

# The Wilmington Sun.

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## THE LEGISLATURE.

### RESUME OF PROCEEDINGS.

Ninth Day—Friday Jan. 17.

Raleigh Observer Special.

SENATE.

Mr. Davidson presented a petition from the citizens of Asheville to prohibit the running of trains on the Holy Sabbath day.

Mr. Leach presented a petition of a similar character.

By Mr. Henderson, from the citizens of Blackwell township, a memorial asking for a stock law and a law for the protection of sheep.

By Mr. Everett, instructing the Committee on Privileges and Elections to examine the charges against, and take evidence in regard to the seat of Jos. G. Waldo, whose seat is claimed by Samuel T. Carrow.

By Mr. Mebane, covering the State debt. To appoint a joint committee on the State debt, said committee be instructed to inquire in the expediency of changing N. C. R. bonds for State bonds as far as they will go, and make some arrangements for the balance of the debt.

By Mr. Caldwell, a resolution of inquiry requesting the Finance Committee to inquire into the practicality of taxing boots and shoes, saddle, harness, stoves, iron, vehicles, &c., manufactured out of the State.

By Mr. Epps, a joint resolution relating to the 14th amendment to the constitution of the United States to inquire whether this amendment was violated at the late election in the Second Senatorial District.

By Mr. Merritt, a resolution in regard to the public roads.

By Mr. Everett, a bill to establish normal schools at Trinity, Wake, Forest and Davidson Colleges.

By Mr. Redwine, a bill to repeal so much of the Laws of 1876-77 as relates to the election of County Commissioners and Justices of the Peace—they to be elected as provided for in the Constitution before it was amended.

Bill relating to the Senatorial contest in the Second District between Waldo and Carrow passed second reading and was referred.

S. B. 116, referring to the exemption of personal property from sale. Passed its third reading.

S. B. 29, to punish stealing dead bodies. Passed its third reading with an amendment that the sheriff, jailors and superintendents of penal and charitable institutions of the State shall deliver to such medical schools as have schools of dissection the bodies of persons who may suffer death at the hands of the officers of the law, or die while undergoing a term of imprisonment, provided such bodies shall not be claimed by relatives or friends of the deceased.

Bill for improvement of the fish interest passed.

S. B. 39, in relation to judgments on appeal from justices of the peace. A substitute reported by the Judiciary Committee was accepted and the bill passed.

### HOUSE.

By Mr. Brown, of Mecklenburg, a petition from the Trustees of Davidson College, asking the institution of Normal Schools in various parts of the State. To the Committee on Education.

By Mr. Mebane, a petition from the citizens of Melville township, Alamance county, to prevent trains running Sunday. Referred.

By Mr. Turner, resolution to expel himself. Propositions and Grievances.

By Mr. Nixson, bill to prevent the wadding fighting of game-cocks, and betting thereon. Judiciary.

Bills to punish incest and make slander of women indictable, and bill to punish abduction of children under 18, referred.

The House branches of joint committees were announced as follows:

**The Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.**—Messrs. Council, Melrose, Taylor, Cooke, Venable, Wheeler, Richardson of Wake, Harrell, Jones, Bingham, Christmas and Ellison.

**Public Buildings and Grounds.**—Messrs. Richardson of Wake, Foster, Atkinson, Holt and Ellison.

**Library.**—Messrs. Moore, Lamb, Henderson, Dixon and Hewitt.

**Genesee.**—Messrs. Covington, Bizzell, Boyd, Nelson, Smith, Angier, Bird and Newell.

**Banks and Currency.**—Messrs. Orchard, Brown of Mecklenburg, Leatherwood, Davis of Haywood, Burroughs, Leach, Poy, Foyles and Wynne.

**Internal Affairs.**—Messrs. York, McCord, Board, Lockhart, Richardson of Wake, Anderson, Barringer, Carson, Reid of McDowell, Click, Carter of Yancey, Jenson, Lutterloh, McLean and Norman.

A message was received from the Senate proposing to go into an election to fill vacancies in the Board of Trustees of the University on Thursday next, and to print the report of W. L. Saunders, secretary of the Board. The House concurred in the proposition.

The bill to amend the law of divorce so that the unchastity of the woman before marriage shall be good grounds for divorce, if unknown to the husband, was read the second time. The amendment proposed by the Committee on Judiciary, providing that the adultery of either party should be ground for divorce was adopted, and the bill passed a second time.

Resolution arranging for a committee of investigation of charitable institutions, amended so as to instruct standing committees to investigate. Passed.

On motion of Mr. York, the rules were suspended, and the resolution to remove obstructions in the Yadkin river was taken up and adopted. [This resolution raises a joint select committee to confer with the Legislature of South Carolina, and provide means for carrying out its objects.]

On motion of Mr. Meares, the rules were suspended, and the bill to prevent the enticing of sailors from their vessels was read and passed the second time. The bill was read the third time.

Mr. Powers moved to amend so as to make the law general in its application. The amendment prevailed, and the bill passed the third time. The bill makes a misdemeanor punishable with \$50 fine or thirty days imprisonment to entice sailors away from their ships or to harbor them.

### Not Ignorance, but Deviltry.

New York Herald Special.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Senator Windom illustrated once more to-day the curious ignorance of prominent Republicans in regard to the real condition of the Southern blacks. He proposed that a committee of Senators shall devise means for the removal of the negroes from such parts of the South where they are refused their rights to other parts of the country or to a reservation. He appears to be ignorant of the well known fact that there is, and has been for years, a constant and unimpeded migration of the blacks, and a movement which has been aided and stimulated by organized emigration societies of planters in such States as Louisiana and Arkansas, and by colored emigration agents elsewhere acting as private persons, giving intelligence concerning lands, prices, wages, crops, &c. Hundreds of thousands of negroes have emigrated from Southeastern to the Southwestern States in the last half dozen years, and it would probably amaze Senator Windom to know that Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, have been favorite States with industrious colored men seeking new homes, and that in 1875, at the very time when Senator Morton was vainly trying to persuade the Northern public that no negro's life was safe in Mississippi, hundreds of negro families removed thither from North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, attracted by the rich lands of the Yazoo Bottom, and laughing at the ridiculous stories of murder and intimidation which the Senator and his cohorts of friends who had preceded them were false. If leading Republican Senators would take the trouble to travel through the Southern States and investigate fairly the condition of the negroes they would not offer such ridiculous resolutions, which are evidently based upon a supposition that the Southern blacks are serfs of the soil, unable to leave the spot where they happen to be fixed.

### Movement of the Alabama Legislature.

Herald Washington Telegram.

The movement in the Alabama Legislature to pass a law making the Presidential electors heretofore elected not by the popular vote but by the Legislature, after the manner which originally obtained in many of the States and up to 1861 in South Carolina, attracts much attention here. Democrats, at first blush, think well of it on the ground that it would prevent not only the partisan interference of United States electors but also all trouble with returning boards, bodies which have fallen into suspicion with all decent people. Republicans suggest that the laws which give federal supervision of elections in which federal officers are to be returned would in such case apply also to the election of members of the State Legislature, and that the federal interference would be widened and not diminished.

Here and there one finds a Republican who prudently desires to see all the Federal election laws repealed while it is yet time, and the best Democrats would gladly join in such a movement, but it is very doubtful whether a majority of the Democrats in either House would now vote to repeal them. They see that these laws give enormous power to the party which has the administration of them, and the selection of the deputy marshals and supervisors. They have seen and felt the effects of the gross misuse which the Republicans, especially in the Southern States and in the city of New York, have made of these laws, and they have a mind to take their own turn some day with them. The Republican politicians are fully aware of this danger to themselves, and it is one of the causes of their desperate efforts to retain power.

### National Militia Association.

New York Herald 17th.

The proceedings of the convention of the National Militia Association, now in session in this city, are likely to be of much interest. They are the starting point of an important movement looking to a uniform militia system in all the States of the Union, under the constitutional power given to Congress to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia. The scheme contemplates an annual appropriation by Congress for *pro rata* distribution among the regularly organized and uniformed militia of the several States for the purchase of arms, ammunition and other ordnance and quartermaster stores; a system of regulations for the militia, prepared by a board of officers appointed by the President, and based upon the regular army system; uniformity of uniforms and rifle ranges; national prizes for rifle matches, drill and discipline; an annual inspection by officers of the regular army on the retired list, and the assignment of the Secretary of War of officers from the retired or active list of the army to act as adjutants, adjutant generals or chiefs of staff of the militia, on application of the militia commanders.

### Supreme Court.

Raleigh News.

Court met at 10 o'clock yesterday. Presiding Chief Justice Smith, and Justice Dillard. Justice Ashe absent on account of illness.

Call of appeals from the 4th District was begun.

F. C. Bowman vs. C. E. Turner, from Harnett; appeal withdrawn at cost of plaintiff.

State vs. Aaron Covington, from Richmond; appeal dismissed.

F. W. Kercher vs. Henry Fairley et al from Richmond; argued. Hinsdale & Devereux, Dowd Walker for plaintiff, and J. D. Shaw for defendant.

W. Rogers, Executor, vs. Robert McKenzie et al, from Robeson; continued upon former order.

Henry Van Gilsen et al vs. A. J. De Rosset, from Brunswick; argued. W. S. & D. J. Devane, and D. L. Russell for plaintiff, and Stedman & Latimer, and George Davis for defendants.

Court adjourned until to-day at 10 o'clock.

LANCASTER REVIEW: The Brewer Gold mine in Chesterfield county, about twenty miles east of this place has been re-opened by a Northern Mining Company.

### Virginia on Federal Relations.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 18.—The Senate special committee and House Committee on Federal Relations acting promptly today, submitted a lengthy report and a series of resolutions in regard to alleged usurpation of State rights by Federal Judge Rives, of the Western District of Virginia. The resolutions are as follows:

First, That the Constitution of the United States is in as full force and vigor as when adopted and ratified.

Second, That Virginia in re-entering the Union after the civil war, resumed all her relations to the government on perfect equality with every other State, and is entitled to the same rights and powers, and bound by the same duties and obligations as each other State, and her citizens are equal in every respect under the Constitution with all other citizens of the United States.

Third, That the United States can only exercise the powers delegated to them in the Constitution. Within the scope of these powers the government is supreme; beyond them it has no existence.

Fourth, That the preservation of these States and maintenance of their governments is as much within the design and care of the Constitution as the preservation of the Union itself, and that the federal government and a separate and independent autonomy of the States is necessary to the Union, under the Constitution.

Fifth, That the essential and fundamental right reserved by the people of the States is to organize each State as a separate and distinct political society to constitute such government as will best suit their will and pleasure, and to change the same whenever their convenience requires it subject only to the constitution of the United States and the laws and treaties made in pursuance thereof.

Sixth, That the necessary interest and condition thus reserved in the right of self government is the right duty of every State, to protect life, liberty and property within her jurisdiction, by laws of her own creation, and by officers of her own selection.

Seventh, That the Constitution of the United States grants certain powers, and imposes consequent duties upon the United States, which they are bound to execute and perform, and that rights reserved by States impose on them certain other functions and duties which they are equally bound to execute and perform, and the United States can no more rightfully interfere with and attempt to execute her powers and perform functions of States, than the States can those of the United States, and any attempt of either to interfere with the rights of the other will be unconstitutional and void.

Eighth, That the United States have only a right to prevent the exercise by States of the powers prohibited them by the Constitution, by pronouncing such forbidden action void through judicial power, but in no case can the United States undertake to perform any duty which a State should perform.

Ninth, That therefore all acts of Congress, particularly the civil rights bill and enforcement act, which attempt to provide for the performance by the United States of duties belonging to States are unconstitutional and void.

Tenth, That therefore the action of the Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Virginia in assuming jurisdiction of the cases of Lee Reynolds and Burwell Reynolds, parties charged with crime against this Commonwealth and held to answer therefor, is an attempt to execute the laws of this Commonwealth and regulate her internal policy in the courts and by officers of the United States is unwarranted by the Constitution, destructive of the rights of the people of each State to protect liberty and property in their own way by their own courts and officers, and that it should be remedied by proper judicial action, and recurrence of the same prevented by appropriate legislation.

Eleventh, That proper legal provisions ought to be made for prompt and effective supervision by the Supreme Court of the United States of all proceedings of the Judges of the Inferior Courts of the United States.

Twelfth, That the Government is instructed to direct the Attorney General to institute proceedings in the name of this Commonwealth before the United States Supreme Court and demand such protection and redress as that tribunal can afford in the premises.

### A Banker Arrested.

SARASOTA, N. Y., Jan. 18.—An order of arrest, issued for the arrest of J. H. Farrington, director and business partner of J. S. Lake, cashier of the First National bank, on complaint of a woman of whom he obtained a large sum of money a few days before the bank stopped. The claim is said to be worth \$40,000.

### Cincinnati Exposition.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 18.—The call for ten per cent of the subscriptions to the Exposition fund had the effect of bringing in some cases entire subscriptions, and many cases 25 to 50 per cent, so that there now seems no doubt of the completion of the building and opening of the Exposition in August next.

### Convicted on His Own Child's Evidence.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 18.—Robert Anderson, who was on trial for the murder of his wife, was found guilty and sentenced to be hung. He was convicted on the evidence of his little son, who was present at the time of the murder.

### Nominating a Senator.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 18.—The Democrats yesterday nominated Chief Justice Ryan, as their candidate for the United States Senate.

The Lancaster Review learns that a man who established a liquor shop near the line of Chesterfield and Union counties, during the Christmas holidays has suddenly disappeared. It is believed in that county that he has been murdered, or he had some money about him (four or five hundred dollars).

New York News: There can hardly be any doubt that the large increase of both private residences and public edifices of great altitude has developed heart disease among those who frequent them.

## SUN TELEGRAMS.

### EARLY AND MIDNIGHT REPORTS.

#### OVER THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

#### AT THE FEDERAL CAPITAL.

WASHINGTON, January 18.—HOUSE.—The House resumed as the regular order of business the consideration of the Geneva award bill.

After considerable debate at half past five the bill was passed by a vote of yeas 113, nays 93. The bill as passed revives and continues the bill of commissioners of Alabama claims, fixes the number of Judges at three and limits their existence to eighteen months.

The first-class claims will be for damages directly done by Confederate cruisers on the high seas, although within four additional miles of the whaling vessels, ten per cent will be allowed in lieu of freight, and the same allowance will be made, with six per cent interest, on former judgments heretofore rendered in favor of whaling vessels.

The second-class claims will be for additional interest on former judgments; on all judgments hereafter rendered the interest allowed will be six per cent.

The third-class claims will be for the payment of premiums for war risks, the deductions to be made of any sums paid back in diminution of such premiums, so that only the actual loss shall be allowed.

The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to pay (without further adjudication by any court) the ten per cent, upon whaling vessels and their outfit (with six per cent interest), and on awards heretofore made, and also to pay two per cent additional interest on all judgments heretofore made. Judgments rendered in first-class will be paid first; then second-class. If the money is not sufficient to pay all of the second-class, they will be paid *pro rata*, and a like rule will also apply to third-class. No foreign born person will be excluded if he has been residing or doing business in the United States, or was sailing under the United States flag.

The act shall not be construed as renewing or continuing any of the commissions of judges or officers of former courts. Any balance remaining shall be reserved as a fund, from which Congress may hereafter authorize the payment of other claims thereon.

The House Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures has decided to prepare a bill for the reduction of the trade dollar at par and to prohibit further circulation in the United States, but has not decided whether coinage for exports shall be permitted in the future. Mr. Vance was authorized to report the coming bill for the redemption in legal tender of subsidiary silver, and for reissue thereof.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs, held an informal conversation on the Japanese indemnity fund bill heretofore reported. The committee will prepare the passage of the bill.

The House Committee on printing, reported with a favorable recommendation, a bill to reduce the expenses on public printing and binding. The bill provides that the regular documents to be printed shall comprise the Journal of the two Houses, Presidents messages, annual reports and proper heads of departments, together with such condensed statements as are absolutely necessary to explain the same.

It was stated in the Senate on Thursday that Senator Rankin had been called away that day by sickness in his family.

Red Cloud arrived from Fort Robinson last night. The Ogallas report that all women and children, now widows and orphans, held as prisoners, be turned over to them to take them to their homes and care for them. The request is to be granted.

The United States Ship Constitution, is leaking 3 inches of water per hour. Her hull will be examined on Monday. A considerable quantity of the chain cable had to be moved before she floated.

The Secret Service arrested at Fanwood, N. J., Charles Merrick and Henry Cole, who issued counterfeit bills of the Tamagna and Hanover, Pennsylvania banks.

The Middleboro, Rosedale and Ferry Hill Iron Company, have failed. Liabilities \$28,000, assets \$350,00.

#### Coming to Light after Two Years.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Among the bonds stolen at the Northampton Bank robbery in 1876 were six Missouri Pacific mortgage bonds. Coupons belonging to these bonds were yesterday presented for payment to the Missouri Pacific Company in this city. The company had been notified that these bonds were stolen and sent word to the owner. The owner attempted to prevent the payment, but the holders, a reputable banking firm, demanded payment at once, and threatened to protest the coupons by their check. The payment of the check was this morning enjoined by Judge Barrett on application, and the right to the coupons as proceeds will be litigated. The coupons were stamped on the back with the name of Gampert, Frankfort on the Main, and came to this country through a highly respectable firm. They are supposed to be part of the \$100,000 stolen securities the said robbers negotiated in Europe.

#### The Reno Enquiry.

CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—Scout Girard in the Reno enquiry gave a long account this morning of the troops on the day of the Custer massacre and the situation of the battlefield, and mentioned various orders given. He believed the fighting force of the Indians was from 2,500 to 3,000. He also states that he heard several volleys from fifty to a hundred shots each on the other side of the village about the time the order was given, every man to his horse. Reno's force at that word left the woods where they were stationed and in ten or fifteen minutes saw Custer's command, or what was believed to be that command.

He thought the force of 150 men ought to have held the Indians in check for some time.

The Sheriff of Sampson and Yadkin have settled taxes. Sheriff Barefoot renders for Sampson this: Public tax \$2,536 66, special tax \$2,095 15. Total \$4,631 81.

### Over the Atlantic Cable.

ROME, Jan. 18.—In the Italian Chamber of Deputies yesterday, Signor Depretis, President of the Council, in reply to the interrogation by Signor Ercole regarding the disappearance of Colonel Gola, and what steps the Government had taken in the matter, recapitulated the facts that Colonel Gola, Italian member of the Serbian boundary commission, went from Belgrade to Bucharest with Major Wilson, of the same commission. The latter left Bucharest on the 3d of December and was to return Colonel Gola at Rusechak, when they were to proceed together to Constantinople, but Major Wilson has never seen Colonel Gola since he left him in Bucharest, and no trace has been found of him, though official inquiries have been made in every direction.

Signor Depretis stated that notwithstanding the most diligent efforts of the Italian government and its agents, nothing had been ascertained throwing any light on the mystery. He said he trusted that the Roumanian government would not fail in the duty incumbent upon it of making a searching inquiry in the case. Signor Ercole was dissatisfied with the reply. He insisted that the Roumanian government did not make itself respected in the matter and take such steps as appeared to him sufficient, he should move a vote of want of confidence in the government.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The United States Ship Constitution, apparently uninjured, and with no damage to her cargo, will sail in a few days for New York.

Weston started from the Royal Exchange in London, five minutes after midnight, on a 2,000 mile walk over the country roads of England, having undertaken to walk this distance and deliver fifty lectures in 1,000 hours. His first day's journey is to Folkestone, a distance of 81 miles. The judges travel in a conveyance. A Bicycleist is also with the party. Weston passed through Chatham at 8:30 o'clock a. m., when it was snowing heavily. Early this morning a rain fell, which as the atmosphere became colder, turned to half frozen sleet, and about 9 o'clock this gave place to snow, which continued falling lightly throughout the morning. Traffic in the streets is greatly impeded.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The coroner's jury find that the late Edward Matthew Ward, painter, cut his throat while temporarily insane from ill-health.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18.—The Agency Russ says the proposal to extend the functions of the commission for the organization of Eastern Roumelia, has received the assent of all the powers, and that such prolongation does not constitute a violation of the treaty of Berlin. The Russian administration of the government of Eastern Roumelia is thus prolonged until the labors of the organization of the commission is concluded.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—At a meeting of the Republicans of the Left, numbering 242 members, they again discussed the ministerial programme, declaring it unacceptable, adding, however, that it would wait for the Government's explanation to the Chamber before pronouncing its final decision.

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 18.—The branch office of the Gothenburg Commercial Office has suspended payment.

#### New Phase of the Florida Case.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 18.—Noble A. Hull, Lieut. Governor of Florida, has been indicted by the United States grand jury for conspiracy with others in obtaining false returns of elections in Brevard county. Hull was the Democratic candidate for Congress at the late election from the second district, and holds a certificate of election from the Governor. He is president of the State Senate now sitting at Tallahassee, and has telegraphed that he will be here to-morrow, without being served with a warrant.

#### Conviction for Election Interference.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 18.—In the U. S. Circuit Court, Judge Bond presiding, Wm. A. Farwood and Thomas Cook, Judges of election in an election held for member of Congress in November last, was found guilty of obstructing, hindering and interfering with the United States Supervisor and United States Deputy Marshal in the performance of their duty, and sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars and costs, amounting to one hundred and fifty dollars.

#### From the Frontier.

FORT ROBINSON, Jan. 18.—A courier, just arrived, reports that the savages assumed the most inaccessible position of any of the many from which they recently held our troops at bay. Five soldiers, in trying to ascertain the Indians' position, got within short range of the Indians, and one soldier was killed. Capt. Wessels, believing that the Indians cannot be dislodged without great loss, sent Red Cloud to the Agency for a dozen Sioux scouts.

#### The Teller Committee.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 18.—In the Teller Committee on motion of Mr. Garland, it was ordered that United States Commissioner Lane take the testimony of witnesses subpoenaed, but not examined; that Norris marks represent the majority and B. F. Jonah the minority of the committee, and that the testimony so taken be forwarded to the chairman of the committee. The committee leaves this morning.

#### Business Failure in New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—S. M. Mills & Co., brokers, have failed. Their loss will not be over \$50,000.

#### Shorter Telegrams.

The Mobile & Montgomery Railroad have declared a dividend of 2 1/2 per cent. The ice gorge was broken at Richmond Va., this morning by the steamer Wyanoke.

At Flushing, L. I., Fowler, the pedestrian, completed 312 miles, twenty miles behind his time.

Governor Hampton has received a visit from Gen. Kirby Smith, and has driven out on a buggy ride.

The Northern Methodist Conference of North Carolina convenes in Greensboro, January 20th. Bishop Peck presiding.

## SENATOR EDMUNDS.

### A STRIKING PORTRAIT.

#### The Exponent of the New England Idea—Face of St. Jerome and Brau of St. Just.

A. C. Buell in New Orleans Democrat.

That Senator Edmunds is one of the most remarkable mental and moral phenomena developed by the processes of Radicalism during its epoch of power, is seriously a proposition that nobody will probably combat. He is certainly by generic odds the most interesting character on that side of the Senate, if not in the whole body, and one of the most interesting subjects of study and criticism furnished by American public life, past or present. He belongs to a class of public men—a large class, presenting considerable variety of type, but all bearing unmistakable generic marks of identity—which the peculiar state of things in the last quarter of a century raised to the surface and to commanding eminence in our country. For general convenience the class may be designated by the name of the section in which it has had its origin and of which it is of its most perfect type are now the representatives—the class of

#### NEW ENGLAND RADICAL POLITICIANS.

It would be a mistake to call Senator Edmunds a statesman in the good, broad English sense of that term, for he is not one. He is, however, a politician of the very highest class.

Of course it is not my intention to impugn the personal integrity, the individual respectability or the representative character of Mr. Edmunds. On the other hand, whether viewing him in respect to his mental qualifications, his moral quality or the record of his acts, his bitter enemy would have to admit the Spartan purity of his life so far as all the grosser shortcomings of public men are concerned. But it is this very

#### STATUS OF PERSONAL RESPECTABILITY.

that makes him, in his character of politician, so formidable, not to say, so dangerous.

It is easy enough to dispose of a thief or an ass in public life; for that, whenever such a person assails any great public interest or ranges himself on the baneful side of any public question, an epithet or a sneer is sufficient to suppress him. But Edmunds is neither a thief to be crushed by an epithet, nor an ass to be annihilated by a sneer. On the other hand, he is a tremendous battery of intellectual power, mental culture and moral exaltation entrenched in an impenetrable redoubt of personal integrity, whence he delivers the most terrible sorties against the constitution and lays the most insidious mines underneath the peace of the Republic, the country, to blow them up on occasion.

In the country of the blind, a one-eyed man may be king. So in a nation full of John Sherman's Garfield and Bill Tweeds, above ground or under it, Edmunds becomes a saint.

#### IN POLITICAL LIFE.

as the representative of a school, the exponent of an idea and the advocate of a policy or principle, Senator Edmunds is simply an attorney retained by a party organization to support its fortunes and promote its cause through thick and thin.

That is to say, he is a politician, with no thought beyond the success of the party which employs him and no aspiration for the country at large save through the engineering of the caucus. To him the 44,000,000 of American people are subjects; the Republican organization the power destined by Divine Right to rule, and the country to blow them up on occasion.

For the conservation of popular rights inalienable as to the whole body politic, but for the perpetuation of the sovereignty of the sovereignty of the Republican party. Whenever strict construction cures to the temporary benefit of Radicalism, as at one stage of the electoral count, then Edmunds is a strict constructionist, even to the point of extreme State rights. But when it is necessary to stretch the theory or strain the application of the venerable instrument to subvert the ends of Radicalism, then Edmunds is latitudinarian enough to put to blush the memory of Alexander Hamilton and make every varying phase of his constitutional tergiversation Edmunds manages, sometimes by skill in the turning of phrases, and sometimes by an ingenuity of sophistry that is miraculous, to have the law and the prophets on his side. Having inflexibly predetermined to do a partisan act, Edmunds will proceed in an elaborate argument to convince himself that he ought to do it. Then he will exhaust the text-books of logic to prove that he ought not to refrain from doing it. And finally he will ransack the treasuries of dialectics to show that he ought never to have entertained any other intention than the one which he is about to execute. Finally, when he acts he does nothing more, nor less than his primary prejudice had irrevocably prompted him to do.

St. Just was the lawyer of the "Mountain" in the French Directory that invoked the reign of terror. There was no crime against person or property, no cruelty, no vengeance, no outrage upon the laws of God, imaginable or conceivable by that infernal convale, that St. Just could not find law and reason for. His mission was to find verdicts of guilty against whosoever preceded the executions of the guillotine by the names of the victims of his coparceners or were *ex post facto*, so long as they were found and rendered the French notion of justice in 1799 was satisfied. Edmunds is

#### THE ST. JUST OF THE RADICAL PARTY.

in our time. And as I have heretofore observed, he plays that role masked in the countenance and external character of St. Jerome.

His last performance is exactly in keeping with the logic of his career. Rising with an apostrophe to peace,