XXXIXth Congress—Second Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.

SENATE.—The District of Columbia Suffrage bill was taken up.

The pending question was upon Mr. Cowan's amendment to strike out the word "male" before person.

Mr. Anthony (R. I.) said he supposed Mr. Cowan had offered this amendment by way of satire, but he should vote for it, not because of any right that women had to exercise the franchise, for he considered it a right that could only be granted by society. If it was claimed that intelligence ought to be the basis of suffrage, women could not be excluded, still less if virtue or morality was to be the standard. It might be said that men represented women, but this was not true; there could be no representation without the consent of the person represented, and women had not given this consent.

Nations had been well governed by women. Elizabeth raised England to the height of greatness. A woman furnished Columbus with the means to discover America. A woman now sat upon the throne of Spain, and a woman was the ruler of the proudest monarchy of the earth. It was not logical to say that a woman could reign as a queen, or command an army, and yet that a woman was not fit to vote for common councilmen of Washington. The time had not yet come for female suffrage, but it was coming.

Mr. Williams (Oregon) said women did not need the protection of the ballot that negroes did, and for this reason he should vote against the amendment and for the bill. Negroes had been enslaved and degraded. Intelligence had been denied them. Women had not been enslaved, but honored; husbands and brothers protected wives and sisters, and it was the pride and glory of Americans to love and honor the female sex. It would be time enough to to consider the question of female suffrage when it was demanded by American women. No such demand had yet been made, except by a few who sought notoriety, and did not represent the sex to which they belong, if indeed they can be said to belong to any sex, which he considered very questionable.

It has been said that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. This was true and beautiful. But in a different sense from that of exercising the right of suffrage. Those women who now clamored for the turmoil of politics and wished to enter into contests with men at the ballot box, would, if they had the power, overthrow the frame work of society and make every home a hell upon earth. When women were willing to be sailors and soldiers, to fight battles and navigate the seas, it would be time enough for them to ask the right to vote.

Mr. Williams then resumed the consideration of the subject of suffrage to the negro, contending that the ballot was necessary to them to enable them to protect themselves. All the arguments against it were mere prejudice. Why was it that so long as a negro was a slave there was no objection to his sitting in a railroad coach or riding in a steamboat? But when he became free he was not to be allowed any such privilege. He would base his argument solely in the right of protection, which every man has, white or black.

It had been said here that the inhabitants of this District were the descendants of proud and haughty families. For that reason he wanted this bill passed, so that all the descendants of these haughty families might have the right to vote. If it was said that the negroes were not intelligent, he would reply that they were intelligent enough to distinguish right from wrong in the late rebellion, and to know the friends from the enemies of the Government.

Mr. Cowan said he had not intended to again take the floor on this subject, but it had been said that he was not in earnest in offering this amendment. This was not correct. He had been opposed to any change in the suffrage; but if it was to be changed, if negroes were to be enfranchised, he was in favor of still further change, so as to embrace women, also. If white men could not be intrusted with political power for the negro, they could not be intrusted with it for the women.

He who thought women were represented by their husbands might go to the proceedings of the Women's Rights Convention, recently held, to learn differently. It was time to look facts in the face. He was willing to stand upon old constitutions sanctified as they were by the past, but when the time comes to make a step, it should be made in the right direction. He was surprised that his sincerity should be doubted. Radicals were not like the poet, they were made and not born, and when the time came he would be as radical as any of them.

He did not intend to let the Juggernaut of progress run over him. He had as many reasons as Mr. Anthony, and one more for being in favor of this bill, for he had a wife whereas Mr. Anthony was a widower. He hoped, therefore, that Mr. Anthony would make an abject apology to him for having expressed a doubt of his sincerity. [Laughter.] This new personage who appears on the political stage to oppose the Jupiterian system of legislation, complains that you have been a tyrant to her.

He (Mr. Cowan) proceeded to read from the proceedings of the 29th annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Anti-slavery Society, and the speech of Mr. Francis D. Gage during the session of that body. He would appeal to his friend from Massachusetts (Mr. Wilson) to express his opinion on this subject, and he felt assured that he would be firm on the side of humanity on this question. He could almost see from where he stood the bosom of his friend from Massachusetts heave in sympathy with this new issue (laughter), and now that they had two negroes in the Massachusetts Legislature, he could not doubt that Mr. Wilson would come fully to his (Mr. Cowan's) position. He hoped also that his other friend from Massachusetts (Mr. Sumner) would vote right in this proposition, now that a change had come over his domestic relatives. [Laughter.] He would not have alluded to this delicate subject, but he found some remarks from Mrs. Gage in relation to Mr. Sumner's great speech of last winter to which he was compelled to assent. Mrs. Gage had discovered that Mr. Sumner protested against taxation and male representation, and not a word was said by that gentleman against the tyranny of taxing women without giving them the right of representation. He would say to gentlemen that Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Francis D. Gage and Mrs. Susan B. Anthony were at their heels with their banners flying, and they were after them persistently and sharply Toward the conclusion of his speech Mr. Cowan read a letter from Mr. Wade to Mrs. S. B. Anthony, written last summer, in favor of female suffrage. If his amendment were adopted he (Mr. Cowan) would vote for the bill. He would not be afraid of negro suffrage if female suffrage went with it. He would not be the first to propose any change on the matter of suffrage, but if any change was to be made, it ought to be a radical and fundamental one of this kind. He was in good earnest in offering this amendment. He was not so blind as not to see the signs of the coming times.

Mr. Morrill (Me.) said he could not believe that Mr. Cowan had been arguing to convince the Senate in favor of his proposition. While the majority in the Senate intended to be radical, they intended to be rational also, and all the efforts of their enemies to make them ridiculous would be unsuccessful. He would not consent to see Mr. Cowan pretend to endorse radicalism for the purpose of breaking it down. It was the old device to make a measure odious in order to defeat it. Mr. Cowan did not believe in the principle he urged. He was simply trying to make mischief, but he could not succeed.

Mr. Morrill, in conclusion, replied to the arguments of Mr. Cowan, that the petition to disfranchise those who had [illegible] in the rebellion of the right of [illegible] the [illegible]

franchise was in the nature of an *ex post facto* law, and therefore unconstitutional. He contended that no punishment was intended or inflicted. It was simply a proposition looking to the future, and taking away a trust from those who had shown themselves unworthy of it.

Mr. Cowan resumed the floor in reply to Mr. Morrill, maintaining that to deprive a man of the right of suffrage was a punishment, and as now proposed, was in the nature of an *ex post facto* law.

Mr. Wade (Ohio) said he had not intented to take part in this discussion because the first day of the last session of Congress he introduced the original bill, to which the committee had made several amendments, which he supposed sufficiently demonstrated to all what his views on this subject were. His views were not of any sudden growth. He had always been of the opinion that the right to vote in a Republican government ought to be limited only by years of discretion. He had always believed that it would be safe when the laws of the country had remitted our people to their rights, when they had fixed simply an age of majority, and of competency to manage their own affairs as the qualification for suffrage. He did not believe any such rule was unsafe. He imagined that the unsafety was entirely on the other side, for just in proportion as you limit this franchise, you create in some degree an aristocracy or irresponsible government, and gentlemen must be a little tinctured with the fear of Republican sentiment when they fear the extended right of suffrage.

If he (Mr. Wade) believed, as some gentlemen did, that to participate in government required intellects of the highest character, the greatest perspicacity of mind, the greatest discipline from education and experience; if only such persons should be permitted to participate in the government, he should know that a republican form of government could not live. It was because he believed that all that was essential in government for the welfare of the community was the plain, simple level of the weakest intellects, that he believed this government ought to stand and would stand for ever. Who is it that ought to be protected by this republican government? Certainly it is the weak and the ignorant who have no other manner of defending their rights except through the ballot-box. The argument for aristocracies and monarchies had ever been that the people did not know enough to take care of any form of government. As to the pending amendment, he intended to vote it. He might not have introduced it, because this might not be the best time and place to agitate the subject; but as to the right of women to vote, he had not doubt whatever. He was fully convinced on that subject. It would puzzle any one to draw the line of demarcation between the female and the male in this respect, while both were alike subject to the same law. The time is approaching, said Mr. Wade, when every female in the country will be responsible for the just government of the country as much as the males. Their right to participate in the government of the country will be just as well acknowledged as our own.

Mr. Yates said he did not share with other Senators in the embarrassment in which these amendments seemed to involve them. He could see no argument why a woman should not vote that would not equally apply to prevent a man from voting; but another issue had been made last summer, another question had been decided by the people, and he was for adhering to that. He would join the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Cowan) in making female suffrage an issue in the next election, and if he desired it he was for universal suffrage, and when the time comes he would vote for it; but in voting against this amendment he only adhered to the voice of his State, as expressed at the polls last fall, confined as it was to another issue.

Mr. Wilson (Massachusetts) said he should vote against this amendment. He was opposed to connecting the two questions together at all. The ladies in the Women's Rights Convention seemed to have had a great effect upon Mr. Cowan. If Mr. Cowan had read the speeches of these women during the past few years he would have a better record when he leaves the Senate. Before he (Mr. Wilson) came to the Senate he entertained the conviction that it would be better for the legislation of the country if the women of the land had the right of suffrage. If Mr. Cowan would offer women's suffrage as an independent measure, he would vote for it; but he was opposed to connecting the two together. He was in favor of negro suffrage because it was a necessity. We have won negro suffrage for the District of Columbia. I go further, and say, we have won it for all the States of the Union. Before the 4th of March, 1867—before this Administration shall close—I expect the negroes in all the States will be clothed with the right of suffrage. I have not a doubt that they will be in the ten rebel States.

Mr. Hendricks (Ind.) asked Mr. Wilson why, if this subject had been decided by the last elections, the consideration of this bill was discontinued during the last sessions, after a bill had passed the House.

Mr. Wilson said the reason was that it was found there was not strength enough in the Senate pass over the President's veto, and it was well-known the President would have vetoed it. Since then the voice of the people had been expressed, and was now unequivocal.

Mr. Johnson (Md.) said there were many reasons why the right of suffrage had never been generally extended to women. It had not only never been asked for by women, but he believed it would it would be rejected. There was another reason why they should not be allowed to vote. If they participated in elections they must be a part of the militia. Mr. Johnson read a portion of a letter from John Adams, in which the writer opposed female suffrage, and gives his reasons for his opposition. Those who favored the pending amendment contended that women should have the right of suffrage for their own protection.

He (Mr. Johnson) always supposed that the duty of protection to ladies belonged to their husbands and brothers. Ladies had never complained that they had not sufficient protection. Some such complaints had been made by a few, but they were such as were very properly denominated strong-minded women. Ladies were not anxious to participate in election broils and political excitement.

Mr. Cowan asked if the presence of ladies at the polls would not tend to preserve order.

Mr. Johnson said it would not. The kind of men who created such disturbances were not to be deterred from it by the presence of ladies. Aside from all delicacy, what right had a woman to vote when the right was denied to a boy until he was 21, although he was put into the militia at 18.

Mr. Wade resumed the floor in advocacy of the amendment. He spoke of the necessity of female suffrage to enable women to protect themselves by the enactment of just laws.

Mr. Frelinghuysen, alluding to a remark from Mr. Johnson, that women voted in New Jersey, said that in certain local elections they did at one time, but not at present. He would say further, that the women of New Jersey did not want to vote. Nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand women of America wanted no vote, but that they now exercised through their influence upon men. Their mission was higher and holier. He could see no connection between the two cases of women and negroes.

Pending the consideration of Mr. Cowan's amendment, on motion of Mr. Doolittle, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Wilson (Iowa), from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to prevent the reception and counting of illegal electoral votes in the election of President and Vice President.

The preamble to the bill recites that the rebellion which was waged by a portion of the people of the United States against the proper authorities of the government thereof in the most violent and revolting form, but whose organized and armed forces had now been overcome, did, in its revolutionary progress, deprive the people of the several portions of the United States heretofore represented in Congress as the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas of all civil government, and so disturb the political relations with the Union as to deprive them of the right to appear in the Congress of the United States in the persons of the Senators and Representatives; that they can be restored to their former political relations in the Union only by the consent of the law-making power of the United States; that it would be improper for communities thus deprived of civil governments, and whose political relations to the government of the United States are too disturbed for participation in the election of President and Vice President of the United States.

It therefore enacts that until the law-making power of the United States shall have declared the several portions of the United States heretofore represented in Congress as the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas are restored to their political relations to the Union they shall not be entitled to representation in the Electoral College for the choice of President and Vice President of the United States, and that no electoral vote shall be received or counted from them, except as each may hereafter be so declared restored to its political relations in the Union and entitled to representation in Congress.

Mr. Finck asked Mr. Wilson whether his bill was printed.

Mr. Wilson (Iowa) replied in the negative.

Mr. Finck suggested that it was certainly a matter of great importance, and one that should not be pressed without discussion.

Mr. Wilson (Iowa) said he would proceed to explain the bill, and then, if the House choose to postpone it he would have no objection. In the preparation of the bill and preamble, the committee had been careful not to go beyond the precedent already established. In the preamble the committee adopted the declaration of the President of the United States that the revolutionary progress made by the people of the South in the course of the rebellion had deprived certain portions of the Union of all civil government. It had also followed the declaration made by Congress in the joint resolution providing for the admission of members from Tennessee, that the political relations of portions of the Union formerly represented as States could only be restored by the consent of the law-making power of the United States. On those two declarations in the preamble the committee based its justification of the bill. In the preparation of the bill the committee had followed the precedent established by the Thirty-eighth Congress in the joint resolution excluding from the Electoral College the States then in rebellion. The only difference was that that joint resolution was confined in its operation to the Presidential election of 1864, while this bill provided that it should apply indefinitely.

Mr. Finck suggested that there was another difference—that at that time the country was in the midst of war, and that now we were in the midst of peace. [Expressions of dissent on the Republican side.]

Mr. Wilson (Iowa)—We were at that time in the midst of war, and we think that the effect of that war on those communities exists to-day. Holding as we do, with the President, that that war against the government of the United States deprived those people of all civil government, they should not be permitted to participate in the election of President and Vice President of the United States until they shall have been provided with civil government.

Mr. Hall (N. Y.) said that, without expressing any opinion as to the motives of the bill, he thought the House should not force action upon it now without its being printed, and without opportunity for its examination by members and for discussion. It was certainly as grave a question as had ever engaged the attention of this Congress, whose time had been occupied with grave questions from its commencement. It did not strike him that the case was so clear in precedent as it had been put by the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He was not satisfied with the argument. As it now stood, it did not necessarily follow that what was within the sphere of Congress at the time the rebellion was actually raging was necessarily a precedent for action to-day. Whatever might be the theory as to the position of the late rebel States, it could not be denied that they were not now in a state of *bella flagrante*. He conceded to Congress the power to determine to a certain extent where and how far States should be restored to their representation here and to their representation in the Electoral College.

Mr. Wilson assented to its postponement, and on his motion the bill was made the special order for Thursday next, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wilson (Iowa), from the same committee, reported back the bill to repeal the neutrality laws, and, on his motion, the bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Lawrence (Ohio), from the same Committee, reported a bill to repeal certain parts of the act of April 30, 1790, for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States. It repeals so much of the act as provides that no person shall be prosecuted, tried or punished for treason, or other capital offence, except the indictment therefor shall be found by a grand jury within three years next after the treason or capital offence shall be committed. And it provides, that persons guilty of treason or other capital offences, may at any time be indicted tried and punished therefor.

Mr. Lawrence (Pa.) explained and advocated the provisions of the bill.

Mr. Conklin (N. Y.) asked whether the whole purpose of the bill would not be accomplished by repealing the statute of limitation, and whether it was worth while to attempt to do in this bill what was known to be unconstitutional, namely, to revive an offence which is in truth outlawed. If the offence was dead, any law that sought to revive it was an *ex post facto* law.

Mr. Lawrence (Ohio) said that if this bill did not pass all the early treason of Jefferson Davis and those who co-operated with him, would be entirely exempt from punishment. He was willing to go to the verge of the Constitution for the purpose of punishing the early treason of those who inaugurated the rebellion.

Mr. Stevens (Pa.) said—I have always looked upon bills that have evidently been prepared for the purpose of ascertaining how we can convict men, whom we cannot convict under the law under which the crime was committed, with great distrust. I do not believe that it becomes this nation. I do not believe that it is safe for us to undertake to pass laws by which we can punish men however guilty, who could not be punished under the laws under which the crime was committed. Can we not alter the Constitution so as to change the place of trial of traitors, and say that the venue may be changed and that they shall be tried by jurors summoned from another bailiwick? The Constitution and our laws provide very carefully that especially treason cases are to be tried in the place where the overt act is committed, or a district previously ascertained, by law and by a jury from that bailiwick. Any law that professes to change that in any of its features, looks to me so much like attempting a case of judicial murder that I have been always afraid to touch it. I am aware that if the traitors of the South were to be tried under our existing Constitution and law, not one of them could ever be convicted. I should never attempt to try them for treason. I should try them as belligerents under the laws of nations and under laws of war.

A member—"That is what you would do if you were the administration."

Mr. Stevens—I am speaking of what I would do when I get into the Administration. [Laughter.] I know that any attempt to try them for treason would be a failure, although I would not discourage the attempt. But I mention this to show that I am fully sensible that none of them under our present Constitution and laws can ever be convicted; and yet I would rather let every man of them run unpunished forever than make a law by which they could be punished. I think our government would endanger its future existence and its character for justice before the world. I think that the British government suffered more from the murder of Lord Russell, although it was the execution of the sentence of a court, than it would have suffered by the escape of forty traitors. I think this government had better be careful how it tampers either with the crime or the remedy, for it is better to forego a remedy for the crime which the world will view partly as a *felo de se*, and partly as a political offence, than to attempt now to pass laws lest malefactors may escape.

This professes to be a bill to make indefinite the time of prosecution for one of those offences which, of all others, should be quieted by lapse of time. Murder is a different thing. There are so many engaged, not only in treason, but in rebellion, that there must be some quieting law. And there ought to be, in my judgment, for it does not follow that every traitor escapes who is not prosecuted within three years from the time of the offence.

The statute of limitations nowhere runs in any case, except it is possible to enforce the remedy. It only runs from the time which it is possible to enforce it. For instance, Benjamin is in Europe. So is Slidell. I do not suppose anybody would say that while Benjamin was absent beyond the seas, the statute of limitation would run. It only runs from the time which he may be prosecuted and is not prosecuted. Whether that be so or not during the continuance of the war the crime continued. It was a continuing offence, and that offence continues up to the time when peace shall be proclaimed. It never has been proclaimed. I know that a gentleman up the avenue has put forth some pieces of paper which he thinks equal to the proclamations of James to Charles; but they are of no importance, and the question of peace or war is yet to be decided by Congress. I say there is no peace. [Sensation.] This nation is still in a belligerent condition, and the conquered belligerents are with the power of the conqueror, to be dealt with as captives, and not as criminals.

I can, therefore, in the first place, see no necessity for the bill, but if there were a necessity for it, I should certainly object to any alteration of the law as it now exists with reference to treason, which would enable the Government to convict, where it is confessed it could not convict under the law as it stood when the crime was committed. I should be very glad to see condign punishment inflicted on many of these men, although not capital punishment.

I read Boccacio when I was a boy, and have never forgotten the principles which he laid down. I have never been for bloody punishment. I do not consider that there was sufficient atonement made by the execution of that magnificent leader of the rebellion, ricketty Wirz, the Dutchman with the humpback, who only obeyed the orders of his superior officers, and who, if he were tried in ordinary times, and according to the law, would never have been convicted, because his Government was answerable for him.

The idea that the starvation of fifty or sixty thousand men is to be atoned by the execution of one of the keepers of the prison, instead of being visited on his government is absurd.

Here the Speaker interrupted, announcing that the morning hour had expired, and that the bill should go over till to-morrow.

Mr. Ingersoll (Ill.) asked leave to introduce a bill to regulate the sale of coin and bullion by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) called for its reading. The bill was read. It directs the Secretary, whenever the amount of gold and silver in the Treasury exceeds fifty millions, and when the interest of the government requires its sale, to give public notice for at least thirty days of her desire to effect such sale of the amount to be sold, and at what period, and shall receive sealed proposals for the purchase of any part thereof, at the Treasury in Washington, and shall award the sale to the highest bidder or bidders, provided, that the Secretary may reject all the bids, and also provided, that the amount in the Treasury shall not be reduced below fifty million, and also provided, that the bidders shall deposit two per cent. of the amount bid for.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) said that the tendency of such a bill would be to put the whole thing in the control of the gold gamblers in Wall street.

Mr. Ingersoll said that, on the contrary, it would take the matter out of the hands of the gold gamblers, and would stop gambling in gold. It would put it out of the power of the Secretary of the Treasury to wield a golden sceptre more powerful than any monarch in the world—a sceptre made of $950,000,000 of gold—so that he could depress and raise the markets at his pleasure.

Mr. Brandegee (Conn.) objected to the debate.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) objected to the reception of the bill.

The Speaker stated that as it required unanimous consent to introduce the bill, and as objection had been made, the bill was not before the House.

The Speaker presented a message from the President, transmitting reports from the Secretary of War and the Attorney General, in reference to the case of G. E. Pickett, late Major-General in the rebel army, in reply to the House resolution of the 3d instant, and adding that the resolution of last session on the same subject was not dated 23d of June, as set forth, but 23d of July, only four days before the termination of the session. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Also a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting the report of the Register of the Treasury, showing the receipts and expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1865.

The same disposition was made of this document.

Mr. Ingersoll, (Ill.), from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported back the bill to amend the act incorporating the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home. Read three times and passed.

Mr. Darling (N. Y.) presented the petition of the Marine Underwriters of New York for an appropriation to remove the wreck of the steamer Scotland, at Sandy Hook. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Conkling (N. Y.) presented the petition of the Rev. Dr. Corey, and others, asking modification of the taxes paid by clergymen, teachers, and certain others; and the petition of manufacturers of, and workers in ivory, horn, bone, &c., asking a change of the tariff. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The bill reported from the Judiciary Committee December 5th, for the regulation of appointments to, and removals from office, was taken up as the special order.

An extended and miscellaneous discussion took place on the bill, which was considered as if in Committee of the Whole, and various amendments were proposed, discussed and acted upon. The House finally amended the first section so as to read as follows:

That no officer of the United States appointed on the nomination of the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall be removable except by impeachment and conviction, or by the President with the consent of the Senate. Provided, however, that in case of disability or misconduct in office, occurring during the recess of the Senate, where the interests of the public service may make it necessary to displace the incumbent. Until the advice and consent of that body can be duly had and obtained thereon, it shall be lawful for the President, on the recommendation of the head of that department under whose jurisdiction such officer may be, to suspend the disabled or defaulting officer, and to commission another person to perform the duties of the place until the Senate shall act thereon; and it shall be the duty of the President, within twenty days after the next assembling of that body to report to it the fact of such suspension, along with the reasons therefor and the name of the person so temporarily commissioned by him, or such other person as he may think proper to nominate for the place; and in case of the refusal of the Senate to concur in the removal, either by a direct vote thereon, or by readvising and consenting to the appointment of the person so nominated, the officer who has been thus suspended shall thereupon resume the exercise of his official functions, as though the same had not been interrupted, but in no case shall the person so restored be entitled to any salary or compensation for the interval of time during which his functions may have been suspended as aforesaid; but the salary and emoluments of such office shall, during such suspension, belong to the person so temporarily commissioned and performing the duties of such office; provided, that the President, in case he shall become satisfied that such suspension was made on insufficient grounds, shall be authorized, at any time before reporting such suspension to the Senate, as above provided, to revoke such suspension, and reinstate such officer in the performance of the duties of his office; provided further, that this section shall not apply to the heads of the several executive departments.

Mr. Stevens (Pa.) offered the following as an amendment:

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, that every person who has been or shall hereafter be nominated to the Senate for office, and who shall fail to receive the advice and consent of the Senate thereto, shall be incapable of holding any executive office under the United States for the term of one year after such rejection, unless two-thirds of the Senate shall relieve him of such disability. The predecessor of any nominee rejected by the Senate shall still continue to hold his said office.

He spoke in support of his amendment. He said that during the last six months a class of the meanest men whom God ever overlooked in making men had been appointed to office, and were now awaiting rejection or confirmation by the Senate. He had no doubt that a great many of them would be rejected, but if the President were allowed to appoint them to any other office he would reward them all. The President understood taking care of just such men. They were his national wards.

Mr. Stevens would punish them for their meanness in crawling through such slime. The very fact of their acceptance of office was evidence that they were too mean to hold it, and too dishonest to be trusted with it, and that for at least one year they should hold no office.

Mr. Hale (N. Y.) opposed the amendment. The distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania had been complimented by several of his associates on having suddenly become a conservative, and he (Mr. Hale) was delighted to witness and welcome his accession to those ranks, but he regretted to see that with the zeal common to a neophyte, he now went far beyond those who had heretofore been considered as in some manner sustaining the President.

He (Mr. Stevens) proposed to put into the hands of the President such power as had never been entrusted to any man. Under the gentleman's omendment the President might send his (Mr. Stevens's) name to the Senate for an office, and on the Senate refusing to confirm him he would be incapable of holding any other office for a year.

Mr. Stevens remarked that he would run the risk of being punished in that way.

Mr. Hale went on to remark, in a vein of railery, that they all knew Mr. Stevens was competent for any position on the face of the earth, but yet the Senate might not deem him exactly the person to be the colonel of a regiment, the captain of a ship, or the commander-in-chief of the army, and might refuse to confirm his appointment to any of such positions if the President should nominate him, and the result would be that the country would be deprived of his valuable services in the House. [Laughter.] In like manner, if the President should desire to get rid of General Grant or Gen. Sherman he had only to nominate him for Chief Justice, and on being rejected by the Senate the General would be rendered incapable of holding his military position.

Mr. Stevens insisted on his amendment, and called for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were taken, and resulted, yeas 18, nays 132.

So the amendment was rejected, and the further consideration of the bill went over till to-morrow.

Mr. Stevens, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the government for the year ending June 30, 1867. Referred to the Committee of the Whole, and made a special order for Thursday next.

Mr. Stevens introduced a joint resolution granting additional compensation to certain civil employes in the Executive Departments in Washington. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Adjourned.

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se22-6m*

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A large assortment in Ornamented GILT and WALNUT FRAMES. For sale by

J. COWPLAND,
53 South Fourth Street, near Chestnut
se7-4m

LOOK! LOOK!! LOOK!!!—T. ELWOOD WALTON, No. 46 N. SECOND street, sells Looking Glasses, Picture Frames, Photograph Frames and Albums cheaper than any store in the Union. Call and see him at No 46 N. SECOND street, above Christ Church, Philada. P. S.—The trade supplied. del1-5t

PRESTON STEAM LAUNDRY.
WASHING, STARCHING, SCOURING AND CLEANSING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.
BEST WORK at lowest prices.
Office, 1309 Chestnut St.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF THE FRANKFORD AND PHILADELPHIA PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 2453 FRANKFORD Road, PHILADELPHIA, December 4, 1866.

All persons who are subscribers to or holders of the Capital Stock of this Company, and who have not yet paid the second instalment of FIVE DOLLARS per share thereon, are hereby notified that the said second instalment has been called in; and that they are required to pay the same at the above Office on or before WEDNESDAY, the 2d day of January next, 1867.

By Resolution of the Board of Directors.

de5-14t§ JACOB BINDER, President.

OFFICE OF THE PHILADELPHIA AND SOUTHERN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, NO. 314 SOUTH DELAWARE AVENUE.

Notice is hereby given that by a resolution of the Board of Directors of the above-named Company, adopted August 29th, 1866, the FOURTH and last instalment of the Capital Stock of said Company, being THIRTY PER CENTUM or SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS per share, has been called in, and is due and payable at this office.

se6tf WILLIAM J. MALCOLM, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE "THE RELIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA," No. 308 WALNUT street, PHILADELPHIA, November 26th, 1866.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of "THE RELIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA," and the Annual election of thirteen (13) Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at their Office, on MONDAY, December 17th, 1866, at 12 o'clock, M.

no26 tde17§ THOMAS C. HILL, Secretary.

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—This splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world. The only *true* and *Perfect Dye*—Harmless, Reliable, Instantaneous. No disappointment. No ridiculous tints. Natural Black or Brown. Remedies the ill effects of *Bad Dyes*. Invigorates the hair, leaving it soft and beautiful. The genuine is signed WILLIAM A. BATCHELOR. All others are mere imitations, and should be avoided. Sold by all Druggists and Perfumers. Factory 81 Barclay street, New York.

BEWARE OF A COUNTERFEIT. de7,fm,wly

OFFICE OF THE MILL CREEK AND MINERILL NAVIGATION AND RAILROAD COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5, 1866.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 407 LIBRARY street, on MONDAY, December 31, 1866, at 12 o'clock, M., at which time an election for Officers to serve for the ensuing year, will also take place.

de10,13t§ P. C. HOLLIS, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE SCHUYLKILL VALLEY NAVIGATION AND RAILROAD COMPANY.—PHILADELPHIA, December 5, 1866.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at the office of the Company, No. 407 LIBRARY Street, on MONDAY, December 31, 1866, at half-past eleven o'clock, A. M., at which time an election for Officers to serve the ensuing year will also take place.

de10,31§ P. C. HOLLIS, Secretary.

OFFICE MOUNT CARBON & POTTSVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY. PHILADELPHIA, December 5th, 1866.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 407 LIBRARY street, on MONDAY, December 31st, 1866, at eleven o'clock, A.M., at which time an election for Officers to serve the ensuing year will take place.

de11-tde31§ P. C. HOLLIS, Secretary.

NOTICE.

UNION NATIONAL BANK, DECEMBER 6th, 1866.

The Annual Meeting of the stockholders of this Bank, for the election of directors, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, the 8th day of January next, between the hours of ten and three o'clock.

der fm,w fa8§ N. C. MUSSELMAN, Cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF THE NORTHERN LIBERTIES, PHILADELPHIA, December 8 1866.

The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day of January next, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 3 P. M.

de8-salt,m,w,f,tja9§ W. GUMMERE, Cashier.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK, PHILADELPHIA, December 8 1866.

The Annual Election for Directors of this bank will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day of January, 1867, at the Banking House, between the hours of 12 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M.

de8-tja9§ J. WIEGAND, Jr., Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF PHILADELPHIA, 723 ARCH street, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5th, 1866.

The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held on TUESDAY, the 8th of January, 1867, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M.

de6toja8§ SAMUEL J. MACMULLEN, Cashier.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 6, 1866.

The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held on TUESDAY, the 8th of January 1867, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M.

de10tja8 MORTON McMICHAEL, Jr., Cashier.

KENSINGTON NATIONAL BANK, PHILADELPHIA, December 8, 1866.

An election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 8, 1867, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

de10 tja8 WILLIAM McCONNELL, Cashier.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK, PHILADELPHIA, December 7, 1866.

The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day of January next, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M., and 3 o'clock P. M.

de11-tj9 W. RUSHTON, Jr., Cashier.

CHILDREN'S HOME, WEST PHILADELPHIA.—The annual sale of useful and fancy articles will be held at the HOME, Forty-first street, above Market, West Philadelphia, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, the 12th, 13th and 14th instants. Admission 25 cents. Base Ball implements to be voted for.

de11-3t§

A GRAND FAIR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH will be held at the Assembly Rooms, TENTH and CHESTNUT, commencing MONDAY, Dec. 10th, and continuing through the week. Season tickets, 25 cts.; single admission, 10 cents.

de11-5t*

BIRD'S BILLIARD HALL,
603 and 607 ARCH street.
Mr. V. ESTEPHE and R. T. BYALL
Will give an Exhibition of Billiards on WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 12th.

de11 2t§ C. BIRD.

FESTIVAL, and Sale of Fancy and Useful Articles will be held in Lecture Room of the Clinton Street Church, Tenth and Clinton Streets, on the afternoons and evenings of Thursday and Friday, 13th and 14th insts.

de11-2t* THE FAIR FOR THE BENEFIT OF ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, now being held in Hall N. E. corner BROAD and ARCH streets, will remain open Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, from 4 o'clock to 10 P. M.

de11 2t*

NOTICE.—TRENTON, Dec. 10th.—The Delaware and Raritan Canal will be closed for navigation on TUESDAY, the 18th inst, unless sooner stopped by ice.

de11-8t§ J. G. STEVENS, Engineer and Superintendent.

FAIR AT WESTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, corner of Seventeenth and Filbert streets, TUESDAY, until FRIDAY NEXT, afternoons and evenings.

de10 3t*

DIVIDEND NOTICES.

OFFICE OF THE BOHEMIAN MINING COMPANY OF MICHIGAN, 132 WALNUT STREET.—PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17th, 1866.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

The Assignees of this Company have this day declared a DIVIDEND (being No. 2) OF THIRTY-FIVE PER CENT. (35) on the original amount of claims, properly adjusted, exclusive of Interest, Protests, Damages, &c., PAYABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMPANY, 132 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, ON AND AFTER THE 20TH DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT.

To avoid delay, creditors will at once, present statement of their claims, in detail.

When parties who hold claims, "not their own," an order or Power Attorney from the owner will be required before dividend can be paid.

WILLIAM H. BOYER,
SAML. P. DARLINGTON, } Assignees.
no17-s,s&w,tdec20§

DIVIDEND.—The Directors of the BUTLER COAL COMPANY have this day declared a dividend from the profits of the company of ONE DOLLAR per share clear of taxes. (It being the second dividend for same amount declared this year,) payable on and after 24th inst. next, to stockholders of that date. Stockholders residing in New York will be paid the dividend at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company.

SAMUEL DUTTON, Treasurer.
No. 411 Chestnut street.
PHILADELPHIA: Dec. 6, 1866. dec8t24

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 27, 1866.

The Board of Managers have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT., or TWO DOLLARS AND A HALF PER SHARE, on the Capital Stock of this Company, payable on demand, clear of National and State taxes.

no27-tf§ SOLOMON S. SHEPHERD, Treasurer.

LADIES' TRIMMINGS.

GRAND OPENING.—MRS. M. A. BINDER, No. 1031 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Importer of Ladies' Dress and Cloak Trimmings