

NOT KNOWING.

know not what will befall me;
God hangs a mist o'er my eyes,
And o'er each step of my onward path,
He makes new scenes to rise;
And every joy He sends me
Comes as a sweet and glad surprise.

I see not a step before me,
As I tread in the days of the year;
But the past is still in God's keeping,
The future his mercy shall clear;
And what looks dark in the distance
May brighten as I draw near.

For perhaps the dreaded future
Has less bitterness than I think;
The Lord may sweeten the waters
Before I stoop to drink,
Or if Marah must be Marah
He will stand beside the brink.

It may be there is waiting
For the coming of my feet,
Some gift of such rare blessedness,
Some joy so strangely sweet,
That my lips can only tremble
With the thanks they cannot speak.

O restful, blissful ignorance!
'Tis blessed not to know;
It keeps me quiet in those arms
That will not let me go,
And hushes my soul to rest
In arms that loves me so.

So I go on not knowing;
I would not if I might;
I would rather walk in the dark with God
Than go alone in the light;
I would rather walk with Him by faith
Than walk alone by sight.

My heart shrinks back from trials
Which the future may disclose,
Yet I never had a sorrow
But what the dear Lord chose;
So I send the coming tears back
With the whispered words, "He knows."

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 11.—The bill providing for the commission on the alcoholic liquor traffic, with an amendment that one member be engaged in the traffic, passed, yeas 29, nays 19.

Conkling reported a bill in aid of the Polar expedition designed by James Gordon Bennett, and gave notice that he would seek an early opportunity to have it considered.

By Dorsey, to disapprove and annul the act of the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, passed 18th January, 1878, by a two-thirds vote of both houses over the veto of the governor. He also presented a certified copy of the act proposed to be annulled, entitled "An act of the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, entitled an act to incorporate the Society of the Jesuit Fathers of New Mexico."

Conkling, from the committee on judiciary, reported favorably the House bill to make persons charged with crimes and offenses competent witnesses in United States and Territorial courts. Placed on the calendar.

The Senate then resumed consideration of unfinished business, being the bill referring the claim of Benj. Holliday to the Court of Claims, which was discussed at length, and Thurman submitted a motion to recommit it to the committee on claims.

Pending discussion the Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 12.—Thurman from the committee on judiciary, reported, with amendment, the Senate bill prohibiting members of Congress from becoming sureties on certain bonds; placed on the calendar.

Thurman gave notice that he would call it up for consideration at an early day.

The Vice-President submitted a communication from the Secretary of the Interior in answer to the timber troubles in Montana.

Matthews moved that it be referred to the committee on public lands without being read, and be printed in the *Record*.

Sargent objected to its being printed in the *Record*, but had no objection to printing in the usual document form. He referred to the course of the Secretary of the Interior in regard to timber matters, and said it would stop all industries in many western states and territories. He had no objection to giving to the public in usual document form anything the Secretary might desire to say in defense of his course, but did not recognize the right of a cabinet minister to come upon the floor of the Senate and make a speech or

have printed in the *Record* a defense of his course.

Matthews said he desired to reply to Sargent, and called for the reading of the communication as part of his speech, that it might appear in the *Record*.

After debate upon points of order, Sargent objected to the present consideration of the motion to refer the document, and it was laid over till to-morrow.

A resolution, instructing the committee on judiciary to inquire into the expediency of providing that all claims against the United States exceeding \$1,000 in amount be prosecuted in the Circuit Courts for the districts in which the claims originated, was agreed to.

The bill in aid of the Polar expedition, designed by James Gordon Bennett, passed unanimously without debate.

The House bill for the relief of Wm. A. Hammond, late Surgeon-General, was taken up, and Plumb spoke in opposition. The bill then passed without amendment.

WASHINGTON, 12.—The bill reported by the committee on judiciary in regard to the Pacific railroad sinking fund was taken up, and Thurman spoke at length in favor thereof.

Davis (Ill.) argued that Congress had the right to pass such bill, and referred to the act by which Congress reserved the right to amend, alter or repeal the act chartering the road. He quoted extensively from legal authorities to show the legality of the bill.

Pending discussion the Senate took up the West Point appropriation bill, but soon went into executive session and adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 13.—Merrimon introduced a bill to provide for and regulate the counting of the votes for President and Vice-President, and the decision of questions arising thereon; referred to a special committee. Merrimon expressed the hope that a report from that committee would soon be made.

Kellogg introduced a bill to aid the New Orleans and Pacific Railroad Company; referred.

Also, to establish a mint at New Orleans and authorizing the coinage of gold and silver thereat, and making an appropriation therefor; referred.

Windom, from the committee on appropriations, reported, without amendment, the House bill making appropriations for fortifications and other works of defence and armament thereof during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879. Placed on the calendar.

Matthews called up the motion submitted by him yesterday, to refer the communication of the Secretary of the Interior, in regard to timber depredations, to the committee on public lands, and have it printed in the *Record* as a matter of justice, as the department from which it emanated had been attacked, yesterday, in the Senate.

Blaine thought the Secretary of the Interior should be heard, but the Senator from Ohio must be aware of the fact that he was asking an extraordinary privilege to have this document so printed. He referred to himself the right to reply to it, because the document was in reply to what he said in the Senate upon a recent occasion.

Sargent opposed the printing of the document in the *Record* as setting a bad precedent, and not because the contents of it was so very creditable to its author that he feared them. He argued that the document was made up from the statement of spies, who followed the men into their places of business and reported their conversation. He referred to the action of Congress in abolishing spies in the custom service, and said Congress then put the stamp of condemnation upon using Fouche's method of spies.

After some further debate, Matthews read the reply of the Secretary of the Interior as part of his remarks.

The communication having been read, Blaine spoke at length on the action of the Secretary of the Interior. He said the Secretary did not happen to be a native of this country. He could not help that, and he (Blaine) did not mention it as a reproach to him. He was born in the kingdom of Prussia, which was 15,000 square miles less in extent than Montana, and the Secretary, perhaps with the instinct of his boyhood, applied the land laws of Prussia to Montana, and not the land laws which have been used in settling the United States.

Blaine argued that the Secretary of the Interior forgot the magnitude of our country, although he was charged with administration of that department which should study it carefully, and that the one dollar per acre stumpage, exacted by him from the people of Montana, was excessive. The woodland within sight of the spire of Trinity church, New York City, would not bring the stumpage which the Secretary of the Interior demanded of the people of Montana. It was a thing conceded by the Government that the hardy pioneer, who went forward to settle the country, should have the water, air, and wood free. Referring to the abolition of the informers system in the custom service, abolished a few years ago, he spoke of the course of the Secretary of the Interior when a member of the Senate, and said he waxed wroth because a rich importer was interfered with by detectives, but now the lonely settler in Montana could be visited by spies and pimps.

Pending discussion, the subject was laid aside, and the West Point appropriation bill taken up.

WASHINGTON, 13.—Various amendments reported by the committee on appropriations, were then agreed to as follows: Appropriating \$7,000 for longevity pay of professors; increasing the appropriation for the pay of cadets from \$150,000 to \$156,615; appropriating \$21,886 for a hospital building; increasing the appropriation for completing the sewerage from \$5,000 to \$13,250, and appropriating \$33,560 for procuring an adequate water supply, purchase of lake, etc.

The committee reported in favor of striking out the third section of the House bill, which provides that only such number of graduates of the academy in any one year shall be entitled to appointment as second lieutenants in the army as are required to fill the vacancies in that grade existing on the 1st of July in each year, those entitled to appointment to said vacancies to be determined by the academic board on the basis of their standing in the graduating class, and hereafter no supernumerary officer shall be attached to any company or corps of the army, and all graduates of the academy who are not appointed to the army under the provisions of this act shall be discharged upon the graduation of their class.

Sargent submitted the following as a substitute for that section: "The cadet-at-large at the military academy shall not hereafter exceed ten in all, and no new appointments at large shall be made until the number of such cadets heretofore appointed falls below ten."

Sargent said that by habit the appointment of ten cadets-at-large had been made every year, instead of every four years, and therefore there were forty cadets-at-large, ten in each class.

Blaine submitted the following as an amendment to that of Sargent: "That the ten cadets appointed at large shall in all cases be taken from among the descendants of those who have served in the army or navy of the United States."

Sargent said he did not think it would be proper to amend the bill now so as to cut off from the appointment of cadets-at-large those of at least half the States of this Union. Referring to the Southern States, of course, he knew Senator Blaine did not mean to do that, but the amendment would have that effect.

Blaine said he had no such intention and he did not think the amendment would have such effect. He (Blaine) did not bring the question here about discriminating against half the people of this country. It was brought in by the Senator from California (Sargent). If he insisted on that issue, then he (Blaine) would say, all right, let him take it. Those who fought for the Union deserved the appointments.

After some further discussion, Windom made the point of order that the amendment proposed new legislation, but it was decided that the point was made too late.

Windom then moved to lay the amendments of Blaine and Matthews on the table. Agreed to.

Hoar moved an amendment to that of Sargent, as follows: "But this division shall not be held to require the discharge of any cadet heretofore appointed."

The amendment of Hoar was accepted by Sargent, and the amendment, as amended by Hoar, was agreed to.

The bill was then reported to the Senate, the amendments made in committee of the whole agreed to, and it was read the third time and passed.

Paddock called up the Senate bill supplementary to the act in relation to the Hot Springs reservation, State of Arkansas. It continues the commission appointed by that act to hear the cases of the claimants, etc., until the 1st of October, 1878, and provides that they shall each receive compensation at the rate of \$5,000 per annum.

Dorsey moved to amend the bill so as to continue the commission until February 1st, 1879, instead of October 1st, 1878. Agreed to. He also submitted an additional section, authorizing the superintendent of the reservation to lease the sites with privileges for furnishing baths, etc., to the Hot Springs Mountain Water Company, giving to said company the right to construct a reservoir on the Hot Springs mountain to supply the reservation with water, etc. Agreed to.

The bill was then read the third time and passed.

Conkling called up the House bill to make persons charged with crimes and offenses competent witnesses in United States and territorial courts. Passed.

Thurman called up the Pacific Railroad sinking fund bill, that it might be unfinished business to-morrow, and the Senate, at 4.30 p.m., adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 14.—A number of pension bills were passed during the morning hour, and among them one granting \$50 a month to the widow of Rear-Admiral Charles Wilkes.

Voorhees introduced a bill providing for the payment of all customs duties and all other debts due the United States, in legal tender notes at par, except in cases where it is otherwise expressly stipulated on the face of the obligation or contract; referred.

Consideration was resumed of the unfinished business, being the bill in regard to the Pacific Railroad sinking fund, and Matthews spoke in favor of the bill reported by the committee on railroads.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 11.—Under the call of States a number of bills were received and referred.

By Ewing, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution providing that in order that the people of the United States may be furnished with a permanent and stable paper currency, Congress shall provide for issuing blank million of dollars of United States notes, not bearing interest, which shall be legal for all debts, public and private, except for such existing debts as are by contract payable only in coin, and that the number of such notes shall be increased each year at a rate equal to the average increase of population, and that the first issue of said notes shall be used, as far as necessary, in retiring United States notes not bearing interest now outstanding, and the remainder in reducing the interest bearing debt. It further provides that no law of the United States or of any State shall authorize the issue of notes payable on demand for the benefit of any person or corporation, and Congress shall provide for withdrawing from circulation all bank notes now outstanding.

By Riddle, to reduce the present tax on whiskey and tobacco.

By Knapp, to issue certificates on deposits of silver bullion or bars.

By Crittenden, to issue certificates on deposits of silver bullion.

By Martin, by request, to abolish the court of claims.

By Patterson, fixing the measure of damages in suits waged by governments for timber cut on public lands.

By Fort, for the preparation of uniform silver bars of the value of \$100 and \$1,000, standard silver, and for the issue of certificates thereon, which shall be receivable for all public dues.

By Harmer, petition of citizens and type founder of the United States, requesting that, in order to prevent fraud in the introduction of foreign type into the United States, the duty may remain a specific one, as in the bill now before Congress, and not be changed to an *ad valorem* duty.

At the expiration of the morning hour the House went into committee of the whole on the diplomatic appropriation bill, and Hewitt addressed the House.

At the close of Hewitt's speech,

the committee arose, and Saylor, from the committee on ways and means, reported as the unanimous action of that committee the joint resolution prescribing the time for the payment of taxes on distilled spirits, and had it referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union. He then moved to go into committee for the purpose of considering it.

This motion was rejected, and Saylor gave notice that he would renew the motion very soon.

Clymer, from the appropriation committee, reported the naval appropriation bill. The total amount of the appropriation is \$14,048,684. The salary of the admiral is fixed at \$13,000 and of the vice-admiral at \$8,000. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars are appropriated for the civil establishments at navy yards. Referred to committee of the whole.

Cox asked leave to offer a resolution reciting that the administration of President Diaz, in Mexico, has fulfilled the requirements of comity and law for the purpose of recognition by our government, and that such recognition would be in the interest of international intercourse, and inviting the President of the United States to recognize said government of Mexico as at present administered.

The House then took recess until 7.30, the evening session to be for debate only.

EVENING SESSION.

The House was called to order, Hardenburgh in the chair, at 7.30, with not more than a dozen members present, and was addressed by Covert in opposition to the bill transferring to the Navy Department the control of the life-saving service; by Hayes, who opposed the Mexican pension bill on the ground that it would place the traitor side by side on the rolls with the patriot; by Baker (Ind.), in regard to the patent law, and by Tipton in favor of the postal savings banks and postal telegraph. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, 12.—After an explanation by Southard disclaiming the authorship of the joint resolution in regard to a plural executive head, the House went into the committee of the whole on the diplomatic and consular appropriation bills.

Hale, Singleton, Whitthorne, Townsend (N. Y.), Dunnell, Cox and Neal spoke briefly.

The committee then arose and the House adjourned, after which, notice was given of a democratic caucus to-morrow evening.

WASHINGTON, 13.—Hale's amendment to the diplomatic bill, increasing the salaries of the four principal ministers, from \$15,000 as provided in the bill, to \$17,500, the present salary, was rejected 88 to 110.

WASHINGTON, 13.—After considerable debate, Reagan, by unanimous consent, made an explanation on the subject of the proposed payment of mail route contractors in the confederate States for services rendered previous to the war, and had read an extract from his first report as Postmaster General of the confederacy. He confessed to having forgotten the subsequent legislation on the subject. He hoped the House would not consider that he had been dealing unfairly or disingenuously with it.

Conger replied to Reagan.—He disclaimed any intention to reflect upon that gentleman in the matter of the bill to pay southern mail contractors. That gentleman had contradicted the statement which he (Conger) had made as to these contractors having been paid by the confederate government, and he (Conger) had met him and overthrown him with his own proclamation. The gentleman from Texas had also denied that these contractors have been paid by the confederacy, but Wellits had produced proof that they had been. He did not wish to say anything personal about the gentleman from Texas. He accepted his explanation for whatever that gentleman might consider it worth. Still the charge remained unanswered, that the gentlemen on the other side, who were familiar with the legislation of the confederate congress, and who must have known that over \$800,000 had been appropriated by that congress to pay these contractors, were silent upon that fact.

Singer moved to form an amendment to the bill, and proceeded again to discuss the question of the southern mail contracts, when a similar point of order was made by Luttrell and again sustained.