

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 3.—Morton introduced a bill to amend certain sections of the act to enforce the right of citizens of the U. S. to vote in the several States; referred to the judiciary committee. In introducing the bill, Morton said the object was to bring the act within the late decision of the Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 4.—The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Interior enclosing reports from the Commissioners of the Indian Affairs relative to the condition and necessities of the Pawnee Indians in Indian territory, and recommending that \$20,000 be appropriated for their immediate relief; referred to the committee on appropriations.

The impeachment managers, on the part of the House of Representatives, appeared in the Senate at 1.25 p. m., and were escorted to the seats provided for them on the left of the presiding officer, and after a proclamation by the Sergeant-at-Arms the articles of impeachment against Belknap were read by Scott Lord, chairman of the board of managers; the reading of the articles of impeachment was concluded at 1.55 p. m., when Terry, president *pro tem* of the Senate, announced that the Senate would take the proper order on the subject of impeachment, of which due notice would be given to the House of Representatives. The managers then retired.

The Senate then went into executive session, and after two or three hours the doors were reopened, and the articles of impeachment against Belknap were ordered printed. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 5.—Edmunds submitted an order, providing for the appointment of a committee of two Senators to wait upon the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or any Associate Justice, and invite him to attend in the Senate chamber at one o'clock to administer the oath required in the matter of the impeachment of Belknap, the late Secretary of War; agreed to.

At one o'clock Chief Justice Waite appeared in the Senate, accompanied by Senators Edmunds and Thurman, and was escorted to a seat at the right of the president *pro tem*. The following oath was then administered, first to Ferry, and then to the Senators who were called by the Secretary in alphabetical order, in groups of six.

"You do solemnly swear that in all things appertaining to the trial of impeachment of W. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War, now pending, you will do impartial justice, according to the Constitution and law."

After the oath had been administered to the Senators, the Chief Justice retired, and Frelinghuysen submitted an order instructing the Secretary of the Senate to notify the House of Representatives that the Senate is now organized for the trial of the impeachment of W. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War, and ready to receive the managers of impeachment on the part of the House of Representatives; agreed to.

WASHINGTON, 5.—After the first six senators had been called, Morton said if there was no objection he would suggest that all the senators be sworn at one time, standing in their places.

Thurman objected. He said there might be some doubt about verifying senators who were sworn; he thought the Senate had better follow the usual custom. The senators who were absent, and therefore not sworn, were Alcorn, Allison, Burnside, Caperton, Christiancy, Conkling, Conover, Dennis, English, Goldthwaite, Howe, Johnson, Jones, of Nevada, Morrill, of Maine, Patterson, Ransom, Robertson, and Wadleigh.

Edmunds submitted the following: "Resolved, That a summons be issued, as required in the Senate procedure and practice, of an inmate when sitting in the impeachment, to W. W. Belknap, returnable on Monday, the 17th of the present month, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon."

Lord—"That is satisfactory to the managers."

The managers then retired. After some debate upon the proper form to be preserved, the Sen-

ate sitting as a court of impeachment, adjourned till 12.30 on the 17th inst.

WASHINGTON, 6.—In the Senate the bill fixing the rate of postage on third-class matter came up. Harvey submitted an amendment, practically looking to a return of the old system. He spoke in favor, saying that the people wanted cheap postage and did not expect the post office to be self-sustaining.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 3.—Morrison introduced a bill to amend the existing laws relating to duties on imports.

Blackburn offered a resolution requesting the President to inform the House whether, since the 4th March, 1869, any executive offices, acts or duties, and if so what, have been performed at a distance from the seat of Government established by law, and for how long at any one time, and in what part of the U. S.; and also whether any public necessity existed therefor; adopted.

Knott, chairman of the judiciary committee, called up the question of the impeachment articles, and at the conclusion of the reading of the articles and specifications Knott rose and said, that as the articles just read were a mere formulation of the charge that was distinctly understood by every member when it was unanimously voted to impeach W. W. Belknap for high crimes and misdemeanors, he did not deem it necessary to occupy a single moment in discussing this subject, he therefore moved the previous question on the adoption of the articles.

The previous question was seconded, and the articles were adopted.

Clymer then offered a resolution appointing as managers on the part of the House, Messrs. Knott, Lord, Lynde, McMahon, Jenks, Wheeler, and Hoar; adopted.

Wheeler asked to be excused from serving as one of the managers, owing to the condition of his health, and suggested, in his place, his colleague, Lapham; his request was acceded to, and Lapham was appointed.

On motion of Knott his position on the board of managers was changed from that of first on the list to the second, so that Lord stands as chairman.

Clymer offered a resolution directing the board of managers to carry to the Senate the articles of impeachment, and that a message be also sent to the Senate on the subject; adopted.

The river and harbor appropriation bill was reported and ordered printed and recommitted. It has about \$919,000 over last year.

The bill amending the pension law for the war of 1812 was reported. It provides pensions of eight dollars monthly for officers and soldiers, without regard to color, who served ten days, and to the surviving widows who married prior to 1850. After debate, wherein several amendments were proposed and rejected, the bill was passed.

WASHINGTON, 4.—A message was received from the Senate announcing to the House that the Senate was ready to receive the impeachment managers.

Knott, chairman of the judiciary committee, reported a bill to amend section 1044 of the Revised Statutes, so as to provide that no persons shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any offense except against the internal revenue laws, unless indicted within three years after such offense, has been or may be committed; passed.

Lord, on behalf of the managers of the impeachment of the late Secretary of War, asked leave for the managers of the House to retire, in order that they might proceed to the Senate and present the articles of impeachment in due form and manner; leave was granted.

The question had been raised whether the House should attend the managers to the Senate, and it was stated that that form had been observed in the impeachment of President Johnson and Judge Humphreys, and that the House would be present on the trial of impeachment, but not necessarily at the exhibition of the articles. The Speaker suggested that the language of the message from the Senate was limited to informing the House that the Senate was ready to receive the managers for reading those of exhibiting the articles of impeachment. The managers then retired.

Schliescher, chairman of the committee on the Texas frontier trou-

les, reported a bill to provide for the protection of the Texas frontier on the lower Rio Grande; it authorizes and requires the President to station and keep on the Rio Grande river, from its mouth to the northern boundary of the State of Tamaulipas, above Laredo, two regiments of cavalry in addition to infantry for garrison duty, and to keep each troop up to the full strength of 100 privates. It also authorizes the President, in view of the inability of the Mexican Government to prevent the inroads of lawless parties from Mexico into Texas, to order troops to cross the Rio Grande and use such means as may be found necessary to recover stolen property, and to check raids, guarding, however, against unnecessary injury to the peaceable inhabitants of Mexico.

The impeachment managers presented themselves at the bar of the House, and reported through Lord, the chairman, that the articles of impeachment against Belknap had been exhibited and read to the Senate, and that the presiding officer had stated that the Senate would take order in the premises, due notice of which would be given to the House.

At the evening session a debate occurred on the legislative appropriation bill, chiefly on the item fixing the President's salary at \$25,000 after the 4th of March next.

A long and sharp debate ensued, Hale, Hoar, Garfield and other republicans in opposition, Randall, O'Brien and others in favor. At length the item was adopted and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 5.—Randall offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish the House with an itemized account of the amount expended under the item of three hundred thousand dollars appropriated for light and fuel for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876; adopted.

A message was received from the Senate informing the House that the Senate had organized for the trial of the impeachment of Belknap, and was ready to receive the managers at its bar.

The impeachment managers presented themselves at the Bar of the House and stated, through Lord, their Chairman, that they had proceeded to the Bar of the Senate, and that the Senate had fixed Monday, the 17th of April, as the day on which they would make process returnable against Belknap.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Blackburn in the Chair, on the bill to transfer the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department.

Cox opposed the bill and recommended the Canadian policy, under which \$5,000 Indians cost at the rate of two dollars thirty-five cents each, while under ours they cost sixty dollars each. What was wanted was not to transfer but have honest agents; we must purge the system of its putrescence, punish crime and compel accountability. The War Department was honey-combed with fraud, and impeachment was now hanging over its late chief. We had also a soldier for chief magistrate, reckless of just accountability, and the House was asked to place the Indian Bureau under a system which combined so much fraud with force; it might as well give the War Office all the departments, let it collect internal revenue, detail soldiers as bank examiners, and have letter delivery service performed by troops of cavalry. He believed in confiding the Indian service to an independent department, with its head as a member of the Cabinet. He referred to Sheridan's campaign of 1868 as an outrage, having no parallel in barbarity.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Whitthorne, chairman of committee on naval affairs, reported a resolution instructing the sub-committee to proceed to Philadelphia and League Island navy yards to inquire into certain alleged abuses and frauds; adopted. The sub-committee consists of Whitthorne, Jones, of N. H., Harris and Burleigh.

AMERICAN.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., 3.—There has been a serious thunder storm for the past nineteen hours, without intermission, and the heaviest rain ever known in this region, seven inches having fallen; the storm has done great damage to planters. Many houses have been blown down. No trains have arrived since Saturday.

RICHMOND, Va., 3.—L. L. Robinson and Jesse Mitchell, highly connected, fought a duel with pistols

near here to day; Mitchell is dead, and Robinson's wound is fatal.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 3.—An order has been received here from Washington to shut off the supplies of gas, water and fuel in the custom house; the order comes from the Treasury department and was caused by the exhaustion of the funds appropriated by Congress last year, and a failure to make new appropriations. The post office is in the custom building, and until a further appropriation shall have been made it will be lighted up with candles.

CHICAGO, 3.—A Times La Crosse, Wis., special, reports the closing of the First National bank of that place on Saturday afternoon.

WASHINGTON, 3.—The President is greatly improved, and was in his office to-day.

Page, by good management, got through his Chinese resolution under a suspension of the rule, without attracting much notice or affording an opportunity for debate and opposition. He had prepared it for last Monday, but could not then obtain the floor. The following is its full text:

"Whereas, it is alleged that there are at the present time 100,000 Chinese on the Pacific coast, many of whom have been brought thither under contracts for servile labor, and that their numbers are being constantly increased, to the great detriment of the laboring men of that coast, and in derogation of the treaty stipulation existing between the U. S. and the Empire of China; therefore be it

"Resolved, that the President be, and he is hereby requested, to open negotiations with the Chinese government for the purpose of modifying the provisions of the treaty between the two countries, and restricting the same to commercial purposes."

This is no joint resolution and therefore does not require action by the Senate.

ST. LOUIS, 3.—Between thirty and forty registered packages have recently been stolen from the mails, and special agents Foster & Booth, of the P. O. Department, have been working up the case for a week past, and yesterday arrested an express agent at Parsons, Kansas, named Dinsmore, who confessed, and made restitution, amounting to between \$700 and \$800.

The water and gas were shut off at the Custom House and Post Office here, this afternoon, on an order from the Treasury Department at Washington, the appropriation for such purpose having been exhausted; the Post Office, to-night, is lighted with candles.

MEMPHIS, 3.—The effects of the flood are beginning to be felt on the Arkansas side. Numbers of families in Hopefield, immediately opposite this city, have been forced to leave their houses, and passengers who arrived by the Little Rock train this morning report that the water is over the track, near Edmunds, but a train went out to-day. The water is now ten inches below extreme high water, and about an inch below high water in 1874, when great damage was done.

NEW YORK, 3.—Morse & Co's. tannery, at West Calden, near Utica, has been burned; loss \$30,000, insurance half that amount.

The postmaster of this city, to-day, received orders from the Secretary of the Treasury, to discharge men and cut down expenses, the appropriation for warming and heating the building having been exhausted, and Congress had neglected to make further provision. It is expected that after to-night gas will be shut off and all night operations suspended. A dispatch from Boston represents a similar condition of affairs in that city.

CINCINNATI, 3.—All the gas is shut off from the post office here to-night, and the only lights used are lamps inside for the clerks.

NEW YORK, 4.—The Sun says, editorially, it is announced that Wm. H. Wickham, mayor of this city, has taken sumptuous apartments at a hotel in St. Louis, for his use during the Democratic National Convention. His idea is to obtain for himself the nomination for Vice President.

The Herald's Washington special says that the action of the Supreme Court on the enforcement act, has caused a good deal of excitement among the republicans, especially senators, and that the amendments offered to-day by Morton were intended to show this feeling. Morton does not expect the democratic House to pass his bill, but he says he means, if possible, to get it through the Senate,

so as to have it discussed in the House, and let the democrats go on record against it. Doubtful if the amendments to the enforcement act can be made interesting to the public.

From two until five this p.m., the Senate held another absorbing executive session on the question of the confirmation of Dana; the manifest disposition was to settle it one way or the other, as a matter of the republicans are tired of it, and wish the President would withdraw the nomination, and it is freely said that it will be a little strange if he does not in view of the manifest opposition to it. It is said that the President has announced that the Senate, which was so prompt to confirm anyone whom hemight send in when State patronage was being made up, at the commencement of his present term, should now oppose the most important and special nominees which he sends in. He has not got over the effect of this disaffection, notably in the case of Shepherd, who was nominated as one of the commissioners of the district. He has observed this opposition growing up against him, and in some cases, particularly, in Illinois, he has selected appointees for federal offices without consulting the senators or delegates of the state in which these parties are to be appointed. The Senate proposes, some senators say, to show him that they can exercise a check on his waywardness. Some of the Illinois nominees have not yet been confirmed, and it is not impossible that the Senate may have a rupture with him after the manner of Sumner with Johnson. During the discussion in the executive session Wadleigh delivered a philippic against Butler, and called him plainly some very severe names. Senators left the chamber, looking moody and disgusted. Wadleigh is reported to have said to the President that Butler was not the kind of man who should have influence in appointments. Well posted senators, but who are indifferent to the contest, say, however, that Mr. Dana will not be confirmed.

Grant expressed himself surprised at the evidence given by detective Bell, and said he thought Babcock ought now to ask to go before a Congressional investigating committee; besides this, any officer who feels as he ought would also purge himself before a court of inquiry, such as was granted at Babcock's request pending the preliminaries in the indictment, and the subsequent trial at St. Louis. Babcock, on being asked if he intended to apply to the committee to be summoned, said he would not think of doing anything of the kind, but he intimated that he had been summoned by the Sergeant-at-Arms. He says sneeringly, that this whole statement of Bell is a string of lies, and he exhibited two letters from Bell asking him for money in various amounts. It is rumored that Babcock will soon be removed from the superintendency of public buildings and engineer of the aqueduct. The House committee on appropriations refuse to appropriate money for the completion of the Navy and War Departments if Babcock has anything to do with handling the money.

The Times' Washington special contains a letter from Gen. Sherman to the committee on Indian affairs, which recommends the transfer of the Indian bureau to the War Department. He says—"As the military authorities are already charged with the duty of keeping the peace, I am sure they will be better able to accomplish this end if entrusted with the issue of annuities, whether money, food or clothing. The Indians, more especially those who occupy the vast region west of the Mississippi, from the Rio Grande to the British line, are natural warriors, and have always looked to the military rather than to the civil agents of the government for protection and punishment, and were troops to be withdrawn an instant war would be the result. If it be the policy of the government, as I believe it is, to save a remnant of these tribes, it can only be accomplished by and through military authority. These will obey orders and enforce any line of policy that may be presented for them by law or regulations. Sooner or later these Indians, say the Sioux, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas and Comanches, must be self-supporting, and be taught the farming and mechanic arts, so obnoxious to their natures