

News of the Week.

EXECUTIVE.

Post Office Department.—By official correspondence recently laid before the British Parliament, it appears that after this year the entire postage on a single international letter is to be 6d., if despatched from the United Kingdom, and 12 cents from the United States. The post-office of each country is to make its own arrangements for the despatch of its mails to the other and receive the postage, the other country making no charge for delivery.

The Treasury.—The debt on the 1st inst., less cash in Treasury, amounted to \$2,523,428,074.44 against \$2,530,763,889.80 on the first of March; being a reduction of over seven millions. The cash in the Treasury was \$105,930,477.22 in gold, and \$34,328,826.52 currency.

The Judiciary.—In the U. S. Supreme Court on the 5th of April, a bill was filed by Judge Sharkey and Robert J. Walker, in the Supreme Court of the United States as the complainant of the State of Mississippi, in behalf of herself, and such other States as may be interested in the premises, who shall, by consent of the Court, properly make themselves parties hereto, against Andrew Johnson, a citizen of Tennessee and President of the United States, and also against General E. O. C. Ord, to restrain them from carrying out the provisions of the Reconstruction act. It will come up for argument next Friday.—The State of Georgia also is about to ask for an injunction against the execution of the Military Reconstruction act. Messrs. Charles O'Conner, of New York, and Jeremiah S. Black, of Pennsylvania, are engaged for the petitioners.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

Senate.—April 2.—A resolution was agreed to, instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to revise the laws of the District. Some debate ensued on the Maryland Senatorial question, and finally the letter of Mr. Thomas, answering the charge brought by the Commercial Bank of N. Y., and asking for an investigation, was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The President communicated to the Senate a supplemental list of the names of nearly 3000 Southerners who have been pardoned, with the names of the persons recommending the pardons, and prominent men of both parties are found among the latter.

April 4.—A resolution was presented from the Michigan Legislature asking land for a railroad from the iron regions to the Straits of Mackinaw. Mr. Sausbury offered a resolution abolishing the office of Chaplain of the Senate, which, being objected to, went over. The Senate then went into Executive session, and confirmed ex-Governor Bradford's Surveyor of Customs at Baltimore.

The Senator from Delaware was not notified by the Senate that if he again takes his seat in that body in an unseemly condition, he shall be expelled from the Senate.

April 5.—A resolution was adopted inquiring whether Lewis V. Boggy (by the Senate formerly a Commissioner of Indian Affairs) is now employed in the Interior Department, and if so, by whom appointed, and with what salary, &c. Mr. Sumner offered a resolution, which went over, for the expulsion of Senator Sausbury, of Delaware, for drunkenness in the Senate. [Sausbury had been very drunk for several days, and staggered in and around the Senate Chamber until he had become very offensive and disagreeable. It was resolved in caucus last winter to expel both McDougal and Sausbury, but their friends interfered and promised reformation that has not been realized. Repeated warnings had been given Sausbury lately, but all to no effect.] In Executive session the Senate confirmed General Lovell H. Rousseau to be Brigadier General of the regular army in place of Rosecrans, resigned; also, Alexander Aaboth to be Minister to Uruguay, and General Thomas Kirby Smith to be Consul at Panama. The nomination of ex-Senator Nesmith, of Oregon, as Minister to Austria, was rejected.

April 7.—The Senate confirmed Gen. Henry G. Thomas to be Major-General by brevet in the regular army, and Swayne, Crittenden, Sickles, Reynolds, Grierson and Miles to be Brigadier Generals by brevet. The Committee on Printing reported against printing additional copies of the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture. Mr. Chandler called attention to and had read a speech made by John W. Frazier, since he was confirmed as Internal Revenue Assessor, in this city, in which he avowed himself still a conservative, in favor of Grant and Johnson, and opposed to the radical element.

April 8.—A resolution for adjournment on Wednesday, Mr. Sumner objecting, was not received. On motion of Mr. Wiley, the Secretary of War was requested to communicate information in regard to title, &c., of the United States property at Harper's Ferry. The Russo-American treaty was reported favorably by the Foreign Committee and its ratification is expected.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.

Pennsylvania Legislature.—April 2.—In the Senate a resolution was passed recalling from the Governor the South-street bridge bill. In the House the bills prohibiting the running of locomotive engines in certain portions of the city were defeated. The bill authorizing the Gas Committee of Councils to attend all meetings of the Gas Trust was passed. April 3.—The South-street bridge bill was reconsidered and passed with an amendment, including among the incorporators the Mayor and Presidents of City Councils. Acts were passed repealing the tax on personal property, and in lieu thereof appropriating \$30,000 tax among the district counties; and authorizing an additional State Lunatic Hospital; and for preserving the purity of the Schuylkill water. In the House the bill relating to education of soldiers' orphans was passed as it came from the Senate.—April 4.—In the Senate Mr. Worthington presented the memorial of the Presbytery of Philadelphia against the law taxing church property. An act incorporating the Liberty Hall (colored) Association of Philadelphia, (presented on the plea that prominent legal counsel in Philadelphia had advised them that the Supreme Court could not incorporate the Association, because its members were not regarded as citizens,) was ruled out of order with the endorsement of the facts by the Speaker, under the recent amendment to the State constitution, giving that Court power in the premises.—April 5.—In the Senate acts were passed authorizing the Light, Coal and Navigation Company to borrow money, and issue bonds, and allowing disabled soldiers to peddle without license. In the House bills were passed authorizing the Southwark Railway company to renew their track on Swanson street; refunding all tax and militia fines to honorably discharged soldiers; to prevent minors from being employed in concert saloons in Philadelphia; prohibiting political processions after and during ten days preceding elections in Philadelphia; authorizing the arrest of professional counterfeiters and forgers, and "to preserve the purity of the Schuylkill water." Gov. Geary has signed the bill vesting the appointment of School Controllers in Philadelphia in the courts.

April 7.—In the Senate a message was received from the Governor enclosing a letter from Judge Read, recommending legislation against the choirs. In the House, bills were passed allowing the increase of stock of oil companies; providing for the removal of paupers in certain cases; authorizing commutation of the death penalty in certain cases, and transferring equity jurisdiction in Philadelphia, from the District court to the court of Common Pleas.—The bill extending the term of the Chief Engineer of the Water Works was postponed indefinitely. The Free Railroad bill was

passed with an amendment.—Hon. Thaddeus Stevens continues very ill of general debility and an affection of the heart.

April 8.—In the House the bill extending the term of the Chief Engineer of the Water Department was passed. The committee to investigate lottery and other gambling in Philadelphia report that an execution of the existing laws would suppress the evil.

Pennsylvania.—Rev. Isaac Aiken has been expelled from the ministry and membership of the Pittsburgh Methodist Episcopal Conference for having two wives. Our Pittsburgh Methodists do not favor all the "patriarchal usages."—The bids for the State loan were opened at Harrisburg, April 1, and amounted to about \$1,000,000, ranging from par to 5 per cent. premium.—Pittsburg is thinking of consolidation, which would give her 200,000 inhabitants.

New York.—Thirty-eight counterfeiters, seized by the Government detectives, were lodged in jail in Rochester April 3.

Massachusetts.—In Boston there is trouble between the plasterers and their employers on the eight hour question, and a strike has taken place. The employes of the cotton and woolen mills announce that after April 1st, they will work but ten hours a day. The mill managers agree that this must be resisted, even if the mills stop, as a suspension at present will relieve rather than embarrass owners.—A baker in Essex county advertises "prohibitory mince pies." They are spiritless.—Since the passage of the Prohibitory law "drinking clubs have been formed in Boston, by which a man can guzzle in a private room, where liquors of all kinds are kept for the "club" members.—Some of the principal insurance companies refuse policies to the churches of Boston and the neighborhood. Thirty-five churches in that city and vicinity have been burned within a few years past.—Up to Saturday week, Boston had contributed \$17,900 for the Creoles.—At a lecture in Locomotive, March 20th, William Lloyd Garrison called on the Fortieth Congress "to lift high the axe of impeachment and let it fall on the Presidential neck. And let the people say amen! and amen!" Many in the audience broke forth in a responsive amen.—The Boston Transcript says, "There is an alarming degree of sickness prevailing in this Commonwealth, for which the following recipe is given by the medical faculty, Spiritus Framenti 3 oz."—A Boston newspaper firm is said to publish two journals, one favoring and the other opposing prohibition.—The inmates of the State Prison, who have suffered from intemperance, favor a prohibitory law.—Six cases of trichina spiralis, one fatal, have occurred in Springfield, Mass., the victims having eaten raw ham.

New Hampshire.—April 4 was observed as a fast day in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and all business was suspended.

Connecticut.—The Democratic majority on the State ticket is placed at 678. The Senate will have one Republican majority, and the House will stand 121 Republicans to 117 Democrats.

Maryland.—The Supreme Court of Baltimore has rejected the application for an injunction to restrain the authorities from holding an election for a Constitutional Convention, authorized by the act of the late Legislature, on the ground of its want of jurisdiction, as a court of equity, to decide questions of a political nature, especially involving the sovereignty of the political powers of the State.—Many of the Conservatives, including Beverly Johnson, are opposed to a State Constitutional Convention.

Ohio.—The Senate has passed a "Manhood Suffrage" bill, excluding ex-convicts and deserters.—Business is brisk in Cincinnati. Many dealers who used to come East now stop there to purchase.—Richard C. Parsons, of this State, was recently appointed Marshall of the U. S. Supreme Court.—The Legislature has finally passed the Suffrage bill, giving the franchise to all male citizens, excepting rebels and deserters.

Illinois.—The Chicago Board of Trade recently appointed a committee to collect funds for the South ern destitute, and \$225 was realized.

Georgia.—A mass meeting of freedmen was held, March 26, at Macon. Resolutions were adopted thanking Congress for the blessings of emancipation and suffrage, cherishing no bitter feelings towards their late masters, but resolving to be as respectful and faithful in the discharge of their duties as ever. Gov. Brown was endorsed, and the people recommended to accept the terms proposed.—Gen. Sweeney, the post commander, forbids all elections till Gen. Pope assumes the command of the district.—A mass meeting, chiefly composed of freedmen, was held April 1, in Savannah. Ex-Governor James Johnson and others spoke, and resolutions were adopted recognizing the reconstruction terms of Congress.—General Sweeney has disbanded the negro militia at Augusta.

Tennessee.—Gov. Brownlow has commissioned a colored man to be captain in the State militia.—The Memphis Appeal says that a valuable cow was drowned in the mud at the corner of Poplar and Orleans streets, in that city, last Saturday.—The Conservatives have invited the colored voters to send delegates to their State Convention, and the invitation will probably be accepted.—Colored children are hereafter to be educated at public schools in Nashville.—A Conservative convention met at Nashville. One of the speakers was a colored man. Resolutions were adopted urging the people to send delegates to the State Conservative Convention.—A Conservative Convention, to elect delegates to the State Convention, met at Chattanooga, April 6. Eight hundred delegates, of whom five hundred were colored, attended, and speeches were made by both white and colored men. Resolutions favoring reform and opposing Governor Brownlow were adopted.

Michigan.—The death penalty has been restored in this State.

Virginia.—Gen. Schofield has issued an order suspending all elections until the registration is completed. In the meantime, vacancies occurring will be filled by the commanding general. The anniversary of the evacuation of Richmond was celebrated by the negroes in that city.—The colored people of Yorktown last Saturday celebrated the passage of Military Reconstruction bill.—Nearly seventy miners were killed by an explosion at the Cloverhill coal pits, in Chesterfield county. The pits were burning, so that the bodies could not be recovered.—George W. Randolph, ex-rebel Secretary of War, died in Richmond on April 2.—Senator Wilson addressed the people of Petersburg, April 4, on the issues of the day and was vigorously applauded by "the colored element."—The Richmond papers are silent about the Connecticut elections. They publish the returns, but say nothing editorially.

North Carolina.—The Wilmington Journal urges its readers to take no part in getting up a State Convention under the Reconstruction act, but confesses that it is "with the minority in these views." The white vote, under the Reconstruction act, is estimated at 80,000, and the colored vote at 35,000.—A sentence of Court, in Wilmington, branding a man for man-slaughter, having been rescinded by General Sickles, has been changed to fine and imprisonment.

South Carolina.—At the Board of Trade banquet in Charleston, on the evening of April 1, Governor Orr made a speech, recommending compliance with the terms of Congress.—Gen. Sickles has issued an order suspending elections.—General Scott, Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, advises the freedmen to appeal to the Courts, and not resort to violent means, as in the late street car case in Charleston.

Alabama.—Gen. Swayne, charged with the administration of the military bill in this State, a compliance with the civil rights bill will be exacted, and payment for services rendered during the war in the State are peremptorily forbidden.

Kentucky.—In Louisville, great excitement has been caused by finding the bodies of several negroes packed in a dry goods box, floating in a pond. It would have been a matter of course, once, except as to expense.

Texas.—A farmer has tried the experiment of putting monkeys to pick cotton, and is much disappointed by his want of success.

Louisiana.—Edward Heath, the new Mayor of New Orleans, is a native of Connecticut.

City.—Up to Monday Philadelphia had subscribed over \$80,000 to the Southern Relief Fund.

FOREIGN.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE. April 2.—London.—In the House of Lords last night, the Duke of Buckingham, Colonial Secretary said the transfer of Russian America to the United States was a matter of indifference to England.—3 P. M.—A party of troops, near Dublin yesterday, came upon three armed Fenians, killed one, and another, the notorious McClure, was captured.—Dublin.—A fight took place in the vicinity of Cork this morning, between the troops and the Fenians, and several rebels were captured.

April 2.—London.—Advices from Bombay state that the growth of cotton in India has been greatly increased.

April 3.—Paris.—Negotiations, looking to the acquisition of Luxemburg, by France, have been stopped.

April 4.—London, evening.—The annual budget was presented to Parliament to-day. The estimated income for the present year will exceed £69,000,000, and the estimated expenditures are £68,000,000.

Florence.—The Ministry have resigned, and a new Ministry will be formed.—London.—The Budget of Mr. Disraeli, gives general satisfaction, and is well received by both Press and Parliament.—All hopes for the safety of Dr. Livingstone have been abandoned.

Later advices from the Cape of Good Hope confirm, beyond doubt, the report of his death.—Dublin, evening.—The Fenian who was taken near this city, proves to be Colonel Melver, a prominent agitator, and formerly an officer in the U. S. service.—Berlin, evening.—The North German Parliament will adjourn on the 15th instant.—The Prussian government is about to raise a loan of 30,000,000 thalers.

April 6.—London.—There is a general distrust in political and financial matters all over Europe.—Paris.—Notwithstanding the announcement that the negotiations for the acquisition of Luxemburg had been suspended, it is known that the Emperor hesitates to release Holland from her engagements.

Florence.—Baron Rattazzi, President of the Council of Ministers, will immediately form a new Italian Cabinet.

April 7.—London.—The liberal members of Parliament have resolved to offer determined opposition to the government Reform bill, and to test it by vote as soon as possible. They expect to carry a majority in which event the members of the Derby Cabinet will resign.

April 8.—London, evening.—The uncertainty in regard to the future action of Napoleon, and the fear that he will adopt a warlike policy, create a widespread distrust among business men, and great depression in consequence exists in commercial and financial circles, both in this city and in Paris.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Mr. Lowe stated that alarming news had been received in Berlin from Paris, and that the King of Prussia sent for Count Bismarck at 2 o'clock on Sunday morning.—Liverpool.—The distrust in financial and political circles has increased to a war panic. The government has sent several ships of war to Cadix, Spain, to enforce the British claims arising out of the seizure of the Tornado.—Florence, evening.—The new Italian Ministry has been composed of prominent members of both parties.

The Peabody Fund.—At the meeting of the Trustees it was determined that the promotion of primary or common school education should be the leading object, and that in aid of it normal schools should be established in the Southern and South-western States. The Rev. Dr. Sears, of Brown University, was chosen the General Agent, and entrusted with the whole charge of executing the plan, under the direction of the Trustees. Mr. Peabody wrote that he designed to give absolute power to the Trustees in regard to the distribution. The necessary committees were appointed, and Messrs. Appleton & Co., the well-known book publishers, have given to the Trustees 100,000 school books for use in the South.

The Western Union Telegraph Company has abandoned the Russian-American Telegraph project, after expending three millions of dollars in extending their lines eight hundred and fifty miles north of the capital of British Columbia. The success of the Atlantic Cable destroys the hopes of profit from the line as a means of communication with Europe, while the expectation that lines would be established, southward into China, India, and Japan, has proved delusive.

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