Fortieth Congress—Adjourned Session.

CLOSE OF YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.—The Reconstruction bill was under consideration.

Mr Buckalew addressed the Senate on the subject of executive suffrage, contained in his amendment he had desired to offer. The majority principle now in vogue would unjustly and undemocratically place the minority of the people without a voice, and practically disfranchised. In the last Congress a million six hundred thousand voters had forty-three members, and two million two hundred thousand had but twenty-six. He argued that he denied that there was any such principle in the government as that the majority should govern.

It was that the people should govern themselves, not that one portion of the people should govern another. Self-government, and not majority rule, was the correct principle. What was meant by the cumulative principle was this—that an elector in any State, whether he belonged to the majority or the minority, can give his vote for some candidate or candidates, who will be elected, and who will represent him in Congress. This was the Alpha and the Omega of the whole thing, and it did not require a protracted speech to show that it was correct and just. It meant that in Kentucky, which has nine members of that in Kentucky, which has nine members of that in Kentucky, which has nine members of