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FIRST EDITION.

MIDNIGHT.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

(SECOND SESSION.)

SENATE: Civil Service Bill Presented by Senator Schurz—Prolonged Executive Session. HOUSE: Bills and Resolutions Introduced — Reconstruction Business—Debate on the Georgia Bill—A vote will be Reached To-day.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

SENATE.

A joint resolution was passed for the publication of 85,000 copies of the eulogies on Senator Fessenden.

The House joint a resolution to annul the leasing of the Custom House block in San Francisco, was debated and adopted.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, reported favorably the bill repealing duties on canned and preserved fish, which articles had been overlooked in the bill repealing duties on preserved fruits, &c.

The House Census bill was taken up and referred to the Committee on revision of laws.

NEW CIVIL SERVICE BILL.

Mr. SCHURZ introduced a bill to reform the civil service, and addressed the Senate in explanation of its provisions. The remedies proposed by the bill for existing abuses are provided by the creation of a civil service board, whose business it will be to examine the qualifications of applicants for office, with a single eye to their fitness to discharge the duties of the place they apply for. To determine more fully than the board could by a mere examination, it is provided that the appointee shall undergo a year of probation in office, during which his superior will have ample time and opportunity to discover whether he possesses those practical qualifications necessary to make an efficient officer. The appointee, if found wanting, may remove the officer before the expiration of the year. The bill distinguishes in the civil service three classes of officials, those appointed by the President, by and with the advice of the Senate, and those who, as inferior officers, work under direction of the superior class. A bill preparing for the examination of the latter class has been introduced into the House, but the present measure includes the whole of that bill and goes one step farther, by applying a somewhat similar rule to officers to be filled by Presidential authority. In the cases of applicants for country postoffices, &c., the civil service board may, by the general rules, determine the fitness of candidates for certain offices by mere general enquiries, but in the general class of cases the board is to ascertain by inquiry or examination, or both combined, the fitness of the applicant for the duties of the place, and the President may make his selection of officials from among the whole number recommended by the board.

The bill further provides that all officers already in the service upon the creation of the board, except the class covered by Mr. Jencks' bill, shall hold office for the term of five years from the date of their commission, but the President's appointments made afterwards, in pursuance of the bill, shall be for the time of three years, and no removal in the former class shall take place except on trial and determination of the case by the board. But any inefficient officer among these may be removed by the board and the vacancy thus created shall be filled, not for the unexpired term, but for the full term of five years. Thus the people of the nation would be won from the notion that the civil service of the United States must be the working machinery of a political party, and thus eradicating the spoils system. The expirations of terms of office will not occur at one time, thus giving the civil service board and the appointing power ample time to act deliberately in making selections. Finally, the provision for removals for sufficient cause will strengthen the hands of such public officer, by insuring the recognition of official zeal and duty with performed, stimulating their ambition to base further claims upon past conduct.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Retrenchment and ordered printed.

VIRGINIA ADMISSION.

Mr. TRUMBULL, from Committee on Judiciary, reported, as a substitute for various propositions before them, a joint resolution, declaring that the State of Virginia is entitled to representation in Congress.

OCEAN CABLE COMPANY.

Mr. POMEROY introduced a bill to charter the American and Holland Ocean Cable Company, providing for direct telegraphic communication between Washington, New York, Holland and Europe generally, under the concession granted by the King of Holland to William Cornell Jewett. Referred to Committee on Foreign Relations.

The bill provides that an association of American citizens, to be approved by the President, shall be incorporated under the above title and authorized to land a cable within the jurisdiction of United States. The Co. is authorized to issue twenty year six per cent. bonds to the amount of ten million dollars, said bonds to be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States, and released by him at specified times on requisition of the company, the Government to guarantee the payment of the interest on all the bonds. The Postmaster General is empowered to contract with the company for the exclusive use by the Government of one wire from Washington to Holland, and the indebtedness thus incurred to be credited against possible payments of interest by the United States. The tariff rates for the public are to meet the approval of the President of the United States and King of Holland.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Mr. SUMNER offered a resolution, which was agreed to, requesting the President to communicate to the Senate, if compatible with public interests, copies of any correspondence between the United States and Great Britain concerning the question pending between the two countries since the rejection of the Claims Convention by the Senate.

On motion of Mr. TRUMBULL, at 1.55, Senate went into executive session.

Upon the doors being opened, shortly after 5 o'clock, Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. WILLIAMS: Relative to constitutional power of Congress to regulate and limit the tariff of rates of railroad companies extending through two or more States, and for the protection of producing States of the West.

By Mr. NIBLACK: To suspend the provisions of the act of March 15th, 1869, to strengthen the public credit until the United States shall resume payment in coin of all the obligations of the government.

Also: To regulate the appraisement and inspection of imports in certain cases.

By Mr. HAY: To distribute the number and rank of government employes among the several districts and territories.

Also: To repeal so much of the Internal Revenue laws as require agricultural societies to take out a United States license in order to hold their fairs, and to pay two per cent. on the gross receipts thereof.

By Mr. FARNSWORTH: Abolishing the franking privilege.

By Mr. LOUGHRIDGE: To provide for the payment of bounty to soldiers discharged by reason of sickness contracted in line of duty.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolutions were offered as follows:

By Mr. COX, declaring that among the evils arising out of the late civil war is that of an irredeemable paper currency; that it is one of the highest duties of the Government to secure to citizens a medium of exchange of fixed, unvarying value; that that implies a return to a specie basis; that no substitute can be received and that it should be reached at the earliest practicable moment. Referred to the Committee on Banking.

By Mr. MOORE, New York, instructing the Committee on Territories to inquire what further legislation is necessary to suppress polygamy in Utah. Adopted.

By Mr. GETZ, instructing the Postoffice Committee to incorporate in any bill that it may report for the abolition of the franking privilege, a provision allowing newspapers to be sent to actual subscribers free of postage. Referred to Postoffice Committee.

By Mr. WOODWARD, requesting information from the President whether any citizens of the United States are imprisoned or detained in military custody by army officers; and if so, to furnish their names, date of arrest, offenses charged, and statement of what measures have been taken for their trial and imprisonment. Adopted.

By Mr. SCOFIELD, instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of changing the present mode of selecting jurors for the United States Courts. Adopted.

BILL PASSED.

Mr. WASHBURNE, Wisconsin, from Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill making a temporary appropriation of $200,000 for the prosecution of works for the improvement of Des Moines Rapids in the Mississippi river.

Mr. WASHBURNE explained the necessity for the appropriation, and after some opposition the bill passed.

BANKRUPT ACT.

Mr. POLAND offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Revision of Laws to inquire whether the bankruptcy law ought not be amended, that proceedings in bankruptcy pending in one district may be transferred to another. Adopted.

INVESTIGATION ORDERED.

Mr. FITCH offered a resolution, reciting the allegation that money has been expended largely in excess of appropriations for the New York and Boston postoffices, and that the New York postoffice building has been commenced, and is progressing in an unsuitable and illegal manner, and in utter disregard of the plans authorized and approved by Congress, and instructing the Postoffice Committee to make an inspection of those postoffices, of the progress made in the buildings, the plans and probable cost, and necessity for their completion, with power to send for persons and papers. Adopted.

RECONSTRUCTION BUSINESS.

Mr. WHITTEMORE introduced a bill for the assembling of the Virginia legislature and administering the test oath to its members and officers. Referred to Committee on Reconstruction.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, informed the House that the Reconstruction Committee had postponed until after recess the joint resolution as to the admission of Virginia, because the Committee had not sufficient evidence.

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to suspend the rules that he might introduce and have passed a joint preparatory resolution declaring that Virginia has performed the required acts entitling her to representation in Congress, and that she is entitled to such representation.

The House refused to suspend the rules—yeas, 63; nays, 106.

Among the Republicans who voted for Mr. Farnsworth's motion were Messrs. Bingham, Farnsworth, Heaton, Hill, Ketchum, Lafin, Poland, Smith, (Vt.), and Wilson, (Ohio.)

CASE OF GEORGIA.

Mr. BUTLER, of Mass., then, at half past two, moved the House proceed to the business on the Speaker's table in relation to Georgia, and to report back to the House with recommendations.

A motion was made to lay that motion on the table, and the yeas and nays were called, for this was understood as the first of a series of dilatory motions. The motion was negatived—yeas 48, nays 115.

Mr. BUTLER then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the rules be suspended and the House proceed in a mass to consideration of Senate bill number 231, entitled "An act to promote reconstruction in the State of Georgia," that at four o'clock, P. M., of this day, or so soon thereafter as possible, the House shall, without dilatory motions, vote on the passage of the same.

Mr. WOOD: The gentleman proposes to allow an hour and a half for discussion.

The SPEAKER (interrupting)—The resolution is not debatable.

Mr. ELDRIDGE moved the House adjourn and demanded the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. ELDRIDGE then moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn till Wednesday.

The SPEAKER decided that under the rule that motion was not in order.

Mr. ELDRIDGE appealed from the decision.

The SPEAKER had the rule read, as follows: "Pending a motion to suspend the rules, the Speaker may entertain a motion 'that the House do now adjourn', but after the result thereon is announced, he shall not entertain any dilatory motions until the rules are in the suspension." He directed the clerk to call the roll.

Mr. ELDRIDGE—On the appeal from the decision of the Chair.

The SPEAKER (peremptorily)—The Clerk will call the roll.

The vote was then taken by yeas and nays, and the House refused to adjourn.

Mr. COX remarked that many members on his side of the House were anxious to debate the bill. He thought debate was more important than dilatory motions, and suggested that the resolution be so modified as to have the vote on the passage of the bill taken at three o'clock to-morrow.

After considerable discussion between Messrs. Cox, Butler, Voorhees, Brock and Eldridge, the resolution was modified so as to require a vote to be taken at three o'clock to-morrow, and adopted.

Mr. BINGHAM reserved his right to move to postpone the bill till the third Monday in January.

The SPEAKER stated that the resolution would not preclude a motion to postpone and amend.

The bill was then read.

Mr. BRECK offered an amendment requiring the act to take effect the next day the Legislature to be not less than thirty nor more than sixty days from the date of the Governor's proclamation, providing for elections to fill vacancies in the Legislature, and inserting the word "voluntarily" in the oath declaring that the persons taking it had not engaged in rebellion, etc.

Mr. BUTLER, of Mass., remarked that the bill had been carefully drawn by the Senate Committee and had been debated at great length in the Senate, especially by the opposition. In the mere details of bills there might be amendments offered which would or would not be of any great consequence, but any immaterial amendment would endanger the bill and endanger the lives of many good people in Georgia. One hundred and four Representatives, white and colored, had been murdered, and fifteen Representatives had been driven from their homes, and now it was proposed by the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky, that the rebel element be allowed to fill the vacancies thus created. That was a new way of changing majorities, to murder your opponents, and then ask them to select men to fill their places. And yet he understood that a gentleman (Mr. Bingham) would move to postpone the bill until the rest of the Republican majority in the Legislature might be murdered at Christmas, when the Son of God came on earth to bring peace and good will to men. If the Georgia rebels had time till the third Monday in January, they would change the majority, or at any rate would have enough killed or driven out of the State, so that when the legislature came together, and the incompetent men fairly to be weeded, there would not be a quorum by which to pass the Fifteenth Amendment, or to do any other legislative act. Then a new election would have to be ordered, and they would take care to elect men who would be just as bitter as those who would be got rid of, but who, by a stretch of conscience, would take the oath.

As to the objection that the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment might be contested hereafter, on account of the coercion of some of the southern States to ratify it, he reminded the House that in the admission of almost every State contestings precedent were expected.

Mr. BECK, member of the Reconstruction Committee, argued that the State of Georgia, having complied with all the conditions imposed by the reconstruction laws, and having been admitted to representation, was as much a sovereign State as New York or Ohio, and what power Congress did to Georgia it could with equal propriety do to New York, or Ohio, or Massachusetts. He quoted the dispatch sent by Mr. Tift to the Georgia Legislature, partly in the writing of President Grant, advising the submission to the Courts of the question of negro eligibility to hold office and then to adjourn. That advice was acted on. The question was submitted to the Courts, and the Legislature adjourned. The Circuit Court had decided against the eligibility of negroes to office, and that decision had been overruled by the Supreme Court of the State. The legislature was to meet on the second Monday in January, and this bill proposed to anticipate the action of the legislature and to throw the whole matter into the hands of Gov. Bullock, who was charged with misappropriating the funds of the State, and he was afraid of impeachment by the legislature. In this connection he sent to the Clerk's desk, and had read, a letter to himself from the State Treasurer, a leading Republican, charging Gov. Bullock with many specific acts of misappropriation of State funds.

Mr. BUTLER inquired whether Gov. Bullock had not testified this morning, before the Reconstruction Committee, that his transactions with the funds of the State had been referred to a Committee of the Legislature, which had exonerated him?

Mr. BECK replied that Governor Bullock's statement was that such of those matters as had occurred and were known before the adjournment of the Legislature, because many of them had occurred since, he had referred them to a Legislative Committee, and a majority of the Committee had decided in his favor, but the Legislature itself had overruled the report and had adopted the minority report, refusing to exonerate him, and to day the Legislature held the whip over him, subject to impeachment. Without concluding his speech, Mr. Beck yielded to a motion for a recess, and the House, at 4:40, took a recess until half past seven.

Evening Session.

The House was full. There were not many members in attendance, but the galleries were well filled.

Mr. BECK continued his argument in opposition to the bill. Referring to the letter read from the State Treasurer, making charges against Gov. Bullock, he said that Governor Bullock had been with him this morning to Gov. Bullock, so he might contradict the charges, if he could find any other State, when he left his, had successfully done so. If the charges were true, Gov. Bullock was of all men the very last upon Congress should select for the absolute despotism, the bill proposed, over the State of Georgia. If Congress were determined to turn Georgia out of the Union, and remove her to the condition of a conquered province or territorial dependency, let her be treated as such. Congress by the union the charge of a man who would do justice to her. Governor Bullock had himself this morning in the committee room admitted he could not take a test oath, as he had in the capacity of express agent given aid and support to the Confederacy. Speaking of President Grant's allusion to Georgia in his annual message, he declared his belief that the President was misled into the impression that the State his language would receive, and said if he believed that President Grant had deliberately, intentionally and in face of the fact that Georgia was a representative State, advised Congress to seize her and throw her out of the Union, he would denounce the scheme as the most infamous ever tendered to an American Congress.

As to the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment, he predicted that the States of the Union never would admit that a constitutional amendment, thus forced upon Georgia and other States of the South, should ever be regarded as binding. Congress might as well ratify for Georgia as to order her to do it. He believed and hoped the great States of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio would not be intimidated, nor induced upon them by the coercion and duress of the States of the South, refuse to change the State constitutions in obedience to the mandate of Congress, and appeal to the courts to sustain them. There was not a court in the country that would not sustain their position.

Mr. WINANS argued in support of the bill, and held that the admission of Representatives from Georgia had been duly by the House, but constitutes her full admission into the Union, so long as she was not also represented in the Senate, but it mattered not, in his view, whether Georgia had or had not been regularly admitted, for her Constitution was void in consequence of subsidiary, and if that Constitution had been transplied on and violated by the expulsion of twenty members, and the violation of the conditions, and Congress was justified in resuming control of the State.

Mr. WOODWARD argued that the whole head and front of the offense of Georgia was that its Legislature erred in a question of law, and if anybody ever deserved pity for a mistake in law it was remedied by the annihilation of the State in which it took place? Had Gen. Grant never made a mistake in law? Had he never been in any doubt about the Spanish gunboats? He had admitted he had been, and was, at the time, therefore, to be put to death, because he had made a mistake? There was not a day that the highest courts of the land did not differ in opinion, and yet it seemed perfectly clear to General Grant's mind, by his message, that the only remedy for a doubtful question of law in Georgia was to annihilate Georgia. He argued further, that the Legislature of Georgia being dispersed and not in session, had not had any opportunity of showing whether it would or would not conform to the Fifteenth Amendment. Georgia's solid Republican right of the negro to hold office, and thought the proposition of Mr. Bingham to postpone this bill until the third Monday in January, the Legislature being called to meet on the second Monday in January, was scrofulous in that gentleman's head and heart. But it seemed one object of the bill was to get Governor Bullock and Foster Blodgett into the Senate of the United States.

Another object, it seemed, was the ratification of the XVth Constitutional Amendment, but such ratification was worth nothing. He trusted there was virtue enough in the Judiciary, notwithstanding the threats made by this side of the Capitol, to declare the whole thing void. He believed the Judiciary would be compelled so to declare, and he trusted it would. The American people seemed to suppose the Amendment was simply to establish negro suffrage, overlooking the 2d section of it, which gives Congress power to pass all needful laws to enforce it. When that amendment should be adopted, so that Congress could send its military into every State to enforce its views on suffrage, there would be an end of the liberties of the people. The amendment was designed by its framers to be the last screw in the coffin of American liberty.

As to the 7th section of the bill, which directs the President, upon the application of the Governor of Georgia, to employ the military and naval forces of the United States in enforcing the act, he declared that if the army and navy could be used to Georgia under command of Governor Bullock, the same thing might be done in regard to Pennsylvania, New York or any other State, whenever the passions of the hour demanded that the iniquity should be done. He knew of no permission which the enormity of human malice could suggest which had not been practiced on the people of the South.

He appealed to the House to postpone this bill. He was willing to hold *terrores* over the Legislature. Let the Legislature meet, and if it did not conform to the judicial opinion on this very nice and doubtful proposition, let Congress punish Georgia as it chooses with some such bill as this.

Mr. FITCH supported the bill on the ground that if any State violated the compact on which she was admitted as a State, Congress had the right to resume its jurisdiction over it. Otherwise the government would be imbecile.

Mr. MORGAN addressed the House in opposition to the bill. He said he had been one of those who, to the best of his ability, had maintained the government in the late war, but he now declared his solemn conviction that the single object of the bill then leaders of the Republican party was the subversion of the free institutions of the country and a desire for war to that end. So anxious was the administration of Mr. Lincoln that the rebellion should assume a form, and that an army should appear in the field, that after Fort Sumter had been fired on Mr. Lincoln's administration furnished to the rebellion its great leaders. Robert E. Lee, Joseph E. Johnson, Albert Sidney Johnston and General Longstreet, whose resignations were accepted by Mr. Lincoln after the firing on Fort Sumter.

Mr. STEVENSON said he would like to know what his colleague, as a military man, would have had the President do when officers tendered their resignation?

Mr. MORGAN—I thank the gentleman for his question. No soldier would have any difficulty in answering it. What would I have had the President of the United States do when an officer of the army proposed to resign his commission for the purpose of taking up arms against the national flag and against the national Constitution? I would have put him under arrest.

Mr. STEVENSON—Anything else?

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Mr. MORGAN—We have now had the glare of the guns fired on Sumter, and the resounding echoes of cannon that came to us from the palmetto plains of South Carolina, and yet the gentleman asks for proof!

Mr. STEVENSON—If for their evil intention they should have been arrested, what should have been done with them now for their evil deeds? [Laughter on the floor and applause in the galleries.]

Mr. MORGAN—Ah! the gentleman has his cohorts in the rear, the position which the gentleman occupied during the war. Never mind, I have no difficulty in rallying to my friend and colleague. We put arms in the hands of these men. We gave to the rebels chieftains to organize and lead them and form them in battle array. We fought them like men as they fought us. We conquered them. They surrendered like brave men. They kept their faces like brave men, as we should keep ours.

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Mr. STEVENSON—There were not many members in attendance, but the galleries were well filled.

Mr. BECK concluded his argument in opposition to the bill. Referring to the letter read from the State Treasurer, making charges against Gov. Bullock, he said that Governor Bullock had been with him this morning to Gov. Bullock, so he might contradict the charges, if he could find any other State, when he left his, had successfully done so. If the charges were true, Gov. Bullock was of all men the very last upon Congress should select for the absolute despotism, the bill proposed, over the State of Georgia. If Congress were determined to turn Georgia out of the Union, and remove her to the condition of a conquered province or territorial dependency, let her be treated as such. Congress by the union the charge of a man who would do justice to her. Governor Bullock had himself this morning in the committee room admitted he could not take a test oath, as he had in the capacity of express agent given aid and support to the Confederacy. Speaking of President Grant's allusion to Georgia in his annual message, he declared his belief that the President was misled into the impression that the State his language would receive, and said if he believed that President Grant had deliberately, intentionally and in face of the fact that Georgia was a representative State, advised Congress to seize her and throw her out of the Union, he would denounce the scheme as the most infamous ever tendered to an American Congress.

As to the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment, he predicted that the States of the Union never would admit that a constitutional amendment, thus forced upon Georgia and other States of the South, should ever be regarded as binding. Congress might as well ratify for Georgia as to order her to do it. He believed and hoped the great States of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio would not be intimidated, nor induced upon them by the coercion and duress of the States of the South, refuse to change the State constitutions in obedience to the mandate of Congress, and appeal to the courts to sustain them. There was not a court in the country that would not sustain their position.

Mr. WINANS argued in support of the bill, and held that the admission of Representatives from Georgia had been duly by the House, but constitutes her full admission into the Union, so long as she was not also represented in the Senate, but it mattered not, in his view, whether Georgia had or had not been regularly admitted, for her Constitution was void in consequence of subsidiary, and if that Constitution had been transplied on and violated by the expulsion of twenty members, and the violation of the conditions, and Congress was justified in resuming control of the State.

Mr. WOODWARD argued that the whole head and front of the offense of Georgia was that its Legislature erred in a question of law, and if anybody ever deserved pity for a mistake in law it was remedied by the annihilation of the State in which it took place? Had Gen. Grant never made a mistake in law? Had he never been in any doubt about the Spanish gunboats? He had admitted he had been, and was, at the time, therefore, to be put to death, because he had made a mistake? There was not a day that the highest courts of the land did not differ in opinion, and yet it seemed perfectly clear to General Grant's mind, by his message, that the only remedy for a doubtful question of law in Georgia was to annihilate Georgia. He argued further, that the Legislature of Georgia being dispersed and not in session, had not had any opportunity of showing whether it would or would not conform to the Fifteenth Amendment. Georgia's solid Republican right of the negro to hold office, and thought the proposition of Mr. Bingham to postpone this bill until the third Monday in January, the Legislature being called to meet on the second Monday in January, was scrofulous in that gentleman's head and heart. But it seemed one object of the bill was to get Governor Bullock and Foster Blodgett into the Senate of the United States.

Another object, it seemed, was the ratification of the XVth Constitutional Amendment, but such ratification was worth nothing. He trusted there was virtue enough in the Judiciary, notwithstanding the threats made by this side of the Capitol, to declare the whole thing void. He believed the Judiciary would be compelled so to declare, and he trusted it would. The American people seemed to suppose the Amendment was simply to establish negro suffrage, overlooking the 2d section of it, which gives Congress power to pass all needful laws to enforce it. When that amendment should be adopted, so that Congress could send its military into every State to enforce its views on suffrage, there would be an end of the liberties of the people. The amendment was designed by its framers to be the last screw in the coffin of American liberty.

As to the 7th section of the bill, which directs the President, upon the application of the Governor of Georgia, to employ the military and naval forces of the United States in enforcing the act, he declared that if the army and navy could be used to Georgia under command of Governor Bullock, the same thing might be done in regard to Pennsylvania, New York or any other State, whenever the passions of the hour demanded that the iniquity should be done. He knew of no permission which the enormity of human malice could suggest which had not been practiced on the people of the South.

He appealed to the House to postpone this bill. He was willing to hold *terrores* over the Legislature. Let the Legislature meet, and if it did not conform to the judicial opinion on this very nice and doubtful proposition, let Congress punish Georgia as it chooses with some such bill as this.

Mr. FITCH supported the bill on the ground that if any State violated the compact on which she was admitted as a State, Congress had the right to resume its jurisdiction over it. Otherwise the government would be imbecile.

Mr. MORGAN addressed the House in opposition to the bill. He said he had been one of those who, to the best of his ability, had maintained the government in the late war, but he now declared his solemn conviction that the single object of the bill then leaders of the Republican party was the subversion of the free institutions of the country and a desire for war to that end. So anxious was the administration of Mr. Lincoln that the rebellion should assume a form, and that an army should appear in the field, that after Fort Sumter had been fired on Mr. Lincoln's administration furnished to the rebellion its great leaders. Robert E. Lee, Joseph E. Johnson, Albert Sidney Johnston and General Longstreet, whose resignations were accepted by Mr. Lincoln after the firing on Fort Sumter.

Mr. STEVENSON said he would like to know what his colleague, as a military man, would have had the President do when officers tendered their resignation?

Mr. MORGAN—I thank the gentleman for his question. No soldier would have any difficulty in answering it. What would I have had the President of

SECOND EDITION.

FOUR O'CLOCK, A. M.

THE CAPITAL.

E. M. Stanton Nominated and Confirmed to the U. S. Supreme Court—Text of the Georgia Bill—Official Correspondence on Cuban Affairs.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, December 20.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President sent to the Senate the following nominations:

Edwin M. Stanton, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court vice Rob't C. Grier, resigned.

George W. Ward, to be surgeon in the Navy; Wells R. Bell, Surveyor of Customs, at Selma, Alabama; Jas. Shields, Collector of Internal Revenue, Third district of Western Virginia; also several Postmasters, including Wm. H. Needham, at Oaksloosa, Indiana.

As soon as the nomination of Mr. Stanton was read in the executive session, it was confirmed by 46 against 11.

THE GEORGIA BILL.

The following is a copy of the bill to promote the reconstruction of the State of Georgia as it finally passed the Senate at an early hour on Saturday morning:

Be it enacted, &c. That the Governor of the State of Georgia be and hereby is authorized and directed forthwith, by proclamation, to summon all persons elected to the General Assembly of said State, as appears by the proclamation of Brevet Major General Meade, commanding the military district including the State of Georgia, dated June 25th, 1868, to appear on some convenient day, to be named in said proclamation, at Atlanta, in said State, and thereupon said General Assembly shall proceed to perfect its organization in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States, according to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 2. That when the members so elected to said Senate and House of Representatives shall be convened as aforesaid, each and every member, and each and every person claiming to be elected as a member of said Senate or House of Representatives, shall be required to take the oath or oaths required by the Constitution of Georgia, also take and subscribe and file in the office of the Secretary of State of Georgia one of the following oaths or affirmations, namely:

"I do solemnly swear or affirm, (as the case may be) that I have never held office or exercised the duties of a Senator or Representative in Congress, nor have been a member of the legislature of any State of the United States, nor held any civil office created by law for the administration of any general law of the United States, or the administration of justice in any State or under the laws of the United States, nor held any office in the military or naval service of the United States, and thereafter engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to enemies, or rendered, except in consequence of direct physical force, any support or aid to any insurrection or rebellion against the United States, nor held any office under or given any support to any government of any kind or character acting in hostility to the United States or levying war against the United States. So help me God, or on the pains and penalties of perjury," (as the case may be.)

Which oath or affirmation, when so taken, will be entered on record by the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia, and said oath or affirmation, or a copy of the record thereof, duly certified by said Secretary of State, shall be evidence in all courts and places, and every person claiming to be so elected who shall refuse or decline to take the oath or be unable to take one of said oaths or affirmations above provided, shall not be admitted to a seat in said Senate or House of Representatives, or to a participation in the proceedings thereof, but shall be deemed ineligible to such seats.

Sec. 3. That the persons elected as aforesaid and entitled to compose such Legislature, and who shall comply with the provisions of this act by taking one of the oaths or affirmations above prescribed, shall thereupon proceed, in said Senate and House of Representatives to which they have been elected respectively, to reorganize said Senate and House of Representatives respectively, by the election and qualification of the proper officers of each House.

Sec. 3. That if any person claiming to be elected to said Senate or House of Representatives as aforesaid shall falsely take either of said oaths of affirmation above provided, he shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and shall suffer the pains and penalties thereof, and may be tried, convicted and punished therefor by the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Georgia, in which district said crime was committed, and the jurisdiction of said Court shall be sole and exclusively for the purpose aforesaid.

Sec. 4. That if any person shall by force, violence or fraud willfully hinder or interrupt any person or persons elected as aforesaid from taking either of the oaths or affirmations prescribed by this act, or from participation in the proceedings of said Senate or House of Representatives, upon the ground of race, color or previous condition of servitude, would be illegal and revolutionary, and is hereby prohibited.

Sec. 5. That upon the application of the Governor of Georgia, the President of the United States shall employ such military or naval forces of the United States, as may be necessary to enforce and execute the provisions of this act.

Sec. 6. That the Legislature shall ratify the Fifteenth Amendment, proposed to the Constitution of the United States, before Senators and Representatives elected to Congress from Georgia are admitted to seats in Congress.

CUBAN MATTERS.

The President to-day transmitted to the Senate a voluminous document in reply to the resolution calling for information with regard to Cuba. There is little new in the correspondence submitted, which includes Secretary Fish's protest against the Captain General's authorization for the capture on high seas or vessels carrying men, arms and munitions of war in aid of the insurgents, which was subsequently revoked; the Secretary's announcement that our government will not depart from its traditional policy of enforcing strict neutrality, while acknowledging that the sympathy of our people is with all efforts to free this continent from trans-Atlantic control; the Secretary's protest in the name of civilization and humanity against Valmaseda's barbarous proclamation; his demand upon the Spanish government for compensation to the families of Speakman and Wyke, citizens of the United States, executed at Santiago; his demand for the undoubtedly of the Captain Generals decree