Continued from 6th page.

to mar'time warfare, and if they are not put in efficient condition we may be subjected to humiliation by a hostile power greatly inferior to ourselves.

THE TORPEDO SERVICE.

As germane to this subject I call your attion to the importance of perfecting our predo defences. The board authorized by the last congress to report on the method which be adopted for the manufacture of heavy ordnance adopted to general ware-fare has been assisted by the principal from and steel works, in this country and in Europe. It is hoped that its report will be soon made and that congress will thereupon be disposed to provide suitable facilities and plans for the manufacture of such guns as are now imperatively needed.

THE STATE MILITIA.

On several occasions during the past year officers of the army have, at the request of the state authorities, visited their military encampments for the inspection of the troops. From the reports of these officers I am induced to believe that the encouragement of state militia organization by the national government would be followed by very gratifying results, and would afford it in sudden emergencies the aid of a large body of volunteers educated in the performance of military duties.

THE NEW WAR VESSELS.

The secretary of the navy reports that under the authority of the acts of August 5, 1882, and March 3, 1883, the work of strengthening our navy by the construction of modern vessels has been auspiciously begun. Three cruisers are now in progress of construction-the Chicago, of 4,500 tons displacement, and the Boston and Atlanta, each of 2,500 tons. They are to be built of steel, with the tenible strength and durability presribed by law, and in combination of speed, endurance and armament are expected to compare favorably with the best war vessels of other nations. A fourth ves-sel, the Dolphin, is to be constructed of similar material, and is intended to serve as a fleet dispatch boat. The double-turreted monitors, Puritan, Amphrite and Terror, have been launched on the Delaware river, and a contract has been made for the supply of their machinery. A similar monitor, the Madanock, has been launched in California. The naval advisory board and the secretary recommend the completion of the mouitors and the construction of four gunboats, and also of three additional steel vessels like the Chicago, Boston and Dolphin as an important measure of material defense.

INCREASING OUR NAVAL STRENGTH. The secretary urges also the immediate creation of an interior fast line of water ways across the peninsula of Florida, along the coast from Florida to Hampton Roads, between the Chesapeake bay and Delaware river and through Cape Cod. I feel bound to impress upon the attention of congress the necessity of continued progress in the reconstruction of the navy. The condition of the public treasury, as I have already intimated, makes the present an auspicious time for putting this branch of service in a state of efficiency. It is no part of our policy to create and maintain a navy able to cope with that of the other great powers of the world. We have no wish for foreign conquest, and the peace which we have long enjoyed is in no seeming danger of interruption, but that our naval strength should be made adequate for the defense of our harbors, the protection of our commercial interests, and the maintenance of our national honor, is a proposition from which no patriotic citizen can withhold his con-

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The report of the postmaster general contains a gratifying exhibit of the condition and prospects of this interesting branch of the public service committed to his care. It appears that on June 30, 1883, the whole number of postoffices was 47,863, of which 1,632 were established during the last previous fiscal year. The number of offices operating under the system of free delivery was 154. At these latter offices the postage on local matter amounted to \$41,952.305 .-22, a sum exceeding by \$1,021,884.05 the entire cost of the carriers' service of the country. The rate of postage on drop letters passing through these offices is now fixed by law at two cents per half ounce or fraction thereof. In offices where the carrier system has not been established the rate if only half as large.

A REDUCTION PROPOSED.

It will be remembered that in 1863, when free delivery was first established by law, the uniform single rate postage upon local letters was one cent, and so it remained until 1872, when in those cities where carrier service was established it was increased to defray the expense of such service. It seems to me that the old rate may now with propriety be restored, and that, too, even at the risk of diminishing for a time at least the receipts from postage upon local letters. I can see no reason why that particular class of mail matter should be held double for the entire cost, not only of its collection and delivery but the collection and delivery of all other classes; and I am confident, after final consideration of the subject, that the reduction of rate would be followed by such a growing accession of business as to occasion but slight and temporary loss to the revenues to the postoffice.

THE TELEGRAPH QUESTION.

The postmaster-general devotes much of promptings of interest, therefore, as well his report to the consideration in its various aspects of the government to the telegraph. demand the immediate establishment of Such reflection as I have been able to give to this subject, since my last annual message, has not led me to change the view which I then expressed in dissenting from the recommendation of the postmastergeneral that the government assumes the same control over the telegraph which it has always exercised over the mail. Admitting that its authority in the premises as ample as has ever been claimed for it, it would not in my judgment be a wise use of that authority to purchase or assume the control of existing telegraph lines, or to construct others with a view of entering into general competition with private enterprise. The objections which may be justly urged against either of these projects, and indeed against any system which would require an enormous increase in the civil service list, do not, however, apply to some of the comment and discussion. It has been claimed for example, that congress might wisely authorize the postmaster-general to contract with some private person or corporation for the transmission of messages at specified rates and under government supervision.

GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION.

Various such schemes of the same genera nature, but widely differing in their special characteristics, have been suggested in the public prints, and the arguments by which they have been suggested and opposed have doubless attracted your attention. It is likely that the whole subject will be considgred by you at the present session. In the gure of things it involves so many quesas of detail that your deliberations would probably be aided slightly, if at all, by any particular suggestions which I might now submit. I avow my belief, however, that the government should be authorized by law to exercise some sort of supervision over inter-state telegraph communication.

which will receive your approbation.

THE COURTS.

The attorney general criticises, in his report, the provisions of existing laws fixing the fees of jurors and witnesses in the federal courts. The provisions are chiefly contained in the acts of February 26, though some of them were introduced into that act from statutes which had been passed many years previous. It is manifest that such compensation as might, when those laws were enacted, have been just and reasonable, would in many instances be justly regarded at the present day as wholly inade-

THE MATTER OF SALARY.

I concur with the attorney general in the belief that the statutes should be revised by which these fees are regulated; so, too, should the laws which regulate the compensation of district attorneys and marshals. They should be paid wholly by salaries in-stead of in part by fees, as is now the case. The change would prove to be a measure of economy0 and would discourage the institution of needless and oppressive legal proceedings, which, it is to be feared, have in some instances been conducted for the mere sake of personal gain.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Much interesting and varied information contained in the report of the secretary of the interior. I particularly call your attention to his presentation of certain phrases of the Indian question, to his recommendations for the repeal of the pre-emption and timber culture acts, and for more stringent legislation to prevent frauds under the pension laws. The statutes which preserve the definitions and punishments of crimes relating to pensions could doubtless be made more effective by certain amendments and additions which are pointed out in the treasnry report.

FEDERAL AID FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

I have previously referred to the alarming state of illiteracy in certain portions of the country, and again submit for the consideration of cougress whether some federal aid should be extended to public primary education when adequate provision therefore nas not already been made.

THE POLYGAMY ULCER.

The Utah commission has submitted to the secretary of the interior its second annual re-port, with full particulars of its labors in that erritory, pursuant to the act of March 22, 1882. It appears that the persons by that act disqualified, to the number of about 12,000, were excluded from the polls, This fact, how ever, affords little cause for congratulation, and I fear that it is far from judicating any real and substantial progress toward the ex-tirpation of polygamy. All of the members of the legislature are Mormons. There is grave reason to believe that they are in sym-pathy with the practices that this government is seeking to suppress, and that its efforts in that regard will be more likely to encounter their opposition than to receive their encour agement and support,

MORE STRINGENT LAWS NEEDED.

Even if this view should happily be erroneous the law under which the commissioners have been acting should be made more effectual by the incorporation of some such stringent measures as they recom-mend, as were included in bill No. 2,228, on the calendar of the senate at its last session. I am convinced, however, that polygamy has become so strongly intrenched in the Territory of Utah that it is profitless to attack with any but the stoutest weapons which constitutional legislation can I favor, therefore, the repeal of act upon which the existing government depends, the resumption by the national legislature of the entire political control of the territory, and the establishment of a commission with such powers and duties as shall be delegated to it by law.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

The department of agriculture is accomplishing much in the direction of the agricultural development of the country and the report of the commissioner giving the results of his investigations and experiments will be found interesting and valuable. At his instance a convention of those interested in the cattle industry of the country was lately held at Chicago. The prevalence of pleuro-pneumonia and other contagious diseases of animals was one of the chief topics of discussion. A committee of the convention will invite your co-operation in investigating the causes of these diseases and providing methods for their pervention und eure

THE NEEDS OF ALASKA.

I trust that congress will not fall at its present session to put Alaska under the protection of law. . Its people have repeatedly remonstrated against our neglect to afford them the maintenance and protection expressly guaranteed by the terms of the treaty whereby that territory was ceded to the United States. For sixteen years they have pleaded in vain for that which they should have received without the asking. They have no law for the collection of debts. the support of education, the conveyance of property, the administration of estates or the enforcement of contracts; none, indeed, for the punishment of criminals except such as offered against certain customs, commerce and navigation acts.

The resources of Alaska, especially in fur, mines and lumber, are considerable in extent and capable of large development, while its geographical situation is one of political and commercial importance. The

civil government in that territory. RAILWAY ABUSES.

Complaints have lately been frequent and urgent that certain corporations, controlling in whole or in part the facilities for the inter-state carriage of persons and merchandise upon the great railroads of the country, have resorted in their dealings with the pub lic to diverse measures, unjust and oppressive in their character. In some instances the state courts have attacked and suppressed these evils, but in others they have been unable to afford an equal protection because of the jurisdictional limitations which are imposed upon them by the federal corporation.

GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION.

The question, how far the national government may lawfully interfere in the premises, and what, if any, supervision or control it ought to exercise, is one which merits your careful consideration. While we cannot fail to recognize the importance of the vast rallway systems of the country, and their great and beneficial influences upon the development of our material wealth, we should, on the other hand, remember that the individual and no corporation ought to be invested with absolute power over the interest of other citizens or class of citizens.

CONGRESS SHOULD PROTECT THE PROPLE. The right of the railway corporations to demand a profitable return upon their investments and to a reasonable freedom in their regulations must be recognized, but it particular items, to interpose his veto as to seems only just, so far as its constitutional authority will permit, that congress should to his judgment. protect the people at large in their interstate traffic against acts of injustice which the state governments are poweriess to prevent.

POREST PRESERVATION.

and express the hope that for attaining tion to the necessity of protecting by suit-that end some measure may be devised able legislation the forests situated upon the public domain. In many portions of the west the pursuit of general agriculture is only made practicable by the resort to irrigation, while such useful irrigation would the forests in contributing to the regularity and constancy of such supply of water. During the past year severe suffering and great loss of property have been occasioned by profuse floods, followed by periods of unusually low water in many of the great rivers of the country. These irregularities are caused by the removal from about the sources of the streams in question, of the timber by which the water supply has been nourished and protected.

IMPORTANCE OF THE FORESTS.

The preservation of such portion of the forest on the national domain as essentially contributes to the equitable flow of important water courses, is of the highest consequence. Important tributaries of the Missouri, the Columbia and the Saskatchewan rise in the mountains of Montana, near the northern boundary of the United States, between the Blackfeet and Flathead Indian reservations. This region is unsuitable for settlement, but upon the rivers which flow from it depends in the future the agricultural development of a vast tract of country. The attention of congress is called to the necessity of withdrawing from the public!sale this part of the public domain and establishing there a forest preserve.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITIONS.

The industrial exhibitions which have been held in the United States during the resent year attracted attention in many oreign countries where the announcement of those enterprises had been made public through foreign agencies of the government. The industrial exhibition at Boston, and the southern exposition at Louisville were largely attended by the exhibitors of foreign countries, notwithstanding the absence of any professional character in those undertakings. The centennial exposition to be held next year at New Orleans in commemoration of the century of the first shipment of cotton from a port of the United States, bids fair with a like gratifying success. Un der the act of congress of the 10th of February, 1883, dec aring that exposition to be national and inter-national in its character, foreign governments with which the United States maintain relations have been invited to participate. The promoters of this important undertaking have already received issurances of the lively interest which is excited abroad.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The report of the commissioners of the District of Columbia is herewith transmitted. I ask for it your careful attention, especially for those portions which relate to assessments for arrears of taxes and water supply.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The commissioners who were appointed under the act of July 10, 1862, entitled "An act to regulate and improve the civil service of the United States," entered promptly upon the discharge of these duties. A se-ries of rules, framed in accordance with the spirit of the statue, was approved and promulgated by the president of the United States, and in some particulars wherein they seemed defective, these rules were subsequently amended. It will provide for the discountenance of any political or religious tests for admission to the offices of the public service to which the statutes relate. The act is limited in its original application to the classified clerkships in the several execu-tive departments at Washington, numbering about 5,000, and to similar positions in customs districts and postoffices where as many as fifty persons are employed, a classification of these positions analogous to that existing in the Washington offices was duly made before the law went into effect. Eleven customs districts and twenty-three postoffices were thus brought under the immediate operation of the statute.

WORKINGS OF THE SYSTEM.

The annual report of the civil service commission, which will soon be submitted to congress, will doubtless afford the means of a more definite judgmeet than I am now prepared to express as to the merits of the new system. I am persuaded that its effects have thus far proved beneficial. Its practical methods appear to be adequate for the ends proposed, and there has been no serious difficulties in carrying them into effect. Since the 16th of July last no person, so far as I am aware, has been appointed to the public service in the classified portions thereof at any of the departments, or any of the postoffices and custom districts above named, except those certified by the commission to be most competent on the basis of the examination held in conformity to the

At the time when the present executive entered upon his term of office his death, removal, resignation or inability to discharge his duties would have left the government without a constitutional head. It is probable, of course, that a contingency may again arise similar unless the wisdom of congress shall provide against its recurrence. The senate at its last session, after full consideration, passed an act relating to the

THE PRESIDENCY AND ITS POWERS.

subject which will now, I trust, commend itself to the approval of both houses of congress. The clause of the constitution upon which must depend any law regulating the presidential succession presents also for solution other questions of paramount importance. These questions relate to the proper interpretation of the phrase "inability to discharge the powers and duties

of said office."

Our organic law provides that when the president suffer from much inability, the presiding officer shall devolve upon the vice president, who may himself, under life circumstances, give place to such officer as congress may by law appoint to act as president. I here set forth numerous and interesting inquiries which are suggested by these words of the constitution. They were fully stated in my first communication to congress, and have been the subject of frequent deliberations in that body. It is greatly to be hoped that these momentous questions will find speedy solutions lest an

IMPORTANT QUESTION TO BE SETTLED.

anxiety and alarm. THE VETO POWER.

be impossible, and any determination, albeit the wisest, may furnish cause for

For the reasons fully stated in my last annual message, I repeat my recommendation that congress propose an amendment to that provision of the constitution which pre-scribes the formalities for the enactment of laws whereby, in respect to bills for the ap-propriation of public money, the executive may be able, while giving his approval to such others as do not commend themselves

CIVIL RIGHTS.

The fourteenth amendment of the consti-In my last annual message I called atten- States, and subject to the jurisdiction there- Beatty 5,554

of. It was the special purpose of the amendment to insure members of the colored race the full enjoyment of civil and political rights. Certain statutory provisions intended to secure the enforcement of those rights gation, while such useful irrigation would have been recently declared unconstitution-be impossible without the aid afforded by all by the supreme court. Any legislation whereby congress may lawfully supplement the guarantees which the constitution affords for the equal enjoyment by all the citizens of the United States, of every right, privilege and immunity of citizenship, will receive my unhesitating approval.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR. Washington, D. C., December 3,1883.

List of U.S. Senators and States to Which They Belong.

Alabama-James L. Pugh, D.; John T. forgan, D. Arkansas-J. D. Walker, D.; A. H. Garand, D. California-J. T. Farley, D.; John F. Miller, R. Colorado-N. P. Hill, R.; Thos. M. Bowen. R. Connecticut-C. H. Platt, R.; J. B. lawley, R. Delaware-Thos. F. Bayard, D.; Eli aulsbury, D. Florida-Wilkinson Call, D.; Chas. W. ohnes, D. Georgia-J. E. Brown, D.; A. H. Coluitt. D. Illinois-John A. Logan, R.; S. M. Cullom, R. Indiana-D. W. Voorhees, D.; Benj. Harrison, R. Iowa-W. B. Allison, R. R.; James F. Wilson, R. Kansas-J. J. Ingalls, R; P. B. Plumb, R.

Kentucky-J. S. Williams, D.; James B. Beck, D. Louisiana-R. F. Jonas, D.; R. L. Gibon, D. Maine-Eugene Hale, R.; Wm. rve, R. Maryland-J. B. Groome, D.; A. P. dorman, D. Massachusetts-Henry L. Dawes, R.; leorge F. Hoar, R Michigan-Omar D. Conger, R.; T. W. Palmer, R. Minnesota-S. J. R. McMillan, R.; Sabin, R. Mississippi-J. Z. George, D.; L. Q. C. Lamar, D. Missouri-George G. Vest, D.; F. M. Cockrell, D. Nebraska-C. H. Van Wyck, R.; C. F. Manderson, R. Nevada-J. P. Jones, R.; James Fair, D. New Hampshire-H. W. Blair, R.; Albert Pike, R. New Jersey-Wm. J. Sewell, R.; J. R. McPhersen, D. New York-E. J. Lapham, R.; Warner Miller, R. North Carolina-Z. B. Vance, D.; M. W. Ransom, D. Ohio-G. H. Pendleton, D.; John Sherman, R.

Oregon-J. H. Slater, D.; Joseph N. Dolph, R. Pennsylvania-J. D. Cameron, R.: John L. Mitchell, R. Rhode Island-N. W. Aldrich, R.; H. B. Anthony, R. South Carolina-Wade Hampton, D.; M. C. Butler, D. Tennessee-H. E. Jackson, D.; Isham G. Harris, D. Texas-Samuel B. Maxey, D.; Richard

Coke, D. Vermont-J. S. Merrill, R.; G. F. Edmunds, R. Virginia-Wm. Mahone, R. +: H. H. Riddieberger, R.+ West Virginia-J. N. Camden, D.; John E. Kenna, D.

Wisconsin-Augus Cameron, R.; Philetus Sawyer, R. Republicans, 40; democrats, 36,

An Interesting Patent Suit. An interesting case, involving a very

ingenious and economical device, has just been decided by the courts, the particulars of which will bear mention. Nelson Lyon, of Albany, N. Y., has recovered judgment of \$8,447.10, besides costs and interest against G. T. Fisher & Co., in the United States Circuit Court, at Detroit, Mich., for an infringement of what is known to the trade as Lyon's Patent Metalic Heel Stiffener. This centrivance is one of the most useful of modern inventions, and has achieved a remarkable sale-over three-quarters of a million dollars worth, the testimony in the present suit showed, having been disposed of since the patent was granted, being a grand total of 273,478 pounds, or 3,888,000 pairs. The invention consists of a neat metal plate fastening to the outside of a boot or shoe heel, and so arranged as to prevent the counters from breaking over and the heel from wearing down unevenly. It is a simple but very ingenious device, and so desirable on the score of comfort and economy that infringements were boldly made. At one time the Attorney General of the United States declared the Lyon patent invalid, simply on account of an informality in the application, but this was afterward corrected by the Commissioner of Patents, in accordance with a special act of Congress authorizing such correction. Fisher main improvement consisted in elongating the screw-hole fastening the plate, and, as defendants, they based their main defence in trying to show the special act of Congress was unconstitutional and that plaintiff's invention was not new. Action was commenced in May, 1880, a perpetual injunction was obtained in December following, and the case was referred to a master to ascertain the profits made by defendants and the loss sustained by Mr. Lyon. The master reported the sum as \$3,834, but on motion the court doubled the same and directed judgment to be entered against defendants for such double damages, with interest from the date of the master's report, and costs.

The Official Count.

The following is the official returns of the late election in Nebraska as shown by the canvass of the votes of all the organized counties of the state, as made by the state board of canvassers at Lincoln. The canvass shows that M. B. Reese has a majority of 4,510 over Savage:

Supreme Judge— |Sixth Judicial Dist.— M. B. Reese...52,365 |Moville....... 5,906 Savage 4,322 University Regents—Sev'th Judicial Dist. M. J. Howe....55,381 Robertson 3,592 emergency may arise when long delay will Malialiue......56,361 Crawford 4,139 R. Daniels 41,948 Eighth Judicial Dist. by Sheriff Thurston, of this county, assist-David Butler...13,172 Gaslin......... 6,593 ed by Sheriff Farrell, of Mills county, Ia., J. M. Wool- Ninth Judicial Dist .- ed by Sheriff Farrell, of Mills county, Ia., worth31,027 Tiffany 4,528 and Sheriff Chandler, of Fremont, Neb. Holmes56,445 Tenth Judiciai Dist .- on July 11th, 1881, in company with Poke Amos Dean....34,461 Savidge 2,862 J. F. Merritt. 15,511 Hinmsn..... 2,434 Wells, and has since been at large. He First Judicial Dist.—District Attorney—Colby........ 5,751 Fourth Dist.—Brady...... 8,225 Wm. Marshal. 7,205 Second Judicial Dist.—Patterson 6,412 few days ago he stole \$50 at North Loup. Pound 9,819 Fifth Dist .-Third Judicial Dist .- G. W. Bemis. 7.168 of which, according to Sheriff Farrell, is Wakely 10,324 Ninth Dist.-Fourth Judicial Dist. Coffin 4,631 bank cashier. The arrest was well planned Post 7,712 Randall 2,628 and executed without difficulty While here Williams 5,830 Tenth Dist.—
Fifth Judicial Dist.— J. W. Bixler... 2,775 he passed as A. J. Wilson. tution confers the right of citizenship upon all persons born or naturalized in the United W. H. Morris. 7,371 E. C. Calkins. 2,487

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.-Monday, December 3. The senate was called to order by President pro. tem. Edwards. The president laid be-ore the senate the credentials in relation to Beck, who succeeds himself. The oath was administered to Beck, Bowen, Cultum, Dolph and Ferry, whose credentials were submitted at the last session. The custo-mary resolutions notifying the house and the president that the senate was ready for business were agreed to. At 3 o'clock the senate was again called to order, but there being no prospect of the speedy competition of the house organization it adjourned. In administering the oath to senators, the iron-clad oath was taken by Beck, Bowen, Cullom, Dolph, Frye, Hoar, McPherson, Manderson, Palmer, Pike, Plumb, Sabin, Saulisbury and Wilson, the remainder taking the modified oath. The new senators are: Pike, Kenna, Gibson, Colquitt, Wilson, Riddleberger, Sabin. Palmer, Cullom, Manderson, Dolph and Bowen. Adjourned.

House .- At 12 o'clock Clerk McPherson rapped the house to order and proceeded to call the roll. When the representative from the state of Mississippi had been reached the clerk said he wished to make a statement as to his failure to put upon the roll the name of any representative elect from the second district. The roll call disclosed 316 members. Nominations for speaker being in order, Geddess said: "I nominate for speaker of this house of the 48th congress, Carlisle. of Kentucky, a man of acknowledged and pre-eminent qualifications for the place." Cannon presented the name of Keifer, of Ohio, and Lyman the name of Robinson, of Massachusetts, Morrison, Tucker, Reed and Calkins were appointed tellers. The clerk proceeded to call the roll and the result was as follows: Carlisle, 191; Keifer, 112; Robinson, 2; (James and Lyman); J. A. Wise, of Virginia, 1 (York); Wadsworth, of Kentucky, 1 (Ochiltree); Lacey, of Michigan, 1 (White, of Kentucky). The clerk declared Carlisle elected. Randail and Keifer escorted the gentleman to the chair. His entrance into the chamber was the signal for loud applause. The oath of office was administered

Adjourned. SENATE.-TUESDAY, December 4.-A bill was introduced by Mr. Van Wyck, directing that railroad corporations shall pay, within sixty days, the costs of surveying and locating lands to which they are entitled; otherwise to be subject to state and local taxation; also, the pre-emption and homestead entry; also, to restore to the public domain lands donated, but not carned by the railroad corporations, when the roads were not finished within the time specified in the also, to protect all pre-emption and homestead entries made after forfeiture on failure to build the road within the time specified; also, for the relief of settlers of the public lands of Nebraska and Kansas on the line of the Denver and St. Joe road. (It provides for payment of \$350 per acre to settlers whose land, by recent decision of the supreme court reverted to the railroad company under a grant which was sup-posed to have been forfeited.) After reception of the president's message the senate adjourned.

House .- The delegates from the territories appeared at the bar of the house and sworn in. A resolution was adopted providing that the rules of the Forty-seventh congress be the rules of the Fortyeighth until two weeks from appointment of committee on rules.

Tucker offered a resolution referring to the committee on election, when appointed, the certificates and all papers relating to the election of the representative from the First district of Virginia, with instructions to report as early as practicable which of the ri-val claimants (Mayon and Garrison) of the seat has the prima facie right, reserving the other party the privilege of contesting the case on its merits. At the suggestion of Mr. Rannall the matter went over until to-morrow, and the reading by the clerk of the president's message was ordered. Referred to the committee of the whole. Adjourned.

SENATE.-Wednesday, December 5-Mr. Butler introduced a bill to repeal the internal revenue laws now in force, and abolish the internal revenue. Mr. Cullem introduced a bill to reorganize the legislative power in Utah. Mr. Logan—to pro-vide for granting public lands to soldiers and sailors of the late war. Mr. Hoar in-troduced a bill concerning federal elections, which provides for the use of a patented ballot-box and counting device, and requires that all balloting and counting of bailots be done in open meeting, which is not to be adjourned until all the ballots are counted and the result publicly proclaimed by the officers in charge, which officer shall be the United States marshal or supervisor, who shall be custodian of the boxes, as the representative of the attorney-general, who shall have primary charge and responsibility of such boxes.

House.—The Virginia contested election

case of Garrison vs. Mayo was referred to the committee on elections, when appoint-ed, with instruction to report the legal conditions involved therein. Mr. Jones sub-mitted the customary resolutions announcing the death of Mr. Thomas Herndon, of Alabama, and respect to the memory of the

deceased. Adjourned. SENATE.—THURSDAY, December 6 .-Mr. Manderson presented a memorial from the legislature of Nebraska asking that railroads to whom the government has granted lands be either compelled to take out patents, so that they may be taxed, or the lands revert to the people; also, that the duty be removed on barbed wire; also, urging the improvement of the Misseuri river. Mr. Lapham presented a proposed amendment to the constitution giving women the right of suffrage; also, proposing an amendment to the constitution giving the president the right to veto separate items in appropriation bills while approving the remainder. Mr. Morgan proposed an amendment to the constitution by which the president will have the power to disapprove any item in appropriations for rivers and harbors, while appropriating other items.

House.-Mr. McCord took the oath of office. No business of importance was done and the house adjourned until Monday.

A Bank Robber Arrested.

Special to Omaha Republican. ORD, Neb., via North Loup, Dec. 3 .-Last night Andrew J. Wilson was arrested J. M. Hyatt....56,427 T. O. Day..... 2,750 Wilson had robbed a Riverton (Iowa) bank came here a couple of weeks ago, in company with his wife, apparently broke. A He disposed of two fine revolvers here, one Neville 10,347 J. W. Eller 5,562 the one he used in covering the Riverton

Cash shear-the coupons cissors.