

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 15.—Cameron, of Wisconsin, presented resolutions of the Milwaukee chamber of commerce, calling attention to the importance of a reciprocal trade between the United States and the Dominion of Canada, and urging the adoption of a joint resolution introduced in the House of Representatives some time ago, providing for the appointment of three commissioners to confer with a commission of Great Britain in regard to the negotiation of a treaty to bring about such trade; referred.

Various amendments by the District committee were agreed to.

Pending discussion, Wright demanded the regular order—the Pacific sinking fund bill, on which a lengthy discussion ensued.

Sargent said the committee on appropriations would soon press the appropriation bills, and they would antagonize anything which might be before the Senate.

Windom explained that the deficiency in the printing appropriation had caused this delay of the regular appropriation bills, but the printing deficiency bill was now awaiting the President's action, and it was hoped that in a couple of days the legislative and post-office bills could be printed and ready for action, when the committee would present them for action.

Wright withdrew this demand for the regular order with the understanding that the district tax bill should be disposed of to-day.

The discussion upon the district tax bill continued at great length, the pending question being Kernan's amendment exempting from taxation property actually occupied and used for educational purposes.

Ingalls, Cameron, Clayton, and Alcorn opposed exempting religious and educational institutions from taxation.

Dawes, Kernan, Saulsbury, and Merrimon favored it.

Kernan's amendment was agreed to—23 to 19. The other amendments were then agreed to and the bill passed—29 to 12.

The Senate resumed consideration of the Pacific bill.

Allison submitted an amendment to the railroad committee bill, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to carry to the credit of the sinking fund for the Central Pacific and Union Pacific companies the amount due them for transportation, etc., as provided in the committee's bill.

WASHINGTON, 16.—The committee on territories had a long meeting devoted to the consideration of Senator Spencer's bill to create a new Territory out of the Black Hills country, which it was proposed to call Lincoln Territory.

Spencer made an argument in advocacy of the measure, as did Dr. Meyer, of Deadwood city, Black Hills, who has been chosen delegate to Congress contingent upon the establishment of a territory.

Delegate Kidder, of Dakota, opposed the bill.

The committee decided to lay the matter over till the next session of Congress, for the reason that the bill ratifying the treaty made last summer with the Sioux Indians has not yet been passed by the House, and because legislation being so far behind now, it would be impossible to secure the final action of the Senate this session.

The House amendments to the consular appropriation bill were concurred in, and the bill passed.

After the morning hour the Pacific Railroad bill was taken up.

Booth's amendment to the second section of the bill reported by the committee on railroads was rejected—24 to 28.

After recess the bill appropriating \$100,000 to supply the deficiency for the purchase of official stamps for the Treasury department passed.

WASHINGTON, 16.—Christianity proposed to insert in the Pacific Railroad bill a section providing that Congress shall at all times have power to alter and amend as well as repeal the act.

Chaffee submitted an amendment to that of Christianity, so as to provide that the act should be construed as final settlement between the government and the companies, provided said companies shall faithfully comply with all the provisions of the act, and shall not be

in default of any installments when due.

After a long debate the amendment of Chaffee was agreed to—yeas 30, nays 22.

WASHINGTON, 17.—Eight senators only were present at 10 o'clock, but there being no objection, a communication from the president of the electoral commission was read, conveying the decision of the commission on the Louisiana case, and it was agreed that the House be informed that the Senate was ready to proceed with the count of the electoral votes.

Kelly asked permission to make a personal explanation, which was granted. He said he would do so when the Senate was full.

Kelly, rising to a personal explanation, said he did sign the cipher dispatches for Patrick, who represented that it was a telegram to W. T. Pelton for \$10,000 to pay the lawyers' fees of Oregon, and if not used would be returned. He denied that he ever attempted to buy a republican elector, or that he ever authorized any one to make such an offer for him.

Sargent said he thought the senator from Oregon did right to endeavor to free his name from the nefarious transactions in Oregon. The country had lived through the centennial without any presidential elector betraying the party which elected him, but had not lived through the centennial without seeing an attempt to buy an elector sanctioned by the chief of a great political party.

Bogy said he condemned fraud in Oregon or anywhere else, and he was not willing to sit in his place and permit a stigma of the kind charged by the Senator from California (Sargent) to rest upon the democratic party as the only party guilty of fraud. The country knew that there were frauds in Florida and Louisiana perpetrated by the republican party, and it knew how these frauds resulted. These frauds were like whited sepulchres, fair without and foul as hell within.

Sargent, replying, spoke at length as to the condition of affairs in Florida, and charged that the democrats threw out republican votes and stuffed the ballot boxes in that State.

A message was received from the House of Representatives announcing that that body would be prepared to receive the Senate on Monday morning at 11 o'clock, to resume the count.

Windom asked unanimous consent to proceed with the consideration of one of the appropriation bills to-day, but the Chair ruled that legislative business could not be transacted pending the action by the two houses on the decision of the electoral commission.

Cooper denied that frauds were committed in Florida by the democrats, and charged that frauds were committed by the republicans.

WASHINGTON, 19.—Few senators were in the chamber when the session was resumed at ten.

At 10.56 the Senate repaired to the House of Representatives, headed by its officers.

Upon returning, the president *pro tem.* said objection having been made to decision on the vote of Louisiana, the two Houses had separated to deliberate in regard to that decision. Unless some Senator asked, he would not direct the decision and objections thereto to be read again.

Sherman submitted a resolution that the decision of the commission upon the electoral vote of the State of Louisiana stand as the judgment of the Senate, the objections thereto to the contrary notwithstanding.

Debate was begun by Maxey, who said the decision of the commission was heartily in favor of fraud and against truth and justice, and it would be condemned by the people for all time.

The discussion was continued by Kernan, Thurman, and Bayard on the same side, and by Sherman, Morton and Logan in favor of the decision.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 15.—The bill passed removing the political disabilities of Joseph E. Johnson.

The Speaker presented the President's message vetoing the bill perfecting the revision of the United States laws, objecting to the section which directs the clerk of the House to select one newspaper in each state and territory, in which all the treaties, and United States laws, as may be ordered for publication, shall be published. The veto was sustained—211 to 1, and the bill was then reported back with the objec-

tionable section eliminated, and thus passed.

The House proceeded to consider the Senate bill to ratify the agreement with certain bands of Sioux Indians, also with the northern bands of Arapahoes and Cheyennes.

Mills, of Texas, moved an amendment providing that nothing in the act should be construed as authorizing the removal of Sioux Indians to the Indian territory; agreed to, and the bill passed.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the bill limiting the rates for transportation of freight over the bridge constructed by the Union Pacific Railway across the Missouri, at Omaha. The bill provides that the government directors of said railroad company shall inquire into and fix the rates for transportation across the said bridge.

Phillips, of Missouri, on behalf of the minority of the committee on the Pacific railways, offered as a substitute a bill fixing the rate of toll at \$5 for each car and twenty-five cents for each passenger.

Without having disposed of the bill, the committee rose.

On motion of Willard, of Michigan, the House concurred in the Senate resolution allowing the monetary commission until the 24th of February to make a report.

WASHINGTON, 16.—At 11 o'clock the House, in committee of the whole, considered the bill fixing the rates of transportation across the Omaha bridge on the Union Pacific Railroad, but without disposing of the bill, rose, and the legislative day began.

Eden reported a bill making an appropriation for the payment of certain claims allowed by the commissioner of claims, which was made the special order for Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, 17.—The session was resumed at 10 o'clock, and immediately was continued till noon, when the journal of yesterday was read. During the reading the Secretary of the Senate arrived with a message from the Senate, but was not recognized by the Speaker.

At the end of the reading the Speaker laid before the House a communication from Justice Clifford, president of the electoral commission, informing the House that the commission had arrived at a decision in the Louisiana case, and had transmitted the decision to the President of the Senate, to be opened and read in presence of the two houses.

Lamar offered a resolution directing the clerk of the House to inform the Senate that it would be ready to receive that body at 11 o'clock on Monday next for the purpose of proceeding with the count of the electoral vote.

Kasson—I raise a point of order. There is a message from the Senate.

The Speaker—The Chair is aware of the fact, and does not desire to interrupt the message. The Chair, on the contrary, has submitted to the House the fact as communicated from the president of the commission.

Kasson—Does the Chair permit me to make a point of order?

Shouts of "No," on the democratic side.

Kasson—I am addressing the chair. The message from the Senate pertains to the question before the House.

Luttrell—How does the gentleman know that?

Speaker—The Chair overrules the point of order before the announcement of the vote.

The secretary of the Senate was recognized by the Speaker, and he communicated the message that the Senate was now ready to meet the House in joint convention and proceed with the counting of the electoral votes.

The resolution was adopted—yeas 152, nays 111.

Lamar moved that the House take a recess till Monday at ten o'clock.

Sayler asked leave to make a report of the South Carolina investigation committee, but objection was made, and Lamar's motion was agreed to—yeas 189, nays 107, and the House took a recess.

A democratic caucus was announced for this evening, amid cries of "Now, now," from many democrats, but the suggestion was not heeded.

WASHINGTON, 19.—At 10 o'clock the House met and took a recess until the arrival of the Senate at 11, when the joint meeting of Congress was resumed to receive the report of the joint commission on the question of the Louisiana elec-

toral vote, which report was submitted in writing, signed by a majority of the commissioners. The decision was then read. It recites that the commission has, by majority of votes, decided that the official communication continues. The brief ground of this decision is that it appears upon such evidence as by the constitution and law named in said act of Congress it is competent and pertinent to the consideration of the subject, that the before-mentioned electors appear to have been lawfully appointed such electors of the President and Vice-President of the United States for the term beginning March 4th, 1877, of the State of Louisiana, and that they voted as such at the time and in the manner provided for by the Constitution of the United States and the law, and the commission has, by a majority of votes, decided that it is not competent under the constitution and law, as it existed at the date of the passage of said act, to go into the evidence, *alundi*, of the papers opened by the President of the Senate in presence of the two Houses, to prove that other persons than those regularly certified to by the Governor of the State, on and according to the determination of their appointment by the returning officers for elections in said State, prior to the time required for the performance of their duties, had been appointed electors, or by counter-proof to show that they had not, or that the determination of said returning officers was not in accordance with the truth and fact, the commission by a majority of votes being of the opinion that it is not within the jurisdiction of the two Houses of Congress to count the votes for President and Vice-President; to enter upon the trial of such a question the commission, by a majority of votes, are also of the opinion that it was not competent to prove that any of the said persons so appointed electors as aforesaid held office of trust or profit under the United States at the time when they were appointed, or that they were ineligible under the laws of the State or any other matter offered to be proved, *alundi*, of said certificates and papers. The commission is also of the opinion by a majority of votes that the returning officers of the election who canvassed the votes for electors in Louisiana were a lawful constituted body by virtue of the constitutional law, and that a vacancy in said body did not vitiate its proceedings. The commission has also decided, and does hereby decide by a majority of votes, and report as a consequence of the foregoing, and upon the ground before stated, that the paper purporting to be a certificate of the electoral votes of said State of Louisiana, objected to by Howe and others, marked N.C., nor by the commission, and herewith returned, is not the certificate of the votes provided for by the constitution of the United States, and that they ought not to be counted as such. The signatures are Samuel F. Miller, W. Strong, Joseph P. Bradley, Geo. F. Edmunds, O. P. Morton, Fred. T. Frelinghuysen, Jas. A. Garfield, Geo. F. Hoar.

The decision having been read the presiding officer asked whether there were any objections to the decision.

Gibson presented objections to the decision on the ground that the commission had refused to receive the evidence which had been offered, and had decided that the votes mentioned in certificates 1 and 3 should be counted for Hayes and Wheeler, such evidence to the contrary notwithstanding. The paper recites at great length the proceedings of the commission, but the point of it is the rejection of evidence. It is signed by most of the democrats in both houses.

The reading of the paper occupied just an hour. It was the driest of legal documents, full of repetitions of various forms, in which evidence had been offered to and refused by the commission. No one after the first five minutes made the slightest pretence of listening to or attempting to understand it. A hum of conversation prevailed on the floor and in the crowded galleries to such an extent that the presiding officer several times appealed for order and silence. Finally, when the reading was ended, an opportunity was given to the members who had not yet signed the paper to step to the clerk's desk and affix their names. This used up more time and added to the uproar.

At 12:45 the joint commission was again called to order, and the presiding officer asked whether there were any further objections to the decision. Senator Wallace presented objections, which were read. They are:

First—That the decision is in violation of the electoral act, in this, that by the act, the commission is required to decide whether any and what votes from such State are the votes provided for by the constitution, and what persons were duly appointed electors, yet the commission refused to examine and ascertain who were the duly appointed electors in and by the State of Louisiana, and what votes from that State are within the provisions of the constitution of the United States.

Second—Because the act creating the commission was passed to the end that the commission would hear and examine the evidence, and honestly decide what electors in any disputed States were fairly and legally chosen, whereas the commission refused to hear and consider the evidence offered to show that the electors whose votes the commission had decided should be counted were not duly chosen, but that they had falsely and fraudulently acted as such electors, and also refused the offer to show that the pretended certificates of election were procured by corruption and were wholly untrue.

Third—Because the decision is in disregard of truth, justice and law, and establishes the demoralizing and ominous doctrine that fraud, forgery, bribery and perjury can lawfully be used as the means to make a President of the United States against the well-known or easily ascertained will of the people and of the States. This paper is signed by Senators Wallace, Johnston, Bailey, Kernan, Kelley, of Oregon, Saulsbury, and other senators and members.

The presiding officer having called for other objections to the decision, Cochrane presented an objection and protest signed by himself and several senators and representatives, for the following reasons—

First—It was not denied before the commission that the Tilden electors in Louisiana had received a large majority of the votes cast.

Second—It was not denied before the commission that Wells and his associates, styling themselves a returning board, were guilty of gross fraud, that their certificates given to the Hayes electors were false and fraudulent, or that their action in the canvassing of votes was in violation of the constitution and laws of the State.

Third—The action of eight members of the commission in declining to hear evidence of these and other facts were a violation of the letter and spirit of the act under which the commission was created and of the spirit of the constitution of the United States.

No further objections being presented, the presiding officer announced that the Senate would withdraw, so that the two houses might separately consider and decide on the objections.

The Senate having withdrawn, Wood rose to make a motion, but the Speaker interposed that the new legislative day would begin after prayer and the reading of the journal of Saturday.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 14.—The *Herald's* Columbia special gives the following as the situation there: The people will under no circumstances submit to the Chamberlain government. If Hampton is not recognized, they will demand and require a military government. If Chamberlain is to be forced upon them there will be riots and bloodshed, and such action would so effectually crush the spirit of the whites as forever after to preclude the possibility of bringing them to the polls. Hampton is organizing his militia, and recognition or no recognition from Washington, is determined to hold on and maintain himself as governor, peaceably if he can.

The Trenton firm has purchased the hull of the Commodore Perry flagship *Lawrence*, and intends to manufacture cane and other relics from the timbers.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Z. Chandler, Secretary of the Interior, called by the House committee on powers, privileges, etc., produced papers relating to the resignation and application for the re-appointment of Orlando H.