this time a fixed and determined unit international linear measurement. To secure this desirable end the committee earnestly recommend the early passage of the House bill, introduced last session, to establish a metric system in the post offices and custom houses of the United States, on and after July 1st, 1880.

The patent office receipts for the year just ended amounted to \$725,325.

BUFFALO, N. Y., 7.—The snow blockade has been effectually removed and all trains are running regularly and nearly on time.

ATLANTA, Ga., 7.—There is skating in Atlanta, for the first time in twenty years. There is great suffering among the poor. The city is relieving the sufferers.

SAN FRANCISCO, 7.—A Carson dispatch says Governor Kinkaid was inaugurated to-day. In the Senate a concurrent resolution was adopted demanding that the United States Senators from Nevada vote for the bill pending before the United States Senate to prevent discrimination by railroads.

NEW YORK, 8.—At midnight Madame Anderson completed her 2,128th quarter mile, and appeared in excellent condition.

A disgusted Jerseyman, whose horse and wagon were recently stolen, and who had a general alarm sent out about it from the police headquarters, New York, reported to Inspector Murray, yesterday, that he was going to put a Jersey detective on the case. The police of New York, he said, had not even found out so much as he had, namely, that the stolen team stood all night in front of Hill's Variety Theatre, two blocks from headquarters, and had been driven all around headquarters.

The regular annual sale of pews in Beecher's church took place last evening. The bidding was spirited for the first hour or two. H. B. Claffin, as usual, bid in the first choice pew for \$620.

The Sun says: At eight o'clock the premiums were down to \$135, and later to \$100. Then they began to dwindle until the pews, where the pastor could be heard and not seen, were sold at a premium of \$2. Sexton Weld took a lot of ten in lump, at \$2 each, presumably on speculation. The total premiums amounted to \$27,978, which, added to the fixed rentals of \$12,743, makes the total of the sales \$40,721. An excess of \$3,817 over the sales of last year.

The Times says: The direct cable has not been working since Saturday. The cable is believed to have parted near Tai Bay, on the Nova Scotia coast, and the steamer *Mima* has been ordered from Halifax to make the necessary repairs. The company have no further particulars. They have kept the accident quiet.

The Tribune's Washington correspondent sums up the hesitancy of the democrats to take up the cipher dispatches, in the remark of a republican representative to a democrat, to-day: "In the language of a game I know something about, but do not play, we hold the ace. If you do not bet, we shall rake in the pot, and if you do, we shall call your hand."

The official list of patents, granted during the six years beginning with 1872 and ending with 1877, shows that Edison received 100 patents during that time, nearly all for telegraphic improvements.

The abandoned steamship seen on fire by the captain of the ship *Cambria*, in latitude 48° north, longitude 19 west, December 29, is thought by the marine underwriters here to be one of those engaged in the south American or West India trade.

The Tribune's Washington special says: On Acklen's case it was doubtless wise for Reagan to declare that it was not within the province of Congress to inquire into the morals of its members. It would probably have been an ugly precedent to establish. The House did once expel a member for bigamy, and his constituents immediately returned him to fill the vacancy created by his own expulsion, and the House was obliged to receive the member it had just expelled. The true secret of Acklen's action seems to be found in the tremendous efforts made by his friends and himself to regain his place in society. Thus far their efforts have been unavailing.

WASHINGTON, 8.—Representative Hartridge, of Georgia, died this morning of pneumonia.

Delegate Cannon and other leading Mormons here are much exercised about the opinion delivered in the Supreme Court by Chief Justice Waite, asserting the constitutionality of the act of Congress approved July 1, 1862, which declares that every person having a husband, or wife living, who marries another, whether married or single, in a territory or other place over which the United States have exclusive jurisdiction, is guilty of bigamy, and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 and by imprisonment for a term of not more than five years. A case to test the constitutionality of this act was brought before the Supreme Court of the United States by

appeal from the supreme court of the Territory of Utah. Mr. Biddle, of Philadelphia, who appeared with two lawyers from Utah, held that the act was aimed at a religious institution, was, consequently in violation of the first amendment to the constitution, which declares that congress shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion, but the Supreme Court decided that the plea of religious conviction is not a valid defence, and that the polygamous marriages in the Mormon Church are not protected by constitutional provisions. The Chief Justice desires to revise his opinion before it is published. It is understood to receive the endorsement of the full bench, although Judge Field dissented as far as related to the admissibility of certain evidence.

CHICAGO, 8.—A bold robbery occurred on East Madison Street, at 7 o'clock this evening. Two men, as yet unknown, drove up to Goldsmit's pawnbroking establishment, in a cutter, one of them locked the door while the other entered, broke in the show case, and secured two trays of diamonds, claimed to be worth \$7,000. The two then drove rapidly away, nothing has been learned of them since.

The *Inter-Ocean's* Washington special says: The appointment of ex-confederate General Longstreet as postmaster of Gainesville, Ga., is very offensive to Senators Hill and Gordon and the Georgia Representatives, but equally gratifying to the stalwart wing of the republican party. Longstreet was driven out of New Orleans on account of his republicanism and took refuge on a plantation that he owned in Gainesville some two years ago.

In the five first working days of the new year, Secretary Sherman sold \$28,000,000 of the four per cent. bonds, a fact unprecedented in the history of funding operations. The banks which have six per cent. bonds on deposit with the Treasurer, to secure circulation, are withdrawing them to sell before the premium drops off, and replacing them with four per cents. This exchange, which has just commenced with regard to the series of 1867, will cause a demand of from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 worth of four per cents.

PHILADELPHIA, 8.—The board of directors of the Union League, met specially last evening, and took action relative to the death of Morton McMichael, who for five years, was president, and who was one of the first members of the organization.

NEW ORLEANS, 8.—The Governor, in his message to the general assembly, after reference to the late epidemic, says: "I have the pleasure of reporting to you that throughout almost the entire State the laws have been well observed, and that where violations of the same have taken place they have been generally punished. I regret, however, to say that in a few localities there have occurred during the past year, some of those acts of violence, and lawlessness which, in this State, as in other sections of the country, occasionally happen, and which, while startling and distressing to the mass of the people, are practically beyond the reach of the constituted authorities."

After dwelling at considerable length upon the subject of lawlessness, the Governor says: "A difficulty originating in politics, which goes to the point of blows or bloodshed, is apt to be participated in by others from that time forward, not on account of the politics involved in it, but through race sympathy or race fear. I find this, in my opinion, formed after personal investigation, to have been the case in the recent disturbances in the parishes of Tensas and Concordia. The proximate cause of that trouble was the going at night, of a party of men, numbering from 20 to 25, to a house of one Fairfax, a colored political leader, in Tensas parish, which act resulted in the killing of one Peck, who seems to have been the leader of the party, and the wounding, by Peck's companions, of three colored men who were at Fairfax's house, and one of whom afterwards died. The visit of these persons to Fairfax was utterly wrong, and in my opinion, utterly without justification, and while it is attempted to be justified upon the ground that they went in the interest of peace, and to expostulate against the rumored proposed attempt of certain colored persons to force the quarantine lines, at the town of St. Joseph, I am satisfied that such was not the purpose, and that it