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—BY—

JAMES W. McEWEN.

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The Democratic Sentinel

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

FOREIGN NEWS.

England has sent a commission to Astrakhan to investigate the plague.

An unknown disease is killing off the cattle in Jamaica, West Indies.

Bismarck's Parliamentary Discipline bill has been defeated in the German Reichstag

Passanante, the Italian Socialist who attempted the life of King Humbert at Naples, has been sentenced to death.

A motion in favor of female suffrage has been voted down in the British House of Commons by 103 yeas to 217 nays.

Gen Melikoff reports to the Russian Government the plague now mastered. Of a population of 118,000 in the infected districts of Astrakhan 500 died between October and February.

A committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has reported in favor of the impeachment of the De Broglie Ministry. They are accused of an attempt to establish a dictatorship, and of ignoring the popular will as shown by the elections.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

East.

Eberhard Faber, the great lead-pencil man, has just died in New York. He came to this country from Germany, and in 1861 established the first lead-pencil manufactory in America.

Rev. S. M. Stray, of Lake George, N. Y., accidentaly wounded his wife with a revolver, which so worked upon his mind that he turned the weapon upon himself and put a bullet in his head. Though badly injured, both will probably recover.

Leon Hyneman, the veteran Mason, author and editor, has just died in New York.

Charles P. Stickney, defaulting Treasurer of the Manufacturers' Gas Company, Fall River, Mass., has been sentenced to five years in the State Prison, one day to be solitary confinement.

The contest over the Vanderbilt will has been terminated by compromise. Cornelius J. Vanderbilt is to receive $1,000,000 and his expenses in the suit in the Supreme Court, and Mrs. La Bau, now Mrs. Berger, w like amount and costs, the will of the late Commodore Vanderbilt to remain uncontested.

New York papers report that the elevated railroads are causing a rapid growth of population in the upper sections of that city, at the expense of Brooklyn and the neighboring cities of New Jersey.

Died, at New Britain, Ct. (the place of his birth), on the 6th inst., Elihu Burritt, the distinguished linguist, scholar and reformer, in the 69th year of his age. He was in early years a blacksmith, and while working at his trade mastered the principal ancient and modern languages, from which fact he became known as the "learned blacksmith."

West.

The town of Reno, Nev., has been overtaken by a terrible calamity. During the prevalence of a high wind a fire broke out and spread until nearly every house in the town was reduced to ashes. The flames leaped from house to house and from block to block with lightning rapidity. The panic-stricken, half-clothed people caught a handful of their most valuable articles, and left all else to the demon of destruction. The firemen were helpless. The fierceness of the wind and the intensity of the heat rendered it impossible to get close enough to do any good. The gale carried blazing pieces of burning timber for miles into the country, and several farm houses were burned in this way. Five persons were burned to death, and many others injured. The pecuniary loss is estimated at $1,000,000, with only $150,000 insurance.

Chicago is to have an elevated railroad through the West Division of the city, and thence to the suburbs of Austin and Oak Park.

A Chicago jury has decreed that John Lamb shall be hanged by the neck until he is dead. The crime for which he is to suffer death was the murder of Police Officer Race, in October last.

By the explosion of the boiler in George Kepler's saw-mill, near Sullivan, Ill., the head sawyer was blown to atoms and two other men fatally injured.

Columbus, Ohio, is infested by a gang of incendiaries who seem bent upon destroying the city. The citizens are greatly alarmed, and are taking measures to guard against the fire-bugs. Eight houses were simultaneously set on fire one morning recently.

"Fritz" continues to be a drawing card at Chicago theaters, Joseph Emmet, the creator of the character, having played it to crowded houses for two weeks quite recently, and having now returned to Haverly's for the present week. The play has been so remodeled and strengthened that it would hardly be recognized, the chief interest centering, as of old, however, in the inimitable Emmet.

A horrible accident is reported from East St. Louis, Ill. The wagon-shop of Mrs. Henrietta Bausch took fire and, with five other buildings, was burned down. In the second story of the wagon-shop, which was occupied as a residence by Bausch, there were sleeping her three children, Henry Schoepperkoetter, a blacksmith, and Mrs. Catharina Borst, who was spending a night with Mrs. Bausch, all of whom burned to death, they being unable to escape by reason of the door leading to their apartments being fastened on the outside. Mrs. Bausch leaped from a window and was fatally injured.

South.

The last of the Louisiana Returning Board prosecutions was reached last week in the decision of the Supreme District Court at New Orleans, which affirmed the decision of the lower court in the case of Anderson, and discharged the accused. This ends the criminal proceedings instituted against the members of the board.

A nitro-glycerine explosion at Dutch Gap, near Richmond, Va., killed a Government contractor named Hall and two negro workmen, and wounded several other negroes.

A New Orleans dispatch reports an unmistakable case of yellow fever in that city.

Illinois has 1,845 convicts in her two penitentiaries.

Twenty-five citizens of Ironton, Ohio, were arrested the other day and fined in sums ranging from $5 to $150 for aiding and abetting a chicken dispute. A Justice of the Peace was among the culprits.

POLITICAL POINTS.

F. P. Dewees, Chairman of the National Committee of the National party, has issued an address to the people of the United States. He says that separation from old parties is necessary, and asserts that this action on the part of Congressmen-elect has inspired the "National-Greenback party throughout the country with renewed courage and confidence." The address calls for a thorough party organization, and adds: "If those in accord with the National-Greenback principles now earnestly attempt such an organization, party success in 1880 can be assured."

Messrs. Randall and Blackburn are the principal Democratic aspirants for Speaker of the Forty-sixth Congress. Mr. Morrison, of Illinois, has many friends who are pressing his claims. Judge Kelley, of Pennsylvania, will probably be the candidate of the Greenbackers, while the Republicans will, in all probability, support Gen. Garfield.

The Michigan Republicans met in convention at Lansing on the 6th inst., and nominated James V. Campbell for Judge of the Supreme Court, and E. O. Grosvenor and James Shearer for University Regents.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The public statement for March 1 shows an increase of the nation's indebtedness of $311,411 during the month of February. Following are the official figures:

Six per cent. bonds	$640,105,250	
Five per cent. bonds	703,266,650	
Four and a half per cent. bonds	250,000,000	
Four per cent. bonds	406,900,000	
Total coin bonds		$2,014,271,900
Matured debt		6,372,480
Legal tenders	$346,742,941	
Certificates of deposit	46,100,000	
Fractional currency	15,996,412	
Gold and silver certificates	19,087,680	
Total without interest		427,917,033
Total debt		$2,488,561,863
Total interest		24,968,176
Currency held for redemption of fractional currency	$ 8,519,741	
Special deposits held for redemption of certificates of deposit	46,100,000	
Total cash in treasury		417,222,498
Debt less cash in treasury, March 1, 1879		$2,026,207,541
Increase during February		311,411
Bonds issued to the Pacific Railroad Companies, interest payable in lawful money: principal outstanding		64,623,512
Interest:		
Accrued and not yet paid		646,205
Paid by the United States		41,773,745
Repaid by the transportation of mails		10,658,076
Balance of interest paid by the United States		$1,115,668

The President has appointed David H. Strother ("Porte Crayon") Consul General to Mexico, and George Scroggs, of Illinois, Consul at Hamburg, Germany.

It has transpired that the President had actually prepared a message vetoing the River and Harbor bill. This intention soon became noised abroad, and he was immediately besieged by Senators and Representatives whose local interests were at stake. The pressure was irresistible; the President yielded, and the bill was signed.

Congress, at its late session, made an appropriation of $250,000 to build a National Museum on the grounds of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington.

The total number of bills and joint resolutions introduced in the lower house of Congress at its recent session was 6,828, and in the Senate 1,948. A large majority of these were pending at the hour of adjournment, and, of course, failed.

It is reported that ex-Senator Conover, of Florida, is to be appointed Minister to Central America.

The President has accepted the resignation of United States District Judge Giles, of Maryland, who has been on the bench since 1854.

Ex-Senator Patterson has received a letter from the Attorney General of South Carolina announcing the canceling of the indictments against him in that State. Mr. Patterson leaves soon to take an important trust under the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in Arizona.

MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS.

At the annual election of officers of the Union Pacific railroad, held in Boston last week, Sidney Dillon was re-elected President; Elisha Atkins, Vice-President; Henry McFarland, Secretary and Treasurer, and O. W. Mink, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. The largest stockholder is Jay Gould, who voted in his own right upon 123,700 shares, and on 20,000 shares by proxy. Sidney Dillon holds 27,700 shares; Russell Sage 21,650, Oliver Ames, 37,000.

The decision of the Reno Court of Inquiry, recently in session at Chicago, has been promulgated. After giving a history of the events immediately preceding the battle of Little Big Horn, and the part taken by Maj. Reno's command in the fight, it says: "The conduct of the officers throughout was excellent, and, while the subordinates in some instances did more for the safety of the command by brilliant displays of courage than did Maj. Reno, there was nothing in his conduct which requires animadversion from this court. It is the conclusion of this court, in view of all the facts in the evidence, that no further proceedings are necessary in this case."

In a fire at Georgetown, D. C., three children of Daniel Martin (colored) were burned to death.

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

MARCH 3.—In the Senate, Mr. Allison made a report from the select committee appointed at the instance of Senator Matthews in June last. It concludes as follows: "After full consideration they find, unanimously, the statements of Senator Matthews to be true, and that he had no connection with any real or supposed frauds in the election in Louisiana, and that he has not been guilty of any corrupt conduct in any of the matters referred to in the testimony. While we cannot but regard his action in respect to James E. Anderson's effort to obtain an appointment to office under the circumstances as wrong and injurious to the public interest"....A resolution was adopted authorizing the Teller Committee to sit during the recess of Congress and take testimony....The Shields bill to pension Mexican soldiers, with the Hoar amendment forever excepting Jeff Davis from the provisions of the bill, was defeated—yeas, 20; nays, 22.—The House spent nearly the whole day in wrangling over the case of ex-Consul Seward, the Republicans filibustering to prevent the passage of the resolution of impeachment....The report of the majority of the Potter Committee was presented....Little progress was made with the appropriation bills, the conference committees in both houses being unable to agree.

MARCH 4.—The animated scenes that usually characterize the closing hours of Congress were enacted in both houses. The Senate was engaged all the preceding night on the Appropriation bills, and just before daylight an extraordinary debate occurred over the political amendments to the Legislative bill, which was participated in by Messrs. Hoar, Blaine, Matthews and others on the Republican side, and Thurman, Beck and others on the Democratic side. The debate was of a high order, and full of fire on both sides. The bill, however, together with the Army Appropriation bill, failed to pass, the Senate remaining firm in its determination not to concur in the amendment abolishing the Federal Election laws, and the House with equal stubbornness refusing to recede. Agreements were reached by the joint conference committees on the other pending Appropriation bills, and they were promptly passed. Bills were also passed placing Gen. Shields on the retired list of Brigadier Generals; appropriating $25,000,000 to pay arrears of pensions; creating a National Board of Public Health; providing for the taking of the tenth census; to promote the education of the blind....The report of the House Judiciary Committee upon the case of Judge Blodgett, of the United States Court for the Northern Illinois District, accompanied by a resolution exonorating him from the charges brought against him by certain members of the Chicago bar, was presented, and the resolution adopted....The House, up to the very moment of adjourning, was engaged in a fierce partisan debate over the political amendments to the Appropriation bill.

EXTRA SESSION.

The President has issued the following proclamation convening Congress in extra session on the 18th inst.:

By the President of the United States of America—A proclamation;

WHEREAS, The final adjournment of the Forty-fifth Congress, without making the usual and necessary appropriations for the legislative, executive and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and without making the usual and necessary appropriations for the support of the army for the same fiscal year, presents an extraordinary occasion, requiring the President to exercise the power vested in him by the constitution to convene the Houses of Congress in anticipation of the day fixed by law for their next meeting;

Now, therefore, I, Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States, do, by virtue of the power to this end vested in me by the constitution, convene both Houses to assemble at their respective Chambers at 12 o'clock noon Tuesday, the 18th day of March, then and there to consider and determine such measures as, in their wisdom, their duty, and the welfare of the people may seem to demand.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be fixed. R. B. HAYES.

By the President:

WILLIAM M. EVARTS, Secre'ary of State.

The Ciphers.

MAJORITY REPORT OF THE POTTER COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 5.

The report of the majority of the Potter Committee upon the cipher dispatches says generally that the Western Union Telegraph Company seem to have exercised due care in respect to the preservation and privacy of their dispatches, and the theft and publication of certain dispatches did not seem to be their fault. At the same time they could not but suspect that Orton, President of the company (since deceased), who was an earnest and active Republican leader, forwarded the dispatches in the custody of the company to the Republican committee of the Senate rather than to the Democratic committee of the House. He had also shown his bias by allowing certain of the dispatches to be withdrawn. On examination of the Indiana dispatches, in which Mr. Z. Chandler was asked by Mr. Tyner to "appoint two Indian Agents" one could see how very naturally the telegraph officials should have failed to recognize these most improbable cipher dispatches to have any concealed meaning, but regarded them rather as corrupt dispatches; that they could recall them so well was a credit to the efficiency of the company, and suggests that nothing in the protection of dispatches by telegraph would be gained by transferring that business to the Government. It was not for the committee, however, to suggest whether any legislation was required to prevent private telegrams from being purloined or exposed, or for their production in proper cases, considering the watchful, competent, and intelligent partisan custody of dispatches for fourteen months. It was to be expected that nothing would come to light not wanted by the parties in charge, and it would have been too much to expect that any message in refutting supposed or actual guilt of the Republican party would be found among these bundles.

The translations of the cipher dispatches disclose negotiations on the part of certain near friends of Tilden after the election to secure the electoral votes of the States of South Carolina and Florida. These persons seem to have apprehended that the electoral votes of those States which they believed to have belonged to Tilden would be declared for Hayes, and to have regarded themselves as justified in endeavoring to defeat this corrupt and fraudulent action by inducing to the payment of money which they were informed the Canvassing Boards demanded by way of blackmail.

The committee did not in any way justify their action, and considered it a gross wrong. But these negotiations were not authorized by the National Democratic Committee or any person entitled to speak for them. All the persons who had been connected with the negotiations, so far as the committee had secured their testimony, declared that in no way were they authorized by Tilden, whose particular friends they were, and Mr. Tilden had himself voluntarily appeared to corroborate that statement. No charge from any source whatever had at any time attached to the name of Mr. Hendricks.

A Long Extra Session Probable.

The extra session of Congress is not likely to be a short one. The first thing the Democrats will endeavor to do is to pass bills repealing the jurors' test oath, for the repeal of the sections of the Revised Statutes which allow the use of troops at the polls, and for the repeal of the Federal Election laws. These bills will have to be reported from committees and discussed and passed by both houses before the Army and Legislative Appropriation bills can be reported.

The Democratic majority in the House is so small and it is so difficult to keep members here that the Republicans can easily prevent any speedy action on these bills. In the Senate, of course, the minority can prolong the discussion as long as they choose, there being no previous question in the parliamentary practice of that body. It always becomes a question of physical endurance there when one side attempts to force a vote against the determination of the other.

The Chinese question will also come up in some shape, and will have to be disposed of. The Democrats will not desire to do this themselves, being content to let it rest now that the President has vetoed the bill passed at the last session, but the Republicans will insist on raising the issue. The Democrats being in control of both branches, their opponents will seek to embarrass them on this question. The Southern members will also insist upon action upon a bill to settle the claims which certain States have against the National Government for expenses incurred in the war of 1812. The reorganization of the army may also engage the attention of Congress, and it is certain that some attempt will be made to consider financial measures. It is therefore pretty well settled that Congress will not get away from here before the middle of June, and it is altogether likely that it will stay till July.—*Washington Cor. Chicago Times.*

A Life on a Wager.

The most foolish bet that we ever heard of was that made last Sunday morning in George Shaw's saloon, on Florence avenue, by Michael Hall, that he could drink one quart of whisky within five minutes. He had been drinking a good deal during the morning, and was at the time of betting somewhat intoxicated. The sum bet was only $10, which fact alone shows the condition of the man's mind at the time. A quart measure was procured and filled to the brim with whisky, the quality of which, we suppose, was about the same as that generally served in mining towns in this State. Hall put the measure of liquor to his mouth, and without taking it from his lips drank it to the dregs. Before a minute had passed he fell to the floor, apparently dead, and in that condition was at once removed to his lodging house, on Helena avenue. Dr. Brierly was summoned and emetics were given, but without producing the desired result. A stomach-pump was then applied to the man, and more than a pint of the liquor was taken from him. For forty-eight hours he was unconscious of what was going on about him. Inflammation of the stomach set in, and his sufferings became intense. The ulcerations from the inflammation finally, it is believed, perforated his stomach, and Thursday night, about 11 o'clock, he died. Hall was a robust, hard-working young man, only 25 years of age. He drank the whisky in two and a half minutes.—*Sutro (Nev.) Independent.*

BARON ALBERT GRANT, who failed in London for nearly $3,000,000, has a family of ten daughters and two sons. His wife is an unpretentious woman, the daughter of a London merchant.

THE STOLEN PRESIDENCY.

Report of the Potter Committee—A Repulsive Exhibit of the Abandoned and Destestable in Politics—The Florida and Louisiana Conspiracies Traced from Their Inception to Their Triumph.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.

Hon. Clarkson N. Potter, Chairman of the committee appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the frauds in connection with the late Presidential election, on Saturday last submitted a report which he had prepared to the committee, and it was adopted by a vote of six Democrats to three Republicans, Gen. Butler being absent. The three Republicans—Hiscock, Cox and Reed—will prepare a minority report.

Mr. Potter's report is necessarily long, as it deals with all the points that have been before the committee except the cipher dispatches, which will be made the subject of a separate report, and will be presented to the committee to-morrow. Mr. Potter's report is regarded by those who have perused it as singularly impartial. They say it is entirely devoid both of rhetorical ornamentation and vituperative denunciation, and derives its force solely from a close logical deduction of facts presented to the committee. Some of the Democrats regard it as wanting in color, or not as strongly expressed as the facts warrant, and it is not unlikely some member of the committee belonging to the party will present an additional expression of their views. The report of Mr. Potter, in opening, sets forth what it was proper for Congress to investigate, and what not, and the difficulty of conducting an investigation into conspiracies which have been successfully carried out while the successful party remains in power. It admits that the confessions of the conspirators who have become dissatisfied is worth little, but points out that it was not generally understood, that the essential features of the election and canvass in Florida and Louisiana there is no substantial dispute before the committee, the Republicans having called no witnesses in Florida and few in Louisiana, except as to the conduct of the visiting statesmen, and incidentally about intimidation. It dismisses entirely the testimony of Anderson, Jenks, Mrs. Jenks, Weber, and that class of witnesses, and deals with the case upon general and controlling facts alone. The report is divided into three parts, the first of which refers to Florida, the second to Louisiana, and the third to the forged electoral certificate.

Beginning with Florida, it cites the law directing the Presidential electors to be appointed by the votes cast, and the Canvassing Board to canvass the votes cast, and claims that if the Tilden electors, having received a majority of the votes cast in this State, were thereby necessarily entitled to be declared elected, and that the Canvassing Board, by rejecting without warrant of law a portion of the votes, so as to show a majority for Hayes, unlawfully counted Tilden out. It states that the canvassers delayed their announcement until the morning of the day the electors were to meet and vote, so, although action was instantly taken to oust the Hayes electors, no decision could be had until the Hayes electors had met that same day at noon and voted. The report then reviews the judgment of the Supreme Court, which subsequently decided the Hayes electors were not elected, nor entitled to cast the vote of the State, and that the Tilden electors were; and also the action of the court on the action brought by Drew, the Democratic candidate for Governor, to obtain a recanvass where the courts directed a recanvass, and decided that the canvassers, in refusing to count the votes cast, had defrauded Drew, and unlawfully seated Stearns. The Legislature of the State thereupon directed a recanvass of the electoral vote in accordance with this decision of the Supreme Court, the Judges of which were Republicans, and the recanvass showed the Tilden electors chosen. The Governor then issued his certificate to the Tilden electors as the true electors, but the Electoral Commission refused to consider the judgment of the court, the action of the Legislature, and the certificate given by the Governor in favor of the Tilden electors, and held that it could not take notice of any action by a State after the 6th of December. The report draws attention to the fact that such a wrong might be repeated in any State at any Presidential election by the canvassers withholding the announcement of the result of the election until the day fixed for the meeting of the Electoral College, and then declaring persons who had never been voted for at all to be electors, when, according to the decision, such electors would be entitled irrevocably to cast the vote of a State.

It, therefore, recommends a law providing that, where there is a dispute as to who were the real electors of any State, judgment of its court of last resort certified to Congress before the meeting of the two Houses of Congress to receive and count the electoral vote shall be conclusive as to the right of disputing electors, and of which vote from the State shall be counted, unless the two houses of Congress shall otherwise agree.

The report then argues that the action of the Canvassing Board was not only illegal but fraudulent, and cites an instance in which they rejected Democratic votes on unwarranted grounds, and refused to reject fraudulent Republican votes. It deals at length with the claim of the Republicans that they were entitled to the vote of the State on the face of the returns by reason of the Drigger fraud, by which a bogus return from Baker county was furnished the Canvassing Board, which they at first rejected, but which, after they were ordered to count the vote as cast, they fraudulently took in place of the true return. It then deals with the conduct of the visiting statesmen, and particularly that of Gen. Noyes, as contrasted with that of Gen. Francis C. Barlow, whose fidelity to all his obligations and integrity, and independence, fairness and truth the report especially commends.

In regard to Louisiana, the report begins with a reference to the anomalous power possessed by the Returning Board, which, it says, never before existed elsewhere. Under it electors and returning officers held the grossest power over the receiving and counting of the votes. Under the pretext that the color line divided political parties, they had used this power to fraudulently count the State for the Republicans, and had been exposed by a Republican committee of the Forty-third Congress, which had reported that the whites and blacks of the State being equal, and some of the blacks and all the whites having voted for the Democrats in 1874, the State had necessarily been carried by them, although counted for the Republicans. Hereupon the Republicans set about a false census, in which they made it appear that there were 25,000 more black voters in the State than white, and, as illustrating the fraudulent nature of this census, the report refers to the fact that, while this census reported but 57,000 colored men, women, and children in New Orleans, it made out of them nearly 25,000 colored voters. It then instances the fraudulent registration that was based upon this fraudulent census, whereby it was made to appear that the registered Republican voters exceeded the white voters in the State more than 23,000, while actually there were no more, and the refusal of the authorities to correct this false registration in cases where its falseness was pointed out. From this the report recites the direction by the Republican authorities to the Supervisors of parishes, requiring them to return votes according to the census—that is, stating that the colored adults by that census in their parishes were so many, and that they were expected to return a Republican vote corresponding to that, if they ever expected any reward of preferment. Notwithstanding this organized fraud, says the report, when the elections were over, the Democrats had a majority, as returned by the Republican election officers, of some 10,000, the vote polled being the largest ever polled in the State, and larger in proportion to the population than that of the other States.

The Republican officers made returns of the vote accordingly, and declared that the election was perfectly peaceful and fair. The Republicans, in order to overcome this majority, then usurped powers not given to them. In support of this, the report cites the finding of the Hoar, Wheeler and Frye Committee, that the Returning Board had no power to discard votes where protests, as required by law, had not accompanied the returns, no instance of which existed at this election, notwithstanding the Returning Board decided to discard the necessary number of Democratic votes. As a pretext for this usurpation they obtained protests from certain parishes which they picked out as the parishes in which to pretend intimidation had taken place. These parishes were all largely of negro population, which the Democrats had fairly carried. The report then deals with the question of intimidation, and argues that it was impossible for Democrats to gain anything by it, because the Returning Board had been created on purpose to neutralize any such action by throwing out votes in localities where it should prevail. It recites outrageous conduct of the same Returning Board in that respect in 1874, and how its action had been condemned by the Forty-third Congress, giving instances where the board had counted in officials without color of right—men whom the Congressional committee had caused to be turned out and their places given to Democrats. The Democrats knew that they not only could gain nothing by intimidation, but that they could only hope for some show of justice by avoiding anything which might be made a pretense for alleging it. The report then recites the efforts that were made throughout the State by the Democrats to conciliate the black vote, showing by the evidence of Republican witnesses, as well as the testimony of gentlemen of character, as well as Gov. Whitfield, how planters combined with negroes to get up clubs of both colors, and referred to promises and assurances made to negroes even to equality in cars, theaters, etc., far outrunning the Republicans. The leaders having joined the Democrats, the whole mass of negroes came in and became quite enthusiastic supporters, and thus the vote in some of the so-called bulldozed parishes was the very largest ever cast.

As to the conspiracy in East Feliciana parish, the report states that, after the Democrats had conciliated the negroes there, Kellegg wanted Anderson, who was a Supervisor, to have his election, and Anderson fraudulently ran away with that view, to furnish an excuse for throwing the parish out. The parish was thrown out because the Supervisor of Registration absented himself on election day, notwithstanding the other officer held the election and made one return of the vote. The Democrats in East Feliciana, knowing that they had captured the negro vote, hired Anderson to go back and hold an election. The Republicans then hit upon a new plan, and directed their friends in the parish not to vote, so as to pretend intimidation and exclude the parish. They sent out word to their followers not to come to the polls, refused to permit any tickets to be printed or circulated, and exercised their influence to withhold their own vote entirely. Eighteen hundred registered votes were cast, and 451 more, which Anderson had prevented from being registered, made about 2,300 votes cast, all Democratic, but not one Republican would vote, though urged to do so. The whole vote of the parish at the previous elections on both sides had not exceeded 2,500. The Republicans purposely withheld from casting any vote at all, and subsequently made the claim that they had been intimidated and could not vote, and the Returning Board, on this proved purposely prearranged, excluded the vote of the parish.

The report then goes on to state how the Returning Board, having got possession of such unlawful protests, proceeded to take the evidence of United States officers, money being used to bring ignorant negroes from interior fields into a great city where they were herded together, taken before officers, and had affidavits written down for them, to which, upon making their marks, they received their fees and were sent home. The process of manufacturing these affidavits is set forth to show how the negroes were imposed upon, and how worthless the affidavits were. As an illustration of how utterly reckless the Returning Board was in considering evidence, it points out that, in East Feliciana, only twenty-six witnesses to any kind of disturbance could be collected. The disturbances to which they testified had arisen from cotton-seed and other thefts by negroes, and their suppression, which had been conducted by leading Republicans, had nothing to do with politics, and although this, and the act that the election was entirely peaceable and the Republicans purposely refused to vote, was shown by 1,200 witnesses, and although four-fifths of the negroes in the parish actually did vote with the Democrats, the Returning Board threw out the whole vote. The report points out a great many other instances of what it styles the fraudulent, outrageous and desperate character of the Returning Board, and shows the impossibility of their considering the testimony before them, as they had more than could be read by a man reading ten hours a day for two weeks.

The report states that the Returning Board would never have so outraged the people but for their encouragement from the visiting statesmen, and the support which they and the troops gave them. Then follow details how some of the visitors were deceived by the local managers, and innocently co-operated in the frauds of the Returning Board, while others did not. It refers very briefly to the alleged bargain by which Hayes, who had 3,000 votes less than Packard, got counted in, while Packard went out, and mentioned Sherman's offers to prove intimidation, but points out that whenever the committee offered to receive it the evidence was not produced, and they were met by some sham excuse for not producing it; how they had examined many of the witnesses that were before the Returning Board, who, in almost every instance, recanted and explained how they came to make their false affidavits in the first place, and how such statements as they made before the Returning Board were totally unfounded. It then refers to the Sherman letter, in regard to which it simply states the facts as they stand, showing that a letter was actually written, and largely influenced political action in Louisiana, whoever signed it, and drawing attention to the attempt in the interest of Sherman by Mrs. Jenks, whose husband and brother are employes of the Treasury Department, to induce the committee to produce a forged letter.

The Florida portion of the report is followed by a list of all persons connected with the election there who have been appointed to office, and the Louisiana portion by a still longer list of persons in that State appointed to office. The third part of the report deals with the forged Louisiana electoral certificates. It tells how, the Vice President having refused the first certificate, the Republicans secretly manufactured another, ante-dating it, made it in paper and printing to resemble the one previously made; how, having very little time to prepare it, and it being impossible to get all the electors to New Orleans to sign it within that time, it became necessary to forge the signatures of two of the absentees; that thus there were put to a triplicate paper eighteen forged signatures, which were attached on Dec. 29, in the small upper room in the State building, then in charge of Conquest Clark; how the making of this second certificate was concealed until it was produced before Congress; how, when it was referred to the Electoral Commission, it was not read, but ordered to be printed, and the printer was changed, and the Electoral Commission were served with two printed copies of the forged certificate, perfect in form, and not a copy of the genuine, but the defective certificate; how, after the commission had given its decision, the record of the commission was changed so that the forged certificate, copies of which were really before the commission, was suppressed, and the record made to show as if the genuine defective certificate had been considered and passed upon; how this was not accident, but design, and that not only in one of the published records of the proceedings of the Electoral Commission, but in both, although made months apart; how the Republican managers were informed by Kellogg that there was something wrong about the second certificate, and how all the way through there lies a thread of design to impose the forged certificate upon Congress, and then be suppressed if so that, if discovered, the record might show as if it had never been produced.

The burlesque (John Smith) certificate sent from Louisiana by mail after the forged certificate, and suppressed from the record, cannot now be found. The report regards it a part of the same fraud, its object being to mislead and draw off attention from the forged certificate. The report then recites how all the persons connected with the forgery have been appointed to office, and the suspicious circumstances connected with the appointment of the same, and particularly charges that Kellogg and Clark, his private secretary, were privy to the forgeries.

The report calls attention to the danger of Returning Boards, and the greater danger of controlling elections and protecting Canvassing Boards by Federal troops, and, above all, to the crowning danger with which the country is threatened, by reason of the enormous patronage centered in the Presidency, which makes the Presidential office so great that, in order to control it, the grossest frauds and violations of law may be expected on the part of those who desire to profit by that patronage.

CONCLUSIONS.

It concludes with finding that full effect was not given to the electoral votes of Florida and Louisiana; that Noyes, Sherman and others encouraged this result; that the second certificate from Louisiana was forged as to two of its names, Kellogg and Clark being privy to it; and that Tilden and Hendricks received a true majority of electoral votes, and were the real choice of the people at the last Presidential election.

Stenger, in all probability, will not make a separate report, but will add an expression of his views upon certain points in the testimony to Mr. Potter's report.

The Republican members of the committee have declined to make any part of their report public until after the meeting of the committee to-morrow morning.

INSTEAD of the bridesmaids, fashion in France now prescribes two tiny pages.

MINORITY REPORT.

Gen. Butler's Conclusions.

THE COUNTING IN OF HAYES OBTAINED BY A SERIES OF GROSS FRAUDS.

WASHINGTON, March 5.

Gen. Butler says, in his report upon the Potter investigation: "I have chosen to examine only the political and party action of both parties, their leaders and their manipulation of the election in the State of Louisiana, where it would seem every form of wrong, misconduct, and outrage possible to be done in an election is alleged to have been committed on one side or the other."

The General concludes that in 1876 there was no full and free election by the whole body of electors of the State of Louisiana, and that the electoral vote of that State ought not therefore to have been counted in favor of either candidate for the Presidency; that, if any legal election was held in Louisiana, then the majority of the votes actually cast in the State were for the Tilden electors and for Gov. Nicholls; that in case the vote of the State is counted at all the votes of the "bulldozed parishes," as they were called, were within the fair and just exercise of the jurisdiction of the Returning Board, to be rejected in the proper exercise of their judgment, with the exception of some few polling precincts not material to the result; that in parts of the State other than said bulldozed parishes, where a full campaign was made by both political parties, the majority of votes were cast for Packard for Governor, and a portion of the Tilden electors, leaving two or more Hayes electors elected; that such a count and return would have given full expression to the will of the people in such parts of the State as were not affected by coercion and violence in favor of Packard, and against two or more of the Hayes electors, which would have given the Presidency to Tilden, as would have been the case if the whole vote of the State had been rejected by both houses.

The declaration by both houses of Congress that under the circumstances the State of Louisiana should not be counted for either candidate would have been the best possible result to the country, because it would have taught a lesson to over-zealous partisans that elections cannot be carried either by force or intimidation at the polls or by frauds in returns, so as to avail the successful candidate; and if so carried by either the vote would be rejected by the final counting tribunal. On the contrary, under the rulings of the Electoral Commission, if they are accepted as the governing law, every encouragement is given to reckless, strenuous partisans to carry their States either by force or by fraud; that the Electoral Commission, as constituted, has afforded no practical solution of the constitutional difficulties attending the count of the electoral votes in disputed States, and that an exigency again arising like that of 1876 will surely lead to revolution; that the appointment of the Electoral Commission was wholly beyond and outside of the constitution, and its determination ought to have no legal force or effect; that the appointing of Judges of the Supreme Court upon such political formation had done great harm to the cause of justice by impairing the reverence that always has been justly held for the integrity of the decision of that court of causes between party and party, and in undermining the popular estimate of the stern impartiality of the court, that in all questions it will do equal and exact justice under the law to every citizen, and that in these instances the experiment ought never to be tried again.

The result has shown that it is against public policy, and tends to bring the elements of corruption into political methods of action, to send semi-official partisans of large political influence on one side or the other, or both, into States for the purpose of controlling or advising either in regard to how its electors shall vote, or to advise as to the manner in which the votes of States shall be returned and counted; that the counting-in of Hayes was obtained by a series of gross and unjustifiable irregularities and frauds, which cannot be too strongly condemned and reprobated; that, if any title to the Governorship of Louisiana resulted from the late election in that State to any one, it was to Gov. Packard, who was legally elected, duly qualified and inaugurated, and had the right to the support of the General Government against domestic violence and insurrection, by which the State and himself were equally deprived of their just political rights; that the act of Hayes, as President of the United States, in appointing and sending the MacVeagh Commission down to Louisiana for the purpose, and the instruction to act under which it was sent was an act wholly unauthorized by the constitution, and not within the power or scope of the Executive, and especially reprehensible, as its purpose and motive was to carry out a corrupt political arrangement, agreement, and compact on his part made by his friends, with his knowledge and acquiescence and consent, the fruits of which he is still enjoying without right and against law; that there neither is nor ought to be any indefeasible title to any executive office which cannot be reached, re examined, and decided by proper proceedings authorized by Congress, to be taken and heard ultimately before the Supreme Judicial Court.

INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

MONDAY, March 3.—SENATE.—Owing to his election to the Forty-sixth Congress from the First district, William Heilman resigned his seat as Senator, and left for home, preparatory to going to Washington if necessary....The Election Committee reported in favor of Senator Smith retaining his seat....The Legislative Apportionment bill was ordered engrossed, Senator Davis' amendment being added. He voted with the Democrats.

HOUSE.—The committee to investigate the Auditor's office was instructed by the House to extend its examination to a time four years previous to Auditor Henderson's term of office.

TUESDAY, March 4.—SENATE.—The Apportionment bill was brought up directly after the assembling of the Senate and passed, Senator Davis voting with the Democrats. The bill reorganizing the benevolent institutions was also taken up and passed with the aid of Senator Davis....Two legalizing bills were taken up and passed, and then the bill to repeal that portion of the law on the subject of insurance which requires the publication of the semi-annual statements of foreign insurance companies doing business in this State in the two leading dailies of Indianapolis, was taken up and its consideration occupied most of the remainder of the session. The bill was so amended as to require the publication of the statements in a weekly paper of Indianapolis to be chosen by the company, and proof of such publication is to be filed in the office of the Auditor of the State. After being so amended the bill was ordered engrossed.....Senators Burrell and Davis were appointed a conference committee on the part of the Senate on the Apportionment bill.

HOUSE.—A number of committee reports were received and acted upon....Bills passed: Regulating the practice of medicine; securing priority to claims of laborers against corporations in certain cases: in relation to the disposition to be made of township funds; giving colored children the same school privileges as white children; compelling companies which have received grants or portions of the old national road to complete their roads; regulating the transaction of business in this State by express companies; authorizing Justices to appoint some persons to hold court for them when unable to do so themselves.... The Senate amendments to the House bill reorganized the benevolent institutions were concurred in....The House Apportionment bill, as amended by the Senate, was taken up and the Senate amendments thereto were read, when the House refused to concur in the same and asked for a committee of conference. The Speaker appointed Messrs. English and Dalton as such committee on the part of the House.... The military bill failed to pass.

WEDNESDAY, March 5.—SENATE.—A conference report upon the Interest bill was discussed and not agreed to, a new conference committee being called for....Several House bills were passed, mostly legalizing ones....The bill appropriating $700,000 for the new State House was considered, and, without reaching a vote, made the special order for to-morrow morning.

HOUSE.—Bills passed: The Specific Appropriation bill, which appropriates $137,500; limiting fines in contempt cases to $500