

Forty-Eighth Congress.

Monday, February 4.

SENATE—The bankruptcy bill was reported favorably, together with numerous other bills. Bills were introduced enabling the people of Dakota to form a constitution; providing artificial limbs for ex-soldiers; preventing the publication of lottery advertisements in the territories and District of Columbia.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate: Henry D. Lyman, Ohio, second assistant postmaster general; William Dickson, Utah; attorney of the United States, Utah; Peter H. Stolberg, receiver of public moneys at Taylor's Falls, Minn.; John R. McFee, Illinois, register of the land office at Los Cruces, New Mexico.

The Senate confirmed J. A. Leonard, consul general at Calcutta; Oscar Mainros, consul at Leith; Everett P. Freeman, register of the land office at Redwood Falls, Minn.; Robert W. Kelly, pension agent at Louisville, Ky.; Richard S. Turbill, attorney Northern district of Illinois.

Postmasters—Ebbue Enos, Waukesha, Wis.; Jabez H. Kason, Kason, Minn.

HOUSE—Bills were introduced reducing the tariff 20 per cent. (Mr. Morrison); punishing officers of the United States for the illegal use of money in elections; looking toward the union of the Missouri and Columbia rivers; preventing the sale of certain Pacific railroads before United States bonds with interest shall have been fully paid; exempting certain kinds of beer from internal revenue tax; for the relief of the Lady Franklin bar expedition (Mr. Weller of Iowa). A resolution was presented instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into charges against Chief Justice Axtel of New Mexico. The conference report on the bill for the relief of destitute Indians in Montana was agreed to. The bill appropriates \$100,000.

Mr. Washburn introduced to-day his bill to construct a bridge across the Mississippi river at Anoka, above the Falls of St. Anthony.

Kuile Nelson introduced to-day the petition of James Chambers of Niagara, Dak., for an amendment of the pre-emption laws, so that "any one who has entered less than 160 acres may without any residence, occupation, or improvement thereon, be permitted to enter at \$1.25 enough more to make up that number of acres."

Mr. Wacker introduced bills for the relief of Zura Bonker, John Waddams and Pauline E. Milliken and Charles Milliken. Milo White introduced in the house a bill granting a pension to all persons who served in the army and navy in any war who were honorably discharged, and who have not received a pension.

Mr. Strait introduced in the house bills for the relief of Nataniel Pond of Faribault, a soldier of the war of 1812, and for a pension for Martha Madock.

Tuesday, January 5.

SENATE—Some dissatisfaction has prevailed for sometime among senators in both parties with committee assignments which in pursuance of caucus agreement of both parties was settled by the appointment of additional committees under the new rules, and the rearrangement of some of the old committees.

On Additional Accommodation for the Library—Bayard, Morrill, Miller (Cal.) added, and Dolph retired.

Agriculture and Forestry—Sawyer and Gibson added.

Commerce—Dolph, Gorman and Slater added; Farley retired.

Manufactures—Pike and Butler added.

Mines and Mining—Bowen advanced to the chairmanship and Terry, Cullom, Jones (Ia.) added.

Woman Suffrage—Cockrell added and made chairman; Jones (Ia.) retired.

Claims—Fair added and Gibson retired.

The following have been named as members of the new committees created under the new code of senate rules:

Expenditures of Public Moneys—Wilson, Harrison, Plumb, Platt, Beck, George and Kenna.

Fish and Fisheries—Lapham, Sewell, Dawes, Palmer, Morgan, Groome, Farley.

The other proceedings were devoid of interest.

HOUSE—The senate amendments to the tobacco bill was concurred in. A resolution authorizing the committee on expenditures of the interior department to go to Hot Springs creek and investigate work thereon was rejected. The bill for the election of territorial governors and senators by popular vote was reported adversely. The bill to exterminate pleuro-pneumonia and create a bureau of animal industry was debated.

Wednesday, February 6.

SENATE—The bill for the suppression and prevention of diseases among domestic animals was reported favorably. Bills were introduced increasing the efficiency of the army and indemnifying Iowa under various acts relating to swamp and overflowed lands.

HOUSE—Bills were introduced authorizing the purchase of snug harbors for disabled seamen, and for the establishment of a branch soldiers' home in a western state. After the presentation of several resolutions of inquiry, the house passed to the consideration of the pleuro-pneumonia bill, and strong opposition to the measure was shown, its opponents arguing from the state rights standpoint.

Thursday, February 7.

SENATE—A mild sensation was created in the senate by Mr. Beck, who introduced a resolution directing the committee on civil service to investigate and report upon the discharge by the sergeant-at-arms of a colored employe named Dudley, who had been he said, a soldier in the war, and an efficient employe. Mr. Morrill attempted to bring up his bill to provide a building for the congressional record which brought down upon him a storm of objections.

Mr. Morrill asked unanimous consent to make a few remarks upon the bill and then let the senate fix a day for its consideration. This was granted, and Mr. Morrill proceeded to read a carefully prepared argument in favor of the measure, which occupied about forty minutes, during which time Senator Anthony fell asleep twice and the other senators read the morning papers and attended to their correspondence.

The following nominations were sent to the Senate by the President. Consuls, Robert J. Stevens, Victoria, B. C.; Eugene O. Fechet, Michigan; Fiedle Forté; Philip Carroll, Palermo; Alton Francis, Fort Stanley and St. Thomas, Oct.

HOUSE—A resolution declaring vacant the positions of committee stenographers and providing another method for their employment was adopted. The rules of the house were considered, and during the debate

Weller of Iowa assailed the Republican party and the national banking system, and Mr. Bedford made a reply. An amendment for a committee on woman suffrage was voted down by almost a party vote. Mr. Wackerfield of Minnesota has presented in the house of representatives the petition of 200 citizens of Southern Minnesota, asking congress for a full investigation of the facts in connection with the grant of land made by congress to Minnesota to aid in the construction of the Southern Minnesota railway, and for the forfeiture of so much of the grant as has not been earned in the time limited by law.

PLAYING FOR THE DANCES.

New York Sun.

A modest-looking little woman with a somewhat worn face, but an agreeable and constantly recurring smile answered the reporter's ring at the door of a small house in Harlem recently. She led the way into a parlor furnished with horse-hair chairs and sofa, ingrain carpet and cheap prints, and dropped mechanically upon the stool of a badgered piano. She said, pleasantly:

"I advertise in papers for engagements to play at parties because there is more money in it than in teaching. I know that it is the general impression that the musician is more or less looked down upon at a party, but my experience has been just the contrary, with one or two exceptions. At rare intervals people who are in the best society and live on Fifth avenue send for me. It is usually on the spur of the moment, when they want to get up a little impromptu dance. On other occasions they always have three or four pieces. It is when I play for these people that I feel my position most keenly. They send a cab for me if they are in a hurry, and pay me liberally, but it is the hardest money to earn in the world; for they treat me from the moment I enter the house until I leave exactly as they treat their servants. They never for a moment look at you in any other light than as a menial."

"Codfish aristocracy!"

"I suppose so, and yet all the wealthy society people act that way. I shall never forget the first time Mr.——— mentioning the name of a prominent resident of Fifty-seventh street sent for me. I had been teaching little boys and girls to play the piano for several years, and had gradually drifted into playing for dancing. I had been at it for three or four months, when one night a coach drove up to the door, and the footman in livery asked for me. It was about 9 o'clock. I went down stairs, and he told me his master had sent for me to play for some good people who happened in after dinner. I hurried on my things, and got into the coach. I was afraid the footman would get in, too. I was afraid of him, he looked so much like a policeman. He lit a small pipe and got upon the box. It was just beginning to snow, and the carriage was delightful and cozy. I began to think that playing for dancing was very delightful after all. When we got to the house I was a bit surprised to be taken in at the basement door. Then the footman told a great big butler who I was, and the butler called me 'young woman,' and asked me to follow him upstairs. I began to feel wretched. Then I was taken into the little small music-room adjoining the parlors. I had never seen anything so gorgeous in my life. It seemed like a fairy-land, but I felt awfully sad.

"I played a waltz, and had stopped for a minute, when the host stamped into the room and said I played too fast. I felt like crying, his manners were so rude. After I had prayed a little while longer one of the daughters of the house found fault with my selections. One would have thought to hear her talk, that I was a kitchen maid. I couldn't understand how any one so beautiful and so richly dressed could be so cruel. "After awhile they went down to supper I waited an hour. They sent the footman upstairs to watch me while I waited. Then they came back and danced some more. At 12:30 the butler came and said I could go. He had a silver salver, on which was a crumpled \$2 bill. He gave me this, and said his master considered it sufficient, as I had not come till late. Then he showed me out of the basement door. He was very kind, and offered to get me an extra shawl from the cook as it was snowing very hard but I rushed out, crying like a goose. I had to walk way up to Third avenue in snow that was ankle deep in order to get the cars. I didn't get asleep till morning and suffered for weeks from the cold. I never went again to that house, though I've been to many similar ones. The servants are better bred than the masters."

"Where is it most agreeable to play?" "In the houses of plain, everyday people. There are no nicer people in the world than those who form what the English would call the middle class of New York."

1 At Fergus Falls, the warehouse building of the 70,000 bushel elevator of the Fergus Falls Flour mills burst on the 2nd and 40,000 bushels of wheat let out. Three box cars standing on the track were overturned and thrown from the track by the great force. The wheat was being rapidly housed by a large force of men, but a storm came before it was all done. The loss on building and wheat will be at least \$6,000.

A controversy exists between the two state regiments in regard to holding the annual encampment. At a regimental meeting held at Mankota Jan. 9, the Second regiment decided on the week beginning July 7. The colonel presents his reasons, claiming that most of the men live in the country, and the only favorable time for them is after haying and before harvest. The First regiment is also anxious to camp upon that date, and the colonel argues that this is the most satisfactory time for his men, and as the First regiment yielded to the Second last year, the latter should in turn yield this year. Both parties wish the governor to arbitrate.

The pope convoked the cardinals on the 5th to make provision for the interests of foreign missionaries, owing to the threatened conversion of property of the Propaganda by Italian courts into rentes, the court of cassation having already decided this must be done.

CHASED BY WOLVES.

A Buffalo Hunter's Thrilling Ride on the Plains—Mile After Mile With the Hungry Brutes Snapping at the Horse's Heels, Etc.

From the Deny. News.

An incident related to a News reporter by a Mr. James Austin, just in from Cheyenne Wells, proves that the popular idea that game is hard to find in that State, and that wolves are things of the past, is a fallacy. Said Mr. Austin: "At the station, which is a collection of cabins occupied by ranchmen and those employed in putting down the government well, are a number of wealthy young men from the East who are engaged in a hunting expedition. We started last Thursday morning and rode due east, then northeast, until when eighteen miles out we discovered in the distance an immense herd of buffaloes. Thinking to accomplish more, we scattered, with the intention of circling them, or at least turning them from their course. In this we were not successful, as night overtook us before we had downed a single bull. I had singled out one that had become separated from the rest of the herd, and had followed him some distance when it had become too dark to see, and I discovered that I had lost my companions. There being nothing else to do, and as it would be impossible to find my way in the dark, I resolved to camp where I was, so, unrolling the hide larriat, I secured the animal to some stout sage brush, and, after building a small fire of grass and brush, rolled myself in my blanket and prepared to make the best of it, but without much idea of sleep. In fact, in spite of the heavy overcoat and blanket which covered me, it was uncomfortably cold. I lay four hours in a half waking, half-dozing state, and it was perhaps midnight when something more like sleep overcame me. Suddenly a sound, the most horrible and blood curdling of any I had ever heard, seemed to chill the very marrow in my bones. To my excited imagination it seemed like the shriek of fifty demons. Jumping to my feet, I discovered that my fire had gone out, leaving but a few embers, but at a distance of perhaps two hundred feet, nearly forming a complete circle around me, was a line of bright points, sizzling like so many diamonds. Instantly realized my danger. I was surrounded by wolves. To hesitate was death, and, mounting my horse, that was trembling with fright, I drove spurs into him and we darted off through the only opening in the cordon which nearly surrounded me, and swept across the plains, without regard to the direction, my only object being to escape the fangs of my pursuers."

"The wolves, as soon as they discovered my flight, with a renewed howl, more full of rage and horror than that which had awakened me, started in full cry and the terrible race began. At the start I gained considerably, as my horse was a good one, and his flight seemed to add to his lightning speed. Miles seemed like feet, and, after perhaps a half hour passed, upon looking back I saw that the distance from the foremost of my pursuers was the same as at the start. To keep this distance till daylight seemed my only chance, yet what a hopeless task! No horse could long keep up the terrible strain which mine was enduring. Suddenly the faithful animal stumpled over a low sand dune and fell to his knees, throwing me to the ground. In an instant the hungry pack were upon me, and I imagined I felt their fangs already buried in my flesh. Fear lent swiftness to my movements, however, and I remounted and was off just as the leaders were about to pounce upon me. My horse soon began to show the effects of his tierce efforts, and thinking to gain time, I threw away the blanket which I had hastily thrown over the horse at the first alarm. This gave me a slight advantage for a time, as no sooner did it touch the ground than it was torn into shreds by the hungry brutes. This delay gave me a small advantage, but I soon perceived that I was losing it, and my horse's movements became more labored. I next sacrificed my overcoat, then the coat which I wore, which in turn suffered the fate of the blanket. The horse began to show signs of exhaustion, but he still kept his feet, but I realized in a short time that my fate was sealed unless a miracle was interposed to save me. The wolves were already snapping at my horse's heels, when upon looking up I saw lights in front of me, perhaps a mile or so distant. I endeavored to urge my horse to further efforts, but without avail. The poor animal was breathing heavily and could hardly keep his feet. The maddened brutes were jumping and snapping around me, and I had struck several of them down with the butt of my rifle, after having exhausted the ammunition in shooting at them. I turned and found myself within a few hundred feet of a house and an enclosure. Making a last despairing effort, my horse cleared the fence and fell dead on the inside. At the same moment several men came out of the door of the house with lanterns, aroused no doubt by the unearthly sounds. I was quickly dragged inside and immediately swooned. Upon recovering consciousness it was broad daylight, and I found myself in the cabin of a ranchman, within half a mile of the station whence I had started in the morning, lying on a rude bed with a man sitting near by and watching me. It seems that my horse, guided by instinct, had taken the straightest direction for the place from which we started. I learned by inquiry that the wolves had surrounded the house all night long, filling the air with their fearful howls, and never departed until daylight. I was too ill from the effects of the fearful experience I had undergone to leave the house until yesterday, and I came to Denver for rest and recuperation."

Very good intentions, but very stupid provisions, were those of the Connecticut man who bequeathed \$4500 in bank stock, to be held in trust until the accumulation by compound interest shall swell it to \$5,000,000, then to be given to the town. Perhaps in 150 years his generosity may be appreciated.

FIELD AND HOUSEHOLD.

Farming Notes.

Mrs. Hayes' poultry yard at Fremont is said to be the best in Ohio.

The abolition by the Patrons of Husbandry of "Grange No. 33," of Boston, with which the Commissioner of Agriculture was connected, is characterized by The Maine Farmer as "a triumph of principle."

Mr. Robert Burch, Fairport, N. Y., buys manure largely, we learn from The Midland Farmer; keeps three assistants; cultivates on the extensive system, and gets an average annual return of \$5,400 from his twenty-seven acres, mostly devoted to cabbage and onions.

A correspondent of The American Stockman thinks very well indeed of the pretty jersey but suspects that the elite are rather overdoing the boom to the injury of the breed, and suggests that the following course may become desirable. "If things go on in this direction, gathering volume as they go, it will be a question if it would not pay Jersey breeders who understand their business, to buy all the Jersey stock of the insurance men, dry goods merchants, doctors, lawyers and the kid glove gentry in general, and hire them to keep out of the business."

The country is suffering from a tremendous overstock of dogs supply. Five per cent. of the canines in the United States could do all the business.

In five months beginning August 1, 8,000 sacks of onions, making 247 carloads, were shipped from Orange Farm, N. Y.

It is estimated that there are now in the United States 15,000,000 milk cows, and that there are made annually 1,300,000,000 pounds of butter and 450,000,000 pounds of cheese.

Attention of drivers is invited by The National Stockman to a horse fact worth remembering, especially in spring: "Don't think your horse in best condition to endure a long trip or a hard drive because he has stood in stable for weeks and done nothing. If there is ever a time that he is 'soft' it is after a longidle spell, but many unthinking men do not realize this, and horses of standing and staying qualities are often injured by being brought too suddenly from idleness."

Dr. C. M. Fernald, State College, Ontario, Mo., finds "a vast amount of amusement and instruction" in observation of insects. Here is an example, from Home Farm: "Under another jar I put a family of grasshoppers, and the amount of grass those gourmands ate was something marvellous. It was interesting, nevertheless, to see one of those six-legged savages stand up on four hind legs and hold a blade of grass in his two fore legs and chew away at it till it was all devoured."

Cold Weather Hints.

From Good Cheer.

A folded newspaper, covering the chest and shoulders under a cloak or coat, will be found very comfortable in extreme cold weather, especially while riding.

A noiseless way of feeding a coal fire is to put a shovelful of coal in a paper bag; prepare a half-dozen bags at a time; use one or more as needed, and thus the noise and dust generally accompanying the usual mode of replenishing a fire will be avoided.

When about to take a long sleighride, make ready a piece of joist (of any kind of hard wood such as house builders use) the length of the sleigh-seat and twice the thickness of common brick; heat it on the stove or in the oven. It is surprising how very hot such a piece of wood will become without burning, and how very long it will retain heat. On such a seat, and covered with a buffalo robe, I have known people to ride seventy miles, comfortably, and the wood to be quite warm at the journey's end. A similar piece for the feet, at the same time nicely tucked in from the wind, was delightful. Another foot-warmer, more easily made ready and serving many purposes, is a bag of bed-ticking, fourteen inches square. Bind the seams with braid or a strip of ticking, leaving a small opening until filled with sand. Make a slip-cover for it, of any material you choose, or crocheted of some bright color, and fasten with buttons and loops. When needed, heat very hot in the oven, put in its case, and it is ready for use.

in for Home.

DECORATED WOOD BOXES.—Hickory wood is the fashionable fuel just now, and wood-boxes are handsomely decorated. Some are covered with plush in a shade to match the furnishing of the room and have dainty designs hand-painted upon them. Others are made of stamped leather in octagon shape, and have tassels made of worsted ornamenting the ends. Those made of bamboo are more sensible and less extravagant than any of the others, and they look almost as decorative. They are adorned simply by a piece of pale blue or scarlet ribbon.

Some hostesses now serve hot coffee at afternoon "at homes" instead of hot tea. This is an innovation to be devoutly thankful for. Any kind of coffee is preferable to the weak, cold, unpalatable tea sometimes served. Everybody has not the faculty for making good coffee. It should be ground just before using. The coffee pot should be thoroughly scalded, the coffee then put in an egg, yolk, shells and all, should be mixed with it, and boiling water immediately poured upon it. The coffee should boil five minutes, and then should be taken from the stove and settled. Many prefer boiling the milk with the coffee, but this is not as general a thing a good plan, for sometimes all of the guests do not like milk in their coffee.

There was a time in this country when it could be said that honest labor of any kind was not only respectable in

fact, but was regarded and treated as such by people of every social grade. Forty years ago the farmers' daughters in New England went out as hired "help" in their neighbors' families without a thought of degradation, and the same custom prevailed almost every-where in the rural portions of the northern states. Yankee girls who were ambitious to make higher wages than they could get in the kitchen went to the factories at Lowell and other places, and many a mortgage on a homestead among the hills was paid off by the aid of the daughter who worked in the mill.

English Cookery.

In England very little benefit is extracted from the present long list of vegetables substances. Bread and potatoes, cabbage, and in agricultural districts beans with a little bacon and cheese, and milk for the children, almost exhaust the list of food attainable by the working village population. What is called butchers' meat rarely makes its appearance in the cottage of an agricultural laborer, but it is quite certain that if the humble and wholesome materials at his disposal were more skillfully treated, he would be greatly the better. In manufacturing towns vast quantities of food are destroyed rather than consumed, owing to the ignorance of the women of the most elementary principles of cooking. A hastily-made fire and a frying pan, a lump of butter of indefinite size, some bacon a few eggs of doubtful freshness compose the culinary preparations of a family earning between £2 and £3 per week.—London News.

The Arab and His Horse.

The Arabians never beat their horses: they never cut their tails; they treat them gently; they speak to them and seem to hold a discourse; they use them as friends; they never attempt to increase their speed by the whip, or spur them, but in cases of great necessity, they never fix them to a stake in the fields, but suffer them to pasture at large around their habitations; and they come running the moment they hear their masters voice. In consequence of such treatment these animals become docile and tractable in the highest degree. They resort at night to their tents, and lie down in the midst of the children, without ever hurting them in the slightest manner. The little boys and girls are often seen upon the body or neck of the mare, while the beasts continue inoffensive and harmless, permitting them to play without injury.—From "The Arab and His Horse."

Care for Small Concerns.

Care for extremely small concerns of the household marks the difference between the truly excellent housekeeper and the poor one; and while I have no patience with those people who hold the opinion that the prosperity of the family depends exclusively upon the wife's economy, still there is a side of truth in it, and all women would do well to consider it. A good many pence if not pounds are saved in the course of a year if the clothesline is brought in and kept dry, instead of being allowed to remain out in all kinds of weather. If you have a strip of board, with a notch in each end, to wind the rope on, it will be a convenience. Another careful practice is to have a basket or bag to keep the clothes in, and a place for the basket or bag. Still another is to see that the wall paper is not spoiled by water being allowed to spatter on it. The light colored oilcloth made to cover washstands is useful, also, to tuck up back of the sink and behind the water-tank on the range.

A New Requirement in Modern Farming.

From the American Agriculturist.

A good farmer always needed skill, but in the changed conditions of modern farming a different kind of skill is needed from that required by our fathers and grandfathers. This is more largely the case West than East, but true in both. Formerly it was mostly manual skill in the use of simple implements, such as the sickle, the scythe and the common walking-plow. Now the farmer needs to know how to adjust, run and care for machinery. Machines properly handled call for little manual expertness to run them. But to manage the present implements requires a degree of mechanical skill that a large proportion of our farmers do not possess. To comprehend the full extent of this change compare the modern threshing-machine with the old-fashioned flail, or the self-binding harvester with the old sickle, or its successor, the grain cradle. Every careful observer must recognize the fact that the lack of skill in using and caring for his machinery is one of the most potent sources of loss to the farmer.

We have known one man to use a mower for ten years without expending over \$30 in repairs—or \$3 annually—while his neighbor, in cutting a smaller quantity of grass used up three equally good machines in the same time. Compare the expenses of this one item: First farmer expended \$130, plus, say \$70 for interest, or \$200 in all, for ten years. This is just \$50 per annum—quite an item, you will say, for mowing tools alone, but still much cheaper than mowing with the scythe. The other wore out three machines—\$300, to which add repairs, say same as the other, \$30, or interest on \$100 for ten years, \$70, or \$100 (the second machine, for six years), \$12; and on another \$100 (the third machine, for three years), \$21, and you have a grand total of \$463—or \$46.30 per annum—an annual expense of more than twice as much as the other. The same calculations concerning the harvester, the sulky plow, the hay rake, and other farm implements, make an enormous difference in the cost to the man who is unskillful in using and caring for them. An important inquiry is, how the present difficulty can be remedied.