

THE SILENT CONGRESSMAN.

AND HIS FIRST AND LAST GREAT SPEECH IN THE HOUSE.

Buell of the Washington Capitol, dishes up Wells of Missouri, for introducing the bill to abolish the Congressional Record, in a choice bit of humor:

I know what is the matter with Wells. He is one of the few deluded men who imagine that the true mission of Congress is to make laws and provide ways and means to execute the same. He is perhaps the only public man in our history who ever made a national reputation as a legislator without making a single great speech, or asking leave to print one that he did not make. I will take that back; Wells did make one speech. It was in the Forty-third Congress, first session. I remember it well. The occasion was so unusual that I went to my friend Crosby Noyes and told him that Wells was going to make a speech, and Crosby forthwith advertised it in the Star. The session was for debate only. Wells had chosen such an occasion in the hope that his audience would consist of the usual Chairman, the customary page, and the invariable half dozen negroes asleep on the benches of the north gallery. He told me it always embarrassed him to speak to a crowded House. Imagine then the consternation of Wells when he found the House filling up, the galleries full and everybody awaiting the greatest effort of his life. He didn't understand it. It never occurred to him that he had won a national reputation as the silent but hard-working Congressman, and that consequently there was as much curiosity to hear him make a speech as there would be to hear Conner keep still for a few minutes.

Wells made his speech. His subject was the Mississippi river as a national highway, and the duty of Congress to legislate for it as such. It was the pioneer speech on that subject, and for plain, business-like grasp of the facts, or clear, forcible presentation of the arguments in the case, I have never heard it surpassed. But the magnitude of the audience seems to have wrought upon the mind of Wells to such an extent that he not only swore off speaking himself, but has finally worked himself up to the point of a determination to suppress his colleagues. His bill admits of no other conclusion. He knows very well that if it were not for printing in the Record there would be no torrent of Columbian oratory; that but for the joy of seeing his words in print—after able proof reading—the average statesman would sink into a reticence, compared to which an oyster would have to be termed loquacious, or Grant brilliant in conversation. The consequences of such a catastrophe would be simply hideous. The American Eagle, that proud bird which, in the mouths of Congressmen, soars to heaven's unfathomable depths, and dips his plumage in the thunder's home, or plunges to that effect, would incontinently droop and die.

The Result of the Kellogg Investigation.

WASHINGTON, December 14.—There is the best authority for the statement that the committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate will during the early part of February next, if not sooner, report to the Senate that Mr. Kellogg is not entitled to a seat in that body. The investigation is now about over, as only a few witnesses are yet to be examined. It would have been formally closed before this but for a disposition on the part of the committee to give to Mr. Kellogg all the time and opportunity he desired to make a defense. This he has failed to do to the satisfaction of the committee. On the contrary, a majority of the committee are agreed upon the following points, which in substance will be embodied in the majority report to be submitted to the Senate: "First, that Mr. Kellogg used his office as Governor of the State of Louisiana to make the Legislature Republican which the people had made Democratic; second, that he bribed persons to go into the so-called Packard Legislature for the purpose of making up a quorum; third, that he was a party to the fraud by which members were represented as being present in said Legislature on the day of the election of Senator who were in fact not present; fourth, that he falsely claimed that there was a quorum of that so-called Legislature; fifth, that he bribed members of the Legislature to vote for him, and sixth, that after witnesses were summoned to Washington he bribed them almost at the doors of the Senate Chamber." It is said that there is ample proof to sustain all this and much more. The majority report will be a most thorough one, and will deal severely with Mr. Kellogg and his ring. The committee will vote upon the case in January, shortly after the reassembling of Congress, and the report will be immediately put in shape, so as to be submitted to the Senate a few weeks later. There is also good authority for the assertion that the committee will recommend

the seating of Mr. Spofford as the duly elected Senator from Louisiana.

THE STAKE.

From the N. Y. Sun.

The Presidential election of next year may, to say the least, prove a crisis as grave as any in our history. That of 1860 was followed by the civil war, and that of 1876 by the Great Fraud, which, in the opinion of thoughtful men, was a far heavier strain upon our institutions than the war. What shall follow the election of 1880? Many wise men firmly believe that it involves nothing less than the continued existence of the Republic. If it shall be carried by force or fraud, or both, a second time—if the bayonets of the Federal army shall gleam around the ballot-boxes, or if the votes of the people shall not be counted as they were cast—it will be the end of free elections, and will be so accepted by the vanquished as well as by the victors.

We may not and we must not shut our eyes to the tremendous issues, or delude ourselves with the idea of safety, when our whole inheritance is in danger. The masses of the Republican party have no conception of the designs of their leaders; if they had they would resist as patriots those whom they blindly follow as partisans. They do not, more than Democrats, desire to abdicate their own sovereignty and be governed by rulers not of their own choice; but their confidence in party and party men blinds them to the tendency of their measures. They are convinced that any expedient to keep the Democrats from power is justifiable, because as an abstract proposition, ought not to have power. But that same expedient will serve as well to deprive them of their just weight in the Government, when after another turn of the wheel they may desire to displace the men whom they were willing should be put in office by unjust and unawful means in 1877, and for whom they were willing the fatal experiment shall be tried in 1881. When the form of government shall be changed, and it shall be given power to govern one section or one class without regard to the fundamental principles of our present Constitution, it will be found to have the same power with regard to the rest. When made "strong" against one it will be strong against all, and those who have been so eager to make slaves of others will discover that they have succeeded so well as to make slaves of themselves also. This lesson is found on every page of time. It is the story of every Republic overturned and every Constitution overthrown.

That we are drifting rapidly upon perils greater than any we have passed must be very plain to those who are willing to see. The great Fraud of 1876 won all the prizes which the conspirators proposed to themselves as the reward of that then unparalleled crime and its success emboldens them to another attempt. This is the meaning of Carpenter's alarm about the alleged purpose of the Democrats to take possession of the Government in 1881 somewhat as the Republicans did in 1877. If that be not its meaning—that is to say, if it be not intended to organize Republican fraud behind this cry of fraud after the Democrats—then it has no meaning, and is such senseless twaddle as Senator Carpenter is not used to utter.

The Democrats have none of the appliances of fraud on a national scale in their hands. The army, the marshals, the whole machinery of election, constitutional and unconstitutional, remains with the party which employed it so corruptly, so ruthlessly, and successfully when the great fraud was accomplished. That these are retained for some unavowed purpose was made manifest by the spirit with which they were defended during the late contest for the repeal of the laws which, in clear violation of both the letter and the spirit of the Constitution, seem to authorize their use against the people "when they assemble to express their sovereign pleasure at the polls."

In the two Houses of Congress the Democrats possess the means of resisting fraud, unaccompanied by military force, such as Grant threatened to exercise in 1877; but they have no means of intimidation and disfranchisement such as the Republicans employed then, and are now preparing the public mind, by such deliverances as this of Senator Carpenter, to tolerate again.

A Reminiscence of Hooker.

How it came about that 3,000 Confederate soldiers cheered lustily for "Fighting Joe Hooker" is explained by the editor of the Rural Sun (Nashville, Tenn.), who was a prisoner at Rock Island, Ill., during the severe winter of 1863-4. The General visited the military prison one day, and all the inmates were drawn up in line for inspection. His keen eye seemed to scan every man from head to heel, as he slowly passed before them, and at the upper end of the lines the party halted. The General half wheeling his horse, lifted his plumed hat with as much knightly grace as if they had all been courtiers, and a soft expression passed over his face as he said, "Young gentlemen, I am sorry, very sorry for you, and hope soon our differences will be settled, so that you all can return safely home again." Simple as the expression was, it was so different from those they had been accus-

tomed to hearing from the commander of the prison that it touched the hearts of the "ragged Rebs" like a current of electricity, and instantly 3,000 throats gave a lusty cheer for Joe Hooker.

THE PRESSED GENTIAN.

BY JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER. The time of gifts has come again, And on my Northern window-pane, Outlined against the day's brief light, A Christmas tree stands in its place; The way-side traveler, as they pass, Mark the gray dusk of clouded glass, And dull blackness seems, perchance, Fully to their own ignorance.

The faintest traces it hath for me, For there the flower, whose fringes through The frosty breath of autumn blew, Turns from me without its face of bloom To the warm tropics of my room, As fair as when beside its brook, Fully to their own ignorance.

So, from the trodden ways of earth, Seem some sweet souls who yield their worth, And offer to the careless glance The clinging ray of circumstance; They blossom best where heart-fires burn; To loving eyes alone they turn The flowers of inward grace that hide Their beauty from the world outside.

But deeper meanings come to me, My half-immortal flower, on thee; Man judges from a partial view, None ever yet his brother knew; The Eternal Eye that sees the whole, May better read the darkened soul; And find, to outward sense denied, The flower upon its inmost side.

I AM WEARY.

BY MISS ROSE. I'm weary and must rest me now; I have fought with eddying waves; The lines of care are on my brow, My dearest hopes are in my graves.

I have come from the conflict dead— Dark as the shadows of the night; My perished love lies cold and dead, Beneath the morning's amber glow.

Long, long I strove with evil fate, Dearer than life my love to me; Toiling, hoping, early and late, Oh! dark is life bereft of thee.

Wishes and hopes—they all, all fled, When thou the love my heart held dear; My heart's once throbbed, and now is dead, I breathe no sigh, I shed no tear.

How dear my love no words may tell; Life's flowers perished, one by one; How stern the cruel blow that fell When my sick heart cried out, "Undo!"

I'm weary, and must rest me now, I have fought with eddying waves; The lines of pain are on my brow, And love, and hope, lie in their graves.

Grant as a Sabbath Breaker.

From the Democratic Banner.

That General Grant has no respect for the Christian Sabbath, cannot fail to sadden the hearts of many who admire his military genius and even approve of his aspirations for a third term of civil service as Chief Magistrate of the Republic. While in California, every Lord's day was specially devoted to secular enjoyments and pursuits, and when leaving the golden shore he selected the first day of the week for his embarkation, receiving the multitudes with wild demonstrations. At Colfax he was banqueted on the Sabbath, and took an excursion to Lake Tahoe. The day was a grand gala day, reminding those present of fetes in Spain and France. Such demonstrations are a disgrace to the Christian, law-abiding people of this land, and he should forfeit the respect and confidence of that portion of our population. A public man in this age of enlightenment, when one of the strongest bands which holds us together is connected with the proper observance and recognition of this day, should have sufficient regard for the better sentiment, if his own moral perception of right failed to appreciate the blessings flowing from a proper observance of this wisely ordained institution.

The pulpit, press and lecture room will fail in their duty, if they refuse to condemn such a violation of moral and statute law, and it behooves the Christian people to frown down and stamp with no feint mark their seal of disapprobation. Gen. Grant should remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Grant as a Religious Teacher.

Only yesterday, we spoke of Grant as a Sabbath breaker. To-day we find the same personage receiving ministers of all denominations in Chicago, and giving them very wholesome advice. They must have appreciated his sincerity, and felt that he had not only become a convert to the temperance cause, but transformed in a day from an open violator of an express commandment to a teacher of righteousness. We cannot look upon such a proceeding with any patience whatever. A man, who for months had used the Sabbath as a special day for pomp and popular ovations, causing thousands to misspend its hours, is a pretty specimen for clergymen to go to for religious consolation and advice. It is just such indiscreet actions upon the part of religious teachers that brings the gospel into disrepute, and makes skeptics and free-thinkers. Instead of seeking him for advice, if they had called their respective congregations together and made his wanton violation of Christian laws a subject of prayer, it might have produced some good, rather than make them appear ridiculous in the eyes of thinking men and women, that class who believe religion is a principle, not a mere sentiment to answer the purpose of every-day conveniences. These Christian ministers should consider that righteousness exalteth a nation while sin is a reproach to any people, and not least among their sins is a spirit of hypocritical obeisance and man worship. In what new character the General will appear next, time will develop.

A LITTLE BOY who was asked if he could tell the length of a whale said the whales he caught at home seemed more than an hour long sometimes.

A Princely German Home.

LUTHER'S WEDDING GIFT FROM CRANACH IN A PEERLESS CASTLE ON THE MAIN.

From the Pall Mall Gazette, December 3.

All cultured travelers who may in future visit Bavaria will, I feel certain, thank me for directing their attention to my great archaeological discovery of this year—Schloss Mainberg. This castle is situated within about two English miles of the quaint and picturesque old city of Schweinfurt-on-the-Main; but Mainberg receives from guide books a partly erroneous and insufficient notice. The great Murray, for instance, devotes only four lines to this singularly interesting castle, and in those few lines he tells travelers that Mainberg is a carpet manufactory. I hope to show good reason for visiting the place.

Leaving the comfortable Raven Hotel, and then strolling down as far as the bridge, you turn to the left of the river, and then passing along a road that runs between a line of railway and vineyards, you soon see before you high up on the left hand, a most picturesque old Schloss which in external appearance approaches, if it does not quite equal, the matchless Berg Fitz. Schloss Mainberg was built in 1399 or 1400. Its founders were the Counts, afterwards Princes, von Henneberg, and their arms adorn while their legends vivify the walls. This ancient family died out, and Mainberg went into the possession first of the prince bishop and then into the Royal House of Bavaria. Ludwig I., grandfather of the present King, sold Mainberg to the Sattler family, and to the Sattlers the older portion of the castle belongs to-day. The Sattler family is one of mark, of opulence and of liberal culture. One of them—either the present Herr Sattler or his father—refused nobility when that honor was offered by the Crown. In addition to preserving all the antiquities, all the heirlooms, which existed in Mainberg, Herr Sattler has made a few judicious additions to the rich and rare collection which long ages had stored up in the storied castle. Mainberg still shows how clearly German knights and princes lived in the fifteenth century.

From the back of one great dwelling-room you ascend, by the old flight of steps, to the raised sleeping platform; and the castle represents both spear and spindle sides. In another room, in a deeply recessed window—still splendid with oil colored glass—are the seats which the lady of the castle and her maidens occupied as they sat spinning, while they cast, perhaps, many a wistful glance across the calm Main, and over the wild wooded country, which hid from loving eyes their warriors, then engaged in fierce and dangerous wars. The cushions on which these women sat as they worked on through many long and lonely hours are still in the deep recess, while their spindles, now stiff from long disuse, stand where they stood in those far-off days of yore. All the curious things—and they are very many—which Mainberg still contains are seen amid their natural surroundings; they retain the magic of locality. I have no space to give even the barest catalogue of the antiquities stored up in stately Mainberg. Old weapons, each one of which has been wielded in some Mainberg fight; old suits of armor, each one of which has been worn by a man who is now a name in history or in story—these form the basis of a priceless collection. Old portraits hang upon the walls; old furniture stands in its old place in the old rooms. Again the castle store-rooms and closets are full of the old things of ordinary domestic use, as costumes, knives, forks, spoons, goblets, glass—which extend, in good specimens, over all the ages between the fifteenth and eighteenth centuries. The collection of old German "pots" is, I am told, almost unrivalled; and, above all, there is one possession which is the special pride of Mainberg. This precious relic is the drinking cup which Lucas Cranach painted for and gave to Martin Luther on his wedding-day. On the cup are portraits of Katharina Bora and of Cranach himself. The date of the wedding fixes the date of the cup and of portraits. The painter, Luther, and Katharina all drank out of this cup on the day of that memorable bridal. Here I must stop. To the archaeologist, to the antiquarian, to the lover of history and of its romance, Schloss Mainberg and its contents will repay the trouble of a visit. I am, sir, your obedient servant, H. SCHUTZ WILSON. Arts Club, November 29.

Grant, the Army and the People.

From the New York Sun.

"I have the people and the army on my side," said Napoleon Bonaparte. "He would be a fool who would not rule with that." Many persons interpret the demonstrations along the route and at the stopping places of Gen. Grant as indications that he has so strong a hold on the people that they will elect him President for a third term, and that they would not resist the conversion, at his beck, of our free Government into an empire with him at its head. Supposing this to be true, and Grant to entertain an ambition for life-long power, his next aim will be to get possession of the army. His long military service and the prestige of his military success

will essentially aid him in this. Are the people blind? Will they submit to the first step toward the overthrow of their free institutions by electing Grant President for a third term? Grant himself seems much more inclined to follow the examples of the Bonapartes—Napoleon I. and Napoleon III.—than the transcendently glorious example of Washington.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

AN OLD WOMAN'S RECOLLECTIONS OF HER LIFETIME.

There died the other day at Truro, in Cornwall, an old lady, Mrs. Mary Hogg (nee Forest), a native of Edinburgh, at the age of 100 years, bating a few days. She was born October 16, 1779, and died October 4, 1879. Mrs. Hogg left Edinburgh to become the wife of Mr. Thomas Hogg, Head-Master of the Truro Grammar School, somewhere about 1802, and only once (sixty years ago) revisited her native place. Though so long and so far removed from Edinburgh, she never ceased to talk of it, and to take an interest in all connected with it. To the last she was a diligent reader of the Scotsman, and had been so for many years. But the Edinburgh of which she oftenest spoke was one which had long since passed away. She left it before the Edinburgh Review had begun its brilliant career—before Jeffrey, or Brougham, or Francis Horner, or Sydney Smith, or Henry Colburn had become familiar and famous names. Sir Walter and John Leyden were busy in their enthusiastic youth collecting the "Border Minstrelsy," and the former had not yet written a line of his immortal works. She used to tell how, when an infant of a few days old, she had been carried in a sedan chair from the corner house of York place, where her father resided, across the North Bridge, down the Old Assembly Close (the South Bridge being not yet built), up the College or the Horse Wynd and through the Potterrow to Bristol street Secession Church, and was there baptized, not by the late venerable Dr. James Peddie, who was then only a young lad at college, but by the Rev. John Brown, of Haddington, author of the "Self-Interpreting Bible." As a child she remembered seeing the late Mr. William Ramsay Maule, afterwards Lord Panmure, early one morning, when returning from a ball, dressed in scarlet coat, white silk stockings and white satin breeches, playing one of his wild pranks on a milk-cart in St. Andrew Square. At a later date, when grown to womanhood, and on a visit to London, she heard Charles Fox address the electors of Westminster, and spoke of his high bearing and bold utterances. One other curious recollection of Mrs. Hogg may be mentioned. She stated that her father, who was a builder in Edinburgh, had been offered a lease of Hailes Quarry at a rental of a few pounds. But as the new town had hardly at the time begun to be built, he thought the speculation an unsafe one and declined an offer which, a few years afterwards, brought thousands of pounds of returns. Mrs. Hogg was a woman of great activity and energy, sense and intelligence. She had read a great deal, was a clever and accomplished artist, a shrewd observer of men and things, cheerful in her temper and full of kindness of heart. She retained her faculties unimpaired to the last, and though her strength had failed her for some time past to such an extent as to compel her to keep her bed almost entirely she had very little serious illness, and, without having undergone much pain or suffering, finally passed away in a placid sleep.

The Latest Republican Scheme.

A plan has been broached to secure the electoral vote of New York for the Republican Presidential candidate next year, in advance. The idea is to have the incoming Republican legislature of the State exercise its constitutional right of specifying by law the manner in which the electors shall be chosen, so as to give the party control of the State college without the formality of a further expression of opinion on the subject by the people.

New York is looked upon by the Republican party at large as the State whose vote will decide the Presidential election. The recent contest there demonstrated that the Democrats, with their factional differences harmonized and their ranks united, will carry it next year. Thus, with good reason fearing to abide the result of the election, the Republican managers begin to discount the possibilities of stealing the electoral vote. The movement seems to have originated at Washington.

A recent investigation developed the fact that if it should be Republican policy to cause all the State legislatures, at present controlled by the party, to choose electors under the provisions of the Constitution, they would roll up about 200 votes in the National college, which would make the success of their Presidential candidate a foregone conclusion. The fraud of 1876 went to beget the hopes of a similarly successful fraud in 1880. The fascinating idea immediately commended itself to the minds of the leaders.

It is in the nature of a superfluity which savors of insult to state that the popular sentiment is all against this method. The people propose to elect their President next year in the old

established way. The only change which they would approve now would be that which would abolish electors altogether and make the President dependent for his election upon a direct vote of the people.

The Republicans will shortly have it in their power to do what they please in New York, for they will control the legislature and the Governor, but any scheme which may be inaugurated to thwart the popular will, in that as well as in other States in which the party is supreme, will recoil upon the heads of its authors.

The people were cheated out of their Presidential choice in 1876 through fraudulent practices conducted under the forms of law. They do not propose that this shall happen again.

Windom and the Exodites.

From the Washington Post.

Senator Windom belongs to that numerous class of reformers who act on the theory that destruction is reformation. He has used or abused his position as Senator to destroy the peaceful domestic enjoyment of hundreds of humble colored families in the South, and if he has done anything in the way of compensation for this serious and lasting injury, he has worked so quietly and secretly as to leave no mark or excite even a suspicion. His intemperate speech of last spring contributed materially to the exodus from the lower Mississippi region, and the country was shocked at the story of the sufferings of the blacks who were lured away from their homes, where they had at least the actual necessities of life, to endure all manner of privations on the long journey to Kansas. Many sickened and died on the banks of the river. Food was scarce and shelter was impossible. Those who succeeded in getting to Kansas found a cold greeting. But neither Mr. Windom nor the Emigration Aid society which he caused to be organized in this city gave anything to aid the wretched dupes of Mr. Windom's windy rhetoric. Not content with all this, we see the Minnesota reformer pushing to the front again with a rebash of his original effort. Condensing a stump speech into an amendment to a resolution, he endeavors to stimulate the present movement of blacks from North Carolina, although he knows that nothing could be more unfortunate for those people than the present time and manner of leaving their homes. The proposition to set apart a territory "for the oppressed population" is a piece of claptrap too shallow for serious consideration. The colored people want no separation from the whites. It would take an army to keep them on a reservation. The whole exodus business is the work of rascally demagogues, who care no more for the blacks than did those other Christian statesmen who robbed them of their little savings through the agency of the Freedman's bank.

The Outlook of the New Year.

London Truth, December 4.

I have laid out a penny in "Zadkiel's Almanac," and I am filled with terror at the various troubles which are predicted for next year. In January "wars and rumor of wars" still afflict the British people and do injury to their trade and commerce, for Mars was setting at the winter solstice and afflicting the ascending planet, Venus, by opposition aspect. Ireland will be disquieted, deeds of violence will be perpetrated in the Emerald Isle, and epidemic diseases will be fatally prevalent therein. Saturn is still slowly passing through the sign Aries, hence old England's troubles will be thickening, her death-rate high, and her enemies numerous. Denmark and Germany will be far from prosperous, mentable. Poland will be disturbed, and the state of Russia will be la-Persia, Asia Minor, Cyprus and the Archipelago will be scenes of martial deeds and martial epidemics. January 11 brings Mars into an evil configuration with the place of the sun at the birth of an English prince, warning him to beware of accidents and over-exertion." In February, "at the moment of the new moon on 10th inst., the luminaries will be in a square aspect with Mars. This is evil for the ruling powers, and forebodes a determined onslaught on the Government; nevertheless, as Jupiter will be strongly posited in the eleventh hour, the Government will weather the storm." In March, "the Divorce Court will be busily occupied, and many cases of cruelty to women will be brought before the police courts, for Venus opposes Uranus on the 24th inst." In April, "the presence of old Saturn in Aries will involve this country in some trouble, but he is shorn of most of his power to do mischief now that Jupiter hastens to overtake him." In May, "excitement will be at fever heat in New York and the marshalling of troops will move the martial instincts of the American people," whilst in London, "a metropolitan theatre is threatened with destruction, for Mars transits the place of the moon at the vernal ingress." But in October the outlook is especially bad for us. "Holders of foreign bonds must look out for squalls, for at the moment of full moon Mars will be with the sun in the second House and Saturn with the moon in the eighth. These evil-omened positions indicate a turbulent condition of politics as well as of the weather, and a severe strain will be placed upon the revenues of Great Britain."