EVENING REPUBLIC.
Thursday Evening, Jan. 6, 1876.

By Telegraph.

Last Night's Report.

CONGRESSIONAL.

THE "TROUBLE" BEGINS.

Departments to Be Investigated.

Buncombe Resolutions vs. the Jeffersonian Test.

The House Committees and the Message—Proposal to Abolish the Marine Corps—Freedmen's Bank Accounts—U. S. Troops in the South—Interest on the Pacific Railroad Subsidy Bonds.

&c., &c., &c.

SENATE - WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.

SECTARIAN APPROPRIATIONS.

Mr. Conkling presented a petition from the citizens of New York city asking the passage of an amendment to the constitution of the United States prohibiting the appropriation of money for any religious sect. Referred to the judiciary committee.

MORTON'S STATE RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS.

After the exploration of the morning hour the chair laid before the senate, the state rights resolutions, recently submitted by Senator Morton.

Mr. Morton said it was the desire of his colleague (McDonald) to submit a substitute for the resolutions, but as that gentleman was not present, and as several senators desired to discuss the resolutions, he asked that they be laid over. So ordered.

MISSISSIPPI ELECTIONS.

Mr. Morton's Mississippi elections investigation resolution, came up as unfinished business, but went over till Monday next at Mr. Morton's request.

FREEDMEN'S BANK.

Mr. Sherman submitted a resolution calling on the commissioners of the Freedmen's Bank for a full account of their transaction, and of the present condition of that institution. Agreed to.

VICE-PRESIDENT WILSON.

Mr. Boutwell gave notice that on Thursday of next week he would submit to the senate resolutions relating to the services and public character of late Vice-President Wilson.

REVENUE FRAUDS.

Mr. Boutwell presented the petition of W. A. Brown, late special agent of the United States treasury, asking a hearing in regard to revenue frauds by the systematic undervaluation of imported merchandise, crooked invoices and other devices, the extent thereof and facilities provided by the loose conduct of the customs business. Referred to the committee on finance.

Mr. Conkling, N. Y., introduced a bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide a national currency, secured by a pledge of U. S. bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved June 3d, 1864. Referred to finance committee. (It is a copy of a bill of the same title, reported from the senate finance committee, April 11th, 1874, relating to national banks in liquidation, and proceedings to enforce the individual liability of stock-holders.)

STEPS TOWARD SPECIE PAYMENTS.

The following is the full text of the bill introduced to-day by senator Morrill of Vermont: To provide for redemption of legal tender U. S. notes in accordance with the existing law.

Be it enacted, etc.: That to further enable the secretary of the treasury to provide for the redemption of legal tender U. S. notes in accordance with the existing law he is authorized to issue, sell or dispose of, at not less than par, in legal tender U. S. notes, either of the descriptions of bonds of the United States bearing interest at the rate of not exceeding 6 per cent. per annum, described in the act of congress approved July 14, 1870, entitled, "an act to authorize the refunding of the national debt," with like qualities, privileges and exemption to the extent necessary to carry into full effect the act of congress approved January 14, 1875, entitled, "An act for the resumption of specie payments," and to use the proceeds thereof for the purpose aforesaid, and said legal tender notes so obtained upon the issue of said bonds shall be held and considered as a part of the fund for redemption of such notes provided for in the act of congress herein last mentioned, and shall be treated accordingly, and cancelled, provided that the principal of the bonds herein authorized may be made redeemable at any time not less than thirty, nor exceeding forty years, from the date of issue.

Section 2. That all contracts entered into, or made after the first day of January, 1878, shall be payable in accordance with the legal-tender standard of gold and silver, unless otherwise provided at the time of contract.

Sec. 3. That all national banking associations shall be and hereby are required to hold in coin, as part of their lawful money reserve, on and after the first day of January, 1877, one-fourth; after the first day of January, 1878, one-half; and after the first day of October, 1878, three-fourths.

FREEDMAN'S BANK.

Mr. Sherman, Ohio, introduced a bill to amend the act of June 20, 1874, amending the charter of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, etc. Finance committee. (The bill provides that in case of the resignation or death of any of the present commissioners the survivors shall carry on the work. Authority is given to sell the property at public or private sale and compromise the debts. It also provides that when the commissioners are prepared to make dividends, the said dividends shall be paid by the assistant treasurers of government depositories throughout the country.)

The senate, at 12.50 went into executive session and at 1.10 the doors were reopened and the senate adjourned till to-morrow.

HOUSE.—WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.

In the house the speaker occupied the chair in apparently good health and there were but few members absent.

The oath of office was administered to R. I. Riddle of Tennessee, elected to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Fite, deceased.

A large number of executive communications which had accumulated during the recess were presented by the speaker and referred to appropriate committees.

The speaker then proceeded to call committees for reports, but no committee had any business ready to report.

On motion of Mr. Morrison, Ills., the house, at 12.30, went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union, Mr. Wheeler, of New York, in the chair, and the usual resolutions distributing the president's annual message to appropriate committees were offered by Mr. Morrison and adopted.

THE COMMITTEES AND THE MESSAGE.

The committee rose and reported the resolutions to the house when objection was made to the distribution of subjects, some of the financial questions which members claimed should have been referred to the committee on banking and currency having been assigned to ways and means.

Mr. Morrison explained that it was almost impossible in distributing the President's message to separate its subjects so that there should be no clashing between the committees, but the committees of ways and means in preparing these resolutions had followed precedents, and tried to keep the several committees within the line of their respective duties.

A long discussion followed, the point being that legislation referring to legal tender notes belonged to the committee of ways and means, while that referring to national bank notes belonged to the committee on banking and currency. Finally the resolutions were adopted, that referring to banking and currency giving to that committee control of the subject of banks, banking and currency and the resumption of specie payments by national banks.

EXCHANGED PLACES.

Messrs. Hewitt and Ely, of N. Y.—the former a member of the committee on public buildings and grounds, and the latter on foreign affairs—by mutual agreement, and with consent of the house, exchanged places.

THE CALL OF STATES

for bills and resolutions then began.

Under the call the following bills were introduced.

By Mr. Wells, N. Y. To repeal the bankrupt act.

By Mr. Davy, N. Y.—To allow all persons on trial in United States courts to be competent witnesses.

By Mr. Lapham, N. Y.—To simplify and secure uniformity in the practice of the courts of the United States and of the several states relative to rules and evidence and the competency of parties as witnesses.

By Mr. O'Brien, Md. A resolution looking to the abolition of the marine corps, or its transfer to the army. Adopted.

Also by Mr. O'Brien: A number of resolutions looking to the investigation of transactions in the navy department, all of which were adopted.

By Mr. Douglas, Va.—A resolution for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the cause of the failure of the Freedmen's bank. Adopted.

By Mr. Ferry, Va. To establish a uniform rule of naturalization.

By Mr. Harris, Va. To restore to the pension rolls the names of persons stricken therefrom for disloyalty.

By Mr. Caldwell, Ala. A resolution calling on the secretary of war for information as to the number of United States troops stationed in the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana on Dec. 8th, 1871.

CRIPPLED SOLDIERS.

By Mr. Carson, Ind.—A resolution recognizing the brave and gallant services rendered by loyal soldiers to the country in time of its greatest need and peril, earnestly recommending to the people the utmost care and watchfulness over the rights and interests of those brave men by securing employment to them; that in all cases of public employment, all other things being equal, the soldier shall have the preference over a civilian, and declaring that the house is in favor of giving liberal pensions to deceased and crippled soldiers, their widows and children and their dependent fathers and mothers.

The previous question was seconded, 142 to 9, and the resolution was agreed to amid laughter on both sides of the house.

DEPARTMENTS TO BE INVESTIGATED.

Mr. Morrison, Ills. A resolution directing the several committees having in charge matters pertaining to Indian affairs, military affairs, naval affairs, post-office, public lands, public buildings and grounds, claims and war claims to inquire into any abuses or frauds in the administration and execution of existing laws affecting those branches of public service with a view to ascertain what changes and reformation can be made so as to promote integrity, economy and efficiency; also instructing the committees on expenditures in the several departments to proceed at once, as required by the rules of the house, to examine into the state of accounts and expenditures of the respective departments; whether all moneys have been disbursed in conformity with the appropriation laws and what provisions are necessary to be adopted to provide more perfectly for the proper application of public moneys, and to secure the government against demands unjust in character or extravagant in amount.

PACIFIC R. R. INTEREST INDEMNITY.

Mr. Lawrence of Ohio offered a resolution, which was adopted, requiring the judiciary committee to report a law to compel the Pacific railway companies to indemnify the government for interest advanced on subsidy bonds issued to them.

He said the supreme court has recently decided that the government is bound to pay interest on subsidy bonds, and no provision is made for the reimbursement, except that where freight or passengers are carried for the government one-half charges may be credited on the advances. The subsidy bonds amount to $65,000,000, and the interest paid by the government over and above the freight charges credited is over $27,000,000. The attorney-general estimated that the railroad companies would owe the government $200,000,000 at maturity of bonds in about twenty years. All this will be lost to the government unless we now, by law secure indemnity. This is the object of the resolution, to save the government from a loss of $200,000,000.

THE SOLDIERS BUNCOMBE RESOLUTION.

Mr. Foster of Illinois, offered a resolution declaring that the doctrine just enunciated by the house in the adoption of a resolution offered by Mr. Carson is so wise and just that it should be followed by the officers of the house in filling subordinate places under them, instructing them in all such cases to give to well qualified Union soldiers the preference over soldiers of the late confederate army. He moved the previous question was not seconded 78 to 103.

Mr. Wood, of New York, remarked that this was centennial year, a year in which all past dissensions, difficulties and controversies should be forgotten. He moved to refer the resolution to the select committee on centennial celebration. He wanted the house to go to business and have no more buncombe.

The motion was agreed to, 121 to 91, and the resolution was accordingly referred.

ANOTHER VIEW.

Mr. Harrison, of Ill., offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the distribution of patronage by the house of representatives, and of the government generally, those only elected, and who by law have the appointment of subordinates, should regard the Jeffersonian test, "is he honest, is he faithful, is he capable?" and that recent events in the federal administration give peculiar emphasis to this democratic sentiment. Adopted.

CHICAGO POST-OFFICE.

Mr. Canfield, Ill., offered a resolution stating that certain charges have been made implying fraud and mis-management in the construction of the custom-house and post-office building in Chicago and instructing the committee on public buildings and grounds to enter on an investigation of such charges. Adopted.

Bills were further introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. Springer, of Ill.—To abolish stamps on bank checks; also to extend the time for filing claims for additional bounty.

The house then, at 10.10, adjourned until to-morrow.

FIRES.

A SAW AND GRIST MILL.

WORCESTER, Jan. 5.—The saw and grist mill of Cyrus Howe, in North Rutland, Mass., was destroyed by fire this morning. Loss estimated at $45,000.

POLITICAL.

Platform of the New Hampshire Republicans—No Third Term.

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 5.—The resolutions adopted at the republican state convention today, favor specie payment; a revenue tariff with incidental protection; true reconciliation with our southern brethren; unalterable opposition to a third term; that freedmen shall have full, fair and free exercise of every right of citizenship; that a just and forbearing policy towards the south shall be observed, and that the present administration meets with their highest approbation, and commands their undivided support.

The ninth resolution asserts that our free public school system is the bulwark of American liberty, and says:

We approve, therefore, the proposed amendment to the constitution of the United States, declaring that no money raised by taxation in any state for support of public schools, or derived from any public fund therefore, shall ever be placed under the control of any religious sect, nor shall any money so raised ever be divided between religious sects or denominations.

The eleventh resolution is as follows:

That we cherish gratefully the services of our veteran soldiers, and hereby express our unqualified abhorrence of the action of the democratic majority in the national house of representatives in removing from places of employment about the capitol maimed Union veterans, and filling the vacancies made with men whose only claim upon the majority is that they fought to destroy the Union.

THE HUDSON.

Anchor Ice—The River Rising.

ALBANY, Jan. 5.—The river is now filled with anchor ice and the water is rising very fast, which would seem to indicate that the ice had lodged at some point down the river. The canal boat *Iran* which was stove in by ice near Cocyman's and sunk, was owned by John G. White of this city. The boat was loaded with malt to nearly its full capacity, from 100,000 to 120,000 bushels. An agent has been sent down by Mr. White to investigate the affair. The propeller *Syracuse*, owned by William Young and James Bell of this city, was sunk during Monday night and the tug *James Easton* has also been badly damaged by ice.

Thin ice at Hyde Park does not interfere with the work of the divers at the wreck of the *Sunnyside*. If the weather continues mild they expect soon to raise the boat and tow her to New York.

LABOR TROUBLES.

Uneasiness in Albany.

ALBANY, Jan. 5.—Workingmen of this city are becoming uneasy at their want of employment and inability to secure it. They have held several meetings and paraded the streets with banners on which was inscribed, "Bread or work." To-day a delegation called on the mayor to inquire if anything could be done for their relief. Mayor Judson received them courteously, and informed them that the water commissioners were considering whether it would be advisable to commence building a new reservoir at this season, and thus furnish employment to some of the unemployed. He also expressed his disapproval of any demonstration, such as has been made. The delegation appeared satisfied with the interview, but another meeting is to be held.

FOREIGN.

Russia.

THE CZAR COUNSELS NEUTRALITY ON THE PART OF MONTENEGRO.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—A day or two ago the *Times* published a Vienna telegram stating that, in reply to a request of the prince of Montenegro to be allowed to enter an action against Turkey, the Russian government advised him on no account to depart from neutrality. This morning the *Times* publishes a letter from Vienna amplifying and confirming its telegram. It seems the prince of Montenegro wrote to Prince Gortschakoff that by following the wishes of the powers in maintaining neutrality he directly imperilled his throne and life. Prince Gortschakoff submitted this letter to the emperor of Russia, who directed the chancellor to write the Prince of Montenegro to force courageously the present difficult position and on no account to abandon his policy of neutrality. Expressing the hope that the situation would soon improve the prince of Montenegro replied that he would follow the Czar's injunctions.

THE BISHOP OF MOSTAR.

The *Times* Vienna correspondent writes that the Greek metropolitan of Mostar, following the example of his Catholic colleagues has issued a pastoral letter in which he upbraided the clergy for fomenting insurrection, and requiring them to leave their evil way and return to their duties on pain of severe punishment according to his apostolic power.

British India.

"WALES" AT BENARES.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—A dispatch from Benares reports the arrival their this morning of the prince of Wales.

GERMANY AND THE AMERICAN CUBA NOTE.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The dispatch from Berlin to the *Post* saying that the German government is favorable to the propositions contained in the American note regarding Cuba, is not confirmed. Nothing is known at Berlin respecting the views of the German government in connection with Mr. Fish's circular.

Greece.

RECALCITRANT CABINET OFFICERS.

ATHENS, Jan. 5.—The chambers of deputies have resolved that all members of the late Bulgario ministry except one shall be tried by the court of justice for violation of electoral law.

Turkey.

SERVER PASHA.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 5.—It is rumored that Server Pasha who was dispatched to Herzegovina at the outbreak of the insurrection as special commissioner of the Sultan has been recalled.

THE INSURRECTION.

RAGUSA, Jan. 5.—Five Turkish steamers recently arrived at Klieck and landed five battalions of troops and ammunition and provisions. Niesic and Duga have been revictualed.

Egypt.

THE FRENCH MISSION TO THE KHEDIVE.

PARIS, July 5.—M. Outrey's mission to Egypt is only of a temporary character. The object of the mission is to restore the friendly relations which were somewhat impaired during the negotiations relative to the abolition of the jurisdiction of French consular courts.

Austria.

ANDRASSY'S TURKISH REFORM PROPOSITION.

VIENNA, Jan. 5.—It is stated that Count Andrassy's project for reforms in the insurrectionary districts of Turkey has been favorably received by France and Italy.

France.

CONCURRENCE WITH AUSTRIA.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs at midnight as follows: I learn from an authoritative source that France to-day notified Austria that she concurred without reserve in the proposals for Turkish reform made in Count Andrassy's note. All powers have been notified of the decision of France.

EX-QUEEN ISABELLA.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—Bulletins announcing the condition of the health of ex-Queen Isabella of Spain are now issued daily. That of to-day says her condition is less favorable.

THE FRENCH PROSPECTIVE ELECTIONS.

Thus far the candidates for the assembly in Paris have obtained promises in the following ratio: Advanced republicans 95, moderate republicans, 105, anti-republicans 14.

Italy.

THE ITALIAN CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.

ROME, Jan. 5.—The president of the Italian Executive Commission on the Philadelphia Exhibition leaves in April to take the direction of the Italian section.

A VATICAN CONSISTORY.

The Papal consistory which was fixed for the 7th inst., has been postponed until after the 15th. Archbishop Ledochowski is expected to repair to the Vatican to receive the instructions of the Pope in regard to his future conduct.

THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—A special from Rome to the *Daily News* says well informed authorities assert that Bishop Dupanloup has come to Rome on account of the impending reassembly of the Ecumenical council.

Spain.

THE CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION AND THE COLONIES.

MADRID, Jan. 5.—A royal decree has been issued creating a commission charged with installing exhibits from the Spanish colonies at the Philadelphia exhibition. The commission will draw up a memorandum relative to the exhibition. The governor of Cuba, Porto Rico and Phillippine Islands will appoint the members.

THE CARLISTS—CONSPIRATORS SHOT.

Later advices from Tafalla state that several carlist officers and soldiers have been shot at Estella for a conspiracy against Don Carlos. It is asserted at Hendaye that the Carlists have raised the siege of Hernani, in consequence of a decision to that effect of the council of war.

Germany.

ANOTHER OF THOMASSEN'S MACHINES.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—A Berlin dispatch to the *Times* says that the Prussian war office have a machine similar to that used by Thomassen. It was offered them by a man from New York in 1870 for the destruction of the French fleet. The offer was declined. The maker appears to have been an associate of Thomassen.

MORE ABOUT THE CUBAN NOTE.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Cologne *Gazette* remarks that the American attempt at intervention in Cuba is singularly ill timed. European governments will not countenance it because they wish in the interest of order to see Alfonso's authority more firmly established.

Great Britain.

COAL MINE EXPLOSION.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—An explosion occurred yesterday in a coal mine at Talke, Staffordshire, five persons killed.

ATHLETICS.

Programme of the Annual Collegiate Sports.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The annual convention of the Athletic Association of American colleges was held here to-day. The following programme of sports was adopted for contests at the next meeting: For undergraduates, one mile run, three mile run, a half-mile run, a quarter-mile run, 120 yards hurdle race, 100 yards dash, running high jump, and running low jump. For graduates, one mile run and one mile walk. After some discussion a three-legged race and putting 16-pound shot were added to the programme for undergraduates. It was voted that the contests should take place at Saratoga the day after the inter-collegiate regatta.

LOUISIANA.

The Conservative State Convention.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 5.—In the democratic conservative state convention, to-day, Hon. John C. Monoure, of Caddo, was elected president by a majority of about a hundred over Duncan S. Cage, candidate of the liberals and fusionists. Amongst the committees appointed was one to prepare a memorial and address to congress on Louisiana affairs and a committee on state and municipal taxes. Gov. John McEnery and Lieut.-Gov. D. B. Penn were invited to seats on the platform and were loudly cheered. Ex-Gov. Wurmoth was on the floor of the convention during the entire session.

COLLISION FEARED.

A R. R. Contractor takes the Law in His Own Hand.

PATTISON, N. J., Jan. 5.—Mr. Henderson, a contractor who graded a section of the Monticello railway through the mountain near Greenwood lake, for which he claims there is $80,000 due him, has put a gang of armed men in the rock cut and will not allow the present owners of the road to take possession to complete the grading until he is paid. An armed collision is feared.

TO BE HANGED.

The Court of Appeals Refuses a New Trial for Lindsay.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 5.—Owen Lindsay, the murderer of Francis A. Colvin, in whose case there has been much litigation, and whose plea for a new trial having been denied by the court of appeals, was to-day brought into court and the day of his execution was fixed as February 15th.

RELIGIOUS.

National Evangelical Convention in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 5.—A call has been issued for a convention of Evangelical ministers, editors of religious papers and others, to be held at the tabernacle in this city on January 19th and 20th next. The meetings are to be presided over by Mr. Moody.

STEAMERS.

PLYMOUTH, Jan. 5.—Arrived out, steamship *Pereire* from New York.

PORTLAND, Jan. 5.—Arrived, steamship *Peruvian* from Liverpool.

MONILLE, Jan. 5.—The steamer *Caspian*, from Baltimore, arrived this morning.

QUEENSTOWN, Jan. 5.—The steamer *Illinois*, from Philadelphia, has arrived.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The steamer *City of Montreal* has arrived from Liverpool.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The steamer *Anchoria* has arrived from Glasgow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—A. M. Holbrook, editor and proprietor of the New Orleans *Picayune*, died at Bladen Springs, Ala., yesterday.

—The Southern Tier Poultry Show opened in Elmira yesterday with nearly five hundred entries, and the quality of fowls in harmony with this number. Many prominent places in the state are represented and the fair attracts much interest.

—The grand jury of Vinland, N. J., have indicted Landis for the murder of Carruth.

—The Texas democratic state convention assembled yesterday.

—The New Hampshire republican state convention, at Concord, yesterday nominated P. C. Cheney, of Manchester, for governor, and Wm. A. Pierce, of Portsmouth, for railroad commissioner.

THE LEGISLATURE.

AID TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL IN THE FRAUD CASES.

Miscellaneous Business.

SENATE—ALBANY, Jan. 5.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Wagner presented the petitions of residents of Saratoga, relative to salaries of public officers.

Mr. Aikreg presented the petition of Jas. Cavanaugh claiming the seat held by Mr. Jacobs. Referred to committee on privileges and elections.

The president presented the annual report of the adjutant-general, also the report of the board of commissioners of pilots.

Mr. Bixby gave notice that he would at an early day introduce a bill re-organizing the government of the city of New York.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Jacobs—Relative to cases of insane persons.

By Mr. Harris—For continuing work on the new capitol building.

Mr. Harris explained that $500,000 were in the state treasury for continuing the work and if the bill was passed at once 400 stone cutters might be kept at work.

Mr. McCarthy objecting, the bill was referred to the finance committee.

Mr. Robertson presented a petition of justices of the supreme court relative to amending chapter 267 of the laws of 1859 relative to graduates of law schools and colleges. Referred to the judiciary committee.

THE CANAL FRAUD CASES.

Mr. McCarthy offered the following:

Whereas, His Excellency the governor, in his message declares it will be necessary for the legislature to make a special appropriation for aid to the attorney-general, in order to render effectual the investigations of frauds in the management of the canals, undertaken by the commission appointed by his excellency, for conducting the actions in the courts to their conclusion; and,

Whereas, The governor further says that the frauds exposed by the commission are sheltered by the complicity of officials whose duty it is to protect the state; therefore,

Resolved, That the governor be requested to communicate without delay to the legislature the results of the investigation thus far obtained by the commission, with the testimony thereto pertaining, and the title and the objects of the actions now pending, with the progress made, and names of officials charged with complicity or connivance as aforesaid; in order that the legislature may determine what appropriation, if any, or other measure of legislation may be necessary.

The resolutions were adopted.

INSANE CRIMINALS.

Mr. Jacobs' bill provides that whenever any insane person accused of arson, murder, or highway robbery, shall have been acquitted upon trial on the ground of insanity, the jury shall bring in a special verdict to that effect, and so state it in their finding, and the court in which such trial is had shall order such person to be committed to the state lunatic asylum for insane criminals for life.

Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY—ALBANY, Jan. 5.

The assembly met at 11 A. M.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Schleffelin—To exempt bonds and mortgages from taxation. Also, to repeal the act providing for the publication of judicial proceedings in the city of New York, which abolishes the paper known as the *City Record*. To compel railroad corporations to file quarterly statements of their earnings and disbursements in the secretary of states office.

By Mr. Campbell—To repeal the act of 1875, amending the charter of the Sisterhood of Grey Nuns.

By Mr. Fallon—To amend the charter of the Hebrew Benevolent Society of N. Y.

By Mr. Bissel—Authorizing the common council of Lockport to purchase certain private property.

By Mr. Hess—Amending the charter of the fire department of Syracuse.

By Mr. Hepburn—Confirming official acts of the commissioners of the town of Madrid, St. Lawrence co.

Mr. W. F. Taylor presented the petition of Samuel W. Perry, contesting the seat of W. V. Cleary for the first district of Rensselaer co. Referred to committee on privileges and elections.

Mr. Foster called up his resolution for a recess and it was amended so as to adjourn from to-morrow to Wednesday next. It was then adopted and goes to the senate for concurrence.

Mr. Weiant offered a resolution declaring it the duty of the legislature to inaugurate honesty and economy in the management of government affairs.

Mr. Strahan rising to debate the resolution it went over.

THE STATE PRISONS.

Mr. Sherman offered concurrent resolutions for the amendment of the constitution so as to provide for a superintendent of state prisons with full power to manage the same and abolishing the office of inspector of state prisons. By consent the resolutions were referred to the committee of the whole house.

The speaker had consent to introduce a bill to amend the military code. Ordered printed.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Waxfield—To amend the revised statutes in relation to highways, bridges and ferries. It requires overseers to give 24 hours notice to persons assessed to work and allow eight hours per day.

By Mr. Hodges—Authorizing the settlement of certain claims arising out of the defalcation of the late treasurer of Monroe county with the state and county.

EQUALIZING THE STATE TAX.

Mr. Foster introduced a bill to amend the act to equalize the state tax among several counties in this state. It increases the number of state assessors to four, to be selected from the four judicial districts. They are to hold office for four years. Three are made a quorum.

The speaker presented the annual report of the comptroller.

Adjourned.

THE CANADA SOUTHERN.

What Mr. James F. Joy Knows of its Purchase by Commodore Vanderbilt.

Interview in Detroit News, Jan. 4.

Reporter—To start with, who has bought the road? It is rumored by some that Commodore Vanderbilt is the purchaser; by others that the Great Western, Michigan Central, Lake Shore and New York Central railroads are equally interested in the purchase.

Mr. Joy—The matter is just this way: The majority of the Canada Southern stock has been put in Vanderbilt's name, but I do not believe he paid a cent for it. I think it has been put in his name to enable the company to sell their bonds more profitably. As for the Michigan Central and Great Western being interested in the purchase, that is all wind.

Reporter—Were you aware of the contemplation of such an arrangement before it took place?

Mr. Joy—No.

Reporter—What good or bad effect will it have on the business of the Michigan Central and Great Western roads?

Mr. Joy—None. I do not believe that Mr. Vanderbilt had any hostile intention either against the Central or Great Western roads when he made the purchase. His main reason for allowing his name to be used was to secure an amicable division of the Toledo business between the Canada Southern and Lake Shore, and to put a stop to the ruinous commissions and back payments at present given by the Canada Southern to secure business. The two roads will probably form a pool and divide their earnings. In this way the commodore proposes to get down to the hard pan and build up a profitable business. Mr. Vanderbilt, metaphorically speaking, has killed another bird with his stone, and that is the putting a permanent stop to all further projects for the completion of the Canada Southern through to Chicago, thus effectually strangling in its weakness a dangerous rival to his own road, the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern. There has been some talk about Mr. Vanderbilt's election to the presidency of the road, but this is false. I do not think Mr. Vanderbilt has any desire for the office.

Reporter—I was told this morning about a grand pool that was in contemplation, to be participated in by the Michigan Central, Great Western, Canada Southern, and Lake Shore. What about it?

Mr. Joy—"All wind."

STATE ITEMS.

—Co. H, 3d artillery, from Fort Warren, Boston harbor, arrived in Watertown Friday, and left at once for Madison barracks, Sackett's Harbor.

—Efforts are making in the cities of central New York to obtain funds for the erection in Ithaca of a monument to Ezra Cornell, the founder of the Cornell university.

—Rumor says the West Shore railroad project is to be revived again. It is said the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company intend building a road along the river to Albany and thence to Canada.

—Round lake is being stocked with fish. President Hillman has lately had 12 large cans of choice fish from Seth Green's hatching grounds put into the lake, and another lot is coming next week. The fish consists of Oswego and rock bass, pike and perch. Some of them would weigh two pounds.

—Edward Henry, father of Alderman Henry, of Utica, and who resided with his son at 220 Court street, committed suicide by hanging, Tuesday. The coroner went to the spot and satisfied himself that death was caused by hanging while deceased was laboring under temporary despondency of mind caused by ill-health.

—Three conductors on the Delaware division of the Erie railway named Palmer, Mapes and Van Akin have been discharged from the service. The company employed a man to act as a spy along the line. That individual went on three trains, pretending he had no money, and being known by the conductors he was allowed to ride free. In one case he tendered sixty cents for the regular fare, which was seventy-five cents, and was allowed to ride.

—Edwin S. Cadwell, Esq., for many years a resident of Martinsburg, Lewis county, and for a number of terms justice of the peace, died last Friday from congestion of the lungs. Squire Cadwell was in his office attending to business less than a week before his decease. He was a man of unblemished reputation; long a leading deacon of the Presbyterian society, and honored and esteemed by a large circle of citizens and friends.

—Great excitement was created Tuesday in the northern part of Port Henry. A team of horses, drawing a load of giant powder packed in cartridge form, became frightened while on the road to the iron mines, and ran away. Several of the boxes of the powder were broken open the cartridges were strewn along the road. No damage was done, fortunately, and the driver, after fastening his team, walked leisurely back, picking up the scattered load. Had an explosion occurred it would have been a terrible one.

—About 2½ miles west of Mechanicsville, near Troy lives an old couple named John and Betsey Brady. Betsey is an eccentric woman over 80 years of age. The past 40 years she has peddled truck, and by industry and miserly habits accumulated means, and common report said a large sum was hoarded in the house. About eight o'clock Sunday evening three masked men entered the residence, thoroughly searching it and removing from Betsey's bosom a purse of $8 and taking two bank books recording deposits of $600 and $300 respectively.

—Warsaw, Wyoming county, is greatly excited over an alleged abortion case in that vicinity. Dr. Victor Jenkins is accused of the crime, and is under arrest. The victim is alleged to be Mrs. Near, a woman who is at present stopping with some relatives in York, Livingston county. The crime is said to have been committed in March of last year. The physician was arrested last Friday and held to bail by Judge Bradley, of Wyoming county in the sum of $4,000. The arrest was made on complaint of the husband of the woman implicated.

—The Troy *Press* gives the following unusual winter picture of the appearance of things in that locality: "To-day, on looking into the street, one would fancy himself in some southern clime or at home in mid April. The ice moved from the Congress street bridge at noon Saturday, leaving the river clear for a considerable distance south of Troy. Yesterday morning, about eight o'clock, the ice broke quietly up and passed from in front of Albany, continuing to pass by the city with the rapid current during the whole of the day. The water is not level with the docks, and no apprehension is felt at present from a freshet. The ferries in this city are making regular trips, and have been running since Saturday afternoon."

—About thirty-five or forty years ago William Rockfeller, of Worcester town, had occasion to visit the *Journal* office for the purpose of taking a subscription for a friend. While there he got into conversation with Mr. Thurlow Weed upon the prospect of the coming election in Schoharie county, he maintaining that there would be a democratic majority, and Mr. Weed opining that the republicans would win. The discussion became somewhat animated, and Mr. Rockfeller wanted to bet $5 upon the result. This Mr. Weed declined to do, but said he would send the *Weekly Journal* to Mr. R.'s address for one year, and the loser should pay for it. The terms were agreed upon, and the paper was sent free, as Schoharie county was democratic, but Mr. Rockfeller could not read, and his wife only derived the benefit of the paper. Chagrined at his ignorance, he did as Andrew Johnson did, put himself under his wife as teacher, and learned his letters from the *Journal*, and it is his boast this day that the *Albany Journal* taught him to read, and made his fortune of between $40,000 and $50,000.

GLEANINGS.

—Dear Friends—England and Egypt are now shares *ours*.—*Punch*.

—The right to sell pop-corn at the centennial exposition has been sold for $3,000.

—Who has the most ups and downs in the world? The elevator man.

—A good receipt for beginning the new year is to get receipts for all the bills you owe.

—"Mrs. Hon. Congressman" is the modest and tasteful way the wives of some of the "members" print their cards.

—The Pennsylvania legislature is to be asked to legalize Sunday labor by persons who observe saturday as the Sabbath.

—A Chicago infant has been named by his afflicted parents Macbeth, because he has murdered sleep. Anything for a sensation.

—A Chinese cook, among other things, with his little hatchet can skin and bone a fish in ten seconds, and stuff an orange with ten different kinds of jellies without breaking the skin; also ragouts of mice furnished at short notice.

—A criminal on his way to the gallows, recently, remarked that "if I had received one-half of the kindness, earlier in life, which I have received here, I would not have been here."

—"The Silver Thimbles" is the rather neat title of a young ladies' society at Dechora, Iowa. The society's success is more than newsy, too, for at a late fair it realized several hundred dollars for charitable purposes.

—Here is the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, of Monday, with two pages of fine type, descriptive of the dress of every New Year's receiver in the north, south and west divisions of that city! The ladies who like this sort of thing will move to Chicago.

—It was in Omaha. A lawyer was addressing the judge, and the judge was eating peanuts and reading a novel. The lawyer bore it for some time, and then angrily remarked: "I suppose I'm entitled to claim the attention of this court." "Well, sir," retorted the judge, "the court has long suspected you and will do its duty the first chance it gets."

—The post-office department has arranged for the manufacture of special centennial stamped envelopes to be made and sold on the centennial grounds while the exhibition is in progress. They will be manufactured of special paper, distinctively water-marked, and bearing stamps of a special design appropriate to the occasion. They will probably be sold at the rate of 25 for $1, and a large demand is anticipated.

—Dr. John Hall, in his sermon last Sunday in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, very justly said that notwithstanding all the loss of reputation suffered by the general church through the performances of so-called religious bank officers, Indian agents, credit mobilier men and so on, no one would think of attempting to procure the assent of a religious body, like a church congress or a general assembly, by the arts of the lobbyist, such as distributing stock, giving wine dinners and so on. In the common estimation, therefore, no secular organization in the country compares in purity with the church.

—Mrs. Blackford, the American "Phœnix," who entrapped a grand duke of Russia and set Paris in a blaze of indignation, was the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Ely, an Old-School Presbyterian clergyman of Philadelphia. She was baptized Harriet. Her first husband was a Dr. Blackford, a dissipated wretch, who was found dead in bed one morning, to the great joy of his affectionate wife. In Philadelphia she formed an association with a man named Porter or Procter, and obtained from him, by various threats of exposure, some $30,000. She crossed in the winter of 1869, and made her appearance in Paris, where she married Dr. Phœnix. Her subsequent life is well known.

Vicinity Correspondence.

FROM DUNKIRK.

The True Story of Thomas Carroll—A Dunkirk Alderman who Still Lives in Spite of the Chicago Papers—Carroll's Insanity.

From our own Correspondent.

DUNKIRK, Jan. 5, 1876.

"What shall I do to be forever known?"

That Dunkirk was destined to be a noted, if not a notorious place, I never had a doubt. Now, indeed, it is famous; made so in a single day by the soul-stirring story of

THOMAS CARROLL;

his remorse, confession and dark deeds, as detailed by the Chicago *Post*.

If the kick of Mrs. Moriarty's cow set Chicago in a blaze, perhaps we ought not to be astonished if the firing of a planing mill shed light enough on Dunkirk to let the rest of the world see us as we see ourselves.

The great and small papers of the country, under the startling heading of

A MURDERER'S CONSCIENCE

are frightening the timid and pleasing the wicked, by the thrilling account of Carroll's confession, his attempted suicide, the burning of the mill, and the sad death of poor McCarthy, from the terrible effects of the fire. It's a pity to take even a part of the romance out of that touching tale, but truth, which may with propriety appear occasionally, even in a newspaper, demands the elimination of Mr. McCarthy at least. He didn't die. In fact he wasn't burned. And, to tell the truth, he wasn't at the fire at all.

ALDERMAN M'CARTHY,

an honorary member of Ladder Hose No. 2, and prime mover in the construction of Lion street sewer, I am glad to say, still lives. I say I am glad, but it is because I am not a tax-payer. Every man assessed for that sewer—and they are many—regrets that the aforesaid Mc was not cremated long ago. But he wasn't, because, Dundreary like, he believes that "he who dreads the fire will never be a burned child."

With a view of hearing Carroll's confession in the most approved auricular manner, our worthy deputy sheriff,

MR. SILAS M. MATTESON,

recently took a trip to Chicago, and presented himself to Tom without ceremony. Tom was astonished—so much so that he forgot his revelations, denied his "dying declarations," asserted his innocence, and finally concluded that he was insane. As a slight of "Silas" is enough to make any ordinary rascal insane, it was thought best by the Chicago police to take Carroll at his word, and so they committed him to the care of Dr. Cunningham, in the Cook County Insane Asylum, where he now remains awaiting further developments. Eventually he will be brought to this county for trial, as the officials believe him guilty of arson, notwithstanding his present indisposition.

Nor is Carroll without sympathizing friends. The "boys" here envy his sudden notoriety.