THE CENTRE REPORTER,

FRED. KURTZ ..... Editor.

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Hon. J. B. Beck is the new U. S. Senator from Kentucky. Mr. Beck is an able democratic member of the House.

The Penn'a republican association at Washington has pronounced in favor of Blaine for President.

Petitions were presented in the House by Mr. Alexander, from citizens of this county for amendment to the several game and fish laws.

The investigations into affairs in the Treasury, Navy and Interior Departments are to be actively begun during this week. The investigation by special committee into the affairs of the Freedmen's Bank is to be conducted with closed doors.

So comes the intelligence from Washington, and the democratic House means business. Besides investigating the gross mismanagement in the above departments and bringing about wholesome reforms the democrats will also see that the government expenses are curtailed some fifty millions.

The next democratic state convention will meet at Lancaster March 22nd.

The Radicals have selected June 14th as the day, and Cincinnati as the place, to hold their convention to nominate candidates for the Presidential race. The selection is thought favorable to Morton. Blaine's friends fought for Philadelphia, likewise Grant's

The General, Lieutenant General and three Major Generals of the United States army cost the country over $200,000 a year. The aggregate, as shown by the Army Register, is as follows: Three Major Generals, $28,416; nine Captains A. D. C. $30,024; add rent of headquarters, clerks, orderlies, fuel, stationary, etc., $30,000; total cost of three Major General, $88,440; total cost of one General, $70,000; total cost of one Lieutenant General, $47,791. Total $201,231.

Michigan is a great radical state, always going with heavy majorities for the party of great moral ideas, and now we notice that the supreme court of that state has declared the law prohibiting the sale of liquars on Sunday to be unconstitutional.

President Grant's salary was raised by a radical congress from $25,000 to $50,000. In addition to this all the white-house expenses, are paid out of the national treasury, without the warrant of law. His table, the wine in his cellar, his stable, even his costly segars, go into "white-house" expenditures and are settled for at the public treasury. He smokes the best segars in the world, which retail at 25cts per piece, and he smokes all the day long and at night, and the people foot the bills. This item of segars alone, smoked by him at public expense, runs into large figures in 365 days. The earlier Presidents at $25,000 salary, paid all their own bills for living, and never dreamt that the people should pay for the wines they drank, to tobacco they chawed, and the segars they smoked. But those good old days of honest presidents passed ended when the government passed out of democratic hands in 1860.

LESS EXPENDITURES.

The democrats in Congres are doing the people's work. They have resolved to put the sharp knife upon government expenditures and trim down the extravagance which has wasted hundreds of millions under Grant rule. That's what the democrats promised they would do, and they are redeeming their promise. A recent despatch from Washington says a sub-committee, with Randall as Chairman, has been for ten days engaged in pruning the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill. There is not only to be a large reduction in salaries, but it is proposed to abolish a good many offices. The President's salary is to be cut down after the 4th of March, 1877. Of course it cannot be reduced during the term of the present incumbent. Mileage now amounting to $150,000, will be reduced; appropriations for Washington are to be lowered; expenses of collecting the customs are to be reduced everywhere; and in the various bureaus of War, Navy and Interior, the Post-Office and Treasury Departments, offices are to be abolished, while the expenses of the judicial system are to be largely reduced. This is the bill paying the salaries of all officials except those who are abroad, and the reductions from these items promise to be important.

A FOOL IN THE STATE SENATE.

The fools are not all dead yet—there is one in the state senate, and the following is the caliber of his usefulness in that body:

Mr. Wood offered the following resolution which was laid over for second reading on Wednesday:

Whereas, The ground hog has been making and superintending the weather ever since the discovery of America.

Whereas, There never was accorded any appropriation of money for his arduous and responsible services, therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate be hereby tendered him that he be requested to forecast the weather until old probabilities can afford to dispense with his services.

Resolved, That ground hog day be declared a legal holiday.

If the senate could be induced to be advised by the Reporter we would say that it pass an amendment declaring Wood to be the ground-hog, striking out the affix.

ANOTHER STEAL.

In the state senate proceedings of 21 we see this.

"A joint resolution providing that the Chief Clerks of the House and Senate be directed to purchase a copy of the general railroad laws for each member of the Legislature, the cost not to exceed three dollars and a half per copy."

This is another steal to help some one. Twenty five cents will pay for a copy of the railroad laws in pamphlet form and if this outrageous resolution passes it will cost the tax payers of the state nearly one thousand dollars for what can be found in Purdon which every member already has at public expense.

BRISTOW AND JEWELL.

A large number of federal office holders from the South were in Washington recently and held several caucusses, on the Presidential question, and have agreed to start up a campaign in the South in favor of Bristow and Jewell as the nominees of the radical party next fall. This would not be bad for a radical ticket, and does not look as though Blaine's late rantings and tirade against the south, on the amnesty bill, had gained him much sympathy in his own party Blaine blarnied too much; his bid for the nomination does not receive a "second." The people are tired of having the old wounds opened and favor amnesty and a building up of fraternal feeling and good will between the sections. Blaine had as well withdraw.

REPUBLICAN RETRENCHMENTS.

A few weeks ago, says the New York World, the Republican County Treasurer of Yates County was announced as a defaulter, having used several thousand dollars of the people's money in his private speculations.

The Republican Treasurer of Saratoga County about the same time fled from his home, having retrenched the tax-payers' money of that county to the tune of $160,000.

A short time ago the Republican State Treasurer of Kansas was removed from office for the misuse of the public funds, having been engaged in a retrenchment of the public money for his own use.

The Republican Auditor of this State has been suspended from office for speculation in claims, and for reasons which his own testimony justified.

The Republican Treasurer of the city of Buffalo has absconded after retrenching the tax-payers' money of that city to the tune of some $350,000 or more. Now the fact is being shown that he commenced his system of retrenchment the moment that he entered upon the duties of his office.

General Babcock has been indicted for aiding in the retrenchment of the whiskey tax and cooking it into the private bank accounts of himself and associates.

This kind of Republican retrenchment appears not to be new. Comptroller Hopkins in his report a year ago announced that the larger portion of the twenty-seven million raised for soldiers' bounties in this State never reached the soldier. It was retrenched by Republican officials in the same way. Do we not need reform? And are we likely to get it from the grand old party?

PROBABLE STATE FINANCIAL POLICY.

The Times has a despatch from Harrisburg stating that the sentiment of both parties is settling down in favor of the early passage of a bill diverting from the sinking fund to the treasury all the revenues but enough to reduce the debt from $300,000 to $500,000 annually and pay the interest, and place severe restrictions upon the Sinking Fund Commissoners as to monthly statements of the deposits, etc. This measure will enable the Treasurer to pay the accumulated claims against the treasury, and a future bill, making a uniform tax system, will reduce taxes from $500,000 to $1,000,000 a year.

REDUCTION IN CONSULAR BILL OVER $425,000.

The democratic House in doing noble work. The House Committee on Appropriations have completed the Consular and Diplomatic bill. The estimates last year were $1,352,485 and the amount appropriated $1,351,285. The present bill appropriates $911,147. The salaries of Ministers to Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia are reduced from 17,500 to 14,000 dollars each; Ministers to Spain, Austria, Brazil, Mexico, Japan and China from 12,000 to 10,000 dollars; Minister to Italy from 12,000 to 8,000 dollars; Ministers to Portugal, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Turkey, Venezuela and Hawaian Islands from 7,500 to 6,500 dollars; Chili and Bolivia are combined in one mission at a salary of 6,000 dollars; Peru, Ecuador and Columbia are also united in one mission at the same salary; also Argentine Republic, Paraguay and Uruguay, salary 6,500 dollars, also Guatamala, Costa Rico, Honduras, Salvador and Nicaragua as in former law, salary 10,000 dollars; salaries of other officers are also reduced.

WEATHER PREDICTIONS.

Levi Beebe, of Bear Mountain, Berkshire County, Mass., has for a whole generation been famed as a weather prophet. His predictions for the last quarter of the old year have been closely verified. This is what he announced for 1876: "The first ten days of January will be warm for the season. Wind light and variable with some frost or snow. The remainder of January will be colder. The coldest weather of the season will be the last of January and the first week in February, with but few blustering days. The storms will be light falls of frost, snow or frozen fog. February, after the 8th, will be warm, with varying winds, mostly northwest and southwest, running most of the time across each other. Till the 10th of March the weather will keep warm, with some rain. There will be more clouds than storms through the whole season."

THE MINES—A FIVE WEEKS' SUSPENSION ORDERED.

New York, January 20.—At a meeting of the several anthracite coal-carrying and producing interests, held at the office of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company in this city to-day, it was resolved that, in consequence of the over-production and accumulation of unsold coal, an entire suspension of mining of anthracite coal take place for five weeks, from February 7 to March 11, inclusive. All interests were represented, and the action taken was unanimous.

The Herald correspondent at St. Louis telegraphs under date of Jan. 18, that, "It is more than probable that the government has at last succeeded in securing several long coveted letters which it was known had passed from Babcock to Joyce, and which were deemed sufficiently strong to convict Babcock. It is believed that Joyce has become exasperated at the severity with which he has been treated by his old confreres at Washington, and is now willing to furnish testimony against Babcock. It is in fact asserted that he will surrender certain letters from Babcock to him into the hands of the district attorney to be used on the trial against the President's private secretary."

Gov. Hartranft pardoned ninety criminals during the year 1875. To convict these it cost the people many thousand dollars, and then the Governor let them run free to do the same crimes over again.

The special committee of the house on the Texas frontier troubles has decided to call for all the official reports concerning the Mexican depredations. They also determined to call on the secretary of war and ask him whether he could dispose of a sufficient force to protect the border. The committee believe that two regiments of cavalry and a force of infantry would be required for this purpose.

The Montgomery (Ga.,) Mail has no patience with "the honorable hyena from Maine." It says: "Mr. Blaine deserves the scorn and execration of the country for his insincere conduct in this matter. He supported at the last session a measure of general amnesty, without exception, and now for base personal and party ends, he seeks to re-open the fast healing wounds of the war, and re-embitter the late contending sections of his country. He is striving to make the centennial year a saturnalia of bloody revels instead of an era of renewed fellowship and good will."

THE INDICTMENT AGAINST GENERAL BABCOCK.

St Louis, January 18.—Public opinion here is against Gen. Babcock, on account of rumors that the President has been making efforts in his behalf McKee is more secure in public favor, but McGuire the ex-Collector, expects and will receive no favors. An important witness against Babcock will be Col. Parker, Internal Revenue Collector for the Colorado District, who has been summoned to appear at the trial on the 31st.

FOUR NEGROES LYNCHED.

Cincinnati, O., January 17.—A special to the Commercial from Memphis says four negroes, all confessed cotton-gin and house burners, were forcibly taken from Coahoma County, Miss., Jail, at Friar's Point, before dawn last Saturday, and shot dead by a masked mob. These men admitted having set fire to and destroyed several cotton-gin houses in that vicinity, and also to having fired warehouses in Friar's Point, whereby several stores and contents were destroyed a couple of months ago.

MERCANTILE FAILURES FOR 1875.

Dun & Co., of the mercantile agency, have issued their annual report of mercantile misfortunes, from which we learn that the number of failures in all the United States show a large increase as compared with those of previous years, while the proportionate liability is somewhat less than the average. The number in 1875 was 7,740, against 5,830 in 1874, and the gross liabilities $201,060,353, against $155,230,000. The average liability is $25,960, against $26,626. An increase of fifty per cent. in the number of failures within the last year would at first glance appear very startling, and as indicative of the condition of trade is a most important revelation. But the circular urges some suggestions on this point that should not be lost sight of. It says, as compared with the number of parties in business, the proportion of failures is not excessive. The number now reported in business in the United States on the books of the agency is 630,000. Of this number 7,740 have failed during the year, indicating a proportion of one in every eighty-two. A review of the general condition and outlook for the trade is sketched by the circular, and contains some important facts and practical suggestions. It is stated as a fact that the failures in New England in 1875 number 1,335 and cover an amount of $40,015,164, against 790 in number and $15,845,000 in 1874. The western states show nearly a corresponding increase in both number and amount, while in the middle and southern states the increase is much less, a result that may be accounted for in the fact that the middle states have been more circumspect, taught so by heavy previous losses, and at the south by the fact that it has had little credit to fall upon. As to the outlook for the current year the circular is not at all couleur de rose. It says while there have been large crops, much which is to be realized on the general result of the year has not been satisfactory. The number of those actively engaged in trade who have added to their surplus are exceedingly few: those who have held their own are not numerous, while a larger number than both of these combined would have to admit a shrinkage, if their assets were valued at realization figures. It adds that "there seems no nearer approach to a solution of the difficulties under which trade is suffering than at this time last year. The pressure of the period, instead of being relieved, appears to be augmented. The inspiriting national event of the centennial year will, it is believed, for a time infuse considerable activity in some localities. A great influx of visitors from abroad, and the necessary circulation of money which is implied in the movement of large numbers of our own population, can hardly fail to vitalize some drooping interests." But the most essential points to recover are prudence in extent of trade, reduction of living and business expenses, lessening indebtness, and close scrutiny of credits. These are the elements that will most help to restore confidence and beget a return to a condition of business in which money can be made, the resources of the country developed and success achieved.

Why don't the Republicans remonstrate with President Grant for placing the ex-Confederate leaders, Longstreet, Akerman and Mosby, in fat positions and demand that he shall bestow his favors upon "Union soldiers?" The truth is, General Grant is the last man to reward "Union soldiers" with gifts. He selects the most degraded and rotten political hacks of his party, who were never in the field of battle, and turns them gently into the clover.—*Courier Journal.*

THE TURKS BADLY BEATEN AT TREBIGNE.

London, January 22.—The Times' correspondent at Ragussa telegraphs under date of Friday, 21st, as follows: "I have just returned here after witnessing the attack by the insurgents on the Turkish intrenched position on the hill between Ragusa and Trebigne, whether the Turks had fled after the action of the 18th. One of the breast-works was captured. An inner breast-work was gallantly defended, and was evacuated by fifty Turkish survivors during the night of Thursday, and a number of these were killed during the succeeding fight. Trebigne is completely demoralized. No troops are moving to relieve the beleaguered detachment, and the insurgents hold the road uncontested. Trebigne is threatened with famine and the population is mutinous. The total number of Turks killed during the two days' fighting is 380, while the insurgents had 100 killed and wounded."

The Daily News' special Paris telegram says it is reported that Turkey is preparing to concentrate a large army in Bulgaria next month.

Ragusa, Jan. 22.—In consequence of the Turkish defeat it is now reported that Trebigne is in the hands of the insurgents.

A reduction of 600,000 dollars in the pay-roll of the War Department will be recommended in the appropriation committee.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT AFFAIRS.

Radicals Fear an Investigation.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The morning hour having expired, the Senate resumed the consideraiton of the resolutions submitted by Mr. Davis on Wednesday to appoint a special Committee to investigate the books and accounts of the Treasury Department.

Mr. BOUTWELL said when he addressed the Senate on Thursday last he stated the general principles by which he supposed a full explanation to the argument of the Senator from West Virginia (Davis) could be given. He (Boutwell) had no disposition to oppose the examination called for by Mr. Davis. He was in favor of such examination by a special Committee or one of the Standing Committees of the Senate but maintained that the books were not tampered with.

Mr. DAVIS said he could not understand how figures could be changed five years after the Register had made up his report and sent it to Congress.

Mr. EDMUNDS referred to the error mentioned by Mr. Boutwell where a clerk added internal revenue to the public debt, and humorously spoke of such a clerk as being a bad boy.

Mr. DAVIS—It appear to me that there are a good many bad boys in the Treasury Department, and I hope some of them will be found out. [Laughter.] Continuing his remarks, Mr. Davis said he desired to look over the remarks of the Senator from Massachusetts (Boutwell), and would have something to say in reply hereafter. The Senator from Massachusetts had overlooked several instances where he (Davis) showed there were errors.

Mr. EDMUNDS also favored the resolution, but said he was opposed to appointing a special committee. The Sanate had a Committee on Finance and that Committee could do the work better than any special Committee. The Finance Committee was composed of gentlemen from both sides of the Chamber and a fair report would be rendered by them.

Mr. THURMAN did not agree with the Senator from Vermont as to having the investigation made by the Finance Committee, although the Democratic party was ably represented on that committe by two members. They had not devoted any particular attention to the subject of the Treasury investigation. The Senator from Connecticut (Eaton) and the Senator from West Virginia (Davis) had studied the subject and they should be members of the Investigating Committee.

Mr. EDMUNDS moved to amend the resolution so as to have the investigation made by the Finance Committee instead of a special committee.

Mr. Bayard favored the appointment of a special committee.

Mr. THURMAN quoted at length from the speech of Boutwell on Thursday last and said the main question now before the Senate was as to the truth of the finance reports upon which the people of the country had relied. The Senator from Massachusetts had distinctly said that accounts of the Register of the Treasury did not state the exact truth in regard to the public debt for the long period of eight years when the Government was seeking a loan from the people of Ohio, and said our public debt is so much, that the people relied upon that statement. Now, the Senator from Massachusetts (Boutwell), said to these people they were very simple to rely upon these reports, for truth. If they were good acountants and went to the Treasury they could ascertain there whether official reports of the Treasury were correct or not. It was high time this inquiry should be made. The thanks of the Senate and of the country were due to the Senator from West Virginia for calling attention to this subject. The investigation should be made not in a party sense, but on business principles, to see if the accounts of this Government could not be kept the same as accounts of a great railroad or a mercantile establishment He favored the appointment of a select committee to make the inquiry.

Mr. MORTON said he was in favor of having an investigation but it should be made by the Finance Committee and not by a Select Committee would be more energetic or determined than the Committee on Finance.

Pending discussion, at 4:15 the Senate went into executive session and soon after adjourned.

THE CENTENNIAL APPROPRIATION IN THE HOUSE.

The House on the 19 discussed the bill to appropriate $1,500,000 to the Centennial.

The house then at 12:50 went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union, Mr. Wood, of New York, in the chair, on the centennial bill and was addressed by Mr. Philips of Kansas, in advocacy of the bill.

Mr. Debolt (Mo.), referring to the fact that this bill, like former ones on the same subject, provided that the government should not be responsible for any debts contracted by the centennial commission, asked Mr Philips what assurance he had that the next congress would not be called upon for another appropriation.

Mr. Philips replied that it would be competent for the next congress to do what it was competent for this congress to do.

Mr. Harrison (Ill.) next addressed the committee on same side of the question. Alluding to the suggestion that the house by its vote on Mr. Holman's resolution on the 14th of December, had committed itself against all subsides, he recalled the fact that when that resolution was offered, Mr. Hoar had asked whether it was not cut off the centennial appropriation, and that Mr. Holman stated that he did not consider the word "subsidy" in that resolution as covering the centennial appropriation.

The house, therefore, had voted for that resolution with a reservation in favor of the centennial; not a mental reservation, but an outspoken reservation. Passing on to the importance of giving a national character to the celebration, he said that having traveled considerably in Germany in 1874, some hundred persons with whom he had conversed, had told him that they were coming to the exposition, but that last year, having been traveling again in Denmark, Sweden and parts of Germany, he found that persons who had intended to come had changed their mind, saying that the American people were too mean about it, and that the celebration was to be purely local; but, said he, let this appropriation pass to-day, the news will reach Europe to-morrow morning, and new impetus will be given to the desire of foreigners to visit the country, and the tide will be limited only by accommodations.

Commenting on Mr. Willis' statement yesterday that the rich men of Philadelphia ought to advance the money, he suggested that the still richer men of New York, the rich men of Mr. Willis' own district ought rather to do it.

Mr. Willis replied that the city of New York had subscribed $240,000, which was much more than had been subscribed by all the rest of the country.

Mr. Henderson—Then they should have subscribed all that was wanted rather than let the celebration fail.

If the people are not patriotic enough to subscribe voluntary for the purpose, then it is time to do something to rouse again the spirit of patriotism which once burned brightly, but which has been now deadened by civil strife, by internecine war, and by too great attention to the almighty dollar. Referring to the enthusiasm of old John Adams over Fourth of July celebrations, and to the fact that he made orations which might be called "spread eagle," he expressed the desire that there was to day more "spread eagle" in the land.

The common eagle, he said, taking his flight from the extreme limit of eastern civilization in 1776, would have made its flight to the western limit in a single day, but now the proudest monarch of the air, dipping himself in the Atlantic and then looking at the setting sun, ever intent and sailing onward, takes days and weeks before he cools his pinions in the spray of the broad Pacific, and yet, he said, we are told that the people shall not be taxed at the rate of 3½ cents each for the celebration for the country's birthday,

Some of his friends seemed in this matter to be afraid of their constituents. He was not afraid of his. Chicago knew no jealosy of Philadelphia. She remembered that when the fire fiend swept over her, when her palaces were laid low, and her humble dwellings swept away, Philadelphia came to her assistance.

Mr. Cochran (Pa.), also argued against the constitutionality of the bill.

Mr. Kelley replied to his colleague.

Mr. Reagan (Texas) spoke in favor of the bill and gave as one of the controlling motives on his own mind this reason: A great and protracted civil war, with the long controversy which led to it, and a system of reconstruction measures just as disastrous, have so wrenched and distorted the constitution and have so obscured and perverted the principles of civil liberty and just government as to make a serious and earnest recurrence to the principles of the Declaration of Independence, of the constitution and of the spirit and genius of the government a paramount necessity.

Mr. Frye (Me.) next addressed the house favoring the passage of the bill.

Mr. Tucker (Va) spoke in opposition to the bill, and said that the path of duty that lay before him in regard to the centennial bill was as clear as it ever was in regard to any question that had ever been brought to his consideration. His objection to the measure was its unconstitutionality.

A sharp debate then arose on the constitutionality of the appropriation, in which Messrs. Tucker, Hoar, (Mass.,) and Garfield took part.

Mr. Tucker then proceeded with his argument, in the course of which he quoted the gentleman from New York (Hewitt) as saying yesterday that this government was confessedly an educator of the country. I never confessed it. I not only do not confess it but I deny it in toto. I deny that this government can intrude on the control on the common schools of each state of the Union. I deny that this government can go into our common school systems in the states and upturn it according to the views of the members of congress here who know nothing in the world about it. [Laughter.] The government has no mission except to execute its power and perform its duty under and in subjection to the supreme law of the land, the constitution of the country. [Spoken with strong emphasis and great effect.] Show me either the power to pass this bill, or that this bill is essential to carry out a power conferred, and I will vote for it; but otherwise, before God and my country, I cannot vote for it. The only limit to the growing corruption of the country is a limitation on the power of the government. I believe that the mission of this government at this time is economy, retrenchment and reform. We have reached that time when it becomes us to put the brakes down, to call a halt on lavish expenditures. After this scheme has got somebody would come with another like scheme for a big show at Yorktown or Bunker Hill, or Chicago. He declared himself opposed altogether to splendid government and to squalidly poor people. He was opposed to seeing the tax consumer revel in palaces in luxury and to hear the wail of woe from the tax burdended people. It was the mission of this house and of his political friends to say that these things should and must cease right here and now. They should immolate on the altar of duty there sentimentality and patriotism and go back to the simple virtues and economical manners and habits and customs of their fathers a hundred years ago. Referring to the fact that the legislature of Virginia had declined to make an appropriation for the centennial, he explained that one reason for this was a provision in the state constitution preventing the state from making such appropriation. When the government is restored to its pristine purity, when the principles of the revolution are re-established and liberty is proclaimed throughout the land to every man under the palladium of the habeas corpus, unrepealable by an edict of the president, or by act of congress on account of constructive rebellion, then shall the time come when we shall all unite with others in that splendid close of Webster's great speech forty years ago, constitutional liberty under constitutional union—yes, liberty and union are inseparable, now and forever.

Mr. Tucker's speech created a great sensation in the house, and admiration of it was liberally expressed on both sides. At its close he was complimented by republicans and democrats. One of the latter, Lamar, of Mississippi, saying it was the best speech he had ever heard in Congress.

Without taking any action on the bill the house adjourned.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTES.

Mr. Knott (Ky.) from the Judiciary Committee, reported a proposed amendment to the Constitution as follows: "No person who has held or may hereafter hold the office of President, shall ever again be eligible to said office." It was made a special order for Tuesday next. Mr. Frye (Mo.) on behalf of the minority of the committee gave notice that he would offer a substitute.

Mr. Riddle, of Tenn., has introduced a bill providing that one-half of the duties on imports shall be collected in lawful money. Mr. Hartzell, of Ill., makes provision in another bill for payment of a portion of the import duties in legal tender notes.

The bill to abolish capital punishment has been reported back adversely.

Mr. Cannon, of Ill., has introduced a bill providing a penalty for mailing obscene matter and prohibiting lottery circulars passing through the mails.

The House proposes to go into Committee of the Whole daily on the Centennial Appropriation Bill until it shall have been disposed of. There are at least twenty gentlemen who yet desire to speak on the subject.

A bill introduced in the House by Mr. Baker, of Indiana, providing for the compensation of members of Congress, fixes the salaries of Senators, members and delegates, including those of the Forty-fourth Congress, at $3,600 per annum, payable monthly, with no allowance for stationery, mileage, or other purposes.

For the Reporter.

A PROVERB.

The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.

A Dialogue.

A What is the meaning of this Proverb?

B. It means that the children suffer for the offences of the parents.

A. Is this doctrine taught in the word of God?

B. It is Ex. 20:5, God says: I the Lord thy God am a jealous God visiting the iniquities of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.

A. But don't this doctrine contradict Ez. 18: 17. The son shall not die for the iniquity of his father?

B. It does not. The meaning of Ez. 18:17, is that one man shall not be condemned for the sin of another, unless by commission, approbation, or some other way, he make it his own. But it is otherwise with temporal punishments. 2 Sam. 24: 15, 17. The ruin of the Ten Tribes are traced back to the idolatry of Jeroboam and the ruin of Judah to the sins of Manassah.

A. How far may the faults and evil propensities of parents be transferred to their children?

B. To a very great extent. Indeed every day's experience shows us children suffering for the sins, vices and follies of parents, by hereditary diseases, poor constitutions, bad education and example, bad names, intemperance, and a thousand other parental sins, and disobediences of God's natural laws

A. How far are the sins of parents punished in their posterity?

B. Only so far as they act in the same way.

A. Shall a righteous son be punished merely because he had a wicked father?

B. No.

A. In what sense, then, does God visit the sins of the fathers upon the children?

B. The wicked children of wicked parents shall be more certainly and severely punished than bad men ordinarily are.

A. Has God threatened to visit the wicked children of wicked parents with a more speedy vengeance in this world than other wicked people?

B. He has and has also executed the threatening, as in case of the Ten Tribes and of Judah—and this is to visit the iniquities of the fathers upon the children. For though they are punished only for their own sins, yet the iniquities of the fathers are the reason why God punishes them in this world and makes them an example of his justice, while other men as wicked as themselves escape.

A. Will any one be punished more than his own sins deserve?

B. No. But the wicked children of wicked parents may be and often are punished more severely than any other wicked men are—and this again is to visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children.

A. Is there anything said in the word of God about a "certain measure of iniquity" which is filling up from one generation to another, till at last it makes a nation or family ripe for destruction?

B. There is. The iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full, Gen. 15: 16. The Jews are another example. See Matt. 23: 29 36. Jesus says: Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites. Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the Sepulchres of the Righteous, and say, If we had been in the days of our Fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers, ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold your house is left unto desolate. The punishment of the sins of many ages and generations are all said to fall upon them. God may wait with patience upon a wicked nation or wicked family; but when they sin on from one generation to another, it all aggravates the account and when God sees it is time to punish, makes the punishment very severe and final.

A. Do you not think what is to be will be?

B. There are two theories on this question, viz.:

1. That God foreknows and then foreordains.

2. That God foreordains and then foreknows.

In the former theory, their is nothing like fatalism; in the latter, to say the least, there is some very *fine* thinking.

Aaronsburg, Pa. X.

SERMON BY MR. MOODY.

Mr. Moody's subject on a recent evening 1: Philadelphia was "Confessing Christ," adopting as his text the words in Romans 10:10: "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Infidels, he said, were not ashamed to profess their belief. Politicians were not afraid to say what party they belong to. The

Only People that are Afraid

or ashamed are the professed followers of Christ. We are told that we must take up our cross and follow Christ, but a great many people have not found out that there is any cross at all. If we are to be ashamed of Christ, he will not acknowldge us. A man who wants to be in the service of one of your Philadelphia merchants must not object to wearing the livery. If a man wants to join the U. S. army he must be ready to wear the uniform, and we must as Christians be ready to show that we belong to Christ. In a prayer meeting at Boston I once attended, most of those who took part were old men, but a little tow headed Norwegian boy, who could only speak broken English, got up and said: "If I tell the world about Christ He will

Tell the Father About Me."

That wrote itself upon my heart, and I have never forgotten what that little boy said. A preacher was riding out to a service with a prominent Judge, and said: "Judge, I want you to speak to night." "Oh," said the Judge, "I can't do that, I have never spoken in a church in my life." When they got to the place they found the room full, and the preacher said: "Judge, I want you to answer a few questions," and then got the man to tell when he was converted and something of his experience. The whole audience was broken down, and many were converted. Oh, shame on the Christians of the nineteenth century that we should not be willing to confess Christ before men! We want a few converts in Philadelphia like the woman of Samaria who went to the town and told all her friends of her interview with a man who had told her all that she had ever done. Why, if we had a few women like that, ready to tell all their friends about Christ, the whole city would soon hear about Him. The old Scotch woman when she was converted said: "I'll

Never Let God hear the Last of This."

She could not help talking of what had been done for her. Last Summer we spent some time in a country town, and a few young men were converted. I have just had a letter from that place, which tells of services that they have been holding in the school-house in the neighborhood, and many have been brought to Jesus just through the simple story of these young men. The maniac who was restored to his right mind, out of whom many devils had been cast by Christ, went and testified among his own people. He was not ashamed to say who it was that healed him. Though Christ was very unpopular in those parts and had been driven out of the city, the blind man whose sight was restored was not afraid to say what Christ did for him, though the Pharisees threatened to cast him out of the Synagogue, and did after all cast him out. But where was he cast to? Why, right into the arms of Jesus. It's a good thing to live so that the world can't cast us out and wont want to own us. It was because Peter was ashamed of Christ that he fell into sin and denied his Lord.

If We do not Confess Jesus

we shall soon become backsliders. Children, you don't know how much you may do by confessing Him. An incident of mission school work in Chicago was related, showing how a little boy was the means of leading his infidel mother to the Saviour through being courageous enough to talk just a little to her, and then afterward praying for her. Just because he was not ashamed to confess Christ, he was used and made a blessing.

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