Local Intelligence.

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CHANGE IN POST OFFICE HOURS.—On and after Monday, January 14, the following will be the business hours in the Lancaster Post Office:

From October to April open at 8 o'clock A. M. and close at 7 o'clock P. M.

From April to October—open at 7 o'clock A. M. and close at 7 o'clock P. M.

The arrangement has been made on the petition of the clerks to the Postmaster, and is concurred in by many of our business men, who have been consulted on the subject. No public officers are as hard worked as our post office clerks. Their labors commence at 5 in the morning and extend to 8 and 9 in the evening, a period of fifteen hours. We trust that the Postmaster's compliance with the wishes of the clerks will meet the approval of the community.

A NEW MANUFACTURING AND MINING COMPANY.—The *Age* has the following special telegram from Washington:

General Harry White, General J. W. Fisher, Colonel M. S. Quay, E. Billingfelt, and Andrew Armstrong, of the Pennsylvania Legislature, with James R. Kelley, and Colonel O. J. Dickey and James Black, of Lancaster, are in town, stopping at the Kirkwood House. Their business here is said to relate to the manufacturing and mining interests of the State.

Col. Dickey et al. at Washington, closeted with old Thad, and devising ways and means to "mine" the Pennsylvania Legislature, and "manufacture" a U. S. Senator out of the old man, are said to be on business relating to "*the manufacturing and mining interests of the State.*" Je-ru-salem! what a way to say it! But graphic, isn't it? Glory! Hallelujah!

SEVERE ACCIDENT.—The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says Mr. Robert McDonald, a young man who has been in the employ of the Pennsylvania railroad, as a brakesman, for two weeks past, met with a serious accident. He was in the act of coupling cars, yesterday, when his left arm was caught between the bumpers, and very badly crushed. The bones were broken and the principal arteries lacerated, causing great loss of blood. Medical assistance was at once summoned, and three of our physicians ministered to the relief of the unfortunate young man. It is thought he may recover without suffering amputation of the arm. Mr. McDonald's home is in Lancaster, to which place he was to be removed as soon as practicable.

THE PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. We have received from General John Frazer, of the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, the Catalogue for 1866. The institution seems to be in a flourishing condition. The next term commences on Wednesday, January 16th. A thorough school sic education can be had at this college, while each student is taught the science of practical farming. For a catalogue address President of Agricultural College, Centre county, Pa.

IMPORTANT TO BONDHOLDERS.—In view of repeated thefts of United States Securities, the Treasury Department desires attention called to the fact that, although all the coupon bonds of the Government are issued payable to bearer, so that they will pass by delivery, and are good, although lost or stolen, when in the hands of a bona fide holder, the case is different with the 7.30's, which are issued in blank, but with the words "or order" instead of "to bearer" imprinted on the face. So long as a 7.30 note remains thus in blank, it passes by delivery like a coupon bond, and a bona fide purchaser for value can collect the sum, notwithstanding it has been lost or stolen. But in case the holder of the 7.30 fills the blank space with his name, the note then becomes his property, payable to him or order, and he cannot thereafter be deprived of his title by any loss or larceny of the note, any more than the holder of a check or draft payable to his order; and this is the law, notwithstanding his name may have been so skillfully extracted by acid or otherwise as to leave no trace of it. If the original holder of the note can prove clearly that his name was written on the face of the 7.30 his title is good notwithstanding the erasure, and even against a bona fide holder for value, and will be recognized by the Treasury Department, and upon proof of the facts will be paid to him. All persons dealing in Government Securities ought carefully to bear in mind the foregoing peculiarity of 7.30 notes, which may, as stated, become converted into negotiable securities payable only to order, which cannot be the case with any of the coupon bonds of the Government.

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AN OLD DOCUMENT.—What would seem from its venerable appearance to be the original manuscript copy of the following proclamation from the Provincial Governor of Maryland, has been laid on our table by a citizen of Lancaster. From the pungent character of the weather for the last few weeks, we are inclined to suspect that "Charles Swaine" or somebody else has gone through the Northwest Passage and left both doors open:

MARYLAND SS.

Samuel Ogle, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Province of Maryland, sendeth greeting:

WHEREAS, An act of Parliament hath been made for the Encouragement of his Majesty's Subjects to attempt a Northwest Passage, with a Bounty assured of Twenty Thousand Pounds for any Person or Persons who shall discover the same; AND Whereas, Charles Swaine, late Clerk of the Ship California, which proceeded on the said Discovery in the years seventeen hundred forty-six and seventeen hundred forty-seven, but now of Chester Town, in the Province of Maryland, apprehends that there is Reason to believe, that such a Design may by him accomplished; SAM. OGLE, published, and having made application to me for my Aid and Assistance in such his Undertaking, KNOW YE, therefore, that having taken the said Proposal of the said Charles Swaine into due Consideration, and being willing and desirous to give him all the Countenance and Encouragement that in me lies, I hereby notifie to all whom it may concern such his Application, and all His Majesty's Subjects are hereby requested to treat him as a Person in the legal Prosecution of such a laudable design, and He, the said Charles Swaine, is hereby required to act in due Observance of the Rights and Privileges of the Hudson Bay Company and the Laws of Great Britain.

Given at the City of Annapolis under the Great Seal of the Province of Maryland, this third Day of November, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and fifty.

ANOTHER BRANCH OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—By direction of the Pennsylvania railroad company, their corps of engineers, consisting of eight in number, under the care of I. Clemson Sharpless, Principal Engineer of Eastern Division, are engaged in making a survey of the route for a railroad from West Chester to some point on the former road at or near the Steamboat station.

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SALES OF REAL ESTATE AND STOCKS.—The two-story brick building, belonging to the estate of Abner Baldwin, deceased, was on Monday evening sold at public sale, at Solomon Sprecher's hotel, for $4,750. Roland H. Brubaker purchaser.

The administrators of John Sheaffer, deceased, on Monday sold, at Horting's hotel, the following stocks, belonging to that estate: 3 shares Farmers' National Bank of Lancaster, to R. A. Baer, for $77.25 per share; 10 shares Manheim National Bank, to Dr. J. M. Dunlap, for $111 each; 14 shares of Union National Bank of Mount Joy, to Samuel Witmyer, at $50 each; 25 shares of Manheim and Lancaster turnpike stock, to Jacob L. Stehman, at $12 each; 25 shares of same to same, at $12.50 each; 25 shares same stock to Benjamin Landis, at $12.80 each; 55 shares of same stock to Dr. Samuel Parker, at $13.20 each; 20 shares Reading and Columbia Railroad, to Peter S. Reist, at $8 each; 100 shares Dunkard Oil Company, Greene county, Pa., to David B. Hostetter, at 5 cents per share. The balance of the oil stocks advertised were not sold, no bids having been made for them.

LARGE HOGS.—Mr. Nicholas Danner, at White Horse, killed a pair of Berkshire hogs some days ago, which, considering their age, were of rather extraordinary size. One of them weighed 475 pounds, and the other 552. They were only fourteen months old.

HORSE THIEVES ARRESTED.—John Clarke, who drove stage from this city to Safe Harbor about a year ago, was arrested yesterday by Officer Baker. It appears that he has been extensively engaged in horse stealing. After leaving the service of Mr. Suter in this city he went to Montour county where he stole a horse, was arrested and put in jail at Danville. He broke out before his trial came on and was not recaptured. The next heard of him was that he had stolen a horse and wagon valued at $700 from Jacob S. Hart, of Newtown, Bucks county. He sold the horse and wagon, but was caught and lodged in jail at Doylestown. A few nights since he broke jail again. A reward of fifty dollars was offered for his recapture. Officer Baker found him yesterday at the Tremont House, where he had put up on Saturday night. We hope the rascal may be safely held until trial.

Another.—Another horse thief was arrested at Intercourse this morning by a horse thief detective from Bucks county. He had stolen a horse and wagon in Bucks county. He was traced first to Coatesville, Chester county, and from that point to this city. The horse was taken sick at Intercourse and the thief laid over at that place. He is an elderly man. He was taken from here to Doylestown, where he will be tried.

REAL ESTATE SALES.—The following real estate sales will take place this evening:

Seventeen acres of land, with good buildings, situate on Philadelphia turnpike, a short distance east of the city, will be sold at the Hotel of David E. Potts, Witmer's Bridge.

A lot of ground on Charlotte street, belonging to the estate of Michael McGrann, deceased, will be sold at the McGrann Hotel.

Also at the same place, two two storied brick dwellings on North Queen street, belonging to heirs of George Flinn, deceased.

COLUMBIA AFFAIRS.—The following articles are selected from the Columbia *Herald*:

The Fair.—The Columbia Boys reaped a rich harvest at their late Fair. We are informed that they cleared about $650.00 and at their ball on New Year's eve they received another lift, so that both together will replenish their Treasury to the tune of about $700 00.

Election of Trustees.—At an election, held by the Stockholders of Odd Fellows' Hall Association, on the evening of January 1st, the following persons were elected Trustees for the ensuing year: C. Tyson, P. Shreiner, P. Fraley, J. W. Steacey, J. B. Bachman, George Bogle and Hiram Wilson.

The East room of the Hall was crowded with stockholders, and *considerable interest* was manifested in the proceedings.

Sale of Real Estate.—On the 29th ult., F. S. Bletz sold seven Frame Houses, on the corner of Third & Mill Streets, to J. G. Hess for $3500.

On the same evening, Col. C. S. Kauffman bought the Wharf Lots and Houses and Lot near the Susquehanna Rolling Mill, Belonging to the Wright estate, for $8300.

Benj. Herr sold a House and Lot on Union Street, to Mrs. Heise, at private sale.

FIRE IN WRIGHTSVILLE. The York *Gazette* says:

A fire occurred in Wrightsville, on Saturday morning last, about 1 o'clock A. M., totally destroying the large two-story brick building and contents, located on Front street, and owned by Mr. George Feig. The origin of the fire is not known. The building was insured in the "Metropolitan" of New York for $1500 (by their Agent, T. K. White,) and the loss will reach considerably over three thousand dollars. A heavy storm was prevailing at the time, of the fire, and the building and contents were almost totally destroyed before the alarm became general. The inmates of the building barely escaped with their lives, and were rendered houseless by this disastrous conflagration.

JURORS: The following petit jurors have been drawn to serve in the Court of Common Pleas, commencing Monday, February 4, 1867:

Cyrus Brinton, Sadsbury; Daniel Brown, West Earl; Henry Breneman, Columbia; George W. Brown, Conoy; Robert Crane, Columbia; George F. Bellet, Columbia; Abraham Erhart, Rapho; John Frey, jr., Rapho; John Fleckinger, West Cocalico; George S. Geyer, Warwick; Elias Hollinger, Mt. Joy twp.; John H. High, East Earl, Jacob Hart, Martic; Daniel W. Graff, Earl; Robert J. Houston, Salisbury; Ephraim H. Hershey, Manor; John Hart, City; Solomon Huber, West Earl; David K. Kauffman, West Hempfield; Leander Lindemuth, West Donegal; Daniel McKillips, Leacock; John Myers, Drumore; John Murphy, City; Daniel Mowrer, Paradise; Carpenter McCleery, city; James Peoples, city; Jacob C. Pfahler, Columbia; Jacob Rohrer, Manheim-twp.; William Showalter, Drumore; Samuel B. Scheffler, Earl; George H. Thompson, Colerain; Benjamin Tobias, Conestoga; David Weidman, Penn; Stephen Wiggins, Providence; J. D. Wilson, city; H. L. Zahm, city.

APPOINTMENTS.—S. A. Wylie, Esq., has been reappointed Notary Public by Governor Curtin.

Capt. Charles Dennes, of Millersville, has been appointed Notary Public for this city, vice James P. Boyd, whose term of office has expired.

THE FRIENDSHIP STEAM FIRE ENGINE.—The following detailed description of the new Friendship steamer will be of interest to our readers:

The boiler is richly cased with silver and princess metal, and contains two hundred and sixty-five copper flues. On the rear of the boiler, in large letters, is the word "Friendship" and the figure "2," and on the right hand side are the steam gauge and the water gauge. The pump and cylinder are vertical, supported by four iron columns and frame. The cylinder is also cased with silver and princess metal, and is 9 by 7½ inch stroke; the pump, 5½ by 7½ inches. The tool box, in front of the air chamber, is a very complete arrangement, and adds to the beauty of the steamer. On the top of the cylinder is a large signal lantern, containing, in cut glass, the word "Friendship" and the figure "2" on each side of the lantern, and in front, the motto of the company, "We aim to be useful," underneath which there is a pair of clasped hands, and in the rear, the year of the organization of the company, "1763." There are two silver side lights on the boiler, which, when lit up, reflect light over the whole steamer. The wheels striped with gold, red and blue are made of the best of hickory, and look very strong and durable. On the right side of the steamer there are twenty feet of suction hose, so arranged that they can be attached to a stream of water in a few seconds. On trial the other day at Graeff's Landing, she raised steam and was at work in six minutes from the time the match was applied. In a short time she worked up to 140 pounds steam, and 220 pounds water pressure, and was playing a stream of 227 feet through 100 feet of hose, when several rivets were forced out of the hose, and she ceased playing. When we consider the fact that the machinery is yet very new and the weather very cold, we think this playing hard to beat. The Friendship is one of the most active and efficient fire companies in our city, and we are pleased to learn that their new and beautiful steamer gives entire satisfaction to the company. It was built by Wm. R. Jeffers, of Pawtucket, R. I., and arrived here in charge of Joseph R. Gilbert of that city. We consider it one of the finest pieces of workmanship of the kind we have ever seen, and have no doubt that it will prove as efficient as it is beautiful.

LANCASTER HOUSEHOLD MARKET, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 1867.—Everything in abundance, and market firm:

Butter, ₩ lb	40@45c.
Lard, ₩ lb	18@20c.
Eggs ₩ dozen	35@40c.
Chickens, (live,) ₩ pair	90@90c.
Do. (cleaned,) ₩ piece	40@80c
Ducks, (live,) ₩ pair	80@100c.
Do. (cleaned,) ₩ piece	50@60c.
Turkeys, ₩ piece	$1.25@2.50
Beef, ₩ lb., hind quarter	12@13c.
Do. " front "	10@10½c.
Pork, " " hind "	13@14c.
Do. " " front "	11@12c.
Sausages, ₩ lb	18@20c.
Potatoes, ₩ bushel	$1.00@1.25
Do. " ½ peck	15@18c.
Apples, " ½ peck	18@30c.
Turnips, ₩ bushel	30@50c.
Onions, ₩ ½ peck	10@12c.
Beets, ₩ bushel	25@40c.
Corn, in the ear, ₩ bushel	80@80c.
Oats, ₩ bag of 3 bushels	$1.35@1.50
Buckwheat Flour, ₩ quarter of 25 lb	1.25
Sorguum Molasses, ₩ quart	25@30c.
Applebutter, ₩ pint	18@20c.
Do. " crock	1.25

LANCASTER GRAIN MARKET, MONDAY, Jan. 7TH, 1866.—Market firm for Grain and Flour:

Family flour, ₩ bar	$11 75
Extra do do	10 50
Superfine do do	9 37
Wheat (white) ₩ bus	3 00
Wheat (red) do	2 60
Rye do	1 25
Corn (new) do	50
Oats do	50
Whiskey	2 33

THE WEATHER.—State of the Thermometer for the week ending Jan. 6th, 1867, and also for the corresponding week of the previous year, as furnished by Mr. G. T. Zahm:

1866-7.					1865-6.				
		6 A M	12 M	6 P M			6 A M	12 M	6 P M
Dec.	31,	22	31	26	Dec.	31,	24	31	33
Jan.	1,	30	36	32	Jan.	1,	34	39	36
"	2,	24	32	26	"	2,	36	38	34
"	3,	5	26	23	"	3,	30	35	30
"	4,	12	31	28	"	4,	24	32	29
"	5,	16	39	34	"	5,	12	21	16
"	6,	37	42	38	"	6,	9	27	24

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.

SENATE.—The Senate met at 12 o'clock, noon. The President pro tem. Mr. Forster, in the Chair.

The chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting the bill and report prepared by Commissioner Welles.

On motion of Mr. Fessenden the bill and report were referred to the Finance Committee, and two thousand copies of the bill were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chandler, Mich., presented a protest against and curtailment of the National Currency. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Sumner, Massachusetts, introduced a resolution, directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire if legislation on the Constitutional Admendment is necessary to prevent the sale of persons into slavery for a term of years, as punishment for crime.

Mr. Sumner, in presenting the above, called attention to the cases which had recently come under his observation, in which colored persons had been sold by order of the Criminal Courts in Maryland. It seemed to him that Congress ought to have the opinion of the Judiciary Committee as to the right of States to inflict such punishment at the time the Constitutional Amendment was adopted. He (Mr. Sumner) objected to the language used in it, in which the words "except as a punishment for crime" were inserted. He did not know whether the Civil Rights bill covered the subject. He would like to have the opinion of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Saulsbury said the advertisements referred to by Mr. Sumner were copies of what frequently appeared in Massachusetts papers some time ago. The Legislature of Maryland had not been in session since the passage of the Civil Rights bill, and had therefore had no opportunity to change the laws of that State.

Mr. Johnson said he had no objection to the reference of the resolution of Mr. Sumner. The purpose he had proposed would be accomplished, he thought, more speedily by the courts. The judge who ordered the sale referred to had been arrested under the civil rights bill, and the case would soon be tried and probably carried to the Supreme Court. He believed that there was no State in the Union in which there was more opposition to slavery on account of color than Maryland.

Mr. Fessenden asked if the law under which criminals were sold in Maryland applied to white men also.

Mr. Cresswell, Md., said it did not.

Mr. Johnson said if there was a difference in the punishment between whites and blacks, it would be settled under the Civil Rights bill.

Mr. Cresswell said the amendment abolishing slavery covered the whole case. The words except as a punishment for crime, never meant to give the right to sell criminals into slavery.

The proper enforcement of the amendment would abolish all such sales of persons. He would not agree with his colleague as to the constitution of the spirit of slavery from the State of Maryland. Perhaps Mr. Johnson was right, that could be ascertained when it was seen what the Legislature just convened would do to abolish the black laws, of which the sales referred to were but the spirit.

Mr. Sumner resumed the floor and spoke in favor of his resolution, which was then adopted.

Mr. Sherman, Ohio, presented the memorial of Gen. Grant and other officers, asking for an addition to their present pay, and that retired officers be allowed the longevity ration. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Wilson, Mass., presented the petition of the officers of the army for an increase of pay. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Sherman presented a petition against increased duty on railroad iron. Referred to Finance Committee.

Mr. Cragin, N. H., introduced a bill in relation to the appointment of Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for the County of Washington, District of Columbia, which vests such appointments in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and repeals conflicting laws. He also introduced a bill vesting the appointment of U. S. Marshall of the District in the same Court.

Mr. Sumner presented a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire if any other legislation is necessary to prevent the enslavement of Indians in the Territory of New Mexico.

Mr. Sumner said the extent of peonage and slavery of Indians carried on in the Territory of New Mexico was greater than Senators were aware of. He read from the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs concerning the treatment of captured Indians in support of his resolution. It appeared from this report, he said, that officers of the U. S. army held captured Indians in a state of peonage and it was this he directed attention to.

Mr. Conness, California, said the administration of military affairs in the territory of New Mexico had been a standing disgrace for years. He had made efforts for reformation, but without avail. He had evidence in his possession that the officers referred to by Mr. Sumner were personally interested in leasing and letting to the Government the houses occupied by the army. He hoped the resolution would be adopted.

Mr. Trumbull, Illinois, thought the resolution, as it related to officers of the army, ought to be referred to the Military Committee, or as it related to Indians, it ought to go to the Committee on Indian Affairs It more properly belonged to either of these than to the Judiciary Committee. By common consent the resolution was changed to make the inquiry by the Military Committee, and so adopted.

The Nebraska bill was taken up, and made the special order for Monday next.

The resolution to print the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture in several languages for the Paris Exposition was adopted. The bill to repeal the amnesty clause of the confiscation law was called up, but laid over until to-morrow. The bill to prevent and punish fraudulent representations for inducing the emigration of negroes and mulattoes from the country was called up, but the Senate adjourned without taking action.

HOUSE.—The House met at noon. After prayer by the Chaplain, there being about a quorum present, the Journal of the 22nd of December was read.

The Speaker presented a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting the report from David A. Wells, Special Commissioner of Revenue, with the tariff bill prepared by him as a substitute for the custom laws now in force, stating that the opinions and conclusions of Wells, with very slight exceptions, met with his, the Secretary's, hearty approval, and commending the report and bill to the careful consideration of Congress. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Stevens, Pa., from the Committee on Appropriation, reported the Military Academy Appropriation Bill. Referred to the Committee on the Whole State of the Union, and made a special order for Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Washburne, Ill., the Secretary of the Treasury was directed to communicate to the House the results of the investigation made by his Department into the cause of the loss of the steamer Evening Star, and was also directed to institute an inquiry into the causes of the loss of the steamer Commodore in Long Island Sound, and to report what legislation is necessary for the protection of the lives of passengers on steam vessels.

Mr. Wentworth, Illinois, asked leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee upon the Judiciary be instructed to report what measures, if any, ought to be taken to prevent the Supreme Court from releasing and discharging the assassins of Mr. Lincoln and the conspirators who released the rebel prisoners at Camp Douglas, in Chicago, under the color and pretense of the law of 1863, and also to inquire into the expediency of repealing the said law.

Mr. Eldridge, Wis., objected.

A joint resolution was introduced and referred, providing for the establishment of four territorial governments in the so-called State of Texas. A resolution was referred, declaring that the House will not consent to the appropriation of any money to pay for property destroyed by the United States troops, while putting down the rebellion. The bill of Mr. Stevens, providing for restoring to States lately in insurrection their full political rights, was taken up. The question was upon the adoption of the substitute which was read, but no action was taken. In Committee of the Whole Mr. Kelly reviewed the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, and denounced the project of paying off the debt in the present generation. A resolution was offered to censure Thaddeus Stevens for introducing and advocating his scheme of reconstruction, but the House refused to receive it. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.

SENATE.—The Chairman laid before the Senate the memorial of territorial legislature of Montana for the establishment of a land office and the appointment of a land surveyor of that territory. Referred to the Financial Committee.

Mr. Howard, of Michigan, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to inquire and report to the Senate the present relations between France and the Republic of Mexico; the extent, both with respect to population and territory, of the successes of Maximilian in his endeavors to overthrow that Republic; the amount and character of his military force, including his French auxiliaries; the action of the Executive branch of the Government of the United States in reference to the intervention of France in the affairs of Mexico, including any treaty or project of a treaty proposed, assented to or recommended by our Minister to France, with a view to a settlement of the difficulties between France and Mexico. The present prospects of the withdrawal of the French troops from Mexican soil, and the probability, or the cause of such withdrawal, of Maximillian being able to maintain his standing there, and that for the purpose of such inquiries, said Committee be authorized to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Sumner, Mass., objected to the consideration immediately of the above, and it went over under the rules until to-morrow.

Mr. Edmunds, Vt., moved that the Senate take up the bill to regulate the tenure of office.

Mr. Trumbull, Ill., hoped that the bill indicated by Mr. Edmunds would not be taken up until the bill to repeal the President's amnesty power was disposed of. Mr. Edmunds' bill would take some time while Mr. Trumbull's could soon be disposed of.

The bill submitted by Mr. Trumbull was taken up.

The pending question was upon Mr. Saulsbury's amendment to repeal the entire confiscation bill instead of the 13th section of it.

Mr. Johnson, Md., being entitled to the floor, addressed the Senate in this manner: If it is the opinion of the friends of this measure that the section proposed to be repealed gave no additional power to the President, and was consequently void, he should not trouble the Senate with any more remarks on the subject; but he understood it to be claimed that the section was operative, and that it did give to the President more power than he had under the Constitution. He proposed first, to examine the constitutional question, and secondly, assuming the question to be decided, as he supposed the friends of the pending measure were willing that it should be decided, he would examine into the expediency of adopting such a measure at the present time. When the subject was before the Senate prior to the recess he, Mr. Johnson, asked Mr. Trumbull, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, if he proposed to repeal the section on the ground that it gave power to the President which he had not before, or whether he supposed it was within the authority of Congress to take from the President any power which is conferred upon him in the premises by the Constitution, to the latter question he of course answered in the negative. He told us, and correctly that the power to pardon rested in the President by the Constitution and cannot by legislation be taken away from him, and for the same reason I have no doubt he would admit that it cannot be limited or qualified. It is vested in him alone in his official capacity as President. The Senate were not to be told that in the deliberations of the convention by which the constitution was formed, this particular clause was the subject of some contrariety of opinion.—Some of the members of the convention denied that the power to pardon existed at all and most of them did think it should exist contrary to the opinion of Montesquin and other European writers, that the power should not exist in a Republic because there was no necessity for it.

HOUSE.—Mr. Kasson, Iowa, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the post office appropriation bill which was read twice and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and made the special order for Monday week.

Mr. Hubbard, Conn., introduced a preamble and resolution recerting that the people ought not for the present to be further or any longer taxed to raise money for the reduction of the public debt. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Wentworth, Ill., the Secretary of the Treasury was requested to communicate to the House, the amount of Internal Revenue collected in the First collection district of Illinois for each month in 1866, the amount of penalties against any person, firm or company, the amount remitted by the Department and the reasons for remission.

On motion of Mr. Julian, Ind., the Committee on Ways and Means was instructed to inquire into the expediency of so arranging the tariff on sugar, molasses, coffee and other articles, as to discriminate in favor of free grown as against slave grown products.

Mr. Clarke, Kan., on leave, introduced a bill to prevent bribery in the election of Senators and Representatives in Congress. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee. It makes the giving or offering of a bribe to secure an election, a crime punishable by fine and imprisonment, and by disqualification from holding an office under the United States.

The bill to provide for restoring to States lately in rebellion their full political rights, excited up as the special order.

The House went into a Committee on the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. Garfield, O., in the chair on the President's annual message, and was addressed by Mr. Lawrence, O., on the question of the trial and punishment of treason, and by Mr. Newell, N. J., on the political questions of the hour.

HOUSE.—By mutual agreement made yesterday, no business was in order except general debate in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. Spaulding, Ohio, having the floor, made some remarks in reply to the observations of Mr. Stephens, reflecting on him, made the day before the adjournment over for the holidays. It so happened that when over he (Mr. Spaulding) made a remark in the House, to which he subjected to the caustic criticism of the learned gentleman from Pennsylvania, so he undertook in the most innocent manner to explain his statements in reference to the lately rebellious States, and to show that injustice had been done him in the *Washington Chronicle*, the gentleman (Mr. Stevens,) had declared that his argument was not equal to the argument of the editor, and that the doctrine implied in the resolution on which that article commented was the most pernicious that could possible be got to obstruct the final free reconstruction of the government. That resolution simply instructing the Judiciary Committee to report was the view of Congress in passing the constitutional amendment. His friend had once made a good humored fling at him when he happened to differ with him in some of his propositions, by saying there was a vacant judgeship in Northern Ohio. He acknowledged the hit. (Laughter.) But he was not a candidate for that judgeship. He might call his friend's attention, however, to a very eulogistic notice of him in connection with a seat in the United States Senate. (Laughter.)

Let the other effect be what it may, he understood that neither of them were in much danger of temptation. Referring to the constitutional amendment, he declared that the original understanding was that that was to be taken as a measure of conciliation, in part between loyal and disloyal States, and that when the latter should have signified their approbation of the constitutional amendment, and should have modified their State governments so as to pass the ordeal of Congress, they would be admitted to representation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.

SENATE.—Mr. Poland, Vt., presented several petitions for an increase of pay to army officers. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Chandler, Mich., presented petition for the passage of the Tariff bill that passed the House last session.

Mr. Morgan, N. Y., presented a similar petition, and both were referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Morgan presented a petition against the curtailment of the National Currency. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Wade, O., presented a petition for an increased duty on foreign wines. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Cattell, N. J., introduced a joint resolution directing the Commissioner of Agriculture to collect and prepare specimens of the aereal productions of the several States of the Union for the Paris Exhibition and forward them through the Government agent for that purpose.

Mr. Conness, California, suggested that some limit to the expense incurred be stated in the resolution.

Mr. Cattell said the expense would be very trifling, as the sample would be gratuitous. The only cost incurred would be their transmission.

The resolution was passed, and goes to the House.

Mr. Williams, Oregon, introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting passenger vessels from being sent to sea after they have been in use a certain number of years.

At the suggestion of Mr. Edmunds an amendment empowering the committee to send for persons and papers, was adopted, and the resolution was agreed to.

At 12.55 P. M. a message was received from the President, returning the District Suffrage bill, with the President's objections.

HOUSE.—The speaker proceeded immediately after the journal was read to call the States for bills and joint resolutions. Under the call, bills were introduced, read twice and referred as follows:

By Mr. Miller, Pa., establishing post routes in Pennsylvania. Referred to the Post Office Committee.

By Mr. Rice, Me., to establish a Territorial Government in the Indian Territory. Referred to the Committee on Territories.

By Mr. Rice to divide the Western District of Arkansas into two judicial districts. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Blaine, Me., establishing the rank of storekeeper in the Medical Department. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Mercur, Pa., to grant relief to honorably discharged soldiers, who have lost their discharges. Referred to same Committee.

By Mr. Walker, Ohio, to repeal the act retroceding the county of Alexandria to the State of Virginia. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

By Mr. Defrees, Ind., changing the right of dowry in the District of Columbia. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Stokes, Tenn., for the relief of the widows and heirs of those massacred or captured at Fort Phillip. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Kuykendall, Ill., to provide a true national currency and to provide for the collection and distribution of the revenue and liquidation of the National debt. Referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

After the introduction of several other bills the Speaker proceeded to call the States for resolutions and under that call Mr. McClean, Mo., offered the following and moved the previous question.

Resolved, That for the purpose of securing the fruits of the victories gained on the part of the Republic during the late war, waged by rebels and traitors against the life of the nation, and of giving effect to the will of the people, as expressed at the polls during the recent elections by majorities numbering in the aggregate more than 400,000 votes, it is the imperative duty of the 39th Congress to take, without delay, such action as will accomplish the following objects:

First, The impeachment of the officer now exercising the functions pertaining to the office of President of the United States of America, and his removal from said office on his conviction, in due form of law, of the high crimes and misdemeanors of which he is manfestly and notoriously guilty, and which render it unsafe longer to permit him to exercise the powers he has unlawfully assumed; and, secondly, to provide for the faithful and efficient administration of the Executive Department of the Government within the limits presented by law. Thirdly, To provide effective means for immediately reconstructing civil governments in those States lately in rebellion, excepting Tennessee, and for restoring them to their practical relations with the Government on the basis of loyalty and justice, and to that end.

Fourth. To secure by the direct intervention of Federal authority the right of franchise alike, without regard to color, to all classes of loyal citizens residing within those sections of the republic which were lately in rebellion. The resolution created great excitement on the Republican side, and the question of order being raised by Mr. Hill, the Speaker decided that, as part of the resolution referred to reconstruction, it must go to the Committee on Reconstruction.

Immediately afterward Mr. Kelse again offered the resolution, omitting paragraph 3 and 4.

Mr. Davis moved to lay it on the table, which was negatived. Yeas 40, nays 103.

The morning hour having expired, the resolution went over until Monday next.

Immediately afterwards Mr. Ashley, Ohio, rose and, as a question of privilege, had read by the clerk the following charges:

I do impeach Andrew Johnson, Vice President and acting President of the United States of high crimes and misdemeanors.

I charge him with usurpation of power and violation of law in that he has corruptly abused the appointing power, in that he has corruptly used the pardoning power, in that he has corruptly used the veto power, in that he has corruptly disposed of the public property of the United States, in that he has corruptly interfered in elections and committed acts and conspired with others to committ acts which in contemplation of the Constitution are high crimes and misdemeanors. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be, and they are hereby authorized to inquire into the official conduct of Andrew Johnson, Vice President, discharging the powers and duties of the office of the President of the United States, to report to this House, whether in their opinion the said Andrew Johnson while in said office has been guilty of acts which were designed or calculated to overthrow, subvert or corrupt the Government of the United States or any department or office thereof; and whether the said Andrew Johnson has been guilty of any act, or has conspired with others to do acts which in the contemplation of the constitution are high crimes and misdemeanors requiring the interposition of the constitutional power of this House, and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers, and to administer the customary oath to witnesses.

Mr. Spalding, Ohio, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Lost—yeas 39, nays 105.

The resolution was then adopted under the operation of the previous question—yeas 100, nays 36.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.

SENATE.—The Chair laid before the Senate the memorials of officers of the army on the retired list, to be allowed the longevity ration. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Morgan, N. Y., presented two memorials against an increased duty on steel. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Sherman, O., presented the petition of wool growers, for an increased tariff. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Howe, Wis., presented a similar petition, which was referred to the same Committee.

Mr. Chandler, Mich., presented a petition for an appropriation for the repair of the Mississippi levees. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Sumner, Mass., presented the remonstrance of colored citizens of Massachusetts against the admission of Nebraska under a Constitution restricting suffrage to white citizens. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. Edmunds, Vt., presented a petition against the curtailment of the currency or immediate return to specie payment by act of Congress.

In presenting it, Mr. Edmunds said he did not agree with the views of the petitioners. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Williams, On., reported from the Finance Committee a resolution appropriating $15,000 to defray the expenses of the joint committee on Retrenchments, which was passed.

Mr. Williams offered a resolution, which was adopted, asking the President if any violations of the Civil Rights bill had come to his knowledge, and if so, what steps have been taken to punish the offender.

Mr. Cragin called up the bill in relation to the appointment of pension agents. The bill was passed by the Senate on the 20th of January, 1866. During the present session it was passed by the House with amendments, returned to the Senate, referred to the Judiciary Committee, and reported with amendments to the House amendment, so as to read as follows:

That the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to establish agencies for the payment of pensions granted by the United States whenever, in his judgment, the public interest and the convenience of the pensioners require, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint all pension agents, who shall hold their offices for the term of four years, and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified, and who shall give bond with good and sufficient sureties for such amount and in such form as the Secretary of the Interior may approve, provided that the number of pension agencies in any State or Territory shall in no case be increased hereafter so as to exceed three, and that no such agency shall be established in addition to those now existing in any State or Territory in which the whole amount of pensions paid during the fiscal year next preceding, shall not have exceeded the sum of $500,000, and provided further that the term of office of all pension agents appointed since the first day of July, Anno Domini, 1865, shall expire at the end of 30 days from the passage of this act, and of all other pension agents, when successors shall be duly appointed in their places.

Mr. Lane, Ind., explained the bill. He said he was free to confess that one of his objects was to vacate the offices of men appointed during the past summer to take the places of those whom the President had removed for supporting the Union party.

Mr. Hendricks, Ind., said that this was the first time Congress provided by legislation for partizan messes. Congress were now giving some attention to bread and butter. So far as he could speak he knew of very few changes that had been made in Indiana for political reasons. He was opposed to restricting the number of agencies in a State to three.

Pending the consideration of the bill, the morning hour expired, and the subject went over till to-morrow.

Mr. Lane, Ind., presented a memorial from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Union of Washington, D. C., representing that in the Government Printing Office, soldiers and sailors have been and are now subject to dismissal, in preference to men who never rendered the Republic service, and in preference as is reported to men who plotted against the nation's cause, and who, during the war, refused to take the test oath, and petitioning that Congress cause an investigation of the allegations set forth and remedy the injustice mentioned. The memorial is accompanied