

Will be issued from this office next week.

A DANGEROUS INNOVATION.

The following is cut from a late Washington daily paper.

SOCIETY NOTES.—Speaker Blaine gave a dinner party Sunday night to Mr. Washburne, at which the President, members of the Cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court and other officials were present.

Example is a powerful educator. One Sabbath dinner party, composed of men in prominent public positions, will have more influence on the public mind for evil than a thousand good sermons can overcome.

Human nature is prone to evil and slow to practice moral instruction. A "Sunday night" dinner party by Speaker Blaine will be held to be a sufficient plea for similar entertainments by others.

One-half step leads to another, and the bounds of propriety once sealed, future violations become easy and generally follow each other in rapid succession.

The inauguration of the Republican party promises moral as well as political reform; and up to the present time the hopes of the Christian communities throughout the country were not disappointed.

Congressional barrooms and beer shops, with which the capital building had been deluged for many years, and from which talented members of Congress might be seen emerging and staggering to their seats in the Senate and the House, were closed up, and the rooms appropriated to useful purposes.

A Congressional Temperance Society was organized, with our Vice President elect at its head. Congressmen became constant members of the organization, and many of them zealous workers in the cause.

Their example was felt not only throughout the city but over the whole country, and the result is seen in many important temperance organizations and temperance reforms in other places.

If, however, these good deeds are now to be supplemented by fashionable Sabbath dinner parties at Washington, all that has been accomplished will be more than counteracted by the pernicious effects of the example thus presented for speedy imitation.

The Government of the United States was founded by Christian men on Bible precepts. Among these is the observance of the Sabbath as a day sacred to the worship of God, Christianity and the Bible are the basis of the government and the hope for national prosperity and perpetuity.

Abolish these and infidelity, communism and insubordination will quickly usurp their places. If, as a people, we once lose sight of our God-given landmarks, and drift out upon the sea of infidelity, ours will be the fate of the nations that in the past have risen, but regarded not God, and are now known only in history as warnings to those who live after them.

There is, however, a bright gleam of hope in the fact that Mr. Blaine's violation of the Sabbath precept is severely commented upon in Washington and elsewhere; and a movement is already on foot to find some more worthy occupant for the Speaker's chair at the commencement of the 43d Congress.

ANOTHER REDUCTION OF TAXES PROPOSED.

Two bills have been already introduced in Congress asking for a further reduction of internal revenue taxes. It will be remembered that at the last session of Congress the internal taxes were removed from all articles excepting spirits, fermented liquors, tobacco in its various forms, bank circulation, checks and drafts, playing cards, matches, proprietary medicines and perfumery.

It is now proposed to wholly discontinue internal taxes excepting on spirits, beer and tobacco. It was estimated the internal revenues of the current fiscal year would amount to about \$120,000,000; but the Commissioner, judging from the returns already made, believes that the total for the year will run ten million over the estimate. This is attributed to the increase of business and care and economy in collecting the taxes. It is not, however, probable that any changes will be made during the present session in the schedule of taxes established by the last session of Congress. Already the taxes have been reduced to the lowest figures consistent with the present necessities of the government.

About three hundred millions are annually required. Two hundred millions are derived from the customs tariff, and the other hundred millions must come mainly from the internal revenue; which, if confined to spirits, beer and tobacco, would not amount to more than eighty millions. The reduction of the public debts must also be continued; but with the proposed reduction in the internal revenues there certainly would be no funds for that purpose. Better let the taxes just as they are until, through some more just economy, the public expenditures are so reduced as to warrant the experiment now proposed.

We learn that H. E. Shaffer, Esq., late editor and proprietor of the Fulton Republican, is about to commence the publication of an independent paper at Mt. Union. It will eschew politics and be entirely devoted to local and general news. All right, Harry, we wish you abundant success.

Mr. Spear was very careful not to tell the House, the other day, where he was during the war. He might have told that consulting body and comfort to the rebels through the columns of a Copperhead newspaper but, then, he did not.

A destructive fire occurred in the fifth Avenue Hotel, in New York city, on the night of the 11th inst., in which eleven servants were burned to death, some one is responsible for the awful fate of these poor creatures.

The Globe has changed hands.

SOLDIERS' BOUNTY.

There was quite an animated debate in Congress yesterday, over the proposition to give to every honorably discharged soldier and sailor 100 acres of public lands, without requiring residence thereon.

A warlike Deacon, Mr. Spear, made the debate the occasion of an onslaught upon the Grand Army of the Republic, and upon the Governor elect of this State.

In order to a clear understanding of the subject, we reprint an extract from a letter from the Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, General H. J. Rieder, which we printed in September last.

"At the Convention of the Grand Army of the Republic of the Pennsylvania State, held at Philadelphia on the 24th day of January last, Col. R. B. Deane (now General Hartman) introduced, among a number of others, the following resolutions, the first two of which were only ones introduced at the Convention which had reference to our benevolent acts:

"Resolved, That the Department of Pennsylvania, Grand Army of the Republic, earnestly protest against the passage of any law granting 100 acres of land to honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, or their legal representatives, without actual residence thereon, as being adverse to a sound public policy in the distribution of public lands, looking on the fact that the actual settlers nearly 350,000, 000 acres, and in no way conferring any appreciable benefit on those it is proposed to be granted.

"Resolved, That we cordially approve of an amendment to the homestead acts granting title to 100 acres of public lands to all who served in the army and navy during the rebellion or the leg. representatives of those deceased, after two years' residence thereon.

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News and Notes from Washington.

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution—Bill to Increase the President's Salary—Border Complications—New and Old Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 11, '72.

PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE MODE OF ELECTING THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. Lynch, of Maine, introduced into the House a joint resolution to amend the Constitution of the United States, so as to provide for the election of President by the direct vote of the people without the intervention of electors. The Vice President to be elected in a similar manner.

The motion was referred to the Judiciary Committee. It will not receive special attention, as the proposed change is not generally popular in or outside of Congress.

Gen. Banks also introduced a constitutional amendment to limit the President to one term of six years, to be voted over after ineligible for reelection. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Banks introduced a bill providing for an increase of the President's salary to \$50,000 per annum. This also went to the Judiciary Committee.

It is at present no more than a bill in the hands of Mr. Lynch. There is a prevailing impression that the salaries are incompatible with the spirit and simplicity of republican institutions and should be avoided in practice.

COMMITTEE ON CENTENAL.

The Speaker of the House announced the following as the special committee on the Centennial Celebration: Messrs. Kelley, of Pa.; Dawes, of Mass.; Maynard, of Tenn.; Hayes, of Mo.; Sargent, of Cal.; Hawley, of Conn.; Co., of New York; Marshall, of Ill.; and Hancock, of Texas.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

The Civil Rights question has been before the Senate and the House. Opposition to the Senator's bill comes mainly from the Democratic side of the Senate—from the very men who at the Baltimore Convention were so willing to make every sacrifice to "shake hands over the bloody clasp" and secure reconciliation and harmony among all parties and classes of society. It is believed, however, that the bill will, in some shape, pass both Houses before the close of the Session.

GENERAL AMNESTY.

The House, after discussion, voted on the amnesty bill, 102 for, and 82 against it. As a two-thirds vote is necessary it was not carried and went over to the next day, and probably passed before the close of the Session.

PROHIBITION IN THE TERRITORIES.

Petitions from all parts of the country continue to pour into the Senate and the House asking that the sale of spirituous liquors may be prohibited in the District of Columbia and in the Territories. In the States this matter is regulated by local legislation.

THE NEW WAR VESSELS.

The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs has reported to the Senate the bill to construct six new vessels of war. Secretary Robeson was before the Committee and urged the passage of the bill as originally introduced in the House, which provides for ten ships instead of six.

THE VIENNA EXPOSITION.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs to-day had under consideration the Vienna Exposition. It is believed that Government will provide vessels for the purpose of conveying goods from this country to the Exposition. It is announced to-day that the naval stores "Supply" and "Girard" will sail from New York for Trieste next February carrying goods for the Austro-Hungarian International Exhibition.

THE FUNDING LOAN.

The Committee of Ways and Means to-day considered the request of Mr. Deane to increase the amount of the loan for negotiating the balance of the Funding bill. The Committee came to no conclusion, a majority being disposed to oppose any increase.

CABINET SESSION YESTERDAY.

The regular session of the Cabinet was held yesterday. The Louisiana embargo was considered. Every aid will be afforded the courts in New Orleans in prosecuting the war. It will be the duty of law and order. Attorney General Williams was instructed and has telegraphed to Finchback, (who, under the ruling of the United States Court, is acting Governor, pending the impeachment trial of Warmouth