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Winnsboro, S. C., Thursday morning, SEpteatber 6, 1877
VOL. 1. NO, 89

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THE cosameanten wIsDow or The

## Sketch of the House of

Mis ter speak or
This in a loud resonant voice, from he door-way leading into the lobby been sitting, lolling and kneeling on he seats, keeping up a buza of con ersation, all rise and stand waiting, , in the pateli of light seen through the doorway, a pleasant looking,
rather bald and yery fray man, in rathor bald and very gray man, in
t court suit of black, with breeches, hack silk stockings, black silk tie thachel to the collar of his coat, as he weurs no quone, and thin rattailed court sword, appoars, bearing goon his shoulder the groat orownho marchesup the fioor of the House closely followed by Mr: Speaker, but graduallygiving way as that digni ary advances toward the chair bowing right and left, as if he had hefore, tho honorable member efore, thongh it is anly about ter minutes ago that he lefi tho Houso
in a similar way, preceded by the sergeant-at-arms bearing the important insignia aforesaia -probably successor of the one dubbed by a
certain Oiiver Cromwell, "that baucertain Oliver Cromwell, "that ban
Nis. Speaker is a bland, rather ghit, closely shaven man, of most Fontiemanly deportment. He wars
a pleasant smilo upon his counte ance, and as he comes up the floo of the House in his long silk gown, his calm dignity, and the respect in
which ho is hold, make yout forget the absurdity of the yon As Mr. Speaker aseonds to the chair, which stands upon a crimson
dais mounted by threo or four steps, and seats himself beneath the earved
ork canopy, resembling an old. fashioned bed-tester, tho members, nd the bewigged and gowned elerk, in fiont of the Speaker's cho table ake their sents, and business is reFor
For there was an interruption. At about a quarter to four the
Speaker entered the House seated himself in a chair at the table. Aembers present were few in numhaphin entered, the doors wor closed and locked, prayers were said, end afterwarts, there being
enough members present to "make a House" (that is to say, forty), Mr. Speakor twok the chairRising soon nfter, he is in the process of rending some bnsiness upon probably relating to past matters in comnection with to past matters i ways to which nobody seems to pay ny attention, when a loud voice at the lobby-ond of tho House-that
opposito to tho chair-suddenly opposito
shouts :
$\qquad$
Doors aro flung wide, and diroctly after, an oflicial-Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod-comes into sight, in bearing carefully bofore him, as if ignin of his office, which looks like thin black sceptre. He ady ince $\pi$ fow steps up the centre of the loor, and bows low to the Speaker hakes a few more steps and bows fow more few more, another bowew more, nnother bow-and so on,
till he reaches tho foot of the wheh, with the mace lying noross is in a conple of brackets, and a breast work of Parlinmentary tomes, dis patch-boxos and papers, stops his Now amid pross.
Now amid profound silence, he the bearor-namely, to command the presence of the Spoaker in the
Upper Houso to hoar the Royal as rent given by tho commission to Crtain bills which now
of Parliament, and law
The Yeoman Usher is an adapt at messago, he, without altoring his position, bogins to retiro, having, in nautioal langlage, woll taken lis
bearings, so that, though ho came in bearings, so that, hough ho came in
stem-forivard, he backs out "astarn."
rom the straight line, and not deviate
does he glance round to see if ho is
 and bows-..and so on and on till ho acks and bows himself along ho floor and through tho paid to the Speaker, to whom and o whose dictum every man in that House morally and physically bows. Black Rod disappears ther of tho at-arms comes up to the table shoulders the mace-a huge sceptro bout five feot long-the Spenke nid the membors rise, and precoded by the mace-batrer, the right hon to return as has been describod, and hen announce in a loud yoice an bills to which tho Royal asseut has been given.
The seats
The seats right and loft of tho peakerare separated in the oentro
of the House by a gaug Chat, litorally, the membors' part may be said to bo divided into four he soats on his right are eppropria hed by the party in power ; those on party being again divided by the gangway-those who favor and suptti minsterial or ex-Cabinet action st the speater of the Houso noar bers, Conservative or Liberal, who brefor freodom of speoch and nction ow the gangway. It is worthy of note that oach nomber appropriatos a soat to him.
sels and by courtesy keeps to it luring the time lie is in Parrliamont hough this is not a hard-and-fas debates the Honse is or grea hat members often sit on the steps of the gangways, and even stand in crowabelow the bar.
The bar is a line drawn from the nd, technicilly, when $a$ the House below this line he is rot in tho Houso, and cannot address the poaker. It is below this line that nombers stand about; within it hey must at once bow to the Speak-
er, walk up tho floor, take thoir cats, which they mostly supplemant by patting on thoir hats; and no man is allowed to stand save when he uncovers and rises to addros. he Speaker. It is also bolow thi his deputy sit, and beyond it no messenger may pass. When on rrings in a letter or card for an within the member, he can como whithin the doors of the House, afte Which he has to wait for tho good carry it within the sacred procinet to its destination.
On the night when we are presen pretty good debato is expected, th is seats fill up rathor quickly vis interosting to notioe where the Becrinning on tho
ench is appropriated to tho Miris lers, and bohind them sit thoir im mediate supporters. On the fror Northe so seen Sur Staffor Northeoto, ${ }^{n}$ quiot, fair-beardod, who wears i light clothos and
whore roadish-brimmod hat; the tower-
ng, stalvart form of Mr. Ward Hunt; plonsant-facod Mr. Hardy louthful-looking Lord Goorge Lord Barrington, in light gray morning cont and beflowered button anted Bohind will probably be House - a venerable member, listenIt. with the greatest respect
Mr. Spencor Walpole, now growing Hr. Spencor Walpole, now growing
old and foeblo of speoch, but ower still on University matters Lord John Hay, Mr. Chaplin, Mr Wheolhouse, and others.
On tho loft, the front bench will how M. Gustono, sitting close to some gray liead of Mr. Bright Lord Hartington's tall angula figure; nud, beyond him, Mr . ostar, looking as unkempt as Mr tansfold looks smooth and brush ed, with a caroful parting from the of his nock, as rigid in its accurato division of his hond into two parts as the floor of the House from the poaker's ohair to the lobby door. oe sitting Dend and third rows will be sitting Dr. Kenealy, Mr. Muntz, little man, with his dark gray head ow down on nis rather high shouloften the signal for derisive oheer nd intorruptions, especinlly whon in short, it is Mrs. Whalloy. A few words respecting the seats servative front seat, Mr. Beresford

