

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

THE SENATE ADOPTS THE RECESS RESOLUTION.

A Committee's Jurisdiction in the House - A Resolution Offered Proposing a Reward of \$5,000 for the Arrest of Silcott.

WASHINGTON, December 16.—SENATE.—The house joint resolution for printing the agricultural report, which was passed with amendments, fixing the number of copies at 400,000, and appropriating \$200,000 for the expense.

Mr. Platt offered resolutions making changes and additions in the personnel of committees agreed to in the caucus, and which have been published; all agreed to.

Mr. Neal offered a resolution, which was referred to the judiciary committee, as to the constitutional right of Charles Swaine, appointed district judge of the northern district of Florida, to exercise the duties of that office without confirmatory action by the senate.

The senate then proceeded to the consideration of executive business. After the doors were reopened, the concurrent resolution offered by Mr. Ingalls last week for a holiday recess from Thursday, December 19, to Monday, January 6, was taken up for action.

Mr. McKimley, of Ohio, from the committee on ways and means reported a resolution for the distribution of the President's message among the appropriate committees. The house went into committee of the whole.

Mr. Spinoia offered an amendment providing that all matters relating to coast defenses be referred to the committee on military affairs.

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MR. DAVIS' CAPTURE.

The Historical Event as Narrated by His Colored Servant.

Richmond Dispatch.  
RALEIGH, N. C., December 11, 1889.—Your correspondent to-day interviewed James H. Jones, a well-known colored man, who was during the war the body-servant of Jefferson Davis, and was with him at his capture. Jones has just returned here from Fort Payne, Ala. He is a very intelligent man, has for eighteen years been an alderman of Raleigh, and no man is more devoted to Mr. Davis, living or dead. Jones was asked to narrate the incidents at the capture of Mr. Davis, and did so as follows:

I became Mr. Davis' servant in 1862, and when his family came to Raleigh the next year I accompanied them here. I am referred in packing the property when they left Richmond in 1865, and accompanied Mrs. Davis and the children southward.

We got a wagon and an ambulance at Newberry, S. C. Mr. Davis joined us down in Georgia one Sunday morning. We camped when we stopped at night. Mr. Davis rode his favorite saddle-horse, a splendid bay named Kentucky. I always looked after the comfort of the general, and I was with him and Mrs. Davis and in another their four children—Maggie, Jeff, Willie, and Varina—and Miss Maggie Howell, Mrs. Davis' sister; also, two nairs—one white and one colored.

A FOGGY NIGHT.  
The night of the capture was foggy. I was up all night, washing and drying clothes at a fire which burned near the tent. I was in a noise by a sort of raving, and there was a road passing by the camp. I heard noises about midnight, but they were not alarming, and I saw gleams which I now know were the glitters of sabres. About 4 o'clock in the morning, and before daylight, I heard the sound of horses' hoofs on the soft pine straw which covered the ground. The tents were closed. All the people were asleep. I was the only one awake. There was a very heavy dew.

As soon as I heard the noise I went to Mr. Davis' tent and aroused him. I also remembered that I worked Mr. Reagan, Col. Joseph Johnston, Col. Wood, Col. Burton Harrison, Col. Lovett, of Texas, and Mr. William Howell, Mrs. Davis' brother; also some other gentlemen who were asleep here and there, some under tents. Mr. Reagan was nearest the tent, and I called to him to get up. He halted a Federal soldier who was the first to cross the creek. I told Col. Harrison it must be the enemy I had seen moving about in the pines all night. By the time Mr. Davis had dressed himself, the enemy were in the camp. I had seen the soldiers, and I saw Mrs. Davis' water-proof raglan, which by mistake he had taken for his own, and as he was a great sufferer from neuralgia he had put a light hood over his head and shoulders which he frequently wore. Mrs. Davis, who was in the tent, was always as was, as I stepped out of the tent threw her shawl upon him. Mr. Davis seeing the cavalryman at once advanced fearlessly towards him and called upon him to fire. The cavalryman did not fire, and Mr. Davis again called to him to do so. He refused, and Mr. Davis, in her night dress, sprang from the tent, threw her arms around her husband's neck and addressing the cavalryman, said: "For God's sake don't shoot."

Mr. Davis' plan had been to let the cavalryman take the tent, and taking the chances of a man, rush upon him, unseat him, and mount his horse and escape. But as Mrs. Davis' words he went back to the tent with her. There he was given a bucket, I think, by her and started to wade the creek as if for water, intending to get into the water and escape on his horse, but she was again halted by the same trooper. He then returned to the fire. Just about this time lively firing was heard fifty yards off and across the creek. Colonel Pritchard next made his appearance, and walking up to the fire looked at Mr. Davis and said to me: "Is that Jefferson Davis?" I said "Yes," and Colonel Pritchard then said to Mr. Davis: "You are my prisoner." Colonel Pritchard was very courteous and gentlemanly. He permitted no insult to be given then or at any time while he was in command, and gave particular instructions to that effect.

Mr. Davis had very little to say at the time of his capture and exhibited no fear whatever. He and his party had breakfast before they left and then the camp was struck and the wagon loaded. The party started off under a cavalry guard, the main body in the wagon in the charge of myself and Robert Brown, (colored), who had been Mr. Davis' butler. Mr. and Mrs. Davis and others traveling in the ambulance. I pitched camp for them at night. I was kept under arrest all the while, and was not permitted even to go after milk for the children unless a guard accompanied me. I was taken to Fortress Monroe and came to Raleigh. There I was released and came to Raleigh.

Mr. Davis was always greatly attached to Jones, as was also his family, and wrote to him. He always appreciated Jones' devotion. Jones attended the memorial exercises to-day and was greatly affected.

CAPTAIN PATTON'S ARTICLE.

Dr. G. C. Rankin Warmly Commends some Portions of It.

Mr. Editor—I have read with much interest Captain Patton's article in your Sunday issue on capital punishment. I am not prepared to endorse all that he says, but I am delighted with the religious spirit that he manifests toward an unfortunate class of our race, and especially am I pleased with his expressed interest in the spiritual condition of the poor man now in our jail condemned to death. His appeal in the following paragraph to the clergy of the city in behalf of this man is perhaps not out of place, to-wit:

"Reverend gentleman, if by the words eternal damnation conveyed to you the same awful weight of meaning, as to us, who can only construe them in their plain English, surely, surely, not one of you will sit quiet in your comfortable study, nor allow restful sleep to come to your bed, while there is the slightest chance of this poor prisoner being hurried to that fate unrepentant."

I am not able to say to what extent my brother ministers have been sitting in their "comfortable study" unmindful of this poor fellow's doom, but I am aware of the fact that one of them, at least, sought out and found him some months ago and gave him instructions and administered to him spiritual consolation, and the visit has been repeated more than once. Good religious literature has also been furnished him for his edification. I am sure that the slightest of us, exactly what the bible says it does, and "restful sleep" was not allowed to come to our eyes, after we learned of the presence of this man in our prison, until we had carried the truth of the gospel to his cell.

I commend Captain Patton for visiting this prisoner in his dire extremity, and let other laymen do likewise.

THE TOBACCO TAX.

Mr. Brower, of N. C., Leading the Movement for Its Repeal.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 13.—Mr. Brower, of North Carolina, who yesterday introduced a bill to repeal the tax on tobacco, was the only Republican, with one exception, who voted for the Mills bill, and he gave as his reason for doing so that that bill provides for a repeal of the tobacco tax. He cast his vote for the Mills bill after the congressional caucus, and he was one of the few of the republican managers who wanted him to withdraw from the republican ticket because of it, but this he refused to do and was elected by a small majority. He has insisted throughout the tariff discussion that the one thing which the people of North Carolina want is the repeal of the internal revenue taxes. He claims that if his bill is promptly reported from the committee on Ways and Means, and it is said that it will be, that it will pass the house with some twenty-one democratic votes in its favor.

Mr. Brower is a public man, and he claims as with him are the six from North Carolina, the eight from Virginia, three from Tennessee, two from South Carolina, Mr. Hatch, of Missouri, the chairman of the committee on Agriculture in the last congress, and Mr. Abbott, of Texas.

VALUABLE INVENTION.

A System of Arc Lights by Which All Danger is Avoided.

PITTSBURG, Pa., December 16.—A new system of arc lighting apparatus has just been invented by the Westinghouse Electric Company. The dynamo, or the electric machine which generates the current for the lights is generated, is very different from any dynamo used for a similar purpose. It is so constructed that it delivers the required number of amperes whether the machine is supplying one lamp or its full load. In addition to the dynamo the system has an entirely new arc lamp. The principal point in which the lamp differs from all others is that its carbon lasts for three nights. The lamps can be so connected in the circuit that no person coming in contact with it can receive a shock from the line. The system will entirely revolutionize the arc lighting now in use.

Decision in a Telegraph Suit.

WASHINGTON, December 16.—The supreme court of the United States to-day rendered an opinion in the case of the Western Union Telegraph Company against the Secretary of the State of Alabama and other State officers, brought here in an appeal from the decision of the supreme court of Alabama. The question involved is the constitutionality of the law of Alabama, imposing a tax upon gross receipts of all telegraph companies for business done within the State. Under this act the telegraph company was taxed, not only on business done entirely within the State, but on messages sent to, or received from other States.

YANCEY MOVING.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC RAILROAD MEETING IN BURNSVILLE.

Capt. Nat. Atkinson Addresses a Large Assembly in the Court House - A Subscription Seems a Foregone Conclusion.

On the first Monday in this month the citizens of Burnsville gathered together in the matter of giving aid to some railroad or roads determined to call the justices of the peace together to act with them in this important matter, and to meet at the court house in Burnsville on the 14th inst.

The commissioners and a considerable number of the magistrates together with a large number of the citizens met at Burnsville on Saturday when the railroad question was fully considered and disposed of after the following order:

Between eleven and twelve o'clock the court house bell summoned the people and upon Capt. Nat. Atkinson, its president, a committee composed of one person from each township was appointed to prepare and report suitable resolutions and papers for the action of the joint board.

The engagements for the coming week are numerous. E. Craven, L. S. N. and family, S. G. Whitland and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. Birch, Mr. John A. Wyrth's family, New York, and others.

The season is beginning very good this year and they promise a large season.

Santa Claus Shopping.

Old Santa Claus came to Asheville yesterday to see what he could do for his children. He wanted to get an idea of the place, see what the stores had in stock for his little ones, and then try to supply their deficiencies. But, alas! for poor Santa, the first one he struck was Jones' Racket Store.

So he went the rounds until he reached the hosiery counter, where his ruddy face grew pale, and he exclaimed, "Hello! Are long stockings so cheap in Asheville? I pity the parents, but I can't afford to do this for my children. I wish I hadn't bought my stock of shoes before I dropped in this Racket Store."

MOUNTAIN PARK.

Persons Present and to Arrive at this Noted Resort.

HOT SPRINGS, N. C., December 16.—Mr. Harvey B. Murrell, of Asheville and Morristown, N. J., finds more enjoyment in life than the majority of mankind. He visits Hot Springs every few weeks to enjoy a good dinner and the baths. During his present visit he has added another to his list of pleasures—horseback riding—one hour every morning and one hour in the afternoon. Though seventeen years have elapsed since he enjoyed the exercise his seat is as firm as any practiced horseman.

Among the guests at the Mountain Park hotel are Governor and Mrs. Van Zandt, of Rhode Island; Mr. and Mrs. W. Graham Sterling and Mr. R. P. Barrett, Northampton, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Miller and Mrs. Kimball, of Salem, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Naylor, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Naylor, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. George H. Wolf and Mrs. Buford, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mr. Schmidt and Mrs. Schmitt, of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cantwell, St. Louis; Mr. and Mrs. Norman S. Walker, Mr. Henry Lord, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Akin, and the Misses Taylor, of Quaker Hill, N. Y.; Mr. A. Duff, who is largely interested with other English capitalists in Mexican properties; Mrs. C. W. Fickering, of Portsmouth, N. H.; Mrs. S. A. Gordon, Newark, N. J.; Mr. A. Wilson, Jr., manager Bell telephone company, Maryland.

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PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. A. W. Marshall, who represents a Hickory cigar manufactory, is at the Grand Central.

Mr. W. Cooper, who represents a prominent firm of jewelers in New York City, is stopping at the Swannanoa.

Mr. Alfred M. Allen, who represents the firm of A. Stern & Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, is at the Battery Park.

ODDS AND ENDS.

On Sunday morning as Miss Mary Penland was coming down stairs at her residence, on Penland street, she made a misstep, causing a severe sprain of the foot, which will probably confine her to the house for several weeks.

In our column of personals in Sunday's issue it was incorrectly stated that "Mr. E. R. Betts, agent of a large tobacco firm, was in Asheville, where he would make his headquarters for the winter."

A MODEL MANAGER.

What His Old Home Thinks of Our Col. J. B. Steele.

CHARLESTON NEWS AND COURIER.  
Mr. John B. Steele, the manager of the Battery Park hotel, at Asheville, N. C., has been in the city since Wednesday last. In Mr. Steele every one recognizes the old Charlestonian who was formerly of the firm of Edwin Bates & Co. Mr. Steele moved to Asheville about five years ago, and has not since then visited Charleston up to the present time. The personal traits, the pleasing address and the courtesy which trade Mr. Steele so popular in Charleston secured for him a "royal reception" this time, as he expressed it yesterday. He has been "in demand" among his many friends here, but the supply will only last until tomorrow morning, when he will return to Asheville.

The object of Mr. Steele's visit was partly of a business and partly of a personal character. He mentioned the interesting fact that he had come all the way from Asheville to buy game for the Christmas tables at the Battery Park hotel. At present there are about one hundred and forty guests at the hotel, and the establishment will be filled to its utmost capacity during the present winter season.

Mr. Steele gave a reporter last night an interesting account of the operations of the Vanderbilts near Asheville. These millionaires are improving their 5,000 acre purchase and propose to construct through their domain fully twenty-one miles of drives. They are going to build an American palace also, the whole thing to cost about \$10,000,000.

Mr. Steele was quite enthusiastic on the subject of the many progressive movements in Asheville and has strong faith in a great and prosperous future for the Mountain City. He will pay a short visit to Summerville to-day on a very interesting mission and will return to Asheville to-morrow morning.

THE GREAT CRONIN TRIAL BROUGHT TO A CLOSE.

COUGHLIN, BURKE AND O'SULLIVAN GUILTY OF MURDER, IMPRISONMENT FOR LIFE - BEGGS IS ACQUITTED.

CHICAGO, December 16.—The Cronin jury, as far as is known outside the jury room, has still been unable to reach a verdict. They spent the night in a room in the criminal court building which they occupied continuously since Friday, and kept a light burning brightly until after 2 o'clock this morning. Judge McConnell's private secretary, who had been to take the jury back to the hotel in case they agreed on a verdict, and that he would receive it this morning. The fact that they remained in the jury room may be taken as pretty conclusive contradiction of the imputation in extra papers this morning that the doors were guarded as usual by the bailiffs. At the State attorney's office it was stated that not a word has been heard from the jury by the prosecuting attorney this morning, and that all reports that they had last night agreed were simply guesswork. The morning papers to-day seem to be of the opinion that a verdict will be reached to-day, and this view of the situation is strengthened by an interview with Judge McConnell which was sent out in these despatches last night and in which the judge expressed belief that a verdict would be reached, basing his belief chiefly on the assertion that he had received no intimation from the jury that they had been unable to agree.

Once more the audience that assembled to hear the verdict of the Cronin jury has been doomed to disappointment. Judge McConnell arrived at the court room at about 10 o'clock and at once sent a messenger to the bailiff in charge of the jury room to enquire whether the jury had any communication to make to the court. The answer came back promptly and tersely that the jury was prepared to make no return and had no communication whatever to make to the court. Thus all reports of the jury having agreed upon a verdict were found to be utterly groundless as the hundred that had preceded them.

It is now utterly impossible that any information of any character can be forthcoming from the jury before 2 p. m. Rumors of purported verdicts before that hour may be regarded as absolutely groundless. No intimation of whatever kind known beyond the general conclusion that Mr. Culver is the dissenting juror.

A VERDICT AT LAST.

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The Cronin trial has resulted in a verdict; Coughlin, Burke and O'Sullivan, guilty of murder, penalty life imprisonment; Kunze, three years; Beggs, acquitted.

THE LATE DAVID HENDERSON.

In Sunday morning's issue was briefly noted the death of this gentleman; and we regretted very much at the time that we had so little information of him; nothing indeed beyond the fact that he was connected with the woolen mills on Reams' creek, near Weaverville. We have since learned that the deceased was a native of Scotland who landed at a New England port in 1854, and for twelve years subsequently was employed in manufacturing in the State of New York. How long he has been in this State we do not know, but probably ever since the mill on Reams' creek was opened. He was a quiet, industrious, christian man. He never married, devoting all his care to his aged mother, whom he provided for with affectionate solicitude up to her death which occurred two or three years ago. Mr. Henderson was 58 years of age at the time of his death.

HURT IN A RIBWAGON.

Two boys, one white and the other colored, between fifteen and twenty, were bringing in a load of wood from the country yesterday morning. When they reached Depot street the brake broke and they could not hold the team back. The horses became unmanageable and ran away down the hill, throwing the boys out. The white lad had his ankle fractured, while the other received a severe cut in his head. They were taken to Dr. Justice and Dr. Burroughs, where their hurts were attended to. The team brought up against a post at the side of the road without doing much damage to the wagon.

A Handsome Paper.

W. F. Tomlinson, the enterprising editor of Country Homes, has just issued from the presses of THE CITIZEN Publishing Company the Christmas number of his periodical, and it affords us pleasure to say that it is equal to any of the holiday literature we have seen. It is appropriately illustrated, and in addition to the usual amount of valuable matter, is choice Christmas reading and a handsome colored cover, which gives the whole a most artistic finish. We believe the patrons of Country Homes will appreciate this stroke of enterprise on the part of Mr. Tomlinson as it deserves.

The Wilmington Review

Has got fairly into the teens, being now thirteen years of age, yet so healthy, vigorous and alert that it cannot be charged with juvenility. Brother James has trod the thorny paths of journalism patiently, industriously and usefully, and has fairly earned the confidence and good will that so strongly attaches to him and the Review. We hope for him a continuance of favor and a long life of prosperity.

Fatal Wreck of a Pay Car.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., December 16.—The pay car of the Ohio, Indiana and Western railway with General Superintendent Wilson and J. M. Cummins, train master, on board, was wrecked near Covington, Ind., early this morning. Both Wilson and Cummins were killed. It is impossible at this hour to gather details, but it is believed a paymaster and engineer were also killed.