The Press.
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1860.

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

For Subscribers, Mailed to Country Reading in Africa! Literature—Fine Arts—Latest News by Telegraph to Washington, the Seat of Politics—Bill, &c. Foreign Press—Letter from New York—Letter from Harrisburg—Miscellaneous Matter, Literature, Agriculture, Science, Mechanics, Commerce, Markets, Financial and Commercial Matter, Editorial Matter, Local Matter, Miscellaneous Matter, &c., &c.

First Page—Letter from Sydney, Feeding in Africa! Literature—Fine Arts—Latest News by Telegraph to Washington, the Seat of Politics—Bill, &c. Foreign Press—Letter from New York—Letter from Harrisburg—Miscellaneous Matter, Literature, Agriculture, Science, Mechanics, Commerce, Markets, Financial and Commercial Matter, Editorial Matter, Local Matter, Miscellaneous Matter, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, March 26, 1860.

The Illuminated Bigler, before going to Reading, made every effort to get the President to insist upon his election to Charleston, claiming that it was due to him for the service he had rendered the Administration here in its Lecompton policy. For this purpose, it is said that he prevailed upon your excellent friend, Major Lynch, of Pittsburg, to wait upon Mr. Buchanan and receive from him an expression of his wish upon the subject, that he might communicate it to the Faithful at Reading, and also induced the Chief Magistrate of the nation to write letters to his office-holders, urging that it was due to Gov. Bigler that he should be sent as a delegate at large. The Senator is now claiming that he was elected in despite of the Administration, and that he was indebted alone to himself for his success. He says that his strength was with the Germans, and that in the Convention their votes were all recorded in "their own sweet German." Bagbiter.

He real object at Reading was not only to elect himself, but to secure a majority of the delegation who favored his pretensions for the Vice Presidency; but as the Administration was unfortunate in the selection of delegates to Charleston, a good many Douglas anti-Administration men being chosen, the Senator from Pennsylvania has become "a little weak at the knees."

In this place, I beg to insert the following extract:

"Make my special regards to Governor Walker, and say to him THAT HE HAS THE POPULAR HEART WITH HIM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, EXCEPT ONLY THE EXTREME SOUTH. Second his programme succeeds, he will HAVE THE MOST ENVIABLE PROMINENCE OF ANY MAN IN THE NATION. *The Administration is a little weak at the knees, and sinews under the Southern thunder, but they must stand up to the work.*"

A great many surmises are being indulged in relation to the cause of the removal of District Attorney Vandyke. You know, on every side, questions something like these: "Was it because he favored the election of Montgomery as delegate at large in the Reading Convention?" "Was it because he is trending the nomination for Congress of Mr. Buchanan's old friend, George H. Martin, and opposing the nomination of Mr. Buchanan's new friend, Henry M. Phillips, who has lately moved into the Second district?" "Was it because he refused, for two years to speak to the Virginia chairman of the Pennsylvania State Central Committee?" do.

"Hon. Hendrick B. Wright has been visiting Washington for the last few days, and returned to Philadelphia this morning. He is looking uncommonly well, and, being a delegate to Charleston, what he says on the subject of the Presidency was listened to with much interest. I was not surprised to find that he expressed the warmest attachment for Judge Douglas; nor to hear him declare, in the presence of men of all parties, that he stood ready to vote for Judge Douglas whenever the proper time arrived. I did not understand him as entirely committed to the fortunes of the Senator from Illinois; but it was easy to infer from his language that he could not be used to carry out the schemes and prescriptions of the Administration upon that distinguished statesman.

Strange stories are told of some of the officials who have elected themselves delegates. They begin to feel the weight of public opinion upon their consciences, particularly as the responsibility and emoluments of office begin to vanish before their eyes. I notice that in several of the Administration papers in Pennsylvania, even in some conducted by officials, a genial and tolerant spirit begins to be manifested in regard to Mr. Douglas.

More than one of the occupants of certain sinecures in this city may be seen taking the friends of *Judge Douglas aside, and indulging in mysterious conversations*; laying certain confidential anchors to the windward, and putting themselves under secret pledges, in order to save their precious necks should a certain contingency occur some time in November, in the year of our Lord 1860. The next manifestations we shall have, will be soft and silken editorials in *The Evening Star*. It will no longer cast its lurid rays upon the "Little Giant;" but as his chances improve, it will shine benignantly and sweetly upon his improving fortunes. The New York *Herald* itself has ceased its vituperative tirades. The worst calamity that could befall Judge Douglas would be the support of that newspaper. Heaven protect him from that!

While the fleet is being organized for a simultaneous attack upon Charleston on the 23d of April, while the captains and lieutenants of the different ships are being selected, and the crews carefully picked out; the passengers—that is, the delegates—begin to discuss among themselves the perils of the voyage. Most of them are landsmen; it will not pay land lubbers—accustomed to the treacherous deep, and by no means willing to trust their lives to the storms that may be brooding in the sky. One excellent gentleman asked me the other day whether I thought the trip would be a dangerous one? He said, "I should be extremely sorry to lose my vote for Douglas, and to find myself, instead of enjoying the comforts of a seat in the Convention, hugging a mermaid in a reluctant embrace, or making a sudden acquaintance with that awful gentleman, the hungry shark." It is said that no sight is more pitiable than a ship filled with sea-sick people, and if *Frank Leslie* and *Vanity Fair* desire to depict a human misery in its worst and most ridiculous colors, they should have their artists on the Charleston deck as the delegates are disgorged from their wooden houses. A more emaciated, sare-worn, cadaverous set of men could hardly be conceived. Unable to eat on board, they will land in the capital of the Palmetto State, as voracious as the very monsters of the deep from which they will have escaped, and doubtless the gallant squadron that will come steaming and sailing into the harbor will return home with very few of those who crowded its numerous cabins.

I was much amused yesterday, while standing among a group of Southern men, at an anecdote that one of them related when a certain candidate for the Presidency was being commented upon. "Well," he said, "if the Democratic Convention should place such a man in nomination it could sink it all so lower. Who would run on such a ticket as Vice President? No partner would be found for such a nonsuitor. The idea of calling upon us to vote for this man reminds me of a story which I once heard a wag in my neighborhood tell. A rich and eccentric man on his death bed, among his other bequests, left to his ugliest friend a handsome legacy of $100,000 and a revolver, upon the condition that he should take the life of the first person he met who was uglier than himself. Twenty long years rolled around before he met the man he was in search of. As he saw the man approach him he hauled out the instrument of death, and said to him, 'my friend, you must die,' and then he detailed the intentions of the will. 'Well, sir,' said his *vis-a-vis*, looking him in the face, and throwing open his coat, 'if I am uglier than you I am not fit to live—fire away!'" The reader will make the application.

One of these cases which awaken the sympathies of all men came to my knowledge the other day, and it is of so interesting a character that I cannot refrain giving it to the world. An estimable colored man, well known in Washington, called upon me on Monday, with tears in his eyes, and said: "I have bed news to tell you. My wife, with whom I have lived happily for twenty years, was sold by her master on the 19th of March, and is now in the slave-pen at Alexandria, and will be sent by the slave-trader to the extreme South unless I can raise $800 by Saturday to buy her back to my house, and to give to our poor children their faithful and devoted mother. We have had eleven children, of whom seven are now alive." On inquiry, I found that the woman was an honest and trustworthy servant, and I know her husband to be one of the best fellows of his race. A subscription was immediately started, and I hope we shall be enabled to rescue her from her impending doom. I am not disposed to enter into an argument against slavery, but is it not a galling reflection, that here, in the District of Columbia, this infernal traffic in human flesh is carried on, and that a slave-pen is maintained within sight of the Washington Monument? It does my heart good to see the feeling which this case has excited among Southern men. They look upon the slave-trader with even more abhorrence than we of the North, and I have no doubt that in the list of names attached to the paper for the relief of poor Sam's wife will be found many generous slaveholders. OCCASIONAL.

WOLFSOHN AND HOMMESTECK'S FIFTH SOIRÉE.—This brilliant series of concerts now draws near to a close, but, seems to increase in attractions as it progresses, the programme for Thursday night being one of the richest yet offered. Mr. Wolfsohn contributes Alard's great arrangement of "Les Patineurs" (the Skaters) from Meyerbeer's *Prophète* as his solo, plays in a duo for piano and violoncello by Mendelssohn, and has an exceedingly brilliant part in a trio for piano, violin, and violoncello, by Fesca. Mr. Hohnstock takes the violin part in Fesca's Trio, and in the Septette by Beethoven, and contributes an original solo, (never before given in America,) in which he has displayed splendid qualities as a composer, which entitle him to a high position in the artistic world. The assistants for this concert are Messrs. Hassler, Schmitz, Toskimer, Stoll, Mueller, and Birgfeld, all of them masters of their respective instruments. The fine success attending these concerts is fully warranted by their intrinsic merit, but still the support of this attempt to furnish classical music reflects great credit on the appreciation of our musical amateurs. This is next to the last concert of the series, and as the season is so far advanced, it cannot be expected that there will be any repetition.

☞ In one of our columns will be found an advertisement of "Pure Georgia Arrow-Root." Invalids who need an article of diet at once nutritious and delicate, and anxious mothers who would secure for their children the purest and most healthy food, will find in this farinaceous preparation all they seek or require.

CURTAIN A MOMENT TO THE ALPS.—This fine piece, which has long failed in London as one of the best of modern productions, will not remain upon our boards longer than Saturday, when it must be removed.

LATEST NEWS

By Telegraph to The Press.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO "THE PRESS."]

UTAH WAR CONTRACTS.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1860.—The Committee on Public Expenditures met to-day, and agreed to commence an investigation of the Utah war contracts the latter part of next week, or as soon as witnesses can be brought to this city.

THE SITE OF PHILADELPHIA POST OFFICE.

The Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads had the subject of the Post Office site before them on Tuesday. The matter was referred to Mr. LEE, of New York, who, I regret to say, is supposed to be adverse to the sale of the Pennsylvania Bank property. JOHN O'BRIEN, is here, counsel of BAILEY & Co., and may induce favorable action.

THE CHARLESTON CONVENTION.

There is no possibility of changing the time or place of holding the National Democratic Convention.

GREAT CORRUPTION INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE—WITNESSES FROM PHILADELPHIA TO BE SUMMONED.

Mr. COVODE's Investigating Committee intend summoning a number of leading politicians of both parties from Philadelphia.

AUGUSTUS SCHELL, collector of the port of New York, was examined before the committee to-day, and testified to a large contribution to the Pennsylvania election in 1856.

HASKIN'S REPORT.

Immense numbers of Mr. HASKIN'S report on corruptions of public printing have been ordered for circulation. OCCASIONAL.

XXXVITH CONGRESS.—FIRST SESSION.

U. S. CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, March 28, 1860.

SENATE.

The joint resolution, making Macon, Georgia, a port of entry, was passed.

Mr. KING, of New York, presented the memorial of the citizens of Genesee, N. Y., in favor of the passage of the homestead bill.

Mr. DOOLITTLE, of Wisconsin, presented a petition in favor of a uniform bankrupt law.

Mr. SLIDELL, of Louisiana, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, made a favorable report on the petition of Isaac V. Fowler, praying additional compensation, and reported a bill for his relief.

Mr. BRODERICK, of California, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to provide pensions for the widows and orphans of officers and soldiers of the United States, which was ordered to be printed and recommitted.

Mr. CAMERON, of Pennsylvania, presented the petition of the citizens of Northumberland county, Pa., in favor of the passage of the bill.

On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, of Michigan, the Military State bill was made the special order for next Tuesday week.

On motion of Mr. BIGLER, of Pennsylvania, the bill to amend the bankrupt laws was made the special order for Wednesday next.

The bill to prohibit the issue of bank notes in the District of Columbia, for less than $5, was made the special order for day two weeks.

Mr. SEWARD, of New York, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill for the relief of Rosmer Smith.

The bill for increase and regulate the pay of the officers of the navy was taken up, the question being on Mr. Fessenden's substitute, which decreases the pay of the higher officers.

Mr. MALLORY, of Florida, opposed the substitute, on the ground that it did not pay justice to the lieutenants. He thought the pay of all should be increased, and refuse it to the captains. He believed that the members of both houses of Congress were totally insensible to the requirements of the service, and the times of pay, and he thought it would be better to imitate the *English navy in the management of ours. He offered an amendment to the effect that the pay of lieutenants be increased from* Mr. Benjamin, of Louisiana, making the salary of the lieutenant commanding a vessel of war, not exceeding $3,000, discharging other duties, $3,500. Agreed to.

Mr. IVERSON, of Georgia, then offered a substitute for the amendment, that the pay of a major in the army $30 per month. He said that none but a Philadelphia lawyer could understand the bill as reported and amended. He was not in favor of increasing the pay, and that it could be understood without making the subject one of special study. His desire was to put the officers on the same footing as other gentlemen who lived with their pay as the officers of the army.

Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi, thought the method of giving Congress the officers at the same increase a bad one, and he hoped it would not be applied to the navy.

Mr. FESSENDEN explained the effect of his amendment.

After other unimportant amendments, the question was taken on Mr. Fessenden's substitute as amended. Negatived—yeas 20, nays 26.

Mr. WIGFALL, of Texas, offered an amendment, giving the increase of pay to those naval officers on land service, and to those in charge of the various bureaus.

Mr. BROWN, of Mississippi, said that he was opposed to the bill as it stood, and would oppose any increase of pay, make separate cases for them. He did not believe in Rosmer Smith, and he was for equality with those who braved the perils and endured the rigors of the service.

The amendment was rejected—yeas 10, nays 36.

The original bill as amended, was then read the third time and passed. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, for the suppression of polygamy in the Territories of the United States.

Mr. BRANCH, of North Carolina, proposed to strike out all relating to polygamy, and to make it a felony as much as assault and declares void all the laws of Utah sanctioning and permitting polygamy. He suggested to the gentlemen from Illinois (Mr. Morrill) that they could not be original, then they could render that other "twin relic of barbarism," slavery, as it is called in the Black Republican platform of 1856 originally, void, and that he could not vote for the provision to make the polygamy law applicable to all the Territories of the United States.

Mr. CLARK, of Missouri, said the Committee on Territories had commended the practice of taking a vote from one Territory to the other Territories, so that the people of the latter may have the power to suppress polygamy and slavery.

Mr. BRANCH thought those Territories would not have sufficient population thus to control the subject.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Louisiana, said that the Senate had no power to pass a criminal law applicable to Utah, or any other organized Territory. He hoped the final adoption of any measure for the extirpation of the evil, *and would, therefore, cheerfully support Mr. Branch's* amendment.

Mr. BRANCH, resuming, said that whenever the people of a Territory show themselves unfit for self-government, he would take from them the control of their affairs. It was useless to dabble in the waters below the spring-head; and they should repeal all laws shocking to the sense of a Christian community.

Mr. NELSON, of Tennessee, who reported the bill, was desirous that a vote should be taken on it to-day.

Mr. ADRAIN, of N. J., said that the bill must lie and on the table. Negatived—yeas 19, nays 148.

Mr. BOCOCK, of Virginia, reported a joint resolution repealing the law establishing the Territorial Government of Utah. The House passed to the consideration of other resolutions from the Committee on Territories.

On motion of Mr. HICKMAN, of Pennsylvania, a resolution was adopted authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to send for persons and papers, and to examine witnesses under oath or affirmation, with reference to the impeachment of Judge Watrous, of Texas.

Mr. GURLEY, of Ohio, from the Committee on Printing, submitted a resolution, which was adopted, in favor of printing five thousand extra copies of the report on commercial relations; also, the last volume of the survey of the Pacific Railroad, by Governor Stevens, containing the northern route.

Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making an appropriation for the service of the Post Office Department.

He asked leave to offer a resolution making the loan and tariff bill the special order of Wednesday next.

Objection was made.

He gave notice that he will call up the bill on that day.

Mr. COLFAX, of Indiana, from the Post Office Committee, reported to amend the Senate amendment to the bill, authorizing publishers to print on their papers the date when their subscriptions expire, and insert that postage shall be prepaid on transient printed matter by carriers, of drop letters in cities and towns, shall be but one cent. Adopted.

The House bill was then taken up and went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union on the army appropriation bill.

An amendment to increase the amount for the national armories gave rise to a debate, during which Mr. HOPKINS, of Virginia, said that the policy of the Union should be a general war in Europe—and such an event seems to be now pending—it may be impossible that we shall remain unoccupied long. Hence there is a necessity for having a sufficient supply of arms.

Mr. SPINNER, of New York, knew, of his personal knowledge, that arms can be manufactured cheaper in private than in public establishments, and therefore he was in favor of striking out the entire appropriation.

Mr. BURLEY, of Virginia, said that he had but one more step to take, and that was to raise our fortifications and hand down our flag.

Mr. MORRIS, of Illinois, concurred with Mr. Spinner, and did not see why we should have national armories in any place in the country in time of peace.

Mr. WELLS, of New York did not believe the millennium was at hand, but they should do all they could in peace, and save money by gradually diminishing the appropriation for fire-arms.

Mr. HOTELING said that if an increased sum was not voted for the purpose, *a Harper's Ferry* than John Brown's raid.

Mr. LAGORE, of Indiana, saw no necessity for the appropriation; no hostility was threatened from abroad, and the only threat was one of internal difficulty.

Mr. SCOTT, of Maryland, thought the proposed appropriation from $250,000 to $400,000, was rejected—yeas 72, nays 71.

The committee then rose and reported the bill as amended. Adjourned.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 22. The number of banks and their branches authorized throughout the United States on the 1st of January, according to the returns at the Treasury Department, was 1,562; amount of capital paid in, $393,000,000; amount of specie in the vaults $23,894,000. The resources, including loans, notes, and specie, are stated to be about as nearly $1,000,000,000, and the liabilities at $831,000,000.

The Committee of Ways and Means have concurred with the Post Office Department in reducing the foreign mail service of the country to its condition when the last Congress adjourned. and will report such a provision in the Post Office appropriation bill.

The special committee appointed by the Speaker to inquire as to what legislation or legislation is necessary to promote the interest of the cotton and other industries, consists of Messrs. Hughes, Tompkins, Bristow, Thomas, Leach, Curtis, Stallworth, and Letcher.

It is said that Elisha English has been appointed United States marshal for Indiana, in place of Robinson.

The bill for the suppression of polygamy in Utah will be again taken up in the House on next Monday. It is the same as that so much talked of last session. The amendment of Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, four years ago.

Those who voted in the House to table the polygamy bill to-day were *Messrs. Barr, Boulware, Boyce, Branch,* Bugg, Burnett, Caruthers, Clark, Cobb, Cockerill, Cox, Holman, Houston, McQueen, McRae, Montgomery, Moore of Alabama, Stallworth, Taylor, Vallandigham, and Winslow.

The General Appropriation Bills.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The general appropriation bills make the following provisions:

For pensions	$845 000
For Military Academy, over	180 000
For Indians	1 907 000
For civil, diplomatic and expenses	1,088 000
For fortifications	605,000
For army	13,984,000
For legislative, executive, and judicial expenses	5,870,000
For sundry civil expenses	2,421,000
For navy	11,183,000
For deficiencies of Post Office Department, nearly	
Total	48,140,000

This is a net reduction, by the Committee of Ways and Means, of $1,139,900 from the Secretary of the Treasury's estimates. The appropriations estimated for service for the fiscal year ending with June, 1861, made by former sets of Congress of a specific and definite character, amount to $29,000,000. The Ways and Means, with the above, a total of nearly $53,304,000 for the expenses of the next fiscal year.

The appropriations made by the committee was $800,000 from the army estimates.

The Carstang-Shaw Trial.

ST. LOUIS, March 26.—In the Carstang-Shaw trial the prosecution in chief has commenced.

Several witnesses testified to the bad reputation of Wm. Davis, one of the defendant's witnesses; and others to the general good character of Miss Carstang.

ST. LOUIS, March 28.—Nothing of importance was elicited in the Carstang-Shaw trial to-day. Several depositions were read rebutting the allegation of adulterous conduct on the part of the plaintiff.

Witnesses from Charleston and New York were brought on the stand to impeach the testimony reflecting on the character of Miss Carstang, her family, and education.

Angry personal remarks passed between a witness and one of the counsel for the defence, this morning. The witness was given, and it is intimated that a duel may be the result of the difficulty.

Locomotive Explosion.

FOUR MEN INJURED.

EASTON, PA., March 28.—The locomotive Excelsior burst her boiler here about 7 o'clock this morning, just as she was about starting up the Lehigh Valley Railroad with a train of cattle cars. Engineer Winters, fireman, and Wm. Pharoah, Jackson Silman, and Wm. Silman, train hands, were hurt, but none of them seriously, and they are expected to recover.

The engine is a total wreck—blown into hundreds of pieces. One piece of the boiler, weighing over a half ton, was thrown a distance of a quarter of a mile. The bell was found in a grave-yard still further off. It is a miracle that no lives were lost, as besides those on the train, there were eight or ten persons standing near the engine at the time of the explosion.

Kansas Democratic Convention.

ATCHISON, Kansas, March 26.—The Democratic Territorial Convention has been in session in this city. The proceedings were attended with much excitement. They accepted the Cincinnati platform, and elected Douglas delegates to the Charleston Convention.

Boston Organization of the Constitutional Union Party.

BOSTON, March 26.—The Constitutional Union Party organized in this city last evening, by a large meeting at Music Hall.

A Slaver Condemned.

BOSTON, March 26.—The bark "Isle de Cuba," seized as a slaver, has been condemned by Judge Sprague.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, March 28.

SENATE.

The supplement to the act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors was reported favorably.

The bill a relative to the Sunbury and Erie, and Allentown and Great Western Railroad Companies, passed finally; also, a bill relative to certain judgments in Lawrence county.

The bill to erect the new county of Cameron out of parts of Clinton, Potter, Elk, and McKean, passed finally, yeas 17, nays 13.

The bill to authorize the managers of the poor of the township of Germantown to sell certain real estate passed finally.

The Senate then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar, and the following bills passed first reading: A supplement to the act to encourage the manufacture of iron with coke and mineral coal; *to enable executors and administrators to dispose of immature securities; to authorize president judges to hold courts out of their districts in certain cases.*

The House bill to establish a system of free banking in Pennsylvania was taken up in Committee of the Whole, and passed to the tenth section.

Mr. STATE moved an amendment to the tenth section, to limit the capital invested under the law to ten millions, and strongly urged its propriety. He thought the capital should be so limited; and the experiment tried for two or three years. If found to work well, the amount could no doubt be increased. He did not like an unlimited amount of bank note capital, and if the amount was not restricted he would vote for the bill.

Mr. FINNEY replied. He thought the gentleman's fears were groundless. There was no danger of an expansion of banking capital as a result of such a law. Expansions and contractions were not caused by legislation on the subject of banking, but by the demands of commerce and trade. This does not rise and fall by the *acts of the Legislature.*

Mr. MANDERSON spoke earnestly against the bill, and the management of banks generally. Under any system, but especially under a free banking system, he thought the banks should be kept within the strictest limits of the law as the only safety. He believe the only security for the protection of the banks at the expense of the people. There were already more banks in the State than could be sustained by honest and legitimate business.

Mr. FINNEY moved to modify Mr Smith's amendment so as to limit the capital to fifteen millions beyond the present banking capital of the State.

Mr. SMITH accepted the modification.

Mr. McCLURE said he should vote against the bill; but if it was to pass, he trusted it might be in such a shape as its advocates and projectors desired, and he should, therefore, vote against all amendments. He regarded this as a Democratic measure.

Mr. WELSH said he would vote against the bill, and would resist it at every stage of its progress.

After some further remarks from Mr. FINNEY, the Committee rose, and, leave to sit again being refused, the bill came up on second reading to-morrow.

Adjourned till afternoon.

HOUSE.

A joint resolution was adopted, requiring that all new bills must be originated within the first week of the session.

The private calendar was then taken up, being the special order of the day, and the following bills were considered and passed: A bill to incorporate the Lackawanna Navigation Company; a supplement to the act incorporating the Harrisburg Cemetery Company.

A bill relative to the treasurer of Lycoming county, and a supplement to extend the charter of the Columbia Bank, were negatived.

The House refused, by a vote of yeas 32 to nays 37, to suspend the rules to take up the bill to repeal the bill incorporating the Carlisle Bank.

The bill creating the counties of Mercer and Crawford passed finally on motion, was debated at some length, and postponed indefinitely—yeas 49, nays 25.

Mr. SEWARD, of New York, from the Committee of the City of Philadelphia, to pay certain school directors, was postponed for the present.

The Senate bill to repeal the act affecting interior counties, passed first reading and were then laid aside.

The Governor has signed a number of bills, and among them a supplement to the act incorporating the Carbon Run Improvement Company, and the bill relative to vacating the charter of the Eastern Market Company passed finally. It allows the company to issue preferred stock.

The bill authorizing the managers of the poor of Germantown to sell certain real estate passed finally. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order, being the bill to repeal the act of incorporation of the laws of the Commonwealth in the newspapers of the various counties.

Mr. LAWRENCE moved an amendment limiting the publications to acts of incorporation and county and township laws, and he was proceeding to argue in support of his amendment when the hour for the special order was reached, and the bill was then negatived—yeas 41, nays 42.

The bill to pay the widow of Judge Joel Jones the amount due her husband for services rendered, passed the supplement to the act incorporating the Washington and Maryland Line Railroad Company.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill to repeal the act of 1836 relative to the sale of slaves in this State. In all the cases decided Nor holden slave had ever been returned (to the North) except in the one case, decided by the Supreme Court of the United States. Thus the judge would see the effect of his decision, should the prisoner be remanded. And in view of the dangerous position of the Union, he would not, he would ask the House to give to the points he should submit a fair and impartial consideration. It would be a cruelty for the court to make an adjudication. Judge E. cited a number of authorities bearing upon the point of the constitutionality of the act, and argued the question of the prisoner. The summary nature of the law of 1850 was commented upon, and the great amount of oppression which it was in his view, it was capable of. He quoted a number of authorities to show that the alteration of a State law, a contract, or an erasure in its body, violated the whole instrument.

The speaker then proceeded to argue that the transcript of the proceedings in the Virginia court had been altered in such a way as to make it a material part of the portion of the evidence. He cited a number of cases to show the importance of the issue involved, and the great care that should be taken to preserve them intact. He read authorities to show the rulings in courts where alleged prominent errors had been committed in favor of those who takes a liberated note, takes it with all its imperfections on its head. Virginia, herself by the decisions of her courts, has recognized this principle.

Before concluding the speaker called attention to another feature of the case. These men take the prisoner while he is at work in the fields, and make him walk him sight or nine miles, and are in his company several hours. And was there any recognition between master and slave? No, or it would have been seen *here. Did they tell him of his wife and children? No,* or it would have been seen here. Did they tell him of his wife and children? No, or it would have been seen here. Did they tell him of his wife and children? No, or it would have been seen here. Did they tell him of his wife and children? No, or it would have been seen here. Did they tell him of his wife and children? No, how much he loved liberty, when for the time being he consented to separate himself from his family—that is, he consented to be a free man, if he would consent to be referred to the question of identity the speaker concluded.

Mr. Earle ceased speaking at a few minutes to two o'clock. His address occupied about three hours in delivery.

The counsel for the defence then stated that they had *one witness in attendance who might be heard by the court, if they desired it.* There was no doubt he very important in considering a question of identity.

Catharine Jones sworn—I know the prisoner; I have known him for a number of years; I have seen him at Mr. Mrs. Robinson's cake-shop, in Harrisburg; I know the man very well; I am sure that I am not mistaken.

Cross-examined by Mr. Brewster—I have been in that city nearly four months; the prisoner was either called Moses or James; he was a waiter, I believe; he was and recognised him.

Mr. Ball, for the prisoner, proceeded to close, and commenced by saying that the evidence presented was of a very vague, uncertain, and unsatisfactory nature to identify a man who had been from his childhood the man Moses from the year 1845 down to the present moment, and when an attempt was made to vindicate the facts of the case, an objection was raised by the counsel. In relation to the question of identity, the speaker referred to the lengthy and clear evidence of Catharine Jones, the witness who had been questioned by the learned gentleman, and who had been questioned by the learned gentleman, and who had been questioned by the learned gentleman, and