

The nomination of Mr. John Welsh, of Philadelphia, as Minister to England was unanimously confirmed by the Senate in executive session on Friday of last week.

Schuyler Colfax writes to the Chicago Times to say that his notorious endorsement of the condurango cancer cure swindle was not intended for publication. He declares that he wrote a private letter that got into print without his knowledge; and incidentally he says: "I am now in private life, with neither desire nor willingness to become a public servant again in any capacity."

The oldest greenback five is under glass at Nashville, Tenn. The Teller of the Third National Bank, in receiving a deposit, noticed a five marked letter A, No. 1, and dated March 10, 1863. It was sent to the Treasury Department, where it was identified as the first five issued under the Legal Tender Act. It has been handsomely framed, and will be presented to the Historical Society.

In the House of Representatives, Monday, the Army Appropriation bill was passed, with an amendment offered by Mr. Culbertson, of Texas, providing "that a force of four cavalry regiments shall be recruited to one hundred men in each company, and the same shall be employed in the defence of the Mexican and Indian frontier of Texas; provided that nothing herein contained shall authorize the recruiting of the number of men on the army rolls, including Indian scouts and hospital stewards, beyond 20,000 men, of whom four full cavalry regiments shall be kept in service on the Mexican frontier in Texas." The vote on this amendment was 133 to 127, Messrs. Giddings, Mills and Schleicher, of Texas, voting with the Republicans against it. The bill was sent to the Senate.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 12, 1877. The openly aggressive attitude of Conkling and the demise of Senator Morton are two events which are destined to exert an important bearing upon the contest between the President and the Republicans of the Senate. Yesterday a member of the Administration, speaking about Conkling's recent pronouncement in the colloquial form of an interview, characterized it as "bold and aggressive, and that it must be met in the same spirit." He did not, however, evince much belief that it would be thus effectively treated, and rather deplored the sentimentality which may apply to the pious walks of a Christian life—such forgiveness or forbearance as receiving a smite on one cheek and turning the other for a similar application, et cetera—but which is mighty inconvenient as applied to politics. In plain English, the proposition has required itself into a question whether Conkling shall destroy the Administration or the Administration destroy Conkling. The stately Senator from New York has his war paint on, and is brandishing his political tomahawk, much to the satisfaction of other Republican Senators, who think that they also have a cause of war and are ready to follow such a splendid leadership. On Saturday the Republican Senators held a caucus, which was practically a council of war. Although intimations of other subjects under consideration were given out, the matter of the nominations before the Senate and what course to pursue with regard to them, was the principal topic, and gave rise to some very free expressions of opinion respecting the Administration. It was evident that Conkling, Edmunds, Cameron, and other Senators of that standard of importance, were ready for war; and those of lesser consequence, (except numerically speaking, when it comes to the common level, the ballot,) were not disposed to unite. At present there is every indication of perfect unity of action upon all measures.

To meet this tide of opposition, which was fully expected, the administration depended upon the late Senator Morton. His large experience in public affairs, his skill and ability as a debater, and his popularity in the Senate, all conducted to his success as the leader of the Administration forces. It was believed, and rightly so too, that he could muster on his side at least a majority of the Republicans, who, with the Democrats disposed to support the nomination of good men to office, would have completely frustrated the efforts of the opposing faction. The death of Senator Morton, therefore, is more than an ordinary loss. His removal from the scene of the contest for political ascendancy leaves the administration without a champion in the Senate. Staukey Matthews has already repeatedly shown himself unequal to the responsibilities of the hour. The veteran Senators, who have pronounced themselves hostile to the President, are waiting with guns pointed for Matthews, or Hoar, or any one else who may undertake to stand up in the way of their hostile purposes, in order to show by summary example what it is to oppose them in their determination to make the administration pay the penalty of indifference to their wishes, and what they regard as the interests of the Republican party. Morton was the only man who could have baffled their purposes. What the administration will do to recover a foothold in the Senate remains to be seen. In looking over the list of Republican Senators, there is not one of any importance who can now be reckoned on. Blaine, who has been co-

quetting with the Administration ever since his first hasty onset in March last, might be considered as in good training to take Morton's place, but his impaired health will prevent any active part in the deliberations of the Senate for some weeks, if not months. It is certain that the Administration could make terms with Blaine easier than any one else of weight, as he has, for some months, been an object of repeated favors, and, having accepted them, could do no less than to reciprocate.

Thus far in building up an Administration party in the Senate, the fates have been inauspicious. If this state of affairs continues, the President will find himself bound hand and foot, with the offices under his authority filled by men hostile to his interests, and the Senate an insurmountable obstacle to their removal. The friends of the President, since the serious turn affairs have taken, have been in frequent consultation as to the most expedient measures to meet this emergency. As the Democrats have already indicated their willingness not to antagonize the President in matters of a non-partisan character, they may be relied upon possibly to co-operate with four or five moderate Republican Senators who, it is believed, will be ready to take up the President's cause, in so far as not to vote with the opposing fraction of the party, and perhaps to essay a defense of his course. A division in the Republican ranks, if it can be effected, is now considered a matter of imperative necessity, and if succeeded in, will soon break down the opposition. The Democrats in the meantime will be able to hold the balance of power.

The effect of the elections upon the Administration has not, according to their own statements, been discouraging. It is claimed that the campaigns were fought under most unfavorable circumstances. "That there were fractional contests, local issues, independent candidates, struggling 'rings,' and everything else, not excluding a general apathy, which operated unfavorably to the interests of the Republican party; and yet when the result became known officially, and compared with everything else, the defeat in some States and successes in others do not go to prove any thing." This sort of reasoning is all very consoling, and it must be admitted the results are not so bad as they might have been, but to expect to hold the party together, or to add to its permanent strength, without the cohesive agency of a judicious application of patronage, is to expect more than the mass of American citizens are able to understand or appreciate. Judging from information received here from influential and observing people in different parts of the country, the people still generally sustain the President, whilst the politicians do not; but popular support will amount to naught, unless very soon placed under the direction of competent leaders.

The exasperation of the Republican managers will doubtless compel the Administration to do something—either to abandon all further abstract and absurd notions of civil service and give their attention to the first principles of political self-preservation, which is to distribute offices amongst those who will exercise them in their support and strengthen their hands, or to throw their power away upon persons who are without the first elements of usefulness, and who will bring upon themselves, the Administration, and the party, sure destruction. Whether the war upon the Administration will begin now, or will be deferred until the regular session, remains to be seen. The disposition of Conkling, however, is to begin at once by taking up the nominations which are most distasteful, and to ventilate the President thoroughly through them.

The Paris Exposition bill will be reported to the House within a few days, and will provide for a Commissioner General and not less than twenty paid assistants, besides a number of honorary commissioners. These places, that is the paid ones, are in great demand. A careful estimate shows that there are not less than fifty applicants from each State, and about one hundred for each place, or about two thousand patriots ready to attend the Paris Exposition of 1878, at the expense of the Government. As yet there has been no rush for the non-paid commissions, and it is not anticipated that the Secretary of State will be much troubled with examining testimonials of applicants in this behalf.

Notwithstanding the fact that nothing has yet been done by Congress, the subject of adjournment is again agitating the Congressional mind. It is now proposed to get away by November 29, so as to draw mileage, and get home for Thanksgiving Day. The regular session will begin December 3d, which will afford ample opportunity for members east of the Mississippi to return in time to be present at the opening.

Our Montreal Letter.

MONTREAL, Nov. 9, 1877. On Sunday morning last, an earthquake lasting a minute and a half, was felt along the St. Lawrence Valley. Happily no loss of life occurred, although from all accounts, the shock was very severe. In Montreal, the visitation of a tremblement de terre always awakens a convulsive tremor among the inhabitants, who are firm believers in an ancient prophecy by a pious Jesuit, that the island of Montreal would before the termination of the nineteenth century, be swallowed up by a terrible earthquake. This prophecy, no doubt, dates as far back as 1662, when Canada, then known as La Nouvelle France, was visited by an earthquake, which wrought terrible devastation to life and property. The last "good shake" which Montreal experienced was in 1870. The earthquake of Sunday morning last was heralded by a sound of distant rumbling of thunder, or of a street car, disturbing the stillness of the early morning by its slow locomotion. The affair having occurred at an early hour, very few individuals were seriously alarmed. Not so, however, with Song Long, the proprietor of a "Washoe house" in this city, who imagined that some

"Melfean" man was endeavoring to break into his house. Seizing a five shooter, he rushed into the street, crying, "Come on; me shootee!" Queen Victoria, on her lofty pedestal in Victoria Square, swayed her sceptre for the first time, while Nelson, the old hero of many a naval encounter, threatened to interview a number of "cabbie," who furnish a guard of honor for him year after year.

The Fishery Commission in session at Halifax, N. S., have completed their arduous task of examining witnesses relative to the Fishery question. Hon. Dwight Foster and Mr. Dana, counsel representing the United States addressed the Commission at great length. The final decision in the matter is not expected before the end of November.

A New York merchant named Hearn last week proved to be equal to the occasion of settling the affairs of his deceased brother. It appears that the firm of Hearn, Rodier & Co., of Montreal, had only been in existence eighteen months. During that time the firm had paid the premiums on a life insurance policy for \$7,000 for Mr. Hearn, the senior partner. On the decease of the latter, the estate was wound up, by Mrs. Rodier, who also claimed the insurance money. The deceased partner's brother arrived from New York and obtaining possession of the policies, departed for New York without more ado. Endless litigation is likely to occur before the case will be finally settled.

Hon. William Henry Draper, Chief Justice of Ontario, died on the 2d inst., at Toronto at the age of seventy-seven. The deceased Judge's life was closely blended with the progress of the country for the last half century. He came to Canada sixty years ago with nothing save his natural talents to recommend him. During his lifetime, he proved himself to be one of the finest judges that has ever graced the bench.

The Newfoundland fisheries this season is a troublous failure. The prospect has not been so bad for many years. Unusual stormy weather has also caused the failure of cod fishing. On the western coast of Newfoundland great destitution exists among the fishermen.

Crimes of violence are becoming more prevalent in Montreal. This may be attributed to the practice of individuals carrying firearms and bowie knives about their person. The law is very stringent on this matter, but since the memorable 12th of July, the police find it impossible to curb party strife, and as a consequence brutal combats and murderous assaults are on the increase. On the 1st inst., an attempt was made to shoot one William Patterson while in bed. Two police officers were recently fired at in different parts of the city by unknown parties. A few days ago a brutal fight, in which knives were used, took place on a crowded thoroughfare. On the 6th inst., during the hours of midnight, a murder was perpetrated in the east end of the city. A young French Canadian laborer named Brisebois, was attacked by four rowdies and felled to the ground. While down, one Quintal drew a knife and stabbed him in the abdomen. After lingering for twenty-four hours in terrible agony, he expired. His assassin has escaped to New York.

The discovery of the rich fields of phosphates in the Ottawa Valley, reveals the welcome intelligence that phosphate promises to become second only to lumber as an article of exportation. A number of lumber concerns, having their headquarters in Ottawa, are beginning to realize that the lumber business in the Ottawa valley is not profitable in the present inactivity of the lumber market, and are accordingly entering into the business of getting out phosphate.

Our Philadelphia Letter.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 13, 1877. How was the election out your way? Here it was the worst mixed affair the Quaker City ever saw. In the first place the Labor Party had 25,000 votes pledged. They managed to cast about 5,000. In the second place, the Republicans were sure of 10,000 majority, but 65,000 of them staid at home and the Democrats went under the string with about 2,000 majority. Then Labor men laughed at their own defeat. The Democrats got mad because they did not have a bigger majority, and the Republicans smiled quietly in their sleeves, to think how nicely they had licked themselves; altogether it was the best natured election I ever saw, and the result seemed to please everybody. The only persons who feel sore over it are a few politicians who were counting on lining their pockets a little more warmly this winter—but then the day of political luckstering is over, and no one cares whether they like the present condition of affairs or not. Throughout the State the same general good feeling prevails; and, taken all in all, the election has had a most salutary effect.

One of our most brilliant journalists was buried in this city a few days ago. His name, John D. Stockton, is familiar to the newspaper world, and his writings have attracted attention on both sides of the Atlantic. His last position was on the New York Herald, where he had charge of the dramatic department, and where he became noted for the fairness of his judgment, and the genius of his literary work. The funeral was attended by all the leading newspaper men in this city, and a number from New York.

Curious little incidents are found in the criminal annals of every great city, and some of them are well worthy of preservation. A patrolman, in passing back of a grocery store one night last week, noticed a window open, and while standing there in the darkness, wondering whether it was best to wake up the proprietor, who lived in the second story, or close up the shop himself, he was surprised to see a crate of eggs handed out of the window, and hear a voice ejaculate, "Take them, quick." The policeman responded "All right," in low tones, and putting the crate down on the pavement, slyly crawled through the window, and as he expected, collared a thief. The offender was considerably amazed to find that he had passed his plunder directly into the hands of a guard of the peace, and

gave himself up without a struggle. It has since been found that the prisoner was connected with several other robberies, some of which were very heavy, and he will probably receive full punishment.

Weeden, the prize-fighter, will probably be remembered by many who have watched the course of Jersey justice. He was a principal in the contest with Walker last year, when Walker was killed, and it was alleged that Weeden took an unfair advantage of him. The latter was arrested, tried, and convicted. He was sent to the State Prison at Trenton, New Jersey, but it was not long before he began to show signs of ill health, and last Wednesday he died. It is supposed that the disease was consumption, evidently superinduced by the confinement within prison walls.

Some months ago a young man named Hanel, who was employed in the Tax office, was discovered in a series of peculations from the public purse, the sums aggregating many thousands of dollars. He confessed his guilt, and stated that having a few hundred dollars of his own, he invested it in stocks, through a broker named Schreider, and suddenly found that he had not only lost his fund, but was in debt to said broker. Schreider, however, told him that such bad luck was unusual, and intimated that if he would try again he would probably be more successful. Expecting to get his money back, he "borrowed" a few hundred dollars from the treasury, intending of course to return it; but he lost this too, and growing desperate continued abstracting funds and investing them, always with loss, until he concluded that Schreider was deliberately cheating him. Then he transferred his transactions to another broker named Elder, and continued his stealings and stock investments, but with no better result. He always lost, but ever grasping at the hope of winning it all back by some lucky speculation kept on his downward course until discovered. Both the brokers were arrested and tried for aiding and abetting Hanel in his embezzlements, it being alleged that they knew the money was stolen. On Saturday the case was given to the jury, and both brokers were found guilty. They were sentenced to \$12,000 fine each and to three years' imprisonment. They will find the penitentiary a most undesirable change from their elegant homes and comfortable brokers' office, but then the way of transgressors is seldom pleasant.

What promises to be another disastrous strike has just begun in this city. Several thousand weavers, employed in up-town mills, have quit work on account of a reduction in their wages, and it is feared that others will soon follow. The sums received by the men were so small that it is no wonder they became dissatisfied; the highest amount paid was \$35 a month, and the lowest \$11; the average is said to have been from \$22 to 28 a month. These are slim incomes on which to support a family, and yet thousands are making no more at other trades. The only ray of hope is that while the men could not find employment at any price a year or two ago, all the mills have now plenty of orders, and all can keep running.

Closing Prices of DeHAVEN & TOWNSEND, Stock, Government and Gold. Table with columns for various securities and their prices.

NOTICE IN DIVORCE.

Mary Williams, by her next friend Morgan Price, vs. Evan Williams. Sur Licit for Divorce.

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