fine the qualifications of voters—a registry law.

Mr. Fraser introduced a bill providing for the election of a State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and to provide a general common school system.

Mr. Pyle's resolution to ratify the amendment to the Constitution of the United States, came up as the special order.

Mr. Chrisman, of Lane, said that for thirty years he had followed one track right along, and in making that track, he had tried to follow closely the wisest men in the nation. His belief had always been that no power exists in the Government to interfere with slavery. The Constitution does not make or forbid it. It has nothing to do with slavery. We can't amend the Constitution in relation to slavery, for it is not in the instrument—we simply make an addition. If you amend the Constitution, you admit that the rebels were right, for they demanded a change in it. What benefit shall we derive from it? It is a very radical change. He believed the amendment would do harm—that it will eventually destroy the Government. The people's love for the Constitution is what has put down the rebellion. If we change it, the people will cease to love it. If we amend it in this respect, we declare ourselves sectional. If we adopt this amendment, we take away hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property from loyal men. He had been asked at home to vote for this amendment, and that when he had refused, he had been called a Copperhead. If voting against this amendment made him a Copperhead, then he admitted himself the strongest Copperhead in the State.

Mr. Pyle said he believed the present condition of the country demanded this act at our hands. There is power in the people to change their Constitution and laws. The Constitution is a creature of the people, subject to their will. They can make and unmake, or alter, at will. When it fails to meet the requirements of the people, it becomes their duty to change it. If constitutions were not susceptible of change, the natural progress of the people would render such instruments a curse, rather than a blessing. People are progressive, constitutions remain at a given stand-point. In the nature of things, they must alter to conform to the progress of a people.

The Constitution of the United States provides the manner of its amendment. This measure is taken in accordance with its provisions. The power to do it is ample and clear. It is merely a question of policy. Slavery has been the pretext and the cause of the rebellion. The rebellion was inaugurated to enlarge and protect the area of slavery. The result has been the expenditure of millions of money and tens of thousands of valuable lives. The land has been drenched in blood. Before the war, the North was willing to protect slavery where it then existed, but slavery was not content with that. It wanted to become universal. Its propagandists raised the revolt for that purpose. But as the war progressed, it became necessary to destroy slavery. That being the cause of the war, duty, as well as sound policy, demands its utter eradication. Unless we do it, we have gained but little from the immense sacrifices of the war. If we do it, we are henceforth safe. Emancipation has already been practically accomplished in many of the States, and slavery is practically dead, according to the public admissions of the leading men of the South. Let us adopt the amendment, and thus drive the last nail in its coffin.

Mr. Chrisman said that it had always been his belief that slavery would lead the Government into trouble; but how to get at the matter was the difficulty. His motto had always been, and still is, to keep our hands off it. Let the people concerned take care of it. He had nothing to do with it. Slavery was not the cause but the pretext of the rebellion. He couldn't see where we could find the power to meddle with it by national legislation. Begin to tamper with the Constitution, and you can't tell where it will stop. It can be destroyed with amendments. He said it was his opinion that when this amendment is adopted, the "nigger" would be as free as any Senator on this floor. [Shouldn't wonder.—REPORTER.] He would be just as much a citizen. What condition of things will we have then? The Government will be partly white, black, red, speckled and "all them fellers." White and black can't live together in peace.

Mr. Grim said he thought this the most important question that had ever been before this body or any other. Mr. Grim spoke of the history of slavery from the formation of the Constitution to the inception of the rebellion; showing that the slave-power had always been arrogant and aggressive; that the Government had yielded to the utmost limit in a spirit of compromise; that the slave States finally repudiated their own policy, forced upon the Government in the Kansas-Nebraska times. He also recited some history damning to the Democracy of 1860 and of the present day.

Slavery made war upon the Government, and the Government may justly destroy it. Slavery was the corner-stone of the Confederacy, and our gallant armies have destroyed the edifice and torn up the corner-stone. We, in the capacity of legislators, should forever eradicate the elements of discord and danger. He was proud to be able to vote for this the greatest measure that had ever engaged our attention.

Mr. Chrisman said, in reply to an allusion to Mr. Lincoln, that he was a particular friend of Mr. Lincoln, and if anybody would show him where Mr. Lincoln had ever made any lick at slavery, he would vote for the resolution. [Several people thereat smiled, no doubt thinking of Mr. Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.—REP.]

Mr. Curl said he thought this a great question too. He admitted the power of the people to amend the Constitution. Two thirds of Congress and three-fourths of the States can amend the Constitution as to anything in it. What is not in it is reserved to the States. Slavery is not in the Constitution; that is a right reserved to the States; reserved rights of States cannot be tampered with without the consent of all. In answer to the query, What have we gained by the war if slavery remains? he said: We have gained law and order, and, thank God, I hope soon a great brotherhood of States again. We cannot touch loyal men's property, and he believed that, if he should vote for the amendment, he would be as much guilty of murder as ever was Murrell.

Mr. Donnell said he had hoped no Senator would vote against the resolution. The record we make to-day will stand forever. To vote for this measure will be the proudest act of his life. Slavery has been the cause of all our woes for the last four years. It has cost immense sums of money, countless lives, and filled the land with mourning. It is said that there is joy in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth, but when nations repent of sin, the joy must be infinitely greater. When the amendment is adopted, he believed the shout would be raised in Heaven, "Halleluyah! halleluyah! to the Lamb!" He had always looked to the extinction of slavery, but had never expected the privilege of casting a vote toward it. This is the proudest day of my life.

Mr. Frazer said he was born and raised in a slave State, and recited some of the experiences of the institution. He referred to Kentucky and Henry Clay, of whom he learned to love freedom and hate slavery. He had banished himself from his native State because he did not like the institution. He was rejoiced that he could now do something practically towards removing the curse. He would not take away anybody's property, but he always ignored the idea of property in human flesh and blood.

The vote was taken on the resolution, and it passed by the following vote:

Ayes—Messrs. Cornelius, Cranston, Donnell, Frazer, Greenwood, Grim, Hinsdale, Hovey, Palmer, Pyle, Wagner, Watson, and Mr. President—13.

Noes—Messrs. Caldwell, Chrisman, Curl—3.

Mr. President, when his name was called, said that, like others who had addressed the Senate, he was emphatically and unequivocally in favor of the amendment, and that he was proud to vote for the resolution.

The Senate adjourned to 2 P. M.

HOUSE.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6.

Afternoon.—Mr. Lane presented a petition for repeal of charter for Umatilla City.

[Mr. Lane gave notice of several bills, which we shall notice at time of introduction.]

Mr. Underwood offered House Joint Resolution No. 3, to ratify the Constitutional Amendment. This was subsequently made the order for Friday, at 11 A. M.

Mr. Cox offered a resolution calling on the State Treasurer for a detailed statement of the military fund, with copies of vouchers, etc., since Oct. 16, 1862. It was adopted.

Mr. Lawson introduced a series of resolutions on national affairs, which were referred to a select committee—Underwood, Lawson, Murphy, Quick and Tate.

The Governor's message, on motion of Mr. Wasserman, was referred appropriately, with instructions to committees, in some cases, to report by bills.

(Several notices of bills were given, but we prefer to await their introduction before noticing.—REP.)

The Committee on Credentials reported in favor of admitting Mr. H. A. Hogue as a Representative from Wasco and Grant counties.

The contestants were invited within the bar to present their evidences and their claims. Both the gentlemen made speeches of considerable length, during which it appeared that Mr. Gates had a majority in Wasco, and Mr. Hogue a majority in Grant. The only credentials produced were certified abstracts of returns in each county. There appeared some informality in Mr. Hogue's copy of abstract from Grant county, and also in Mr. Gates' abstract from Wasco, but they were not thought by the gentlemen who followed in speeches to be fatal. Authority of undoubted weight was produced by Mr. Hogue to show that the will of the people is the true guide for the Legislature in determing the rights of contestants, and that blunders of officials should not be permitted to defeat that will. Mr. Hogue showed that he had an undoubted election by the votes of the district, though the returns had not been made in strict conformity with the law.

Messrs. Fay, Gillette, Lane, Lawson, Bowlby and Thornton made speeches, citing law and precedents, etc.

Mr. Fay took all the technical points of which the case admitted, and contended that neither were strictly entitled to seats, thought Mr. Gates' rights were clearest, if either had a right.

Messrs. Bowlby, Thornton and others argued from the authorities read, in favor of admitting Mr. Hogue.

Pending the discussion, the hour for considering the Constitutional Amendment arrived. Several attempts to postpone were made, and the resolution was finally made the special order for Friday, at 11 A. M.

The contested election case was resumed, and the report of the committee was adopted, and Mr. Hogue sworn in.

(A portion of these proceedings were had in the afternoon.—REP.)

SENATE.

Afternoon.—The Senate adopted the House Joint Resolution, to accept five hundred copies of Governor's message.

Mr. Wagner introduced a bill to make the Klamath Lake country part of Jackson county.

Mr. Palmer introduced a bill to repeal the two-dollar tax provision of the militia law.

Also, a joint resolution to adjour *sine die* on Saturday. This was laid on the table.

Mr. Pyle introduced a bill to amend the school laws, so as to prevent disloyal persons from purchasing school lands.

Mr. President offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Almighty Disposer of human events to remove from this life that great and good man, Abraham Lincoln, the late lamented President of the United States, whereby the country was deprived, in the hour of national trial, of its chief Executive, and one of its proudest ornaments and most able defenders; and

WHEREAS, The loss of such a man at such a time is no mere private bereavement, but an overwhelming public calamity, affecting the whole nation: therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House concurring, That the people of the State of Oregon, giving expression through their representatives in general assembly now convened, being profoundly sensible, as an integral part of the National Union, of the loss sustained by the country at large, desire to place on record this expression of their profound respect for the illustrious dead:

Resolved, That in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln—an offence which, for atrocity, finds no parallel in the annals of crime—our nation lost a chief whose purity of public and private character and statesmanlike patriotism have attracted the admiration of all who prize liberty and love virtue, whose patriotism knew no compromise with treason, who stood as a mighty tower of strength to vindicate the cause of the country's honor against every foe, and whose efforts in behalf of the down-trodden millions of our land have won for him, proudly and justly, the title of the greatest defender of human liberty that the world ever produced.

Resolved, That above the dust of Abraham Lincoln rises the solid splendor of a great reputation, which must remain for ages, and which no chance of time or circumstance can ever darken or obscure.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the journals of both houses of this assembly.

The resolutions were adopted without a dissenting vote.

Mr. Pyle introduced a bill to amend the Sunday law. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Senate adjourned to Friday, at 9 A. M.

HOUSE.

Afternoon.—Mr. Cartwright offered a resolution to inquire, by joint committee, into the delay of the public printing.

Mr. Fay moved a resolution to prohibit the introduction of new bills in either house after Saturday, the 9th inst.

Several members wanted to introduce business of importance, and thought the time indicated too short for preparation. The resolution was laid on the table by a vote of 22 to 10.

The House then adjourned to 9 A. M. Friday.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, Dec. 8.

Mr. Hovey, from committee to whom was referred the petition from Lane county, for repeal of Sunday law, reported a bill, S. B. No. 7, to amend.

This bill comes to its third reading to-morrow.

The House joint resolution, to inquire into cause of delay of printing the laws, was concurred in.

The President introduced a bill to amend the law regulating levy and collection of taxes, approved Oct. 19, 1860, and to repeal the act of January 11, 1854, and the 5th and 6th titles of the act of October 19, 1860.

The Senate took a recess till a quarter to 12. Being reconvened at that hour, it agreed to adjourn over the afternoon for the purpose of attending the burial services of Mrs. Boise.

HOUSE.

FRIDAY, Dec. 8.

The Senate resolutions in relation to the death of President Lincoln came up this morning, and were made the subject of some very lively demonstrations on the part of the Copperhead members.

Mr. Lane wanted them referred for the purpose of amendment, so that he could vote for them without injuring his reputation for consistency.

Mr. Fay also desired the same thing, assuring the House that he regretted the *manner* of Mr. Lincoln's death.

The House refused to refer. Whereupon Mr. Lane asked to have them made the special order for to-morrow, at 2 P. M.

This the House agreed to, several members expressing themselves willing to give the opposition all reasonable time to put themselves upon the record as they might desire.

Mr. Fay then presented petitions from various parts of the State for the repeal of the Sunday law; to reduce the salary of the County Judge of Wasco to $600.

Lane then offered a resolution to adjourn *sine die* at half-past 10 this morning, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Fay presented a protest from Beall, Cox, Fay and Lane, reflecting somewhat upon the Governor for calling this extra session, alleging that everything presented for action could have been delayed without prejudice to the public good until the regular session, and furnishing some reasons why no further legislation should now be had. He asked to have it spread upon the records.

Messrs. Bowlby and Gillette queried whether it was such a protest as could go upon the record.

Mr. Fay contended that the right of protest is unqualified, and extends to any matter; that he could protest against action of the President, and would have the right to put it on the record.

Mr. Bowlby replied, that it was a ridiculous assumption, which, if admitted, might take up the entire time of the House and improperly cumber the record. If any action outside of legislation could be made the subject of protest, the right would become unbridled license to protest against anybody or anything, however foreign to our duties or powers of control.

It being very evident that the tactics of the Democratic members were to avoid the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment and a vote upon the Senate resolutions, the House concluded to go ahead with the business, withdrawing the courtesy of postponement, which Fay and Lane had asked, as it now appeared, not in good faith, but as a parliamentary stroke.

Mr. Bowlby scored these gentlemen a little for their professions of a desire to express their regret (in their own way) for the *manner* of Mr. Lincoln's death, and as soon as time asked for was granted, their conduct in attempting an immediate adjournment *sine die*. The hypocrisy of their professions and conduct was most palpable.

The House reconsidered its action making the resolutions the special order for to-morrow, and passed them, after amending the phraseology slightly; Fay, Cox, Lane and Beall voting against them.

Notices were given of a dozen or more bills. Several petitions, etc., were presented—H. B. No. 1, by Lane, to amend Sunday law so as to permit necessary secular labor; H. B. No. 2, to amend law of 1854 to levy and collect taxes; H. B. No. 3, by Wakefield, a registry law; notice of game law by Underwood.

The House proceeded to consideration of special order, H. J. R. No. 3, to ratify the Constitutional Amendment. The Senate joint resolution on the same subject was also taken up, and on a motion to concur in the adoption of the latter, an amendment of phraseology to make it conform with language of the Constitution was offered and adopted. On the question to concur—

Mr. Thornton said he had thought it better to adopt this resolution in silence, as best befitting the solemn nature of the act, but had been requested to open the debate. Placed in that position his feelings were of such a nature as to render him almost incompetent. He, however, would not exchange his privilege of voting on this great measure for the dignity of being Governor of the State, nor for any other earthly advantage. Affecting, as this matter does, the destinies of more than four millions of our fellow-beings, our act to-day might be considered the highest duty we shall ever be called upon to perform. It has been said that we cannot rightfully amend the Constitution as to matters not clearly already in that instrument—or, in other words, we have no right to *add* to it, and give it new features or new powers. If this proposition be admitted, it proves too much for the opponents of this amendment, for it would render nugatory all of the amendments heretofore made. The Constitution says of itself that it was framed to establish a more perfect Union—this amendment may be adopted for the same purpose. The late rebellion attempted a disruption of this Union; the rebellion was the result of a disease in public sentiment; slavery was the cause of that disease; this amendment is the needed remedy; if we remove the cause of the war, we remove all apprehensions as to a future and more perfect Union.

Again: One of the primary objects of the Constitution was to establish justice. The principle of justice was in the minds and hearts of its framers; but human slavery had existed before, and a perverted moral education had led to its tolerance. Had we a perfect moral education, we would say that no right existed in the white to enslave the black more than the reverse of the proposition. Exact justice could no more enslave the one than the other. But a pernicious education had led good men to tolerate slavery, and to believe slavery the normal condition of black men. Hence the framers of the Constitution had not stricken down the institution, but the greatest men of that time had expressed their conviction of its injustice and wrong, and that it would cease at no distant day. Now, while we have to deal with the question, if the toleration of slavery had been against the establishment of justice, it is our highest duty to vote for this amendment.

Another object of the Constitution was to secure tranquility. Our forefathers were Abolitionists; Washington was one; Jefferson was one, and he had said that, in view of the wrongs of slavery, he trembled for his country when he reflected that every attribute of the Deity was on the side of the oppressed. Jefferson foresaw the civil commotions that must ensue from the toleration of slavery. [Mr. T. read from A. H. Stephen's Montgomery speech, to show what had been admitted by slaveholders as the opinions of the framers of the Constitution and their cotemporaries on the subject of slavery.] Slavery, then barely tolerated, had since grown up, become arbitrary, aggressive, dictatorial and tyrannical in its demands. When it wanted anything new, it always held up the terrors of the dissolution of the Union, and the North, desiring peace and Union, had yielded again and again beyond the verge of humiliation. They had yielded the Missouri Compromise; in a few years the slave-power demanded its repeal. [Here the speaker dwelt upon the familiar history of the Kansas-Nebraska measures. Having a bronchial difficulty, he found it impossible to proceed.]

In conclusion, Mr. Thornton said we of this State have a proud record on this subject. The earliest efforts here at civil government had recognized the principle of universal freedom; the Organic Act of the Territory contained the anti-slavery feature of the Ordinance of 1787; the people of Oregon had, upon entering upon State government, voted by a large majority against slavery. If we now adopt this amendment, our proud record will be complete. He looked upon this as *the* great period in our history as a State, and the adopting of this principle of universal freedom as the act of crowning glory for Oregon.

Mr. Cox, of Josephine, obtained the floor, when the House adjourned to 7 o'clock P. M.

SENATE.

Evening.—Mr. Hovey, from Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to amend the act regulating civil and criminal procedure in justices' courts.

A little other unimportant business was transacted, when the Senate adjourned till to-morrow, to give the Senators a chance to hear the discussion in the House upon the Constitutional Amendment.

HOUSE.

Evening, Dec. 8th.— The Constitutional Amendment being under consideration—

Mr. Cox said this measure contemplated a change of the organic law of the country, and would affect unborn millions; that in view of its magnitude, he thought this an important period of his life. He objected to the adoption of the amendment because it had been submitted to the people of Oregon. The Governor and Legislature are about to practice a great imposition upon the people by the adoption of this amendment, without first submitting it to the people. There is plenty of time to submit it before there is any danger of its being adopted by the requisite number of States. He opposed it because there was an informality in the action of Congress in recommending it. Congress had violated the Constitution. Two-thirds of Congress was necessary to submit it. Eleven States were not represented, and some of the others only partially. Those States had never been out of the Union; if they had, there was no United States, and no President of the United States. But they are not out, and ought to have taken part in the matter of submitting any amendment. This amendment is not an amendment; it is an addition; it will destroy the Constitution. [Quoted from Story.] States have reserved rights, and in these are supreme. The Government has only delegated powers, and is but an agent of the States. The General Government has no right to interfere with the reserved rights of the States. He was surprised to hear it said that slavery caused the war. Slavery was not the cause of the war; it had existed over eighty years, and had not brought on any war. The agitation against slavery was the cause of the war. If Congress has power to meddle with slavery, it can also meddle with other property. Congress has no power to interfere with private property. He was opposed to the amendment, because its adoption would be equivalent to establishing Negro suffrage also. Whoever votes for it here votes for Negro suffrage. It is a principle, he said, of the radicals never to stop short of that. It was an effort to elevate the Negro to equality. But he can't be elevated; the result will be that white men must come down to the negro's level, and our country degraded to the level of such mongrel countries as Mexico. In reply to the remark that slavery is aggressive, he said it was not aggressive; it was the only institution in the country which was not aggressive. The trouble all comes from Abolition agitation. He believed this a white man's Government. All who vote for this amendment will declare the white man not capable of self-government. Congress will, under it, soon insist that you shall send Chinamen to Congress. Congress is trying to tear down the most glorious institution the world ever saw. He closed with some "glittering generalities" about duty, "true to liberty, true to God," etc.

Mr. Cartwright said he thought speeches would not affect the vote on this question; that is made up; but he could not repress a desire to speak on this subject; to give the black institution a farewell touch as it is taking its departure forever. He was happy to have the privilege to speak here for the four millions of people who had for long years suffered oppression, but were about to become free forever. The arguments of opponents needed no refutation. Slavery is wrong, was always wrong, and it is not wrong to right it by abolishing it. The amendment proposes to right it in that manner. Slavery is the blackest institution known in the history of the world. It was the cause, remotely and directly, of the war. Its enormities are numberless. It has sold humanity into bondage; hunted men and women with bloodhounds; stolen their labor, their wives, children, and their lives. It has done all conceivable wrong. It must certainly be a grand consummation to destroy it, and make liberty and equal justice coextensive with American soil.

If we shoud call on slavery to give us back what we have lost by it, we should call on it to give us back the patriot heroes who have met death to preserve the Union; the men who perished at Andersonville and other prison pens of the Confederacy; we should call on it to restore the millions of money it has cost to put down the rebellion it provoked. But these cannot be restored; and now to vote for the final abolition of the thrice-accursed institution is glory enough for me. When we have sanctioned the amendment, Oregon will have completed the record of her glory. Two-thirds of the negroes are better entitled to suffrage than those men who have opposed the war to preserve the Union, and he would as soon sit here with an intelligent and loyal Chinamen as with a white man opposed to the Government and the Union.

Mr. Cartwright closed with a very happy and eloquent period, amid considerable applause.

Mr. Hogue said, in reply to the charge that the people had not been consulted, that the Constitutional Amendment was the issue to which he owed his election. His constituents were in favor of it, and he believed that every constituency in the State favored it, and expected us to vote on it and for it. The Government is not a mere Confederacy of States, but a Nation, and its laws are supreme over all the States in a supervisory sense. The position taken here by the opponents of this measure, in relation to State rights, is the same as that held by Calhoun and the secession leaders. This is an important question, but speeches are not necessary; votes are already decided; we have the simple duty of voting to perform. The people are prepared for it. It does not forestall public sentiment or public expectations.

Mr. Wakefield believed with Galileo that the world moves, but whither, knew not. He could not comprehend all the length and breadth of the influences to flow out of this measure, but he knew the institution at which it aimed to be wrong, and his conscience would be satisfied when he had assisted to drive the last nail in the coffin of slavery. He believed in the Declaration of Independence—that all men are created free and equal. That the institution of slavery was a practical stultification of that Declaration. Had always been opposed to meddling with it where it existed by law, but had also always striven to prevent the stigma from attaching to new territory. Slavery had been denounced by Washington, Jefferson, and the Fathers of the Republic. When the constitution was framed, it had been permitted to remain where it then existed, but it was not then expected to become perpetual. It however increased with the growth of commerce, and the extension of the country. The nation has followed the letter of the law in its dealings with it, not in the spirit of the framers of the constitution. The radicals had been denounced here—his opinion was that the radicals had shown more foresight than anybody else. They had always predicted the revolution. Seward's "irrepressible conflict" declaration was prophetic. But the democracy and the slave power first broke faith with the government, became traitorous, and violated and repudiated the constitution. The doctrine of States rights, as held by the democracy, is the doctrine of secession.

The evils of slavery are such that its total abolition is necessary for future protection against secession and civil war. The constitution provides the manner of amendment, and this amendment, under those provisions, is legitimate, fair and honest. If States are not represented on this matter, it is their own fault.—We are acting precisely according to the constitution, and also according to humanity and conscience. Giving the negro the right of liberty does not logically give him the right of suffrage. In New York he has the right to own himself, his wife, family, and property—wish he had the same right in Oregon. If he were called on to vote on question of negro suffrage, would inquire whether the negro were intelligent enough to be entrusted with that power; whether he assisted the government or its enemies. [Mr. W. closed by a feeling allusion to our dead soldiers and the prisoners of Andersonville. The speech was received with considerable applause.—REP.]

Mr. Gillette opened with some facetious allusions to Mr. Cox, and democrats generally; their fear of negro equality, and pledged himself that if it became necessary, he would introduce a bill to declare a democrat as good as a negro—if he behaved himself. He said he should vote for the amendment because all men are created free and equal. The framers of the constitution took that broad ground. Could prove slavery the most damnable institution the world ever tolerated.—Here the speaker furnished the House with statistics, showing the relative condition of free and slave states, from organization of government to 1860—the comparative growth of free States in property, population, intelligence and morals, as contrasted with slave states and then showed the disparity existing to have been the effect of slavery. After introducing a good many facts and figures, said he had a whole book full of figures just as startling. Without putting the amendment on the ground of humanity or justice, the interests of the white man demanded the abolition of slavery.—[Mr. G. gave the "chivalry" a most effective scathing.]

Mr. FAY. The democratic party always a party of States rights. [Personal hits at Thornton.] Eulogized Douglas. [Pay was a Breckinridger.] [More hits at Thornton, Gillette, Cartwright and others.] He opposed amendment because he didn't like manner of adoption. Hamilton, Jefferson, and other great men had said that no amendment should be adopted during times of excitement and passion. The old amendments were made after ample deliberation and while people were cool. This one is sought while the people are yet drunk with victory. [Followed Cox about submitting to the people.] He said you are about to commit a base fraud upon the people. The supreme law about to be changed, and no voice in the matter given to the South. It is a practical illustration of the tyranny of a majority over a minority; it aims at rights of private property, which are sacred. Congress has no right to interfere with such property.—The Constitution never gave any such right. The right to interfere in the relation of master and slave stands upon the same footing as the relation of man and wife. Adoption of amendment would be a dangerous precedent. May work ruin to us. Under the genius of the constitution Congress has no right to meddle with the relation of master and slave. Amendment destroys the doctrine of States rights. [Mr. F. all the way through manifested a great anxiety about slavery, although disclaiming it. Alarmed himself very much about the article giving Congress power to enforce the article, by legislation, as though that were a new feature in the constitution. Made a howl about Southern members of Congress being excluded from the Rolls.

Mr. Lane—Had read the Scriptures some; had never found anything in them against the institution of slavery, but had found the injunction, 'servants, obey your masters.' The radical agitation against slavery had brought on the war. England and northern fanaticism had done more towards division of the Union than all else. The power of Congress and the States to amend the constitution is limited. The slave trade was sanctioned by constitution until 1808. The old constitution was abandoned because of the centralization of power, and the negative power, of the States. [Followed Cox and Fay in the role of State rights and rights of private property—cited decisions to the effect that private property could not be taken without process of law, and compensation.]

The amendment is an aggravated violation of the constitution. If three-fourths of the States can abolish slavery, the remaining one-fourth have no security for their rights, and they may go on and subvert the government. [Closed with one or two poetic quotations, in sole dramatic style.]

Several other gentlemen made speeches, but it was becoming apparant that it would be impossible to publish this week even a brief abstract of each gentleman's remarks, and as few of the speeches after Mr. Bowlbys' presented any new points, we have concluded to pass over the remainder of the debate. Mr. Bowlby, however, made a most telling speech of considerable length, making so many good points and unanswerable arguments that we shall endeavor to find room for it next week, at greater length than would be possible this week.

The debate closed at a little before 2 o'clock, a. m., and the vote was taken on the resolution ratifying the Constitutional Amendment, resulting as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Bowlby, Callison, Cartwright, Chaplin, Fisher, Gillette, Glass, Gingles, Hogue, Holman, Lawson, McCornack, McCartney, Murphy, Otey, Parker, Pierce, Powell, Perkins, Quick, Smith, Shipley, Tate, Turner, Thornton, Underwood, Wakefield, Wasserman, Warner, Mr. Speaker—30.

Nays—Messrs. Beall, Cox, Fay and Lane—4.

The passage of the resolution was greeted with prolonged cheers from floor and gallery.

The House adjourned to 10 A. M., to-day.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, Dec. 9.

The President introduced a bill regulating payment of volunteers, and another to increase the salary of Judge Deady, Code Commissioner.

Mr. Hovey introduced a bill requiring insurance companies to deposit bonds of $50,000.

Senate Bill No. 8, to amend the act establishing "Christian College," in Polk county, was passed.

The Senate joint resolution ratifying the Constitutional Amendment, and in relation to the death of the late President, were returned from the House, with amendments. (These amendments were only of phraseology.) The Senate refused to concur.

The resolution providing for adjournment *sine die* on Saturday, 16th, was taken up and adopted.

The Senate spent most of the day in Committee of the Whole, considering the bill providing system of public instruction.

After the committe rose, the House joint memorial to the Legislature of Washington Territory, for protection to steam tug at the mouth of the Columbia river, was taken up and passed.

Senate adjourned to 7 P. M.

HOUSE.

SATURDAY, Dec. 9.

The report of the State Treasurer on the military fund, called for a day or two since, by resolution, was presented, and, without reading, referred to a select committee—Cox, Murphy and Underwood.

Mr. Gingles introduced a bill to regulate liquor licenses.

Mr. Hogue introduced a bill for relief of N. H. Gates, a late contestant for a seat in the House.

Mr. Thornton introduced a bill to provide for a system of public instruction.

A resolution to prevent the introduction of new business after next Tuesday was adopted.

The House adjourned till afternoon.

HOUSE.

Afternoon.— The Senate joint resolution adopting the Constitutional Amendment came back with a message to the effect that the Senate refused to concur in the House amendment—a mere change of phraseology.

Mr. Tate move that the House recede from its amendment.

Cartwright favored the motion to recede; thought the House had made a mistake in the phraseology adopted; the original was good enough.

Mr. Fay opposed the motion; thought the Senate was discourteous in refusing to concur; would not extend courtesy to the Senate which they refused to us.

Messrs. Gillette, Underwood, Lawson and others made remarks, when the House refused to recede.

Fay moved a committee of conference, which carried, and Messrs. Fay and Underwood were appointed on the part of the House.

The Senate joint resolutions, relating to the death of the late President Lincoln, also came back, with a message that the Senate refuses to concur in House amendment.

The amendment substitutes language in the preamble—the original reciting that, whereas it has pleased the Almighty to remove the President—which the House did not like.

House refused to recede.

A committee of conference was ordered, and Messrs. Gillette and Tate were appointed on the part of the House.

The Senate sent in a joint resolution to adjourn *sine die* on Saturday, the 16th inst.

A motion to concur pending, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Mr. Underwood offered a bill to repeal section 3 of the militia law, which provides a tax of two dollars upon persons not performing military service. Referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Fay introduced a resolution to instruct our Senators and Representative in Congress to use their influence to procure appropriations for a military road from Eugene City to Fort Klamath.

Discussed at some length by Fay and Underwood, and referred to a select committee of five.

Mr. Gillette offered a joint memorial to the Legislature of Washington Territory, asking the passage of a law of that Territory similar to the one now in force in Oregon, securing exclusive rights of pilotage and tugging at the mouth of the Columbia river to such steam tug as may be placed and kept there in compliance with the law. The "Rabboni," a powerful steam tug boat, is at present operating there, under a "branch" given it by the Pilot Commissioners of Oregon.

The memorial was passed without a dissenting vote.

Mr. McCornack introduced a game law. It provides penalties for killing deer or elk from March to August—fine from five to twenty-five dollars, half to prosecutor and half to school fund.

House adjourned to 9 A. M. Monday.

Thus far the business of interest introduced in both houses is as follows:

IN THE SENATE.

Cranston, S. B. 1—a registry law.

Frazer, S. B. 2—creating the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and to regulate common schools.

Pyle, S. J. R. 1—ratifying Constitutional Amendment. Passed by both houses, amended by House. Senate refuses to concur, pending.

Palmer, S. B. 4—to repeal the two-dollar tax clause of the militia law.

Pyle, S. B. 5—relief of Charles Fisher and Joseph E. Street.

Palmer, S. J. R. 3—to adjourn *sine die* on Saturday, the 9th. Tabled.

Pyle, S. B. 6—to amend school laws, so as to prevent the purchase of school lands by disloyal persons.

Mitchell, S. J. R. 4—relating to the death of Abraham Lincoln. Passed by both houses, amended by House, Senate does not concur, pending.

Pyle, S. B. 7—to amend criminal code, Sunday labor.

Frazer, S. B. 7—to amend the act establishing Christian College, in Polk county. Passed.

Mitchell, S. B. 9—to amend tax laws, general.

Mitchell, S. B. 10—to amend code of civil procedure, general.

Hovey, S. B. 11—to amend act regulating criminal and civil procedures in justices courts.

Cornelius, S. B. 12—to amend militia law and dispose of militia and dispose of military fund.

Mitchell, S. B. 13—to provide method for delivery of bonds to volunteers.

Mitchell, S. B. 14—supplementary to law creating code commision.

Hovey, S. B. 15—to amend the act taxing foreign insurance companies, and to regulate such business in this State.

Watson, S. B. 16—relief of Sheriff of Douglas county.

But one of foregoing bills has been passed. Most of the others have been read the first or second time and referred.

IN THE HOUSE.

By Underwood, H. J. R. No. 3—to ratify the Constitutional Amendment. Laid on the table, the S J. R. 1 being passed instead.

Cox, H. R.—requesting State Treasurer to report in detail on military fund.

Lawson, H. J. R. 5—general resolutions on National affairs. Referred.

S. S. 1—Constitutional amendment. Passed.

Cartwright, H. J. R. 6—to raise a joint committee to inquire into the delay of State printing.

Fay, H. J. R. 7—to receive no new business after Saturday, the 9th. Tabled.

S. J. R. 4—Resolutions on the death of Abraham Lincoln. Passed.

Petition of citizens for repeal of specific contract law. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Perition for repeal of Sunday law. Referred to same.

Petition for bounties to Co. B, 1st Oregon infantry. Referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

Lane, H. B. 1—to amend the code of civil procedure. Read first time.

Lane, H. B. 2—to amend act relating to taxes. Read first time.

Wakefield, H. B. 3—registry law. Read first time.

Gingles, H. B. 4—to amend act relating to liquor licenses. Read first time.

Hogue, H. B. 5—for relief of N. H. Gates. Read first time.

Thornton, H. B. 6—relating to public instruction; a general school law. Read first time.

Cox, H. B. 7—to repeal section 653 of code of civil procedure. Read first time.

Lawson, H. B. 8—registry law. Read first time.

Chaplin, H. B. 9—to incorporate LaGrand. Read first time.

Thornton, H. B. 10—to improve breed of sheep. Read first time.

Underwood, H. J. R. 8—no new business after Tuesday, 12th instant. Adopted.

Select Committee, H. B. 11—to repeal the act incorporating Umatilla. Read first time.

Hogue, H. J. R.—asking daily mail for citizens of Grant county. Adopted.

S. J. R. 3—adjournment *sine die* Saturday, 16th inst. Tabled.

Underwood, H. B. 12—to amend militia act, repeal of two-dollar tax clause. Read second time and referred.

Fay, H. J. R. 10—asking Congressional aid for road from Eugene to Fort Klamath. Referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

Gillette—memorial to W. T. Legislature to pass a law protecting steam tug at mouth Columbia. Passed.

S. B. 8—to amend act establishing Christian College. Read second time and referred to Committee on Education.

McCornack, H. 13—for the protection of game. Read first time.

MAIL ROUTES IN OREGON.

WASHINGTON, October 28, 1865.

Ed. Statesman—I desire to say a few words through the *Statesman* to the Oregon public, about mail matters.

I am in receipt of petitions asking me to apply to the Postmaster General for the establishment of new post routes. There is no power in the Postmaster General to establish or extend post routes; he can only put mail service on such roads as are declared post routes by acts of Congress. I hope those who propose to ask for new mail routes at the next session will, as soon as practicable, forward their applications. It is next to impossible to get anything of a local nature done near the end of the session.

I respectfully direct attention to the following invitation for proposals to carry our daily mail:

[The invitation for bids has already been published in the *Statesman*.]

It will be seen that bids are invited for the route entire, and also for it in five parts. This mode of advertising the route has a two-fold object. In the first place, it enables men of moderate means to compete with those of large capital; and in the second place, it puts it out of the power of any company or corporation to dictate its own terms to the Government and people. I presume, all other things being equal, a letting for the continuous route would be preferred. I beg to caution those who propose to bid, not to offer to do the work for a sum less than it is reasonably worth, in order to get the contract. I believe the department is willing to pay a fair price for the conveyance of our daily mail. It is better for all concerned that the contract shall be so let as to ensure punctuality in its performance. Proposals will be received at the Department until the 28th day of next February. The service to be let continues from July 1, 1866, to June 30th, 1870.

Yours truly, GEO. H. WILLIAMS.

EASTERN CAPITAL IN THE OREGON MINES. A very handsome sum, said to be as high as $300,000, has been offered by New York capitalists for the Ruckel mine, formerly known as the Rockfellow, and situated on Powder river, Oregon. The property consists of a ten-stamp quartz mill, driven by water-power, with an average crushing capacity of fifteen tons per day. The ledge is located on the Emigrant road about seven miles from the mill, and ore is hauled at a cost of five dollars per ton. Several distinct lodes supply the mill. There is but little wood or water at the mines, but a great abundance of alkali. The mine was discovered by some old miners as they were passing by on the road. There are good "indications at intervals for a distance of several miles along the outcrop of this lead. There are also several parallel ledges. The rock contains but little pyritous ore, the gold being mostly free. The main lead was struck by a tunnel 110 feet from the surface, and 116 feet from the point where it was commenced. About twenty-five men are employed about the mine. Colonel Ruckel, late President of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company, is the principal owner of the ledge, the work upon which is under the management of Captain Coffin, formerly of the California Steam Navigation Company.

Wood & Fogus' interest in the Morning Star gold and silver ledge, Owyhee, has been conditionally sold through or to a prominent New York banker for $800,000. Wilson Waddingham has purchased the interest of the White Brothers in the Confederate Star and Idaho, Alturas county, for $25,000, and is in treaty for other valuable ground. Mr. Waddingham has been extremely fortunate in his quartz operations, and is now the proprietor of several of the richest ledges in Idaho. During his late visit to the Eastern States, he has not only realized a fortune, but justly earned for himself the character of an upright and honorable man.—*Mining Press.*

NORTH CAROLINA RATIFIES THE AMENDMENT.—Washington, Dec.