FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Spring Bonnets.

The first importations of French bonnets show the large Clarissa Harlowe shapes, with brims that flare above the forehead, and are tied down closely at the sides, but also small bonnets with close brims like those popularly worn during the winter. The soft crowns now worn in caps and turbans of velvet or satin are so much liked that they have been produced in chip and straw bonnets. These have close fronts and are apt to be trimmed in Alsacian style with a large bow on top. There are also soft crowns of satin, either plain or striped, or else of damasse silk in Persian patterns, used with chip brims. Fanchons, or three-cornered half hand kerchiefs of white satin embroidered in colors, and edged with Breton lace, are also used on the crowns of chip bonnets. A peculiar novelty sent over from the best French milliners is the wine-colored chip for the entire bonnet, or else braids of wine-color alternating with white chip in rows on the entire bonnet. A great deal of wine-colored satin ribbon is used for trimming the ecru chips that will be worn early in the spring, and this is often combined with cream-color. The bonnets with flaring brims have no face trimming, but are lined with shirred satin of a becoming color. A wreath of foliage or of grasses in the new roseau or reed-green shades passes around the crown, and satin ribbon of the same green shade is passed plainly over the crown, tying down the sides, and is knotted under the chin for strings. Sometimes this reed-green satin ribbon is pale pink on the opposite side, or else faience-blue, or it may be the new cream tint called Satsuma. Pink with blue in Pompadour combinations is also seen in the new ribbons, and there is much garnet with ecru. The satins for millinery are the soft qualities spoken of in Madame Raymond's letters as the foulard finished satins. India muslin edged with Breton lace trims some of the finest French chips. The brim has a wide shirred binding of the India muslin that shows at least an inch in breadth both inside and out, while beyond this, inside the brim, is a bandeau of velvet either black or bottle-green. The top of the crown has a soft crimpel white ostrich plume held by some veined leaves of dark green velvet. The strings of double India muslin, edged with plaited Breton lace, cross the crown, droop on the back, and are fastened under the chin. In direct contrast to this is the dress bonnet of black Spanish lace made of a broad barbe more than a fourth of a yard wide, which is tied in a large Alsacian bow on top, passes down the sides, and is tied under the chin; some green foliage made of transparent crape in roseau shades is placed on the sides, and a chased arabesque ring of gold holds the Alsacian bow in place. On plain chip bonnets are many very small pipings of satin placed inside the brims, while others have silk with cords stitched in on the outside.

The round hats for dressy wear at summer resorts are very picturesque. Some of these are made of white China crape, with the broad brim turned up directly above the forehead, and filled in with crushed roses or artemisias in pale ecru and pink shades; two large white ostrich plumes cover the crown. Broad-brimmed Leghorn hats have each side caught down with square bows of cream-colored satin ribbon, and a bouquet of field flowers. Gray chip round hats have high brigand crowns, and the brim is turned up on the left side. Persian damask silk is tied like a handkerchief around the crown. The black chip round hats for city use are of English shapes, and in the style known last year as equestrienne. Some of these are trimmed with broaded gauze in colors, and others with black satin-striped gauze. Ornaments are shown in imitation of silver set with brilliants that glitter like diamonds; these form anchors, daggers, crowns, buckles, tridents, arrows, darts, with many dragons, beetles, butterflies and even turtles. Flowers are used in very great profusion, as wreaths for crowns, half wreaths for the forehead, and above all in bouquets of long-stemmed roses of field flowers.—*Harper's Bazar.*

News and Notes for Women.

The prettiest lining that we know of in a bonnet, is a smiling face.

Miss Mary Jane Wadleigh, of Sutton, Mass., has one hundred pet cats, and when one of them dies she has it buried and its grave marked by a neat monument.

New York women present each guest at their kettledrums with a miniature Dutch teapot filled with sugar-plums.

A Jewess and an Irish girl are managing a shoe shop in Cincinnati, and managing it well. Both are daughters of widowed mothers, and each aids in the support of her family.

"When I wath a little boy," lisped a very stupid society man to a young lady, "all my ideath in life were thered on being a clerg'man." "Well, there is at least one case of gratified ambition," was the reply.

An English lady named Wigglesworth makes paper artificial flowers so wonderfully true to nature as to deceive style gardeners at first sight. These flowers are used for decorating churches and dinner-tables.

San Francisco has an Infants' Shelter, which was founded by some little girls about eight years ago, and now gives a home to fifteen children, besides daily protection to as many more. No charge is made for simply taking care of a child, and three meals a day are furnished for ten cents.

The princess of Tanjore, who has not only made her appearance in public, but permitted the governor of Madras to invest her with the insignia of the Star of India, is the most highly-educated princess in the Orient. She owes her intellectual culture to the aid of an accomplished young German lady, and has made considerable progress in English.

The Knave Bible.

About two centuries ago an idea—partly originated by Fuller—was current that in some rare editions the apostle Paul designated himself "Paul, a knave of Jesus Christ." No such Bible really existed; and the duke of Lauderdale, the well-known Scotch viceroy of Charles II., having in vain endeavored to procure one, it occurred to Thornton, a worthless fellow by all account, that he could, by a little ingenuity, gratify his grace and serve himself at the same time. He cut a Matthews Bible, dated MDXXXVII., and by careful manipulation he erased the XVII., thus leaving the date 1520 instead of 1537—fifteen years earlier than the oldest English Bible extant, that of the Coverdale. Not content with this daring imposition, he in a similar manner rubbed out the word "servante," in Romans i. 1, and substituted "kneawe," made up of letters cut from the verse read, "Paul, kneawe of Jesus Christ," instead of "Paul, a servante of Jesus Christ." The book, thus mutilated, was taken to the duke, who gave him seventeen guineas for it. (Lewis' History of Translations, p. 47.) Although "the mark of the razure was very visible," Lauderdale was apparently pleased with his unique bibliographical treasure, and had his arms and coronet stamped on both sides. How the forgery was discovered is not mentioned; but Dr. Eadle remarks that a volume, said to be the identical copy, was sold at a book sale in London in 1865. Hence its being sometimes called the "Knave Bible," which designation, in more senses than one, it certainly deserved.—*Chambers' Journal.*

To Heal Scratches, Etc. — Borax water will instantly remove all soils and stains from the hands and heal all scratches and chafes. To make it, put some crude borax into a large bottle, and fill in water. When the borax is dissolved add more to the water, until at last the water can absorb no more, and a residuum remains at the bottom of the bottle. To the water in which the hands are to be washed after gardening pour from this bottle enough to make it very soft. It is very cleansing and very healthy. By its use the hands will be kept in excellent condition, smooth, soft and white.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD

Farm Crops of the United States.

The price of corn in this [country is governed entirely by the quantity produced and the consumption, the quantity exported being too small in proportion to the enormous amount raised to exercise an influence on the price; therefore the crop of 1878, which exceeded the immense one of 1877—the largest ever raised in the United States—brought the figures much lower than those of last year. The lowest State averages, according to the special report issued by the agricultural department at Washington, are in Iowa and Nebraska, both of which States increased their products largely—too great for home consumption and too remote from leading markets—bringing the price down to about one-half that of 1876. The States showing the highest average price are the Gulf States, from Georgia to Texas, where the consumption fully equals the crop, and where the prices are little less than those of last season.

In the case of wheat, the price is greatly influenced by the European demand. The average price of the increased crop of 1877, stimulated by the war in Europe, was $1.08; but for the year 1878, with an addition of upward of 50,000,000 bushels, the price had fallen to seventy-eight cents per bushel on December 1st, 1878.

The great value of the cotton crop is also founded on the demand for export. Statistics show that in 1878 we had regained the position held prior to 1861, and that four-fifths of the cotton used and manufactured in Great Britain come from the United States. The proportion of the total crop exported to foreign parts was 3,340,000 bales, out of a crop of 4,750,000 bales during the year ending September 1, 1878. Basing the calculation on the prices returned by the producer, the value of the crop for 1878 is given at $194,700,000, while the number of bales is 5,200,000, the average for the whole country being about 8¼ cents per pound.

The price of tobacco is low this year, the average crop being 5.6 cents per pound on December 1. This price is mainly due to the result of an overstock of poor tobacco last year. The quality now on hand is generally better and heavier, making a yield per acre more than that of the former season, excepting in Kentucky, where it fell off slightly. The total crop of 1878 is estimated at 393,000,000 pounds (worth $22,000,000) against 490,000,000 pounds the year before.

The price of potatoes has not advanced yet to the relative proportion that price bears to production. With a crop almost identical with that of 1876 the price is much lower per bushel; while the crop is some 46,000,000 bushels less than last year the total value does not equal that of the excessive yield of 1877; the product for 1878 being 124,027,000 bushels, at 58.8 cents per bushel—the total value being $72,000,000.—*New York World.*

Treating Unproductive Land.

On many farms there are patches of land that are so unproductive that it does not pay to plant them with any kind of cultivated crop. They may produce some grass, but scarcely enough to compensate the cost of cutting it. In many cases the land does not earn enough to keep the fences around it in repair. Sometimes these spots are unproductive on account of being covered with stones, but in a larger number of cases the surface soil has been washed away, leaving little or nothing but hardpan, or clay or gravel. Land that is situated on side hills is liable to be badly washed as soon as the turf over it is broken. If it has been planted with tobacco or corn for a number of years it is the more likely to have the surface soil washed away.

Land of this description can only be made productive by "heroic treatment," by requiring the formation of a new soil. To this end it must be broken up to as great a depth as can be reached by a subsoil plow. In England, France and some of the Eastern states, dynamite has been resorted to as a means of breaking up the clay or pan that is too hard to be easily pulverized with a plow. Blasting enables the frost to carry on its work of disintegration. It also enables water and air to circulate among the broken masses of earth. Brush fires render good service in making this sort of land fertile. The addition of lime is recommended, as it acts to produce decomposition. Hard clay that has been broken is mechanically benefited by the addition of sand, peat, chip-manure, or even saw dust and shavings. Of course the ordinary fertilizers will be required to insure a crop.

The first crops should be turned under. Rye, millet and buckwheat are all suitable for this purpose. It is practical to raise and turn under two crops a year. The first crop to raise with a view to gain should be red clover, the roots of which penetrate to a long distance. Land too rocky to be plowed should ordinarily be set out with fruit or timber trees. The labor of preparing a spot of land of sufficient size for a tree is not great, and only a small number of tree are required for on acre. Trees may also be planted to good advantage on unproductive land that is not stony by breaking up and subduing the soil in the places where they are to stand. A little manure goes a long way when applied to trees planted twenty or thirty feet apart. Many of the best orchards in New England were planted on land too rocky to be plowed and too unproductive to produce a crop of grain.—*Chicago Times.*

Health Hints.

Wash for the Removal of Freckles.—Barley water, made thick, two fluid ounces; distilled water of bean flowers, two fluid ounces; spirits of wine, two fluid ounces. The skin is to be washed frequently with this preparation.

To Cure A Felon.—Take out a portion of the inside of a lemon, and thrust the finger into it. Or take the skin of the inside of a fresh egg, bind it on with the moisture of the white of the egg next to the finger, and it will draw the small globule that causes the sore to the surface. As it dries make new applications.

Importance of a Clean Skin.—Most of our invalids are such, and millions of more healthy people will become invalids, for the want of paying the most ordinary attention to the requirements of the skin. The membrane is too often regarded as a covering only instead of a complicated piece of machinery, scarcely second in its texture and sensitiveness to the ear and eye. Many treat it with as little reference to its proper functions as if it were nothing better than a bag or their bones. It is this inconsideration for the skin that is the cause of a very large proportion of the diseases of the world. If as claimed by some scientists, four-fifths, in the bulk, of all we eat and drink, must either pass off through the skin or be turned back upon the system as a poison, and that life depends as much upon these exhalations through the skin as upon inhaling pure air through the lungs, it must be of the most vital importance to keep the channel free.

Mulching.

This subject enlisted consideration at the late fruit-growers' meeting. There appeared to be no division of sentiment as to its advisibility, though we know that all persons do not favor it. For ourselves, we have resorted to it as long as we have had a garden, and are sure that there is great benefit in it. Putting grass, manure, weeds, sawdust, or pliable rubbish of almost any kind around a newly-planted tree secures a prolonged moisture and more uniformity of temperature. But this mulching should be removed every three or four weeks, and the soil underneath well stirred, and fresh mulching applied. This way it is of decided benefit, and will save the life, or at least secure the health, of many a tree. Mulching also promotes the growth of tomatoes, egg plants, beans, peas, etc. With regard to peas it should be applied thickly, as it will tend to cool the ground, and the cooler the ground the higher the flavor of this delicious vegetable will be. Some of the members of the meeting said they had mulched acres and found it "to pay." One strongly recommended seaweed for mulching, but as every fruit-grower couldn't have a sea near him, this suggestion will not probably be adopted by a great many.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Eastern and Middle States.

Peter J. Pintler, said to be 108 years old, died at White Lake, Sullivan county, N. Y., a few days ago. His oldest brother, believed to be 110 years old, is still living.

Myron A. Buell, a farm hand, has been sentenced to be hung April 18, for assaulting and murdering his employer's daughter, Catharine M. Richards, aged fifteen. The tragedy took place near Cooperstown, N. Y., June 25, 1878.

Mayor Cooper presided at a large meeting in the interest of tenement-house reform, held at the Cooper Institute, New York. It is charged the city's crowded tenement-houses are hotbeds of disease and death, and should give way to more commodious dwellings, built with a view to prolonging, not shortening life.

It is now asserted that the result of a second investigation of the case of Barron, the Dexter (Me.) castler, is to indicate that it was a case of robbery and murder, and not of suicide. It is said that the alleged irregularities in his accounts can be explained, and that he lived inside of his income.

J. B. Enos & Co., flour merchants of Waterford, N. Y., have failed for over $200,000.

At the municipal elections in Maine the united Democratic and Greenback candidate for mayor of Portland was successful. In Rockland there was no choice. In Bath, Lewiston, Auburn, Gardiner and Saco the Republican candidates for mayor were elected.

The great Vanderbilt will contest in New York has come to an abrupt conclusion through a compromise, by which, it is understood, the contestants—Cornelius Vanderbilt and Mrs. Berger, the late commodore's daughter—get $1,000,000 each and costs, and the will is to remain uncontested.

The sudden close of the Vanderbilt will case caused much comment in New York, and the counsel for William H. Vanderbilt denied that there had been any compromise with the contestants.

Whitelaw Reid will be the orator and George Alfred Townsend the poet of the next meeting of the New York Press association, which is to be held in Rochester the third week in June.

The Dime Savings bank, of York, Pa., has suspended.

The New York society for the prevention of crime are raiding disorderly houses in that city. Five were closed one evening recently.

Western and Southern States.

Mrs. J. P. Coulson, of Coolville, Ia., locked her three children, whose ages ranged between three and nine years, in the house while she visited a neighbor. During her absence the house was burned to the ground, and the three little ones perished in the flames.

J. M. Lunsford and six of his children were burned or smothered to death while asleep in their residence, at Nelsonville, Ohio. Only Mrs. Lunsford and one child escaped.

The Michigan Democrats and Greenbackers have united on a State ticket, with John C. Shipman for judge of the supreme court at the head. The platform adopted deprecates the tendency to centralization of power, opposes war claims, demands that all money be made a full legal tender, calls for the substitution of greenbacks for national bank bills, says money enough to meet the requirements of business should be issued, and opposes all monopolies.

Five lives have been lost and all the business part of Reno, Nev., destroyed by fire. The fire started in the morning at the west end of the business streets back of the Reno hotel. A strong gale was blowing, and it leaped from house to house and block to block with the rapidity of lightning. In three hours the whole business portion of the town was in ashes with the exception of the Masonic building. Among the buildings destroyed are three freight depots, Bander's bank, the postoffice, Shoemaker's drug store, the Pollard, International and Arcade hotels, the depot, Davidson's and Frederick's jewelry stores, Pemninger & Osburn's drug store, both telegraph offices, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s office, the railroad and baggage rooms, the Barbat saloon, Hoover's chophouse, Hammond & Wilson's stable, the academy of music, Barnett's, Prescott's and Grey & Isaac's dry goods stores, Abraham's and Nathan's clothing stores, and Manning's and Black's farmers' co-operative association grocery stores. Two or three Central Pacific trains, including the lightning train, were also destroyed. The loss is about $1,000,000, and the insurance only about $150,000. The five lives known to be lost are those of Mr. John Beck, John Riley and three tramps. A number of persons were injured. Several farmhouses two miles down the meadows were set afire by the sparks and destroyed. After working until exhausted the whites forced the Chinese to work on the engines.

A premature explosion of nitro-glycerine at Dutch Gap, James river, Virginia, resulted in the killing of M. C. Haggerty, government contractor for widening and otherwise improving Dutch Gap; Elias Hall, who had charge of the operating of the glycerine, and Aleck Brown, a colored man.

The boiler belonging to the sawmill of Selden Blackburn, at Leavenworth, Ky., exploded, injuring five men more or less seriously, and damaging property to the extent of $200,000.

The Greenback club convention at Chicago, elected R. R. Hoyt, of Michigan, president. A platform was adopted affirming the heretofore expressed creed of the Greenback party, and declaring that postmasters should be elected; that the government should prohibit the importation of Chinese servile labor, and that a labor bureau should be established.

The financial embarrassment of Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, has been brought to a crisis by a formal assignment of all his property except the Catholic churches, the title of which is vested in his name, to John B. Manix as assignee for the benefit of his creditors, whose claims amount to over $4,000,000.

The Michigan Republican State convention nominated a ticket headed by Judge James V. Campbell for associate judge of the supreme court, on a platform opposing any change in the present financial system.

From Washington.

The President in his veto of the Chinese emigration bill, says the measure is virtually a denunciation of the whole Burlingame treaty with China, and that there is no emergency demanding such a step.

The secretary of the Smithsonian institute has received a cable dispatch announcing the discovery of a new planet at Marseilles, France.

The public debt statement for February shows: Total debt, less cash in the treasury, March 1, 1879, $2,047,541,686; cash in the treasury, $447,292,498.48. Increase of debt during February, $311,411.23.

The total number of bills and joint resolutions introduced in the House of Representatives during the Congress which has just expired is 6,826, as compared with 5,206 for the corresponding Congress. The principal measures which have become laws during the last session in addition to ten of the regular annual appropriation bills are: The bill reducing the tax on tobacco and otherwise amending the internal revenue laws; the army bill; the bill to aid the refunding of the national debt by authorizing the issue of small treasury certificates; the bill to prevent the introduction of infectious or contagious diseases, and bills providing for the payment of arrears of pensions for service during the war of the rebellion.

Among the measures which failed of enactment by the late Congress are the following: The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill; the army appropriation bill; the bill to regulate inter-State commerce; the "steamboat bill;" the Geneva award bill; the bill to establish postal savings banks; the bill to repeal the specie resumption act; the bill granting pensions to survivors of the Mexican war; the "sugar bill;" the bill to restrict Chinese emigration; the joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to prohibit the payment of "disloyal claims;" the bill to provide for the enforcement of the eight-hour law; the proposition to transfer the Indian bureau to the war department; the Mississippi levee bill, and the bill providing for a commission on the improvement of the Mississippi; the bill extending the time for the completion of the Northern Pacific railroad; the Brazilian mail service bill; the bill to regulate the transportation of animals by railroads; the bill to devote the proceeds of sales of the public lands to educational purposes; the bill authorizing railroad companies to construct and maintain lines of telegraph for commercial purposes; the Burnside committee's army reorganization bill; the bill to revise the patent laws; the Japanese and Chinese indemnity final bills; the various measures reported from the House committee on banking and currency.

The constitutionality of the legal-tender act, so far as it applies to the issue of government notes in time of peace having the quality of a legal-tender for private debts is about to be brought to a test in the courts, and, of course, finally in the supreme court of the United States, by an agreement between Mr. S. B. Chittenden, member of Congress for the Brooklyn (N. Y.) district, and General Benjamin F. Butler, each gentleman agreeing to bear the costs and other expenses on his side incurred in carrying a case through the lower courts and up to and through the supreme court. General Butler means to argue the case himself. Senator Edmunds, of Vermont, and Mr. William Allen Butler, of New York, will manage the case for Mr. Chittenden.

The following are the total appropriations of the third and last session of the Forty-fifth Congress as compared with those of 1878:

	1878.	1879.
Military academy	$282,805	$319,547
Fortifications	275,000	275,000
Consular and diplomatic	1,076,135	1,087,835
Navy	14,151,604	14,029,969
Postoffice	33,256,373	36,838,400
Pensions	30,871,574	29,366,000
Indians	4,721,275	4,713,479
Sundry civil	26,600,000	22,000,000
River and harbor	8,597,900	7,500,000
Totals	$119,541,766	$116,130,230

The court of inquiry appointed to investigate the conduct of Major Reno at the time of the Custer massacre, reported favorably to the major, and the report has been approved by the general of the army and the secretary of war. It was charged that at the time of the massacre Major Reno failed to go to Custer's relief.

Foreign News.

During a riot at Mosser, Brazil, the commander and chief magistrate of the town were expelled by the military, nine persons were killed, and many public and private stores were sacked.

Weston, the American pedestrian, failed in his attempt to walk 2,000 miles in 2,000 hours along the roads of England, delivering lectures in the principal towns on the way. When the thousand hours expired he had covered 1,977¾ miles.

The mayor of Sheffield, England, said at a meeting that in one district of that town there are 4,000 persons destitute, and 400 families are actually starving.

A publication issued by a Russian secret press declares that the governor of Charkoff, who was assassinated, had been condemned to death by the Russian Socialist party for inhuman treatment of political prisoners. The act of assassination was consequently executed by one of that party. The publication charges the governor with beating students nearly to death, and concluded with the declaration of "death for death, terror for terror. This is our answer to all threats and persecutions of the government."

The viceroy of India telegraphs that he has received a letter announcing the death of Shere Ali, amir of Afghanistan. The letter was from Yakoob Kahn, Shere Ali's son.

The iron Spanish steamer Guillermo, bound from Baltimore for Liverpool, was sunk by a collision with a British vessel off the south coast of Ireland. The captain and several of the Guillermo's crew were injured, and a number were reported missing.

A telegram from Tashkend states that after the death of Shere Ali, at Mazar-i-Sherif, a bloody conflict broke out among the followers of the various pretenders to the Afghan throne, and the partisans of Yakoob Khan were victorious.

The progress of the plague in Russia is said to have been effectually checked.

English newspapers declare that the annihilation of the British column in South Africa by Zulus, was due to the blundering and incapacity of Lord Chelmsford, commander of the Cape of Good Hope forces, and that he should be recalled.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Senate.

The census bill with the House amendments was reported to the Senate, with the recommendation that the provision added by the House be non-concurred in. Consideration of the question was postponed.... The Vice-President laid before the Senate a letter from David T. Corbin, withdrawing his claim to the seat now held by Senator Butler, of South Carolina.... The consideration of the bill making an appropriation for the payment of arrears of pensions was resumed. The first eight sections of the amendment, providing for the appointment of pension surgeons and clerks, were rejected. The next section was amended so that pensions shall begin from the death or actual disability of the person on whose account paid, and adopted. Mr. Morrill then submitted his amendment for the issue of four per cent. bonds, the proceeds thereof to be applied to the payment of arrears of pensions, and after long discussion, a recess was taken till 8 P. M. After recess Mr. Morrill's amendment was rejected, and one offered by Mr. Shields, making the act granting pensions to soldiers of the war of 1812 applicable to the Mexican war veterans, was adopted. The bill was then passed.... Mr. Windom called up the sundry civil appropriation bill, and its consideration was proceeded with.

After passing the sundry civil bill, at midnight, the Senate proceeded to consider the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. Several amendments inserted by the House were stricken out, and at 4 A. M. the bill was passed. A recess was then taken till 9 A. M., when the river and harbor and harbor appropriation bill was taken up, and a large number of amendments agreed to. The bill was passed at a late hour.... The vote by which the pensions arrears bill was passed was reconsidered by unanimous consent.... During the Sunday night session of the Senate a debate occurred on the pensions arrears appropriation bill, the vote by which it was passed having been reconsidered. Mr. Hoar offered an amendment excepting Jefferson Davis from the benefits of the clause providing pensions for Mexican war veterans. Agreed to by 23 to 22, and the entire clause pensioning Mexican war veterans was rejected, after which the bill was passed.... The post route bill was taken up and passed.... The committee appointed to investigate Senator Matthew's connection with the Louisiana count made a report exonerating him from all blame. A recess was taken till 1 P. M. On reassembling the Teller committee was authorized to sit during the recess.... The House amendments to the census bill were agreed to, and the bill passed.... After a long discussion the certification and deficiency appropriation bills were submitted and agreed to, after which the Senate took a recess till 8 P. M. At the evening session the consideration of the sundry civil bill was taken up and adopted.

At two o'clock in the morning Mr. Windom reported to the Senate that the committee of conference on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill had been unable to agree. The point on which the conferees were unable to agree was the proviso of the House fixing the pay of jurors in the United States court at two dollars a day, repealing the test oath, and also so much of the revised statutes as provides for the appointment of supervisors of election.... The House took the position that the only condition on which an agreement could be made was that the conferees on the part of the Senate should recede from that point. The latter could not consent to this condition. After a long political discussion a motion that the Senate sustain its amendments to the bill was carried by 29 yeas to 24 nays. At 11.30 P. M. the Senate went into executive session, and amid considerable disorder and attempts to rush through private bills the Vice-President's gavel fell at twelve o'clock noon, and the Forty-fifth Congress was a thing of the past.

House.

The House discussed for two hours the Brazilian mail subsidy proposition and then rejected it by 89 to 157. It also rejected the new mail matter classification scheme.... Mr. Sewell brought to the bar of the House, but refused to produce his books or testify, and the case was referred to the judiciary committee, which amounts to his discharge.

The Senate amendments to the deficiency bill were non-concurred in, and a conference committee was ordered.... The consideration of the sugar bill was resumed; but after some discussion it was withdrawn, and after the transaction of some minor business the yellow fever bill was taken up. Mr. Young offered a substitute for the Senate bill, which was adopted. The question then being on the passage of the Senate bill, with the substitute, it was defeated, and the House took a recess till 8 P. M. On reassembling, the House, after considerable discussion, laid the bill on the table.... At 10.50 the President's message vetoing the anti-Chinese bill was read, and a vote being taken on the passage of the bill over the veto it was rejected by 109 to 60—not two-thirds in the affirmative. At 1.10 the House took a recess till 9 o'clock Sunday morning. At that hour the House met again, and without transacting any business took another recess until 3 P. M. During the evening several recesses were taken. At 12 A. M. a recess was taken until 10 the next morning.

Mr. Hewitt reported that the committee of conference on the army appropriation bill had been unable to agree. The point on which the point upon which the Senate and House disagreed—the presence of troops at the polls. On one side, the House conferees insisted that the time had come when it should no longer be lawful for a soldier to be at the polling-places. On the other side, it was insisted with equal force that the provision of the statutes should be maintained, and that the power should remain in the executive to order troops to the polls on the day of election, if in his judgment it was necessary to preserve the peace. Debate of a political nature then followed.... The unanimous report exonerating Speaker Randall from charges recently made against him, was adopted. At 2 A. M. the House reassembled after a recess, and the arrears of pensions bill was passed amid much uproar. At three minutes of twelve o'clock Speaker Randall delivered a valedictory address, the gavel fell at twelve o'clock, and the Forty-fifth Congress was declared adjourned without day.

POTTER COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Report of the Majority.

The majority report of the Potter committee, which has been adopted by a vote of six Democrats to three Republicans (Mr. Butler being absent), says that the confessions of conspirators who have become dissatisfied, are worth little, but points to the fact, not generally understood, that in regard to the essential features of the election and canvass in Florida and Louisiana there is no substantial dispute between the members of the committee, the Republicans having called no witnesses in Florida and only a few in Louisiana, except as to the conduct of the visiting statesmen, and incidentally about intimidations. It dismisses entirely the testimony of Anderson, Jenks, Mrs. Jenks, Weber and that class of witnesses, and deals with the case upon what it regards as the general and controlling facts alone.

The report then reviews the election in Florida declaring that the State voted for Tilden, but was illegally counted for Hayes. It then deals with the conduct of the visiting statesmen, and particularly that of Mr. Noyes, as contrasted with that of General Francis C. Barlow, whose fidelity to all his obligations, and integrity, independence, fairness and truth the report especially commends.

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The report then takes up the case of Louisiana, comments on the powers of the returning board, speaks of its trickery in getting up false affidavits in New Orleans, and the alleged Republican conspiracy in East Feliciana. The report says that the returning board would never have so outraged the people but for their encouragement from the visiting statesmen, and the support which they and the troops gave them. Then follow details as to how some of the visitors were deceived by the local managers, and innocently co-operated in the frauds of the returning board, while others did not. It refers very briefly to the alleged bargain by which Hayes, who had three thousand less votes than Packard, got counted in, while Packard went out, and mentions Mr. Sherman's offer to prove intimidation, but says that whenever the committee offered to receive it the evidence was not produced, and they were met by some sham excuse for not producing it; how they had examined many of the witnesses that were before the returning board, who, in almost every instance, recanted and explained how they came to make their false affidavit in the first place, and how such statements as they made before the returning board were totally unfounded. Reference is then made to the Sherman letter, in regard to which the report simply gives the facts as they stand, stating that a letter was actually written and largely influenced political action in Louisiana, whoever signed it, and drawing attention to the attempt—charged to be in the interest of Mr. Sherman—by Mrs. Jenks, whose husband and brother are employed in the treasury department, to induce the committee to produce a forged letter.

The report closes with a reference to the danger of returning boards, and the greater danger of controlling elections and protecting canvassing boards by Federal troops, and, above all, to the crowning danger with which the country is threatened by reason of the enormous patronage centered in the presidency, which makes the presidential office a prize so great that in order to control it on whose account paid, and adopted. Mr. Morrill then submitted his amendment for the issue of four per cent. bonds, the proceeds thereof to be applied to the payment of arrears of pensions, and after long discussion, a recess was taken till 8 P. M. After recess Mr. Morrill's amendment was rejected, and one offered by Mr. Shields, making the act granting pensions to soldiers of the war of 1812 applicable to the Mexican war veterans, was adopted. The bill was then passed.... Mr. Windom called up the sundry civil appropriation bill, and its consideration was proceeded with.

After passing the sundry civil bill, at midnight, the Senate proceeded to consider the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. Several amendments inserted by the House were stricken out, and at 4 A. M. the bill was passed. A recess was then taken till 9 A. M., when the river and harbor and harbor appropriation bill was taken up, and a large number of amendments agreed to. The bill was passed at a late hour.... The vote by which the pensions arrears bill was passed was reconsidered by unanimous consent.... During the Sunday night session of the Senate a debate occurred on the pensions arrears appropriation bill, the vote by which it was passed having been reconsidered. Mr. Hoar offered an amendment excepting Jefferson Davis from the benefits of the clause providing pensions for Mexican war veterans. Agreed to by 23 to 22, and the entire clause pensioning Mexican war veterans was rejected, after which the bill was passed.... The post route bill was taken up and passed.... The committee appointed to investigate Senator Matthew's connection with the Louisiana count made a report exonerating him from all blame. A recess was taken till 1 P. M. On reassembling the Teller committee was authorized to sit during the recess.... The House amendments to the census bill were agreed to, and the bill passed.... After a long discussion the certification and deficiency appropriation bills were submitted and agreed to, after which the Senate took a recess till 8 P. M. At the evening session the consideration of the sundry civil bill was taken up and adopted.

At two o'clock in the morning Mr. Windom reported to the Senate that the committee of conference on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill had been unable to agree. The point on which the conferees were unable to agree was the proviso of the House fixing the pay of jurors in the United States court at two dollars a day, repealing the test oath, and also so much of the revised statutes as provides for the appointment of supervisors of election.... The House took the position that the only condition on which an agreement could be made was that the conferees on the part of the Senate should recede from that point. The latter could not consent to this condition. After a long political discussion a motion that the Senate sustain its amendments to the bill was carried by 29 yeas to 24 nays. At 11.30 P. M. the Senate went into executive session, and amid considerable disorder and attempts to rush through private bills the Vice-President's gavel fell at twelve o'clock noon, and the Forty-fifth Congress was a thing of the past.

House.

The House discussed for two hours the Brazilian mail subsidy proposition and then rejected it by 89 to 157. It also rejected the new mail matter classification scheme.... Mr. Sewell brought to the bar of the House, but refused to produce his books or testify, and the case was referred to the judiciary committee, which amounts to his discharge.

The Senate amendments to the deficiency bill were non-concurred in, and a conference committee was ordered.... The consideration of the sugar bill was resumed; but after some discussion it was withdrawn, and after the transaction of some minor business the yellow fever bill was taken up. Mr. Young offered a substitute for the Senate bill, which was adopted. The question then being on the passage of the Senate bill, with the substitute, it was defeated, and the House took a recess till 8 P. M. On reassembling, the House, after considerable discussion, laid the bill on the table.... At 10.50 the President's message vetoing the anti-Chinese bill was read, and a vote being taken on the passage of the bill over the veto it was rejected by 109 to 60—not two-thirds in the affirmative. At 1.10 the House took a recess till 9 o'clock Sunday morning. At that hour the House met again, and without transacting any business took another recess until 3 P. M. During the evening several recesses were taken. At 12 A. M. a recess was taken until 10 the next morning.

Mr. Hewitt reported that the committee of conference on the army appropriation bill had been unable to agree. The point on which the point upon which the Senate and House disagreed—the presence of troops at the polls. On one side, the House conferees insisted that the time had come when it should no longer be lawful for a soldier to be at polling-places. On the other side, it was insisted with equal force that the provision of the statutes should be maintained, and that the power should remain in the executive to order troops to the polls on the day of election, if in his judgment it was necessary to preserve the peace. Debate of a political nature then followed.... The unanimous report exonerating Speaker Randall from charges recently made against him, was adopted. At 2 A. M. the House reassembled after a recess, and the arrears of pensions bill was passed amid much uproar. At three minutes of twelve o'clock Speaker Randall delivered a valedictory address, the gavel fell at twelve o'clock, and the Forty-fifth Congress was declared adjourned without day.

POTTER COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Report of the Majority.

The majority report of the Potter committee, which has been adopted by a vote of six Democrats to three Republicans (Mr. Butler being absent), says that the confessions of conspirators who have become dissatisfied, are worth little, but points to the fact, not generally understood, that in regard to the essential features of the election and canvass in Florida and Louisiana there is no substantial dispute between the members of the committee, the Republicans having called no witnesses in Florida and only a few in Louisiana, except as to the conduct of the visiting statesmen, and incidentally about intimidations. It dismisses entirely the testimony of Anderson, Jenks, Mrs. Jenks, Weber and that class of witnesses, and deals with the case upon what it regards as the general and controlling facts alone.

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