# The Weekly Star.

**WM. H. BERNARD, Editor and Prop'r.**

*WILMINGTON, N. C.*

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## CONGRESSMEN SHOULD TAKE COURAGE.

While the STAR with all its might insists upon the right of free speech, free thought, free printing, it recognizes also the right of all newspapers and politicians to hold whatever opinions they may choose. The STAR has not been and cannot be intolerant. Of all North Carolina papers it is perhaps as much given to thinking for itself upon all public questions and expressing freely what it thinks as any of its contemporaries. It has been more abused than any other for its political views, unless we except our esteemed and able and conscientious contemporary, the Scotland Neck *Democrat*, edited by ex-Representative in Congress, W. H. Kitchin, a genuine Democrat of the old school. The STAR has been true to its convictions, and that has given it character and influence among intelligent readers. It has pursued the even tenor of its way, although Blanche, Tray and Sweetheart opened upon its track and snapped at its heels. It recognizes the power of truth and the certainty of its final vindication.

To-day the STAR finds itself in perfect harmony with the President's message and with a large majority—probably three-fourths—of the Democratic members of Congress. The STAR has simply advocated Democratic methods in the light of history and tradition. Doing this it could not well be out of harmony with its own party.

We publish to-day a part of the Washington special to the New York *Times* that creates an apprehension that the Democratic Reformers in the House are weakening and are in danger of not sustaining the President in his very able, lucid and convincing message. They would do well to study that document, and the almost unequalled report of Secretary Manning and the recent report of his successor, Secretary Fairchild, before they conclude *not* to perform vigorous work in razeeing the present War Tariff. They must give an account of their stewardship, and if they are unfaithful to promises, go back upon the repeated deliverances of the party in convention assembled, and are untrue to the traditions and known principles of the Democracy they will find themselves left at home in the elections in 1888. If they sacrifice Democratic principles, in a spirit of cowardice, upon the altar of expediency, they are unfit to represent a free but a sorely oppressed people.

The President is in the advance. He bears aloft the banner of real reform. If his party refuse to follow, then, as he said in his admirable and unique message, that the responsibility of failure must rest "where it belongs"—on the Congress, and not on him.

We must hope for more of courage and devotion to principle on the part of the Democrats in the House than the outlook seems to promise just now. The members need backbone. The people must stiffen them up. If they mean to surrender to Randall, then they will go into the next campaign with no advantage over the Republicans. They will succeed in absolutely disgusting hundreds of thousands—nay, of millions of Democrats who do not believe that it is right, proper, moral or constitutional by law to compel fifty-five millions to toil and moil for the benefit of less than three millions.

That vigorous, original and brilliant journalist, Don Piatt, says, and it is well and strongly said:

"Protection and polygamy are the twin relics of barbarism. The one is the religion of Utah, the other that of Pennsylvania. They are alike in form as they are alike in stupidity. * * Protection is the one antagonistic principle and practice of our government. The fathers, in erecting for us a political fabric, based it entirely on self government. Our form at least emphasized the greatest freedom in the citizen, not only as to his political rights but in his private business. They grew above the fig tree and vine and assured him he might rest under their shade with no one to molest, and none to make him afraid. To this end we have free speech, a free press, free schools, free religion—in a word, everything is free until we touch barter and exchange; and free trade has not only no existence, but is held to be in deadly antagonism to our better condition as a democracy. The citizen is left to seek salvation for his soul in his own way—he has free-will secured him by constitutional provision. He may say what his independent spirit prompts, provided he does not encroach upon a like privilege in another. He may print what he pleases, and so we run through the list of rights, and privileges, until we hit trade, and there the current is reversed, we have a guardian appointed, a master installed, and one finds he is no longer the free and independent citizen. He cannot in the exercise of his judgment buy where he can buy to the best of his advantage, nor sell where he can sell at a profit. The law intervenes."

Congressmen should take courage for the people are with them. In no Democratic District can a sound Tariff Reformer be defeated by a High Protectionist. Democracy may be defeated in a District where Protection is on top, but that would be an infallible sign that Democratic principles had been abandoned and time-serving, selfishness and Republicanism were in the ascendant.

Either reduce the Tariff or back down at once, confess adherance to the Republican heresy and accept Protection as the final policy of the United States. Build the Chinese Wall higher, deepen its foundations, broaden its construction, close up the narrow gates and let the idea of a narrow policy prevail—let Americans live for themselves, and to themselves and by themselves. Let the world outside go. Withdraw your ships and let commerce cease for all time.

## CANNING AND MANUFACTURING.

The STAR has many times urged that there should be canning establishments in Wilmington. They would give employment to many people and would be a source of profit to those controlling them. The canning industry is very important in many places, and of great advantage to thousands of laborers. An oyster canning industry cannot be developed here until there is railroad connection with the best oyster grounds. But there might be a vegetable canning industry here, and our people could eat home vegetables instead of relying upon rock-ribbed and ice bound New England for supplies.

People generally have no idea of the canning business of the United States. We gather some statistics from the *Manufacturers' Record*, of Baltimore:

"Over 1,000,000,000 cans are used annually by the consumers of this country. The weight of the metal used in their manufacture was 110,000,000 pounds, at a cost of $15,000,000—remember this is the cost of the cans."

What the South has lacked and still lacks are enterprise and industry—a capacity and willingness to utilize the great advantages that lie at hand. When it manufactures its own furniture, carriages, wagons, buggies, wheelbarrows, machinery, farming utensils, cans, &c., and raises its own beef, meat, flour, hay, vegetables, &c, it will indeed have entered upon that road which leads to independence and prosperity. It will not make that trip until it has abandoned present methods. Nearly every thing worn, eaten, used in the household or on the farm is made elsewhere and comes from the North. That means dependence, slavery, poverty. A change is needed. The South needs a great many small manufactures and a more genera diversifying of products and employments.

The STAR mentioned that Australia was overrun by rabbits and after trying every way to exterminate them had at last offered $125,000 for a remedy. The distinguished M. Pasteur, of Paris, has written to the *Temps* suggesting relief to the afflicted Australians. It is to poison them wholesale, and by using microbes. He says it can be done. He would use "a poison endowed with life" and that can "multiply" a great deal faster than the rabbits can multiply. He would use the microbe of chicken cholera. He tells his experience and says:

"I collected within a limited space a certain number of chickens, and after I had given them some food poisoned with the microbe which is the cause of chicken cholera, they died on the spot. Farmyards are sometimes ravaged by true epidemics of this species, the propagation of which is doubtless due to the infection of soil and food by the excrement of those which are first seized with the disease. I fancy that the same would happen in the case of rabbits, and that, returning to their burrows to die there, they would communicate the disease to others, which in turn would spread it. But how could the destructive germs be conveyed into the bodies of the first rabbits? Nothing is easier. I would make an inclosure covering a certain space where the rabbits look for food."

The Labor people tried to get a so-called Labor member of the House on the Committee on Elections, but the Republicans would not hear to it, and so Mr. John Nichols did not get on it. But why not? John is a wool-dyed, fire-tried, "trooly loil" Republican of the indigo-blue stripe. He is only funning when he masquerades as an Independent. John could not spell that word, so little is he acquainted with it.

—Ger. barque *Theo Voss*, Seeman, from this port, for Hull, with 2,800 bbls. rosin, arrived off Bermuda, 8th inst., in a waterlogged and sinking condition. Two tugboats went to her assistance and with the help of the pilot's crew succeeded in getting the vessel into port. The foremast was cut away after being taken in tow to ease the vessel, and anchors thrown overboard. At the time of arrival she had 10 feet of water in the hold and the decks were level with the water. The vessel experienced severe gales from Nov. 30 to Dec. 6, from NE and E in lat. 35, lon. 62, which caused her to leak badly. Tug *Gladisfen* assisted in pumping the vessel out, and the cargo has been discharged. The vessel has been abandoned on survey and estimate, and is advertised to be sold at auction 23d inst.

—Schr. *Lamoine* (of Boston), Parker, from this port with a cargo of lumber, shingles and naval stores, shipped by Messrs. J. H. Chadbourn & Co., Nov. 11th, was driven ashore at Jeremie, Hayti, December 2, bilged and became a total loss. The crew were lashed in the rigging 14 hours, exposed to the gale, before being rescued. They were rescued by people from the shore. Part of the schooner's sails and rigging will be saved.


Mr. J. Thomas, (of Thomas & Co., Real Estate Brokers,) 57 Saratoga street, Baltimore, Md., says: Hearing that Salvation Oil was good for neuralgia I procured a bottle and sent it to a lady friend in the country who was suffering severely with this painful affection. She takes pleasure in stating that it afforded her complete relief.


Gen. Jo Johnston at last is "reconstructed." He holds office under Cleveland and is about eighty years old. He reflects no doubt the dominant feeling in the South in the following:

"There is general satisfaction, not only in the preservation of the Union, but in the abolition of slavery. That's where we at the South were badly mistaken. We really thought the continuation of slavery was necessary to our civilization. It cost a good deal to correct the delusion."

Lord Salisbury, Tory Premier, made a speech at Derby, and declared himself opposed to the Protection system.

### Excitement Among Naval Stores Dealers in Savannah.

The Savannah *News* says that naval stores dealers in that city are considerably excited over the announcement that the Standard Oil Company will open an office there on the first of the year, and will at once send word to the producers of naval stores that it will handle their spirits of turpentine free of all commissions, which means that it will buy them at the market price, and give the consumer that figure, instead of deducting from it commissions, as the factors do. The Standard is buying large quantities of turpentine out in the country, and it is said it will be cheaper for the company, and will greatly facilitate its business if it can have the producer ship to Savannah, and it had rather buy the spirits there at the market price than in the country at a little less.

Some of the factors seemed to think, the *News* adds, "that if the Standard wanted the business and found that it could not get it without lending the producers the money they needed, it would begin and furnish them money, but the report as it was on the street yesterday was that it would do no lending. The rumor has awakened a great deal of interest, and was the subject of much earnest conversation on the floor of the Board of Trade. If the Standard does what report says it will do, and it seems certain that it will, it will cut the factors out of their business altogether."

Another "startling report" concerning the naval stores business in Georgia is mentioned in the same paper, that—

"Col. John E. Donaldson, of Bainbridge, told a gentleman who has recently come in from the country, that he had been approached by the representative of a New York syndicate which has been organized with a capital of $6,000,000 for the purpose of buying up the Georgia forests and distilleries. The representative of the syndicate called upon Col. Donaldson to consult with him about the practicability of the scheme and the representative stated that the company had its capital and is ready to begin its purchases. The factors said that they had known more than one rich concern to break when they tried to corner the Georgia pineries, and if the new company wanted to try it it could do so. Outside of the factors this scheme is looked upon as more to be dreaded than the Standard Oil Company, for while the Standard would take the business away from the factors it would leave it with the producers, and the saving of the commissions to the producers would really give them a larger profit out of the business than they now receive. But if the syndicate should succeed it would not only cut out the factor, but the producer also, and leave the latter as well as the former robbed of his living."

### More Holiday Rates.

The STAR has endeavored to keep its readers fully posted concerning the excursion of holiday rates on the different railroads. To those heretofore given we add the rates of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley, which will issue round trip tickets between all stations on its line, at one first-class fare, which is four cents per mile. Tickets will be on sale Dec. 22, 23 and 24, good to return to selling point up to January 2 inclusive; and also on Dec. 29, 30 and 31, good to return to selling point up to Jan. 6 inclusive. The reduced rates on the several railroads will add greatly to the enjoyment of the Christmas holidays, bringing about many meetings and reunions between friends and relatives who have not seen each other for years.

### Hon. Alfred Rowland.

It will be gratifying news to the many friends of Col. Rowland to learn that he has greatly improved in health. The Charlotte *Observer* says that "in fact the skillful physicians who have been treating his case say the disease he has been affected with has been cured and he is now only suffering the weakening effects of his prolonged sickness. The excitement incident to Washington life and absence from the creature comforts of home, were unfavorable to his rapid recuperation, hence he returns to his home, expecting to be restored to his usual strength after the Christmas holidays. His fidelity to duty would not have allowed him to return, but for the fact that little Congressional work is done until the new year opens.

### A Costly Overcoat.

We read about a citizen of Charlotte who saw an advertisement of A. H. King, a Broadway merchant, who "was selling a forty-dollar overcoat for ten dollars," and who forwarded King a ten-dollar bill. In due time the overcoat was received and, the *Observer* says, a garment made of cotton bagging would have been a fine one compared to it. A better overcoat could have been bought in Charlotte for five dollars. No doubt there are many people in Wilmington who have been nicely swindled by sending North for goods instead of patronizing our home merchants.

### Foreign Exports Yesterday.

Messrs. Williams & Murchison cleared the Norwegian barque *Sidon*, for Liverpool, Eng., with a cargo of 1,545 bales of cotton, weighing 720,721 pounds and valued at $72,072.

Messrs. Alex Sprunt & Son cleared the Norwegian barque *Albatross*, for Havre, France, with 1,850 bales of cotton, weighing 866,736 pounds and valued at $88,650.

Messrs. J. H. Chadbourn & Co. cleared the schooner *Hannah F. Carleton*, for Port-au-Prince, Hayti, with 315,707 feet of lumber, valued at $2,728.87.


"On their own merits modest men are dumb," but it would seem the height of ingratitude in the thousands who have been happily cured by it—to deny the extraordinary excellence of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.


### The Hanover Knitting Mills.

A reporter for the STAR paid a visit yesterday to the new factory recently erected near the foot of Queen street and known as the "Hanover Knitting Mills." The enterprise is altogether new for this section, but is one that it has been persistently urged from time to time in the columns of this paper would prove profitable, and beyond question, under the management of the capable and energetic young men who have inaugurated it will be a successful venture. We trust it may lead to other industrial enterprises by other of our young and energetic citizens. So far as we know, there are but two other knitting mills in the South—one at Salem in this State and the other at Columbia, S. C., and both of these, we understand, are profitable investments.

The proprietors of the mills are Messrs. Edward S. Tennent, J. Allen Taylor, and Walker Taylor, operating under the firm name of Tennent & Taylor. The mill, as stated above, is situated near the foot of Queen street. It is a neat frame structure, one story in height, with abundant light and ventilation and comfortably warmed by steam. The machinery is of the latest and most approved pattern. It is run by power obtained from the steam mill of Messrs. S. & W. H. Northrop, near by, and requires to attend it some fifteen employes. Most of these are women, and all have been residents of the city for a long time. They have had no experience in the work and no instruction beyond that given by a skilled workman who came out from the North to set up the plant and put it in operation, and yet, to the casual observer they are adepts in all that pertains to the work.

There are six machines for making plain webbing, four "Balmoral" machines, and two machines for knitting ribbed hose; one winder of thirty spindles, six Wilcox & Gibbs sewing machines, with trimmer attachments, and a steam press for shaping the hose.

The manufacturers will make a specialty of hosiery, but contemplate putting in machinery adapted to the production of other knit underwear. At present, the works are running on a medium grade of goods adapted to the general dry goods trade and known as "split hose." They have a daily capacity of about one hundred dozen half-hose or seventy dozen full hose per day. The company as yet have no dye works, but in time will make arrangements for the production of solid colored, striped and plain unbleached hose. The yarn worked up at the mill is procured from the North, being of harder twist than the yarn made here, and is manufactured especially for knitting.

### A Singular Suicide.

Lucy Smith, a colored woman aged about forty-one years, was found dead with a pistol-shot wound through her head last Sunday night about ten o'clock, in a closet in a house on Eighth street between Orange and Ann, which she occupied jointly with her two sisters—Martha Toomer and Sylvia Henderson—and a colored man named Hilliard Christian. The woman was alone at the time the fearful deed was committed, all the others having gone to church. When they returned they went to Lucy's room, and after a short search found her in the closet, seated on a trunk and quite dead. The pistol with which the suicide was committed dropped from the dead woman's hand as the door was opened.

Coroner Miller was notified of the tragedy and yesterday morning held an inquest at the house.

Dr. Potter, superintendent of health, examined the body of the woman. The ball ranged from back of the right ear through the brain to the opposite side of the head, lodging near the left ear.

The only witnesses who could throw any light upon the tragedy were Sylvia Henderson and Martha Toomer, the two sisters.

Sylvia Henderson testified that she left Lucy about four o'clock Sunday afternoon, came back to the house at six o'clock and knocked at Lucy's door, but there was no answer. About seven she (Sylvia) went to St. Luke's Church and returned about ten. Went again to Lucy's room, but did not find her, and after searching for her among the neighbors, returned to Lucy's room and opened the door with a key that fitted the lock. Continuing, witness said: "My sister came in and said 'don't lock the lower door, she may be out.' Mrs. Toomer found her; she was dead in the closet, with a pistol clutched in her hand."

Martha Toomer testified: "I left the house in the evening and went to church, and returned between nine and ten o'clock. Looked in the room for Lucy but could not find her; she had locked herself in the room and went into the closet and shut herself up. I went to the closet and found her dead, and the pistol dropped out of her hand.

Hilliard Christian, a colored man living in the house, testified that all he knew about it was that he came home at half-past 11 o'clock Sunday night, and found Lucy Smith dead in the closet, with a pistol near her and a pool of blood.

The jury rendered the following verdict: "Upon hearing the foregoing testimony the jury of inquest find that Lucy Smith came to her death on the 18th day of December, 1887, in New Hanover county, from a pistol ball through her brain, fired by her own hand." The jurymen were J. M. McGowan, Isham Sweet, James D Dry, S. A. Craig, David Jacobs, G. W. Murray.

The dead woman is represented to have been in poor health, and despondent since the departure of her husband, who left here a few weeks ago on a vessel bound to Baltimore.

— The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, will convene in Raleigh Monday evening, January 10. All the railroads will issue round trip tickets at reduced rates. Return tickets should be called for at point of taking cars on each independent line to prevent payment of full fare both ways. The foregoing announcement is official, coming from Mr. D. W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

### FIRST SESSION.

**Favorable Report in Senate on Blair Educational Bill—Resolutions Favoring Revison of Internal Tax and Tariff Laws Offered by Mr. Pugh—Nothing Important Done in House.**

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

### SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19—Among the papers presented to the Senate was a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, with a copy of the report of special agent Tingle, on the condition of affairs on the Sea Islands of Alaska. Referred to committee on Foreign Relations. Also a memorial of the Constitutional Convention of the territory of Utah, asking admission into the Union as a State, with copies of the constitution. Referred to committee on Territories.

Among the bills introduced and referred were the following:—

By Mr. Hoar, relating to the celebration of the Centennial of the Inauguration of the Constitution.

Among the bills reported favorably from committees and placed on the calendar was Mr Blair's bill to aid in the establishment and temporary support of common schools.

Mr Sawyer called up his motion to reconsider the vote whereby (last Monday) the resolution offered by Mr. Butler for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the advisability of establishing a Government Postal Telegraph, was agreed to.

Mr. Butler asked Mr. Sawyer to state the object of the motion to reconsider.

Mr Sawyer said that his object was to have the subject referred—referred to the Postoffice Committee, where it properly belonged.

Mr Saulsbury said the subject had been before the Postoffice Committee for six years and had been fully considered by it. Reference to a select committee would be a vote of want of confidence either in the ability or willingness of the Postoffice Committee to deal with the subject.

Mr Butler disclaimed any idea of reflection, in the remotest degree, upon the Postoffice Committee, and he withdrew all opposition to the motion to reconsider, and concurred to have the matter referred to the Postoffice Committee.

The vote was accordingly reconsidered and the subject of the postal telegraph was referred to the Postoffice Committee.

Mr Pugh offered the following resolution and proceeded to address the Senate in support of it:

"*Resolved*, That the most important and pressing duty of the present session of Congress is to revise, and so amend, the existing internal tax and tariff laws, as to reduce the annual revenues to be collected therefrom to the necessary wants of the Federal government, and no more than it needs to pay its matured debts, and discharge its obligations under the laws of Congress, without crippling or deranging any American industries, or business interests connected with subjects of tariff taxation, or interfering with the just rights of the American working people, intended to be secured to them by the incidental effects of revenue duties, to share the joint product of labor and capital employed in American mining and manufacturing industries to the full measure of difference in the cost of their labor and the labor of those engaged in similar industries in Europe.

"*Resolved*, That the Senate will concur in no joint resolution for final adjournment of the present session of Congress until after the passage of such remedial laws as are specified in the foregoing resolution."

In the course of his argument, Mr. Pugh asked whether Congress would wipe out all internal revenue taxes and allow the necessary revenue to be raised on tariff imports alone? He had never a clearer or stronger conviction than the conviction that the whiskey tax was perfectly just and wholly unobjectionable, except on the ground that it was a direct tax. There was nothing produced, owned, and consumed that could supply the government with ninety millions of revenue with more propriety and less injury to any human being than whiskey. He had never heard any valid reason, and did not believe there was any valid reason, why whiskey drinkers should be relieved from the payment of this tax, and why the revenue which it yielded should be extorted by a tariff from consumers of the necessaries of life. He knew of no better use to which whiskey could be applied than to the production of the ninety millions of revenue necessary to pay pensions and interest on the war debt, instead of extorting that amount from the harmless consumption of imported articles. "Who insisted," he asked, "that the luxury of whiskey drinking should be freed from burden? Was it the whiskey drinkers or whiskey makers who declared there should be no revision of the tariff until every internal revenue tax was repealed? It was not. The cry came loudest and fiercest from the manufacturers and their representatives. The most defiant and uncompromising adherents of free whiskey were the manufacturers of protected articles." As a general compromise he would repeal the internal tax upon tobacco, for the sole reason that tobacco was an agricultural product, and let the tax on whiskey stand for future consideration. He declared that he would vote for no duty on any article manufactured in the United States that would cripple any home industry or impair the ability of home competition. No people, he said, had ever submitted so long to robbery on the part of their own government; and those who opposed revision of the tariff at the risk of a financial panic and industrial paralysis, became parties to this robbery, and became political criminals. Both the Republican and the Democratic parties had promised to reduce the income to the wants of the government; and it was trifling for Republicans to charge upon the Democratic party the blame of failure to revise the tariff. This Congress could not adjourn until such change was made in the revenue laws as would stop the flow of money from the people into the National Treasury beyond the needs of the Government. He would put on the free list chemicals and raw wool of all low grades, and salt, and he might be willing to add other articles to the free list. He was not in favor, however, of putting iron ore on the free list. Doing so would be regarded by our land owners and ore-workers of Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia as an act of unjust discrimination in favor of foreign iron ores. As to pig iron, on which the present duty was $6 75 per ton he believed that a duty of $5 per ton would be ample. He made these remarks to show that there was not the least danger to the iron ore and pig iron interest from any reduction of the tariff. President Cleveland had in his recent annual message shown a courage and patriotism never exhibited before by any public man in his position, and with his surroundings. There could be no mistake as to what the President believed to be the paramount duty of Congress. There was not a single sentence in the message that was not a truth and the whole truth.

At the close of Mr. Pugh's remarks the resolution was ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. Blair gave notice that he would to-morrow ask the Senate to proceed to the consideration of the Educational bill.

After a brief executive session the Senate at 4 15 adjourned.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker announced the appointment of the Committee on Rules as follows: the Speaker, Messrs. Randall, Mills, Reed, and Cannon.

Mr. Cox, of New York, offered a resolution authorizing the Speaker to employ a clerk to complete the compilation of questions of order raised and decided on general appropriation and revenue bills, by including therein the points of order raised during the 48th and 49th Congresses.

At the suggestion of Mr. Randall the resolution was referred to the committee on Rules.

Mr. Dibble, of S. C., offered a resolution referring to the Committee on Appropriations reports of the court of Claims on the French Spoliation Claims, with instructions to that committee to report all claims which have been decided favorably to claimants, in the General Deficiency bill. The resolution was adopted.

A number of resolutions suggesting changes in the rules were presented and referred to the Committee on Rules, among them the following:

By Mr. Gallenger, of New Hampshire, providing that any committee may be required by a vote of the House to report back any matter which has been in its possession for one month.

By Mr. Breckenridge, of Arkansas, providing that all appropriations for snagging operations, for pay of regularly employed officials, and for other subjects not otherwise provided, shall be in a separate bill (from the river and harbor bill), and requiring estimates for the cost of other than snagging operations to accompany the bill. All works other than snagging operations, of which the final cost of completion is less than $500,000, may be provided for in a separate bill, while every other work, the cost of which shall exceed that amount, must be embodied in a separate bill, and it shall not be in order to make such an appropriation unless the bill provides for the completion of the work. The amendment also gives the River and Harbor bill the same privileges in the matter of consideration as is accorded general appropriation bills.

By Mr Brewer, of Michigan, requiring the Speaker to appoint committees within two weeks of the meeting of Congress.

### SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—Numerous petitions were presented in the Senate from various States in favor of Mr. Blair's educational bill, and also a petition from citizens of Pennsylvania protesting against the admission of Utah as a State.

Mr. Allison, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill to regulate the importation of foreign merchandize, to secure uniformity in the classification thereof, and for other purposes (Under-Valuation bill). He said it was an original bill, which affected materially the laws in reference to imports, and asked, in view of its importance, that 10,000 extra copies be printed in pamphlet form.

The bill was placed on the calendar and the motion to print was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Allison, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back House joint resolution to pay the employes of Congress their salaries for the month of December. Passed. Also, a concurrent resolution for the holiday recess, and asked its immediate concurrence.

Mr. Plumb objected and the resolution was placed on the calendar.

Mr. Davis, from the Committee on Pensions, reported a bill to place the name of Mrs Logan (widow of Gen. John A. Logan) on the pension roll at the rate of $2,000 a year, and asked for its immediate consideration. Mr. Berry objected and the bill was placed on the calendar.

Mr. Davis also reported a bill to increase the pension of Mrs. Blair, widow of Gen. Frank P Blair, and it was also placed on the calendar.

Mr. Hampton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to transfer to the trustees of Porter Academy certain property used for army purposes in Charleston. Calendar.

Mr. Edmunds asked that the Postal Telegraph bill introduced by him be taken from the table and referred to the Post Office Committee. He had intended, he said, to have submitted some brief observations on the bill, but trusting to the zeal and fidelity which the Post Office Committee had hitherto shown in favor of some such measure, he thought he could safely send it without any prolix observation, trusting that it would be very speedily reported, when it could be discussed. The bill was so referred, as well as the bill on the same subject introduced by Mr. Cullom.

The resolution offered by Mr. Call yesterday to print in the Congressional Record the memorial of the Constitutional Convention of Utah, was called up by that gentleman, who asked that it now be adopted. Mr. Edmunds preferred that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Territories, which now had jurisdiction of the subject. Mr. Call argued that it was due to a community of 200,000 people to have its views fairly presented. He understood that less than 3 per cent of these people were guilty of the practices on the assumption of which the objection of the Senator from Vermont was based. He would now read the memorial to insure its publication in the Record, to show that there was nothing objectionable in it. He thereupon read the memorial. He added that the Senator from Vermont knew that there was nothing in the memorial disrespectful to Congress, and that there was no reason, in right or justice, why the Senate should refuse to hear the petition of 200,000 American citizens.

Mr Edmunds thanked the Senator from Florida for his gratifying allusions to him; they were worthy of him (Call), and he trusted that he (Edmunds) could bear them. He certainly had not questioned the sincerity of the Senator from Florida, for he (Call) had stood behind this polygamist hierarchy every time that it had any interest to advance, or any wholesome legislation to resist. He had done so with a great deal of ability and considerable zeal. He could give him the praise of being absolutely sincere in standing by that body of persons through thick and through thin, come good, come ill; and he expected that the Senator would continue to do so; and if, in the process of time, Utah should become a State and the United States Constitution be changed so that one person might be Senator from two States, he had no doubt that the Senator from Florida would be the first Senator whom the Mormon hierarchy would select. He (Edwards) could produce and ask to have printed in the Record other statements showing the utter hypocricy and gammon of that performance, and that it was a mere trick to get out from under the hands of Congress and from under the laws of the United States. Everybody understood that, and he (Edwards) did not propose to vote for spending money in order to print in the Record that sort of thing.

Mr. Call said the Senator from Vermont was not more sincere than correct in his statement, that he (Call) had stood behind the Mormon hierarchy. He had stood behind human rights when the Senator with exquisite cruelty sought to punish innocent women and children by legislation, which he (Call) regarded as unconstitutional, unfeeling and inhuman. The Senator had never heard him advocate corrupt judicial tribunals, or packed juries. He (Call) had not even expressed an opinion as to how he should vote on the admission of Utah. That was a question for future consideration. He understood by the statements of reliable citizens, Republicans and Democrats, that not more than five per cent. of the population of Utah favored polygamy, and that the young people of the territory were unanimously opposed to it, and submitted conscientiously to the legislation of Congress. The objections of the Senator from Vermont were vain and idle, and were unworthy of that Senator. They were not reasonable as a matter of logic, and were not true as a matter of fact.

Mr. Stewart was opposed to printing the memorial in the Record, as it might raise false hopes in Utah, as being an expression of opinion that its admission as a State was possible at present. He regretted very much that Utah was not in a condition to become a State. She was utterly unfit for it. She was govered by a close corporation—a hierarchy. He did not believe there was such a thing as freedom in Utah. Free schools, as understood elsewhere, did not exist; there everything was made subservient to a political organization known as the Mormon church. It was impossible for United States citizens to live in any part of Utah outside of the towns where there was military protection. The various modes which the Mormans had of ridding themselves of Gentiles were cruel, unheard of, unreasonable, the details of which he would not give at present. He would hate to see a vote given in the Senate that would in any way favor the admission of Utah as a State, until her people were really prepared to establish a government where citizens of all denominations might reside in peace and be protected. He did not want to see Utah admitted with the weak promise that she would abolish polygamy, without any evidence that she would abolish the organization which governed the Mormons with a rod of iron, and excluded other citizens from living among them. He would think it a great calamity to have these people put in a position where they could change their constitution at will, and perpetuate an organization hostile to liberty, and founded on a pretendod religious hierarchy.

Mr. Platt argued that there was no more reason why a memorial of a self-constituted Convention should be printed in the *Record* than a memorial of any citizen or any number of citizens.

Mr Paddock denied that the memorial represented the wishes of 200,000 people, for the whole population of Utah was only 200,000, of which about 140,000 were Mormons. As to the statement that not more than thirty per cent. of the Mormons were polygamists, he asserted that they were all polygamists, so far as an endorsement of doctrines was concerned, and a belief that it was a divine revelation.

Mr. Call said that the memorial having been read by him it would necessarily be printed in the *Record*; and as he did not desire to provoke any further contention in the matter he withdrew his resolution.

Mr. Blair moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the Educational bill.

Mr. Riddleberger created some amusement by holding up a large printed pamphlet, compiled by Mr. Blair from speeches, memorials, &c., on the subject, and protesting against the Senate being called to act upon that as a bill. He had himself voted for the Blair bill last session, and would vote for it again, but he could not sustain it with such a preface and such commentaries.

Mr. Blair made an explanation on the subject, and (in response to other suggestions) said he did not propose to press the bill beyond the usual courtesies of the Senate, which would, he understood, entitle every Senator who desired to speak upon it to be heard.

A motion to take up the bill for consideration was agreed to—yeas 38, nays 15, as follows: Yeas—Messrs. Allison, Berry, Blackburn, Blair, Blodgett, Brown, Call, Chandler, Cullom, Davis, Dawes, Dolph, Edmunds, Evarts, Frye, George, Hampton, Hiscock, Ingalls, Jones, of Ark., Manderson, Mitchell, Morrill, Paddock, Palmer, Pasco, Payne, Platt, Pugh, Ransom, Riddleberger, Sawyer, Sherman, Stockbridge, Teller, Turpie, Vance, Wilson, of Iowa—38.

Nays—Messrs Bate, Beck, Butler, Cockrell, Coke, Faulkner, Gorman, Gray, Harris, Hawley, Hearse, Morgan, Reagan, Saulsbury, Vest—15.

By unanimous consent, and without displacing the Educational bill as unfinished business, Mr. Butler offered a resolution for the appointment of a select committee of five Senators to inquire into the relations of five civilized tribes of Indians, and whether it is desirable and advisable to give citizenship to members of the tribes.

Mr. Teller objected to the immediate consideration of the resolution, and it was ordered to lie on the table.

After an Executive session of fifteen minutes the Senate adjourned.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Brumm, of Pa., offered a preamble and resolution, reciting that it is currently reported that iron operators in the Lehigh region are now importing or are about to import two hundred Belgian miners under contract, to take the place of the miners now on a strike in that section; that the striking miners have used every endeavor to have a settlement of the differences by arbitration, and that the operators have positively refused to enter into arbitration, and requesting the President to notify the officials of the Treasury Department of these facts and urge them to use special efforts to prevent the landing of the Belgian miners, and to see that the law against the importation of labor under contract is strictly enforced. Referred to Committee on Labor.

Propositions to increase the membership of the Committee on Rules to seven, and to provide for a committee on the American Isthmus were respectively introduced by Messrs. Townshend and Baker, of Illinois, and referred to the Committee on Rules.

Mr. Mills, of Texas, moved an adjournment, stating that he did so in order to enable the Committee on Rules to meet and decide upon areport, which would probably be submitted to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to and the House at 12.15 adjourned.

### SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—In the Senate to-day the following appointments were announced by the presiding officer: Hawley, as director of the Columbia Deaf and Dumb Institution; Davis, as consulting trustee of the Reform School of the District of Columbia; and Blackburn, as director of Columbia Hospital for Women.

Mr. Morgan from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a resolution directing the Secretary of State to furnish copies of all correspondence with the Mexican Government since January, 1886, respecting the Weil and La Abra claims; also to state what amount has been paid by Mexico under the convention for the adjustment of the claims, the amount distributed, amount undistributed, and the reasons for withholding same, &c. Adopted.

Mr. Spooner offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Privileges and Elections to inquire into the expediency of adoption by the Senate (for the guidance of the Executives of the several States), of a form of credentials of election of United States Senator.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Butler, for the appointment of a select committee of five, to investigate the condition of the five civilized tribes of Indians, was taken up and adopted.

The resolution offered by Mr. Beck on the 12th instant, directing the Post Office Committee to inquire into the advisability of reducing the rate of letter postage to one cent, was taken up and referred to that committee.

Mr. Dawes called up the bill to amend the law concerning the Commission of Fish and Fisheries, and moved it be passed. It provides for the appointment by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, of a person of scientific and practical acquaintance with fish and fisheries, as Commissioner, at a salary of $5,000, such person not to hold any other United States or State office.

A motion by Mr. Reagan, to reduce the salary to $3,000, was rejected, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Allison called up the holiday recess resolution and moved its adoption.

Mr. Plumb said he would vote against the resolution, because he thought the proposed recess was against the public interest. Congress would be in session till the dog-days, and during the latter part of the session the country would be in the midst of a heated Presidential canvass. There was no reason why members of Congress should go home for the holiday.

Mr. Plumb then proceeded at considerable length to make a political speech, attacking more particularly the President's message and the financial policy of the administration. He said he presumed the adjournment resolution would pass, but he believed that it would not be, with a fair regard to public interests or to the duty which rested upon Congress.

Mr. Plumb's speech brought on a general political debate, participated in by Messrs. Beck, Butler, Dolph, Vest, Teller, Stewart, Allison, Sherman and others. At its close the adjornment resolution was concurred in—yeas 37, nays 19.

The Blair educational bill was taken up as unfinished business, and then, on motion of Mr. Sherman, at 4 35 the Senate proceeded to executive business, and half an hour afterwards adjourned.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Randall, of Penn., from the Committee on Rules, submitted a partial report. The report recommends the adoption of the rules of the 49th Congress until further orders, with the following changes: The membership of the Committee on Library is increased to five; a standing committee is established, to consist of thirteen members, to be known as the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; an addition of representation on the Committee on Private Land Claims is recommended; private bills are to be presented through the clerk and given proper reference by that officer; an improper reference of a bill does not confer any jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, but appropriate reference will be made by direction of the Speaker, any private bill whose contents are found to be insulting or obscene, will be returned to the member presenting it, and will not be referred; hereafter there will be printed only five hundred copies of each bill of a public nature introduced, and one hundred copies of each private bill presented to the clerk for reference. The following select committees are provided for: On reform in the civil service, to consist of thirteen members; on the election of President and Vice President and representatives in Congress, to consist of thirteen members; on the eleventh census, to consist of thirteen members; on Indian depredation claims, to consist of thirteen members; on ventilation and acoustics, to consist of seven members; on the alcoholic liquor traffic, to consist of eleven members.

Mr. Randall briefly explained the proposed changes, which he stated were with one exception recommended by the unanimous vote of the Committee on Rules. That exception was the recommendation for the appointment of a special committee on the alcoholic liquor traffic. The gentlemen from Maine and Illinois (Reed and Cannon) and he constituted the majority of the committee on this question.

Mr. McCreary, of Kentucky, said he desired to offer an amendment requiring general appropriation bills to be re