THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1868.

News of the Week.

72

XLth CONGRESS-First Session.

Senate.—February 18.—The bill providing for a gradual reduction of the army was passed. The resolution admitting Senator Thomas, of Maryland, was discussed.

February 19 .-- A bill was referred, providing for tor elect from Maryland, was rejected, yeas 21, nays

February 20.—The Judiciary Committee had re-ferred to it a communication from the President, transmitting a list of counterfeiters pardoned, with the names of those recommending. The House bill providing for the more efficient government of the

rebel States was taken up. February 21.—The President astounded the Senate by a message announcing that he had removed Mr. Stanton and appointed Adjt. Gen. Lorenzo Thomas Secretary of War ad interim. The Senate responded, by resolving, 29 to 6, that the action of the President was in violation of law.

February 22 .- The Senate adjourned soon after noon to allow of a caucus of the Republican members.

February 24 .- The President nominated Thomas Ewing, of Ohio, to be Secretary of War. He also sent to the Senate a message, arguing that he had a right, under the Tenure of Office act, to remove Mr. Stanton, and make a new appointment, and pleading that his action was for the purpose of obtaining a legal vindication of his Constitutional privileges.

House.—February 18.—A joint resolution appro-priating \$50,000 for the relief and return to the United States of destitute American citizens, who have been imprisoned in foreign countries, was passed. The bill giving \$3 per month pension to soldiers of 1812, was also passed. February 19.—The bill for the surrender to for

eign governments of persons convicted of certain crimes, and the Legislative Appropriation bills were passed.—The President was asked to communicate the correspondence with reference to the conferring of a brevet generalship on General Sherman, and the creation of a new military department.

February 20,—A resolution was adopted instruct-ing the Committee on Public Expenditures to in-quire into the receipts of the collector of the port of New York. An amendment extending to marines the act regarding the naturalization of soldiers was agreed to. The army appdopriation bill passed fi-

nally. February 21.—The Library Committee reported a bill securing to authors in certain cases the benefit of international copyright. A communication from Secretary Stanton, announcing his removal by the President, was received and referred to the Reconstruction Committee. Mr. Covode, of Pa., offered, as a question of privilege, a resolution, for the im-peachment of President Johnson, and it was referred to the Reconstruction Committee. February 22.—A bill was passed to punish the

unlawful use of public money and property by officials. The Senate bill to protect witnesses in certain cases was passed. It relates to witnesses in suits in English courts. The Pension bill, appro-priating \$30,350.000, was passed. Mr. Stevens, of Pa., from the Reconstruction Committee, made a report in relation to the removal of Secretary Stanton, with a resolution, signed by all the Republican members of the Committee, impeaching the Presi-dent. Speeches in support of impeachment were made by Messrs. Bingham and Spalding, of Ohio, Kelley of Pa., Farnsworth, Logan, Baker and Ingersoll, Illinois. The opposition to impeachment was by Brooks, of N. Y., Phelps, of Md., Beck, of Ky., and Holman of Ind. In the course of the dis cussion, a despatch was read from Gov. Oglesby, of Illinois, urging impeachment.

February 24.-The resolution declaring the P.esident impeached, was adopted by 126 yeas to 47 nays. Messrs. Stevens and Boutwell were appointed a committee to inform the Senate of the action of the House, A committee of seven, with Mr. Boutwell as Chairman, was then appointed to prepare the articles of impeachment

War Department - The President removed Se cretary Stanton from the War Department on Feb. 21st, and appointed Gen. Lorenzo, Thomas Secretary ad interim. The Senate was notified of the removal, and, in Executive Session, adopted a resolution declaring that the President has no power to remove the Secretary of War.—February 22.—Secretary Stanton still occupies the War Office, eating and sleeping in the office Gen. Thomas was arrested on the affidavit of Mr. Stanton, for violation of the Tenure of Office act, and held to bail in \$5000 .-Feb. 24.-General Thomas again demanded possession of the War Office, but was refused by Secretary Stanton, and Thomas retired. Financial.—The stock speculators and gold gamblers who were most zealously operating for a rise have but-little occasion thus far to congratulate themselves upon their success. The premium on gold was 1425 an Monday, and all things considered, is remarkably uniform. Nominations.—Among the nominations, Feb. 21, were Gen. George B. McClellan as minister to Great Britain, and Major General Geo. H. Thomas to be Lieutenant General by brevet and General by brevet; the latter has declined the promotion offered by the President.

the action of the Senate in withdrawing the ratification of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Ohio.—The whole number of hogs packed this season in Cincinnati is reported at 356,831, and the average weight per hog 210 pounds. This is less than last year. Indiana .-- In one judicial district, twenty-one

murder trials are to take place at the next term of court.—The Republican Convention adopted resolutions favoring payment of the five-twenty bonds in greenbacks. Michigan .-- It is found that the fate cold enap has seriously injured the peach orchards in the fruit region along the eastern shore of Eake Michi-

California.—The Fenians of the Pacific coast are reported to be preparing for a raid on the Brit-

ish territory. Idaho.—The Supreme Court has decided that greenbacks are lawful currency, and will be received as lawful payment for taxes, and all other kinds of

indebtedness, the statute law to the contrary notwithstanding. Virginia.—Gen. Schofield has removed the City Recorder and eleven, magistrates in Richmond, for allowing tobacco inspectors to qualify without taking

the oath Kentucky.-Mr. McCreery has been elected U. S. Senator, to succeed Mr. Gulhrief by the Legisla-ture. Alabama.-Official returns of the vote in fortytwo counties have been-received at head-quarters in Montgomery, but i neral Meade has forbidden their publication. The whole vote of the State is thought

to be over 72,000, or nearly 12,000 less than the required number. **Mississippi.³**-The Jackson *Charlon*: attributes the "miserable condition and poor prospects of agricul-ture in Mississippi and other. Southern States as much to the absolute exhaustion of the soil as to all other causes combined."-The Mississippi river is clear of ice for several miles above and below St.

Louis, and an early resumption of navigation is expecte pected. South Carolina.—Gen. Burns entered, Feb. 21st, on his duties as Military Mayor of Charleston. Georgia.—General Meade has forbidden impris-

onment for debt, and prohibited the issue of bail processes by the State Courts, in accordance with a resolution of the Convention.

SOUTHERN CONVENTIONS.

Virginia .- February 18th, it was decided not to tax citizens for the privilege of fishing for oysters, but to tax sales of oysters.—The news of the im-peachment was received with applause. South Carolina.—Twenty additional sections of

the new Constitution were adopted.—Several lead-ing colored members have gone to Washington to ascertain the probabilities of a reception of colored Congressmen. and to try whether Congeess will grant lands to the negroes. North Carolina.—The Convention adopted the

bill of rights, and considered several applications for divorce. The report was adopted fixing the oundaries of Congressional districts.

Georgia decided to exempt manufactures and institutions of learning from taxation. All voters are made eligible to office at the first election under the new Constitution.

Florida .- The adverse factions of the Convention united, in accordance with General Meade's recommendation, and re-elected the majority President. General Meade appeared in the Convention and expressed his gratification at the result,-Feb. 20.—The reorganized convention continues harmonious. Richards, late president of the convention and Saunders, a colored member, were both expelled and started for Washington to-day with the Constitution made by their faction .- The new Constitution is complete. Some of the provisions are very liberal. Universal suffrage, without proscription or test oaths, is established, an educational qualification heing required after 1880. Foreigners are allowed to vote on declaration of their intentions. The election is to begin on the 6th of April.

Mississippi.-Feb. 20.-A communication from \$2 To \$60. Gen. Gillem, sets forth that destitution does not ex-\$2 TO \$60. ist to so great an extent as many suppose. Of the \$2 To \$60. bill of righ s four sections were adopted to day. The \$2.To \$60. thirteenth provides that no property qualification \$2.To \$60. tor jurors shall be prescribed. A committee was \$2.To \$60. or jurors prescribed appointed to lay before General Grant, the state of \$2 to \$60. affairs: also, a committee to negotiate a Joan of \$3 to \$60. affairs; also, a committee to negotiate a Joan of \$100,000 for the payment of Convention expenses.— A section of the new bill of rights, abolishing sla-Louisiana.-February 18th, the Committee on \$12 TO \$50. very, has been adopted. Style reported its revision of the constitution. One \$12 ro \$50. of the members said they had so altered the constitution that it was hardly recognizable, and the re- \$13 TO \$45. port was recommitted. No preamble to the consti-tution had been adopted, and the omission was dis-cussed until adjournment.—Feb. 19.—General Han-\$13 TO \$45. \$13 TO \$45. \$13 то \$45. \$13 то \$45. cock issued an order that the last revised registry of each parish in Louisiana shall be published once in the newspapers having the greatest circulation for \$20 to \$60. each parish. A resolution was adopted to appoint a special committee of five to revise the style and arrangement of the constitution, they to have a correct copy printed, as adopted, with the proposed changes set forth specifically.

Consul at Jerusalem refused his demand for protection. The case creates much feeling among the Jews, who regard it as an outrage, and say that it is an insult to Prussia. The Finance Minister replied that the German Consul at Jerusalem was a Federal, and not a Prussian, representative—and, consequently, application for information must be made to the Chancellor of the North German Confederation.

February 20 .- London .- Advices from Cape Town, Africa, state that the Supreme Court of Natal have at last decided the question touching the matter of the church property in favor of Bishop Colenso.—*Evening*.—Up to the 1st of January, En-glish captives in Abyssinia were all safe and well.— Vienna.—A circular has been issued from the Home office, warning priests against fomenting discontent among their congregations.

February 21.-London .- The Coroner's jury on the explosion at Clerkenwell prison, bring a charge of murder against Barrett, English, O'Keefe Mulla-ny, the two Desmonds, Ann Justice, and others, whose names have not yet been made known. The police in the district are severely, censured for lack of activity and vigilance.-The operation of the new postal treaty between the United States and Great Britain has been temporarily suspended, but only to revise certain points mutually overlooked.—Train's lecture in Dublin, was very poorly attended.—Eve-ning.—In the Commons D Israell gave a denial to the report that the expenditures of the Abyssinian expedition already exceeded the estimate of the last season.—The latest letters received from General Napier give a hope that the war in Abyssinia would end this season. The Evening Globe reports that alarming revolts have broken out among the prisoners in India. Paris. La Putrie says that Russia is massing troofis near the Danube. La France asserts that the Italian Minister has pledged Italy to the observance of the September Convention, and also to the payment of her share of the debt of the former States of the Church. February 22.—London.—Sullivan, convicted in

Dublin for publishing seditious libels, has been sen-tenced to six months' imprisonment. Pigot, tried and convicted on a like oharge, was sentenced to twelve months. Both will be required, on the expiration of their confinement, to furnish security for future good behaviour.-Paris.-The bill for the regulation of the newspaper press is still under dis-cussion: The amendment allowing free publication of summaries of the Corps debates was rejected by

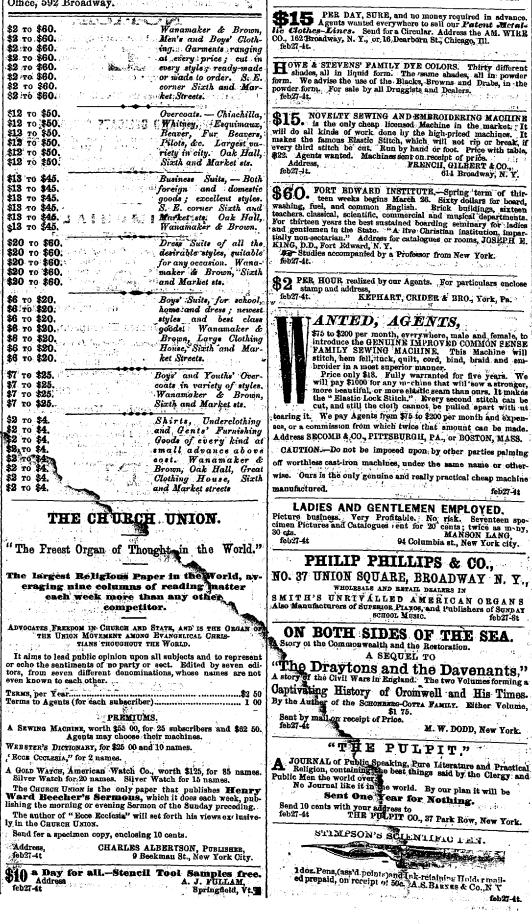
a vote of 155 to 67. February 23: Dondon: Independence Belge says the vast military preparations which are now going on in all parts of France are of a character and on a scale which lead to the conviction that they are designed to meet other purposes than, national defence.-Admiral Farragut met with an enthusiastic reception from the Papal Government.—Paris.— The fete given by Minister Dix on Washington's birth day was very brilliant. A large number of people attended, and many French and other European notabilities were present.—Berlin.—The North German Bund agrees to fully recognize and accord all the rights, exemption from military duty, etc., of native born Americans and Germans naturalized according to law, as citizens of the United States, after they have spent five years in the United States. The treaty to this effect was signed by Mr. Bancroft January 22d.

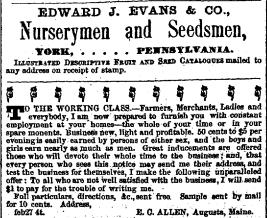
1203 FOREIGN.

Tunis.—The deaths daily from famine, are re-ported to be 170, and it is apprehended that sick-ness will arise through the number of unburied dead.

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Treasury.—The amount of gold, Feb. 18, was \$104,000,000, of which \$28,000,000 was payable in gold certificates, leaving a balance of \$75,300,000.

Army.—The Government paid last year \$35,205,-50 for wooden legs for wounded soldiers. It was money well spent.

The State Department has issued a circular advising all citizens, native and naturalized, who may have occasion to visit Great Britain or Ireland, during the present troubles, to obtain passports of the Department.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.

Massachusetts .- Gov. Bullock has vetoed the Massachusetts.—Gov. Bullock has vetoed the bill passed by the Legislature, repealing the State Constabulary law.—Last week the Boston soup houses fed fourteen thousand and forty-four persons. New York.—The city poor are hereafter to be fed at the public expense. The Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction in that city have made arrangements to feed them daily between the house of T and ULA M at three of the prisons. All hours of 7 and 11 A M., at three of the prisons. All the police authorities are furnished with tickets to give to such as they may deem deserving of relief, and these measures, it is thought, will relieve much

and these measures, it is thought, will releve much of the distress now existing. **Pennsylvania**.—In the Senate, Feb. 18, the Free Railroad bill passed to a third reading.—In the Se-nate, the Free Railroad bill was passed, with an amendment that no railroad corporation shall occupy the streets of any incorporated city or borough without the consent of such. In the House, the bill authorizing Councils to elect a Chief Engineer, Commissioner of Highways, etc., for a term of years, was defeated—yeas 47, nays 51.—In the Senate, February 20th, a bill was passed enabling married women to contract for the renting of dwellings and store houses. The House bill incorporating the Bethesda Presbyterian church was passed. In the House the act granting pensions to soldiers of the war of 1812 was passed ; also, an act giving Corn-planter's descendants \$250.—Governor Geary has telegraphed to Washington, urging Congress to "stand firm," saying that "troops are tendering their services to sustain the laws."

New Jersey.—The Senate has passed the reso-utions withdrawing the ratification of the fourteenth mendment.-Feb. 20th, the House concurred in

BY ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

BY ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH. February 18. London, evening.—In the Com-mons, Mr. Northcote said, the Pasha of Egypt had agreed to recall his auxiliary force from Abyssinia, and the report that the Egyptians still remain, and were advancing with the British, has not yet been explained by any despatch to the government. The expedition was no longer suffering from scarcity of water.—The examination of persons connected with the Clerkenwell explosion has terminated. All the prisoners have been remanded, except Allan, who was discharged.—Lord Derby is improving.—Paris, evening.—The Moniteur Du Soir has a report that there has been a stop in the advance of the British \$2 ro \$4. \$3 ro \$4. \$3 ro \$4. \$4 ro \$4. amendment to the bill for the regulation of the press, permitting the free admission of foreigners. pers and the unrestricted sale of French journals, was rejected.—Berlin.—The Upper House of the Diet has passed the Convention made with the deposed Powers whose territories have been annexed. The King engages to suspend all payments of money to the Princes and to confiscate their property in case of disloyalty.—Count Von Bismarck proposes o establish at the different ports of Germany boards of federal officers, to examine into the sanitary conlition of vessels bound to America, in order to prevent a repetition of the ship Leibnitz horror.

February 19.-London.-Allan has been rear rested and imprisoned on a charge of murder.— Eve-ning.—The Commons passed the bill for the suspen-sion of the writ of habeas corpus in Ireland. The eading members of the Liberal party propose to give a farewell dinner to Minister Adams.-The political agitation in Portugal continues. The new Government is very unpopular, and tumults are re-ported in various parts of the country.-Private dvices from Brazil say that a general conscription has been ordered to procure reinforcements for the army. The Puris Temps says twenty persons were arrested for political demonstrations at the second performance of Victor Hugo's drama of "Ruy Blas." -Dublin - Mr. Pigol, of the Irishman, has been convicted of publishing treasonable and seditious libels. -Berlin.-In the House of Deputies, yesterday, the Government was asked to explain why the United States Consul at Jerusalem was allowed to procure the arrest of one Marcus, a Jewish subject of Prussia, with whose ward, a young girl, the American Consul sought to elope; and why, after her guar-dian had been thrown into prison, the Prussian

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