DEATH AND THE WEAVER.

[Translated from the German.]

In oldon times there lived a weaver, who had six children, and was very poor. It happened that a seventh son was born to him, and he deliberated whom he should choose as god father for the little boy.

"You must ask some rich man," said his wife, "who will adopt our poor little child; for the dear sunlight is more plenty in our house than the dear bread."

"Yes," replied her husband, "but rich folks have no hearts."

But he went to a rich farmer, and made known his request. The farmer answered him very harshly, that he had god sons enough, and did not want his child, and bade him go to his equals. With this refusal, he showed the poor weaver the door.

Then he went to a poor man. But the poor man said he could not provide food and clothing enough for his own children, let alone christening gifts for those others. So he advised him to go to some wealthier man, and refused his request.

Now the weaver was very unhappy, and murmured in his heart against God and man; and as he passed through a wood on his way home, he began tearing his hair in great distress, and cried out that he could not live any longer in such an evil world, and wished that Death would come and take him away from it. As he said that, a man approached him, wrapped in a long black mantle; wherever this man stepped, the grass and flowers turned yellow under his feet, and the leaves of the trees on both sides of his path, shriveled up and fell to the ground. It was Death. He stepped before the weaver, and said,

"You called me—what is your wish?"

The weaver was frightened, took his hat off, bowed, and said,

"My wife has a little child, born yesterday, and no one is willing to be its god father—neither rich man nor poor man. I called on you, because you are the friend of poor people, to see if you would be god father to the child."

"Very willingly," said Death.—"Bring the child to the church tomorrow, at the ringing of the evening bell; I will come and hold it for baptism."

The weaver obeyed, and when he reached the font, Death came, held the child, and gave it the name of Anastasius. He told the Pastor that he was a traveling doctor, and had done this out of particular friendship for the poor man. When they had come from the church to the weaver's door, he took the latter aside, and said,

"You may, perhaps, expect some christening gift. But I have neither silver nor gold, for the men who come to me leave all that behind them, and come as poor and naked as first they came into the world. But I will tell you a secret which you will find very useful, and by which you may make a great deal of money. The Pastor thinks I am a doctor. So you may give out to the people that I have taught you, and given you a powerful remedy. Then when you are called on to visit a sick person, look well, and you will see me sitting near the patient—either at his head or at his feet. If I sit at the head of his bed, then say, that all medicine would be useless to him—his sickness is mortal; then go your way, for certainly and surely he must die. But if I sit at the foot, then say that you will not fail to cure the patient, however dangerous his illness may be.—Give him whatever you please, and your reputation will stand high, for he will live."

With these words, Death went away.

The weaver was very much pleased, and immediately began to give out that he had become a doctor; but the people laughed at him, and would not believe him.

After a while it happened that the magistrate of the village fell from a high tree, and was carried home for dead. He suffered the greatest agony, and after some days, the doctors said it was all over with him—he must die. Then there was weeping and lamentation in the house of the magistrate. The weaver came to the house, and say the god father sitting at the foot of the bed.

"Why," said he, "the doctors are stupid asses—they do not know my remedy, and are therefore unable to make people well. What will you give me if I make him well and strong again?"

The magistrate's wife promised him a large reward. Then the weaver gave him in a glass, a little water, in which he had put the juice of some whortleberries. The magistrate recovered, contrary to all expectations, and the weaver received his reward. He did the same to several other sick people, who all recovered.

Now the rich farmer, who had refused to stand god father to the weaver's child, also fell ill; and as he did not think himself very sick, and was a miserly man, he would have no physician but the weaver. When the latter came, the farmer said,

"You can perform one of your wonderful cures on me very easily, weaver, for I don't need much medicine; we have been butchering, and I have eaten rather too much; give me only a little of your good drink, 'No cure no harm done.'"

But the weaver saw Death sitting at his head, shook his head, and answered,

"Farmer, no drink in the world can help you, not even my cure; the simples that can withstand Death have never yet grown. Set your house in order for you must die!"

The farmer laughed, and sent for the doctor, who promised him that in three days he should be as well as a fish in the water; but in three days he was buried.

So the fame of the weaver spread, as the most wonderful doctor in the country; and in a year and a day he became a rich man, built himself a new house, bought a horse, and said to his wife,

"Dear Elsie, I think myself as well off as a count!"

At that time it happened that he was sent for to visit a great nobleman, who had a large castle, fine fields and meadows, and plenty of servants—but was dangerously ill. The weaver, as soon as he came into the room, saw Death sitting at the head of the bed.

"My gracious lord," said he, "you must go—I can not help you."

The nobleman beckoned to his steward, who had a bag brought in full of gold and silver; and the nobleman said, "Dear Doctor, all this shall be yours, if you will cure me."

But the weaver said, "I can not."

But when he looked at the heap of gold and silver, and thought of the great possession and the comfortable life he might have, if it were his, he said to himself.

"Why will Death take just the rich man? The saying is, Death comes alike to rich and poor; and he might as well take twenty peasants as this man. If I could play him a trick, it would do him no harm, and I should be rich as a lord, and his god child Anastasius would be a little count. I know what I will do!" So he made his plan, and went out.

In the yard, he called four strong serving men, and said to them,

"Go in with me, and stand by your lord's bed, two at the head and two at the foot. Then when I say 'up!' seize the bed quickly and turn it up and turn it around, so that the foot may stand where the head is now!"

They did as he commanded, and in a twinkling the god father found himself sitting at the patient's feet. When he saw this trick, he made an angry face, shook his fist at the weaver, and disappeared. The nobleman immediately began to get better, to his very great joy; the weaver received the gold and silver, and ate, drank, and made merry with the nobleman until evening.

As he was riding homeward, on entering the forest, the air seemed like a noxious vapor; he felt sick and uncomfortable; all at once Death stood in his way. He saluted him and wanted to pass onward; but Death came closer, seized his horse's bridle, breathed hard on him and said,

"Unfaithful fellow, you have ventured to do a dangerous thing for yourself to day; I will break your neck for it!"

"Ah; pardon! dear god father!" said the weaver—"it shall never happen again! I feel so deathly sick—as if I should fall from my horse—would you be pleased to take me with you into your house, and give me something to strengthen me?"

"Certainly," Death snorted out, "tie your horse and come along!"

Death led the way forward into the forest, and the weaver followed him. At last they stopped before a black door, on which hung a shield with an hour glass engraved on it, having below this device the words "To the last end." This was the house of Death.

They entered the ante room, in which hung a scythe; from that they passed into a long hall, in which side by side, and one above another many thousand candles were burning. Some were still very long; others half, or more than half burnt out; others again, consumed down to a short stump, flickered unsteadily, as if about being extinguished. The weaver was surprised; and said—

"I suppose it would be very dark here; what do all these candles mean, and why are some of them short, and some long?"

Death replied, "At the birth of every human being, a candle is placed here, and every light represents a life. Some of the lights burn out slowly, others rapidly—and when the light goes out, the life it stands for must end. Those whose candles are still long, have still many days before them; those whose candles are burned far down, are near their end, and would do well to be ready for it—for I must go and sit down at their heads!"

The weaver wondered still more, and after thinking awhile said—

"I should like to know how long I have yet to live; could you not show me my light, that I might find out?"

Death led him on between the rows of candles, till, stopping at last he said:

"There's your light, there is your wife's, and those Anastasius and the other children."

The weaver turned pale; for all the other lights burned clearly, and the candles were long,—that of Anastasius longest of all;—but his was burned down to a short end, and the flame flickered as if blown by a strong wind and leaped and sparkled, as if ready instantly to expire. Then the poor weaver raised his clasped hands towards Death, and pleaded.

"Ah, my god and dear friend, through your great kindness I have become a rich and happy man,—and now that I have just learned how pleasant it is to live, must I indeed go, and leave everything behind? Oh, think of my wife and children! What will become of a poor weak widow, and destitute orphans,—what will become of my little Anastasius, when their head and their provider is gone? As the saying is, 'every boy can jump over a low hedge,'—oh, pity them!"

Kind Death could scarcely refrain from shedding tears at these words; but he answered.

"I can not help it,—I am the servant of one stronger than myself, and can only do as I am commanded."

"But one last request, the weaver, "you have only to light a fresh candle, instead of that stump! Oh, do it, pray do me this kindness,—but quickly, before it is too late!"

"Well," said Death, "for my godson's sake I will do it."

So saying, he took a fresh candle, and was about to light it;—but as he took up the short, soft piece, his hand proved too large and strong, and the light was pressed out in his fingers. In the same moment, as the flame expired, the weaver drew his last breath and fell dead on the spot.

And ever since, people have said, "Death knows no compacts;" and sometimes, "One must die, though Death be his comrade."

It is well, then, not to set the heart on this life; but ever so to act, that one need not fear to die, nor be ashamed to live.—*Chambersburg Valley Spirit.*

A CORRESPONDENT of the Pittsburgh *Gazette* says:

"Gov. Scott, of South Carolina, forwards to the Revenue office information that A. P. Turner, Deputy Collector of the Third District of that State, on the 6th inst., seized two illicit stills, owned by a man named Scruggs, and moved them to his house. The next morning a crowd of armed men surrounded Turner's house, in Columbia, as he was about to convey the stills to the Court House for the purpose of recovering them. Turner defended himself with a pistol. The attacking party were all armed with muskets. They fired a number of rounds, and he responded with his pistol, scattering his assailants. During the melee Turner's daughter, six years old, was wounded in the shoulder. Turner afterwards left from the rear of his premises on horseback for assistance. While gone a crowd of thirty men, armed with muskets, again surrounded the house. They were led by McKelvey who demanded of Turner's wife that the stills be given up, which she refused. McKelvey then took an axe, broke open the smoke house, where they had been deposited, and the crowd took the stills away. Turner obtained warrants, and caused three of the ringleaders to be arrested and jailed. The remainder of the party are still under arms, and guarding the stills, of which they have possession. Gov. Scott believes a military force in that vicinity is absolutely necessary to enforce the revenue laws against these violaters."

THE following is the letter of the President accepting the resignation of Judge Grier:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 15'69.

To the Hon. Robert C. Grier:

Your letter containing the tender of the resignation of your office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, to take effect on the first day of Feb. next, has been received by me to day, and your resignation is accordingly accepted; to take effect on that date. I sincerely regret the increasing physical infirmities which induce you to retire from the Bench, and with the assurance of my personal sympathy and respect, desire also to express my sense of the ability and uprightness with which your judicial duties have been performed. In looking upon your long and honorable career in the public service, it must be especially gratifying to yourself to remember, as it is my agreeable duty and privilege on this occasion thus distinctly to recognize the great services which you were able to render to your country in the darkest hour of her history, by the vigor and patriotic firmness with which you upheld the just powers of the Goveranment, and vindicated the right of the nation under the constitution to maintain its own existence. With the hope that your retirement may be cheered by the knowledge of public gratitude, as well as by private affection, I remain, very respectfully yours. U. S. GRANT.

COMMISSIONER Delano has information that the detachment of the 5th cavalry, on duty under instructions of the Revenue Bureau in Virginia, have been very successful in destroying a number of illicit distilleries near Janesville and Cumberland Gap. John Boyle, a private belonging to the detachment, was dangerously wounded in attempting to capture Daniel Letterall, proprietor of an illicit distillery. A reward of $1000 will be offered for the arrest of Letterall.

A DOCTOR'S STORY.

During my six weeks' attendance on him how I had learned to hate the old miscreant! How often I regretted that it was only his arm and not his neck that was broken! Of course I was bound to do, and did all I could for my patient. "Only bring me around in time for the wedding doctor," was the earnest exhortation with which Ananias Skinner was accustomed to greet me on my daily visits of inspection. Ugh! how repulsive he looked, as he lay leering and peering out of his wicked grey eyes, his arm in splints and an ugly black cap on his head.

The wedding he was so anxious about was none other than his own. It would have come off before, but an unlucky—pardon me, I mean just the reverse,—slip upon an icy pavement, resulting in a fractured bone, compelled an adjournment.

It was a shame, everybody said, that a young girl like Alice Grey should think of marrying a man of Mr. Skinner's years.

It was the old case, people thought, youth and beauty making barter of themselves for money; and many there were to sneer, and none to pity poor Alice Grey, whose saddened look and drooping form betokened anything but a heart at ease, or one filled with bright anticipations of the future.

"And there was Herbert Blake to whom she was engaged, and who sailed two years ago in a vessel never since heard from—how could she forget him so soon?" sighed the dashing Mrs. Jones, a widow of two months' standing, whose grief was fairly inconsolable at the thought that it must be kept up ten months longer.

At first I was uncharitable enough to join in the common opinion that in contracting a marriage necessarily so repugnant to every feeling of maidenly delicacy, Alice Grey was but engaging in a heartless speculation, and was more designing than designed against. But when I came to know the truth, and how exalted and entirely pure were the motives that influenced her conduct, and how utterly devilish was the plot that environed her, I felt that to attempt her rescue was the only fitting atonement I could make for my past injustice.

But how to set about it was the perplexing question. I had gained my knowledge in a way that engaged my professional honor against divulging it.

However, no time was to be lost. My patient had nearly if not quite recovered, and to-morrow was the day fixed for the important event to which he had so long looked forward. I had at least the right to speak freely to him, and determined to do so at once.

He seemed a little astonished at my call. There had never been any personal intimacy between us, and some days before I had given him to understand that unless some unexpected change of symptoms intervened, there would be no need to continue my professional visits.

"I have come to talk to you about a private matter," I began after the exchange of a few common-places—"one of which I feel at liberty to speak to you alone."

He looked at me attentively, but said nothing.

"You will remember," I continued, "that previously to setting your arm I gave you ether."

"I do," he answered.

"It was administered at your own request," I added, "I did not think it was required in a case so simple, but yielded to your wishes."

"I am very sensitive to pain, doctor," he whined apologetically; "but surely you don't think any harm has resulted?"

"Of that I shall leave you to judge, when you have heard me further."

He nervously motioned me to proceed.

"The inhaling of ether," I resumed, sometimes produces singular effects. A not unfrequent result is a high degree of intoxication, under the influence of which the patient will talk incessantly often betraying his profoundest secrets without the slightest recollection of it afterward."

Ananias turned deadly pale.

"Such," I proceeded, "was the case with you. You spoke unreservedly of what seemed uppermost in your mind—your approaching marriage—divulging the fact that the hand of Alice Grey was the price you exacted for the liberty of her father, over whom you possessed the power of casting into prison for debt, he being bound as surety on a note you held for money loaned to Herbert Blake, the young man who was lost at sea."

"You also let out that Herbert Blake paid the note before he sailed, and mentioned the name of a witness who was present. That witness I have this morning seen, and he is ready to testify to the payment of the note."

Ananias turned ghastly pale, and gasped: "What is your purpose?"

"To put the intended victims of your rascally plot in communication with the witness I have referred to," I replied, as I took my leave.

But Ananias saved us any further trouble by hanging himself from a hook in the wall, "with his own free will and accord," as his housekeeper said.

And Herbert Blake soon after came back from sea, alive and well, and he and Alice have been married these many happy years.

The New Railroad Project.

It has been said that he who causet two blades of grass to grow where bus one grew before, is a benefactor, and the saying is by no means an idle or unsubstantial one. Of what avail, however, is increased production when you are restricted in your markets for the surplus? A project, therefore, that brings to your doors two markets where but one existed before is eminently deserving the most vigorous support, on the part of farmers. Means that take their surplus products quickly and comparatively cheaply to good markets, is unquestionably money in their pockets. Let the farmers of Wayne county suppose for a moment how they would fare were they compelled to wagon their Wheat, Corn, Oats, &c., to Massillon, as in the olden time before Railroads brought markets to their doors. Were a proposition started to do away with Railroads and resort to the old system of wagoning they would oppose it with their utmost strength as utterly foolhardy.

The time was when farmers reluctantly took hold of Railroad enterprises; but that was when the advantages to be derived from them was not to any appreciable extent manifest. Farmers employ the necessary agencies to produce good crops; but should a farmer neglect to provide himself with a wagon to carry his surplus to market, after having used all the means necessary to raise and harvest a good crop, he would be regarded as not very sagacious.

If it is possible to secure the passage of the proposed new Railroad from Pittsburgh west through Wooster, it would result in great advantage to every farmer in Wayne county. It will increase the value of his lands; it will give him an additional valuable market, a market too considerably nearer than New York or Philadelphia, and by reason of being nearer, and by reason of competition will give a reduction in freight. A reduction in freight will enable the buyer of Wheat in this city and along the line to pay more for Wheat than he is now justified in paying for it.—Were the proposed road from here to Pittsburgh and thence to Baltimore now in operation, the Wheat buyers in this city would pay higher prices for Wheat than they now pay. This would not particularly benefit him, or any body in the city. It would, however, benefit every farmer in the county. It would likewise, benefit him in being enabled to buy his groceries cheaper than he is now able to buy them. The benefit to be derived from cheap groceries would be shared with him by our citizens generally.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, tributary to which the proposed road is to be, have the best arranged and most extensive place at Baltimore, at which they deliver freight designed for foreign shipment. In doing this they secure the minimum cost of handling, storage, and securing the greatest practicable economy. Produce not designed for foreign shipment is unloaded at the warehouses in Baltimore or at the station of the company. This company, in connection with the North German Lloyd, has established a line of four first class steamships between Bremen and Baltimore, stopping at Southampton, going and returning. Each fortnight one of these steamers leaves Bremen and Baltimore. So successful has been this enterprise that the owners contemplate the addition of four more steamers to the line, thus affording a weekly steamer from each port.

Three steamships belonging exclusively to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company between Baltimore and Liverpool. A preliminary agreement has just been entered into by which four first class new iron steamers, each three thousand tuns capacity, will be placed on this route. From a communication from John King, Jr., Vice President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, to the Merchant's Exchange of Cincinnati, under date of November 16, we gather those additional facts as to the commercial importance of Baltimore, which should engage the attention of our people:

Similar arrangements (similar to the Bremen and Liverpool arrangements) for trade to Charleston, Savannah, Wilmington, Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond, as well as Havana, have been supplied by Baltimore enterprise, in some instances assisted by the Baltimore and Ohio Company, and these lines are all flourishing, paying in most cases fair dividends to the shareholders, besides bringing to the city, as a point of distribution, cotton, rice, sugar, naval stores, tobacco and other products of the South, and returning laden with goods imported by our European steamers, and with grain provisions, &c., the products of the great West.

Perhaps in no other respect has the advantages of a system of low and what was regarded when established as unremunerative rates produced greater or more important results than in the interchange of this business through Baltimore, between the Southern coastwise cities and the cities of the West. But a few years ago nearly all this traffic was sent via New York, and transported nearly three hundred miles by rail and a considerable distance by water, further than it is now transported via Baltimore. The rates are correspondingly lower than those previously charged via New York.

Under the liberal policy pursued by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company in regard to rates to Western cities, and the advantages presented by the steamship and other lines, the imports at Baltimore have continually and largely increased, as shown by the following table of the duties paid at Baltimore in the years stated, viz:

In 1861	$1,919,239,26
In 1864	3,107,120,05
In 1865	3,053,042,28
In 1866	4,603,061,35
In 1867	5,776,966,66
In 1868	6,217,496,41
Ten months in 1869	7,136,813,08

In the leading articles of imports the continued and marked increase is shown by the following table:

Year.	Coffee. bags.	Sugar. hhds.	Molasses. bbls.
1863	75,901	30,495	6,250
1864	97,620	24,251	5,146
1865	100,434	47,639	8,355
1866	189,370	50,877	10,257
1867	209,738	51,985	20,013
1868	253,655	69,213	17,653

The citizens of Baltimore and the managers of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad well understood the difficulties under which the competition with New York is maintained, in view of the great wealth and prestige of that city, but relying upon the superior geographical position of Baltimore, in connection with vast regions at the West and South, and the ability of this company to work its line economically, especially, in view of its great advantages in cheap fuel, expect from year to year to lessen disparity heretofore existing and to maintain the same ratio of increase in commerce that has marked the past few years, and I hesitate to attract to this city a still larger proportion of the traffic forwarded from the West to the Atlantic seaboard.

Why should not our people endeavor to connect our city and county by Railroad, with a market that offers such pre-eminent advantages? There is not a man in the city and county who will not be benefitted by such a connection; and, hence, *becomes every one* to lend his influence and to give such substantial means as he can in furtherance of this enterprise.

Mansfield is moving in a Railroad enterprise that looks to their connection with Toledo, through Tiffin.—There was a meeting on the subject at Mansfield on Monday week, when that Committee from Toledo was present. Committees were appointed to prosecute the enterprise.

A better westward connection, and one that can be run on an air line to Fremont, is promised in the following enterprise, which is being agitated. Very nearly an air line can be run from Fremont to Chicago by Bowling Green, Napoleon and Hyman.

"*Fremont Napoleon & Bryan Railroad.*"—The proposed Railroad through Bowling Green, has received a new impulse, and is now in the hands of those who propose to devote it their active attention. The enterprise when completed will be the best by which our county can soon become one of the most wealthy and prosperous in the State. The thousands of acres of prairie and that now lie idle for want of the ploughman, will soon be lined with fences, ditches, and dotted with comfortable homes. The land owners of the whole country will be benefitted in a greater or less degree. Let all subscribe what they can, for there is no better investment within their reach. This enterprise must soon call to it the attention of the people of Angola and La Grange, Indiana, as well as White Pigeon, Cassopolis and Dowagiac, Michigan, as the northwestern extension of the road would intersect these towns, and be of great benefit to them.

It is hoped that the citizens of Wood county will throw off their fogyism and lethargy, and give this enterprise a liberal support.—There is no doubt as to the success of the project if all are reasonably liberal. None need go beyond their means, for we have got the wealth. All that is needed is enterprise. Meetings will soon be held at many places along the line, when all will have an opportunity to subscribe for stock.—*Wood County Sentinel.*

A road from this city to Fremont gives us a direct communication with Toledo. What concerns us nearly at this time is to secure a place for Wooster on the line, and that can not be secured without very considerable effort.

THE report has been in circulation that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs had made estimates for $2,000,000 more money than appropriated by the last Congress. This is a mistake, as Commissioner Parker's estimates are only for $120,000 more, which is to cover the additional expenses necessary to carry out the policy of the Department in locating all Indians upon reservations. The expenses have been greatly reduced, compared with the amount of labor to be done in locating the Indians upon the reservations, and subsisting them.

Forty-First Congress.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.—*Monday, Dec. 20.*—The Senate ordered 85,000 copies of eulogies on the life and character of the late Senator Pescenden to be printed. A resolution to annul the leasing of the San Francisco Custom House Block was adopted. Bills were reported repealing duties on canned fish; to restore the civil service; one declaring Virginia entitled to representation in congress; and to charter the American and Holland Ocean Cable Co. A resolution calling on the President for the correspondence between the United States and Great Britain touching the questions pending between the two countries since the rejection of the Claims Convention by the Senate, was agreed to. Senate then went into executive session, after which it adjourned.

HOUSE.—The following bills were introduced: One relative to the constitutional power of Congress to regulate and limit the tariff rates of railroad companies, extending through two or more States, and for protection of the producing States of the West. One to suspend the provisions of the Act of March 3d, 1869, to strengthen the public credit, in the United States shall resume payment in coin of all the obligations of the Government. One to regulate the appointment and inspection of imports in certain cases. One to distribute the number and rank of Government employees among the several districts and territories. One to repeal so much of the law as requires Agricultural societies to take out a U. S. license in order to hold fairs, and to pay 2 per cent. on their gross receipts. One to abolish the franking privilege. One to provide for the payment of bounties to soldiers discharged by reason of sickness contracted in the line of their duty. The following resolutions were offered: One declaring that among the evils arising out of the late civil war, is that of an irredeemable currency, and that specie payment is the only remedy, and should be reached at the earliest possible moment. One relating to the suppression of bigamy in Utah, which was adopted. One instructing the Post-office Committee to incorporate in the bill for the repeal of the franking privilege, a clause permitting newspapers to be sent to actual subscribers free of postage. One calling on the President for information whether any citizens of the United States are imprisoned or detained in military custody by army officers; if so, give their names; dates of arrest; offences charged, and statement of what measures have been taken for their trial and imprisonment; adopted. One to change the mode of selecting jurors for the United States Courts, adopted. The bill appropriating $200,000 for improvement of Des Moines river passed. A resolution relative to proceedings in bankruptcy was adopted. One instructing the Post-office committee to inquire into the progress made in the construction of the Post offices of Boston and New York, examine their plans and probable cost, and prevent a useless expenditure of the public money, was agreed to. A bill relative to the assembling of the Virginia Legislature—administering the test oath, &c., was referred to the committee on reconstruction, which will not report until after the holidays. After some delay from dilatory motions, the Senate bill to promote reconstruction in Georgia was taken up, and, after some sparring among members, a vote was agreed to be taken at 3 p. m. on Tuesday. The bill was then read and discussed until the House adjourned.

SENATE.—*Tuesday, Dec. 21.*—The Vice President called attention to the requirements of law for filling the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Fessenden as one of the regents of the Smithsonian Institute. The law provides this vacancy should be filled in the same manner as vacancies in congress are filled. The bill to repeal the prosecution of the law against polygamy in Utah, was reported favorably. A resolution was submitted calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to the cost of the revenue cutters now employed, and the number and compensation of the officers and men employed in that service. A bill was introduced for the more equal distribution of banking capital, and was appropriately referred. The House bill for taking the census was reported favorably without amendment, after a short debate, it was recommitted. A joint resolution was then submitted and agreed to, suspending until February 1st, 1870, all existing laws relating to the taking of the census. The ocean telegraph bill was then taken up, and the amendment discussed at some length, after which it was recommitted. The joint resolution to reimburse owners in loyal States, for steamboats and other vessels taken by the Government during the war, was agreed to. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The debate on the Georgia reconstruction bill was resumed at great length a motion to postpone, after protracted discussion, was rejected and the bill passed. The Senate joint resolution suspending the existing provisions of the law for taking the census was passed. A concurrent resolution extending the recess from the 5th till the 10th of January passed. The resolution requesting the President to detail one or more ships of war to meet at sea the English war ship conveying the body of the late Geo. Peabody, the great philanthropist, to our shores, was then taken up, amended, discussed and passed, leaving the President at liberty to make such tokens of respect as he may deem proper for the occasion. A resolution was adopted defining caution for the purpose of erecting an equestrian statue of bronze to General Grant, to be placed on the south terrace of the Treasury. Adjourned.

SENATE.—*Dec. 22.*—The House joint resolution extending the recess over the holidays to the 10th of January, was concurred in. The bill for the payment of certain expenses at New Mexico, and the bill for the temporary appropriation of $200,000 to prosecute the work on the Des Moines rapids in the Mississippi river, were passed. The following bills were introduced and referred: One to allow the organization of the militia of Georgia. One to carry out the reconstruction acts in the State of Virginia, and to secure equality before the law. A resolution instructing the military committee to consider the expediency of adding two to the number of Lieutenant Generals, and reducing the number of Major Generals from five to three. A resolution was adopted directing the Attorney General to furnish a copy of any opinion delivered by him relative to our national cemeteries in the rebellious States, and whether it is necessary to obtain the consent of the Legislatures of States in which cemeteries are located, for their permanent continuance therein. The House resolution relative to the death of Geo. Peabody, was concurred in. The House resolution relative to an equestrian statue in bronze for Gen. Grant was referred to the Military Committee. The bill to regulate the immigration of Chinese into the United States was referred to the Committee on Commerce; the bill prohibits the importation of coolies and dissolute Chinese women. The bill to promote and encourage an International Industrial Exhibition to be held in Washington in 1871, was then taken up and several amendments agreed to, one changing the date to 1872, the whole subject was then referred to the Committee on the district of Columbia. The Vice President laid before the Senate a communication from the President containing the correspondence relative to American claims against Great Britain. The Senate then went into Executive Session; after which, it adjourned until January 10th, 1870.

HOUSE.—The following bills were introduced and referred: For the establishment of a collection district and port of entry at La Crosse, Wisconsin. One proposing amendments to the Constitution. To abolish imprisonment for debt in the District of Columbia; to supply artificial limbs to discharged soldiers and sailors; for the better organization of Courts in Louisiana; one on the subject of apportionment under the next census.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and a general debate ensued on various subjects, which occupied the greater part of the day. The following bills were then introduced and referred: To amend the internal revenue laws by repealing the clause allowing street railroad companies to add the government tax to the fare of passengers; also to amend the same by repealing the clause allowing gas companies to add the government tax to the contract price of gas furnished to customers. A bill to grant certain islands to the State of Wisconsin as swamp lands. Adjourned until 10th of January.

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dec8 1m.

ELECTION NOTICE.

NATIONAL BANK OF BEAVER CO., New Brighton Dec. 8, 1869.

The Stockholders of the National Bank of Beaver county are hereby notified that the annual meeting for the election of nine (9) Directors for the ensuing year will be held at the Banking House in New Brighton on the second Tuesday (11th day) of January next, 1870, between the hours of 12 and 2 o'clock of said day. By order of the Board.

EDWARD HOOPES, Cashier.

dec8td.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—Letters Testamentary having been issued to the subscriber on the estate of Margaret Baron, deceased, late of Hopewell township, Beaver county, Pa., therefore all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment; and those having claims against said estate will present the same, duly authenticated for settlement, to me in Hopewell township.

SCOTT W. SCOTT, *Ex'r.*

nov17dw

Miscellaneous.

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