Congressional.

WASHINGTON, April 29.

IN THE IMPEACHMENT COURT, yesterday, Senator Sumner offered an amendment to the rules, providing that any question arising in regard to the judgment, shall be determined by a majority of the members present. Objection being made by Senator Davis, it was laid over. Mr. Williams then concluded his argument, and Mr. Evarts spoke in behalf of the defence.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Paine, of Wis., introduced three bills, which were referred, for the admission of the States of South Carolina, North Carolina and Louisiana. On motion of Mr. Washburne, of Ill., the Committee on Retrenchment were directed to inquire into the alleged fraudulent sale by the Navy Department, of the iron clads Neosho and Catawba, and report thereon. Mr. Pike, of Me., introduced a joint resolution, which was referred, requesting the President to send war vessels to the St. Lawrence for the protection of American fishing vessels, under the treaty of 1783.

WASHINGTON, April 30.

IN SENATE.—After the reading of the journal Mr. Sumner's resolution, censuring Mr. Nelson, came up in the regular order of business.

Mr. Johnson moved to lay the resolution on the table, which was agreed to by a vote of 35 to 20.

Mr. Cameron's order for night sessions was then considered. On motion, the whole subject was tabled by a vote of 32 to 17.

Mr. Evarts contended, however, that the decisions of the Congress of 1789 were not only authoritative but were confirmed by the supreme Court, but carried immense weight of themselves. He referred to the debate of 1789 as exhaustive of the subject of the power of removal, and claimed that the point at issue was settled and firmly established then, by the framers of our government, and by the practice of successive administrations afterward.

Mr. Evarts also referred to Webster's declaration; in 1835, that that question was settled by the enforcement of Jackson's removal of Duane, by the people, which was the superior power of all. In regard to the suggestion, that the Congress of 1789 were influenced by their high confidence in Washington.

Mr. Evarts asked if it were not possible that the present Congress had been influenced in the opposite manner by its opinions of the incumbent President.

Mr. Evarts then resumed his argument. He held that it was a grave reproach upon the wisdom and foresight of the framers of our government to claim, that a decision of this kind in favor of the President would result in monarchy. In his view, the danger was to the other of the balances of the Constitution, namely, the relations and weight of branches, and the quality of the States respective representation, of the principles of the Constitution, and the utterances of our most distinguished statesmen.

It was evident that to make the Senate executive instead of advisory, was to rob the people's majority of their rightful power. In this number, the united and thinly populated States would control the working of the Government against the will of those which cast the overwhelming majority of votes, and the Presidential election would become a farce.

In support of this position he quoted the writings of the older Adams, Sherman and others, and enforced it by considering various emergencies which might arise under the tenure-of-office act, which, makes certain offices permanent estates, and would render removal during the sessions of the Senate extremely difficult, if not impracticable.

He proceeded to quote from the debate in the Senate when the bill was under consideration, the language of Messrs. Williams, Howard, and others, to show that its effect was to revolutionize the practice of the government, and also expressions to the effect that while legislative construction had little weight, yet decisions upon constitutional question by the Supreme Court were authoritive.

WASHINGTON, May 1.

SENATE.—Mr. Evarts proceeded to consider the power of the President to fill vacancy under acts 22, 35 and 63. He admitted that the act of 63 limited the choice for appointment of Secretary *ad interim*, in certain cases, to the heads of other departments, but argued, that under the act of 95, which allowed him to choose from all officers employed in the departments, that the President had full warrant for the appointment of Mr. Thomas, who was then Adjutant-General. He then maintained that it made no difference, either in the theory or the practice of the government, whether temporary appointments were made during the session or the recess of the Senate, and instanced four examples of Nelson in 41, Sec. 5, Kelly and Holt as example of warrant for his assertion.

He read the address to Lincoln signed by 30 Senators, which was written in 62, to urge his removal of Blair, so as to secure harmonious action. The opinions therein expressed, by 15 of the Senators now present, on the subject of Cabinet relations, he (Evarts) fully endorsed. He further quoted from the speech and utterances of Webster on the passage of the Tenure-of-Office bill, and in explanation of the report of the Committee on Conference, gave various expressions and arguments which were uncontradicted.

These opinions and explanations he claimed were received as the proper interpretations of the bill, and were acted upon by the President. He held it would be monstrous to convict the President of crime by the same voices which gave utterance to, or concurred in these authoritative declarations, that the bill did not reach or affect the relations of Stanton and the President. He also read from the report of Messrs. Schenck and Williamson on the subject, which he claimed had bound the House to the same conclusion as the Senate.

IN THE HOUSE.—The Speaker gave notice that the House would transact business on returning from the Senate.

Mr. Brooks having given notice that he will renew his resolution, relative to the impeachment Managers in the Alta Vela affair.

WASHINGTON May 2.

In the Impeachment Court, yesterday, Mr. Evarts concluded his argument for the defence, and Mr. Stanbery's argument was begun in reply.

In the United States House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Brooks, of N. Y., offered his resolutions in regard to the conduct of the Managers in the Alta Vela case, modified so as to provide for a select committee to investigate and report upon the matter. Mr. Washburne moved, as a substitute, that the Managers be allowed to make explanations. After a personal debate between Messrs. Brooks, Logan, Eldridge, Butler, and others, the resolutions were tabled by a vote of 70 against 29, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1868.

SENATE.—After reading of journal, Mr. Bingham commenced his final argument for prosecution, protesting that he took part in these proceedings from no partisan feeling, but with a weighty sense of their solemnity and true meaning. He proceeded to sketch the events attendant on the assassination of Lincoln, and the accession of Johnson to the Presidency. Referring to his oath to execute the laws, he spoke of their majestic supremacy in our form of Government, and claimed that the President was on an equality and subject to their authority with the humblest frontier settler. He dwelt on the high trust committed to the Senate, and asserted that the issues of life and death to the Republic hung on their decision.

He asked how the charge of violating the supreme law of the land was met by the counsel, who for hire defended the treason of the criminal respondent. It was by the outrageous assertion that each branch of the government had a right to judge of the constitutionality of the laws, and obey them or not at pleasure. This was the defense made for his Highness, first King of our nation.

Mr. Bingham held that the Senate by upholding this proposition would lay the foundation for monarchy first, and anarchy afterwards. A reign of chaotic darkness, on this issue, which, in spite of lawyer's tricks and specious pleas, was the real question involved, and their decision must be made, and they must stand for trial by the people.

He repeated the question was, whether the President could be held to answer for the violation of law. He held first that the Senate had the sole power to decide every question of law or fact arising on the issue. They were also final arbiters, and frequent attempts of counsel to bring the Senate and Courts in opposition were miserable devices to divert attention. Reading from decisions of the Supreme Court in the case quoted by Mr. Evarts, he claimed it was therein plainly laid down that such officers were bound by the law and not by the President's will.

He also claimed that the other position assumed by all the President's counsel, that he could sit in judgment on the validity of laws, was overthrown by decisions by the same tribunal thirty years ago, which decisions had never been since questioned, and proceeded to read extracts from them.

He would not imitate the eloquent counsel, Mr. Evarts, who had shown himself an enter-up of syllables—a snapper-up of trifles—who had displayed wit in place of law, more rhetoric than logic and more intellectual pyrotechnics than either. He also referred to the length of Evart's speech by saying he tried to render it immortal by making it eternal.

Mr. Bingham held simply that the Senate was the supreme and final judicial tribunal of the United States, and as to the argument which had been made at such interminable length, that the Supreme Court was the Court of last resort for the decision of Constitutional questions, he held, that it had no more to do with the present question than the Court of St. Petersburg, and that the judgments of this tribunal could not be affected by decisions of the Supreme Court made either before or after the Impeachment trial. He argued that the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court did not extend to impeachment, and that therefore their references to the decisions were irrelevant and their arguments on this point were colorable excuse.

He then considered the proposition advanced by the counsel that heads of departments were merely the registering secretaries of the President in his will. He further asserted that the Attorney General was wholly inexcusable in attempting to force into this trial as an authority the decision of the present presiding officer in this case, and signed that he had no relevancy whatever to question in dispute.

He claimed that it was proved that he could not allow the President discretion as to which law he would execute without interpolating words in the Constitution. He referred to the action of Washington in suppressing the whiskey insurrection, that of Jackson in crushing out nullification, as instances in which obnoxious laws were executed by Presidents who entertained the same views on the constitutionality. He also spoke of acquiescence of the American people on the unconstitutional and iniquitous fugitive slave law until its abolishment, and in this connection dwelt at length on the subject of slavery, with its various phases of influence.

HOUSE.—Mr. Windom rose to a question of privilege, and introduced a resolution censuring Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, for writing a letter to Mr. Filson, abusive of his colleague, Mr. Donnelly.

Mr. Washburne, Ill., asked leave to offer a resolution.

The Speaker said that gentlemen would postpone the offering of the resolutions until after the return of the members from the Senate. The House then proceeded to the Senate.

WASHINGTON May 5.

SENATE.—Mr. Bingham resumed, and, after recapitulating the arguments of yesterday, took up the question of whether or not it is necessary in this case to prove evil intent. He took more reports of English State trials to show that such proof should not be needed. He further maintained that the speech of Mr. Sherman and other Senators were not susceptible of the meaning put on them by the opposite counsel.

In regard to the debates of 89 he contended that too much weight was given to the utterances of partizan debates at that time, and also argued that the power of removal granted to the President in 89, was restricted by subsequent legislation. He held also that Adams removal of Pickering was before the Senate, although it occurred on the same day.

He asked of what avail would be the provision of the constitution, limiting the power to fill vacancies during the recess of the Senate to the issue of commissions to expire at the beginning of the next session, if the President could create vacancies at will during the Senate sessions, with reference to all the provisions bearing on the subject, that the right to appoint Cabinet officers without the consent of the Senate was nowhere granted to the President by the constitution.

It could not be alleged that he merely filled a vacancy by a temporary appointment, for his letter of authority appointed Thomas for an indefinite period. To show that it was no lapsus, he read the letter of appointment, that document was read by Bishop Simpson.

He also read a very able paper, treating most interests of the denomination. Its reading were listened to with deep interest.

Double Murder and Suicide.

CINCINNATI, May 4.—A dispatch to the *Commercial* from Delaware, Indiana, says that on Sunday, three boys, sons of Henry Tioge, were out in a field when a difficulty arose between them. The eldest smashed the skull of the youngest brother with an axe, killing one outright and leaving the other nearly dead. On the approach of the father, the oldest boy ran to the barn and committed suicide by hanging himself.

Death of Commodore Ridgely.

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—Commodore Ridgely, United States Navy, died at noon at the St. Lawrence Hotel. He was born in Kentucky, but his residence was in Baltimore, though on duty in this city at the time of his death.

Local Intelligence.

RE-OPENING OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH.—After having been closed for more than twelve months St. Mary's Church was re-opened on Sunday with appropriate ceremonies. Deep preparations had been made for the sacred occasion, and it has been looked forward to for some weeks past with interest by the religious community. Enough tickets were prepared to fill the church completely, and disposed of to such as desired them. We have heard a number of our most prominent Protestant citizens in the audience. We do not need to give a detailed description of the edifice as it appears since the alterations have been made. The roof and ceiling have been greatly elevated, two side aisles and new altars have been erected, new mouldings of tasteful and appropriate character have been added, and the interior has been frescoed in excellent taste. The altars are handsomely adorned and the walls decorated with religious pictures. There are very few as handsome church structures in the country outside of the larger cities. As some debt still remains upon the building, it has not yet been consecrated, and was only blessed according to the form provided for such occasions.

The ceremonies were of an imposing character, being participated in by a number of distinguished bishops and priests.

We have been furnished with the following list of those who were present assisting, and of the parts assigned them: Rt. Rev. James F. Wood, Bishop of Philadelphia, Celebrant; Very Rev. Father Keenan, Assistant Priest; Very Rev. P. Stanton, of St. Augustine, Philadelphia, and Rev. Jas. O'Reilly, of the Cathedral, Deacons of Honor; Rev. Pierce Maeher, of Harrisburg, Deacon; Rev. Michael F. Martin, Sub-Deacon; Rev. Augustine J. McConomy, First Master of Ceremonies; Rev. J. P. Martin, Second Master of Ceremonies; Right Rev. Wm. Quarter, Bishop elect of Rt. Rev. J. H. Shanahan, Bishop elect of Harrisburg, also participated in the services. Besides the above were Rev. Fathers Richard J. Barry, and Francis Newfield, of Lancaster, and James Russell and William Pelfer, of Columbia, who officered of the morning, and who held a similar position in the services of the evening.

The doors of the church were opened at 10 precisely, and the ceremony of blessing it began at 10½ o'clock. The processions of Bishops and Priests being formed, according to established order, moved from the old stone church edifice and halted in front of the main door of the new building. Bishop Wood having recited the anthem and toned the *Miserere*, commenced to sprinkle the outside walls of the church with water. The circuit of the building being made outside, the procession entered the church and proceeded up the middle aisle chanting the Litany. Immediately outside of the Sanctuary the procession rested while the Litany was finished. The prayers appropriate to the occasion were sung by Bishop Wood, the psalms set apart were intoned by the chanters, and the procession moved around the interior of the church, the Bishop sprinkling the walls as he advanced. Arriving in the Sanctuary, the Bishop sang the final prayer set apart for these services, and the procession moved out to the old stone church building to prepare for the celebration of Pontifical Mass, which was conducted in the most imposing manner.

The Right Rev. Wm. F. Elder, Bishop of Natchez, preached from chapter 11, verses 8, 9 and 10 of the Prophet Haggai.

After some introductory remarks Bishop Elder alluded to the growth of the Catholic church in Lancaster, and instanced as proof of its advance the fact that the time was, not so long ago either, when they all Worshipped in the little stone building outside of the line church erected in which he spoke. Now there are two splendid churches, each with a large congregation. The Bishop passed a high and justly deserved eulogy upon the Very Rev. Father Keenan, in whose ability and high character as a Christian Priest the prosperity of the Church in this city is so largely due. He congratulated the congregation on the thorough repair and completion in such handsome style of the fine edifice in which they were worshiping, and prayed that their venerable pastor, the Rev. Father Keenan, and his able and zealous assistant, the Father Barry, might be long spared to minister to them. The Bishop then entered upon an exposition of the character of the sacrifice of the Mass, of which he gave a full explanation.

The music provided for the occasion was very fine, the church choir, being assisted by the celebrated Contralto singer, Miss Caddie McCaffrey, Miss Nellie McCaffrey and Mrs. D. J. Cook, Soprano Singers, Messrs. Bourke and Faulkner, tenor, and Philip Carlin, Basso of St. Mary's Church, Philadelphia, from which city all the above parties come. The organ was under the charge of Professor Thunder, the distinguished organist of St. Augustine's Church, Philadelphia. The music rendered in the morning was as follows:

Trio before Mass, "Protect us through the coming night," by Curschmann, sung by Miss C. McCaffrey, Mrs. Cook and Mr. Bourke.

"Mozart's 12th Mass," sung by Mrs. Cook, Miss Nellie McCaffrey and Messrs. Carlin, Faulkner, Bourke and Sunder.

The beautiful "*Ave Carmina*," in the Credo, a concerto and quartette by Messrs. Faulkner and Carlin, and Mrs. Cook and Miss C. McCaffrey.

A magnificently rendered solo, sung as an offertorium by Miss C. McCaffrey.

In the evening Pontifical vespers were sung in the style, the solo *Ave Maria* being delightfully rendered.

During Vespers Rev. Father O'Reilley, of the Philadelphia Cathedral, preached from Psalm 25, 8th verse. In concluding his sermon he gave a history of St. Mary's Church. The congregation was organized in 1729, and the log church built in 1745. This was destroyed by fire in 1770. The present stone church, which is still standing, was built in 1760. In 1852 the new church was commenced, and was finished as it existed before the fire in 1858. In January of 1867 it was considerably damaged by a fire, and occasion was taken of the opportunity presented to put on a new roof and to elevate the walls and raise the ceiling. This has been done in a manner which renders it a most commodious and well-proportioned church edifice.

The Missions supplied from this place in former times were Milton, Sunbury, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Colebrook, Elizabethtown and Columbia. The present condition of the church in those places is as evidence of the great advance the Church has made.

The following priests have officiated in St. Mary's Church, viz: Rev. Fathers Molineaux, Farmer, Shneider, Pellentz, Brosius, Elling, Hilbron, DeBarth, Egan, Jossiter, Stafford, Geisler, Howard, Monagraw, Fitzimmons, Carmond, Jann, Bonzen, Byrne, Shenetter, Holland, Keenan, Eagle, Balfe, O'Brien, Marren and Barry.

The present congregation is large and embraces many prominent and estimable citizens of Lancaster.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.—It may not be generally known that there is authority in the several Courts, on application, to change the lines of the school districts so that farmers who reside in one township, but are adjacent to a school-house in an adjoining township may be set off for school purposes and attached to said adjoining township. This law will be useful to many persons, who are located remotely from schools in their own township. It should be noted. *Inquirer.*

The Georgia Election.

AUGUSTA, April 30.—Returns from four counties give the Senate, 18 Democrats and 11 Radicals, and in the House, 60 Democrats and 30 Radicals. Two negroes are elected to the Senate and 12 to the House. It will require the official count to decide the choice for Governor.

AUGUSTA, April 30.—Returns from 109 counties and parishes in Georgia, for Governor, 7,689 majority. The Radicals claim a majority elected to the State Senate. Aaron Bradley, of Boston, is one of the negroes elected to the Senate from Savannah. As he was expelled from the Convention on the charge of being a convict from Sing Sing, it is believed that he will not be allowed to take a seat in the Legislature.

Reconstruction Again.

CINCINNATI, April 30.—We have this special dispatch to the *Commercial* from the following:—Governor Brownlow announces his determination to call out the militia force to suppress the lawlessness and violence which he says exists in certain parts of Middle and Western Tennessee. He does it without legislative action, but relies upon the loyal people of the State to sustain him. The *Whig* publishes a letter signed by the Tennessee members of the House and Joseph S. Fowler, of the Senate, urging him to this course.

A Riot of a Colored Pic-Nic—Six Men Shot, One Fatally.

MEMPHIS, May 2.—At a colored pic-nic at McGee Station, yesterday, a row occurred, in which one woman and six men were shot—one fatally, in attempting to quell the disturbance, policeman Sauerman was badly beaten. Henry Free, Alvin Reed, Chas. Harris, and Dan Collins have been arrested as the ringleaders.

General Conference of the Methodist E. Church.

CHICAGO, May 5.—The Conference met at the usual hour. Bishop Clarke in the chair; Opened as usual with religious exercises.

To Common Council.

The session is largely occupied in the presentation of memorials, and the presentation of remonstrances, mostly on the subject of Lay representations. At ten o'clock, the matters of the day being the Episcopal address, that document was read by Bishop Simpson.

It is a very able paper, treating most interests of the denomination. Its reading were listened to with deep interest.

Death of Ex-Governor Ridgely.

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—Commodore Ridgely, United States Navy, died at noon at the St. Lawrence Hotel. He was born in Kentucky, but his residence was in Baltimore, though on duty in this city at the time of his death.

Fatal Accident.

A Man Killed by a Car.

Yesterday morning about 7 o'clock, a man named Philip Fritz, residing in Duke street, near Chestnut, was killed by a car on the Lancaster City and Millersville Railroad. It appears that the car was being run down the road by a man named Frank Hoover, who was sitting on the front end of the car, when he saw Fritz coming down the road, on his way to his place of business, he jumped off the car and ran to the road to prevent the collision, but he was too late, the car struck Fritz and knocked him down, the wheels passing over his body, cutting off his head and both legs. The deceased was a man about 50 years of age, and was employed in the Cigar Box Factory of Messrs. Hirsh & Bro. He was married and his family are in very destitute circumstances. He was a member of the Odd Fellows and Mechanics Mutual Benefit Society, of this city, and his death will be a great loss to his family. The deceased was also a member of the Reformed Church, of this city, and his funeral will take place from his residence, on Duke street, on Sunday morning next, at 10 o'clock, when his remains will be interred in the Reformed Church burial ground. The deceased was about 50 years of age, and was a man of good character, and his death is deeply regretted by his family and friends.

The Result of the City Election.

Below we give the result of the Municipal election held on Friday last:

City Auditor.

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