

News of the Week.

XLIII CONGRESS—First Session.

Senate.—January 21.—Mr. Patterson, of N. H., reported a bill amendatory to the Tenure of Office act, directing new appointments of officials within thirty days from the passage of the bill.

January 22.—The report of the conference on the Anti-contraction bill was agreed to. A further conference was ordered on the Cotton bill. A bill was passed appropriating \$15,000 for the destitute in the District of Columbia. The customary tribute of respect was paid to the memory of Representative Noel, of Missouri.

January 23.—The Reconstruction bill came up on second reading, and Mr. Doolittle offered an amendment establishing three qualifications, one of which is that negroes must hold, in order to vote—first, military service of one year or more; second, ability to read and write; and third, freehold property to the amount of \$250. Discussion on the Reconstruction bill was continued till adjournment.

January 24.—The President's message, declaring that the Equal Rights bill had failed to become a law, was referred. The Senate insisted on its amendments to the Deficiency Appropriation bill. The joint resolution for Southern relief was passed. The Reconstruction bill was debated.

January 27.—The President was called upon for information as to the trials of Father McLaughlin, Robert Lynch, and others, by the British Government. The Reconstruction bill was debated.

House.—January 21.—The new Reconstruction bill came up, and Mr. Butler's amendment giving the Southern Conventions power to appoint State officers, was rejected. The bill was then passed, yeas 123, nays 45. A resolution was passed, authorizing the Treasury Department to issue to the Southern poor any desiccated vegetables not needed for the army.

January 22.—The Senate amendments to the Deficiency bill were passed with an amendment. The Retrenchment Committee presented a report in regard to the Gettysburg Lottery Scheme. A bill to facilitate collection of the direct tax in Delaware, was referred. The Education Committee were directed to inquire into the expediency of providing common schools for the South, open to all, without distinction of color. The death of Representative Noel, of Missouri, was announced.

January 23.—The Senate amendment to the House bill relating to additional bounties was concurred in, with additional amendments. The death of Cornelius P. Hamilton, lately Representative from Ohio District, was announced.

January 24.—The Naval Appropriation bill was reported and recommitted. It appropriates over \$18,000,000. The Conference Committee on the Cotton bill reported that they had agreed to the Senate amendment exempting foreign cotton from duty. The House refused to concur, and a new conference was ordered. The death of Representative Hise, of Kentucky, was announced.

January 25.—The session was occupied with speeches.

Jan. 27.—The Com. on Territories were directed to report a bill repealing the act organizing the Territory of Montana, said Territory having restricted the franchise to white citizens. Various communications were presented by the Speaker. The bill to prevent payment of Southern war claims was passed. Mr. Banks' bill for the protection of American citizens was reported.

Diplomatic.—The new treaty between the Feejee Islands and the United States, just received, consists of a whole's tooth, with a grain of coal attached; and give to the United States control over the Feejee Islands for three years.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.

New York.—The internal revenue reports of the amount of sales for 1867, show the aggregate amount of business done during the year by H. B. Claflin & Co., to be \$46,120,914; by T. Stewart & Co., (wholesale department) \$32,088,000.

New Jersey.—A Convention was held at Trenton, Jan. 22, of persons opposed to the renewal of the charter of the Camden and Amboy Railway on its expiration next year. There is an active party against the renewal of this charter, who are diligent in canvassing the State.

Pennsylvania.—Attorney General Brewster has reported to the Senate that the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad Company has violated its charter, by not finishing its road to Erie. Rev. C. H. Forney was elected Chaplain of the House. A Free Railroad bill was reported.—In the House, it was agreed that a special committee on retrenchment be appointed. The proposed amendment to the State Constitution conferring the franchise, without distinction of color, on all who can read the Constitution, was reported from the Committee to which it was referred.—The production of coal-oil is on the increase. Two new flowing oil wells are reported.

Philadelphia.—The Mercantile Library has made appropriations during the past year to twenty-five persons, amounting to \$4,605. The total receipts of the year were \$12,729.60; payments \$11,905.08, leaving \$823.52 in the treasury. The permanent fund has been increased to \$68,939.65. The addition of \$5,000 to the fund was the gift of I. V. Williamson, Esq., formerly and for many years in extensive business in Market street.—The annual report of the Mercantile Library Company shows that there are 16 perpetual members, three of whom were added during 1867; whole number of life members, 139, 74 of whom were added during the past year; whole number of stockholders, 5,795, 128 of whom were added during 1867; subscribers, 399. At the beginning of last August, the whole number of volumes in the library by actual count, was 42,383; books acquired during the year, 4,563; books loaned during the year, 160,436. The report refers to the purchase of the Franklin Market property; the price was \$126,000, and of this \$26,000 have been paid, and \$50,000 remains on the ground rent. The balance, \$50,000, is yet to be provided for, and allowing \$30,000 for adapting the building to its new uses; the remaining expense is \$130,000. The Treasurer reported that during the year 1867 the total receipts were \$31,953.32, and the expenditures were \$31,327.06.—Through the efforts principally of Rev. Phillips Brooks, \$1,703.54 has been sent to the suffering Cretans.—The present chief operator of the Gettysburg lottery says that the receipts of the concern have been \$20,000, while the expenses have been \$80,000. This is almost too good to be true.

Ohio.—Gen. John Beatty, Republican, has been elected to succeed the late Mr. Hamilton in the Eighth Congressional District of Ohio, by over 1000 majority.

District of Columbia.—Peter Force, a well-known resident of Washington, died in that city last Thursday night. Mr. Force collected a vast mass of rare books, papers, maps, charts, pamphlets, &c., forming the most valuable and valuable collection of American history in existence. This collection was last year purchased by Congress, and now forms part of the Congressional Library.

Virginia.—The Trustees of the Peabody Educational Fund met at Richmond, Jan. 21. General Grant was present.

West Virginia.—The late Democratic Convention resolved that they regarded the existence of the State as an accomplished fact, and declared their "unalterable determination" to maintain it.

Georgia.—The late Governor Jenkins' order suspending the collection of taxes is rescinded, and the taxes are to be collected at once to pay the Convention. At the Convention, a resolution was introduced asking Congress to advance its "per diem."

The financial agent reported that he had received \$10,000 from the military State Treasurer for the disposal of the Convention.

North Carolina.—In the Convention on Saturday, an ordinance was introduced annulling all laws of the State, except those relating to marriage.

South Carolina.—In the Constitutional Convention there are a man who was a rebel and his former slave.

Kansas.—The Legislature has memorialized Congress to enact that large tracts of land shall not be sold to one person, and that lands granted to railroad companies be put into the market.—Miss Emma Hunt has been elected enrolling clerk of the lower house of the Legislature of that State.

FOREIGN.

Nova Scotia.—The accustomed shoals of fish have failed utterly, and the result is hunger, disease, desolation and death.

BY ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

January 21.—Florence.—The late invasion of the States of the Church by the Garibaldians, has added 18,900,000 lives to the expenditures during the past year.—Menebra has addressed a sharp note to the Spanish Government, called forth by the speech of Queen Isabel, at the opening of the Cortes, in which it was announced that Spain was ready to interfere for the defence of the Papal States. Menebra informs the Spanish Cabinet that Italy will not admit of the intervention of any foreign power, save France, in whose case such intervention is only allowed by special treaty.—Paris.—The Monitor publishes a letter from South America, which says that the communications of President Lopez with Humata are secure, and the attempt of the allies to take that fortification by siege is hopeless. The internal difficulties will prevent a vigorous prosecution of the war against Paraguay.

January 23.—Paris.—It is reported on good authority, that the Emperor has forbidden the publication of Prince Napoleon's pamphlet on foreign and domestic affairs of France.—Madrid.—The Spanish Ambassador is instructed to inform the Italian Government that Spain is determined to maintain the temporal power of the head of the Church at Rome, but in no other respect will she interfere in the affairs of the Italian peninsula.—Copenhagen.—The Rigsdag met in secret session. The sale of the Danish West India Islands to the United States, it is generally understood, was approved.

January 25.—London.—The Sheriff of the Island of Alderney, having been identified with the Fenian organization, was yesterday sent to prison to await trial.—Considerable feeling has been created by the recent resolutions of the United States House of Representatives, declaring the sympathy of the nation with the Fenians.

January 26.—London.—Intelligence of the condition of the British captives has been received in camp at Senafe. They were at Magdalar, alive and well, and were carefully guarded to prevent escape.

January 27.—Dublin.—A gun shop in this city was entered by a party of men, who succeeded in carrying away nearly half a ton of powder. Twelve Fenians have been arrested as connected with the theft.—London.—Sir Culling Eardley has been convicted of bigamy and sentenced to imprisonment eighteen months at hard labor.—Paris.—War expenses connected with the Luxembourg affair and the possibility that France may be called on to pay the Mexican loan, have rendered a new loan of 440,000,000 francs necessary, for which the Government has appealed to the patriotism of the people.

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