Bedford Inquirer.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, FEB. 18, 1870.

THE pressure of business incident upon court week has prevented us from preparing our usual amount of editorial matter this week, but we have endeavored to make up the deficiency by giving our readers a larger proportion of general news.

HON. HIRAM FINDLAY and Hon. J. H. Longenecker will accept our thanks for copies of the Auditor General's Report for 1869.

A RUMOR has been circulated for some days in London and receives a considerable degree of credit that Queen Victoria is engaged to be married to the Grand Duke of Augustenberg and that the engagement will shortly be officially announced in the Court Journal.

THE clerk of the First National Bank of Boston was robbed of $3,700 on the steps of the bank, about eleven o'clock on Saturday Morning. The villian caught the clerk and choked him, at the same time wrenching the money from his hand and making off with it before the clerk had sufficiently recovered to give the alarm. The robber was afterwards arrested and the money recovered.

A PAYING DEPARTMENT.—The Patent Office, according to the Report of the Commissioner, received twenty thousand applications for patents during the past year, and on the 1st of January found itself with all expenses paid and a balance of half a million dollars in the treasury.

THE President has again fittingly recognized the claims of Pennsylvania by nominating Judge William M. Strong for the Judgeship made vacant by the death of Hon. Edwin M. Stanton. Judge Strong is an able lawyer with ripe scholorship and a large experience both at the bar and on the bench.

SPRING ELECTIONS.—We see some dissatisfied parties at Harrisburg are making an effort to get the law abolishing Spring elections repealed. We hope there will be no interference with the present law until it has had a fair trial. The people have not yet had time to get accustomed to the change, but if it is continued a year or two and fairly tested, we do not believe they will wish to return to the old Spring elections. A vast amount of time and money is saved by the present arrangement and the elections fall at a much more pleasant season. We can see no good reason for a change at present and we hope there will be none.

THE CONGRESSIONAL GLOBE seems likely, in a short time, to share the fate of our Legislative Record. Like it, it has grown up to be an expensive luxury, accomplishing no good, unless it may be to give some hanger-on at Washington a fat contract of two hundred thousand dollars a year. That is the annual cost of the Globe to the nation. Scarcely any one out of Washington gets to see it until they have read all the proceedings of Congress in the daily and weekly papers. The Globe is really of about as much use as the proverbial fifth wheel to a wagon. Nobody will miss it if abolished except the man that now gets paid for printing it.

THE Metropolitan Police bill was vetoed by the Governor on Thursday last. The veto has raised quite a storm among some of the politicians, but the Republican press of Philadelphia has been divided on the subject, the majority opposing the bill as wrong in principle. Philadelphia is undoubtedly badly governed and the police department seems to be made a political machine by the Democratic mayor, but even all this is no sufficient excuse for an arbitrary enactment changing it into a political machine for a Republican ring. All such legislation is unmitigatedly bad. Laws should be made for the benefit of the whole people and neither for a ring nor a party. We believe the Governor did a righteous act in vetoing the bill.

THE contest between the protectionists and free-traders now going on in Congress is of the highest importance to the people of Bedford County. If the protective tariff is continued, our vast mineral wealth will be rapidly developed, furnaces and rolling mills will spring up in every part of the county and our farmers will find their highest and best market, for all their produce, at home. If free-trade prevails even the furnaces we now have must stop, our mines will cease to be worked, we will get no railroad for another generation and our farmers will once more have to send their produce to a foreign market, and pay the freight, and then perhaps only get fifty or seventy-five cents per bushel for wheat. This is the difference between free-trade and protection to the people of Bedford County.

NEWSPAPERS AND THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.—We see quite a number of our cotemporaries condemning the sweeping character of the bill abolishing the franking privilege and claiming that newspapers should have been exempted. Our own opinion has always been that the franking privilege, if rightly used and not abused, was a very desirable privilege and one that accrued to the benefit of the whole country. It is the abuses that have grown up in its use that have justly made it a stench in the nostrils of the people. We believe if there is any part of the privilege that has been used in strict accordance with the law, it has been that accorded to newspapers. They have never been charged with abusing it, and if any restige of the old law were permitted to remain, it should be that of making newspapers free in the counties where they are printed. But we fear the only way to get rid of the huge mass of corruption is to cut it all off together. For the sake of the vast good, we are content to endure the small evil, assured that the reform once accomplished, the saving will be found so great that by another year the department will be able to reduce newspaper postage to a merely nominal rate; or perhaps once more make them free for the general good.

MINORITY REPRESENTATION.

We give below the text of a bill offered in the State Senate a few days ago, the design of which is to secure a representation of minorities, by a species of commulative voting. We should like to see minority representation fairly tested; though we are not sure that Buckalew's bill is the best form in which to test it. He proposes to follow it by another, applying the same principles to officers of high grade.

AN ACT to regulate the election of county commissioners and county auditors.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted*, &c, That at the general election to be held on the second Tuesday of October of the present year, and at general elections every third year thereafter, three commissioners shall be chosen in and for each of the several counties of this Commonwealth, who shall severally hold their offices for the term of three years and until their successors shall be duly qualified, and the said commissioners so chosen from time to time shall (until otherwise provided by law) possess all the powers conferred upon, and shall perform all the duties required of commissioners of counties by existing laws.

SEC. 2. That at the general election to be held on the second Tuesday of October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy one, and at general elections every third year thereafter, three county auditors shall be elected in and for each of the several counties of the Commonwealth, who shall severally hold their offices for the term of three years and until their successors shall be duly qualified, and the officers so chosen shall possess all the powers and shall perform all the duties charged or devolved upon auditors of counties by existing laws. The county auditors to be chosen at the general election on the second Tuesday of October next, shall severally hold their offices for the term of one year and until their successors shall be duly qualified.

SEC. 3. In the tri ennial elections of county commissioners and county auditors provided for in this act (commencing with the election of county commissioners at the general election in October next,) each voter duly qualified may distribute his three votes to and among candidates as he shall think fit; may bestow them all upon one candidate, or may give one vote and a half to each of two candidates, and the candidates highest in vote shall be declared elected.

SEC. 4. Vacancies in the office of county commissioner or county auditor occurring otherwise than by the expiration of a regular term of service, or occasioned or continued by a failure to elect under this act, shall be filled by appointments to be made by the courts of quarter sessions of the peace of the several counties in which such vacancies shall occur, which appointments shall be for the remaining part or time of any unexpired term to be filled. In the filling of any such vacancy the following rules of selection shall be observed, to wit. First. The appointment shall be made from among the qualified electors of the county who shall have voted for the commissioner or auditor whose place is to be filled; and, second, The judges of the court, by whom the appointment is to be made, shall receive and consider any respectable petition from qualified electors of the county (who shall have voted for the commissioner or auditor whose place is to be filled,) and shall appoint such fit person, so recommended, as shall, in their opinion, be most acceptable to the greater part of the electors by whom the commissioner or auditor whose place is to be filled was chosen.

SEC. 5. That the office of jury commissioner, in this Commonwealth, is herby abolished, and all laws authorizing the election of such commissioners, or defining their jurisdiction and powers, are hereby repealed; saving, however, all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges of jury commissioners now in office, or to be duly appointed thereto, and all the authority and powers of president judges of county courts to act with such commissioners in and about the buisness of selecting and drawing jurors, until after the general election in October next, and until the county commissioners to be chosen at said election, under the provisions of this act, shall be duly qualified.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 11, 1870.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

Senator Wallace has introduced into the Senate a bill relative to libel, framed in accordance with the resolution on the subject passed by the State Editorial Convention. The bill provides that on the trial of actions for damages, or of indictments for writing or publishing a libel, the truth of the matter charged as libelous may be given in evidence; and if the jury in any such case shall find that the same was written or published from good motives, and for justifiable ends, and that the matter so charged was true, it shall operate to the acquittal of the defendant or defendants, and shall be a perfect defense in all such actions for damages. It also provides that the defendant or defendants may require that the trial shall be held in the courts where the alleged libel was originally published. That a more liberal law on this subject is needed is very manifest. When a man publishes the truth from good motives and for justifiable ends he certainly ought not to be subject to prosecution for libel. The bill is such a one as should have been passed long ago.

THE CONTESTED ELECTION CASES

still continue to drag along in the investigations, and there are as yet no signs of an end to any of them. The case in which Mr. Scull, Republican, contests the seat of Mr. Findlay, Democrat, as Senator from the district composed of the counties of Somerset, Bedford and Fulton, is exciting the most interest of any at the present time. The committee is composed of three Democrats and four Republicans, including Mr. Lowry. The latter has however voted almost uniformly with the Democrats the present session on party measures, and such has been the record of nearly all the votes he has given in the committee thus far. The investigation has been so hampered and hedged around by the decision of technical points in favor of Findlay that there is but little prospects of a successful termination of the contest on the part of Mr. Scull. The committee in case of Diamond *vs.* Watt, from Philadelphia, meet in that city tonight, and will probably hold sessions there on Saturdy and Monday. This contest bids fair to be a long and close one.

STATE TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

A State Temperance Convention was held in this city on Tuesday and Wednesday of the present week. There were about four hundred delegates present from different sections of the State. The Convention was more earnest and more pointed in its work than such assemblages usually are. The question of the formation of a third political party with prohibition as its central plank was long and animatedly discussed, and seemed to have gained considerable strength since the holding of the Convention of last year, although it was defeated by a vote of nearly two to one. In its stead a resolution was passed recommending the adoption of the expedient of local option; wherever practicable, and that in the acceptance of any act or acts of the Legislature for the suppression of the general sale of intoxicating liquors, and in the selection of officers to enforce such laws when accepted, they should labor to accomplish this purpose by co-operation with existing political parties, or by establishing independent organizations, as may be most expedient in their several districts.

LEGAL RATE OF INTEREST.

A bill making the legal rate of interest in Pennsylvania seven per cent, and allowing parties to contract for ten per cent. is before the Legislature. A proposition of this character has been made year after year, but has failed to ever become a law. In the adjoining States of New York, Ohio and New Jersey the legal rate of interest is seven per cent. Other things being equal, money, like any commodity, will seek the market where it can command the highest price, and the result is that much of the capital that would otherwise remain within our borders and aid in the developement of our natural resources goes to neighboring States, because it there commands a better price. If a man can get but six per cent. interest for his money in Philadelphia and can get seven per cent. in New York city he would have to be constituted differently from most mortals not to go to the latter market in preference to the former. The proposition is a plain common sense one, and Pennsylvania stands in her own light and in the way of the more rapid development of her resources so long as she makes it a crime to receive for the use of money as great a price as is authorized by our neighboring States.

METROPOLITAN POLICE BILL VETOED.

Much to the surprise of a large number of the members of the Legislature, the Governor returned to the Senate on Thursday morning the Metropolitan Police Bill without his approval. The veto message accompanying it is quite lengthy, and is a reiteration of nearly all the Democratic and and other arguments that have been employed against it for the past two years. The indignation of some Republican members of the Legislature hardly knows bounds—especially those from the city of Philadelphia. Others, more moderate, content themselves with the remark that "it is an unfortunate veto." The Democrats are, of course, jubilant. This bill was considered one of the most important measures of the session, and it has certainly been defeated in quite an unexpected way. There is however one fact very significant, that the course of Gov. Geary in this matter will meet with severe censure from many Republicans, but will receive the unanimous approval of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania.

DOWN ON BAGGAGE SMASHERS.

Both branches of the Legislature have passed a bill in reference to the smashing of baggage that will be read with pleasure by the afflicted traveling public. It provides that any baggage master, express agent, stage driver, hackman, or other person whose duty it is to handle, remove or take care of the baggage of passengers, who shall wilfully or recklessly injure or destroy any trunk, valise, box, &c., while handling the same, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

ANOTHER VETO.

The bill allowing writs of error in cases of murder and voluntary manslaughter, which authorized the Supreme Court to review the law and the evidence has also been vetoed by the Governor. This bill was designed especially to meet the case of Dr. Paul Schœppe, and met with comparatively little opposition in either branch of the Legislature. There now seems but slight hope of Schœppe escaping the extreme penalty of the law.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT.

The House has taken up and passed the Senate resolution in reference to final adjournment with an amendment fixing the time on the 31st instead of the 17th of March. The present indications are all favorable to an early adjournment.

XLIst CONGRESS-SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.—WASHINGTON Feb. 7, 1870.—The Vice President presented resolutions from the State of Kansas ratifying the Fifteenth Constitutional Amendment.

Mr. Stewart introduced a bill to extend the provisions of the Civil Rights act, and for the more effectual enforcement of the Constitution.

Mr. Morton presented resolutions of the State of Georgia ratifying the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

HOUSE.—A resolution requesting the President to communicate to the House the official correspondence with Spain relative to Cuba was adopted.

Mr. Butler, from the Reconstruction Committee, presented the official documents from the State of Georgia certifying the adoption of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution, and compliance with all of the other conditions imposed by Congress.

Mr. Sargent, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the Indian Appropriation bill.

SENATE.—Feb. 8.—The Chair presented a series of resolutions passed by the Legislature of Iowa, ratifying the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

A number of petitions for the removal of disabilities, and in favor of abolishing the franking privilege, were presented.

Mr. Fowler presented a memorial from the Tennessee Legislature, asking for the repeal of the national bank law.

Mr. Sherman offered a resolution requesting the President to invite correspondence with Great Britain and other foreign powers, with a view to establishing a common standard for coinage.

M. Wilson offered a resolution requesting the Postmaster General to inform the Senate in detail what parties, official and unofficial, in the various departments, exercise the franking privilege, and the cost thereof to the Treasury of the nation.

The Senate then discussed at some length the project to re-arrange the seats on the Senate floor, so as to provide for the expected new Senators from Georgia, Mississippi and Texas.

Mr. Carpenter introduced a bill in relation to duties on articles imported by churches and benevolent institutions, which was referred to the Financial Committee.

Mr. Drake called up his motion to amend the rules so as to provide for the discussion of Indian treaties in the open Senate.

HOUSE.—Mr Laflin called up his resolution declaring that it is a useless expenditure of the public moneys to continue to print in the *Congressional Globe* petitions for the abolition of the franking privilege, which, under the frank and instructions of the Postmaster General, are being returned to the House from postmasters throughout the country.

After considerable debate the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Churchill, from the Committee on Elections, rose to read the report in the case of Covode vs. Foster.

Mr. Stiles asked that the case might be postponed until Mr. Foster could arrive in Washington, as he understood that gentleman was now on his way.

Mr. Churchill refused to postpone, and proceeded to read a lengthy report of the whole matter.

The report concludes by declaring Mr. Covode legally elected, and recommends that he be admitted to his seat.

Mr. Randall made a minority report, giving reasons why the seat should be awarded to Mr. Foster.

Mr. Logan, by unanimous consent of the House, offered a joint resolution, which was adopted, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to the widow of General John A. Rawlins one year's salary as Secretary of War.

Mr. Randall then resumed his speech, and before concluding.

Mr. Wood moved that the house adjourn. Agreed to, and the House adjourned at 4 o'clock P. M.

SENATE.—Feb. 9th.—Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to increase the number of judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts of the United States, and to establish additional circuits.

On motion of Mr. Morton, the Senate took up the bill making it a misdemeanor to fit out or equip ships of war or to sell or furnish arms or munitions of war, with the intent to employ them in the service of any foreign prince or State to commit hostilities against the people of any province, district or colony who are in a state of armed insurrection against such foreign prince or State, and providing for the forfeiture of such ship or vessel.

Mr. Morton spoke in reference to the bill in its application to the policy of this Government in relation to the Cuban rebellion and the release of the Spanish gunboats.

The possession of Cuba by Spain is in hostility to our policy, and if sustained should be done by her own resources alone, and she should have no assistance from this country. By permitting her to draw support and assistance for this oppressive work from use we abandon the principle and substance of the Monroe doctrine.

Mr. Morton did not claim that the President should have accorded belligerent rights to Cuba, because a clear case of belligerency had not yet been made out. The government there is insurrectionary, though it abolished slavery, and as soon as they are relieved from the presence of their appressors they will establish such a government as will justify such recognition from this Government.

In the House the Speaker announced Messrs. Logan, Cook and Knott, as a Committee of Conference on the Senate disagreements to the House bill authorizing the Secretary of War to issue rations to the value of thirty thousand dollars to the poor of the District of Columbia.

The morning hour rule was dispensed with, and the House resumed the consideration of the Covode vs. Foster contested election case, and Mr. Randall was allowed an hour and fifteen minutes to conclude his argument in behalf of Mr. Foster.

The discussion was continued until 3 o'clock, and the House then having secured the demand for the previous questson, Mr. Woodward asked Mr. Churchill to withdraw that motion in order to allow a motion for postponement.

Mr. Churchill declined to accommodate Mr. Woodward.

The report of the minority was then voted down by yeas 50 and nays 123. The report of the majority was immediately adopted.

The House majority resolution declaring that John Covode was duly elected a Representative from the Twenty-first district of Pennsylvania was then passed—yeas, 118; nays, 45. Mr. Covode then came forward and was sworn in.

SENATE.—Feb. 10.—Mr. Cameron presented a petition from the citizens of Pennsylvania asking for further protection to American labor.

Also, a numerously signed petition asking that the Constitution of the United States be so amended as to recognize the Deity as the Supreme Power in all things.

The Senate took up the bill to provide for the deficiency in the Naval Appropriation bill, which was considered, amended and passed.

On motion of Mr. Trumbull, the Senate took up the House bill to admit the State of Mississippi to representation in Congress.

Mr. Sherman introduced a resolution providing for the sale of the Great and Little Osage reservations in Kansas, and for the removal of the Indians to Indian Territory.

Mr. Sherman addressed the Senate on the Mississippi bill. He thought Mr. Sumner was the author of the negro suffrage idea, but did not think it necessary to occupy the time of the Senate more than an hour to prove it.

Mr. Stewart replied to Mr. Sumner, and said he thought that gentleman had always dwelt in generalities.

Mr. Thurman said that the Radical Senators were not content with making history, but must also take up the time of the Senate by speaking history. He moved to adjourn, but yielded, to allow Mr. Trumbull to make a brief speech in refutation of the thrice-repeated assertions of Mr. Sumner, that he (Mr. Trumbull) had not supported the reconstruction measures of Congress.

Mr. Sumner replied that Mr. Trumbull's course reminded him of a sick man on an uneasy bed. He would let him lie there.

On motion of Mr. Thurman the Senate, at 5.40 P. M., adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Wood, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, argued in favor of the adoption of the resolution reported by that Committee several days ago, calling on the President for all the information in his possession relative to the American citizens arrested and detained ni the English jails.

Mr. Haight spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Shoemaker said there were at least twelve American prisoners in the English jails who had been illegally tried and convicted. These prisoners had served in our late war. Colonel Warren had called on President Grant, who knew nothing about the subject, and referred him to Secretary Fish. The result of the interview with the latter gentleman was that American citizens were such only while they were on American soil.

Mr. Wilkinson said, since his colleague (Willard) had attempted to drag the Fenian organization into this debate, and had expressed his sympathy with the English government, it was not out of place for him (Wilkinson) to declare his active sympathy with that ardent and devoted people—the Irish—in their longing aspirations for liberty. They have shown their devotion to republican principles on many a hard fought field of our late war

Pending Mr. Wilkinson's remarks, the morning hour expired.

Mr. Banks asked that the privilege of the House be extended to Mr. John Fitz, of Pennsylvania, who was born in 1762, and served in the Revolution, and witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis. He was also a soldier of the war of 1812. Mr. Fitz, who is 107 years old, occupied one of the front seats, and was welcomed by all the members.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill.

The item for the pay of the Capitol Police, amounting to thirty thousand dollars, was first in order, and after debate was agreed to.

On the item for compensation and mileage of members of the House of Representatives, which appropriates $1,5000,000, a long, lively and spicy debate occurred, accompanied by much confusion and immoderate laughter.

Mr. Butler moved to amend by adding that no part of this item, shall be paid for mileage. He said the old difficulties and expense of getting to and from the capital no longer existed. He lived about an average distance from Washington, and he could go home in a day's time. We should show the sincerity of our desire for economy by beginning with ourselves.

Mr. Cox said he thought we were discussing a very small business. The people of the country knew General Butler to be an unselfish man, and anxious for economy of expenditure of the public moneys to the last degree.

General Butler replied in a most comical way to the remarks of Mr. Cox, and in conclusion he facetiously remarked that it would suffice him to say simply, "Shoo, fly, don't bodder me" (Loud and prolonged laughter.) After quiet had been restored Mr. Butler proceeded to advocate his amendment at considerable length.

Mr. Davis advocated the amendment, and characterised mileage as a swindle upon the country. One delegate on this floor receives $1,700 per session for mileage.

Mr. Garfield said that he was the person alluded to, and he was glad of the opportunity afforded him of saying that it cost him $2,200 to come from and go to his home in Washington Territory, and he never had any free passes.

Messrs. Wood and Cox denied that they rode to and from New York on free passes.

After further debate, during which Mr. Cox styled Mr. Butler and himself bomb proof soldiers, Mr. Butler's amendment was defeated by a large majority, when the committee aose, and at 5.40 P. M. the House adjourned.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG Feb. 8th.—Among the bills introduced in the Senate, were one regulating the county prisons of this Commonwealth, authorizing the Judges of Quarter Session to appoint inspectors every May—not less than three nor more than nine—to divide themselves by lot into three classes, to serve for one, two and three years. Such inspectors shall have the control of the county prisons, shall appoint officers etc.

Also, protecting the people of the State from the mal practice of improperly educated physicians; providing for a State Board of Examiners to inquire into the fitness of persons holding diplomas from some medical school or college—the board to be appointed by the Supreme Court annually from among the medical practitioners of good standing throughout the State, and to consist of professors of the theory and practice of medicine from each system of medical practiceing, and to meet twice per annum.

Also, "That the 73d section of the Penal Code be extended to any person who shall be legally indicted of the crime of keeping or exhibiting any gaming table, device or apparatus, to win or gain money or other property of value, or of engaging in gambling for a livelihood, or of aiding and assisting others to the same; and also to any person who may be legally indicted in any such court of selling tickets or policies in any unlawful lottery."

In the House a number of bills were considered, mostly in the interest of Harrisburg, Philadelphia and other parts of the State, none of which would be of interest to any of our readers.

During the evening session, the bill relating to the State Treasury was considered. Mr. Brown moved to reduce the salary from eight thousand dollars to five thousand. Lost.

Mr. Adaire moved to make it three thousand. Lost.

Mr. Strang called upon Mr. White, of Allegheny, for an explanation of the objects of the bill.

Mr. White responded, and recapitulated its general features.

Mr. Strang moved to amend by inserting the following: "That the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund are hereby authorized to purchase from time to time, for redemption, such amounts of State loans or certificates of indebtedness as the funds in hand, in their opinion, may justily, at a price not exceeding the market value of such certificates."

A general discussion ensued, in which Messrs. White, Van Kirk, Johnson, Elliott, Strang, Davis, Dill, of Union, Brown, Craige and others participated.

The debates took the widest range from the character of the State Treasurer to the depths of political economy. Finally, the Committee of the Whole, which had been considering the bill, rose reported progress.

Mr. Johnson, of Crawford, moved to refer to a special committee. Lost.

The discussion of the bill was continued to a late hour, without any prospect of decisive action. Adjourned.

SENATE.—On the 10th the Speaker presented a communication from Councils transmitting resolutions asking for a release of penalties imposed upon the the city for non-payment of State taxes.

The following petitions were presented:

For the abolition of the death penalty.

For the speedy completion of the history of the Pennsylvania volunteers.

From the contributors to the Pennsylvania Hospital, for an act exempting the said institution from payment of the collateral inheritance tax on the bequest of John W. Grigg.

A large number of petitions from various sections of the Commonwealth for a law allowing voters of any district to vote for or against the licensing of dram shops, and also, a considerable number for the abolition of capital punishment.

Senate bill to reduce the indebtedness of the State, and for the safe-keeping of the public funds.

Bill reducing public indebtedness by authorizing any person, bank or corporation to make proposals to take State funds at the highest rate of interest for one year, and requiring the State Treasurer to give security for two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

THE LIQUOR LICENSE BILL.

Mr. D. N. White, of Allegheny, has introduced the following Amendment to the local option license bill, now before the House:

SECTION 1. That at any annual municipal election in every city, borough and township of the Commonwealth, it shall be the duty of the inspectors and judges of election in said cities, boroughs and townships to receive tickets, either written or printed, from the legal voters of said city, borough or township, labelled on the outside "license," and on the inside "for license," or "against license," and to deposit said ticket in a box provided for that purpose, by said Inspectors or Judges, as is required by law in case of other tickets received at said election, and the tickets so received shall be counted, and a return of the same made to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which such city, borough or township is situated, duly certified as is required by law, which certificates shall be laid before the Judges of the said Court, at the first meeting of said Court after such election shall be held, and shall be filed with the other records of said Court.

SEC. 2. That in receiving and counting, and in making returns of the votes cast, the said inspectors, judges and clerks of said municipal elections, shall be governed by the laws of this Commonwealth regulating general elections, and all the penalties of said election laws are hereby extended to, and shall apply to the voters, inspectors, judges and clerks voting at and attending upon the election held under the provisions of this act.

SEC. 3. Whenever by the returns of election in any city, borough or township aforesaid, it shall appear that there is a majority against license, it shall not be lawful for any license to issue for the sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors at retail, or in less quantities than one quart, or to be drank on the premises, to any hotel, inn, tavern or eating house, or to any person or persons whatsoever, within said city, borough or township, from that time forward, and until the legal voters of said city, borough or township shall, at an annual election, vote in favor of license.

SEC. 4. All licenses granted after the passage of this act, for the sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors, at retail and to be drank on the premises, in any city, borough or township, shall determine and be of no force and effect so soon as it shall be certified to the court, as provided in the second section of this act, that said city, borough or township has voted against license.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

IT is reported that after the acquittal of Prince Pierre Bonaparte, which every one in Paris takes for granted, he is to have his pension doubled upon the condition that he returns to America and makes it his permanent residence.

THE St Louis Bridge Company has put a telegraph wire to the bottom of the east pier, and Eastern stockholders now receive the report of the chief engineer direct from the bed of the Mississippi river, 68 feet below the surface.

STRENUOUS efforts are being made by the Treasury officials to have Congress pass a free banking law. It is stated that there is not a single national bank in the country but what might have its character revoked for violation of the usury laws.

STRENUOUS efforts are being made by uncomfortable army officials to get a revocation of the order making a general change and transfer to other stations. The President and Secretary of War are besieged by parties who desire to remain in the soft places they have enjoyed at Washington for a long time.

A NEW ALBANY lover, knowing that a savage dog was kept on the premises, occupied by his sweetheart, took an equally ferocious cur with him, the other night, and set the two fighting. While the old man was separating the animals the lovers eloped out of the back door.

FROM AN official statement it appears that during the year ending with December the receipts from spirits were nearly $50,000,000; from tobacco upwards of $29,000,000; from stamps, $5,782,000; from salaries, $701,000, The aggregate receipts of the bureau were nearly $170,000,000.

PRESIDENT GRANT, the Empress Eugenie, William B. Astor, A. T. Stewart, Erastus Corning Daniel Drew, and William H. Seward, are all said to have engaged cottages at Saratoga for next season. The Hon. Warren Leland, of the Metroplitan Hotel, has gone to Saratoga to personally superintend the erection of the two cottages which are to be used by the Empress Eugenie.

MR. REVELS, the Mississippi Senator elect, occupies, during the daily sessions of the Senate, a seat on the floor of the Chamber. He is still an object of much curiosity to the crowd of strangers, but there is a noticeable difference in the deportment of Senators towards him. At first he was patronized, and, as the saying is, "made much of" generally, but now they treat him pretty much the same as they would any other stranger, taking no unusual notice of his presence.

THE CELL of McFarland, confined in the Tombs of New York for the murder of A. D. Richardson, is comfortably fitted up. It is neatly carpeted, and has pictures hanging on the walls. The prisoner spends much of his time in reading. He is extremely fond of perusing the newspapers—a complete set of which he is furnished with daily. He is quite cheerful in his manner, and is confident of a prompt acquittal on his trial, which will be taken up in a few days.

AS PRINCE ARTHUR'S train from New York stopped before crossing the Housatonic drawbridge, several ladies of Stratford came out to catch a glimpse if they could. One of the number, more enthusiastic than the rest, shouted at the top of her voice, "Prince Arthur!" Prince Arthur!" when he opened the window and threw the lady a bouquet, at which she made a very courteous bow, with a very pleasant "Thank you, sir," and the train moved.

POSTMASTER General Cresswell states that 75,000 circulars and petitions were used in aid of the abolition of the franking privilege; cost about five thousand dollars; that they were paid for out of an unexpended fund to be disbursed at the discretion of the Postmaster General. He affirms that it was a necessary expenditure and has the approval of the people who demanded the abolishment of the franking privilege; and that in recommending the repeal of the law in his annual report, he only seconded the recommendation of the President in his message.

THE FIRST operation of the telegraph in England in the hands of the Government was duly chronicled to us as a great failure, without any allowance being made for the necessary derangements incident to an extensive change in system; but now we hear of quite another story. The sudden increase of business is without precedent—especially domestic dispatches are sent in far greater numbers than ever before. The people appreciate the difference between private management and the Government. We hope this point will not be lost upon the law-makers at Washington. Here, also, the use of the telegraph must be popularized by putting it in the hands of the Government.

THE ASSESSOR of the Second Virginia District recently directed a gauger to inspect a quantity of apple brandy which had been reported as distilled by a certain party in Southampton county, in that State. On repairing to the still he was informed that the amount distilled—one hundred and forty-eight gallons—had been drank by the family of the distiller, including his wife, mother, two girls and four sons, in forty-five days, and that he had no spirits for inspection. There was no intention to defraud, the party paid the tax, and his neighbors asserted that during the time specified the entire family were constantly under the influence of liquor.

A NEW LAW FOR CANCELING STAMPS.—Owing to the entensive frauds commited upon the revenues by the wash, restoration and use of such internal revenue adhesive stamps as have been used and canceled by the machine known as the ribbon stamps, it is ordered and prescribed by the Internal Revenue Bureau that on and after May 1, 1870, all adhesive stamps used upon the instruments, documents, writings and papers mentioned and described in schedule B of the Internal Revenue laws shall be canceled by the person affixing the same, either by writing upon each and every stamp in ink the initials of his name and the date, year, month and day upon which the same is attached or used, or by cutting or canceling the same with the machine called "Weeler's Patent Canceler," or such other machine and instrument as may be designated and prescribed by said Commissioners, and that no other method of canceling such stamps employed on or after that date shall be recognized as legal and sufficient until otherwise prescribed and ordered.

Miscellaneous.

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DOUBLE-ACTING NON-FREEZING
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This Pump has been awarded the FIRST PREMIUM at the New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania State Fairs.

This Pump never freezes, from the fact that the moment you stop pumping, the water gradually drops back to a level with the water in the well; consequently you always get PURE COLD WATER. It will force water any distance through pipe, and in case of FIRE, is valuable, as water may be thrown to the distance of from fifty to sixty feet from its mouth, by attaching 3 or four feet of small hose. It is DOUBLE ACTING, and can be worked with ease. It is just the thing to wash wagons, buggies, and water gardens, &c., and every farmer and mechanic should have one of these pumps. As for Health, this Pump has been pronounced by our leading Physicians as being one of the very best pumps now in use. It is generally known that wooden pumps hold the water in the stalk, and of course it tastes more or less of the wood. This Pump leaves all the water drop back just as soon as you stop pumping, to the level of the water in the well. So you get PURE COLD WATER from the bottom of the well every time you draw a bucket full. There are about 92 of these pumps now in use in this county, for one and two years, and they have ALL given perfect satisfaction. Not one of these has frozen since they have been put in. For reference I can give some of the very best men in our town and county. Call and see this pump work before purchasing any other.

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For Diseases of the Throat and Lungs, such as Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Consumption.

Probably never before in the whole history of medicine, has anything won so widely and so deeply upon the confidence of mankind, as this excellent remedy for pulmonary complaints. Through a long series of years, and among most of the races of men it has risen higher and higher in their estimation, as it has become better known. Its uniform character and power to cure the various affections of the lungs and throat, have made it known as a reliable protector against them. While adapted to milder forms of disease and to young children, it is at the same time the most effectual remedy that can be given for incipient consumption, and the dangerous affections of the throat and lungs. As a provision against sudden attacks of Croup, it should be kept on hand in every family, and indeed as all are sometimes subject to colds and coughs, all should be provided with this antidote for them.

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