Pittsburgh Gazette.

VOLUME LXXXIV. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1869. NUMBER 47.

FIRST EDITION.

TWELVE O'CLOCK M.

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature—The Postage Matter—General Appropriation Bill Passed by the House.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

HARRISBURG, February 19, 1869.

SENATE.

THE POSTAGE MATTER.

Mr. WHITE called up the resolution appropriating five hundred dollars to be expended by the Senate Postmaster for stamps, thus obviating the chance of fraud in the Government Postoffice.

Mr. GRAHAM charged that the Harrisburg Postmaster had furnished members of both Houses with stamps and charged them to the account of the State.

Mr. CONNELL moved an amendment, instructing the Retrenchment Committee to investigate the above charge.

Mr. LOWRY moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

Mr. ERRETT urged that something be done.

There was further discussion, but pending the question the Senate adjourned till Tuesday.

Senator Taylor has been confined to his room for several weeks with rheumatism, having temporarily lost the use of his hands and limbs.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILL PASSED.

The whole session was occupied on the Appropriation Bill, which passed finally with no important amendments, save the striking out of one hundred thousand dollars for the new asylum at Danville. A large number of appropriations to private charitable institutions, inserted yesterday and to-day, were struck out on final passage.

Adjourned till Monday evening.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—One hundred and twenty-seven Cuban refugees arrived at Key West on Wednesday, and more are coming.

—Gov. Fairchild, of Wisconsin, has vetoed the bill authorizing minors to convey real estate.

—The Legislature of British Columbia, after a long debate, decided against the Confederation, by a vote of eleven to five.

—The New Foundland Legislature, by a vote of twenty to eight, have adopted an address in response to the Lieutenant Governor's speech, recommending the union with Canada.

—A contract has been concluded between the Baltimore and Cincinnati, a new railroad company, and the Marietta, for entering the city of Cincinnati on a common track, a distance of seven miles.

—The suit of John H. Lawrence, Commissioner of Cincinnati, against Murat Halstead, of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, for libel, for fifty thousand dollars damages, was commenced in the Superior Court yesterday.

—A resolution was introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature yesterday, that the Alabama treaty should be spurned with contempt, and its ratification would be dishonorable to the nation and injust to its citizens.

—The Kansas Senate, on Tuesday, defeated a proposition to amend the Constitution by striking out the word "white," by a vote of fourteen to seventeen. Three Senators voted "no," because they want the word "male" stricken out before the word "white."

—The Legislature of Nevada has passed a Constitutional amendment providing for biennial sessions, limited to ninety days, and also a resolution asking Congress to annex to Nevada the territory south of Snake river. The work on Virginia and Truckee Railroad has been commenced.

—The New Albany, Mount Carmel & St. Louis Air Line Company was fully organized at New Albany, yesterday, by the election of Augustus Bradley, President, Dr. E. Newland, Vice President, and George Lyman, Secretary. Fifty thousand dollars were subscribed on the spot. The route will be surveyed immediately.

—The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company of Pennsylvania have purchased the Morris & Essex and the Syracuse & Binghamton railroads, and have obtained a perpetual lease of the Oswego & Syracuse railroad, thus forming an independent and direct route by rail from the seaboard to Lake Ontario.

—The bill to lease the Penitentiary at Joliet and allow the convicts to work in Alton, was indefinitely postponed in the Illinois Legislature yesterday. The Senate Committee on the Penitentiary introduced a bill appropriating three hundred thousand dollars to be added to the capital invested in the manufacturing interest at Joliet.

—From Harlan county, Kentucky, it is reported that an armed party, headed by Lige Baker and others, have been committing depredations in the neighborhood of Mount Pleasant. Peaceable citizens have been driven from their homes by them. A few days since the party met a Mr David Middleton on the road, and shot him to pieces.

—For insulting his wife a citizen of Chicago demanded satisfaction of his family physician, whereupon the Doctor struck the injured man five times with a slung shot, leaving him almost insensible. Yesterday morning, at the police court, the Doctor was let off with a fine of ten dollars, while the citizen paid five dollars for being the aggressor.

—A Washington special says General Grant remarked to a Republican member of Congress that he would consider it an insult to the party which had elected him to think of putting any men in his Cabinet who were not with the party during the war, or who had not acted with it since then. He knew the party had rights and he should not allow his personal feelings to interfere with these rights.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

[THIRD SESSION.]

SENATE: Bill to Compensate Farragut and His Men Passed—Indian Appropriation Passed — Tenure-of-Office Bill. HOUSE: The Army Appropriation Bill Passed, the Amendment of Mr. Butler Being Rejected—Postoffice Appropriation Taken Up and During its Consideration the House Left Without a Quorum.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1869.

SENATE.

Mr. STEWART, from the Pacific Railroad Committee, submitted a majority report, in opposition to the views of the minority, on the Omnibus Railroad Bill.

Mr. WILSON introduced a bill to repeal the act fixing the headquarters of the General of the Army at Washington, requiring all orders of the President and Secretary of War to be issued by him, and, in case of his inability, by the next in rank, and providing that he shall not be released from command or assigned to duty elsewhere, except at his request, without the approval of the Senate, and that all contrary orders shall be null and void.

Mr. POMEROY, from Committee on Public Lands, reported, with an amendment, the bill amendatory of the act of July 27, 1868, relating to the location of Agricultural College scrip. As amended the bill provides simply that all such scrip shall be received from actual setlers in payment of pre-emption claims, in the same manner as is now authorized by law in the case of military bounty land warrants.

Also, adversely the House bill to declare forfeited to the United States certain lands granted in aid of the construction of railroads in Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida.

On motion of Mr. HOWARD, who stated that during the short remainder of the session the Committee would not have time to act upon them, the Committee on Pacific Railroads were discharged from the further consideration of bills in aid of the following railroad enterprises, viz: Southern Pacific of Texas; Union Pacific, Southern Branch Lawrence, Kansas and Guayamos; Lake Superior and Sioux City; Lake Superior and Puget Sound; Idaho, Oregon and Puget Sound; International Pacific, from Cairo to the Rio Grande; Atlantic and California, thirty-second parallel line, and Memphis, El Paso and Pacific of Texas. Also, from the further consideration of House bills extending the time for the completion of the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad; the House joint resolution declaring the meaning of the acts relating to Pacific railroads, which direct the use of American iron in their construction, namely, that American iron must be also used in repairs and in re-laying track; and the House joint resolution providing for the appointment of a Board of Commissioners to establish a tariff of prices for the transportation of freight and passengers on the Pacific railroads and branches.

Mr. FERRY, from the Committee on Patents, reported adversely the bill to repeal the sixteenth section of the act of March 2d, 1861, relating to patents for inventions and discoveries patented abroad.

Mr. ANTHONY, from the Committee on Printing, made a report on the subject of reporting and printing debates, and said he would ask the Senate to consider it to-morrow.

He also made a report, from the same Committee, on the policy of continuing the publication by Congress of other public documents than those connected directly with or forming a part of the Congressional proceedings.

Mr. POMEROY introduced a bill to abolish and forever prohibit peonage in New Mexico.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill for the sale of the Hot Springs reservation, in Arkansas.

Mr. GRIMES called up the bill in relation to captures made by Admiral Farragut's fleet in the Mississippi in 1862. In reply to a question by Mr. Trumbull, he said the bill did not give the officers or men anything more than they were entitled to under existing laws, but would have merely a technical effect.

The bill passed.

Mr. GRIMES called up the bill to compensate the officers and crew of the Kearsarge for the destruction of the Alabama. It gives to Commander Winslow and his crew $190,000.

Mr. TRUMBULL called up the bill to reorganize the judicial system of the United States. It fixes the number of Judges of the United States Supreme Court at nine, and provides for the appointment of Circuit Judges to perform circuit duties now performed by the Judges of the Supreme Court, but requires that each of the latter shall do circuit duty for at least one term every two years.

Mr. EDMUNDS began a speech in opposition to the provision of the bill for circuits, but was interrupted by the expiration of the morning hour, which brought up the unfinished business, the Indian Appropriation bill.

Several additional amendments, reported by the Indian Committee, were adopted.

Mr. STEWART offered as an additional section the bill which lately passed the House transferring the control of the Indian Bureau to the War Department.

After discussion, in which Messrs. Morrill, of Maine, Pomeroy, Morton, Hendricks and Sprague opposed, and Messrs. Stewart, Edmunds and Conkling favored the amendment, it was rejected—yeas 8, nays 26, the yeas being Messrs. Anthony, Conkling, Edmunds, Grimes, Harris, Howe, Morgan and Stewart.

The appropriation was then passed.

On motion, Mr. Edmunds' bill to repeal the Tenure of Office act was again taken up, whereupon, at 4:45 P. M., the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Several petitions praying that the Almighty be recognized by the Constitution were received.

The Army Appropriation bill was taken up. All the amendments reducing ordinary appropriations were agreed to.

Mr. KELLEY made a speech expressing his faith in Gen. Grant.

Mr. BLAINE appealed to the House not to agree to the amendment striking out the $200,000 for military surveys, reducing the appropriation for the Rock Island Armory and Arsenal from one million dollars to five hundred thousand, or to the amendment offered by Mr. Butler for the reduction of the army.

The Rock Island item provoked a rapid and heated discussion, such as it usually does provoke whenever the subject comes up. It was participated in by Messrs. Blaine, Price, Scofield, Phelps, Benton, Farnsworth and others

In the midst of the discussion Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, obtained the floor and made a final appeal to the House in favor of his amendment for the reduction of the army. He characterized the amendment offered by Mr. Blaine as a delusion. It only provided for consolidation as officers were reduced by death or court-martial. There would not be by it a single dollar saved, a single servant out off. But the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. Kelley,) a new recruit, came here this morning and told the House it must trust General Grant. The difficulty was, the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Maine did not trust General Grant. Under it he could not muster out a single officer. The only trust they would have to get rid of an officer would be in Almighty God to bring him to an end, for he would not resign. [Laughter.] The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Kelley,) said a large army was necessary in order to keep the peace. But if they name the policy, the moral power of the election of General Grant would not keep the peace in Texas. An army scattered over that territory would be of no avail. There was not going to be any organized opposition to an army; it was going to be stealthy murder, not in the presence of soldiers, but behind their backs. Another fact was, that one-fourth of all the United States soldiers in Texas were ex-confederate soldiers, recruited from the confederate army, and they were not to be relied upon in any question between their old brethren in arms and citizens of the United States. As to the argument that the army would decrease by natural depletion, he reminded the House that there was a school at West Point which turned out officers for the army as fast as officers died.

The argument also had been made that members did not know anything of the subject, and that therefore they must turn the matter over to Gen. Grant. In reply to that he would say the Constitution puts it on the representatives of the people. Any gentleman who says he does not understand it, had better learn, or go home. He has no business here. It is his duty to understand it. We have no business to come here if we do not know how to do the duties which the Constitution devolves upon us. The Constitution sends us here to legislate, not to take the *ipse dixit* of any man. Here is a case of economy. Here is a saving of thirty millions of taxes. Let us see whether this talk of economy, this kicking of some poor claimants, this overthrowing of a small appropriation for some public work, is to occupy our time, while this great question is to have the go by.

Mr. BLAINE, of Maine, made an earnest appeal to the House against the adoption of Mr. Butler's amendment. He hoped the House would not vote to deprive General Sherman of the chance to attain the rank of General of the Army, and that it would not deprive General Sheridan or General Thomas of the chance to attain the grade of Lieutenant General, and would not render necessary the mustering out of Generals Meade or Hancock as Major Generals. That would be the effect of the adoption of the amendment. He admitted there was much in the amendment that was meritorious; but there were provisions in it which he thought the House would not approve. The amendment which he (Mr. Blaine) had moved just tied up the army so that there should be no appointments or promotions until Congress could take hold of the whole question, and by this means, under the administration of General Grant, the army could be very rapidly reduced. In conclusion he asked leave to modify his amendment.

Mr. BUTLER objected.

Mr. BLAINE—I only want to perfect my amendment.

Mr. BUTLER—You cannot perfect anything that is bad all over.

Mr. BLAINE went on to say that under his plan the process of reduction would begin the moment the bill was approved. It was safe, prudent and wise to take this step, but it was difficult to go beyond.

Mr. BOYER asked unanimous consent to offer an amendment directing the Secretary of War to consolidate the Quartermaster's Department, the Commissary Department and the Pay Department into one Department, to be called the Department of Supply.

Mr. HOOPER objected.

The Rock Island appropriation was still further debated by Messrs. Logan and Pruyn in favor and Maynard against it.

Finally the debate ended and the House proceeded to vote on the various amendments.

The amendment striking out the sum for military surveys was agreed to.

The amendment reducing the Rock Island appropriation from $1,000,000 to $500,000 was disagreed to—yeas 79, nays 90, and the appropriation remains at one million.

The question was then taken on the substitute offered last night by Mr. Blaine for the conjoined amendments of Messrs. Dodge and Butler. The substitute was agreed to—111 to 64.

Mr. ELDRIDGE moved to lay the bill on the table. Negatived.

The bill then passed.

Mr. PIKE, from Committee of Conference on the bill to amend certain acts in relation to the Navy and Marine Corps, made a report, which, after some discussion, was agreed to without division.

The House then took a recess.

Evening Session.—The House resumed session at half past seven, Mr. Boutwell in the chair as Speaker *pro tem.*

Mr. KELLEY offered a resolution directing the Secretary of State to take immediate measures to ascertain the cause of the arrest and incarceration by the Captain General of Cuba of Emilia Cobada, a citizen of the United States. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. BUTLER, of Mass., the expenses of removing the remains of Thaddeus Stevens from Washington to his home in Pennsylvania, were ordered to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Mr. CHURCHILL, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill to define felonies and misdemeanors, and to regulate peremptory challenges. Passed.

The bill provides that all offences against the United States, punishable by death or by imprisonment for not less than five years, unless otherwise expressly provided, be taken and deemed to be felonies; all others to be taken as misdemeanors, unless otherwise expressly provided. In trials for crimes, the punishment whereof is death, the United States and defendant are each to be entitled to twenty peremptory challenges; where the punishment is imprisonment for not less than five years, to ten peremptory challenges. When two or more persons are on trial together, they shall join in their peremptory challenges.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Poland in the Chair, and took up the Postoffice Appropriation bill. The total sum appropriated is $30,217,503, of which sum $22,752,503 is to be defrayed by the revenue of the Postoffice Department.

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to increase the sum for Postoffice clerks from $2,000,000 to $2,500,000. Rejected.

Mr. BEAMAN moved to amend the item for letter carriers, by reducing it from $1,000,000 to $500,000, with a proviso that letter carriers shall not be employed in any city, the population of which is less than 100,000, and that no greater sum shall be expended for free delivery in the next fiscal year.

After quite a long discussion the question came to vote, but there was no quorum voting. The roll was called and only ninety-three members answered to their names.

The Committee rose, and, Mr. Boutwell having taken the Chair as Speaker *pro tem*, the names of the absentees were reported.

A motion to adjourn was rejected.

Mr. BEAMAN moved a call of the House, which was ordered.

The Sergeant-at-arms was directed to bring absentees before the bar of the House.

Some hours were consumed therein, and it was after midnight when the House adjourned.

NEWS BY CABLE.

London Times and the Rejection of the Alabama Treaty.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, Feb. 19.—The *Times* in an article on the Alabama Treaty, says the want of a definite basis of arbitration will reconcile England to the rejection by the United States. This point should be kept clearly in view in the event of offers for further negotiations. England now awaits proposals from America. The *Times* continues: We have done our best. We have gone to the verge of national humiliation to secure a settlement of the questions at issue. We shall now wait for propositions from the new administration under Gen. Grant. It is admitted the claims are a fair subject for friendly arbitration.

MARINE NEWS.

SOUTHAMPTON, Feb. 19.—The steamship Cimbria, from New York, arrived to-night.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

LONDON, February 19.—*Evening.*—Consols, 93. Five-Twenties, 78¾. Eries, 24¾; Illinois, 96¾. Stocks steady.

FRANKFORT, February 19.—Bonds, 82½@82¼.

ANTWERP, February 19—Petroleum dull, at 58½f.

LIVERPOOL, February 19.—Cotton lower and dull; Uplands, spot, 11¾; afloat, 11¼; Orleans, 12; sales of 5,000 bales. Wheat—sales of 45,000 bushels, including 8,000 bushels for speculation and 4,000 bushels for export; stock, 277,000 bushels, including 96 000 bushels American. California White Wheat, 10s. 9d.; Red Western, 9s. 7d.@9s. 8d. Flour, 25s. Corn, 32s. for old; 30s. 9d. for new. Oats, 3s. 5d. Barley, 5s. Peas, 43s. Pork quiet, at 97c. Beef, 95c. Lard, 76s. 6d. Cheese, 76s. Bacon, 56s. 6d. Spirits of Petroleum, 71½d; Refined, 1s. 10d.

LONDON, February 19.—Tallow, 45s. 6d. Fine Rosin, 19s. Turpentine, 33s. 6d. Linseed, 58s. 6d. Linseed Oil, 28s. Linseed Cakes, £11.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 19.—Bonds firm at 82¼.

PARIS, Feb. 19.—Bourse steady: Rentes 71f. 45c.

HAVRE, Feb. 19.—Cotton easier but unchanged.

The Insurrection in Cuba.

By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

HAVANA, February 19.—The Insurgents hold Guaraja, a port south of Roman Cais. They have fortified the town, and have batteries of brass cannon mounted, and manned by Americans. The water in front of the position has a depth of eighteen feet, and the guns bear upon the narrow channel by which the town can only be approached from the sea. The Government is equipping a flotilla of launches for an attack on the place.

A landing has been effected by a rebel expedition at Cochoros.

It is whispered here that Secretary Seward has made strong representations to the Government at Madrid in regard to the death of Mr. Cohner, and other outrages which have occurred at Havana, and that he has asked that condign punishment be visited upon the perpetrators.

Transports arrived yesterday with one thousand troops from Spain and others arrived to-day with one thousand more.

Orders have been issued requiring citizens to deliver to the authorities all private arms.

Gen. Wm. F. Smith positively declines the appointment of Consul General of the United States at Havana.

Sugar market active; No. 12 firm at 10 reals.

San Francisco Items.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

SAN FRANCISCO, February 19.—The excitement about the White Pine mines is increasing. Fifty-four companies to mine there have been incorporated here, with nominal capitals aggregating sixty-two millions.

The Board of Brokers is considering the propriety of adopting more stringent rules regulating the admission of new stocks.

Bond Robber Arrested

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, February 19.—Edwin R. Lee has been arrested on a charge of stealing $40,000 in bonds, last August, from the office of M. C. Miller, Insurance Agent, 96 Broadway. It is alleged that some of the bonds were sold by Lee.

SECOND EDITION.

FOUR O'CLOCK A. M.

THE CAPITAL.

Meeting of Presidental Electors—Fenian Prisoners in England Released — American Shipping and the Cuban Insurrection.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1868.

CABINET MEETING.

All the members of the Cabinet were present at the regular meeting to-day.

MEETING OF ELECTORS.

The Presidential Electors now in the city held a meeting at the National Hotel this afternoon, for the purpose of arranging for attending in a body the forthcoming inaugural ceremonies. Electors were present from Mississippi, Nebraska, Tennessee, Iowa, Arkansas and Indiana.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION AND AMERICAN SHIPPING.

Secretary Seward has replied as follows to a Philadelphia firm:

Department of State, Washington, Feb. 18, 1869.—GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter of yesterday's date, in which, as citizens of the United States, you make a request for special protection for vessels and other property on the south side of the Island of Cuba, in the harbors of Tunas, Trinidad and Cienfuegos. I appreciate the anxiety which you, in common with other merchants having large interests in Cuba, feel at the present time, and since the receipt of your letter I have conferred with the Secretary of the Navy, who informs me that at least one half of the vessels under command of Admiral Hoff are now in Cuban waters, and the Admiral has of late been fully and frequently instructed to be vigilant and active in extending every proper protection to American interests in the regions referred to, which are supposed to be especially exposed to danger. I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, WM. H. SEWARD.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING.

The Senate Committee on Printing to-day reported a resolution authorizing a contract to be made with Joseph T. Crowell for the publication of debates in Congress for a term of years after March 4th, prox., in accordance with the proposition submitted by him. In case of failure to contract with him, or his inability to fulfill the contract, the Joint Committee on Printing is authorized to have the work done under the direction of the Congressional Printer at the Government Printing Office.

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The Senate to-day, without opposition, passed the House joint resolution authorizing the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to mortgage its road and property and to issue bonds to aid in the construction of its railroad and telegraph line from Lake Superior to the Pacific Ocean.

FENIAN PRISONERS RELEASED.

Mr. Thornton, British Minister, this afternoon communicated to Secretary Seward the following dispatch from the British Government: "Inform Mr. Seward that orders have been given for the release from further custody of Costello and Warren."

ARGUMENT POSTPONED.

The argument on the application for *habeas corpus* in the case of Spangler and Arnold, prisoners at Dry Tortugas, was to-day, in the Supreme Court, adjourned until Friday next.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW ORLEANS, February 19—Cotton—receipts to-day, 5,295 bales; receipts for week, 26,331 bales; exports to-day, 8,125 bales, and for the week to Liverpool 23,417 bales; Continent, 4,914 bales; Coastwise, 3,765 bales; stock, 146,898 bales; sales for the week, 10,300 bales; to-day, 3,300 bales; market ¼c lower, with middling at 27¼a27½c. Flour—low grades firmer, with sales superfine at $6,50, double extra at $7,25, and treble extra at $7,50. Sugar in good demand, with sales common at 12¼, prime at 14¼a15, and yellow clarified at 16c. Molasses in good demand, with sales prime at 77a80c. Whisky—western rectified at $1. Coffee quiet and firm; fair at 15¼a16, and prime at 17¼a18½c.

CHICAGO, February 19.—After close of 'change the grain market was very quiet, and prices without change; No. 2 spring wheat sold at $1,14¼a$1,15; closing at outside figure. Corn and oats neglected. Provisions dull and inactive, and nominally unchanged.

NASHVILLE, February 19.—Cotton market dull; new middling 26; good ordinary 25.

Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—The "Daughter of the Regiment" was presented at the Opera House last night, Ettie Henderson appearing in the leading role. The piece was well put upon the stage, and rendered general satisfaction to the audience. The entertainment concluded with the amusing comedy of "The Youthful Days of Richalina," with Ettie Henderson as Count St. Louis. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be presented at a matinee this afternoon, and this evening, which is the occasion of Harry Hotto's benefit. A versatile entertainment will be given.

SMYTHE'S THEATRE.—There will be a grand Saturday night jubilee at Smythe's American Theatre this evening. A great bill is offered, consisting in part of "Black Eyed Susan," "Punch and Judy" and the wonderful performances of Gurr, the Man-Fish. Other attractions will be presented, and a crowded house may be anticipated.

PITTSBURGH THEATRE.—Thayer's Circus is the attraction at this place of amusement just now, and the attraction must be pretty strong, judging from the large audiences with which the performance has been greeted since the opening night. This afternoon there will be a matinee, and this evening the regular performance. The troupe is composed of first class artists, who perform their specialities in a graceful and confident manner, which wins from all who attend the heartiest applause.

Church Sociable—Pleasant Occasion—Presentation,

In large congregations it is a matter of desire and concern on the part of the pastors that individuals and families should become acquainted and intermingle socially together, so as to be really united and not worship the same God under the same roof as strangers to each other. In religion all are necessarily on an equality, be they rich or poor, high or low, so long as they are worthy followers of Christ; worldly society has no good authority for prescribing rules to the contrary, at least so far as church communities are concerned. Many of the congregations of the city have very successfully established closer ties of friendship between the individuals and families comprising them by holding what are termed "Church Sociables" in which all are invited to participate. These occasions are always interesting and prolific of much good in strengthening religion and creating a brotherly love among those professing the faith. If all such sociables could be made as pleasant and enjoyable as that held last night at the Sixth avenue United Presbyterian Church, (Rev. T. H. Hanna's,) none would doubt their efficacy or disparage the wisdom and zeal prompting congregations to hold them. The enterprising ladies and gentlemen charged with the arrangements left nothing undone to secure the enjoyment of all attending, and were fully rewarded in the universal expression of delight and satisfaction from the four or five hundred persons attending, many of whom were invited guests of other denominations. In the lecture room of the Church were spread a number of tables artistically arranged and decorated, and trembling beneath the weight of elaborate pyramids of ice cream, water ices and macaroon, huge cakes delicately iced and bearing mottos, fruits, confectionery, sandwiches and substantials in profusion. Previous to partaking of the sumptuous repast, the guests assembled in the auditorium of the Church and organized on Rev. Mr. Hanna assuming the chair and announcing the 133d Psalm, commencing

"Behold how good a thing it is,
And how becoming well;
Together such as brethren are,
In unity to dwell."

Which was sung by the entire audience. Rev. S. B. Reid made an eloquent and fervent appeal to the Throne of Grace, invoking Divine blessing on all in attendance, after which Rev. Dr. Douglas was invited to address the meeting, which he did at some length in his happiest manner, succeeding in putting all into good humor and breaking the ice for the enjoyment of the evening.

He was followed by William Frew, Esq., who in a serious manner announced that he had found a pocket book, and asked if anybody had lost one. Many hands went down into as many pockets, but no one discovered the loss. On opening the book it was found to contain a hundred dollar bank note, and the speaker resumed, stating that it was *found* to be over by the Committee after paying the expenses of the sociable feast out of the generous contributions made by the congregation, and he was instructed to present it as a slight token of appreciation to Mrs. Hanna, the esteemed wife of the pastor of the church, but he wanted the lady to come forward and make a speech. The intended recipient failing to put in an appearance, Rev. Mr. Hanna received the present on her behalf, making a few very pleasant remarks, and stating that such surprises had of late not been unfrequent to himself from his congregation.

Rev. J. W. Reed, in an exceedingly humorous and yet dignified little speech, next held the audience, increasing the general enjoyment. A choir of youthful voices, under the leadership of Prof. Sherratt, rendered in exquisite style a pretty psalm, at the conclusion of which supper was announced. The good things being disposed of the party returned to the auditorium and in promenade and conversation spent the balance of the evening, retiring about twelve o'clock, all much pleased with the entertainment afforded and all hoping to be present at the next occasion of the character under the management of that congregation.

Mrs. Swisshelm's Lecture

On "Suffrage," in the A. M. E. Church, Allegheny, delivered on Thursday evening, the 18th instant, to a large and appreciative audience, was worthy of the theme and the lecturer. She based the right of suffrage on the natural God given privilege of *the ruled to choose their rulers.* From her standpoint it is certainly very difficult to see how a government that has laid the black men of the country under contribution for its support, on the high places of the battle-field as well as at the offices of revenue, should any longer withhold from them the ballot.

In regard to her own sex, she believes if it be urged with any reason that it is unwomanly to vote is it quite as unladylike to pay taxes. The peculiar line of argument pursued on this important subject by Mrs. S. will hardly be set aside, nor the attempt made by any who admit her premises, viz.: That civil government is the ordinance of God, that all citizens responsible to the laws made should have a voice in their making, and that in making and administering laws the State and the nation are bound to respect the teachings of the Sacred Scriptures.

While utterly disclaiming any sympathy with those who would desire any sectarian test of citizenship in the Constitution of the country, the distinguished lecturer earnestly advocated the propriety and importance of amending the Constitution so as to acknowledge the being and government of Almighty God, and the remodeling of the oath taken by the President of the United States, so as to attach more solemnity and responsibility to that act of religious worship. It may not be generally known, nevertheless it is a fact, that the oath taken by the President, when sworn into office, is simply "Do you swear that you will do so and so," and not, as in our courts of law, generally, "Do you swear by Almighty God," etc.

We do not propose at present to notice particularly the special points of the able and interesting lecture, as we understand Mrs. Swisshelm has been formally requested by some gentlemen and ladies who heard it, and by others who did not, to repeat the lecture within a fortnight in one of the large halls of this city.

Why should not the Young Men's Library Association secure Mrs. S. for their state before the lecture season of this year is over? She has other lectures besides this one, which her many friends would be delighted to hear.