

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Bills were introduced and referred as follows—

By Kelly, from the committee on railroads, who reported, with an amendment, the Senate bill to extend the time for the construction and completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad. He asked that the amendments be printed and that the bill and amendments be recommitted, and it was so ordered.

Boutwell presented a petition of citizens of Massachusetts, asking the passage of a law making every member of Congress directly responsible to the electors of his district, the majority of whom, if he does not meet their expectations or justify their confidence, may, at any time, recall him and appoint a successor.

Sherman submitted a concurrent resolution, proposing a common unit of money and accounts for the U. S. and Great Britain. The resolution requests the President to propose a treaty convention between the two countries to establish the dollar as the money of account in both of them; it is to be represented by a coin formed of standard gold 9-10 pure metal and 1-10 copper or copper and silver alloy. Five of these new dollars are to be the equivalent of one pound sterling. Gold coins of various denominations, conforming to this standard, are to be issued and to be legal tender within each country.

Booth introduced a bill in relation to lands heretofore granted railroad companies. It provides that all such lands on either side of any portion of a road accepted by the government as completed shall be subject to local taxation, and requires the commissioner of the general land office to prepare and deliver, without delay, patents for all lands thus earned if free from conflicting claims and clearly within the limits of the grant. If the costs of survey, &c., are not paid by the railroad company they may be paid by any purchaser, and the tax thus paid at the sale of such lands shall constitute a lien upon the patent, which shall then be issued to the company. The bill also requires the Pacific railroad companies to sell any land not disposed of within three years after the completion of any road to the first settlers, upon compliance with the terms of the pre-emption laws.

Sargent introduced a bill to amend the laws relating to silver coin. It proposes to make the trade dollar legal tender, at its nominal value, for amounts not exceeding twenty dollars in any one payment, and silver half dollars legal tender for amounts up to ten dollars.

WASHINGTON, 18.—The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, enclosing a report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in answer to a resolution of the Senate of the 13th, in regard to the books kept by Indian agents, in compliance with section 10 of the Indian appropriation bill, for the year ending June 30, 1876; ordered printed.

HOUSE.

Cox, from the committee on rules reported back a proposition introduced some weeks since by Holman, to amend the rule governing the offering of amendments to general appropriation bills so as to make the rule read—"No resolution shall be reported in such general appropriation bill, or be in order as an amendment thereto, for any expenditure not previously authorized by law, except in continuation of an appropriation for such public works and objects as are already in progress; nor shall any provision, in any such bill, or amendment thereto, changing the existing law, be in order, except such as, being germane to the subject-matter of the bill, shall retrench the expenditure."

A long discussion ensued on the proposed change, which was opposed on the republican side by Banks, Garfield, Hale and Kasson, on the plea that it would enable the committee on appropriations to control practically all the departments of the government; and it was defended on the democratic side by Cox, Holman and Randall, on the plea that it was in the interest of economy, that it only placed propositions to reduce the expenditure on

the same footing as propositions to increase them, and it gave no additional power to the committee on appropriations, inasmuch as its action could be only recommendatory. In the course of the discussion Randall, having spoken of the desire of the committee on appropriations to push the republicans into the way of retrenchment, was told by Banks that "We, the republicans, will push you into it, even to the extent of cutting down the salaries of the members;" to which Randall replied that—"We, the democrats, will come to that at the proper time."

The new rule was adopted, yeas 156, nays 102, nearly a party vote. After remarks by Hardenburgh in favor of the bill, the committee rose without action.

Morrison offered a resolution, calling on the President for copies of all correspondence with Spain in reference to the island of Cuba; adopted.

Wood offered a resolution instructing the committee on military affairs to inquire whether, since the close of the rebellion, any army officer on the active list has held or exercised the functions of a civil officer, either in the diplomatic or consular service, or has carried on any negotiations or arrangements with any foreign government or people, or, as clerk or secretary of the President, he has performed any civil duties in or about the executive office under what authority, and what legislation is necessary to prevent such assignments; adopted.

Hendee introduced a bill for the printing of the speeches delivered in Congress in the language in which they are delivered; referred.

New introduced a constitutional amendment to limit the Presidential term to four years; referred.

Knott, from the judiciary committee, reported a proposed amendment to the constitution, as follows—"No person who has held, or may hereafter hold the office of President, shall ever again be eligible to said office; made a special order for Tuesday next.

Frye, on behalf of the minority of the committee, gave notice that he would offer a substitute.

Ashe, of N. C., from the same committee, reported a bill to amend the revised statutes in relation to naturalization; it provides that a declaration of intention to become citizens of the U. S. may be before a clerk of a court, and that such declarations heretofore made are declared legal and valid. He explained that the object of the bill was simply to restore the law to what it had been before the printing of the revised statutes in which the word clerk had been accidentally omitted; the bill passed.

Ashe, from the same committee, reported a bill to amend section 1069 of the revised statutes, relating to claims for abandoned property: It authorizes the court of claims to take jurisdiction of the claims of all persons who were infants, married women, idiots, lunatics, insane, persons who were insane or who were beyond the seas at the time of the seizure of any abandoned or captured property, provided that such claims are already on file or shall be on file within two years.

Lawrence made a point of order that the bill must first be considered in a committee of the whole; the point was sustained by the Speaker and the bill was referred to a committee of the whole.

The Speaker proceeded with the call of the States for bills for reference, and the following were introduced and referred:—

By Hunter to fix the legal rate of interest on national money throughout the U. S. at not exceeding six per cent.

By Baker fixing the pay of members of Congress at thirty-six hundred, and no allowances.

By Anderson, fixing the pay of members of Congress at \$4,000, with mileage at 10 cents per mile.

EASTERN.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Sargent's Presidio Park bill allows the city of San Francisco to use the Presidio reservation solely as a park and highway, on the following conditions—The U. S. to retain the fee of the land and all necessary rights of way, reserving also 400 acres about Fort Point, 200 including the Presidio barracks, and such other portions as may be hereafter selected for public works and buildings; the government may resume possession in time of public danger without liability for damage; the city shall have the first right to purchase if the federal government

at any time desires to sell the reservation as a whole. Had California been reached in the House under call of the States, Pyper could have introduced a duplicate of this and also of the Senate silver coinage bill. Luttrell was also ready to introduce a bill to prohibit the naturalization of Chinese or Mongolians.

Senator West's bill amendatory of the Pacific railroad act of July 1st, 1862, and July 2, 1864, proposes to repeal so much of the existing laws as provides that only one half of the compensation due for services rendered the government by the Pacific railroad companies shall be required to be applied to the payment of the government bonds issued to aid the construction of their roads. The bill then provides that, from and after its enactment, all compensation for services rendered the government by the Pacific railroad companies shall be applied to the payment of the bonds issued and to the interest paid and to be paid for said companies until the whole amount is fully reimbursed.

West's bill to recover from the Central and Union Pacific Railroad Company certain bonds and coupons, directs the Secretary of the Treasury to require payment from them of the sum of \$3,121,632, with interest thereon, for which amount the bill asserts that bonds of the U. S. were issued to said companies in excess and in violation of the limitation prescribed by section 11 of the Pacific Railroad act, approved July 1st, 1862. The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to require from said companies repayment of all interest on the coupons of said bonds which have been paid by the U. S. since their issue, and the value of all unpaid coupons attached to said bonds, and in case either of said companies shall neglect or refuse to make such payment within sixty days after the demand is made upon its treasurer the Secretary of the Treasury shall certify that fact to the Attorney General, who shall thereupon institute proceedings to collect and otherwise obtain redress in respect of sale, in the proper circuit courts of the U. S., and to prosecute the suits with all convenient dispatch to a final termination. The bill further provides that such causes shall have precedence in the circuit courts or in the U. S. Supreme Court over all other business.

Secretary Fish was, to-day, before the House committee on foreign affairs, by invitation, and in general terms he informed the committee of the present condition of the Cuban question. He did not specifically state the terms of the circular recently addressed to foreign nations on that subject, but intimated that it merely asked their moral support in the event of the mediation or intervention of the U. S. Alluding to a recent telegram from Madrid, giving the outline of Spain's reply to the American circular, he said he did not regard its tone as unfriendly. As to the negotiations now in progress, they were conducted in a conciliatory spirit on both sides, and certainly without threats on the part of the U. S., and he hoped the negotiations would terminate satisfactorily. He was willing that the correspondence should be laid before the House, and this would be done should that body call for it. Subsequently a resolution was passed calling for the correspondence, which will soon be communicated by the President to the House.

The sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives has received a letter from Augustus Schell, saying that he will issue a call to-morrow for a democratic national committee to meet at Washington on the 22nd of February, to fix the place and time for holding a convention for nominating candidates for President and Vice President.

The following is the letter of General Beauregard, applying for the removal of his political disabilities—

"New Orleans, Jan. 9.

"Dear General, my friends here, believing that I can be of service to the state of Louisiana by becoming a member of the proposed levee board of commissioners, have expressed a desire that I should apply to have my disabilities removed, that there should be no doubt of my ability to hold a state appointment, I beg you, therefore, to have the kindness to present to Congress my application for the removal of my disabilities. Yours,

"G. T. BEAUREGARD.

"Gen. G. B. Gordon, U. S. Senate Washington, D. C."

The Texas border committee has appointed a sub-committee to examine the information in the war department on the subjects of raids from Mexico, &c.; the committee will not visit Texas, but will send to Texas for persons and papers.

The instructions sent to District Attorney Beckwith, of La., by the Attorney General, for the purpose of preventing disturbances of the public peace, are altogether general in their character, and such as would be sent to any U. S. attorney in districts where violations of law are reported to the national authorities.

MEMPHIS, 17.—The Appeal says that on last Thursday night a body of disguised men took four negroes from the jail at Friar's Point, Miss., and shot them to death. The mob reached the town soon after dark, and compelled the jailor, Major Alcor, to surrender the jail keys, which were in the court-house safe; the mob then entered the jail and unlocked the cells in which were confined four desperate negroes, Jim Stokes, Bob Young, Carey Irwin and Tom Pugh. The prisoners were quickly tied and taken a mile from the town and riddled with bullets. There were fifty or sixty men in the mob, half of them being negroes. The men were quite hasty, yet sure in their work, and as soon as they had tied the prisoners they hurried them out on to the Sheriff ridge road, where they were riddled with bullets and left. Jim Stokes, one of the negroes murdered, burned a gin belonging to Mr. Branch, in Cooham's county, on the night of January 7th, and six weeks before he robbed a man on the road. Bob Young was thought to have been engaged with Stokes in a number of robberies; Carey Irwin had committed a number of robberies and stabbed a man in an effort to kill him; Pugh was guilty of arson and robbing, and had burned Captain Stavel's gin and stables, thirteen horses and mules being burned in the stables.

NEW YORK, 17.—Sir Henry Halford, the noted English rifleman, has been for some time past earnestly engaged in organizing an English team of 12, to be one of the many European ones expected to compete in the U. S. during the centennial against the American team in equal numbers. That an Irish team would appear on the scene had been practically settled, and a Scotch one was expected, while there were good reasons to believe that a rifle team would be here from France, Belgium, Germany, and probably from Italy. A cable dispatch, received to-day however, by Judge Gildersleeve, from Sir Henry Halford, puts the matter in a new light in so far as England, Ireland and Scotland are concerned, the desire of the directors of the English Rifle Association being to make up its team of 12 from among the riflemen of the English, Irish and Scotch associations. The following is the text of the despatch received by Gildersleeve, from Sir Henry Halford—

"London, 17.

"The directors' resolutions alter the conditions understood by us, namely, the Great Britain and Ireland versus America. The council will meet on Friday, and I am sure they will not sustain the terms."

America's reply—

"New York, 17.

"To Sir Henry Halford—Any team you organize will be accepted, English, Scotch, Irish or mixed. (Signed) Gildersleeve."

RICHMOND, Va., 17.—General Jos. R. Anderson, president of the Treadwell Iron Company, makes a statement to the effect that having lost largely by the failure of other parties by the panic of 1873, they have been compelled, in consequence of those losses and the continued depression of the iron trade, to suspend payment; he hopes, however, that the suspension will only be temporary. Before the panic the company was worth a million and a half over its liabilities; after the panic of 1873, owing to large amounts due by the Chesapeake and Ohio, New York, Oswego and Midland railroads, they became embarrassed and were granted an extension by their creditors, the latter being secured by deeds of trust on the company's property. It is believed that the liabilities not covered by said deed will not exceed \$100,000.

ST. LOUIS, 17.—The Republican's Kansas City special says that a scout arrived at Fort Wallace, Ks., yesterday, and reported that a large number of Indians were coming

north and west, and would cross the Kansas Pacific Railroad near Buffalo station. The commandant of the post immediately sent a detachment of cavalry after the Indians, and they were overtaken a few miles from the railroad. They said they were Omahas, going north on a hunt, but as they had left their agency without permission they were ordered to return at once. The party numbered nearly 1,000, and it is thought they were trying to get north to attack a party of Sioux who are out on a grand buffalo hunt.

ST. LOUIS, 18.—John Gount's flouring mill and millinery store, at Bunker Hill, Ill., was burned yesterday; loss \$20,000, no insurance.

Robt. E. W. Sayers, senior member of the firm of Sayers, Shaw & Co., commission merchants, left his home yesterday evening to consult his physician, and has not been seen or heard of since; he did not call on his doctor, and from the fact that he has been laboring under considerable mental depression for some days, resulting from recent pecuniary losses, his friends are disposed to believe that he has drowned himself.

CHICAGO, 18.—The Times' Washington special says that Fernando Wood astonished the House yesterday by the introduction of a resolution which calls for information as to officers of the U. S. Army holding positions, civil or diplomatic, whether they are legally eligible, and have conformed with the laws concerning civil offices and emoluments. This clause is supposed to refer to General Adam Badeau, Consul at London, General Sickles, formerly U. S. Minister at Madrid and M. C. Meigs, who is now travelling as military observer, or something of the sort, in Europe at the Government expense. Information is also asked concerning officers who have been detailed from regiments to take position near the person of the President, the terms of the resolution doing everything to indicate Babcock, without naming him. When passed, the measure will cause an examination into the various offices held by Babcock in addition to his rank of Colonel of Engineers. By the terms of the bill the most of the military assignments during the last six or eight years will come under investigation, and the shocking transactions of 1870 and similar cases on record will be thoroughly ventilated.

H. Davis, who shot and killed Chas. Whyland last Thanksgiving day, came into the criminal court this morning and pleaded guilty of manslaughter, and was sentenced by Judge Rogers to twenty-one years in the penitentiary.

HARRISBURG, Pa., 18.—John F. Hartranft was, to-day, inaugurated Governor of Pennsylvania; after the administration of the oath of office he delivered his inaugural address. A review of the troops followed.

BOSTON, 18.—Temperance reform is exciting great enthusiasm in Maine. Large meetings are being held and the liquor law vigorously enforced. At Saco, yesterday, a druggist, for a single case of liquor selling, was sentenced to sixty days in the county jail, and to pay a fine and costs.

NEW YORK, 18.—A dispatch from England announces the death of Henry Varley, the well known evangelist.

A large failure in the silk trade is reported from Lyons, France: liabilities are said to be 5,000,000 francs.

WASHINGTON, 18.—At the Pennsylvania republican association meeting, last night, a resolution was offered declaring Representative Blaine their choice for the Presidency; but as, in the opinion of the majority, it was too soon to agitate the subject, the resolution was laid on the table.

NEKPOLK, 18.—The committee of ladies and gentlemen, deputed by the ladies of Boston to present to the Light Artillery Blues the white banner of peace and other mementoes of Bunker Hill centennial, discharged that duty last evening in presence of large numbers of ladies and gentlemen of this city. The committee were welcomed by Mayor Whitehead, who extended the freedom of the city, saying that we were indeed a united people, and henceforth would be friends, countrymen and brothers. Captain Hodge, in his address on delivering the banner, said—"Be the course of demagogues and malcontents of either section what it may, we understand each