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INSURATION POPARAGEN

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8, 1868. Congress can hardly be said to have got fairly to work. It is seldom that anything is done at the beginning of a session until after the President's message has been received. To-morrow at 1 o'clock we shall have the message in Congress, and after that the work of the session will commence in earnest.

The Naturalization Laws. The unblushing frauds practised by the De mocracy at the recent elections in nearly all the States, but especially in New York and Pennsylvania, have attracted the attention of Congress, and before the close of the session it is more than probable that some measure will be passed modifying the naturalization laws of the United States. The very first day of the session some half a dozen bills were presented in the House, and one or two in the Sanate, looking to this end. Strange to say, but one came from among the members from Pennsylvania and New York, though those two States suffered more than any others from fraudulent naturalization papers. A comparison of notes, however, among members from different sections of the country shows the practice to have been general upon the part of the Democracy. They have overresched themselves in their rascality to such an extent as to insure the enactment of a law which will make the repetition of the operation exceedingly difficult and hazardous if not impossible. Toe Chairmen both of the Judiciary Committee of the House and of the Senate are clearly of opinion that some more stringent and guarded measures are necessary to protect the ballot-box against the machinations of unserupulous and desperate partisans. The various measures introduced upon this subject have been referred to these committees. and it is probable that at an early day they will all be digested into one pill, which will be speedily put upon 1's passage. The Finances.

If the entire American people are not as thoroughly posted upon the subject of fluance as they should be, it is certainly not owing to any lack of sgitation of the subject. During the late campaign it was the most fruitful theme of discussion both in the public press and upon the stump. It seemed yesterday as if every Senator and member had been discussing the subject since the adjournment last July. Nearly every one had a bill in his pocket containing his ideas on the ques ion. It is remarkable that a mejority of them pointed towards a speedy resumption of specie payments. And it is mantfeet, from personal conversation with members and Senators, that a determination exists to come to the "hard pan" of a specie basis at the earliest day possible. Even the diplomatic and scholarly Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. Sumner, has turned his attention to this most difficult branch of political economy. Among the great batch of papers which he presented yesterday-he scarcely ever rises in the Senate except be has five or six bills and resolutions in his hand-was one to provide for the resump. tion of specie payments on the fourth of July next. That would be a very good day to begin, but this bill and all others must pass through the crucible of the Finance Committee, at whose head presides the cautious and conservative Senator from Onio, Mr. Sherman.

It is probable that a clear majority of both houses are in favor of speedy resumption, but scarcely a dozen of them could be found to agree entirely as to the mode. Horace Greeley's theory that the easiest and "shortest road to resumption is to resume," looks very plata npon paper. Wnether it would be so easy should the Secretary of the Treasury attempt to carry it luto effect, is not quite so clear. The Finance Committee of the Senate and the Ways and Means Committee of the House manifestly regard the whole question as one difficult of solution; and before any measure is reported from either committee providing for a resumption of specie payments, the subject will receive careful consideration.

Manhood Soffrage.

As late as last winter the question of establishing mannood suffrage throughout all the States and Territories of the United States was regarded as one of extreme deileacy. Some went so far as to doubt both the propriety and practicability of it. The vote of the great State of Outo on this question a year ago, and the disestrous defeat it sustained, had the effect of demoralizing to some extent the more timid and time-serving of the Rapublicans in and out of Congress. The hand ome majority piled up by the noble State of Iowa in favor of manhood suffrage this year has had a correspondingly inspiring effect upon the Rapublicans.

The radical wing of the party is, of course bolder than ever, while the conservative wing is thrilled with a new courage which they did not suppose themselves capable of experier cing. It was amusing yesterday in the House to notice how many members were eagarly watching their opportunity to obtain the floor, so as to be the first in the race and carry off the honor of being the first to get in a resolution amending the Constitution of the United States providing for manhood suffrage. Your distinguished Representative rom the Fourty district, Hon. William D. Kelley, was the lucky man. I intimated in this correspondence some time ago that Judge Kelley would probably take charge of this subject in the House, It was eminently proper that he should be the first to move in the matter. The question is not a new one with him, and in its advocacy he has been far in advance of many of his contemporaries. Kelley was quickly followed by Broomall, of the West Chester district, who presented a similar joint resolution. They were all referred to the Judiciary Committee; but it must not be supposed that they will be allowed to slumber there for any length of time.

The Unreconstructed States.

The anomalous condition of Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas will receive the early attention of Congress. Already two or three resolutions have been introduced, directing the Committee on Reconstruction to examine and report what legislation is necessary to make life and property as safe in these States as in others of the Union. Delegations are here in the interests of the white and black loyalists, from both Virginia and Mississippi, and it is expected that a similar delegation will soon be here from Texas. These will press upon the Reconstruction Committee, and upon the members and Senators generally, the importance of speedy action in bringing these States to their normal condition

So much bloodshed and anarchy have been experienced in some of these States, especially Texas, during the last six months, that some thing must be done speedily, or the loya portion of the people, which is weak at best will be entirely crushed out. It is the intention of the members of the Reconstruction Committee to take this matter under consideration at once, so that they may be enable bring in the proper measures at an Birge of the session, practical reconstruction will not take place to any of the Southern States with the present Administration is in power. But it is the purpose of Congress to have the machinery in such order that when General Grant

comes into the White House on the 4th of

MEN AND ME ASURES AT WASHINGTON. | March, be can set it in motion without difficulty. It seems likely that Georgia, which is partially in Congress and partially out, will be the sul ject of a fresh reconstruction. The outregeous, conduct of her Legislature was so utterly at variance with the Reconstruction acts, that her Senators who are now clamoring for admission will be left out in the cold until such time as Congress shall administer a "new baptism" to her.

The Indian Bureau. The House to day, by a very decided votemore than two to one-passed the bill transferring the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department. This measure, it will be recollected, passed the House at the last session, but filled in the Senate. This time, however, it has a new advocate, and a very powerful one, in the person of General Grant, seconded by no less an experienced soldier than Gen. Sherman. It will probably meet with some opposition in the Senate, but hardly enough to deteat it. Even dignified Senators have a lively sense of favors to come, and they will not only be back ward in opposing anything which Grant is known to favor, but they will be anxious to secure his friendship by voting for it. It was curious to notice in the discussion to-day, previous to the passage of the bill, that the opposition to it came from the Indian Committee, and from members who are more than half suspected of being not altogether disinterested in Indian contracts. It may be subject to abuses in the War Department, but they will neither be so extensive nor so glaring.

Josephus.

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