

The international copyright bill, and the dependent pension bill were important enactments. The "original package" bill and the dressed meat inspection bill were also important laws. The Chickamanga battle ground was set aside as a park. The weather bureau was placed in charge of the agricultural department. The Congressional reapportionment law was passed. Bills relating to enlisted soldiers were passed. The reciprocity scheme was inaugurated. Three Senators and 12 representatives died during the terms of this Congress.

THE WAR IN CHILI.

IT SEEMS likely that the present government of Chili will be destroyed. What has heretofore been termed an insurrection is assuming the character of a revolution such as will do away with the existing government, and result in the establishment of a new one. Discontent of the masses, which was no doubt justified by the tyranny and injustice of the official and wealthy classes, led to an uprising which has met with reasonable success.

A few days ago the revolutionists and government forces fought a battle, the account of which, as contained in the press dispatches, recalls the days of barbarism. The insurgents met with a success which seems to have intoxicated them, and they are represented as having shown no quarter to government troops—even when the latter lay wounded and helpless—but to have slain such as came within their reach, without mercy.

This is probably an exaggerated portrayal of the conduct of the victors, for it is conceded that they took 1,000 prisoners; but the fact that 1,700 were killed, and 1,500 wounded, of the government forces, while the insurgents lost but a few hundred, would indicate that the latter fought with great ferocity.

If the victors, in organizing a new government, will try to guard against the oppression of the weak by the strong, there will be at least a partial recompense for all the bloodshed and suffering the war has cost. But that people who would be guilty of such barbaric war practices as those to which the revolutionists resorted are capable of ameliorating the former condition of Chili is a matter involving strong doubt.

The floral decorations used at Mme. Carnot's musicales are said to be remarkably beautiful. One of the saddest things about modern musicales is that almost everything is beautiful except the music.

THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATION.

THE Minnesota Legislature has adjourned. The agrarian laws and other reforms which it proposed at one time to carry out, have not been enacted. The railroad interests have not been touched. However, that Legislature was the subject of many a newspaper paragraph and stale witticism. Much of this was occasioned by the measures introduced relating to theatre costuming and statuary. It is possible that some of the measures spoken of were a little extravagant, but stage managers in many cases abuse the privilege of freedom accorded to the boards. Many of them outrage public decency, for the sake of advertising and even for provoking lawsuits and pulpit comment. The sooner a spirit of disparagement of this kind of work springs up within the profession itself the better for the whole profession. It is only by a public opinion, condemnatory of the bad, created among the members and patrons of the drama that its dignity and respectability can be maintained.

CITY OFFICIAL BARNACLES.

THERE were no particularly new nor startling developments at last night's session of the City Council. Mr. Cohn offered a resolution, however, which involves what might be regarded as a new departure. He moved for the abolition of the office of deputy treasurer, a "Liberal" creation of last summer.

In supporting his resolution Mr. Cohn stated that he had become convinced that the creation of the office was a mistake. He did not so express it in words, but it appeared to be his view that Mr. Bowen, Treasurer Walden's right hand man, was a species of official wart on the political body municipal or a sort of fifth wheel to the corporation car.

There are arguments which could be advanced on both sides of the question of abolition. In support of Mr. Cohn's position it can be held that an assistant treasurer of a municipality is entirely original with Salt Lake City and its "Liberal" government. In that regard it differs from Mr. Cohn's view of its absurdity and uselessness, which is exceedingly stale, the NEWS having taken the same position at the time the new and unparalleled office was brought into being. We said at the time of its birth that it was an abortion, and it shows progress on the part of Mr. Cohn when even at this late date he becomes convinced of what was a self-evident truth from the beginning.

It puzzles us, however, to observe that, in the light of Mr. Cohn's discovery of an eight months' old glaring fact, he does not apply his new notion of official uselessness as he goes along, seeing he is on that wholesome track. It is only one week since the council created the office of inspector of mason work on the Parley's creek conduit. Neither the objector to the office of deputy treasurer, nor anybody else in the Council, raised the slightest whiff of opposition. Yet we have a committee of public works. Why not pass a resolution that the treasurer, at stated intervals, call at the offices of the gentlemen who compose that body and hand them their salaries in order to save them the labor of having to appear at the mayor's office to receive their remuneration? Then there is the city engineer, whose duty it is to see that contracts for public work, such as that on the Parley's creek conduit, are performed according to specifications. We do not allude to the latter official in this connection in order to insinuate that he has not plenty of work on his hands as he appears to be one of the most industrious officers in the corporation. We merely refer to him in association with the committee on public works, to show that the creation of the new office of inspector for a comparatively limited piece of work was not a whit more necessary than the making of that of deputy treasurer.

It may be contended against Mr. Cohn's resolution that to put it in force and extend the principle embodied, would be destructive of one of the most striking features connected with the administration of the present city government the multiplication of offices in order to pay salaries to special favorites. When Mr. Cohn opens such an attack upon the municipal government, he strikes it on a tender place. There is one peculiarity of the "Liberal" record, however, which defies successful obliteration—the lavish and bankrupting expenditure of the people's money on such "permanent improvements" as the joint-building hole in the ground, which cost \$11,000. Another of the improvements which Mayor Scott classifies as "permanent" will be the refilling of the aforesaid hole. We do not know whether the contract for the latter permanency has yet been awarded. When it shall be, we hope that Mr. Cohn will introduce a protesting resolution should there be an attempt to create the office of inspector with a salary of \$125 a month, to give a favorite a position to see that the dirt-throwers properly obliterate the \$11,000 permanent improvement by filling it up with geometrical precision.