

THE RESULT.—This morning McKenney and De Witt were brought before Justice Clinton, when the former was fined \$100, and the latter in \$50, or, failing to pay the fine, 100 and 50 days respectively with bail and chain.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Bro. W. H. Crawford writes from Washington, Washington county, and says that things are moving smoothly in that part of the country. The people feel alive and are doing all they can to assist in gathering the poor. President Erastus Snow arrived on the 15th inst.

GRANTSVILLE.—*Locum Tenens* writes from Grantsville, and says, that the weather has been fine during the past week, and farmers have busied themselves in the fields and gardens. Grain sowing is well advanced for the season. The streets of Grantsville are being beautified by the fine water ditches cut beside the side-walks; and improving and beautifying seem to have attracted the attention of the most prominent citizens there. The day schools are well attended; the Sunday School has over a hundred scholars, and there is a prospect of measures being taken to procure a library to.

MARK TWAIN ON THE GRAND COUP D'ETAT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.

The birthday of Washington was historical before; it is doubly so now. Yesterday the news spread abroad over the town that the President had sent Gen. Thomas to elect Secretary Stanton from the War Office and assume the duties of the post himself.

The excitement was intense, and it steadily augmented as night approached. Hotels and saloons were crowded with men, who moved restlessly about, talking vehemently and accompanying their words with emphatic gestures. The sidewalks were thronged with hurrying passengers, and everywhere the sound of tramping feet and a discord of angry voices was in the air. Old citizens remembered no night like this in Washington since Lincoln was assassinated.

Strangely enough, the men who should have been most concerned about the storm were the only souls that rode serenely above it. Mr. Seward and the President sat at a state dinner in the White House, cheery and talkative among distraught and pensive guests; General Grant was at the theatre; Stanton made his bed in the peaceful War Office, and General Thomas capered gaily among fantastic maskers at a carnival fandango! Meanwhile the tempest swept the continent on the wings of the telegraph.

The Senate sat at night, and multitudes flocked to the Capitol to stare and listen. The House resolved to make Saturday a working day for once, and both bodies decreed that for the first time since Washington's death, Congress should transact business on the anniversary of his birthday.

This morning "impeachment" was in everybody's mouth; Thomas' arrest was discussed in the streets and in the hotels; Stanton was lauded by Republicans for sleeping in the War Office and holding the political fortress—and cursed by the Democrats; that Hon. Judd and Schenk watched with him till 3 a.m., and that Hon. Thayer remained all night, brought those gentlemen a fair share likewise, of the praise and the blame.

By 9 o'clock—fall three hours before the sitting of Congress, long processions of men and women were wending their way toward the Capitol in the nipping winter air, and all vacant spaces about the doors were packed with people waiting to get in. When I reached there at noon, it was difficult to make one's way through the wide lobbies and passages, so great was the throng. There was not a vacant seat in the galleries, and all the doorways leading to them were full of tiptoeing men and women, with a swarm of anxious citizens at their backs, eagerly watching for such scanty crumbs of comfort, such as chance opportunities of glancing between their shoulders or under their arms. I went immediately to the reporters' gallery—it was about full, too, and excited doorkeepers and sentinels were challenging all comers and manfully resisting an assaulting party of men, women and children who were the fathers, brothers, wives, uncles, aunts, cousins, friends, school-mates, admirers of editors, correspondents, reporters, members of Congress, Cabinet officers and the President of the United States—and consequently they demanded to know why they couldn't go into the reporters' gallery! That was it—why couldn't they? Some people are unreasonable, and some don't know anything; these parties belong pretty exclusively to the one or the other of these classes. They were all—every one of them—going to have the doorkeeper discharged. They said so. [Surely

such exceedingly influential people would not threaten what they could not perform.] But they did not get in. But others had got seats who were not strictly of the press, I suspect; twenty perhaps—among them several ladies. They were a good deal in the way, but they did not mind that. I was glad to see that it did not discommode them.

The scene within was spirited—it was unusual, too. The great galleries presented a sea of eager, animated faces; above these, more were massed in the many doorways; below, in the strong light, a few members walked nervously up and down, outside the rows of seats; a very few were writing—telegrams no doubt; the great majority had their heads together in groups and couples, talking earnestly; in every countenance strong feeling was depicted; a member from Maine was making a speech about a patent cooking stove, but never a soul was listening to him. Some said the stove business was gotten up by the Democrats to stave off impeachment; others said the Radicals got it up to gain time and give the Reconstruction Committee a chance to make up its report. Everybody waited impatiently, and watched the door sharply—they wanted to see that Committee come. By and bye Mr. Paine entered and there was a buzz; but it was a disappointment—he only spoke a word to a colleague and went out again. The tiresome stove man finished. It was a relief to the galleries, who somehow seemed to look upon this trifling about cooking stoves as a fraud upon themselves, and a sort of affront, as well, thrust forward, as it was, at a time when any idiot ought to know that impeachment was the order of the day!

No committee yet. Something must be done. Motion to adjourn, "in honor of Washington." Amendment—to read Washington's Farewell Address. Both were voted down. Ayes and nays called on both, and the long, tedious, monotonous calling of names and answering followed. The vote was no—everybody knew what it would be before. Before the roll call was finished, Boutwell came in [sensation;] afterwards, at intervals, Bingham [sensation,] Paine [sensation,] several committee men, and finally Thad. Stevens himself. [Super-extraordinary sensation!] The haggard, cadaverous old man dragged himself to his place and sat down. There was a soul in his sunken eyes, but otherwise he was as a corpse that was ready for the shroud. He held his precious impeachment papers in his hand, signed at last! In the eleventh hour his coveted triumph had come. Richelieu was not nearer the grave, Richelieu was not stirred by a sterner pride when he came from his bed of death to crown himself with his final victory.

The buzzing and whispering died out, and an impressive silence reigned in its stead. The Speaker addressed the galleries in a clear voice that reached the farthest recesses of the house, and warned the great concourse that the slightest manifestation of approbation or disapprobation of anything about to be said, would be followed by the instant expulsion of the offending person from the galleries; he read the rules, at some length, upon the subject, and charged the Sergeant-at-Arms and his subordinates to perform their duty without hesitation or favor. Then Mr. Stevens rose up and in a voice which was feeble but yet distinctly audible because of the breathless stillness that hung over the great audience like a spell, he read the resolution that was to make plain the way for the impeachment of the President of the United States!

The words that foreshadowed so mighty an event sent a thrill through the assemblage, but there was no manifestation of the emotion save in the sudden lighting of their countenances. They ventured upon no applause, nor upon any expression of dissent. Mr. Brooks of New York took the floor, and in a frenzied speech protested against impeachment, and threatened civil war if the measure carried. Mr. Bingham made an able speech in favor of the movement. The ball was fairly opened now, and speech followed speech from two in the afternoon till almost midnight. During all that time the galleries were filled with people, and their excited interest showed no symptoms of abatement. The House adjourned to meet at 10 a. m. on Monday, instead of at noon. It has been a tremendous day. The nation has seen few that were so filled with ominous signs and bodings of disaster.

When it was moved, to-day, to read Washington's Farewell Address, Mr. Ingalls inquired of a neighbor if it would not be more appropriate to read Andrew Johnson's Farewell Address!—*Territorial Enterprise.*

THE WRIT OF QUO WARRANTO.

This process, under which it is proposed to oust Mr. Stanton, is of English origin. Up to the time of Edward I, the King of England was in the habit of calling upon persons holding franchises to produce the charter by which they held them. If they could not satisfy the royal commissioners, their franchises were taken from them without more ado. The action of *quo warranto* was instituted to check abuses of the royal prerogative. It issued out of Chancery. The person against whom it was directed was summoned to appear before the King's Bench, or a justice "in eyre"—that is, riding his circuit—and show by what warrant he held his franchise or office.

The original action has given place to what is called "an information in the nature of a *quo warranto*." This, although in its form a criminal, is really a civil proceeding. Originally, if the defendant could not make good his right, he was fined for usurpation. At present, no fine is inflicted. If the writ issues against an officer, the only punishment which can be inflicted upon him is deprivation of his office. When it issues against a corporation, the corporation may be destroyed, in which case its franchises revert, in this country, to the state which granted them in the first instance.

This proceeding is also used to test the claims of two persons to hold the same office. In this case, the person who takes the initiative is called the relator. The information is filed in the name of the government, the consent of the rival claimants not being sufficient to give jurisdiction. The most noticeable feature of this proceeding is the obligation resting upon the defendant to prove his case. In other proceedings the burden of proof rests upon the plaintiff.—[N. Y. *Evening Post.*]

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YEAR 1868.

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