

# GRIGGS CO. COURIER.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.  
By FRED'K H. ADAMS.

England has won the victory over the Arabs of the desert and loud is her rejoicing thereat. But her shouts of joy are mingled with groans at the expense of such martial glory, and the loss of brave men who met death in the desert. England pays dearly for the extension of empire on which the sun never sets.

Several legislatures are trying to prevent the sale of Oleomargarine under the guise of dairy butter. The sale of the counterfeit stuff, in bills under consideration, is not absolutely prohibited, but it must not be sold as butter. It must go under its own name, which is not a savory thing anyway, without reference to its quality, about which there is some difference of opinion.

Only \$23,600 of the old bonded debt of Illinois remains unpaid, and interest on that having stopped two or three years ago, the presumption is that it will never be called for. Whoever may be the loser, the state will be the gainer. The state government is out of debt, and has about \$3,000,000 cash on hand. This is a proud record for a state, bring the three millions on hand which is better in the pockets of the people than in the state treasury.

The governor of Nevada advises the legislature to retrench expenses as much as possible, in view of the decrease of population and tax-paying capacity. It seems that the state government costs \$249,000 a year and the county governments \$614,000, which make a heavy total for 40,000 people to pay. Retrenchment will be a good thing for the people of Nevada, but, unhappily, it will not affect the injustice to the country of their undue power in the senate.

Speaking of the business prospect for 1885, the Savannah News says: "In the South the outlook is more encouraging than in any other part of the country. The cotton crop was good and the price has been fair. The planters are now raising a larger per cent. of their own supplies than ever before. They are therefore in a much better condition financially than the farmer of the West. Factories that were closed for a time during the summer have started up again and now appear to be fairly prosperous. At no time since the present depression in business began has the situation in the South been as gloomy as it has been in the North."

By reference to the last report of Colonel Dudley, late Commissioner of Pensions, we find that since 1861 there has been disbursed by the Pension Bureau the sum of six hundred and seventy-eight million dollars and over (to be exact, \$678,346,834), an amount equal to one-quarter of the war debt of the United States at its greatest expansion. Deducting from this sum the liberal discount of twenty-eight millions as pensions paid the survivors of the war of 1812, the Mexican war and the various Indian wars, leaves the net sum of six hundred and fifty millions already paid out to the soldiers of the late civil war or their widows or legal representatives.

The outlook for winter wheat is becoming a matter of considerable interest to the growers of spring wheat, as the crop of winter wheat will govern to some extent the price of this year's crop of spring. A gatherer of wheat statistics in Milwaukee has advised from many of the wheat growing states, and he says the complaint seems general that owing to the unreasonable fall and winter the condition of winter wheat is most unfavorable and the promise for even a fair outcome not very flattering. Michigan, Illinois, Kansas and Missouri report a large decrease in acreage, and owing to the severity of the winter the damage has been very great. The weather has been unusually cold and many of the principal wheat counties have been bare of snow up to within the past week, and the wheat is wholly frozen out, which will necessitate plowing up in the spring and the sowing or planting of other cereals. He has advice from all the agricultural department or statistical agents of the principal winter wheat raising states, giving the area sown to wheat as compared with last year. The figures show a large decrease, ranging from 10 to 33 per cent. Many of the large producing states, including Kansas, Missouri and Indiana, show a larger decrease.

## SUMMARY OF NEWS OF THE WEEK.

### Justly Frightened by Fire.

Washington Special: A fire was discovered Monday morning, Jan. 26 in a lot of books and records stored under the roof of the house of representatives. The firemen cut away the wood and soon extinguished the fire, which was confined to a space of less than twenty feet square. The damage is trifling. The fire is supposed to have been started by the electric wires used in lighting the halls. The first discovery that a fire was in progress was that a few large sparks were seen to fall upon the floor of the house from the roof above, which in a moment increased to quite a shower. The few representatives in the hall and officers and pages rushed for the doors, and for a moment they seemed to expect an explosion and see a repetition of Saturday's scene in the British house of parliament. There was no water and no way of getting at the fire except up a narrow staircase running three stories, upon which two men cannot pass each other. After some delay, however, buckets of water were passed up, and what came dangerously near being a serious conflagration was averted. In the room in which the fire was confined were stored the first records of congress, with all the original reports of the committees, proceedings of the house and reports of various heads of departments, including some valuable reports dated 1790. The close proximity of the fire to these volumes rendered it marvelous that they were not burned.

Roswell Grant uncle of the general, died at St. Albans, Vt. Va.

The week's failures numbered 386, against 445 for the week previous.

The Hamburg-American line practically sells second-class passage for \$10.

A New Jersey woman has left \$18,000 to Fred Douglas, or the income thereof.

The senate of Nebraska passed a bill to forbid the sale of tobacco to minors.

It is thought the loss of stock in Texas by the cold weather will aggregate \$40,000,000.

A Chicago grand jury indicted 249 judges who served at the recent alleged election.

The republicans gained twenty-two seats in the French chambers at Sunday's election.

John J. Orton, one of the foremost lawyers of Wisconsin, died at his home in Milwaukee.

Commander George D. B. Glidden, U. S. N., died at Cambridge, Mass., recently of consumption.

Dr. Harrison of New York city has just married Miss Della Young, one of Brigham's daughters.

At Smith's Falls, on the Canadian Pacific, not far from Ottawa, a passenger train was thrown from the track and burned.

The wrangle in the First Presbyterian church of St. Paul has ended for the present in the resignation of the pastor, Mr. Herriott.

Con Murphy, the most notorious desperado and jail breaker in Montana was lynched by Helena vigilantes on Tuesday last.

The steamer St. John at New York lies at the dock a blackened wreck, and the marine insurance companies will lose fully \$300,000.

Jessie K. Robinson and two children of Matie Newbold of Northumberland county, Va., were drowned while sliding on the ice near Heathsville.

William Stevens, indicted by the grand jury at Hastings for horse stealing, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary.

Capt. Joseph Stewysa who disappeared from Waldoborough, Me., a few days ago with about \$20,000 of other people's money, is supposed to have gone to Canada.

George Hearst received the joint Democratic caucus nominations for United States senator from California, receiving 17 votes on the seventeenth ballot; Henley, 11; Sumner, 2.

Excitement is rife in St. Petersburg over the attempted assassination of Police Superintendent Kollert. He was attacked by two strangers in one of the main thoroughfares in broad daylight.

Senator James G. Fair had the deed of a building site in San Francisco, valued at \$212,000, presented recently as a gift from him to the Boys' and Girls' Aid society, which intends building a home.

James Sheridan of Lawrence, Mass., has been arrested on a charge of manslaughter. It is alleged that while enraged he kicked his thirteen-year-old daughter Annie in the abdomen, resulting in her death.

The New London Mutual Insurance company of Norwich, Conn., of which William Roath, embezzling cashier of the Shetucket National bank of that city, was treasurer, has found a deficit in its accounts of over \$6,000.

A. B. Campbell, arrested in Chicago the other day in connection with mail robberies, has made a confession in Winnipeg, giving away another postoffice clerk there named Frank H. Duffy. The latter has been arrested, and bail is refused.

T. B. Sanborn and James D. Cumming, connected in Washington of presenting fraudulent claims to the navy department, were sentenced recently, the former to six months in jail and a fine of \$500, and the latter two years in jail and \$2,000 fine.

Reports from twenty-one cities, representing 35 per cent of the total sales of stamps, postal cards and stamped envelopes, shows a falling off in sales of 1.2 per cent for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1884, as compared with 1883. Only four cities on the list show an increase.

Jens Simonson, living near Audubon, Minn., returned home drunk and finished his orgie with a quarrel with his wife and a dose of strychnine, attempting to aid its digestion with a shotgun, and passing to the great beyond with neatness and dispatch.

The master plumbers of Brooklyn organized against their union employees, and on Saturday last all except fifteen establishments discharged those of their workmen whom they knew were union men. As a result there is a general suspension of labor among the plumbers of the city.

The employers of the Bessemer steel works at Troy, N. Y., have decided to begin work Feb. 2 at a reduction in price. The mill has been idle three weeks, and for six months previous was on one-third time. Eight hundred men will be given employment. The pay roll amounts to \$1,930 a week.

The propaganda at Rome has issued a circular, signed by Cardinal Simonini, to the effect that the unanimous protest of the Catholic bishops of the whole world has not prevented alien authorities from liquidating the property of the congregation, and protests snow against the act of the government.

A terrible tragedy took place in Newport, Ky. Mrs. Carrie F. Winslow choked her son, seven years old, to death, beater ten-year-old daughter so severely with a base ball club that it is believed her injuries are fatal, and then

cut her own throat with a razor, producing speedy death. Mrs. Winslow was insane.

A man giving his name as R. P. Denny surrendered to the sheriff at Columbus, Neb., claiming that he had shot and killed a traveling man about a month ago at or near Council Bluffs. He was jailed to await information from Council Bluffs, but nothing is known about any man having been killed at that place.

Senator Sawyer presented a protest from forty or fifty Lake Superior iron mining companies, against the Spanish treaty. They say they have enough to contend with under the duty of 75 cents a ton for ore. Already there is quite an importation of Spanish and African iron, and under the Spanish treaty the disadvantage would be perceptibly greater.

Leaders of the Progressist party in Berlin are preparing to hold an immense mass meeting to protest against Bismarck's scheme of trebling the duty on wheat, and doubling it on rye. They argue that it would enhance the price of food and without materially aiding farmers, would enrich certain speculators whose interests the scheme had been proposed.

Papers arriving from the interior of West Virginia bring the first details of a great storm which swept the central portion of the state, doing immense damage. Fences are leveled for miles, whole forests broken down, and out-buildings demolished. The stock sheltered in many barns and sheds were injured or killed by the falling of the buildings. No loss of human life is recorded.

Louis Bachus, a peddler, shot and instantly killed Theodore Lay, a beer wagon driver, in Chicago. Bachus says he discovered his fifteen-year-old daughter had been raped, and afterward, under promise of marriage, subjected to repeated abuse by Lay. The father states he begged Lay to marry the girl, and that Lay refused in an insulting manner, asking, "What are you going to do about it?"

A rope was thrown over the timbers of a bridge and Murphy given another opportunity to talk, but he only said: "I've been a pretty hard case, but have nothing to say about others." He would mention no other names of his gang, and again denied knowing anything about the recent fire in Helena. The order came, "swing him up, boys," and Murphy's last words were, "Good bye, boys, and he was launched into eternity."

It is generally understood that A. A. Adee, third assistant secretary of state, will be promoted to succeed Mr. Davis in the state department. Owing to the very short time the new first assistant secretary would have to serve, it was thought that the position would not be filled, but as it is learned that Mr. Adee is not desirous of remaining in government service longer under any circumstances, it is thought likely he will be honored with the promotion if he desires it.

At Huntingdon, Pa., during the absence of Sheriff McAlevy the prisoners who are allowed the freedom of the corridors engaged in a desperate conflict among themselves, in which Alex. Gray received dangerous injuries by being beaten over the head with a poker by a fellow prisoner named Tom Potter. The insurrection was quelled through the heroism of Miss Laura McAlevy, niece of the sheriff, who forced the prisoners back to their cells at the point of a revolver.

Admiral Courbet's operations for the seizure of the mines of Kelung have been thwarted by the Chinese. Dispatches state that the French troops disembarked, attacked Kelung and were repulsed with a loss of seventy-five men. Later news shows the repulse of the French was due largely to the utter inefficiency of their attack, owing to a misapplication of the enemy's strength. The French troops are being now organized for a combined attack upon both Kelung and Tamsui.

Capt. J. M. Farrell, organizer of Farrell's detective agency and protective police has just died in New Orleans at the age of fifty-nine. He was one of the best known detectives in the United States. William Melchert, druggist, made a mistake in filling a prescription. Instead of one ounce of water, and twenty-four drops of aconite, as ordered by the doctor, he put in an ounce of aconite. A dose of this was administered to Farrell, and he expired shortly after. A warrant has been issued, charging Melchert with involuntary manslaughter.

Gen. Merritt, the superintendent of the military academy, has been at the Arlington during the past week, and his presence here has caused a great deal of gossip concerning army changes. Brigadier Gen. Augur, who now commands the department of Missouri will retire during the present year, and is expected to succeed Gen. Sturgis as governor of the soldiers' home. Gen. Merritt, who is one of the ablest officers of the army, is expected to succeed him. It is possible that Gen. Augur may retire before March 4, in which event Gen. Merritt is thought to be sure of the place.

The Weekly Pioneer Press of Jan. 29th, presents in its "Galaxy of Genius" series papers on "The Future of Arctic Exploration," by Lieut. Greely, of the recent Franklin Bay expedition; on Chinese Gordon, now besieged by the Mahdi's forces at Khartoum, by Charles Chaille Long, his former chief of staff; and on the neglected but important battle of Sailor's creek, at the close of the campaign about Richmond, by ex-Speaker Keifer. The installment excels in current and permanent interest any yet printed in the series which has attracted so much attention.

Dr. James Davenport, Jr., the popular physician who has been lying dangerously ill at St. Luke's hospital since December 1, having no chance of surviving without submitting to a dangerous surgical operation, the same was performed recently by Doctors Hand and Wheaton, quite a number of other city physicians being present. He was put under the influence of anesthetics, and an abscess of the left kidney punctured, from which was drawn a large quantity of matter. His chances for recovery or death it is considered are evenly divided, the operation being performed as a denier resort to save his life.

Rev. Dr. Patten, president of Howard university, preached a sermon at the Congregational church of this city on "Woman and Skepticism," in the course of which he spoke of the woman suffrage convention held here recently, and expressed the opinion that when women are given too much liberty they branch off into skepticism and immorality. He said, among other things, that the lives of such women as George Elliot, Madame Roland and Harriet Martineau exemplified the truth of his assertion, and he referred to Victoria Woodhull as a representative of the woman suffrage movement. Among his audience were Miss Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and on the conclusion of the service they walked to the platform and upbraided Dr. Patten for his utterances. Miss Anthony said to him if his mother were living she would take him across her knee and spank him, but Mrs. Stanton, interrupting her, said: "On the contrary, let me congratulate Dr. Patten. I have been trying for years to make woman understand that the worst enemies they have are in the pulpit, and now he has illustrated it beyond question." Withering glances Dr. Patten tried to reply the women living left the church. Rev. Olympia P. Brown replied to Dr. Patten from the pulpit of the Universalist church.

## PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

Senate.—Senator Edmunds introduced a bill providing that if any person shall, in the United States, or within any district, state or territory thereof, make, buy, sell, manufacture or compound any metallic nitro-compound, Nitre powder, Oriental powder, giant powder, Hercules powder, scientific powder, thunderbolt powder, dynamite or other nitro explosive compound; or shall make, buy, sell, manufacture or compound any ballistite, burnin powder, colônia powder, detonite, fulgurate or any other chlorate nitro compound, with the intent that any such nitro or chlorate explosive compounds shall be used at any place within the United States, or in any foreign country without the jurisdiction of the United States, for the injury or destruction of public or private property, or for the injury of any person or persons, shall be deemed guilty of felony and upon conviction shall be imprisoned, etc. The bill makes provision for trial, etc.

In introducing the bill Mr. Edmunds said it was a more draft drawn at his request by another, but although imperfect, he submitted it in order that it may be referred to the committee on judiciary for early consideration and perfection. It may be that the act would raise a question between the rights of the United States and duties of separate states, but the committee would take the whole subject into consideration, and would, he hoped, put the bill in such a shape that so far as the United States government had power it would be able to exercise it in the direction indicated by the bill referred to the committee on judiciary.

Senator Bayard introduced the following resolution: Resolved, That the senate of the United States has heard, with indignation and profound sorrow, of the attempt to destroy the houses of parliament and other public buildings in London, and hereby expresses its horror and detestation of such monstrous crimes against civilization.

The consideration of the resolution was postponed to enable the senate to receive fuller information upon the subject matter.

The senate closed its doors at 12:30 and Senator Edmunds continued his speech in favor of the ratification of the Nicaraguan treaty.

House.—Mr. Townsend made another effort to reach the bill, but was defeated by a close vote in favor of the agricultural appropriation bill. After this measure was disposed of, Mr. Townsend again essayed to reach the Mexican pension bill, but was again overwhelmed by the opposition, who threatened a resort to filibustering, and finally a motion to adjourn prevailed.

The opposition to this measure in its attempt to reach the bill in the minority, is so strong and determined that the chances for its passage are decidedly unfavorable.

SENATE.—A substitute for the house bill for the leasing of the lands granted Iowa in aid of railroad construction was reported. Mr. Bayard's resolution denouncing the London explosion was adopted by a vote of 62 to 1, the negative vote being cast by Mr. Riddleberger, who spoke in opposition to the resolution. The resolution is as follows:

"Resolved, That the senate of the United States has heard with indignation and profound sorrow of the attempt to destroy the house of parliament and other public buildings in London and to imperil the lives of innocent and unsuspecting persons, and it hereby expresses its horror and detestation of such monstrous crimes against civilization.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate: Commodore Samuel R. Franklin, rear admiral; postmasters, W. B. Fish, Anamosa, Iowa; Thomas J. Ross, Nevada, Iowa; John M. Bacon, Oregon City, Or.; Donald McDonald, Grand Forks, Dak.

HOUSE.—Bills were introduced and referred as follows: By Mr. Nichols, appropriating \$500,000 for the purpose of establishing a navy and depot of supplies in the harbor of Brunswick, Ga. By Mr. Rosecrans, appropriating \$100,000 to provide for further aid and encouragement in perfecting and manufacturing the highest class of arms.

Mr. Findley introduced a resolution calling upon the secretary of state for information whether any citizens of the United States, or persons domiciled within the same, were concerned or participated, directly or indirectly, in bringing about the recent explosions in London, provided the transmission of such information is compatible with the public interests.

Mr. Hewitt (N. Y.) offered a resolution calling upon the secretary of state to inform the house whether the department is in possession of any information tending to convict any person or persons, resident in this country and enjoying the protection of the laws, with attempts to destroy life and property within the jurisdiction of any foreign power with which we have treaties of peace and amity, and requesting him to make a recommendation as to what legislation will be desirable or needed, to be enacted into law for the punishment of such outrages. Referred to the committee on foreign affairs.

Mr. Forney, from the committee on appropriations, reported the army appropriation bill. Referred to the committee of the whole. It provides for an appropriation of \$24,420,063. The estimates amounted to \$26,110,400. Mr. Follett, from the same committee, reported a bill appropriating \$9,000 to enable the commissioners of the District of Columbia to maintain public order during the ceremonies attending the inauguration of the president.

SENATE.—Mr. Merrill, from the committee on finance, reported favorably, with amendments the house bill for the retirement and recoinage of the trade dollar. The vote in committee was 6 to 4 against the bill. Mr. Merrill gave notice that he would call up the bill Tuesday next.

Mr. Cameron (Pa.) from the committee on military affairs, reported the bill to authorize the establishment of a retired list for non-commissioned officers and privates of the United States army who have served thirty years and upwards.

Senator McMillan, from the judiciary committee, reported favorably Senator Hoar's bill to provide two additional associate justices for the District of Columbia.

Senator McMillan introduced an amendment to the Indian bill, appropriating \$730 to pay John Kanla for deprivations by the Sioux in 1862.

Executive session, the president nominated William M. Buswell of Louisiana naval officer of the customs, district of New Orleans. Confirmations—H. C. Minor, Louisiana, collector of internal revenue, district of Louisiana; John F. Hartranft, Pennsylvania, collector of customs, district of Philadelphia; Sanford E. Chaille, Louisiana member of the national board of health; Capt. Almon F. Rockwell, assistant quartermaster, to be quartermaster with rank of major; Nelson A. Dunning, Michigan, consul at Auckland; Assistant Naval Constructor George F. Mallet, California, naval constructor. Postmasters—Henry S. Hindekoper, Philadelphia; John M. Bacon, Oregon City, Or.; Thomas J. Ross, Nevada, Iowa; William B. Fish, Anamosa, Iowa; Donald McDonald, Grand Forks, Dak.

Executive session Senator Bayard concluded his speech upon the Nicaraguan treaty. He maintained that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is still in force, and that the ratification of the Nicaraguan treaty would be a violation of it. A running debate of an hour then took place. Senator Sherman had two amendments pending. One is to open negotiations with England for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty before proceeding with the ratification of the Nicaraguan treaty. The other is to provide that there shall be no discrimination either for or against any government in canal rates for the passage of vessels.

House.—The Army Appropriation here was discussed and passed. Only two amendments were made by the house. One of these changes the articles of war relating to courts martial so as to permit such courts to regulate the hours of their sessions, and the other strikes out the paragraph reported by the committee authorizing graduates of the United States military academy to be attached to any corps of the army for which they are recommended by the academic board as additional second lieutenants until vacancies happen. This paragraph was inserted to guard against the discharge of cadets who will graduate in 1886, the class of that year being unusually large. McMillan of Tennessee and Warner of Ohio led the opposition to this paragraph, which was knocked out on a point of order.

SENATE.—Messages from the president were laid before the senate, transmitting information heretofore called for regarding the landing of foreign cables in the United States; the awards of the Venezuelan mixed commission, and the status of the Oklahoma lands, which lands, the president maintains, cannot, under existing treaties, be opened for settlement. Without the transaction of other business, the senate went into executive session on the Nicaraguan treaty. Senator Vance made a speech arguing that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was still an obstacle to the ratification of the treaty and offered a motion that further action be postponed until after March 4. This motion was the subject of a long debate. Senators Bayard and Saultsbury and others upon the Democratic side spoke in favor of the motion, and Senators Morgan, Lapham, Conger and Miller of California opposed it.

The following nominations were sent by the president to the senate: Nicholas H. Owings, secretary of Washington Territory. Registers of land offices—George A. McKenzic, Stockton, Cal.; Charles B. Johnson, Los Angeles, Cal.; Mark L. Blunt, Pueblo, Col.; Henry H. Griffiths, receiver of public moneys at Des Moines, Iowa; Robert Woodbridge, Ohio, Indian agent of the Lemhi agency, Idaho. Postmasters—George E. Delavan, Greene, Iowa; H. L. J. McClellan, Marion, Iowa; Henry F. Steward, Ketchum, Iowa.

HOUSE.—Mr. Clay, from the committee on presidential laws, reported a concurrent resolution providing:

The two houses shall assemble in the hall of the house at noon on the 11 of February, 1885, pursuant to the requirements of the constitution and laws relating to the president and vice president of the United States, and the president of the senate shall be the presiding officer; that one person shall be appointed teller on the part of the senate, and two as tellers on the part of the house, to make a list of the votes as they shall be declared. That result shall be delivered to the president of the senate, who shall announce the state vote and the persons elected to the two houses assembled as aforesaid, which shall be deemed the declaration of the persons elected as president and vice president. Referred.

W. Reed, Democrat, took his seat as the successor to Mr. Seales, fifth district of North Carolina. Mr. Hewitt was again defeated in an attempt to have the Mexican treaty bill taken up for consideration. The house voted to consider railway land grant forfeiture bills, but was prevented from doing so by filibustering.

SENATE.—The senate went into executive session and the suspended vote upon Senator Vance's motion to postpone action upon the Nicaraguan treaty was continued, resulting in the defeat of the motion—22 to 25. Senator Sherman's amendment, looking to the abrogation or modification of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, was then discussed some hours, and coming to a vote in committee of the whole, was defeated—17 to 28. The second Sherman amendment, relating to the abrogation of the treaty, was defeated without division. The treaty was then reported to the senate, and a vote upon Sherman's amendment relating to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was again taken, resulting in its adoption—30 to 19. A vote was then taken upon the treaty itself, and 32 senators voted for its ratification, while 23 voted against it. The affirmative vote being less than two-thirds of the whole number voting, the treaty was not ratified. The nays were all Democratic, with the exception of Riddleberger. The following Democrats voted for the treaty: Jonas, La., Jones, Flor., Maxey, Morgan, Pendleton and Rugh.

Mr. McMillan has presented in the senate a memorial from the Minnesota legislature urging the purchase of the Portage and Lake Superior ship canals by the government, for the purpose of making it a free waterway.

HOUSE.—After miscellaneous business of no great importance, the river and harbor appropriation bill was discussed until adjournment.

SENATE.—To-day Senator Beck presented a memorial from a number of naval officers, protesting against the passage of the resolution giving the thanks of congress to Commander Schley and Lieut. Emery. The memorial says the resolution would advance these gentlemen one grade, and this advancement would affect all officers now standing above them in the list of their respective ranks. They say, "While not wishing to detract from the merits of these most excellent and worthy officers, we would respectfully represent that their services in the Greely expedition were not of the character which entitles them to such marked distinction and advantage over their comrades."

Mr. Hoar, from the committee on judiciary, reported favorably a resolution providing that the two houses of congress assemble in the hall of the house on Feb. 11 to count the electoral vote. Mr. Hoar called up the house resolution of similar import, and, after amending it to correspond with the senate resolution, it was agreed to. The amendment increases the number of tellers.

Senator Harrison has introduced for the committee on military affairs a bill to pay the expenses of operating and keeping in repair the Northwest section of the United States military telegraph lines from Bismarck to Fort Ellis and connections, constructed under the act of congress 1878, which expenses were incurred between June 20, 1878, and June 1, 1884.

Confirmations: Postmasters—George E. Delavan, Greene, Iowa; H. Lizzie Johnson, Marion, Iowa; Henry F. Steward, Ketchum, Idaho. Nicholas H. Owings, secretary Washington Territory.

The speaker laid before the house a message from the president recommending that the steamer Alert, which was presented to this government by England to assist in the search for the Greely party, be returned to England with a fitting acknowledgment of the generous gift. Referred. Also a communication from the secretary of state recommending the passage of a joint resolution permitting military officers to be sent as military instructors to Corea, in compliance with a request of the Corean government.

Aside from recognition that in the past our national policy of avoidance of entangling alliances with foreign powers has been wise, there are in sight to-day many facts which tend to strengthen the belief that the people of the United States will be happier and richer, both in the near future and in all time to come, if no departure from our traditional policy of national independence is now countenanced, either by the people or their representatives. There is undoubtedly a strong desire in the minds of many to have this nation take a more prominent part in the councils of nations, but this desire should be checked rather than encouraged. The doctrine of Washington's farewell address to his countrymen is just as sound now and just as applicable to the present situation of affairs as it was nearly a hundred years ago.