

News of the Week.

EXECUTIVE.

Bills.—The President has signed the bill appropriating \$50,000 for the Paris Exposition; also, the bill giving \$15,000 for the freedmen of the District.

The Treasury.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has issued an order directing the seizure of all liquors sold for less than the Government tax. Nevertheless the contraband article is quoted as selling from 80 cts. to \$1.—The customs receipts at New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, from March 9 to March 16, amounted to \$3,144,985; from New Orleans, from the 1st to the 9th \$116,981.

Military.—Gen. Sheridan has issued an order stating that there will be no removals of civil officers in his Department, except for failure to carry out the law, until such time as the provisional officers are chosen.

Nominations Confirmed.—Joseph J. Bartlett as Minister at Stockholm; P. J. Sullivan as Minister at Bogota; Francis A. Osborne as Naval Officer at Boston.

Nominations Rejected.—Henry W. Tracy as Surveyor of Customs; Arthur D. Markley as Naval Officer, at Philadelphia.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

Senate.—March 19.—The House resolution correcting an error in the Wool bill was concurred in. The bill directing the issue of clothing to destitute invalid soldiers was concurred in. The reference of Mr. Thomas' credentials to the Judiciary Committee was agreed to. A conference report on the supplementary Reconstruction bill was agreed to, and the bill goes to the President.

March 20.—A numerous signed petition from women of Ohio, asking for the right of suffrage, was presented. A resolution prohibiting all persons in the diplomatic service of the United States from wearing any uniform or official costume not previously prescribed by Congress was passed. A bill appropriating \$500,000 to defray the expenses of carrying the Reconstruction bill into effect was passed.

March 21.—The Printing Committee were directed to investigate the official conduct of the late Superintendent of Public Printing. The bill exempting from tax wrapping paper, made from wood, was passed, with an amendment, laying a tax of ten per cent. on corporation notes issued by National banks. The bill suspending payment of commutation for drafted slaves was passed—yeas 32, nays 7. A bill was passed, making Chester, Pa., a port of delivery, with a surveyor, at a salary of \$500.

March 22.—A bill was passed exempting from duty agricultural implements imported as models, and authorizing the discontinuance of direct tax collectors in the Southern States. The House amendments to the Southern Relief bill were concurred in, and the bill goes to the President. The House amendments to the bills furnishing arms to Tennessee and exempting wrapping paper from internal tax, were concurred in.

March 23.—A bill was passed making appropriations for deficiencies in the contingent expenses of the Senate; also a bill to provide for the payment of claims of colored soldiers and sailors through the Freedmen's Bureau. A bill was passed, giving the American Telegraph Company of New York, the right to lay telegraphic cables between the United States and Europe, by way of the Bermuda and Azores Islands. The amendments to the bill providing for the importation free of duty of certain works of art, were concurred in. The testimony relating to the New York Custom house was referred to the Judiciary Committee, with power to investigate the charges against Senators Doolittle and Patterson contained therein. The veto of the Supplementary Reconstruction bill was read, and the bill passed over the veto—yeas 39, nays 7. A joint resolution providing for an adjournment from noon of March 25th to the first Monday in December, was adopted—yeas 20, nays 19.

March 25.—The House was asked to return the adjournment resolution passed by the Senate for amendment. On motion, Collector Smythe was allowed to appear by counsel before the Committee on Expenditures, and produce witnesses in his own defence. The Indian Committee were directed to inquire into and report upon the expediency of removing Indians now in the States to the Indian territory.

House.—March 19.—A joint resolution was passed, prohibiting the further issue of Agricultural College scrip to the lately rebel States, and prohibiting the acceptance of the scrip already issued. The House insisted on its amendment to the supplementary bill, and agreed to a committee of conference on the matter. Mr. Stevens' confession bill was postponed till Dec. 10. A conference report on the supplementary Reconstruction bill was agreed to.

March 20.—The Committee on Foreign Affairs was instructed to investigate the facts connected with the imprisonment for life in Canada of the Rev. John McMahon, a citizen of Indiana, and report what means should be taken for his release; also to inquire why certain claims of American citizens against the British government have not been paid. The Colorado contested election was called up, and Mr. Chilcott was declared entitled to a seat as delegate. The resolution authorizing the contract price of artificial limbs to be paid to soldiers entitled to such aid if they so desire, was passed.

March 21.—The Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures, said the committee had taken testimony which apparently incriminated one or more Senators, and he offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the transmission of such testimony to the Senate for information. The Southern Relief bill was considered, and amendments were adopted dispensing the relief through the Freedmen's Bureau and limiting the expenditure to the appropriation already made for the Bureau.

March 22.—The Southern Relief bill, as amended yesterday, was passed—yeas 97, nays 31. The Senate amendment to the bill exempting wrapping paper from tax was concurred in, with amendments, including paper made of manilla, and also exempting wooden leaders. The Senate resolution directing arms to be furnished Tennessee was passed, with an amendment increasing the number to 10,000. A resolution looking to the impeachment of Collector Smythe, was agreed to, and the Committee on Expenditures were empowered to sit during the recess.

March 23.—The Senate amendments to the bill relating to importation of agricultural models were considered, and amended so as to include only steam plows, and passed. The President's message, vetoing the Supplementary bill, was read, and the bill was passed over the President's objections by a vote of 114 yeas to 25 nays.

March 25.—A resolution was agreed to, directing the payment into the Treasury of unexpended balances in the Navy Department. These balances amount to over \$11,000,000. The resolution prohibiting the wearing of uniforms by our diplomats abroad was concurred in. A resolution was adopted, expressing the desire of the House that the lately rebellious States adopt a system of free schools.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.

Massachusetts.—The supreme court has decided that the \$5,000 lately bequeathed by Francis Jackson of Boston, to secure the right of suffrage to women, was not a legal charity, and ordered its division among his heirs.—The Constitutional Amendment has passed the Legislature.—A resolution looking to female suffrage has failed in the House of Representatives.

Maine.—There are twelve incorporated cities in this State, eleven of which have elected Republican mayors.—Maine builds more than half the number

of sea-going vessels in the country. 47 per cent. of the State tax is paid by her ship-builders. Recent U. S. laws so burden her tonnage as to actually draw from \$1,200,000 to \$1,500,000 from the industrial proceeds of the State. It is said that she has 14,000,000 acres of unbroken forest, of which at least 5,000,000 is covered with hemlock timber.

Vermont.—A liquor seller, arrested at St. Albans, put in as defence that his whiskey was so reduced by water it could not intoxicate.

Pennsylvania.—In the Senate, the act to prevent hucksters from occupying the pavements near market houses in Philadelphia, was passed, with an amendment allowing sales of produce at residences.

In the State Senate on the 20th bills were passed for improving the Delaware river front; taxing non-resident traders in Philadelphia; beginning the terms of members of Philadelphia Councils with the first Monday in January; limiting the temporary city loan to \$1,000,000, and requiring a two-thirds vote in each branch of Councils to authorize it; allowing disabled soldiers to peddle without a license; allowing military records as evidence, and enabling the administrators of deceased tax collectors to collect for two years. The Governor's veto of the supplement to the Pennsylvania Railroad charter (to authorize the Company to increase its capital stock, to issue bonds, and to secure the same by mortgage), was received, and the bill was passed over—12 to 9. The Sunday Car bill was defeated—12 to 14. The Legislature adjourns April 11.—Valuable iron mines have been discovered in Schuylkill county, in immediate contact with the coal mines. It is expected that that region will soon become a great iron and steel manufacturing country.—The Senate on the 21st, passed an act authorizing manufacturing corporations to sell real estate and issue coupon bonds. The House passed the Senate bill for a bridge at South street; the bill giving the appointment of School Controllers to the Courts; and a bill declaring eight hours a day's labor, after the 1st of July next. The bill authorizing further issue of Pennsylvania Railroad stock has passed both Houses and has been signed. A bill has passed the Senate authorizing the Southward Railway to renew its track on Swanson street. Gov. Geary has signed the bill prohibiting the exclusion of colored persons from the public conveyances, and has sent a message to the legislature in relation to disturbances in Schuylkill county, where the miners are banded together in a secret organization for the purpose of controlling the mines, and resort to murder and robbery. It is impossible to punish them, as, when arrested and tried, the juries are packed with confederates, and they escape.—A young lady named Bennett, aged 16, has been refused admission to the Methodist College in France, on her second term; it having been discovered that she has African blood in her veins. Bishop Simpson approves of this shameful conduct.

Delaware.—The Republicans will invite the colored people of that State to send delegates to their next State Convention, and they will go into the next election advocating universal suffrage.—The Legislature adjourned on Friday evening. Among the bills passed during the session was one equalizing punishments for crime without regard to color.

New York.—Leonard W. Jerome has made an assignment of his banking effects, for the benefit of his creditors.—The Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund, after a session of several days in New York city, adjourned to meet in Richmond next January.

Rhode Island has the greatest population to the square mile of any State in the Union, and greater than any country in Europe except France. The labor of the State shows an annual production of \$601 for every man, woman and child in it, while in Massachusetts it only reaches \$408 for each.

New Hampshire.—The election, on the 12th inst., resulted in the choice of Gen. Harriman, the Republican candidate for Governor, by over 3,000 majority. All the Congressmen elect are Republicans, and the Legislature is strongly Republican. Last year the Union majority was 4,656.

Ohio.—The citizens of Mansfield, under the operations of a vigilance committee, have cleared their town of the blacklegs who have been infesting it. Belleville, eighteen miles distant, has made a similar purgation, also closing all the drinking saloons.

Illinois.—The Board of Trade of Chicago and Cleveland have unanimously resolved to enforce the central system of weights and measures on the 1st of March.—The Governor has signed the bill making eight hours a legal day's work in the State, in absence of contracts to the contrary.—The Legislature, at its session just closed, passed twelve hundred and sixty-three bills.

Michigan.—The Legislature adjourned March 25. The Eight-Hour bill failed to become a law.

Wisconsin.—The Assembly has resolved (63-22) to submit the question of female suffrage to the vote of the people.

Minnesota.—A prohibitory liquor bill has been defeated in the Legislature.

Kentucky.—The levee at Columbus, on the 20th, gave way, and the town was inundated.

Tennessee.—The Conservative Unionists have called a State Convention to meet on the 16th of April, to nominate a candidate for Governor in opposition to Brownlow. The decision of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, sustaining the new Franchise law, will secure the State to the Radicals.

Maryland.—The House has concurred in the Senate bill appropriating \$100,000 for the Southern destitute.—The Senate has passed a bill calling a State Constitutional Convention.—The Legislature has passed a bill allowing the street cars to run on Sundays in Baltimore, if the people shall so vote at the next election in that city.—The Legislature adjourned sine die on Saturday. The bill admitting negro testimony into the courts failed to become a law, but it is understood that the principle will be incorporated in the new State constitution. The bill authorizing the election of new municipal officers for the city of Baltimore also failed.

South Carolina.—At Columbia, S. C., on Monday, a meeting to celebrate the enfranchisement of the colored people was held. Speeches were made by prominent whites, including Gen. Wade Hampton.

Georgia.—Judge Walker, of the State Supreme Court, addressed a meeting at Dalton, on the 5th, advocating acceptance of the new terms of reconstruction.—A meeting was held in Augusta, to nominate a Mayor, last Saturday night, and it was resolved to allow the colored people to vote at the election.

Arkansas.—It is understood that A. H. Garland, U. S. Senator elect from this State, will carry the question of his exclusion from the Senate before the Supreme Court.

Alabama.—A very large meeting was held at Selma, on the 17th, at which resolutions were unanimously adopted urging acceptance of the Congressional terms of reconstruction.—In 36 counties the whites are in the majority, while the negroes are most numerous in 16 counties. The majority of white voters in the State is estimated at 11,492.

Louisiana.—The Senate has passed a resolution appropriating \$30,000 to test the constitutionality of the Military Reconstruction bill.—Returns from three-fourths of the sugar-growing parishes show that the sugar crop of the present season will be but a trifle over one quarter of the crop of six years ago.—The Legislature has repealed the act calling a Constitutional Convention.—Gen. Longstreet has written to the New Orleans Times advising Southern people to accept the Congressional terms of reconstruction. [Senator Wilson, in reply to an inquiry, says that all persons not excluded by the Constitutional amendment can vote in the South under the Reconstruction act.]

Missouri.—The Supreme Court of the State has rescinded its order requiring lawyers to take the test oath prescribed by the State Constitution.

Virginia.—A negro recently refused to take the oath as postmaster, at Forest Depot, because he "sympathized" with the South during the rebellion.—A Radical State Convention has been called to meet at Richmond, on the 17th of April.—The Richmond Times thinks women will vote in less than ten years.

Texas.—The Mayor of Gonzales, on hearing of the passage of the Reconstruction bill, caused the public square to be draped in mourning.

District of Columbia.—The registration of voters under the Suffrage law began March 21. In the First Ward the colored voters are greatly in the majority.

City.—There were 44,169 arrests in this city by the police force during the last year. The records of the courts and alderman show that of these at least three fourths were cases of disorder arising from the use of intoxicating liquors. It has been estimated that there are as many tipping houses in Philadelphia at this time as there are public lamp-posts in the streets. The sum of \$166,384.39 was paid last year for licenses by retail dealers in intoxicating liquors.

FOREIGN.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

March 19.—LONDON.—In the House of Commons, yesterday evening, the Ministry asked formal leave to bring in their Reform bill to-morrow, and Disraeli, in explaining its features introduced copious statistics to support the principles on which it was grounded. Gladstone said the figures of the government were absurd, but he would defer debate till the bill came before the House.—Evening.—The debate on the bill is postponed to the 25th.—The arrests of Fenians still continue to be made in Ireland. Head Central Dennis Donohoe has been caught at Cork. General Burke, and forty others, have been carried in irons to Clonmel jail.—Paris.—In the Corps Legislatif last evening, Representatives Thiers and Favre attacked the Foreign policy of the Emperor, on the ground that it favored unity in both Germany and Italy, which was hostile to the interests of France. Minister Rouher stated that the Emperor was in favor of the partition of the Papal debt amongst the Catholic Powers—each of them assuming its share of the burden and guaranteeing its payment.—BERLIN.—It is reported that a secret treaty was made between Prussia and Bavaria in August, providing that Prussia may assume the direction of the Bavarian army.—It is stated that Bismarck has refused to protest against the absorption of Poland into the Russian Empire.—Petersburg, March 18.—The Hungarian Ministry to-day took their oaths of office in the presence of the Emperor and the National Diet.—Evening.—The coronation of Francis Joseph as King of Hungary, during his present visit to this city, is strongly urged by all parties.

March 20.—LONDON.—Labor riots have broken out at Rebois (?) France.—BERLIN.—A treaty has been concluded between Prussia, Bavaria, and the Grand Duchy of Baden, which gives to Prussia command of the armies of the two latter countries in time of war.

March 21.—LONDON, evening.—Disraeli promises to bring forward a liberal reform bill for Ireland.—Paris.—The foreign policy of the Emperor, under discussion in the Corps Legislatif, has been indorsed by an overwhelming majority.—Florence.—In the general election General Garibaldi was returned for three different places.—Messina.—The insurrection against the authority of the Sublime Porte is rapidly spreading throughout Thessaly.—St. Petersburg.—Hostilities between Russia and Bokhara in Central Asia, have been temporarily suspended.

March 22.—Paris.—It is announced that the Emperor Napoleon favors a confederation of the governments of France, Holland, Belgium, and Switzerland against Prussia.—Florence, evening.—The National Parliament was inaugurated to-day by King Victor Emmanuel, who delivered the usual speech from the throne.

March 23.—Berlin.—King William of Prussia has just succeeded in effecting an offensive and defensive treaty with the kingdom of Wurtemberg, providing that in time of war Prussia is to command the consolidated armies of both countries.—The recent treaty between Prussia and Bavaria and Baden, whereby Prussia is to have command of the armies of the two latter countries in time of war, has engendered a bitter feeling in France. Hence the proposal for the confederation of France, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland against Prussia.—Brussels.—It is officially announced that King Leopold of Belgium, will not enter into the proposed confederation with France.—VIENNA.—Assent to the proposition of the great Powers relative to the cession of the Island of Candia to the Grecian Government has been emphatically refused by the Sublime Porte.

March 24.—DUBLIN.—The trial of the Fenian prisoners for high treason will commence on the 9th of April in this city.

March 25.—LONDON.—The Turkish government denies that the European Powers have made any proposition for the cession of Crete to Greece; and that Turkey will never consent to do so.—Midnight.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Mr. Gladstone declared against the government plan of reform, and opposed the second reading of the bill.—TURIN.—Kossuth, now in this city, publicly protests against the arrangement made between Hungary and the Emperor of Austria.

Foreign Items.—The population of London is 3,038,000; of Liverpool, 484,000; Glasgow, 432,000; Manchester, 358,000; Birmingham, 335,000; Dublin, 318,000; Leeds, 228,000; Sheffield, 218,000; Edinburgh, 175,000.—There are two hundred and sixty-seven country newspapers in France, only fifty-one of which are independent of the government.—America has 20,000 miles of railroad lines against 60,000 in Europe and 3,000 in India.—The season tickets to the French Exhibition are folded—two inner squares are covered, one with the regulations and the owner's signature and the other with his portrait, M. Pierre Petit, a photographer, taking the portraits of applicants.—The French government has forbidden its mint to coin a medal in honor of President Lincoln.

Latin America.—The President and Congress of New Granada are at issue. The Congress refuses to recognize loans made by the President. The revolutionary forces in the Argentine Republic have been defeated in a severe battle.

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