The Somerset Herald.

WEDNESDAY - - - - - - February 21, 1877.

THE Electoral Commission decided on Friday last that the vote of Louisiana is to be counted for Hayes and Wheeler. This, with the previous decision that Florida was to be counted the same way, has utterly demoralized the Democracy, for Oregon is morally certain to follow, and thus the votes of the three so-called "doubtfully States" being cast for Hayes (as they should have been without all this excitement and delay) he is entitled to, and doubtless will be inaugurated on the 5th day of March. The Democracy however are desperate, and are wildly scheming to delay the further count, until after that date. Some of the most violent swearing that if Tilden can not be inaugurated Hayes shall not be. Let us hope however that wiser counsels will prevail, and that the country may be spared the necessity of thrashing these political knaves into obedience to the law of their own enacting.

THE "Stay law" has been defeated in the Legislature.

THE rampant Democratic journals now style the Electoral Commission "the packed jury," and advise their parties on it, to break it up. Who packed that jury?

THE Compromise bill was a Democratic measure, carried through by Democratic votes, and was supported by nine-tenths of the Democratic papers in the country.

Why do the heathen rage?

AFTER the decision of the Electoral Commission that the vote of Florida, was to be counted for Hayes, the Democratic House with owlish solemnity on Wednesday last, by a vote of 142 to 80 passed a resolution declaring that the Tilden Electors were duly elected in Florida.

AND now the great "Moral reformer" Samuel J. Tilden, has crept out of the payment of another debt for which he was sued, by pleading the "Statute of limitations."

In the action of debt brought against him by Mr. Boody of New York, one of his former partners, he escaped payment last week of $26,000 by interposing this plea.

THE editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, who wanted 100,000 armed Democrats to attend the counting of the Electoral vote, has regained his senses or his sobriety. He now says; "With all other Democrats, we believed our case was too strong to be overthrown; but, with other Democrats, we submitted our case to the Commission, and we, of course with some disappointment, but in perfect good faith, acquiesce in the judgment.

THE spirit of murder evoked by the Democrats of the South, as a means of carrying the late elections, is bearing its legitimate and bloody fruit. A rival to Wilkes Booth has turned up in New Orleans, but, fortunately, his attempt to copy the murderous deed of that assassin, failed. While Governor Packard was conversing with a friend in the executive chamber, three men presented themselves at the outside door and asked for admission, one of them representing himself to be a correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*. Although their actions were suspicious, two of the men were allowed to come into the Governor's rooms. The one who claimed to be a newspaper man took a seat near the Governor, while the other remained standing at the door. When the Governor turned around to listen to what the stranger had to say, a pistol was thrust in his face. He had the presence of mind to seize the barrel and turn the muzzle towards the floor before the assassin had time to pull the trigger. The ball struck him in the knee. The Governor wrenched the pistol from the would-be-murderer and then knocked him down. A bystander drew a pistol and shot the man through the arm, and would have blown his brains out if the Governor had not made him desist.

ONE W. J. Purman, elected to Congress two years since, by the Republicans of Florida, and who during the late excitement as to how that State had voted, repeatedly telegraphed North that it had unquestionably gone for Hayes and Wheeler, last week to the extreme delight of the Democracy, "flopped over to them, and proclaimed in a speech in the House, that there was no doubt that its vote had been cast for Tilden. In this however the Electoral Commission differed with Mr. Purman, and to his intense disgust, as well as that of his new owners, Florida has been counted for Hayes. This fellow Purman is that most despised of all things in Democratic eyes, a "carpet-bagger," hailing originally from Centre county, in this State, and it is openly charged after trying to induce the Republicans to purchase his continued fealty to the party, and meeting with no success, sold out, body and breeches to the Democracy. He was beaten at the late election, and has a contest for his seat on hand, and expects by being placed on the roll by the Democratic clerk at organization of the next House, to draw pay for another year before the contest is ended, and he is ousted. The Democracy will find their investment in Purman about as profitable as that made in the purchase of Cronin, to secure the Electoral vote of Oregon.

THE bad faith, and lack of common honesty and decency in the Democratic party leaders, is again made conspicuous in their conduct relative to the Electoral Commission. They forced this method of deciding the Presidential question upon the country, bitterly denounced the Republicans for not readily accepting it, and exulted immoderately over the passage of the bill. Now however, that it has been determined that the votes of Florida and Louisiana must be counted for the Republican candidates, they fling aside all pretense to decency and honor, and denounce the Republican Judges and members of the Commission as perjurers and bribe-takers, and are frantically casting about, for means to defeat and set aside its decision. Conspicuous in this base and dishonest conduct is the New York *Sun*, the home organ of Tilden. The Democracy never were known to keep faith when their selfish interests were at stake, and this is but another conspicuous evidence of their lack of all moral principle.

WE are about touching hard-pan in the matter of the Oregon fraud, and a greater piece of scoundrelism and attempt at bold trickery was never unearthed. The Senate Committee has obtained the key to the cypher dispatches that passed between the high contracting parties in New York and Oregon, and it is almost demonstrated that Tilden was himself a party to and a participant in the rascally fraud, cooked up by Gov. Grover, Senator Kelley, Col. Pelton, Tilden's nephew and private Secretary, and a fellow named Patrick. The whole conspiracy is fully set forth in the following article which we find in the New York *Times*. Says that journal:

Let us hope that the worst of the Tilden conspiracy to steal the Presidency is out at last. Certainly there ought to be no lower depth of infamy than that revealed in the dispatches between Gramercy Park and Oregon. Reading these telegrams, the American people will see a candidate for the Presidency, a man who claims to be elected to that high office, conspiring with men to bribe Electors and fraudulently to obtain the Electoral vote of a sovereign State. This iniquity cannot be put off upon some irresponsible agent. The negotiations are made directly with Tilden and Tilden's nephew, Pelton. The communications are sent to Tilden's own house, No. 15 Gramercy Park. This infamous correspondence, so far as now made public, begins with Nov. 28. There were other dispatches to prepare the way, but on that date Patrick, confidential agent in Oregon for Tilden, telegraphed as follows:

PORTLAND, Nov. 28.
W. T. Pelton, No. 15, Gramercy Park, New York:
Certificate will be issued to one Democrat. Must purchase a Republican Elector to recognize and act with the Democrats and secure the vote and prevent trouble. Deposit $10,000 to my credit with Kountze Brothers, Wall street. Answer.
J. H. N. PATRICK.
I fully indorse this.
JAMES K. KELLY.

This needs little explanation to one familiar with the history of the Oregon conspiracy. There was one Democrat—Cronin—who claimed the right to participate in the Electoral College of Oregon. Patrick tells Tilden, through his nephew, that Gov. Grover will give Cronin his certificate; but, in order to get him into the Electoral College, the vote of one Republican Elector must be bought, "to prevent trouble." He wants $10,000 deposited to his (Patrick's) credit in New-York. Kelly Democratic Senator from Oregon, telegraphs his indorsement of this proposition to bribe an Elector. But $10,000 seemed too much money to risk on what appeared to be a doubtful venture. Tilden or his managing man replied thus:

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.
J. H. N. Patrick, Portland, Oregon:
No. How soon will Governor decide certificate? If you make obligation contingent on result in March, it can be done and increamble slightly, if necessary.

This was exercising that foxy caution for which the "railroad lawyer" is so famous. No cash to be paid until it was known when Grover would settle the business by giving Cronin his certificate. Even then, if possible, Tilden would pay in March, and the payment should be "increamble," or to be added to. He would pay "slightly" more in March than in November. But, at all events, the bribe must be "contingent on result." The wary candidate would not buy promises. On the next day, the Democratic conspirators in Oregon, seeing that Tilden expected to buy Grover as well as the rest of the crew, sent this reassuring message:

PORTLAND, Nov. 30.
W. T. Pelton, No. 15 Gramercy Park, New York:
Governor all right without reward. Will issue certificate Tuesday. This a secret. Republicans threaten if certificate is issued to ignore Democrats' claims and fill vacancy, and thus defeat action of Governor. One Elector must be paid to recognize Democrat to secure majority. Have employed three lawyers; editor of only Republican paper as one lawyer; fee, $3,000. Will take $5,000 for Republican Elector; must raise money; can't make fee contingent. Sail Saturday. Kelly and Bellinger will act. Communicate with them. Must act promptly.

This was Thursday, Nov. 30, when Grover was judicially hearing arguments on the question of the eligibility of Watts. The certificates were to be issued on Tuesday, Dec. 5, and this model Governor authorizes the statement that he will commission "one Democrat," which was Cronin. But Patrick, who sends this dispatch, has the grace to add "this is a secret." He insists that one Republican Elector must be bribed. Grover is "all right without reward." He is unselfish enough to waive his share of the corruption fund. Patrick explains that it will take $5,000 to buy up the Republican Electors, and that $3,000 must be paid as a retaining fee to the editor of "the only Republican paper, as a lawyer." Here let us say that no bribe could move a Republican Elector. The "only Republican paper" was the *Oregonian*, the mercenary editor of which appeared in the mock proceedings before the Governor, and in his paper, as a defender of Cronin's right to a certificate. There must be no "contingent fee" in this case, says Patrick: terms cash. Still Gramercy Park demurred. The barrel of money was running low, and this plaintive message was sent in reply:

The poor old man thought that the trick afterward tried in Florida would be cheaper. Let the Legislature be called together before Tuesday, Dec. 5, and legislate Cronin into office. But, while this dispatch was going over the wires, Grover sent the famous "Gobble" telegram, five days before his decision could be publicly announced. It reads as follows:

PORTLAND, Oregon, Dec. 1.
To Samuel J. Tilden, No. 15 Gramercy Park, N. Y.:
I shall decide every point in the case of Post Office Elector in favor of the highest Democratic Elector, and grant the certificate accordingly on morning of 6th inst.
[Confidential.] GOVERNOR.

Grover wastes no words with Pelton, or any other agent. He informs the illustrious reformer himself that he shall decide all the points, no matter what they may be, against the Republicans. In the meantime, however, the request to convene the Legislature had been considered. In his dispatch of Thursday, Nov. 30, Patrick had said that he should sail on Saturday, which was Dec. 2. On that day, accordingly, "K. for P."—that is to say, Kelly for Patrick—telegraphed this precious message:

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.
W. T. Pelton, No. 15 Gramercy Park, New York:
Impossible to convene Legislature. P. left before telegraph arrived. Can't draw the eight deposit. Charles Dimon, No. 115 Liberty street, to order Bush & Ladd, Salem. Must have it Monday. Can't understand "laughable" Everett House last your telegram.
K. for P.

Kelly was in trouble. The Legislature could not be convened. Patrick, the arch-conspirator, had gone. Kelley could not draw the $8,000 which had been deposited, in the meantime, to Patrick's order, and he could not make out what "laughable" meant in one of the conspirators' cipher dispatches. Poor Kelly! his troubles have only just begun. Next he telegraphed that Patrick might be reached at Salt Lake City, about Monday following, "for three thereabouts." In the meantime, he complains that he must borrow money on his individual responsibility, and, he begs, "I trust you can replace it." Gramercy Park replied, Dec. 3, to "go ahead," and added: "You shall be reimbursed. Do not fail. All-important." But money, money, more money was demanded by the Oregon accomplices, and on the 5th December, the day before the Electors were to meet in Salem, they again cried thus:

SALEM, Oregon, Dec. 5.
W. T. Pelton, No. 15 Gramercy Park, New York:
Can't you deposit the eight, Charles Dimond, subject the order Ladd & Bush, Salem? Can't get money here; must have it Wednesday. Telegraph me Salem. Vier will not fail.
DOCTRINAL.

"Doctrinal" might have been Bristol Bill. It was probably Kelley. The "Vier" who would not fail was undoubtedly Grover, Governor of Oregon, though it might have been Reddy the Blacksmith, or Jerry the sneak, or any other dead or living rascal. The much desired "eight," the $8,000, since unearthed in the New York accounts, was sent by way of San Francisco. We know now that Ladd, the Oregon banker, arrived at the State-house, breathless, in the midst of the Electoral College preparations. This is the dispatch which shows that the long-expected cash was placed to the order of his firm, as the persistent Kelly had implored:

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6.
Hon. James K. Kelly:
The eight deposited as directed this morning. Let no technicality prevent winning. Use your discretion.

This closed the correspondence. The plotters at one end had their money. The plotters at the other end had bagged a Tilden Elector at last. This was on the 6th of December. There was joy in Gramercy Park that night; and on the 7th the Democratic newspapers were jubilant. They lauded the patriotism of Grover, Cronin, and the rest of the gang, and flouted the suggestion that this business had been underhanded or corrupt. The thieves' jargon used by the Democratic candidate for the Presidency has been translated into the language which honest men read and understand. Tilden's friends in Congress insisted upon having all election dispatches made public. Let us try to believe that they like this particular array of telegrams, and that they admire the figure which Tilden cuts in them.

South Carolina.

WASHINGTON, February 18.—Representative Sayler, of Ohio, the chairman of the South Carolina Investigating Committee, will make his report to-morrow. It says many mistakes and inaccuracies were found in the different returns. Some of these were signed by one and some by two managers, but if all the returns affected by such irregularities were rejected it would not change the result. The result by ascertaining the vote cast at all the precincts and correcting the mistakes made by the managers in the returns shows that Bowen received the smallest vote on the Republican Electoral ticket, namely, 92,023 votes, and McGowan, who received the largest vote on the Democratic ticket, 91,262 votes, a majority of 831 votes.

A Woman's Vengeance.

ST. PAUL, Minn., February 17.—At Minneapolis, last evening, about 6:30 o'clock, Wm. H. Sidle, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of that city, was shot in the head and mortally wounded by a young woman named Kate Noonan. Sidle was a young man highly connected, and the affair creates a great deal of excitement. Miss Noonan claims that Sidle seduced and then deserted her. The shooting occurred on the street, in front of the Nicollet Hotel, and was witnessed by several persons. The woman was immediately arrested, and betrays no remorse for the deed. Sidle died soon after 12 o'clock this morning.

Thirty Houses Burned.

SAG HARBOR, N. Y., February 17.—A fire broke out at one o'clock this morning and entirely destroyed over thirty buildings, burning over an area a quarter of a mile long by five hundred feet wide. The loss is estimated at over $150,000 on the buildings, and about $50,000 on stock. Numerous buildings remote from the conflagration caught fire from sparks and were more or less damaged.

Senator Ferry's Pen.

Senator Ferry, President *pro tem* of the Senate, to-day received from Montana, a feather over two feet long, from a black eagle, the sender saying that he wanted him to certify the election with it, and asking him, in case Hayes is counted in, to use the quill part, and in case Tilden is counted in, to use the feathered end.

William Green Hanged in Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, Feb., 12—William Green, convicted of the murder of his half-brother, Samuel Marshall, was hanged in this city at noon to-day. The murder was committed at Mansfield, September 4, 1875.

Electoral Tribunal.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR HAYES.

The Vote of Lousiana to be Cast for Him.

From twelve to five o'clock this afternoon, there was a large crowd in front of the Supreme Court doors, the number gradually increasing to more than five hundred. Members of Congress occasionally mixed with the throng, awaiting impatiently the opening of the court room, which did not take place until an hour later than that already announced. During all the afternoon rumors prevailed about the Capitol as to the decision of the Commission and state of the vote. These reports were so contradictory as to be confusing, and therefore did not gain credence. There was much consequent excitement. Everybody supposed to have opportunities for acquiring information as to the proceedings of the Commission was surrounded. Directly he appeared in view, and interrogated by several persons at the same time. A more inquisitive crowd was never before, perhaps, seen at the Capitol. At five o'clock the Council were sent for. They had been waiting for the summons in the private room of the Supreme Court, and when advised that the Commission were prepared to receive them, they entered the Court room in a body. Some time elapsed before the doors were opened to members of Congress and those who had tickets of admission, and when they were opened a frantic rush was made for the interior, which was soon uncomfortably filled.

The following are resolutions acted upon by the Commission in their secret session, and afterwards submitted to their counsel. Mr. Hoar submitted the following:

Ordered, That evidence be not received.

Mr. Abbott offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the evidence be received to show that so much of the act of Louisiana establishing the Returning Board for that State is unconstitutional, and the acts of said Returning Board are void.

This was rejected by the following vote: Yeas—Messrs Abbott, Bayard, Clifford, Field, Hunton, Payne and Thurman—7. Nays—Messrs Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Garfield, Hoar, Miller, Morton and Strong—8.

Mr. Abbott offered another substitute, as follows.

Resolved, That evidence will be received to show that the Returning Board of Louisiana, at the time of canvassing and compiling the vote of that State at the late election in that State, was not legally constituted under the law establishing it in this, that it was composed of four persons of one political party, instead of five persons of different parties.

Rejected by the same vote.

Mr. Abbott then offered another substitute:

Resolved, That the Commission will receive testimony on the subject of frauds alleged in the specification of counsel for objectors to certificates Nos. 1 and 2.

Rejected by the same vote. Mr. Abbott then offered a fourth substitute.

Resolved, That testimony tending to show that the so-called Returning Board of Louisiana had no jurisdiction to canvass the votes for electors for President and Vice President is inadmissible.

Rejected by the same vote. Mr. Abbot offered a fifth, which was rejected by the same vote, which was as follows:

Resolved, That evidence is admissible that the statements and affidavits purporting to have been made and forwarded to said Returning Board in pursuance of the provisions of section 25 of the election law of 1872, alleging riot, tumult, intimidation and violence at or near certain polls and in certain parishes, were false and fabricated and forged by certain disreputable persons under the direction and knowledge of said Returning Board; that said Returning Board, knowing said statements and affidavits to be false and forged, and that none of such statements and affidavits were made in the manner or form or within the time required by law, did knowingly, wilfully and fraudulently fail and refuse to canvass or compile more than 10,000 votes cast, as is shown by the Commissioners of Election.

Mr. Hunton offered a sixth substitute, as follows:

Resolved, That evidence be received to prove that the votes cast and given at said election on the 7th of November last, as shown by the return made by the Commissioners of Election for said polls and voting places in said State, have never been compiled nor canvassed, and that said Returning Board never even pretended to compile or canvass the returns by said Commissioners of Election, but that said Returning Board only pretended to canvass or compile the returns made by the State Supervisors of Registration.

Rejected by the same vote. A seventh substitute was offered by Mr. Bayard, as follows:

Resolved, That no person holding an office of profit or trust under the United States is eligible to be appointed an elector, and that this Commission will receive evidence tending to prove said ineligibility as offered by counsel for the objectors to certificates Nos. 1 and 3.

Rejected by the same vote. Justice Field offered an eighth and last substitute, as follows.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Commission evidence is admissible upon the several matters which counsel for objectors to certificates Nos. 1 and 3 offered to prove.

This was also rejected by the same vote, and the question on the original order submitted by Mr. Hoar came up, viz: That the evidence offered be not received.

Mr. Payne moved to strike out the word "not." Rejected by the same vote. The vote on the original order was then taken, and it was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Garfield, Hoar, Miller, Morton and Strong—8.

Nays—Messrs. Abbott, Bayard, Clifford, Field, Hunton, Payne, and Thurman—7.

After a conclusion had been reached by the Commission, counsel were admitted and the above resolutions were read by the Secretary.

As soon as the final vote had been taken, Justice Field moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the proceedings of the Commission, and it was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Hoar inquired of the chair whether any of the time to which counsel were entitled under the order of the Commission remained or whether it had been exhausted. The chair replied that the time of the objectors to Nos 1 and 3 was exhausted. On the part of objectors to Certificate No. 2, [illegible] remained, but the time had been substantially exhausted.

Mr. Payne moved that one hour be given to each side by the [illegible] to sum up the case.

Mr. Garfield said the order had been already made that [illegible] should have four and one-half hours, and that time should be used as they chose in interlocutory questions. He considered that he ought to stand on the order, and should vote against the motion the counsel themselves had not yet asked.

Judge Clifford asked if they were satisfied to rest their case. Mr. Evarts said they were satisfied with the case as it stood.

Justice Clifford asked if opposing counsel also agreed to it. Judge Campbell said they had nothing to add under the circumstances.

Commissioner Morton moved that three members of the Commission be appointed to prepare a report in the Louisiana case, and that a recess of one hour be taken.

Commissioner Strong said the question that had been passed upon was the question of the admissibility of evidence, and he thought they now ought to go into the merits of the case.

Then, on motion of Commissioner Hoar, the Commission, at 5:30, went into secret session for consultation.

Commissioner Payne moved that one hour be allowed each side in which to make arguments by the Commission.

Commissioner Garfield said that the order pursued yesterday, giving four and a half hours to each side to argue the whole question, was interrupted by the offer of testimony, and it was then agreed that two additional hours should be given to this question. After that agreement was entered into, it was also agreed that counsel might draw up their time and use it on that interlocutory question if they chose, and they used it up and discussed the whole question together with the interlocutory question. The counsel have not asked for additional time, and if they had, I should consider [illegible] by our order. I shall therefore vote against the motion of Commissioner Payne.

Commissioner Morton said that no counsel desired it. He should vote against the proposition. [illegible] counsel to argue the question further.

Mr. Evarts said that he argued the question fully [illegible]. They had so considered it [illegible] time allowed them. The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Hoar then moved that the Commission go into secret session for the purpose of consultation on the main question. Adopted, and the crowd was directed to leave the room.

UPON THE MAIN QUESTION.

The Electoral Commission, in secret session this evening, by a vote of 8 against 7, adopted a resolution submitted by Mr. Morton, declaring that the eight Hayes and Wheeler electoral votes of Louisiana should be counted. A report embodying this decision will be presented to Congress to-morrow morning.

By our Special Correspondent.

OUR HARRISBURG LETTER.

HARRISBURG, February 17, 1877.

The Legislature has adjourned over from Friday until Wednesday evening, and the members have scattered in every direction; some to their homes, some to Washington, D. C., and some to Washington, Pa. But few remain in Harrisburg. There was much opposition to this adjournment, but the great desire of many of the members to be at home during the election prevailed over other considerations. Those who did not take a special interest in the election took a trip to the National Capitol to see how the High Joint Commission were getting along, or joined the legislative excursion to visit the Reform School, at "Morganza," in Washington County. This institution is applying for the next little appropriation of $82,000 from the State, and the geese that lay the golden eggs for such institutions have been invited to pay a visit to the school. The board of managers will make things as pleasant as possible for the saloons, and will be disappointed if they do not receive a handsome *succeeder* of the visit at no very distant day.

Not less, and probably more than 600 bills have been introduced up to this time in the Senate and House, as yet but few have been disposed of, and it is difficult, in view of this, to see how the Legislature can adjourn by the 15th day of March, as provided for by a resolution passed by the House, without letting a large number of bills and some of them very important ones, lie over until next session. It is probable, therefore, that the resolution will be re-considered and a later day fixed upon.

There was a rumor on the "Hill" to-day, which, however, I could trace to no authentic source, that if the Commission appointed by Congress to settle the disputed Presidential question, should decide in favor of Hayes, and the House of Representatives should refuse to submit to its decision the Legislature would then pass a bill to provide for putting the Pennsylvania Militia on a "war footing" so as to be prepared for all emergencies. There may be nothing in it and I give it to you for what it is worth.

The bill providing for a stay of execution for two years, a synopsis of which I gave you in my last letter, was defeated when it came up for final passage, by a vote of 79 in favor to 93 against it. Its friends were much disappointed at this result and seem to be very sore over it. Another bill providing for a stay of execution in certain cases has passed second reading. It provides for a stay of one year in all cases where real or personal property offered at Sheriffs' sale is not bidden up to two-thirds of its value—the value being fixed by appraisers appointed for the purpose. The friends and opponents of this bill seem to be pretty evenly matched and its fate is doubtful. The former assert that the times are so out of joint that some means of this sort is imperatively needed to protect the embarrassed debtor, and save his goods from being sold at one-third of their real value. The latter, in return, assert that there are poor creditors who need protection as well as poor debtors; that it is a mistake to assume that the creditor is always rich and the debtor poor. There will be a warm fight over this bill when it comes up on final passage. It will be supported by all the friends of the defeated stay bill first mentioned, and by some who were opposed to it, but it is not safe to predict that it will command the 161 votes necessary to pass it.

The bill for the improvement of the Ohio river, which was defeated on Friday of last week, has been reconsidered and again placed upon the calendar of the House. It will come up again on Wednesday next.

Judging from the number of petitions presented every day in the Senate and House, praying for the passage of the Local Option law, this question must be exciting a great deal of attention among the people. Some of them are of huge proportions, and when unrolled, reach clear across the hall of the House. The energy and persistency of the temperance people are evidently making an impression on the Legislature, and the bill is stronger to-day than when it was first presented.

Quite a flutter took place in the Democratic camp on Tuesday last, when Mr. Hitchcock, of Erie, introduced a resolution in the House reflecting severely upon the National House of Representatives for its treatment of the Louisiana Returning Board, now in custody for contempt of the House. Seeing that the resolution would pass, the Democrats got mad and left the Hall, refusing to vote.

A bill has been introduced and favorably reported from committee repealing the act incorporating the "Ancient Order of Hibernians," or Molly Maguires. Considering the public feeling concerning these gentry there is no reasonable doubt of the passage of it.

B.

Attempt to Assassinate the Governor of Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, February 15.—About noon to-day, in his office in the State House, Governor Packard was shot. The person who did the shooting was fired on by a bystander and wounded in the arm.

Another dispatch says: An extra of the *Times* has the following: At half past eleven o'clock the vicinity of the Governor's room, in the St. Louis street State House, rang with the sharp report of two pistol shots, fired almost simultaneously, and in an instant [illegible] was great excitement [illegible]

It has transpired that Mr. Packard, while seated in his chair, surrounded by a half dozen callers, has been suddenly approached by one of the parties, who, drawing a pistol and leveling it at Packard's head, almost point blank range, pulled the trigger. [illegible]

The following is the statement of an eye witness of the affair:

Shortly after the occurrence two men, one a wounded man who gave his name as Joseph Hattle, but whose real name, from papers found in his possession, is ascertained to be W. H. Weldon, and a slim one-armed man who gave no name, called at the door of the State Capitol, and asked to see Mr. Packard. There was some demur about admitting them, when one proclaimed himself to be an ex-Federal officer, and the other a discharged soldier. They were brought to the head of the stairs, where Weldon represented that he was correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*, and desired to see Gov. Packard. The one-armed man declined to enter.

Weldon reached the Executive office, where he found Mr. Packard seated at his desk, talking to Judge Boseman, of Caddo, who occupied a chair on his right. Weldon sat down in a vacant chair immediately on Mr. Packard's left, and after an instant somewhat sharply asked, "when can I see you?" Packard turned and saw a pistol aimed at his head. He immediately struck it down, and the weapon was discharged, the ball striking him in the right knee-cap, and inflicting a slight wound. Packard immediately dealt the man a blow with his fist, striking him between the eyes and knocking him down. Several parties in the room drew pistols and fired, wounding the would-be assassin seriously, but not fatally.

Of course a scene of intense excitement immediately followed. The one-armed man was arrested and conveyed to the office of the Superintendent of Police, and Weldon was kept a close prisoner in the Executive office. Mr. Packard was conveyed to his private apartment on the second floor of the building, where his wound was examined by Dr. A. W. Smith. It is not of a serious character, but might prove so if not carefully tended, and will lame him for several days.

The would-be assassin says his name is Wm. Henry Weldon, and that his home is in Philadelphia. He says, further, that he has a mother and sisters living there. With regard to his attempt to kill Packard, he says that there were four others with him, who were to have assisted him in the undertaking, but that when reaching the door of the State House they refused to go in, and left him to carry out the intended plan of assassination alone. Weldon, if that be his name, is not, as it turns out, very seriously hurt. The ball which struck him hit him in the left arm, just below the shoulder, and seems to have come out at the elbow. It was thought at first that he was killed, but it seems that he was only wounded and faint from loss of blood. At 12:30 he was so much revived as to converse with those about him.

On the person of the assassin was found a letter from Charles Schwartz, dated Bethlehem, Pa., September 29, 1868, recommending Wm. Weldon as having been a pupil in his school. Another was found dated same place, February 19, 1867, recommending Weldon as an energetic business man of good morals. Another was dated Cincinnati, Ohio, April 20, 1872, recommending W. H. Weldon as an honest, careful business man, and signed T. M. Brown, formerly of Brown & Coleman, Springfield, Ill.

PHILADELPHIA, February 15.—Inquiries made at the office of the Philadelphia *Press* disclose the fact that Wm. H. Weldon, the person who gained admission to the Executive mansion at New Orleans to-day upon the pretense that he was a correspondent of that journal, and then shot Gov. Packard, had no connection whatever with the *Press*, and nothing is known of him at the office of that paper.

There was no blood drawn by the bullet said to have been fired at Packard, the result being a slight bruise. Weldon claims to be the son of a Lutheran minister in Pennsylvania. Being asked his motive, he replied patriotism. He had only been in New Orleans twenty-four hours.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY.

A Brilliant Array of Story Writers.

Saxe Holm, Tourguenef, Boyesen, Bayard Taylor, Holland, Mrs. Hodgson Burnett, McKay, and others.

[illegible]

Dr. Holland's New Novel, "Nicholas Minturn,"

[illegible]

General McClellan's Papers of Travel

[illegible]

"Trout-Fishing in Rangeley Lakes"

[illegible]

"The Microscope among the Flowers,"

[illegible]

NEW SUBSCRIBERS to SCRIBNER for 1877, or purchasers of the January & February Numbers, will receive PART I. of NICHOLAS MINTURN, in pamphlet form, FREE.

Scribner's Monthly, 12 Months for $4.00.

[illegible]

SCRIBNER & Co. 743 Broadway, N. Y.

ST. NICHOLAS

"THE KING OF ALL PUBLICATIONS ISSUED FOR THE YOUNG ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC."—Southampton (England) Observer.

[illegible]

ST. NICHOLAS for 1877.

Which opens with November 1876, begins A SHORT AND VERY ENTERTAINING SERIAL FROM THE FRENCH "THE KINGDOM OF THE GREEDY," A STORY ADAPTED TO THE THANKSGIVING SEASON. Another serial, of absorbing interest to boys,

"HIS OWN MASTER."

By J. T. TROWBRIDGE,

author of the "Jack Hazard Stories," begins in the Christmas Holiday Number.

[illegible]

"TWELVE SKY PICTURES."

By Professor Proctor, the Astronomer.

[illegible]

AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION, with FUN AND FROLIC, and WIT AND WISDOM, [illegible]

THE LONDON LITERARY WORLD says:

[illegible]

GOOD NEWS for BOYS and GIRLS.

[illegible]

SCRIBNER & CO. 743 Broadway, New York.

VICK'S FLORAL & VEGETABLE GARDEN

[illegible]

THE BALTIMORE DAILY and WEEKLY AMERICAN

1773 Over One Hundred Years Old. 1877

The Daily American.

By Mail, Postage Paid.

One Year [illegible]
Six months [illegible]
Three Months [illegible]
One month [illegible]

THE WEEKLY AMERICAN.

The Oldest, Most Reliable and Cheapest Family Newspaper in the World.

The Paper for the People.

LIBERAL TERMS FOR 1877.

Terms Cash in Advance, Postage Prepaid.

[illegible]

CLUB RATES:

[illegible]

CLUB INDUCEMENTS.

Table of Premiums and Terms.

[illegible]

CHAS. C. FULTON & SON, American Office, Baltimore, Md.

Newspaper Advertising Agents
GEO. P. ROWELL & CO., 41 PARK ROW, N. Y.

[illegible]

Send for a Circular.

Photography Perpetuates National Greatness.

[illegible]

CENTENNIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CO., Philadelphia, Pa.

VICK'S Flower and Vegetable Seeds

[illegible]

Vick's Catalogue—[illegible]
Vick's Floral Guide, [illegible]
Vick's Floral and Vegetable Garden, [illegible]

JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

VICK'S Illustrated Priced Catalogue.

[illegible]

JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

Vick's Floral Guide

[illegible]

JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

PUBLIC SALE.

[illegible]

Saturday, March 3, 1877.

[illegible]

W. H. RUPPEL.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

[illegible]

J. G. OGLE, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

[illegible]

J. G. OGLE, Auditor.

LEGAL NOTICE.

[illegible]

JOHN HALL, U. S. Marshal [illegible]

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

[illegible]

HENRY F. SCHELL, Auditor.

NOTICE.

Having this day purchased from J. W. Patton, his entire stock of merchandise, I propose continuing the mercantile business [illegible] I intend adding from time to time, such goods as will make the stock complete in all departments [illegible]

ED. E. PATTON.
Somerset, Pa., Dec. 26, 1876.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.

[illegible]

Friday, March 2, 1877.

[illegible]

AARON WILL, Assignee.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

[illegible]

Thursday, March 1st, 1877.

[illegible]

ALEXANDER HUNTER, Trustee.

APPEALS.

[illegible]

W. M. KELL, J. P. PHILSON, D. PHILLIPPI, Commissioners.

LEGAL NOTICE.

[illegible]

GEO. W. PILE, Sheriff.

FOR SALE.

[illegible]

I. F. CRANDLE, Falls City Nebraska.

ASSIGNEES NOTICE.

[illegible]

JONATHAN RHOADS, Assignee.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.

[illegible]

Friday, February 23, 1877.

[illegible]

AARON WILL, Assignee.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.

[illegible]

Saturday, February 24, 1877.

[illegible]

WM. ZIMMERMAN, Assignee.