

News of the Week.

March 2—March 9.

HOME.

President Grant and Vice President Colfax were inaugurated, March 4th, at the Capitol, the latter in the Senate chamber and the former in front of the Capitol. Both swore with uplifted hands. Gen. Grant's Inaugural will be found elsewhere. His father was injured by falling down a flight of steps during the day, but is recovering. The command of the army has been transferred to Gen. Sherman, and Sheridan becomes Lieutenant Gen. Schofield becomes Major Gen., and C. C. Augur Brig. Gen. The Military Divisions are assigned as follows: Atlantic to Meade; South to Terry; Louisiana to Sheridan; Dakota to Hancock; First to Canby; Fifth to Reynolds; Washington to Emory. Gen. Sherman has had Gen. Grant's residence in Washington and \$100,000 in cash presented to him by the New Yorkers.—Office seekers are notified to send their applications through the proper member of the Cabinet.

Ex-President Johnson's last acts were the pardoning of convicted criminals and the killing of just laws. Spangler and Arnold from among the murderers of Lincoln, the two Lumars (cotton thieves), Chas. O. Brockway (a New York counterfeiter), and it is said two leading scoundrels of the New York Whisky Ring (Jacob and Moses Dewey), were among the last objects of his "executive clemency." All the Appropriation Bills as passed he signed except that for the Indians, but the Bill "to strengthen the public credit" he "pocketed" as hostile to his reputation views.

The XLth Congress closed its sessions at noon, March 4th. The Senate had passed the Public Credit Bill as amended in Joint-Conferences, the Legislative Appropriation Bill, the Post Office, Diplomatic and other Appropriation Bills.

The House concurred in the amendments to the Bills restraining National Banks, and allowing of the free importation of naval machinery. A resolution expressing sympathy both for the Spanish revolutionists and the Cuban insurgents, and authorizing the President to recognize the latter, was passed. In both branches resolutions highly eulogistic of the retiring officers were offered by the Democrats and passed unanimously.

The XLth Congress was called to order by the Clerks of each branch on the afternoon of March 4th. The Democrats of the house inaugurated the session with disorderly opposition to the exclusion of the Georgia and Louisiana representatives from the roll. The Senate approved of President Grant's nominations for cabinet officers, viz.: Elihu B. Washburne, of Illinois, Secretary of State; A. T. Stewart, of New York, Secretary of the Treasury; Adolph E. Borie, of Philadelphia, Secretary of the Navy; Ex-Gov. (and Gen.) Jacob D. Cox, of Ohio, Secretary of the Interior; J. A. J. Creswell, of Maryland, Postmaster General; Judge E. R. Hoar, of Massachusetts, Attorney-General. The question came up at once on the repeal of the Tenure of Office Act, and the repeal (on Grant's recommendation) of the Law of 1798, by which an importer in business cannot be Secretary of the Treasury. Several measures hereafter are to be proposed with reference to the first, and two bills introduced on Saturday for the second went over through Sumner's objections.—A Joint Committee on the Removal of political disabilities has been agreed to. Rev. Dr. Newman has been elected chaplain.

In the House Mr. Blaine, of Maine, was elected speaker; Mr. McPherson, of Pennsylvania, Clerk. The papers of the Maryland, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Georgia Representatives were referred to the Committee on Elections, as was the Pennsylvania cases of Covode vs. Foster, and Taylor vs. Reading.

General.—The Patent Office is so crowded with models that it is proposed to destroy all offered prior to 1848. The Treasury warrants for Government expenses in February aggregated \$14,657,500. The Agricultural Department urges that the country will be greatly injured if the indiscriminate destruction of its forests is permitted to continue, three-fourths having already been cut down. The First Regt. U. S. Infantry is ordered from New Orleans (whither it went in 1865), to Kansas. National Debt. The total debt less cash in the Treasury, March 1st, was \$2,544,336,904 against \$2,556,205,638 in February. Deduct bonds issued to the Pacific R. R. C., \$53,937,000 and we have \$2,490,399,904.

In New England the Maine Legislature wants no restoration of the Reciprocity Treaty of Commerce with Canada, and increases the bounty on bears to \$5. The House (95 to 45) rejects a Bill to abolish capital punishment. Portland in rebuilding is to be beautified with wide and regular streets and huge docks. Boston claims to have 240,000 inhabitants. Her Aldermen licensed 14 velocipede rinks in one day. Her police are to suppress all masked balls. The Cape Cod Fisheries were worth \$1,500,000 last year. A married woman may do business in the State independently of her husband by filing a certificate of specifications in the County Court. The Republicans of Rhode Island have nominated Hon. Seth Padelford for Governor, as Gen. Burnside will not re-appear again.

In the Middle States New York city has 15,000 tenement houses, in which 480,000 people live. Her seventy banks have \$70,000,000 capital and 30,000 shareholders. The Board of Health order a general vaccination of all not already vaccinated. The City Chamberlain credits the city with the interest of money in his custody, which our city officers never do. The Erie road has refused to allow our North Central R. R. to use its line through Elmira, in revenge for our Legislature's preventing their control of sundry Western lines. They disregard the injunctions of the Courts. Wm. M. Tweed succeeds Gov. Hoffman as Grand Sachem of Tammany. The Democrats carried Utica, Elmira and Oswego in Municipal elections, but lost Rochester. Gov. Randolph, of New Jersey, has vetoed a bill incorporating a base ball club, as one clause might indirectly sanction gambling and prize-fighting. All transit duties on passengers have been abolished, and R. R. companies are to be taxed on their working capital.

In Pennsylvania John P. O'Neill, Esq., a worthy man, is to be U. S. District Attorney for the Eastern District. The very unsuccessful attempt of Col. McClure, of The Chambersburg Repository, to dictate to Gen. Grant the appointment of Gov. Curtin to a place in the Cabinet, or at least the non-appointment of such men as Geo. H. Stuart and Adolph E. Borie, "has strengthened the hands of the Cameron wing of the party by making their opponents ridiculous. Col. Forney is in low spirits, and contemplates emigration to North Carolina.

In the City an estimate based on the assessment of last Spring, omitting the extra assessment of Oct., fixes our population at 769,380. In 1868 17,259 children were born, 8,988 of them boys, and 385 colored. The marriages aggregated 6,371, an increase of 287. The Romanists celebrated 1,141 of these; the Methodists 1,607; the Presbyterians 708; the Episcopalians 675; the Lutherans 518; the [Dutch] and German Reformed 400; the Baptists 496. The deaths were 14,693. The Mayor has vetoed the Bill allowing the German-own Passenger R. R. to salt their tracks. Col. Green has resigned the City Pension Agency. Policemen are to be seen on the streets at midnight now, which is a novelty. The Supreme Court has decided that social recognition as man and wife constitutes valid marriage.

In the South four pirates were hung at Princess Anne, Md., on Friday. A Richmond jury have

defiled their consciences by acquitting James Grant of the murder of H. Rives Pollard. The Georgia Republicans send a deputation to ask Congress to reconstruct the State Legislature. The Legislature ignore the XVth Amendment. The Louisiana Legislature adjourned on Wednesday, after endorsing Grant's Inaugural. Its debates were conducted in English, French, and sometimes German. The planters complain of scarcity of hands. Texas, Missouri and Kentucky were passed over by the Trustees of the Peabody Fund, because their Educational Institutions suffered least from the war.

In the Interior minors are prohibited from playing billiards by a new law of Indiana. The Southern section of the State, settled from Kentucky, is a scene of great social discord from the non enforcement of the laws. Of twenty-one murders, within ten days, not half the perpetrators were arrested. Chicago shipped 40,000,000 bushels of wheat this year. A school-teacher has been fined \$15 for cruelly whipping a little girl who broke a pencil. The Democrats elect the municipal ticket in Rock Island. The Wisconsin House votes to submit the Woman Suffrage question to the people, but the Senate rejects the Bill. The Republicans have won Des Moines, Iowa, from the Democrats. At the recent banquet given at St. Paul by the Legislature of Minnesota to that of Wisconsin, no wine or liquor was forthcoming. The St. Louis authorities are making a raid on the lottery ticket dealers. One has been fined \$1,000. There is not a hostile Indian in Sheridan's department of the Plains. There is one Democrat in each branch of the Arkansas Legislature. Tennessee is to own the Hermitage.

On the Pacific Slope women school teachers marry so fast that San Francisco cannot keep their places filled. Oregon has twenty-one quartz-mills employed in mining operations. The dead-lock continues in the Legislature. The Republicans have resigned; the Democrats do not form a quorum; the Governor will issue no warrants to fill vacancies.

FOREIGN.

In England Gladstone's Irish Church Bill, offered and read March 1st, is a very complicated affair, providing for the preservation of all vested rights, but setting apart half the property of the Establishment to be used for the benefit of the Irish people. A Royal Commission to carry out the programme is to exist for ten years. Appointments to church benefices are to be made without investment; in the temporalities, and no money is to be used for permanent purposes. New organizations of the Church for her work are to be recognized by the Queen, but not created. Private endowments remain intact. Twelve cathedrals are to be preserved by national appropriations as national property. Church buildings not needed by the disestablished Church are to be devoted to secular uses. Instead of the Regium Donum and yearly grants to Maynooth, an endowment is to be given to Maynooth and Magee College. The Bill is to be discussed March 16th. The Regium Donum and the Maynooth grants are to be gradually abolished. The bill is doubtfully and sparingly criticized, the main objection being the multitude of its provisions. The Government will not attempt to introduce an Ocean penny-postage until the present contracts with steamers shall have expired. Mr. Goschen, President of the Poor Law Board, urges Parliament to repeal all restrictions on emigration. The county funds hereafter are to be apportioned hereafter by elective Financial Boards, and a new and simpler Bankruptcy Bill is to be introduced, as also a Bill on Scottish Education. The Irish Tenant Right Bill is postponed till next session. The Women's Suffrage Movement continues. The storms of February severed all the cables between England and the Continent. The Government pays \$1,900,000 to the annual expenses of the 150,000 volunteers. The army and navy coast guard branches of her Majesty's service are to be cut down, and about 14,000 persons mustered out. The population of the British Isles increases 200,000 yearly, although as many as the population of Mass. come to America yearly. England imports only five per cent. of her fresh meat. Negotiations for the exchange of the colony of Sierra Leone for the French colony of Great Bassan are in progress.

In Ireland the Conservative wing of the Orange party are organizing for a great agitation to unite Irish Protestants in opposition to the Irish Church Bill. The Bishops are about to hold a convention to devise the measures of the future.

In France bad feeling towards Prussia seems to increase. The journals declare that peace can only be preserved by Bismarck's giving pledges for the observance of the Treaty of Prague. The passage of the law by the Belgian Chambers to prevent the transfer of R. R. franchises and privileges to foreigners is excitedly set down to Prussian instigation, as it greatly interferes with the projected extension of great French lines. Yet Belgium is said to profess a desire for a closer alliance to France. King George of Hanover tried to avail himself of the war fever to raise a "Hanoverian Leg" on in Paris, but the Emperor stopped him. In the event of war, Luxemburg will be as valuable as ever as a strategic point, for the city spends only 30s. per week in carrying out the orders of the Paris Conference to demolish the fortifications. The People (semi annual official) asserts that the people of Belgium earnestly desire annexation to France. Minister Dix denies having interfered in European politics. Napoleon has ordered life-size portraits of Johnson and Grant for Versailles. The Imperial Academy have elected Dr. Livingstone to fill the place vacant by the death of Dallas Bache. Rochefort is to be a candidate to represent Paris in the next Corps Legislatif. The agricultural population has diminished six per cent. in twenty years.

In Germany Bismarck defends the confiscation of King George's estates on the ground that he was using their revenue to embitter France against Prussia. King George has formally protested against the measure and asks (and seems likely to get) permission for the members of his Guelph League to enter the Austrian service. King William's Thronrede at the opening of the ninth German Parliament was pacific and hopeful, but closed by "howling teeth." Mr. Bancroft gave a great banquet, March 4th, at which Bismarck expressed his gratification that Germany and the U. S. had never quarrelled. Die Kreuz-Zeitung (official) charges France with intriguing for the absorption of Belgium. The French Ambassador at Vienna, has opened negotiations for the transfer of the Tyrol to Italy. In the German Universities there are 550 American students.

In Spain the Cortes are at work on the new Constitution. A Republican organ, La Reforma, urges the recognition of Cuban independence, or compromise rather than continue a ruinous war. Don Carlos is raising money to begin a guerilla war next Spring, and his emissaries are working on the religious prejudices of the peasantry. Seven of his underlings and a quantity of military stores and papers have been seized in Arragon. Spain owes \$2,125,000,000 and pays \$168,750,000 yearly in interest. The monopolies of salt and tobacco are under discussion. The detection of recent conspiracies charged upon the Republicans, has postponed an amnesty proclamation. The King of Portugal consents to be a candidate for the throne of Spain if his father Ferdinand will resume that of Portugal. Isabella proclaims all that has been done since she left it, to be null and void, and refuses to abdicate in favor of her son.

In Cuba, besides many minor encounters, the Spaniards claim that Gen. Lesca has won on the Sierra de Capitas the greatest battle of the war. He estimates the loss of the rebels at 1,000, and reports them thoroughly demoralized. Rebel prisoners are to be transported to Fernando Po, on the coast of Africa. One rebel leader has been caught

and is to be executed. The clergy offer Dulce one-sixth of their income to carry on the war. Nassau, N. P., is a main depot for the insurgents. In Denmark the Heir-Apparent is to marry the Princess of Sweden, which may end in a union of all Scandinavia under one crown.

In Turkey peace with Persia seems to have been secured by the removal from the Cabinet of Namuk Pasha and Djebel Bey who while in power at Bagdad had made themselves especially odious to Persians. In Afghanistan Cabool is the scene of a civil war over a disputed succession, and the Afghans are resuming war with the British.

In South America leading Bogotan journals oppose the Darien Canal treaty and it will probably be rejected. Lopez has an army and is fortifying the interior of Paraguay. The dissensions of the Allies have driven some of their ablest generals from command.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S INAUGURAL.

Citizens of the United States: Your suffrages having elevated me to the office of President of the United States, I have, in conformity with the Constitution of our country, taken the oath of office prescribed therein. I have taken this oath without mental reservation, and with the determination to do, to the best of my ability, all that it requires of me. The responsibilities of the position I feel, but accept them without fear.

The office has come to me unsought. I commence its duties untrammelled. I bring to it a conscientious desire and determination to fill it, to the best of my ability, to the satisfaction of the people. On all the leading questions agitating the public mind I will always express my views to Congress, and urge them according to my judgment, and when I think it desirable will exercise the constitutional privilege of interposing a veto to defeat the measures which I oppose; but all laws will be faithfully executed, whether they meet my approval or not. I shall, on all subjects, have a policy to recommend, but none to enforce against the will of the people. Laws are to govern all alike, those opposed to as well as those who favor them. I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution. The country having just emerged from a great rebellion, many questions will come before it for settlement in the next four years which preceding administrations have never had to deal with.

In meeting these it is desirable that they should be approached calmly, without prejudice, hate, or sectional pride, remembering that the greatest good to the greatest number is the object to be attained. This requires security of person and property, and free religious, and political opinions in every part of our common country, without regard to local prejudice, and all laws to secure these ends will receive my best efforts for enforcement.

A great debt has been contracted in securing to us and our posterity the Union. The payment of this, principal and interest, as well as the return to a specie basis as soon as it can be accomplished, without material detriment to the debtor class or the country at large, must be provided for.

To protect the national honor, every dollar of Government indebtedness should be paid in gold, unless otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract. Let it be understood that no repudiator of our farthing of our public debt will be trusted in public places, and it will go far toward strengthening a credit which ought to be the best in the world, and it will ultimately enable us to replace the debt with bonds bearing less interest than we now pay.

To this should be added a faithful collection of the revenue, a strict accountability to the Treasury for every dollar collected, and the greatest practicable retrenchment in the expenditures in every department of the Government. When we compare the paying capacity of the country now, with the ten States still in poverty from the effects of war, but soon to emerge, I trust, into greater prosperity than ever before, with its paying capacity twenty-five years ago, and calculate what it probably will be twenty-five years hence, who can doubt the feasibility of paying every dollar with more ease than we now pay for useless luxuries? Why, it looks as though Providence had bestowed upon us a strong box, the precious metals locked up in sterile mountains of the Far West, which we are now forging the key to unlock, to meet the very contingency that is now upon us. Ultimately it may be necessary to increase the facilities to reach these riches, and it may be necessary, also, that the General Government should give its aid to secure this access, but this should only be when a dollar of obligation to pay secures precisely the same sort of dollar to use now, and not before.

Whilst the question of specie payments is in abeyance, the prudent business man is careful about contracting debts payable in the distant future. The nation should follow the same rule. A prostrate commerce is to be rebuilt, and all industries encouraged. The young men of the country—those who by their age must be their rulers twenty-five years hence—have peculiar interest in maintaining the national honor.

A citizen's reflection upon what will be our commanding influence among the nations of the earth in their day, if they are only true to themselves, should inspire them with national pride. All divisions, geographical, political, and religious, can join in the common sentiment.

How the public debt is to be paid or specie payment resumed, is not so important as that a plan should be adopted and adhered to. A united determination to do is worth more than divided counsels upon the method of doing. Legislation upon this subject may not be necessary now, nor even advisable, but it will be the civil law is more fully restored in all parts of the country, and trade resumes its wonted channels. It will be my endeavor to administer the laws in good faith, to collect the revenues assessed, and to have them properly accounted for, and economically disbursed.

I will, to the best of my ability, appoint to office those only who will carry out this design. In regard to foreign policy, I would deal with nations as equitable foreign policy, I would deal with each other, and I would protect the law-abiding citizen, whether of native or foreign birth, wherever his rights are jeopardized or the flag of our country floats.

I would respect the rights of all nations, demanding equal respect for our own. If others depart from this rule in their dealings with us, we may be compelled to follow their precedent. The proper treatment of the original occupants of this land, the Indians, is a subject deserving of careful study. I will favor any course towards them which tends to their civilization, christianization, and ultimate citizenship.

The question of suffrage is one which is likely to agitate the public so long as a portion of the citizens of the nation are excluded from its privileges in any State. It seems to me very desirable that this question should be settled now, and I entertain the hope and express the desire that it may be by the ratification of the fifteenth article of the amendments to the Constitution.

In conclusion, I ask patient forbearance one towards another throughout the land, and a determined effort on the part of every citizen to do his share towards cementing a happy Union, and I ask the prayers of the nation to Almighty God in behalf of this consummation.

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