CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

The following are the Congressional proceed ings of yesterday, continued from our Fourth Edition :-

WASHINGTON, February 5, Bemate.

My, GRIMES, of Iowa, from the Committee on Mr. GRIMES, of lows, from the Committee on Mayai Affairs, reported, with amendment, the bill defining the rank of Admirai and staff officers in the naval and crediting to volunteer officers in the naval and marine service, who may be transferred to the regular service, the sea service performed by them as volunteer officers.

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, from the Committee on Finance, reported, with verbal amendments, the bill making appropriations for the payment of in valid and other pensions for the year ending June 30, 1868. The bill appropriates \$33,-220,000.

Mr. TRUMBULL, of Illinois, introduced a bill mr. I RUMBULL, of Indos, introduced a bit to enable States to select swamp and overflowed lands within their limits, omitted to be selected under the act of Congress of 25th September, 1830. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, introduced a bill authorizing the Circuit and District Courts of the United States to remit or mitigate for feitures, fines

United States to remit or mitigate forfeitures, fines and disabilities in certain cases, which provides that when any person shall incur any fine, penalty, forfeiture or disability, or shall have been interested in any yessel, goods, wares or merchandies which shall be subject to seizure, by force of law, for levying duties or taxes, or any act concerning the registering or licensing of vessels engaged in the consting trade or fisheries, shall have been sued or indicated in the name of the United States, the District or Circuit Court of the United States trying such case, and rendering judgment States trying such case, and rendering judgment in the same, or in which the case may be pending, shall have power and discretion on the facts before shall have power and discretion on the facts before the court to mitigate or remit such fine or for-feiture, if in the opinion of the court the same shall have been incurred without wilful negligence or intended fraud on the part of the defendant, and also to direct the discontinuance of such suiton such terms as said court may deem just. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

such terms as said court may deem just. Referred
te the Committee on Finance.
Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, introduced
the following, which was considered and agreed to.
Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury
be directed to report, for the information of Congress, what amount of money has been received gress, what amount of money has been received from sales of cotton or other property turned over to the Treasury Department under the several laws of Congress, and what disposition has been made of the same; whether any of the money has been paid or refunded to claimants, and if so, the name of such claimants, the amounts severally paid, and under what authority of law, and upon what evidence such payments have been made. Mr. HENDERSON, of Missouri, introduced a

Mr. HENDERSON, of Missouri, introduced a bill to authorize and provide for the construction of a military and postal road from Galveston, Texas, to Fort Gibson in the Indian territory, with a branch to Little Rock, Arkamsas.

The bill grants the right of way over public

lands, and requires the government to issue to the company \$400,000 in United States bonds for every twenty miles of the said road laid with doubte twenty miles of the said road laid with double track, when in running order. Referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroad. Mr. WADE, of Chio, moved to postpone all

mr. WADE, or Onio, moved to postpone all prior orders and take up the one term constitutional amendment.

Mr. POLAND, of Vermont, hoped not. He hoped the Bankrupt bill would be taken up and the rocard of

wisposed of.

Mr. WADE said there was no prospect of reaching a vote on the Bankrupt bill. Members were still anxious to speak on it, and there was no telling where the debate would end.

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, hoped the Bank-rapt bill would not be laid aside. It was an important measure, and ought to be passed.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, said the constitutional amendment did not need the signature of the President, and might therefore be acted on up to the last day. With a legislative bill it was different. Senators would see the reason for passing important bills at the earliest possible day.

Mr. WADE, of Ohio, withdrew his motion, and

important bills at the earliest possible day.

Mr. WADE, of Ohto, withdrew his motion, and the Bankrupt bill came up, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. Howard to strike out the 37th section, which applies the provisions of this act to all corporations and joint stock companies, and contains a proviso, "that whenever any such corporation or joint stock company shall become bankrupt, such decree in bankruptcy shall work a forfeiture of all the franchises of such corporation, and the affairs of such corporation shall be wound up in the manner provided in this act in respect to private persons."

Mr. POLAND, of Vermont, moved to amend the section proposed to be stricken out, by inserting

section proposed to be stricken out, by inserting the words moneyed and business before the word corporation, and by striking out of the proviso the words "such decree of bankruptcy shall work a forfeiture of all the franchises of said corpora-tion, and the affairs of such corporation shall be wound up," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "its property and assets shall be distri-buted among the creditors of such corporation." The amendment was agreed to, and the question was then taken on striking out the section

mended. Disagreed to.

Mr. FOGG, of New Hampshire, offered an amendment to strike out the following from the amended. thirteenth section:
"Provided that when the number of creditors

present amount to five and less than ten, the votes of two, at least, shall be necessary for a choice; and when the number of creditors amounts to ten er more, the votes of three, at least, shall be neces-sary for a choice."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. FOGG, of New Hampshire, offered an amendment that no discharge under this act for debts contracted before its passage shall be made without the consent of three-fourths of the creditors who have filed and proved their claims. Mr. Fogg spoke against the bill as a dishonest measure, calculated to be of no benefit to worthy and deserving men. He wished to utter a solemn protest against it.

The amendment was disagreed to. Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, moved an amendment, by way of proviso, that no judge shall proceed to the consideration of a petition for voluntary bankruptcy until the petitioner aball have taken the test oath of the act of Congress of July 2, 1862. In offering the above, Mr. Sumner said a great many persons went with rebellion for the purpose of repudiating their debts. He wished to prevent them from reaping the benefit of that

rebellion under this bill.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Maryland, did not believe any such motive influenced secession in the south.

Mr. SUMNER subsequently modified his amendment so that in administering the oath such words as make it applicable to the holding of any office

The amendment was debated by Messrs. FES-SENDEN, SUMNER, POLAND and HENDER-SON, and was then disagreed to. Yeas 10; nays 30; Yeas-Messrs. Chandler, Cragin, Fogg, Fowler, Howard, Lane, Pomercy, Sumner, Wade, and Wilson

Nays—Messrs, Brown, Buckslew, Conness, Cowan, Davis, Dixon, Doclittle, Edmunds, Fessenden, Foster, Harris, Henderson, Hendricks, Howe, Johnson, Kirkwood, Morgan, Morrill, Korton, Patterson, Foland, Bamssy, Ross. Saulsbury, Sherman, Stewart, Van Winkle, Willey, Williams and Yates—30.

Mr. EDMUNDS, of Vermont, offered an amendment as a proviso, that all citizens of the United States petitioning to be declared bankrup; shall file an oath of allegiance to the United States with their petition. Agreed to.

their petition. Agreed to,
Mr. HENDERSON, of Missouri, moved to
amend by making the minimum amount of in lebtedness for which voluntary bankraptcy may be instituted \$1000, instead of \$300, as in the till of the House. Agreed to.

Mr. FOGG, of New Hampshire, moved to insert \$500, instead of \$300, in the place alluded to. Disagreed to—year 19, nays 20.

The bill was then taken out of Committee of the

The bill was then taken out of Committee of the

Whole and reported to the Senate.
Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, asked for another vote on striking out the following: "And in all proceedings in bankruptcy commenced after one year from the time this act shall go into operation, no discharge shall be granted to a debtor whose assets do not pay fifty per cent. on the claims against his estate, unless the assent in writing of a mejority in number and value of his creditors who have proved their claims is flied in the case at or before the time of application for

Mr. BUCKALEW, of Pennsylvania, moved to amend the text of the above by striking out the words "commenced after one year from the time this act shall go into effect." Disagreed to.

The question was then on striking out the clause above outsted.

The amendment was agreed to, and the clause was stricken out. Bir. HENDRICKS moved to strike out the provision requiring the registers of bankruptcy to be appointed upon the nomination and recommen-dation of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

of the United States. Disagreed to.
Mr. WILSON said he intended to vote against the bill because of the amendment adopted this afternoon. He thought the bill a good one as it

afternoon. He thought the bill a good one as it came from the House.

After further discussion by Messrs. Cowan and Sumner, the vote on the bill was taken as follows:
Yeas—Messrs. Chandler. Conness. Dixon. Doolittle. Edmunds. Fusenden. Fonter, Howard, Howe. Johnson. McDougail, Morgan. Rorton. Feland. Pomeroy. Ramsey. Rose. Stewart. Sumner. Yan Winkle—21.
Nays—Messrs. Brown, Buokalew. Cragin. Davis. Fogg. Fowler, Grimes. Harris, Henderson, Hendricks.

gate bugli a shoot & If

Birkwood, Lane, Morrill, Patterson, "aulabury, Shar-nan, Trumbull, Wade, Willey, Williams, Wilson, Yates-22,
A sent or not voting-Messrs, Anthony, Cattell, Cowan, Cresswell, Fro inglinysen, Guthrie, Nosmith, Ny. Eiddle, prague-10.
So the bull was lost.
Mr. Ha RRIN originally voted in the affirmative, but the need the vote for the services of spathing

but changed his vote for the purpose of enabling him to enter a motion to reconsider. Mr. WILSON entered a motion to reconsider, and the Senate then, at 5 P. M., adjourned.

House of Representatives.

The House then, at ten minutes past two o'clock, went into Committee of the Whole on he State of the Union, Mr. GARFIELD in the chair, on the President's annual message.

Mr. HOOPER, of Massachusetts, took the floor, and addressed the House on the bill to amend the

and addressed the House on the bill to amend the national banking law. He said:

The principal object of the bill is to provide the power which experience has shown to be necessary to enforce the requirements of the original law, by enlarging the authority of the Comptroller in cases of neglect or refusal on the part of the banks to conform to those requirements.

It renders some provisions of the law more clear and definite; and it prescribes the mode of preceding by receivers, who may be appointed to close up the business of a bank.

It requires all the banks in the cities named as places.

ness of a bank.

It requires all the banks in the cities named as places for the redemption of circulating notes, to redeem at New York not only their own circulation, but also the circulation of any bank for which they act as redeem-

ing agents.
It prohibits the banks from including and reporting ound-interest treasury notes, or any balance due, which bears interest, as part of their reserve of lawful money.

It changes the law in reference to usurious interest to the forfeiture of the whole debt, instead of the forfeiture of the amount of interest, as prescribed in the

It provides circulating notes for new banks organized under the law by scaling down the proportions to the existing banks, and requires any excess over the new allotment of circulating notes to be returned to the Comptroller.

existing banks, and requires any excess over the new silotment of circulating notes to be returned to the Comptroller.

It reduces the national taxation on the circulation of the banks to half of one per cent, per summ instead of one per cent, as provided in the present law. The tax of helf of one per cent on deposits is continued, and the tax of half of one per cent, on the capital of the banks is repealed.

There are the principal amendments proposed by this bill.

The returns published of October 1, 1865, show \$425,00,000 as the amount of United States securities belonging to the national banks; of which over \$331,000,000 were deposited in the Treasury as security for their circulating notes. It could hardly be desirable to bring about a settled condition of the currency and finances, to disturb this large investment by requiring the national banks to be wound us, and their notes to be withdrawn from circulation to substitute United States legal-troder notes in place of them.

I cannot doubt that it is the settled opinion of this Congress that the amount of circulating notes of the national banks should not be increased beyond the \$300,000,000 now prescribed in the law. If more paper money is needed, it would be far better to increase the legal tender notes issued by the government, so that the profit to be derived from any increase of the paper olrulation would be reserved to the government. I should be in favor of withdrawing all the circulating notes of the national banks, and substituting legal tender government notes for them, in preference to an increase of the amount of San,000,000 now anthorized is as much if not more than the banks can sustain, if we are to the amount of bank notes, believing, as I do, that the amount of bank notes, believing, as I do, that the amount of bank notes, of the country at that time consisted of the notes of State banks, which had all suspended specie payments. If we are to have irredeemable paper money is the permanent currency of the country, I would prefer to have it a when the government was in most pressing need. It did more, it stimulated industry, and provided the peo-vided the people of this country with the ability to lean the government \$2.000,000,000 to continue the war until armed rebellion was conquered, and the power

until armed rebellion was conquered, and the power and authority of the government was asserted and recognized throughout the whole country.

It cannot be denied, however, that this was attended by many serious evils, which were subsequently developed. It operated unequally and unjustly on different interests. But the life of the nation was at stake then, and no one who claimed to be loyal stopped to consider, or hesitated to make any sacrifice which the exigency of the country demanded.

Now the question is presented—what shall be done to arrest those evils and bring the country back to its normal condition, in which incustry will be satisfied with securing the legitimate rewards of labor. The object of the government should be now, to give employment to the industry of the country by relieving it from taxation, and by encouraging in every way the it from taxation, and by encouraging in every way the development of i a resources. It should be understood that the unusual powers which the Treasury Department had exercised to sustain the war will not be continued beyond the exigency that rendered them neces-

In a condition of peace the revenue of the govern-In a condition of peace the revenue of the government ought not to exceed \$330,000,000, or at most \$350,000,000 which should be ample provision for interest on the public debt, as well as all current expenses of the government. But the speedy reduction of the debt is a matter of small importance compared with that of relieving the productive industry of the country from the heavy taxation with which it is now oppressed. I have not been able to join in congratulating the Eccretary of the Treasury on the progress that has been made in the reduction of the debt during the many vent, as it seems to me our industry could the past year, as it seems to me our industry could now ill afford it. When the debt of the country has been funded, the currency restored to a sound condition, and our industry so far relieved from taxation that it can compete with the labor of other countries, we can then better commence a more rapid reduction of the public debt.

that it can compete with the labor of o hor countries, we can then better commence a more rapid reduction of the public debt.

The only way in which the currency of the country can be made equal in value to the money of other countries, is by gradually reducing the amount of paper money, until what remains in circulation shall become the equivalent of coin. The constant and increasing supplies of the precious metals now produced in this country, would rapidly furnish a sufficient amount for all bosiness and other requirements, if used for currency, instead of being exported, as it is now, to pay for importations of the products of foreign manufacture, to compete with and discourage the industry of our own people.

I concur with most of the arguments in the learned speech recently delivered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. Kelley;) but he made one statement which did not seem to me consistent with the general tenor of his remarks on the subject of currency. He asserted, if I understood him correctly that the standard of the value of the currency should be the resources of the country and the integrity of the gavernment, and not gold and silver. There is no other standard now of the value of a dollar in this country than what the gold speculators in New York determine for it each day, and from hour to hour; but gold is the standard by which the value of the dollar is computed by them.

Whatever we issue as currency, by whatever name we call it and whatever laws are passed in reference to it, the foreign exchange will determine its value by the standard of gold and silver, and it will pass as currency seconding to that standard of value. I am not in favor of an immediate resumption of specie payments, n r am I ready to name a time when I think specie payments should be resumed; but in my judgment that most desirable event should be constantly kept in view, and any legislation calculated to retard it should be understood by every one that it is the sottled policy of Congress to reduce the smount of paper ma

ject, nor do I believe it necessary to contract their amount to such an extent as to derange the business of the country.

One of the great causes of money panics, which so many stem now to apprehend, has her-to-fore been the absence of any security for the State bank notes.

The notes of all the national banks are made absolutely as secure as the government itself; by law they are received at par in all parts of the linited States in payment for taxes and all other dues to the government, except for duties on imports, and for all debts owing by the United States, except interest on the public debt. This imparis such a degree of security and confidence to the national banks notes that they circulate as well after as before the failure of the bank. There is never any general demand for coin among the holders of bank notes so long as there is confidence in the scenity of the notes.

Nor will there be any general demand for coin among those holding "deposits" in banks, so long as the foreign exchanges are not against the country. But when a continuation of high prices has encouraged the shipments of our own products to foreign conntries, there is an outward flow of specie created by the demand for export to pay the foreign debt which has accumulated. But the merchants and bankers owe that foreign debt, and not the community who hold the circulating notes. The merchants and bankers over that foreign debt, and not the community who hold the circulating notes. The merchants and bankers affected.

An un'averable condition of the foreign exchanges is immediately indicated by an increased demand or

demand, the security for its circulating notes is not affected.

An univavorable condition of the foreign exchanges is immediately indicated by an increased demand for specie. Under a prudent system of bank management that demand for specie could generally be met without seriously disturbing the business of the country.

I have been supposing and calling sitention to a condition of specie payments with no other lawful money but coin, in which banks could redeem their liabilities, which has always been the case in this country heretofore when the banks paid specie. We have yet to learn what the offect would be in a condition of specie payments in which the banks are authorized to redeem their liabilities in legal tender notes, as well as coin, both being lawful money. I am by no means certain that the same per centage held by the Treasury in coin or the legal tender notes in circulatin, which the bank law requires to be held in lawful money by banks in the city of New York of their liabilities, namely, twenty-five per cent, might not be sufficient to secure specie payments on the part of the government as well as the banks.

But experience only can teach us what amount of paper money the government can sustain, and what amount of liability the banks can safely sustain, un-But experience only can teach us what amount of paper money the government can sustain, and what amount of liability the banks can safely sustain, under the condition of being redeemable on demand in specie. Ut one thing we can be certain, which is, that the larger the amount of specie held in reserve to

the redemption of the paper money, and the rithe amount of specie in the country, the larger a the amount of paper money that can be suggisted in circulation.

intered in circulation.

The resumption of specie psyments cannot be seed and extensive as to disturb the interest of search of the state of the sta

law to the existing national banks. It was proposed, therefore, to obtain the additional amount required by

no lairer or better way of providing for them than to reduce the amount of circulation allotted under the law to the existing national banks. It was proposed, therefore, to obtain the additional amount required by reducing the present allotment ten per cent. of all the banks, which furnishes a margin of thirty millions for new institutions to be organized under the law.

This leaves in the law what has always seemed to me to be its most objectionable feature in principle and the most dangerous provision in practice, that is, the sutherity to a national bank having not more than \$500,000 capital to invest its whole capital in United States bonds as scourity for circulating notes, reserving no portion of capital for its business of banking. More than that, the law requires the bank to hold in lawful monsy liteen per cent of the amount of the notes as a reserve to secure their redemption on demand; but having invested all its capital in bonds to secure the notes, the reserve required can only be obtained, directly or indirectly, by borrowing. This seems so me objectionable in principle. It simply provides a mode of obtaining from the government without interest \$90,000 in notes that will circulate as money, and which, to all intents, are as goed as the same amount of legal-tender notes, on the deposit of \$100,000 in United States bonds as security.

It seems to me that the allotment of circulation by the existing law, and as proposed by this bill, is wrong in principle. The Acting Comptroller of the Currency proposes an amendment, which I shall offer at the proper time, by which the margin of circulating notes for the organization of new banks for several years to come. For the information of the House by the call attention to the Cumptroller, to meet all the requirements for new banks for several years to come. For the information of the House by the call attention to the formation of the House bill, and the amount of such capital, swenty. The prescribing the amount of circulating notes to be furnished to each as

This schedule would give circulation upon capital as

lat. \$500,000 at 75 per cent., \$375,000 5.0.000 at 50 per cent. 3575.000 \$1,000.000 \$675.000 \$60.000 at 50 per cent. 250.000 \$1.000.000 \$25.000 \$50.000 at 50 per cent. 250.000 \$2.000.000 \$1.50.000 \$25.000 \$50.000 at 50 per cent. 150.000 \$2.000.000 \$1.75.000 \$500.000 at 50 per cent. 150.000 \$3.000.000 \$1.75.000 \$3.000.000 at 50 per cent. 175.000 \$3.000.000 \$1.000.0000 \$1.000.0000 Sth. 1,000,000 at 10 per cent. 100,000 4,000,000 1,600,000 5th. 1,000,000 at 10 per cent. 100,000 £,000 000 1,600,000 5th. 1,000,000 at 10 per cent. 100,000 £,000 000 1,600,000 to the amount of \$3,351,000, upon which circulation may be issued to the amount of \$3,000,000.

Mr. Hooper-This bill proposes, as I have before stated, to prohibit the use of compound interest treasury notes as part of the reserve of lawful mone? required in the national banks. The local smooth issued by the Treasury Department has been \$556,495,440, and of that amount there had been redeemed by the treasurer and canceled to the first of this month \$121,594,600, leaving the amount outstanding \$144,600. S40, none of which are now in circulation as money on the first of these compound treasury setce as part of their reserve. Their whole reserve of lawful money compound treasury notes.

It is a mistake to s - phose that because the interest accrued on the compound-interest Treasury notes causes them to be hed as invastment, they therefore held and returned by the national banks as part of their reserve they take the place of so wuch is wful money, and their use and effect on values is precisely the same as an equal amount of United States legal tender notes.

the same as an equal amount of United States is precisely tender notes.

Every act authorizing the issue of United States legal-Every act authorized them to be lawful money. The act which authorized the compound interest notes declared "lewful money." In fact that money of the United States," In connection with this money of the United States," in connection with this money of the United States," in connection with this provision against their being a legal tender in payto be sufficient to exclude them from being hid by the banks as part of their reserves of lawful money. The managers of banks who raturn them as part of their reserves of lawful money. The managers of banks who raturn them as part of their tional Bank act, which requires the reserve to be in "lawful money of the United States."

No one can doubt that if it is desirable to withdraw and cancel any notes that have been issued by the government and used as money, these compound-interest treasury notes should be first withdrawn.

If it would make too great a contraction in a single year 10 withdraw these notes, in addition to the \$... 000,000 legal-tender notes which are to be withdrawn in each month, that law might be repeated, or its operation be suspended, at least for the present year.

When the compound interest Treasury notes cease to have the adventitious value which the national banks now impart by holding and returning them is lawful incomes, the banks will more readily part with them; and those notes would then be redeemed gradually. It may be expedient to require payment for any seles of gold from the Treasury to be in whole or in part in compound notes, including the interest accuped.

dually, may be expedient to require payment for any seize of tools from the Treasury to be in whole or in part in compound-notes, including the interest accred.

The seven thirty Treasury notes, amounting to \$675,556,690, maturing within the next two years, are convertible at or before their maturity into the five-twenty six per cent, honds. It may be said, therefore, that when the compound interest Treasury notes are provided for there will be no unfunded liabilities of the Treasury beyone what can easily paid out of the ordinary revenue, except the United States legal tender notes. At the regul r session of the Fortisch Congress in December pext, we may hope that the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will exbibit a condition in which there will be no demands outstanding for settlement to emba rass the Treasury.

I believe much could be done during this year to propare the way for resuming specie payments with benefit instead of injury to the true interests of labor and business, if the banks would no operate. The banks can check the export of specie so that the precious metals might accumulate here to hasten resumption. To reduce the loans of banks, which encourage large importations and promote speculation, would have more effect in aiding resumption than the contraction of the circulation.

I believe that all the amendments of the Bank act proposed in this bill would tend to promote more prude: management in the conduct of the banks, and to make it for their true interest to aid at the proper time in restoring a sound condition of currency instead of obstructions it as their action during the past year, in largely increasing their loans, has indicated. Whenever the resumption of specie payments occurrs, it will be brought about in one of two ways, after by the banks co-operating with the Treasury Do artment in whe send judicious measures to bring it about gradually and without disturbing industry; or failing in no longer submit to counditions that impoverian the whole various and moley tribe of specul

of deliars. The bill contains a provision that no moneys or annuities shall be paid to any tribe in hostility against the government or citizens of the United States.

On motion of Mr. BRADFORD, of Colorado, a proviso was added to the paragraph making an appropriation for the expenses of the Indian superintendency in Colorado, that no part of it should be distributed by Alexander Cummings, the present Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Colorado territory.

Colorado territory.

On motion of Mr. HOOPER, of Utah, the appropriation for incidental expenses of the Indian service in that territory was increased from \$15,000

Mr. KASSON, of Iowa, stated that there was no superintendency in which the Indians were so well managed as in Utah. The Committee rose and reported the bill.

The SPEAKER presented Executive documents

From the Secretary of the Interior, in answer to a House resolution of January 17th, relative to the accounts of the State of Texas with the United States. Laid on the table.

States. Laid on the table.

From the Secretary of the Treasury, in answer to a House resolution of January 28th, relative to the amount of taxes annually paid by national banking associations to the United States and to the several States. Referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

From the Secretary of the Interior, in answer to the House resolution of January 29th, concerning the massacre of United States troops by Indiana near Fort Phil. Kearny. Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. FINCK, from the Post-office Committee, reported that there was no legislation necessary to

reported that there was no legislation necessary to allow members of the present Congress to exercise the franking privilege until the first Monday of December next, that being provided for under ex-

isting laws.

Mr. WARD, of New York, presented a petition of fifty-one leading citizens of Elmira in favor of the restoration of Commander Abron K. Hughes to the active list in the navy. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. VAN AERNAM, of New York, presented a retuin of Lern Walls.

petition of Leroy Waller, Anson Gibbs, Erastus Dickinson, and Jabez Blackman, sailors of the war of 1812, praying Congress to grant adequate pensions to the surviving soldiers of that war, and to the widows of those who have died. The House, at half past four, adjourned.

ENGINES, MACHINERY, ETC.

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TO CONTRACTORS AND MINERS,-THE Commissioners on the Troy and Greenfield Rail and Hoosac Tunnel, acting for the State of Mas cosetts, invite Proposals, until the 10th day of the next, for Excavating said Tunnel at three erent sections of that work. This Tunnel, when completed, will be about 4% miles in length, extending from the town of Florida, through the Hoosac Mountain, to the town of North Adams.

Adams.

The Eastern End has been penetrated from the grade of the Railroad 2500 teet, 2400 teet of which consist of an opening of about 10 cubic yards to each lineal foot, the same to be enlarged to a section containing about 17 cubic yards to each foot; the remaining its feet being heading—now measuring upon an average 4 cubic yards per running foot—to be enlarged to the full section; making some 25,000 cubic yards to be removed. be removed.

A further section of the work will also be let to the successful bidder for the above-named enlargement, if satisfactory terms shall be offered.

The Western End is worked from a shaft 318 feet deep. The easterly heading from this shaft—of about six cubic yards to each lineal foot—extends 1100 feet, and is to be enlarged to a section containing 17 yards per foot, requiring the removal of 12,000 cubic yards. Bids for that amount, and for an extension in either direction of the heading and enlargement at this point, will be received.

The Central End of an elliptical form, 27 to 15 feet, now 4.0 feet in depth, is to be sunk to grade, 1030 feet from the surface, requiring the removal of about 2000 cubic yards.

All the work to be the satisful The contract to the bards of the satisful to the satisful to the satisful to the satisful the work to be the satisful to the satisful the work to be satisful to the satisful to th All the work to be done is in Talcose Slate, and require neither masonry nor supports of any

buildings, machinery, and means of ventilation, all Amongs, machinery, and means of ventilation, all of the most substraint character, have been provided, and will be furnished to contractors.

Ample sureties will be required from parties who may be contracted with, and the Commissioners receive the right to reject all offers that may be made. Plans and specifications may be seen on application to ALVAH CHOCKER, at the Engineer's Office, North Adams, Massachusetts: and other information may be obtained from JAMES M. SHUPE, Room No. J. No. 13 Exchange street. Boston, to whom pro-No. 13 Exchange street, Boston, to whom propagate may be directed.

JAMES M. SHUTE, ALVAH CROCKER, CHARLES HUDSON, Commissioner

Boston, January 30, 1867,

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