XXXIXTH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

[CLOSE OF YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.]

SENATE.-Mr. Sherman called up the mo-SENATE.—Mr. Sherman called up the motion to reconsider Mr. Trumbull's amendment to the Post Office bill.

After a speech from Mr. Poland, in opposition to the amendment, and one by Mr. Trumbull in support of it, the question was taken on the reconsideration of the vote by which the amendment, which is as follows, was adopted.

was adopted: # No person exercising or performing the duties of any office, which, by law, is required to be filled by the advice and consent of the Senate, shall, before its confirmation by the Senate receive any salary or compensation for his services, unless he be com-missioned by the President to fill a vacancy occurring by reason of death, resignation or expiration of term of office during the recess of the Senate and since its last adjournment or removed for acts done in violation of the duties of his office, the case and cause of removal to be reported to the Senate at its

It was decided in the affirmative—yeas 21, Absent or not voting-Messrs. Brown, Buckalew, Cragin, Dixon, Grimes, Hendricks, Johnson, Kirkwood, Wright and

The Senate, at 5 o'clock, adjourned without further action on the bill or amendment. House.—Mr. Washburne (Ill.) presented a letter from Mr. Bancroft, transmitting the correspondence between Earl Russell, Chas. Adams and Mr. Bancroft, on the subject of Mr. Bancroft's strictures upon the Eng lish Government in his eulogy on President Lincoln, delivered before Congress. The correspondence was read in full. The documents were ordered to be published in the Globe and to be printed, and referred to the Joint Committee on the death of President Lincoln

Mr. Garfield, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a joint resolution to provide for the exemption of crude petroleum from internal tax or duty. The rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Morrill, it was ordered that after this day evening sessions shall be held for the purpose of continuing action on the Revenue bill exclusively.

THR TAX BILL—MB. MORRILL'S SPEECH.
The House resolved itself into Committee

of the Whole on the State of the Union, Mr. Washburne (Ill.) in the chair, and proceeded to the consideration of the Internal Bevenue bill, on which Mr. Morrill addressed the House.

The new reprint contains one hundred

and ninety-one pages. Mr. Morrill explained the increase of nearly sixty pages by stating that where sections of the old bill were modified it was deemed better to insert new sections than merely to amend

Mr. Morrill entered into a full explanation of the bill. He said. In revising our internal revenue laws the question that meets us at the threshold is how much revenue have we to spare, how much will our necessities require for another year? The last question has been specially answered by the Secretary of the Treasury, who has fixed \$350,000,000, provided the appropriations of Congress do not exceed the estimates, as the sum it would be safe to rely upon, in-cluding the revenue from the tariff as well as internal taxes.

In making an estimate of the probable receipts from the latter, we have as a basis one full year and three-fourths of the present year of experience, and the data is sufficiently complete to be of value. Our receipts for 1864 and 1865 were in round numbers, \$210,000,000 and the returns thus far, of 1865 and 1866, show that we may expect for the year an increase of nearly fifty per centum, or not less than from \$300,000,000 to \$305,000,000. One of the largest and best paying consumers of the products of the country during the war was the Government, but is so no longer. War prices no longer rule, and it is inevitable that manufactures must be still farther reduced in value until standard of gold as recognized by the commercial world. The tax of manufactures, therefore, must be less productive for the year ending June 30th, 1867, than heretofore, as it will be computed at a less per centage, if our bill should be adopted, and

on a far less aggregate amount.

Then as a general rule in a season of falling prices, it is not gains but losses which must be calculated at the end of the year, and therefore the tax on incomes, the divi-dends from banks and other corporations for the next year cannot be expected to yield anything like amount received from these sources for the years ending December, 1864, and December, 1865, nor can our foreign importations be maintained upon their present scale. It is very desirable that they should not be, as they are supplanting a large share of the labor of our own people, and because payment will at present be made chiefly in United States bonds.

It is right, however, to look for some increase of revenue in consequence of the close of the war, and we may expect something from the States lately in rebellion, though not an amount in proportion at all to their relative numbers. Taking all things into consideration, the Committee of Ways and Means have felt willing to report the bill as it stands, which will reduce taxation the present year, in round numbers, about \$75,-000,000.

The bill proposes to wholly exempt from taxation many articles, and to largely retaxation many articles, and to largely reduce it on others; and among these will be found slaughtered animals, salt, sugar, starch, coal, vinegar, soap, saleratus, clothing, boots, shoes. These exceptions and reductions will lessen family expenditures, and be a relief to all classes of the community. Dressmakers and milliners, wielding a potent influence, as they do, will no longer be treated as men subject to taxation, but as deserving of favor. Though they may tax us, we do not propose to tax them. Provisions or products of the farm, it has been the policy from the start, and its wisdom has been only exceptionally questioned, to keep free from taxes.

to keep free from taxes.

All festillizers, draining tiles, and many of the more expensive implements of agriculture, it is now also proposed to relieve. Freights, perhaps the most indefensible tax we have had, perpetually checking commerce, and adding to the price of purchases as wall as dismission to relieve the same control of the price of purchases. as well as diminishing the price of sales, it will be seen are to be utterly abandoned, as are all the articles in Schedule A, except gold watches, silver plate, billiard tables, and carriages valued above \$300, as by the testimony of the Collectors the tax upon all the other articles therein embraced amounted to less than the cost of collection, while it imposed domiciliary visits, always

obnoxious to a spirited people.

It has been considered important not to check any enterprise for building or for repairs of buildings, and to this end building material, such as brick, free stone, marbly, also rectinguists. slate, roofing-slate, lime and coment have been placed upon the free list. The tax im-posed upon paper books and binding, entertained with little hospitality from the first, is surrendered at the first opportunity without regret. The tax on knowledge, as it has often been styled, if it ever existed, it is to be hoped will be now abandoned. The tax upon all repairs, always indefinite and of dubions propriety may also well be removed. If a horse runs away with a carriage or a locomotive gets smarked, it seems oppressive for the Government to seize the opportunity of such misfortune for levying a tresh tax.

We have proposed to exempt coal from any tax. If we regard it as an article of fuel, we cannot any longer afford to dealers the excuse of a tax for a dear price. If we look

to be as great as we ought to subject an article so indispensable to the population of all our cities and most considerable towns. If we look upon it as the chief source, the hid-den giant of steam power which drives so large a part of our machinery used in manu-factures from which so much of our revenue accrues, it certainly presents strong claims

to be free.

Iron being an article of such large consumption, shaped into such multifarious forms for the use of mankind, employing numbers so vast in its production, and an abundant supply height cluster. numbers so vast in its production, and an abundant supply being almost a prerequisite in peace or war to national independence, the Committee of Ways and Means have been willing to wholly exempt pigiron, railroad iron, railroad iron rerolled, and to leave but \$3 per ton upon bar iron. Cheap iron is an advantage to the whole country, and especially so to agriculturists, to artisans, and even to the day laborer who wields but an axe or a spade.

wields but an axe or a spade.

It is also important that we should not discourage railroad enterprises by making their cost so great as to frighten away ali capitalists. Our iron should be made at tapitalists. Our fron should be made at home, but let us give our own people a fair chance to make it cheaply. That the universality of a tax upon all descriptions of manufactures in any state or condition when offered for sale tends to a duplication of taxation is sufficiently obvious, and the Committee of Ways and Means have sought to remedy this evil so far as they could, consistently with their duty to the Government, whose wants though disjusting ment, whose wants, though diminishing, are still imperative

The increase of the tax on all manufactures last year, one-fifth, or twenty per centum, as our law of last year provided for, it is now proposed to repeal. Steel being in the nature of a raw material, a manufacture in its infancy, and in some peril from the pressing competition of the old world, it is deemed expedient to entirely exempt from tax, and more especially exists. cially as it will mostly be taxed when it reaches a more advanced stage of manufac-ture. The same argument applies to iron, which we have not yet felt able to wholly release; and also to copper, lead, zinc and brass, which we do propose to release.

The bill, however, will show for itself. The reductions have been made with the sole view of the greatest good of the greatest number and in the meint house the result.

number, and in the main I hope they will be accepted by the House. It is very likely to be true that many articles not now re-lieved may be pointed out, having equal claims with those proposed for favor, but the answer is, civilly but firmly, the time for these has not yet arrived. The release of the tax upon many articles has not been done so much to favor them, or any particular branch of manufacture, as to favor those which remain, still bearing the burden

of taxation. The removal, so far as it at present seemed prudent, of the constant duplication of taxes, will certainly tend to diminish the cost of a large number of articles; but until we reach the solid basis of a currency equal in value to coin, prices must remain dear and unstable, and producers and manufacturers, while working under circumstances of inflated cost, will be exposed to chances of making sales in a falling market. The reduction must come at some time, and the pain will be severe if it comes suddenly, or lighter if it comes more slowly. It is the same in the sum total, whether hastened or

Savings banks or provident institutions, by far the most appropriate name, it will be seen, are to some extent relieved from the tax on deposits, and entirely relieved when such deposits are invested in United States' such deposits are invested in United States, securities, or when made in sums not exceeding \$500 by any one person. It cannot be doubted that it is sound public policy to induce those having but small earnings to establish habits of thrift and economy by using these saving banks as a place of trust. Does it not speak well for the character of Oces it not speak well for the character of our people as well as that of our country, that these institutions now hold of these small earnings of the common people five hundred millions of dollars? Where else

can a similar fact be cited?
Women, young persons, and those unskilled in making loans and taking securities, who possess too little to be reached separately by taxes, should not be taxed when assembled together, but rather deserve the paternal care of the Government.

The tax on the gross receipts of express companies was raised in the bill as first re-ported, from three to five per cent, but upon auther consideration in the revised bill the rate has been restored to what it is now by existing law. When we are reducing taxation in every direction it appeared too invidious to single out one class of business, and that one giving marked distinction to American enterprise, and doom it to a tax equal to tweive to tifteen

rer cent, upon its net annual receipts.

The tax upon telegraph companies has also been placed upon the same level, or recuced from five to six per cent. One of the companies last year paid to the Government a tax upon \$700,000 gross receipts, amounting to \$35,000, when they had made an abing to \$35,000, when they had made an absolute loss of \$100,000, or \$65,000 besides the tax. Express and telegraph companies may not all deal liberally with the people, and may seek extravagant profits, but the Government of the United States could hardly be expected to base its legislation upon resentments thus engendered, unless the companies were the creatures of its own creation. Such abuses are more properly corrected by State legislation, or by even the more potent influence of competition and public opinion.

The tax in schedule A, although one of an inquisitorial character, and, therefore, objectionable in form, has been retained in part by the committee, on the ground that the owners of carriages valued at over \$300, and gold watches and silver plate, were among those persons best able to contribute something to the support of that Government under whose protection they have been able to acquire articles indicative of

wealth and assured means of support. The law in reference to licenses, it will be seen, has been entirely changed in form, although the substance of the tax will be found adhering to it. A special tax takes its place, and will, it is supposed, do equal service without being liable to the objections made in some quarters that it is an attempt to regulate the internal commerce of the

It is not proposed at this time to change the rate of the tax upon spirits nor upon malt liquors, mainly that we may have the law of high rates in operation a sufficient length of time to test its real value for revenue purposes, and incidentally, no doubt, its value as a mode of repression in the consumption of intoxicating beverages. For the largest revenue purposes the rate of \$2 per gallor—although the time clapsed since the adoption is too brief to definitely settle the question—seems likely to provo unsatisfactory; and if it were an original question the recommendation of \$1 per gallon by the Revenue Commission would not be disregarded by the Committee of Ways and Means. It is very clear that the whole tax fails to be collected as the price has a transfer of the second se fails to be collected, as the price has at no time or at any place been equal to the cost of spirits with the tax added thereto; and in some parts of the country the prices have occasionally been below even the amount of

The amount of spirits of domestic manufacture returned to the assessors for 1865, was 16,936,778 gallons, as against 85,293,391 gallons in 1864, showing a falling off of nearly four-fifths of the whole amount. If is to be noted, however, that much was dis-tilled in 1864 in expectation of an increase of the tax, and this accounts for a diminished business in 1865, but does not prove a diminished consumption; notwithstanding the heavy increase of duties upon foreign liquors the total importations have not been upon it as the raw material from which gas in aterially curtailed. Our experience is like-is made, the tax on the latter would seem by to correspond with that of the old world,

which is, that the appetites of men for spirituous liquors are held in check very little by high cost, unless that cost is very exorbitent, and only those in the most indigen circumstances check the regularity of their indulgencies or surrender any portion of their accustomed amounts.

The Committee of Ways and Means recommend, with some modifications, a large part of the changes in the law as to spirits proposed by the Revenue Commission, in order to increase its efficiency.

If our income tax should be contemplated as a part of the permanent policy of the country, it is not to be denied that it would need various, and, perhaps, fundamental amendments. The objections to such laws ne sufficiently obvious. First. They are inquisitorial, of necessity,

in their character, and Americans, like peo ple elsewhere, though not averse to a knowledge of the secrets of others, are quite un-willing to disclose their own. Among commercial men such disclosures may be disastrons. If they show prosperity, they invite envy and greater competition; or, if they show any remarkable learness, they damage credits. Second. The temptation to make under-statements, and lend to these statements the sanction of an oath, tends to sap and mine public morals until men begin to excuse themselves for their own wrong doing, because it being so common, that to do otherwise would be to fail in average smartness. Third. When we take into consideration the sources from which inceme is derived, the nabitudes of the different persons who pay tax, the difficulty of apportioning it so that each will have paid in just proportion to every other person leaving each relatively in the same condi-tion, the perplexities become almost insur-

mountable The Committee have undertaken to lessen The Committee have undertaken to lessen but not entirely remove the weight of the income tax; to this end we propose to exempt the first thousand dollars of every person from any taxes, and only to reach any excess beyond that amount. This will increase the sum exempt from \$600 to \$1,000 exactly. How much of a reduction it will make in our receipts cannot be foretold, but probably not over 10 or 15 per contents its its probably not over 10 or 15 per cent., while it likely is to diminish the number of persons taxed to nearly one-half. If it should ex-cuse fifty thousand persons, then the reduction will amount to a million of dollars for every such fifty thousand persons. There is perhaps no just reason for excusing any portion of the income of any one from the inx, except that of the hardship and the inability of persons with a limited income to spare any part of it, but that is enough. In a republican form of government, the true theory is to make no distinction as to persons in the rates of taxation, recognizing no class for special favors. We ought not to create a class for special burdens. Pursuing this principle, a majority of the Committee on Ways and Means have agreed to that portion of the bill which makes the incommittee of the committee of the commi come tax after this year a uniform one of five per centum upon the annual gains. The loss to the revenue will be large, about seventeen million, and it will be for the House to say whether the bill shall stand as reported, or whether relief in any other direction is more urgently demanded. In our list of exemptions we strove to reach earliest those articles upon which a reduction of cost would bring relief to the masses of our people, and those which are produced with such bargins of profit as to be epposed and in danger of being annihilated by even so small a tax as five or even three per cent., which is not infrequent upon branches of industry closely covered by foreign competition, in excess of what may be conidered regular and satisfactory profits. The House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill by sections for amend-

The first section being that imposing a tax of five cents per pound on cotton,
Mr.Lynch moved an amendment exempting six hundred pounds of cotton in the hands of the producer.
Pending its consideration, the House, at 4½, adjourned.

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Insures against loss or damage by FIRE, on Houses, Stores and other Buildings, limited or perpetual, and on Furniture Goods, Wares and merchandles in towner country.

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THOMAS C. HILL, Secretary,
Philadelphia, December 1, 1865.

PHILADELPHIA, December 1, 1885. de20-th.s.tn.ts

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OSIGE, NO. 211 WALNUT street, above Third, Phila.
Will insure against Loss or Damage by Fire, on Eddd.
ings, either perpetually or for a limited time, Househols
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Having a large paid up CAPITAL STOCK and SURPLUS invested in sound and available iscurities, continue to insure on Dwellings, Stores, Furniture, Monchandise, Vesuels in port, and their Cargest, and other
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This company continues to write on Fire Eitler only, Its capital, with a good surplus, is safely invested.

To losses by fire havebeen promptly paid, and more than \$500,000

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The undersigned citizens take pleasure in cheerfully recommending the use of Wright's Tar Syrup, for coughs, colds, consumption, whooping cough, spotted fever, liver complaint, pains in the breast, bronchitis, inflammation, and constriction of air vessels in the lungs. The remedy should be in every family: Charles C. Wilson, Forney's Press office.

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Albert Sartin, 417 South Second street.

M. T. Manney, 228 Firstel's alley.

George Wilson, 236 Eace street.

W. F. Brooks, 68 North Second street.

M. J. Hassett, 119 Canal street.

S. Seymour Rose, Bustleton.

Charles Rogers, 221 South Street.

S. Seymour Rose, Bustleton.
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bill already submitted to the public. As a gratifying
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Yours, &c.,
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The subscriber would beg leave further to say that
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tions generally. Druggist, S. W. WALL PAPER. CORNER

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LEGAL NOTICES. IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY
AND COUNTY OF PHILALELPHIA.—Existe
of Lieut R. R. MONTGOMERY.—The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle and adjust the account of Elizabeth Brown, Administratrix to the RState of Lieut R. B. Montg mery, deceased, and to report distribution of the Balance in the hands of the
accountant, will meet the parties interested for the
purposes of his appointment, on MONDAY, May 14,
1866, at 4 o'clock, P. M., at his offi e, No. 220 South
FOURTH sheet, in the City of Philadelphia,
mys-th-s, state*

INSTATE OF ANN WARDED decayed — Latters of

mys-th,s,tu5t*

Auditor.

TSTATE OF ANN WARDER, deceased.—Letters of administration to the said Estate having been granted to the subscriber, all persons indebted are requested to make payment, and those having claims to present them to JOHN H. WARDER, 1703 RACE street. Street. myltu.6t*

FSTATE OF WILLIAM CLARE, DECEASED.—
Letters of Administration having been granted to the undersigned on the exists of WILLIAM CLARE, deceased, all persons indepted to the said esta evil make payment and those baving claims against the same will present them, without delay, to JOHN CLARE, Jr. 610 Washington avenue, or his Attornays, VALL & STROUD, 763 Sausom street. apicing. M ESINA ORANGES.—1,000 boxes Sweet Messiaa Oranges, in prime order, landing and for sale by J.R. BUSS, FR & CO., 108 S. Dalaware Avenue.

SPANISH OLIVES.—100 Kees tresh Spanish Olives Just received and for sale by J. B. BUSSIER & CD., 108 S. Delaware Avenue.