## XXXVIIITH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

CLOSE OF YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.

Mr. Davis (Ky.) rose to a privileged question, and explained at length the action he had taken in regard to the expulsion of Mr. Bright, and his colleague, Mr. Powell. He thought Mr. Morrill had departed from his usual courtesy and magnanimity in introducing these subjects in the manner he did. In his (Davis's) resolution to expel Mr. Bright, he admitted that a Senator could not be expelled for his words or opinions, but only for his acts. His resolution for the expulsion of Mr. Bright was based upon the fact that that gentleman had written a letter to Jeff. Davis as President of the Southern Confederacy, recommending to him a person who had an improved weapon, to be used against the lawful Government of the United States; and also because Mr. Bright had uniformly voted against all measures to carry on the war. As to the Confiscation bill introduced by him, which was referred to by Mr. Morrill, it was a substitute for a bill entirely prospective in its character. His bill proposed an adjudication in the Courts of the country, and intended to forfeit the estates of traitors only during the lifetime of the offender.

Mr. Davis said that, in his remarks on this bill, he had unintentionally done his colleague (Mr. Powell) injustice. He was satisfied that they were only at variance as to the proper mode of meeting the movements of the rebels. He held that the people had an indisputable right to organize their own government, but if they refused to do so it became a matter of necessity and principle, as decided by Chief Justice Marshall, for the United States to establish a civil government for them.

Mr. Foote (Vt.) introduced the joint resolutions of the Legislature of Vermont, in favor of the construction of a ship canal from the Mississippi river to the eastern seaboard. Also, the joint resolution of the same body, to secure equal pay to all soldiers now in the service of the United States. Also the joint resolutions of the same body, to secure the transmission of soldiers' packages through the mails on the same terms as other packages are sent.

Mr. Saulsbury presented the credentials of Geo. Read Riddle, Senator elect from Delaware, in place of Mr. Bayard, resigned.

A message was received from the President of the United States transmitting the report of the Secretary of State in answer to a resolution of the Senate respecting the correspondence with the authorities of Great Britain in reference to the pursuit of hostile bands of Sioux Indians into the Hudson's Bay territories.

Mr. Wilson (Mass.) introduced a bill to provide for the examination of quartermasters, assistant quartermasters commissaries and assistant commissaries, paymasters and assistant paymasters, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Johnson (Md.) presented the report of the defence committee of Baltimore, praying for reimbursement for expenses for entrenchments thrown up around that city. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Doolittle (Wis.) called up his resolution, presented a few days ago, requesting the departments, the conduct of whose affairs was a subject of investigation, to detail a person from the respective departments to appear before the Committee of the Senate, to confront the witnesses and to cross-examine them.

Mr. Doolittle, in explanation of his resolution, said that the appearance of such agents would not only be a matter of convenience to the committee, but an act of justice to the head of a department. We were bound to presume that the head of a department is as much interested in ferreting out abuses as a Committee of the Senate.

Mr. Trumbull (Iowa) thought that this resolution was a very singular one. Heretofore the departments had always been ready to communicate any information or send their officers before the Senate, and he did not understand that there was any difficulty at present in obtaining either persons or papers

Mr. Doolittle said he was prompted to take this action mainly from the fact that he had been appointed to act upon one of these committees of investigation. He was associated on a committee with the Senator from New Hampshire, who had asserted that the liberties of the country were in a great danger from the army of plunderers who beset the Treasury as from any armed rebels. He thought it only just to the head of the Navy Department that some person should be present at the investigation to explain matters that would be inquired into.

Mr. Grimes, (Iowa) approved of Mr. Doolittle's resolution. It was desirable that we should get directly at the facts, and discover whether or not some method can be devised to secure honesty in the navy contract system. The Navy Department was peculiarly constructed. It took a man at least a year to understand its organization.

The proposition was simply that the Department should detail one of its officers to meet the Committee of Investigation in reference to the matters come before it. It was eminently proper that this should be done, because it is not to be supposed that the members composing the committee are as conversant with the details of the Naval Bureau as those who have been long connected with it. Witnesses before the committee might in a truthful statement convey erroneous impressions, unless questioned by experts.

Mr. Grimes, (Iowa) proceeded at length to defend the present Naval Bureau and read a letter from Donald McKay in reference to the comparative merits of the vessels of our own and of foreign native. Mr. McKay, in this letter, styles Mr. Dickerson as an enthusiast—a monomaniac—without any established reputation as an engineer or naval constructor.

Mr Grimes attributed our failure to capture the Alabama and other piratical vessels more to the interference of neutral Powers than from any lack of speed on the part of our cruisers, and cited several instances on this head. If it be the purpose of the Committee to ascertain the facts and no to overhaul everybody, then let some one representing the department in question be present before the committee to interrogate the witnesses. We not only here to discover rogues so much as for the purpose of legislation against rogues. Their discovery is merely incidental.

Resolutions from the House were received announcing the death of John W. Noell, ex-member of the House from Missouri

Messrs. Brown, (Mo.) Henderson, (Mo.) and Sumner, (Mass.) delivered appropriate eulogies on the life and character of the deceased.

After the adoption of the usual resolutions of condolence and sympathy, as a mark of respect the Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Grinnell (Iowa) offered a preamble declaring that: *Whereas*, The war policy of the Government has brought into the service as soldiers and laborers, colored men and persons claiming to be held as slaves by rebels, and who have rendered valuable service to the army; *And whereas*, the further employment of colored troops would relieve the demands for Northern labor, and prevent men of that section from being taken from their homes and industrial pursuit; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That a more vigorous policy, in order to secure a larger number of persons of African descent in the army would meet the approbation of this House.

The resolution was agreed to by a vote of 80 against 46.

YEAS—Messrs. Allison, Amos, Arnold, Ashley, Baldwin (Mass.), Baxter, Beaman, Blaine, Blair, (Mo.), Blair (West Va.), Blow, Boutwell, Boyd, Brandegee, Broomal, Brown (W. Va.), Ambrose W. Clark, Freeman Clarke, Cobb, Cole, Cresswell, Davis, (Md.), Davis (N. Y.), Daws, Deming, Driggs, Eliot, Farnsworth, Fenton, Garfield, Grinnell, Higby, Hooper, Hotchkis, Hubbard (Ind.), Hubbard, (Conn.), Hubbard, Julian, Kelley, Kellogg, (Mich.), Kellogg (N. Y.), Longyear, Marvin, McClurg, McIndoe, Miller (N. Y.) Amos Myers, Leonard Myers, Norton, O'Neil (Pa.), Orth, Patterson, Perham, Pomeroy, Price, Rice, (Mass.), Rice (Me.), Rollins, (N. H.), Schenck Schofield, Shannon, Sloan, Smith, Spaulding, Stevens, Thayer, Thomas, Upson, Van Valkenburg, Washburne, (Ill.), Washburn (Mass.), Webster, Whaley, Williams, Wilson, Windom, Woodbridge.

NAYS.—J. C. Allen, Wm. J. Allen, Ancona, Clay, Cravens, Dawson, Dennison, Eden, Edgerton, Eldridge, Finck, Grider, Hall, Harding, Harrington, Harris (Md.), Holman, Kernan, King, Knapp, Law, Lazear, Long, Marcy, McAllister, McKinney, Miller (Pa.), Morrison, Noble, O'Neil (Ohio), Pendleton, Perry, Pruyn, Randall (Pa.), Robinson, Rogers, Ross, Scott, Steele (N. Y.), Stiles, Strouse, Stuart, Sweet, Wadsworth, Chilton A. White, Yeaman.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill reviving the grade of Lieutenant-General.

Mr. Garfield (Ohio) said there was nothing to be done by a Lieutenant-General which the General-in-Chief himself could not do. The President has a full range of all the generals, and can select any one of them to act in the latter capacity. The bill did not give him power in addition to what he now had, and they had better wait until the war is over and we see what general towers above all others, and give to him the brevet as a crown of merit. The scale is now sliding. The general elevated to-day may be down to-morrow. They all knew what general would probably be appointed under this bill—a man who towers above others at this time, and justly so. But he would ask the House, in view of our necessities, whether it would be proper to recall him and make him a bureau officer in Washington. Would it not be an act of the greatest danger to call him to this city for service?

Mr. Farnsworth replied, that while it was true some generals who are elevated to-day may be down to-morrow, it was not true of the general for whom this honor was intended. His star has been constantly rising. He became greater day by day, and by his masterly ability he stands a head and shoulders above all other generals in the army. He had been tried long enough to go down to posterity with most brilliant military honors, and he has done enough to entitle him to the prize. It did not necessarily follow that if Grant shall be elected he would be brought to Washington to transact his business. He expect if Grant would still command the army, and would hasten to points where his skill and his voice are required.

Mr. Spaulding (Ohio) inquired whether the bill contemplated that the Lieutenant-General should actually take command and replace the General-in-Chief If so he would vote for it.

Mr. Farnsworth replied that the bill provided that the Lieutenant-General shall command the armies of the United States.

Mr. Schenck (Ohio) announced his purpose to vote for the bill. He desired to be understood as not wishing to instruct the President, for on the latter should rest the responsibility of making the selection. If the President, eighteen months ago, had been authorized to confer this brevet rank of Lieut. General, it would have been conferred upon McClellan, or, subsequently upon General Meade, or upon Rosecrans, and now it may be upon Grant, so varinble are the fortunes of war. He (Mr. Schenck) was unwilling to enter into any discussion concerning the merits of any of the generals. He repeated, he should vote for the bill, simply on the ground that it might be considered better for the organization of the army that such an office should exist.

Mr. Stevens could not see the necessity for the passage of the bill, as the President now has the power to appoint, from among the generals, a General-in-Chief of the army. If the present General-in-Chief is not satisfactory, the President has full power to appoint another. There was no necessity for the passage of the bill, unless it was to censure the President for not making such a change. This bill proposed that the selection of a Lieutenant General should not be made from a lower grade than that of Major General; but if soldiers of a lower grade were better qualified, an opportunity should be allowed to select from them—in other words, from the most able and meritorious, without regard to rank. A general's reputation depended upon his success. The failure to succeed is a loss of reputation The House should wait a while before passing a bill of this character.

Mr. Boyd (Mo.) favored the appointment of a Lieutenant-General if it would have the effect of superseding Gen. Halleck as General-in-Chief.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) said the bill pending pointed so distinctly to a distinguished general that no one could misunderstand it He could not conceive the reason for opposing the reviving the grade of Lieutenant-General. What would have been the position of affairs and our status in the present rebellion if it had not been for the services of Gen. Grant—a man who he would not be surpassed in history for the brilliancy of his achievements in the field. Two years ago a tide of calumny and detraction swept over this great general, and when he (Washburne) rose to defend him he believed he had not the sympathy of a single man here. He would appeal to the past as well as the present history of the country to say whether every prediction he had then made as to General Grant had not been fully verified.

Mr. Washburne briefly reviewed General Grant's career from Belmont to Lookout Mountain, claiming that he captured more prisoners than any man in modern times, as well as more guns, from the enemy, and he did that which entitled him to the gratitude of all hearts in the West, by re-opening the great channel of the Mississippi river. General Grant has led your armies on to victory. He has inspired his soldiers with those great principles and abilities and enthusiasm which belong to him. He would never leave the field, but would ever be where his presence is most needed and where duty calls.

Mr. Hubbard (Conn.) said that as the war was not ended, other battles had to be fought. Some gentlemen here doubted the expediency of passing the bill under consideration at the present time, believing that all the generals should have an opportunity to compete for the great prize.

Mr. Washburne said he would tell his friend that the war would never be ended till we have a fighting General to lead our armies. That's what's the matter. [Laughter, and voices, "You are right."]

Mr. Boutwell (Mass.) was opposed to the bill, not because he was opposed to General Grant being honored, but because the war was not ended, and such an appointment might create sectional divisions in the army. He desired the selection to be postponed till the termination of hostilities.

Mr. Garfield (Ohio) moved that the bill and amendments be laid on the table. Not agreed to—yeas 19; nays 113.

Mr. Ross (Ill.) offered an amendment respectfully recommending Major-General Grant for the position of Lieutenant-General. This was agreed to by a vote of 111 yeas to 17 nays, namely: Messrs. Ashley, Broomall, Bailey, Cretry, Davis, (Md.) Driggs, Garfield, Grider, Hale, Higby, Hotchkiss, Hubbard, (Conn.) Julian, Longyear, Shannon, Upson and Williams. The bill was then passed by a vote of 96 against 41.

It provides that the grade of Lieutenant-General is revived in the army of the United States; and authorizes the President, whenever he shall deem it expedient, to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a commander of the army, to be selected during the war from among those officers in the military service of the United States, not below the grade of Major-General, most distinguished for courage, skill and ability, and who being commissioned as Lieutenant-General shall be authorized, under the direction of the President, to command the armies of the United States. The Lieutenant-General appointed in the manner approved shall be entitled to the pay, allowances and staff specified in the fifth section of the act approved May 28, 1798; and also the allowance described in the sixth section of the act approved August 23, 1842, granting additional rations to certain officers. Provided that nothing in this bill shall be construed in any way to affect the rank, pay or allowances of Winfield Scott, Lieutenant-General by brevet, now on the retired list of the army; and Congress respectfully recommend Major-General Grant to the position of Lieutenant-General under this bill.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, Mr. Dawes (Mass.) in the chair, and proceeded to the consideration of the special order, being the Senate bill, as reported from the House Military Committee, with the amendments amendatory to the enrollment act.

But little progress was made. The amendment confining the term of service to eighteen months was rejected

The Committee then rose, and the House, at half past four o' clock, adjourned.

## PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 1.

HOUSE.—The House met at 7½ o' clock this evening.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Kerns presented petitions from citizens of the Twenty-second Ward, Philadelphia, for the passage of a bill relieving them of their present Select Councilman.

Mr. Spangler submitted a resolution that the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of framing and reporting a general law by which corporate authorities may at any time assess and collect bounties for volunteers. Passed.

Mr. Lilly submitted the following:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Ways and Means is hereby instructed to inquire into the propriety of abolishing the office of Surveyor General, and transferring the duties of this office to some other department or bureau, to report by bill or other wise Lost, 36 to 36.

An act for payment of expenses for Transportation and Telegraph Department, and to vacate a fifty feet wide street in Helmesburg, now in Twenty-third Ward, Philadelphia. Reported affirmatively.

Mr. Bigham, an act authorizing Inspectors of Penitentiaries in the Commonwealth to commute sentences of certain criminals, to whom conditional pardons may be granted..

Mr. Alleman, an act legalizing the payment of a certain loan, viz: The city of Harrisburg. Passed.

Mr. Wimley, an act extending the charter of the Bank of Montgomery county.

Mr. Purdy, and act relative to criminal prosecutions. Passed finally.

Mr. Cochran (Philadelphia), a further supplement to an act providing for the payment of the interest on the State debts, approved 1862.

This act extends the time of suspension of such banks as complied with said act until such time as the State shall repay them the coin borrowed.

Mr. Kerns, an act incorporating the Juniata Improvement Company.

Mr. Brown presented a joint resolution to pay S. J. Rea for services as clerk in the contested election case of Chambers vs. McKee. Passed finally.

Adjourned.

### ARMY CONTRACTS AWARDED.

The following army contracts were awarded yesterday at the army clothing and equipage office:

Jos. F. Page, 5,000 cavalry trowsers, at $4 65, army standard.

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STOCKS.
ON WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10,
At 12 o'clock noon, at the Exchange—
Executor's Sale—200 shares stock Bank of Penn Township.
16 shares stock Spring Garden Insurance Co.

REAL ESTATE SALE, FEB. 10, 1864.
This sale will include—
2D AND COLUMBIA AVENUE—A three-story brick house, lager beer saloon and dwelling, 18 feet by 61½ feet; well built house, with bath room, range, baths, gas, &c. $66 ground rent. Sale by order of Heirs—Estate of Barbara Paul, dec'd.

737 S. THIRD ST—A two-story brick house, below Monroe st, 12 feet front, 38½ feet deep to a 3 feet 9 inch alley. Orphans' Court Sale—Estate of Robert McPherson, dec'd

CARPENTER ST., ABOVE 17TH—A lot of ground, above 17th st, 18 by 129 feet 8 inches to Montrose st. on which is a small house, No. 1716. $22 50 ground rent. Orphans' Court Sale—Estate of Wm. Robinson, dec'd.

27TH AND PARRISH STS—A lot of ground, 75½ feet on 27th st, thence in an oblique direction 125½ feet, thence at right angles 116½ feet, then 260 feet parallel with the second line, thence 105 feet 10½ inches to the place of beginning, making nearly a parallelogram 200 by 116 feet. Plan at the auction store. Orphans' Court Sale—Estate Richard McRee, dec'd.

106 MEAD ALLEY—A two story brick house and lot, 14 by 53 feet 7 inches. Orphans' Court Sale—Estate of Malcolm McNeran, dec'd.

WILLIAM AND MELVALE STS. 25TH WARD—Three-story brick house and lot of ground, N. W. corner of the street, 20 feet front, 80 feet deep. $80 ground rent. Orphans' Court Sale—Estate of Margaret C. Brautigam, dec'd.

BROAD AND TIOGA STS.—A very desirable lot of ground, N. W. corner of Broad and Tioga streets, 21st Ward, 100 by 117 feet to a 40 feet street. The neighborhood is rapidly improving. The new R. R. is along both streets, gas, &c. New improvements rapidly rising. $2,500 may remain.

MECHANIC ST., MANAYUNK—Frame and stone house and lot near Cresson st., 32 feet front, 50½ feet deep. $31 50 ground rent. Orphans' Court Sale—Estate of Tobias Pyle, dec'd.

MECHANIC ST., MANAYUNK—Frame and stone houses and lot of ground, S. E. corner of Cresson st., 16 feet front, 62 feet 7 inches deep. Orphans' Court Sale—Same Estate.

MECHANIC STREET, MANAYUNK—Brick House and lot, S. E. corner of Cresson street, 13 feet front, 99 feet deep. Orphans' Court Sale—Same estate.

GREEN AND NEW MARKET STREET.—A business stand, S. W. corner of New Market and Green streets, 11 feet 6¾ inches front and 52¾ feet deep, being 12 feet 8 inches wide on the rear $36 ground rent. Sale peremptory, by order of heirs.

SECOND STREET, ABOVE JEFFERSON.—Three-story brick dwelling and lot, about 120 feet north of Jefferson street, 16 feet, 6¾ inches front and 73½ feet deep. Sale positive. Estate of Jas. Floyd, deceased

ADJOINING.—The three-story brick dwelling adjoining, 16 feet, 8¾ inches front, 73½ feet deep. Private Sale—same estate.

ADJOINING.—The three-story brick dwelling adjoining the above, 17 feet ¼ inches front, and 73½ feet deep. Positive Sale—same estate.

ADJOINING