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Last Night's Dispatches.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 14. — The Senate bill appropriating $7,000 to pay the expenses of the electoral commission was passed.

Sargent, from the conference committee on the bill appropriating $350,000 to supply the deficiency for the public printing during the current fiscal year, made a report which was agreed to, and the bill passed. It provides that from and after the present session of Congress the congressional printer shall not pay over fifty cents per thousand ems for composition, and forty cents an hour for time work on binding, etc.

Boutwell withdrew his amendment providing for the annual payment by railroad companies of three quarters of a million dollars to the credit of the sinking fund, in addition to all payments required under the original act instead of in lieu of all payments under these acts.

Booth renewed the amendment, and also submitted an amendment to the second section of the railroad committee's bill to provide that the Central and Union Pacific Companies each pay into the United States treasuries three-quarters of a million dollars annually, in semi-annual installments, on April 1st and October 1st, commencing on Oct. 7th, in lawful money, until said sums with interest thereon as hereinafter provided shall be sufficient, when added to the other sums to the credit of the sinking fund, to pay off and extinguish the government bonds advanced, with six per cent. interest thereon from their respective dates up to the date when they are so paid and extinguished. The interest on all sums placed to the credit of said sinking fund shall be credited and added thereto semi-annually at the rate of six per cent. per annum; provided, however, that if the foregoing provision shall prove insufficient to extinguish the government bonds and interest thereon at maturity, semi-annual payments shall be increased to such sum as will be sufficient for that purpose. He also moved to strike out the fifth section of the bill reported by the committee on railroads, which provides that each of said companies shall be entitled at any time to anticipate any or all of the semi-annual payments by payment to the government of the then present value of such semi-annual payments, discounted at six per cent. per annum, but the sum so paid shall not be less than one million dollars at any one time. He also submitted an additional section to the bill providing that Congress shall have power at any time to amend, alter or repeal the act.

Harvey submitted an amendment providing that nothing in any of the Pacific Railroad acts shall be construed so as to exempt from taxation by State authority the lands which the companies have earned by the construction of their roads.

The question being on the amendment of Booth providing that three quarters of a million, to be paid by the companies to the credit of the sinking fund shall be in addition to the other payments insisted of in lieu of other payments or requirements. It was agreed to —yeas 22, nays 20.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 14. — The House went into committee of the whole on the naval appropriation bill, appropriating $12,487,624.

Whitthorne said he intended to offer, as an amendment, a bill reported from the naval committee authorizing the appointment of a mixed commission to decide upon the future naval policy of the United States. He called attention to the fact that since 1861 there had been expended on the navy over $600,000,000, and yet it was not as efficient to-day as in 1861.

Hale said that Whitthorne, last year, discovered a method for improving the navy by the impeachment of the Secretary of the Navy, and that attempt failed. Now, he came forward with the proposition for a commission which was to be a panacea for all the ills which afflicted the Navy Department. The commission was to be made up of three persons who had passed their lives in the naval service and of six persons who, in all probability, would know nothing whatever about the subject which they were to inquire into. He denied that the American navy was in a worse condition than it had ever been in before.

The bill was then considered by sections.

Hale moved to amend by increasing the appropriation for the pay of officers and seamen of the navy from six millions and a quarter, as appropriated in the bill, to seven millions, and without coming to a vote on the amendment, the committee rose.

The conference report on the public printing deficiency bill was agreed to.

FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

England to Give the Key Note.

LONDON, 14.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily News* says it is stated here, on trustworthy authority, that the powers are disposed to leave England to give the key note for a reply to Gortschakoff's circular.

FRANCE.

Coal Mine Explosion.

PARIS, 14.—A terrible explosion occurred in a coal mine at Graissesac, killing fifty-five miners.

GERMANY.

Editor Sentenced for Libel.

BERLIN, 14.—Rudolf Meyer, editor of the *Socialist* newspaper, has been sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for publishing a libel on Prince Bismarck, charging him with stock jobbing.

MAD ITCH IN CATTLE.—C. H. Robinson, of Cross Creek, Tulare County, (Cal.) has recently lost several head of valuable cattle from the fatal disease known as the "mad itch," a disease superinduced by eating dry corn stalks. In a letter to the Visalia *Delta* he describes the circumstances and the symptoms of the strange disease. The first symptom noticeable was a dry coughing with frothing at the mouth, and an effort to chew an imaginary cud. Death resulted in twenty or thirty hours with great agony. The disease seemed to defy all efforts to alleviate it. Post mortem examination showed the third stomach of the animal filled and packed solid with dry ruminated corn fodder, so dry as to be impossible to pass off. The disease only showed itself after his supply of pumpkins had given out, and his observations go to prove that dry corn fodder alone without other food caused the disease by clogging the stomach, causing inflammation, etc., and further that the mad itch is incurable.

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