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[illegible]

session of the Senate will be warm. The President has twice visited the Capitol to talk with

Sensors out its ratification. Yesterday he invited a number to call on him at the White House to discuss the bill. He has been hearing from several, and he is pressing it and quite a party to vote to-night. He presses its ratification vigorously, and he is not likely to be overruled. He has been over to his side. In some quarters there is severe condemnation of what is called his lobbying. It is not likely that the consideration of the treaty will be postponed. The bill will probably be debated. Some Senators want to postpone action till Commissioners can be sent down to make an investigation. The time expires to-morrow.

William M. Evarts has been retained by the English stockholders, who compose the Erie Protective League, as leading counsel, in their suit against the Erie.

Havana, March 18.—The plantation of Mr. Don

erson, an American lady, residing at Wilmington N. C. situated near Laguna La Grande, was burned by the insurgents; also, six plantations near Santo Espirito.

Sugar is buoyant, owing to reports of many plantations having nearly finished grinding.

Congress.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Cooking, from the Judiciary Committee, was referred to the credentials of General Ames, as Senator elect from Mississippi, reported the same back with a resolution that Ames is not eligible to a seat in the United States Senate.

Sumner introduced an amendment to his bill for the resumption of specie payments, providing for the issue of small fractional currency, denominations, beginning July 4th next, with fractional denominations, and ending November 14th, with

from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill to amend the Act to regulate the diplomatic consular system of the United States, and providing a substitute schedule. It abolishes certain consulates, and provides for the creation of others. It provides a Consul-General at London, Paris and Havana, with salaries of \$6,000; a Consul-General at Shanghai, \$5,000; at Montreal, \$4,000; at Berlin and Vienna, \$3,000; at India, \$2,800; at Beirut, \$3,000. It authorizes 49 Consuls for Great Britain and her colonies, at salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000; 10 Consuls for France, at salaries ranging from \$1,500. Among the Consulates abolished are those of Victoria, V. L., Calcutta and Bombay. Three Consulates are authorized for Russia, eight for Prussia, five for Austria, three for Belgium, three for Danish Dominions, ten for the North German Union. The bill provides for

various committees, but the salary of all committees. The committee at Yeddo is stricken from the bill. Those in Kanagawa, Nagasaki, Hakodadi and Yokohama are retained. The committee at Yokohama and Tientsin. The Committee at Para, Brazil, is stricken from the schedule.

Legislation from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported by the committee on the bill of Tennessee, stating that the Committee had arrived at the conclusion that Butler had appointed a West Point Cadet who was a non-resident of his district, and afterward received a commission in the army, and that he acted with the avowed intention of using it for political purposes in Tennessee. The Committee express its regret that the appointment of Butler deserves the condemnation of the House.

Stoughton, Negley and Packard recommended the adoption of a resolution declaring the condem-

Logans (Chairman), Cobb, Morgan and Hlocum commenced a resolution for expulsion. The resolution was read, and the yeas and nays were called up to-morrow for action.

After some unimportant business, the House adjourned until to-morrow. The Tariff bill, and was addressed by Blair, in favor of the bill and opposing free trade, and by Winans in favor of free trade.

The resolution requesting the Naval Committee to report joint resolutions expressing the deep sorrow of the nation for the loss of the Maine, the men in the war-ship *Oreida*, and their admiration for the gallant conduct of the commander of the *Bombay*. The resolution, on suggesting that the President should, in view of securing further information,

The rumor that the House Foreign Committee has agreed to report in favor of according belated recognition to the Communist Government of China has not had a meeting this week.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Zickles, as Minister to Spain, by a vote of 45 to 15.

At the same time the Senate rejected a bill introduced last night, in favor of reduction of taxation and against a protective tariff. It desired a reduction of duty on \$100,000,000 worth of foreign goods, iron, steel and coal. In the course of his remarks he said Pennsylvania had paid last year Internal Revenue taxes amounting to \$15,439,000, and received on purchasing goods from other States \$1,000,000.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The House Foreign Committee have agreed to report a resolution asking the President to declare and maintain a strict neutrality on the part of the United States in the present contest between Cuba and Spain,

In the Senate, Sumner, rising to a personal explanation, confirmed the denial of Prim. In the Spanish-American War, he said, Prim's report published in a New York paper, that Prim had made a proposition to Sumner for the sale or cession of Cuba, was a forgery.

The Committee on Foreign Relations to-day are more emphatic than heretofore in opposition to the San Domingo and St. Thomas treaties, and will not report on them. The Committee also strongly expressed against the acquisition of any other foreign territory.

Chandler, from the Committee on Commerce, said he had a bill to open to American trade the ports of San Juan, Chicago and St. Louis original ports of entry, and the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Consular Diplomatic Appropriation Bill, appropriating \$11,110,000 for the same purposes as last year. Made the special order for Tuesday.

Mr. CANNON, of Ohio, presented a message of the President on the subject of American commerce, declaring it a National humiliation that this country's merchant vessels, compelled to pay from twenty to thirty million annually for the privilege of carrying freights, should be required to pay from twenty to thirty million more for freight, which should be shared by American citizens with the people of other nations.

He then read the message, and the subject of the bill was taken up for consideration. He believed that a direct money subsidy was liable to abuse than an indirect subsidy, and recommended the passage of two bills reported by the committee on the decline of American commerce and ordered printed.

European.

Bitter opposition was made, and the measure was withdrawn.

Thereafter a section relative to the Ballot Bill. He said it was the only remedy for a great evil, and especially in cases where it was indispensable for the protection of voters against landlords and priests.

The Marquis of Hartington deprecated debate on the bill before the House has heard the report of the committee, which included the ballot among its recommendations.

General Osborne spoke eloquently in favor of the bill, and provoked mirth by giving an account of his late escape from the gallows, which he said is fair-breath escapes, etc. The Dark Ages still continued in some parts of Ireland, and there was

The Marquis of Hartington said he had more than he could manage in reforms in telegraph and letter-box, and he felt inclined to let the ballot-box alone. He felt that the question of the ballot, the abolition of formal canvassing and nomination, and that incentive to riot moved by a system of degradation of the poll.

After a discussion by Messrs. Grey and Northcote, the House divided on a motion to adjourn the debate, which was defeated by 110 majority.

It was then that the Marquis of Hartington rose on the bill on the 24 of May.

The Education bill was called up, on motion for second reading.

Forster, felt obliged to oppose the second reading of the bill, much as he desired free schools at any points. The measure was a failure. It originated to provide for an emergency, and departing from the Government's normal policy. He rejected the bill, though compulsory, made concessions to sectarian sects, and thus leaving the religious question open for future consideration by the board, must introduce a useless discussion.

Forster, the introducer of the bill, argued against the use of the Bible in giving religious instruction in schools. In doing so, he said, the Government was against the United States, and was, therefore, under a moral obligation to withdraw, simply because the law was inflexible and left to the option of each locality. The best Bible was the one that was not used.

Forster gave a history of his bill, and analyzed provisions at great length. He concluded by

ping that during the session he should see the measure fully considered and become a law. The Coinage bill was passed and the House adjourned.

