

# The Hammononton Item.

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[For The South Jersey Republican.]

## A Christmas Poem.

By Wm. H. Hopkins.

The sun sank slowly in the west,  
And twilight deepened into night;  
The stars came forth and, one by one,  
Were pictured on man's finite sight;  
A hush upon the landscape lay  
Where Bethlehem's bold and rugged height  
Reflected back each starry ray  
That scarce relieved the dreary night.  
Peace on earth; good will to man!  
Came, in tones of melody,  
From a dwelling angel light  
Sweeping through immensity.  
"In a manger lying low,  
Sleeps the child Immanuel;  
He will lighten all your woe;  
He will make you clean and well."  
Upward, upward swiftly sped  
Angel band and song of cheer;  
Swiftly, swiftly hence recede  
Back to their immortal sphere.

Still onward through vast, silent realms,  
The earth with unaltered speed,  
Pursued its grand and pathless way,  
Rogues of the mighty deed  
That ushered in upon its life  
The reign of peace and love to all;  
The sacrifice for man's dark sins;  
Atone for man's fearful fall.

We all have read with heartfelt joy,  
The story of a Saviour's love;  
His tribulations for our sake,  
Our grateful hearts have often moved,  
And each succeeding natal day  
Of this new era of God's will,  
We meet with words of kindly cheer,  
And pray for his protection still.

But while we now, with happy hearts,  
Gather around the festive board,  
With comforts spread on every hand,  
The loom of Him we have adored,  
Let us, with kindly thought, glance back  
Along the path of vanished years  
And view the vast, sad, silent throng  
Gone hence with groans and prayers and tears.

Eighteen centuries ago,  
Earth was plunged in night of woe;  
O'er the world vast shadows swept,  
And its murky folds enshrouded  
Horror and pain and sorrow,  
Priest and layman, slave and master,  
Breathe an air of wild disaster.

Savage hearts against kindness strove  
Then with savage rice dealed  
Fierce, relentless, cruel war;  
Death and terror, devoid of feeling,  
Death and terror over dealing;  
All the world a scene of warfare;  
Life a hideous, fearful night-mare.

Northward from old Tiber's bank,  
Where its feral products rank  
Poisoned all the air and life  
With miasmic vapors stealing,  
 stealthily, silent, swiftly stealing  
Into every den and stronghold  
Like a shadowy specter bold.

To where Russia's waters lave  
Land of tyrant and of slave,  
Land of winter, bleak and cold,  
Lived and died these savage races  
In whose lives scarce any traces  
Of man's might, God-like power,  
Pointed to this crowning hour.

Over this desolate land  
Waved the forest, dark and grand;  
Tangled thickets, gloomy lanes,  
Solitude of long past ages,  
Mould and mildew, open graves  
Filled with many a revelation  
Of the world's remote creation.

In that dark forbidding gloom,  
Cheerless, solemn as the tomb,  
Man with brute creation vied;  
Fierce with beast or hideous reptile  
Forcing swan to sudden exile  
From sunny vale haunt, wild and dreary,  
Where his wandering foot would tarry.

In dark caverns, damp and cold,  
Born were many and grew old,  
Lived and died in misery,  
Huts of sticks and clay contented  
All the common herd, contented  
Into chains by some bold spirit,  
Who by might ruled, more than merit.

Chained the food, and scant, that gave  
Life and strength to lord and slave;  
Often only straw or grass  
Rudely round their limbs entwined,  
Gave them warmth from the scorching winds;  
Or from skin, garments constructed  
That preservering pores obstructed.

Bodies filthy, dwelling whence  
Issued forth a sickening stench,  
Tainting all the air around;  
Moral virtues all unheeding;  
Virtues on their life-blood feeding;  
Famine, pestilence, with destruction  
Sweeping earth midst such corruption.

For nor pencil can portray  
All the horrors of that day  
Eighteen centuries ago;  
Earth was then one scene of plunder;  
Sin's wild orgies loud as thunder  
Through the air resounded,  
God's grand work was desecrated!

Sweetly on the midnight air,  
Eighteen centuries ago,  
Came the Angel's song of cheer  
On the night of human woe.  
And through rifted shadows gleamed  
Beams of heaven's light divine;  
Many a woe and redemption  
From its ignorance and crime.

And now swiftly sped away  
Clouds and mists of Error's night,  
'Neath the warm, effulgent ray  
From the Sun of Living Light.

## Feed my Lambs.

[The following very touching, appealing lines have been handed us for publication, in this Christmas number. They were published in the Rochester, N. Y. Herald, some years ago, and written by Mrs. L. L. Watson of Titusville, Pa.]

Little one with tattered dress,  
Shoeless feet and untrained form,  
Hugging close the tender breast,  
Which the thin arms cannot warm!  
How the brown eyes brim and burn,  
As at every step and turn,  
Merry, merry Christmas joys,  
Made for happy girls and boys,  
Greet the wee one's wondering sight,  
'Till the little heart is light,  
And the dark and dingy room,  
Whose gaunt guests are ghosts of gloom,  
With a slow and silent tread,  
And the children's cry for bread,  
Melt away from dizzy brain,  
Leaving scarce a thought of pain!

How the sharp wind sighs and sings!  
How it blows and bites and stings!  
Still the wee one shivers there,  
Where the Christmas things most fair,  
Overflow the windows wide,  
Sparkling bright on every side,  
Richly robed the buyers come,  
Filled with thoughts of those at home,  
Many costly, worthless things,  
Pulling at their purses' strings;  
New appeals to love and pride;  
While the little one outside,  
Closely pressing window pane,  
Brown eyes filled with shining rain,  
Feels once more the faint and far,  
That this holy Christmas star  
Yields her no warmth or light,  
Kindles not her life's long night.

And again the changeless gloom  
Of the little, cheerless room,  
Where no Santa-Claus may come,  
Calls her back; and now at last,  
She has fluttered fast, things past,  
With a dainty look or two  
At the dainty doll in blue,  
And with cold arms empty quite,  
Save of rags she hugs so tight,  
She has passed on out of sight!

Mother in the costly dress,  
Maiden with the shining tress,  
Pause a moment at the door,  
Through which Christmas glories pour!  
Let your sweet smile rest upon  
That poor sad faced little one,  
See her not go thus away,  
With no joy in Christmas day!

Christ the living, still commands  
Through his angels, Feed my Lambs.

## New York Correspondence.

New York, Dec. 18, 1876.

POLITICAL.

After the tragedy the farce. It is well for every serious matter to go out of the public mind with a laugh. The laugh after the fierce excitement of the election and the dispute that followed it, is too neat trick the pool room gamblers have served the Republican voters. John Morrissey and several other Democratic gamblers—the proprietors of gambling halls, be it known, are all Democrats, and very prominent ones—conspired with the Tilden managers in this city to manipulate the pool rooms in the interest of the great reformer. They did not put up a cent of money, nor was it necessary. In these places no man sees anybody's money but his own. When he puts up a hundred dollars for Hayes he presumes some one else has put up the proper amount on Tilden; at all events, he gets a ticket certifying to that fact. Now, Mr. Tilden's game with the gamblers—it is a characteristic of Mr. Tilden that he is not above anything—was to have the pool sellers announce every night large odds on Tilden as against Hayes, some nights the betting being two to one. Every night the Associated Press sent all over the country the betting market, and the managers here telegraphed leading Democrats the transactions at the pool rooms as regularly as the bank sends the business of the day to their country correspondents. And it had the effect intended. To see such odds offered, at what was supposed to be the very centre of information, disheartened Republicans, who felt it was no use to fight if the battle was against them from the beginning, and it swept into the ranks of the Democracy all that class of political drift wood that wants to keep on the big side. Now, had Mr. Tilden actually put up this money it would have cost him immensely. Tickets were out in John Morrissey's rooms representing a million and a half dollars, of which the Democracy, at the odds that were given, should have had a million. But behold you, the moment it became certain that Hayes was elected, and that he would be inaugurated, Mr. Morrissey issued a proclamation, declaring the election so much in doubt that he felt it his duty to declare all bets off, and that he would refund the money on tickets, less his commission of three per cent! The Republicans who bet got up and got their money, less the per cent, the Democracy having had the use of it for months. Had Tilden been elected there would have been no declaring off, but the conspirators would have held every dollar. I have no sympathy with the men who bet, and I only narrate this

incident to show with what dirty tools the great Reformer undertakes to carve his way to the Presidency.

By the way, let no Republican feel alarmed about the warlike demonstrations on the part of the Democracy in Indiana. All that stuff gets its inspiration from the Democratic General Committee here, and it is done at their order. The game now is to hold meetings, and pass war resolutions, and indulge in all sorts of bombast, with the hope that timid Republicans will be frightened to the extent of being willing to surrender their rights for the sake of peace. The Democratic editorial mill here is filling the country Democratic press with ready made editorials, all shrieking for blood, and their agents are traversing the country in all directions fanning the flame. They don't mean to fight, for the South will not support them, and the moment Hayes is inaugurated they will settle down as calmly as sleeping babies, and give attention to their neglected bar-rooms and faro banks. I must confess, however, that it is a little hard for these Tellowes who have been eating bucks for sixteen years, to come so near the crib without being able to get their noses into it.

## FASHIONS.

Cloaks are now the larger part of the dress. Dolmans and sacques reach below the knee. Circulars and Ulsters nearly cover the dress. This is most comfortable for winter, and looks so, besides being healthy, because they protect the lower part of the figure without the heavy skirts, which must be worn with street cloaks. The Bebe bonnet adds another item of comfort, as it is an exact copy of a child's bonnet, covering the ears and back of the head, a point greatly desired by elderly ladies. And these small bonnets are as handsome as they are snug, in seal fur or dark velvet with cardinal or rich purple face trimmings and under the bunches of yellow valenciennes, which soften the face.

## THE POOR ALWAYS WITH US.

Careful statistics show 50,000 working mechanics in this city out of work, representing about 140,000 people without the means of living. Laborers on the new streets are employed at \$1.25 a day, and citizens' gamble because they are not cut down to 90 cents. Men hire out on farms about New York for \$4.00 a month and board, and come to the city to get better wages, only to apply at station houses for a place to sleep. Thirty respectable mechanics applied to be sent to the workhouse on Blackwell's Island for the winter, rather than to starve, as they could get no work. There is less work and less hope for the poor this winter than last, and in the end work must be provided by the city, or there will be bread riots. Nobody can blame workmen if they take matters into their own hands. They are eager to work, and earn enough to keep their families from starving, but it is denied them. Would you who read this see your children starve in such case without making some vigorous protest that would strike right from the shoulder. The millions wasted in the last ten years by corrupt officials would finish the needed public works of the city, and keep the poor out of want for a generation. Nay, more, 25 cents a week from the fifty thousand and more in the city who can afford it, would relieve all the distress in the city for the winter.

The appeals that are made to the different charitable associations are pitiful. A woman and her daughter for instance, in a hall bedroom, without fire, light, or clothing, sleeping on the cold floor, with nothing over or under them, and only such food as they can pick up in the streets; families destitute of fuel as well as food and clothing; families on the streets without even the shelter of a roof. But why enumerate? There are 50,000 men out of employment. There are tens of thousands of women in the same fix, and the cold is intense. It is pitiful. And the trouble is, the charitable inclined are puzzled to know what to do. The honest poor suffer, die and make no sign, while the sturdy professional mendicants fill the streets with his howls. The benevolent dare not give on the street for distress is an artfully simulated that it takes a very acute man to know what to do. It is not pleasant to give charity and feel that the chances are even that it will be squandered in a gin-mill in half an hour. A few organizations have it reduced down to a system, and are doing good. If any of your readers want to do good, let them send clothing, old or new, provisions, money or any thing that can be used to St. John's Guild, New York, and they may be sure that some deserving poor woman has received a benefit.

## LIFE INSURANCE.

The failure of the Continental gave the life insurance wreckers of the city their opportunity, which, like other pirates, they were quick to improve. The last attempt was against the New Jersey Mutual. This company offered the policy holders of the Continental to substitute their own policies for those in the defunct company, and immediately there was a howl raised against it, and charges were made of collusion with the officers of the Continental. The fact is, the offer was legitimate and proper as possible, and was beneficial to both the Mutual and the policy holders of the Continental. The

Mutual gets a large number of policy holders without commissions to agents, or any cost to the company, and the Continental policy holder gets good insurance in place of a dead policy, without additional payments. The man who took a policy in Continental at 30 years of age, would have to pay a heavier premium at 40. This difference the New Jersey Mutual expects to make up out of the assets of the dead company, which must be something. President Stedwell, like President Buell of the United States, took the blackmailers who were trying to make a panic by the throat, and smashed them at the beginning. Whoever assaults the sound institutions of the country, on which so heavy a per cent of the people depend for security, does the most criminal act that a man can be guilty of.

## RENTS.

are going down every day. The number of people who could not afford whole houses, who have gone into flats is enormous, and the result is an immense number of empty tenements. The old rents will never be re-established, for the hard times have taught people how to live cheaply. A good flat, which is one floor of a building subdivided into nine rooms, which is enough for an ordinary family, can be had now for from \$25 to \$50 a month, and heated. The same amount of room in a house would cost not less than \$2,000 a year.

## BUSINESS.

is exceedingly dull in everything but holiday goods. Everybody, rich and poor, who at all can raise anything is buying something to gladden the hearts of loved ones, and the retail dealers are doing a lively business. But business in general is dull, and will be till the presidential scare is off. There is one encouraging feature in it, however. The excess of exports over imports and the tolerable certainty of the inauguration of President Hayes has sent gold down to the lowest point it has yet reached since the war, and business will hereafter be done on a sounder and surer basis. So, after all, the business men are feeling very well, even if they are not handling the goods they were. They are hopeful.

Yours,

PITKIN.

## Rural Topics.

[Written for the South Jersey Republican by one of the most experienced farmers, gardeners and fruit-growers in the United States.]

## WASHING AND WORKING BUTTER.

To make butter that will keep well the buttermilk must be washed or worked out. There are two ways of removing it. One is by kneading it in water or brine, and the other is by kneading it without water. One is called "washing" and the other, "working." The former removes it much more rapidly than the latter. As to which is the better way there are conflicting opinions. Washing does not affect the flavor of the butter, except to make it purer; but many people, inure it by using impure or very hard water, the lime that the latter contains injuring the flavor of the butter—not so much immediately as by degrees, as the action of the lime has time to develop its effects. Nor should water be used from a well that is in the least riley or muddy. Water from a well that contains foul sediment at the bottom, although the water may be perfectly pure, ought not to be used, as the sediment imparts deleterious qualities, which cannot be ascertained except by an analysis. Farmers should have their wells cleaned out once in three or four years, and so constructed that surface water during rains cannot enter them.

## "DOCTORING" BUTTER.

There is a good deal of "doctoring" of butter done to improve the flavor or color, chemicals being used that do it no good. It is better to discard the use of those things, and to trust to natural means to give butter compactness, color and flavor. Carrots give a fine, yellow color, and are not objectionable. They should be washed clean, then scrape off the outside, then grate off the inside, and mix it with the cream—just enough to give the butter a yellow color. A writer on butter-making says: "There is no defect in butter which, with proper care in manufacturing, cannot better be remedied than the one than by any subsequent process, and any cow that cannot by care and feed, be made to remedy these deficiencies in her butter is not worth the keeping for dairy purposes. As a rule, farmers do not feed their cows well enough; they may give food enough to prevent the pang of hunger from annoying them, but it is too often the refuse of the farm, lacking in the nutritive elements absolutely essential to the production of butter. The cow is but a machine to work up a coarse and bulky material into one more condensed and valuable, and in exact proportion to the richness of the first material will its product be. It is useless to think of producing 'gilt edged butter' from ewe's lay and straw alone, but if corn meal, wheat bran, and roots are mixed with it, so as to make a nutritious and stimulating food, we may make fatty butter, and a good amount of it too. Roots and wheat bran make a good and healthy food, but corn meal is necessary to give color and solidity to the butter. By careful selection of cows, together with liberal feeding, and neat and dainty care in the dairy,

## EGGS IN WINTER.

Some people imagine that if they can force their fowls to lay a good many eggs in winter, that there is a clear profit derived of the value of every egg produced over what would be laid, if no especial means had been taken to increase laying; but that is not so. We can get but a certain number of eggs from each hen in a year, say, 150. Now, suppose that we use no means to stimulate them to laying in cold weather, and they average 50 eggs each, from December 1st to April 1st, and lay 100 eggs thereafter up to the next December. Then suppose that, by keeping the fowls warm and feeding them with egg producing food, we can make them lay 100 eggs from December to April, would we gain 50 eggs by this result? Not at all, because the fowls would not lay well in the spring and summer, owing to having exhausted their egg-producing vitality in some degree during the winter; and about all that is gained by forcing fowls to lay in cold weather is the difference in the value of eggs in the winter season, and that of spring and summer. To the question, "what will cause hens to lay freely in winter?" I will say, that there is no certain way to make all breeds, under all circumstances, lay freely. Some fowls need rest from laying, and nothing that one can do, in some cases, seems to have any good effect on them. They should be kept moderately warm, should be fed on a variety of grain, as corn, oats, buckwheat, barley, &c., with a warm mash of meal of some kind daily seasoned strongly with Cayenne pepper. Then they should have ground oyster shells, or old mortar, gravel, pounded charcoal, and plenty of fresh water daily, and that is about all you can do to advantage.

## RENOVATING OLD ORCHARDS.

It depends on the age of an orchard, and the condition of the trees, for one to decide whether it can or cannot be renovated so as to pay for the labor and expense of doing it. When apple trees show that they are dying of old age, it would be folly to attempt to rejuvenate them by cutting away the decayed limbs and grafting them. They have had their day, accomplished their work; and should be cut down. But when the trees are in a healthy condition, though they may be old, and bears little or no fruit, then it is advisable to take measures to renovate them; and I know of no remedy but manuring the land heavily, plowing it and growing some hoed crop upon it. At a meeting of a farmers' club in Utica, N. Y., the following was reported: Mr. Morgan Butler, of New Hartford, had attempted to revive the powers of an old orchard, whose trees yearly deteriorated, yielded but a few small and wormy apples. His orchard was 90 years old, and had not been in cultivation for 50 years. He determined to test the influence of plowing and manuring. He therefore plowed and freely manured five acres, and planted corn; more for looks than with the expectation of reaping a rich harvest. He gathered a fair crop of corn, owing to the heat of the season; but his expectations were more than realized in relation to the effect upon the trees. Those growing upon the plowed land produced large and sound fruit abundantly, while the adjacent row upon the unplowed portion bore the ordinary, worm-eaten, scabby fruits.

## COOKED FOOD FOR HORSES.

Nature designed horses and cattle to eat hay, grain, &c., uncooked, and when we steam or otherwise cook their food we are, I contend, doing our animals a serious injury. In England the people have found this to be true, as the following, cut from an English paper, shows. "Among working horses the effects of cooked food are something marvellous. Colic and indigestion generally, with disease of the liver and kidneys, is of common and fatal occurrence. It may be more easily understood to say that such preparations are quite unnatural, as the digestive organs are constituted to act upon the most nutritive grains." The article is quite lengthy, showing fully that cooked food should never be fed to horses; but the foregoing extract is all that I consider necessary to quote here.

It is evidently not safe for a business man in Virginia to have it understood that he is a Republican. The following "card of denial" from the Winchester (va.) News is suggestive:

A MALICIOUS LIE.—Some evil disposed person put in circulation a report that we voted on the 7th of November for Mr. Hayes, the Radical candidate for the Presidency. It is a malicious falsehood and perpetrated in order to injure our business. W. P. Rose & Co.

Says the Cincinnati Gazette: "The Republicans of Oregon carried the State by a majority equivalent to over 45,000 in the State of Ohio. Because Oregon has only one-thirtieth of the population of this State, it is deemed by the plotters a fit subject for theft. Why didn't they steal Ohio, where the majority is proportionately but one tenth of that recorded for Oregon."











On Q. stands his colored men the Buzgo people, Sui, to pay 13,600,000 reales for the maintenance of the army of occupation. The deputations to raise, alleging the inability of the provinces to raise the amount. Great excitement was produced. The Buzgo people were killed by an explosion in a colliery at Warrick, Saxony. .... The crop report of the Memphis cotton exchange for November states that sixty-two per cent. of the crop in the district was destroyed. The December yield, against three per cent. .... The decrease in the total yield is twenty-eight per cent. .... Fifty thousand denunciations related to be anxious to immigrate from Russia to either the United States or Brazil. Deductions to the Brazilian authorities. The United States are vigorously inspecting the means of exit to their theaters, churches and other public buildings, prompted thereby by the Brooklyn Convention. .... The English University Oxford has been closed. The city of Talo and Cornehill to row a four-mile race. .... A plot of the part colored men in Louisiana, S. O., to rise upon the whiter, was discovered through the murder of a young man and the wounding of another, and a large number of the whiter were arrested. One of the colored men committed suicide. Another confessed that the object was a massacre of the whiter in the neighborhood. .... The gross earnings for the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad for 1876 were \$28,588,485, against \$27,174,171 for 1875. The net earnings, \$11,922,411,000. .... Wm. M. Tweed, connected with him, have been sent to Washington and delivered to the secretary of State. .... Argentine republic, South America, was sojourning the rebellion here. .... Valparaiso suffered severely from conflagration which raged for two days. A large amount of valuable property was destroyed; partially insured. .... A \$45,000 bond was seized in New York City by the revenue officers. .... The Boston Fair, organized among the holders of a small lot of tickets, which, by which seven men killed and five others dangerously injured. .... The widow of the late C. W. Allen, of Dryden, N. Y., died. .... The man in the canal. .... Boston elected John P. McKim, the Democratic candidate for Mayor, a majority of 3,500. .... The "Jefferson" of Birmingham, Ala., was discovered to be a fire druse. .... The teachers succeeded in getting the children out of the building, which was totally destroyed. .... Mrs. Harlan, colored, member of the Alabama Legislature, says that having been asked to be fire druse, she refused to contact with the opponent, who had been elected to office. .... The Legislators of Colorado elected Henry M. Teller as United States Senator for the six years beginning next January. .... The Republican House of South Carolina elected a Democratic Senator. .... D. T. Corbin, who received fifty-eight out of sixty-six votes cast. In the Senate received seventeen and Gary (Dunne) votes. Corbin was declared to be elected. .... The House Judiciary Committee, by a vote of sixteen to ten, to report that J. B. McPherson should be seated to a seat as a member of Congress. .... The National Democratic Committee announced as the result of the Presidential election on held on the seventh of November, the election of Benjamin Harrison, of Ohio, as President, and Thomas A. Hendricks, of Indiana, as Vice-President of the United States. .... The Democratic Convention for 1880, now in performance for the two Houses of Congress, the result of their duty was the will of the people of February next, the Constitutional mode by a majority electoral votes, and confirmed by majority of all the States, as well as by an absolute majority of all the people of the United States. .... The National Democratic Convention of the national, President, J. S. Chandler, has issued the following: An address issued by the Democratic committee. It is a desperate attempt to put a falling majority of the States, as well as by an absolute majority of all the people of the United States. .... The National Democratic Convention of the national, President, J. S. Chandler, has issued the following: An address issued by the Democratic committee. It is a desperate attempt to put a falling majority of the States, as well as by an absolute majority of all the people of the United States. .... The National Democratic Convention of the national, President, J. S. Chandler, has issued the following: An address issued by the Democratic committee. It is a desperate attempt to put a falling majority of the States, as well as by an absolute majority of all the people of the United States. .... The National Democratic Convention of the national, President, J. S. Chandler, has issued the following: An address issued by the Democratic committee. 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UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

Senate.

Mr. Boggs (Dem., of Missouri), said he desired to present, for the purpose of having printed, the report of the five Democratic Senators to be present at the canvass of given in that State in the late election. It was made to take by the Republican as the document was not before the Senate an official war, and it was determined to bring it before the body in the shape of a petition, so that it might be printed with papers relating to the same subject.

Mr. Cameron (Rep., of Wisconsin), introduced a bill to provide for the redemption of the greenback currency. Referred to the committee on finance.

Several amendments to the bill instituting the United States to provide for congressional elections were presented.

The resolution of Mr. Bayard (Dem., of Delaware), directing the authentication of a communication to the Senate the total number of deputy marshals employed in the United States, in connection with the election of November 7 last, the number so employed in each State, and each voting precinct respectively, and the length of time so employed, was adopted.

Mr. Stevens submitted an amendment to the bill providing that the supreme court of the United States count the electoral making the measure applicable to the Presidential election, in case it be ratified three-fourths of the States, etc., so as to provide that the court shall sit a day and night between February 10, 1877, for the count, and adjourn with it from day to day, and it is dispensed with.

Agreed to.

Numerous petitions of religious and temperance organizations throughout the country were presented by various senators. The Congress to take steps to prohibit the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors as a beverage in the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States, all of which referred.

The joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to have the electoral vote counted by the supreme court was discussed at some length, the members taking part in it. Mr. Henry (Dem., of Missouri), said that in the present condition of the court should decide in favor of Tilden would be democratic, and if it should do in favor of Hayes it would likewise be denounced. The counting of the vote was a function which belonged to the legislative department. The vote was then taken in support of the government; it was a question which properly belonged to the legislative department. The vote was then taken in support of the government; it was a question which properly belonged to the legislative department. The vote was then taken in support of the government; it was a question which properly belonged to the legislative department.

The joint resolution was rejected, yeas 100, nays 100.

Yea—Messrs. Allison, Anthony, Biggs, Burdette, Conkling, Edmunds, Ferry, Frelinghuysen, Hamlin, Hancock, Hayes, Hendricks, Howe, Johnson, Keith, Lester, Logan, Lyman, May, McKim, Morrill, Newcomb, Orin, Platteau, Sherman, Tilden, Tilton, Towner, Van Dusen, Wall, Wright.

Nay—Messrs. Alcorn, Bayard, Boggs, Bruce, Cameron (Pa.), Chaffee, Clayton, Davis, Dawes, Denison, Eaton, Goldsmith, Hamilton, Harney, Ingalls, Jones (Pa.), Logan, McCreary, Baxter, Morton, Woodward, Patterson, Price, Randolph, Sherman, Thurman, Wallace, White, and Williams.

In discussing the political question, Sherman (Rep., of Ohio), said that the vote of Florida and Louisiana was in dispute. Oregon, he did not think that case would be a precedent. He believed that the Democratic candidate himself would hold the office of President in person.

Mr. Wright (Rep., of Iowa), gave notice that he would call up the bill reported from the committee on civil service and retransmission, reducing the salary of the President of the United States from \$50,000 to \$25,000 annually.

The pay of witnesses before committees and traveling expenses.

House.

The Speaker announced the appointment of Mr. Clymer (Dem., of Pennsylvania), to the vacancy in the committee on appropriations caused by Mr. Handall's retirement.

Bills were introduced by Mr. Eaton (Rep., of Rhode Island), reducing letter postage two cents. By Mr. Hunter (Rep., of Indiana), for the purchase of silver bullion and to issue into dollars, which are to be legal tender for all debts, public and private, including duties and coin interest, and by Mr. G. (Dem., of Missouri), for the protection of States against domestic violence.

Mr. Blair (Rep., of New Hampshire), introduced a constitutional amendment forbidding the manufacture and sale of distilled fire as a beverage after the year 1880. Referred to the committee on temperance.

The Speaker called before the House the resignation of Smith Ely Jr., as representative from the State of New York.

The Speaker appointed, as the committee on the inquiry as to whether frauds have been used in the election in New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Virginia, Mississippi and Philadelphia, was defeated by a vote of 124 yeas to 69 nays, not the necessary two-thirds. Some fifty-two Democratic votes were in the motion.

Mr. Cox (Dem., of New York), offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five to proceed to the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, and Jersey City, and to inquire into any alleged fraudulent registration and fraudulent voting at the late elections.

Mr. Spencer (Dem., of Louisiana), moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into what intimation has been practiced on government employees in the late elections, to compel such employees to contribute to election fund of any political party, and legislation is needed to state the evil.

Yeas 104, nays 74, not two-thirds.

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