The Press

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1862. EXTRACT FROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.—"The conspiracy to break up the Union is a fact now known to all. Armies are being raised, and war levied to accomplish it. There can be but two sides to the controversy. Every man must be on the side of the United States or against it. There can be no neutrals in this war. There can be none but putriots and traitors."

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

In consequence of Secretary Stanton's restrictions upon the press, and our desire, under any circumstances, to avoid conflicting with the interests and projects of the Government, we have refrained today from publishing many items of news that would be interesting to the reader. Stirring events, destined to live in history, are doubtless close at hand. Meanwhile, let us cherish the counsel of General McClellan, and with " patience. forbearance. and confidence," all will yet be well.

In no State have the rebels been more relent less in their course of rapine, treason, and bloodshed than in Missouri. Originally a Union State, she was shamelessly betrayed by her Governor and others of her chosen servants, who rushed her headlong into the rebellion, entailing upon her all the misery and wretchedness that cause is heir to. Armies were raised in the State, and under desperate and merciless leadership they have plundered and sacked all they could lay their hands upon. But now, thanks to the tireless energy of our commanders and the bravery of our troops, the adopted State of Benton is at last free from all armed bands of rebels, and her Unionloving citizers will now have an epportunity to repair the damage done by the despoilers All honor to Gen. Halleck and the brave officers and men under him, for their deliverance of the people of Missouri from the rebel thraldom! Their memories will be forever perpetuated, not only by the people of that State, but by the loyal mass of Americans

everywhere. The gale of Monday last, as we learn from Baltimore, not only interfered with the laying of the submarine telegraph cable across the bay, from Fortress Monroe, but materially damaged the shipping along the coast. The Hoboken, which was employed in laying the cable, was driven ashore, at Cape Henry, and broke in two. After remaining upon the wreck nearly twenty-four hours, her crew were taken off by the Spaulding. The latter reports having seen the steamer R. B. Forbes ashore, near Nag's Head, on Tuesday morning. The steamer Express is reported lost on the Eastern Shore. The frigate Cumberland dragged her anchors, at Newport News, and several schooners got adrift.

The number of regular army officers now serving in the volunteer force is one hundred and twentyone. Of these, one officer holds the rank of major general of volunteers; fifty have the rank of brigadier generals; fifty-seven are colonels; seven lieutenant colonels, and six majors. All of these officers, with the exception of twenty-three, are graduates of West Point. The total number of general efficers of volunteers is one hundred and twelve-namely, six major generals, two of whom are West Pointers, and one hundred and six brigadier generals, seventy-three of whom are West Pointers. It is stated that since the rebels have occupied

the batteries at Cockpit Point, on the lower Potomac, they have fired 5,000 shells, directed at our vessels and camps belonging to Sickles' brigade and Hooker's division, on the opposite side of the river. Nearly all of the shots proved entirely ineffectual, | called Confederacy. only about a dozen doing any considerable damage

The news that the rebels have evacuated Nashville and fled to Murfreesboro, after having burnt all the State documents, is further confirmed. Gen. Grant has declared martial law in all of West Tennessee, and the mail facilities have been ex-

Congress Yesterday. SENATE .- Mr. McDougall, from the special com-

mittee, reported a bill for the establishment of a railroad and telegraph line from Wisconsin to the The bill for the occupation and cultivation of

cotton lands, being the special order, was then taken up, and occasioned a lengthy debate, but no decisive action was taken upon it. The bill fixing the number of members of the House of Representatives was passed with the

the number 211. The case of Sepator Starke was then taken up. Mr Sumper moved to amend the resolution reported by the committee, so as make it read, "that Mr. Starke be not entitled to take his seat without an investigation of his loyalty." Pending the debate thereby occasioned, the Senate ad-

iourned. House.—The Senate amendment to the bill fixing the number of Representatives at two hundred and forty one, under the basis of the last census. was concurred in. This will give an additional Representative to Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Vermont, and Rhode Island.

Penusylvania Legislature.

SENATE.-Mr. Smith, of Philadelphia, from the Select Committee, reported as committed the joint the Delaware river and bay, which were subse-

quently considered and passed.

The bill providing for the appointment of fenceviewers passed with an unimportant amendment. The bill, which is of special interest to the citizens of Philadelphia, was published in our local columns a few weeks since.

sion was consumed in a discussion upon the act to repeal the act (approved in March last) providing for the commutation of the tonnage tax. Mr. Williams, of Allegheny, at length offered a substitute, section first of which provides that the tonnage tax imposed by the act incorporating the Peunsylvania Railroad Company shall be reimposed and made payable to the Commonwealth.

Pending the discussion to appoint a special day for the consideration of the latter bill, the House

Southern Logic.

Judging from his inaugural address, Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS is qualified to fill the chair of Logic in one of the Universities of the Flying Island of Laputa. He is not only a philosopher sur generis, but also a remarkable optimist. He reminds one of the physician who as his patient successively enumerated all the bad symptoms of a mortal ailment, kept on exclaiming, while life was fluttering and ebbing away, "excellent symptoms"-despite of which the sick man breathed his last. Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS assured his discontented auditors at Richmond, last Saturday, that all their misfortunes were for the best, and that there was something satisfactory and consoling even in "the serious reverses" which, he was fain generally supposed. By the census of 1860, to admit, the rebellious conspiracy has recent-

ly experienced.

616,088, an increase of \$3,925,481,011 or He carries out this optimism, and rather re-126.45 per cent, as compared with the census joices at the existence of the blockade. He of 1850. The following table exhibits the reincludes it among the "corresponding benefits" which, in his catalogue, are to be set off against "the material sacrifices of the past year." He says, "if the acquiescence of foreign nations in a pretended blockade has deprived us of our commerce with them, it is fast making us a self-supporting and an independent people." Here, with all respect to Professor Davis, we submit that a blockade which deprives the South of its commerce cannot precisely be called pretended. It was to effect this-it was to cut off the commerce of the South that the blockade was established. and has been somewhat effectively maintained. Mr. Davis adds: "The blockade, if effectual and permanent,"-If? Why, it has deprived the South of its commerce !-- "could only serve to divert our industry from the production of articles for export, and employ it in supplying commodities for domestic use." Farther on, he enumerates the articles of export so produced, which the blockade keeps on Southern ground,-they are cotton, sugar, rice, tobacco, provisions, timber, and naval stores. The export of these has entirely ceased, thanks to the "pretended blockade," and the productive industry of the South does not apply itself to supplying commodities for domestic use. In fact, the rebellion has mainly suspended labor in the South, and afforded such license to the "peculiar institution," that were the Rebellion to cease to-morrow, and the Union once again be in statu quo, the try. owners of estates in the South would find it difficult to organize one half the labor which

they used before the war. articles fitted for export. If, as Mr. Davis portion of the burden will fall upon a future says, the blockade is only "pretended," how generation. Yet, if, as is now expected, the has it happened that the cotton, rice, sugar, rebellion should be speedily crushed, a sum and other articles of the exchange, which con- less than one-tenth of the increase in the stitutes commerce, remain in the South ! A value of American property from 1850 to blockade which retains these, surprisingly re- 1860 would defray all the expenditures of the sembles a reality.

There is a strange contrast between the arguments used to justify Secession in the United States and those put forward in England by the rebel Commissioners, YANCEY, Rost, and Mann, in the letter they addressed to Lord John Russell in August last. Here Secession has been claimed as a sort of constitutional right, not at all revolutionary in its character. The Federal Government, according to the view of the rebel leaders, is but a partnership or league between "Sovereign States," which they have a right to peaceably dissolve at their pleasure. It is, therefore, with some surprise that we find YANCEY & Co., in their letter, falling back upon the doctrines of the Declaration of Independence for a justification of their infamous attempt to sever the Republic. In the letter referred to they

Say:

"They were especially desirous of convincing your lordship, and laid before your lordship reasons for their belief, that the people of the seceding States had violated no principle of allegiance in their act of secession, but, on the contrary, had been true to that high duty which all citizens owe to that sovereignty which is the supreme fount of power in a State, no matter what may be the particular form of covernment under which they like. ticular form of government under which they live; they were careful to show to your lordship, however, that the idea of American sovereignty was different from that entertained in Great Britain and Europe; that whereas in the great Eastern homisphere generally sovereignty was deemed to exist in the Government, the founders of the North American States had solemnly declared, and upon that declaration had built up American institutions, that 'Governments were instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. their just powers from the consent of the governed that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends (security to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness), it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government.'

"The undersigned assumed it to be incontrovertible in order to give practical vital by to this de-

"The undersigned assumed it to be incontrovertible, in order to give practical vital:ty to this declaration, that the people who were declared to
possess this right 'to alter or to abolish' such oppressive government must be the people whose rights
such government either assailed or no longer protected. Whether that government should be administered by one tyrant or the more heartless and
cqually effectual despotism of a sectional and tyrannical majority could make no difference in the apminister of the nymerical. When the people who plication of the principle. When the people who has act in 'abolishing' their form of government thus act in 'abolishing' their form of government are not mere self-constituted assemblages of disaffected individuals, but the sovereign people of great States, each possessing separate constitutions, and legislative and executive powers acting in modes prescribed by those constitutions, and taking votes under form and by virtue of law, the minority yielding cheerfully to the decision of the majority as to the question of redress, it became clear that, whatever might be European views as to such action if developed in Europe, the seceding States were amply justified by the great American principles of self-government proclaimed by their ancestors in 1776. They submitted that, so far from the principle of American allegiance having been violated by the people of the seceding States, in those States alone is that principle upheld whereby the actions of men claiming to be the representatives of the men of 1776 are to be guided and justified, and that the people and Government of the States upholding Mr Lincoln in his war upon the Confederate States are alone the traitors to that great political truth, and as such must be judged by an impartial world."

The Declaration of Independence is the last

The Declaration of Independence is the last document that Southern politicians have, of late years, thought of appealing to as an authority for the settlement of vexed questions in American politics, and the sentence immediately preceding the one Yanczy & Co. have quoted has always been considered peculiarly obnoxious, for it contains the famous passage which announces that "all men are created equal: that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," and that it " is to secure these rights" that "Governments are instituted among men," &c. The "commissioners" must have been sadly in need of authorities for their wicked movement, when they ventured upon the experiment of quoting from the immortal document which, when literally construed, condemns the chief corner-stone of their so-

There is another equally striking feature in State back to its allegiance. When appealing for recognition to a Government which avowedly cherished strong antislavery proclivities, they sought to prove that the slavery question had nothing to do with the rebellion, and that the "peculiar institution" would be as well protected by ABRAcurious enough to hear YANCEY-who has done, perhaps, more than any other man to fan the flame of rebellion in the South by creating the impression that submission to the rule of stroy slavery-address Lord John Russell in the following language:

"It was from no fear that the slaves would be liberated that secession took place. The very party in power has proposed to guaranty slavery for ever in the States if the South would but remain in the Union. Mr. Lincoln's message proposes no freedom to the slave, but announces subjection of his owner to the will of the Union; in other words, to the will of the North. Even after the battle of Bull Run, both branches of the Congress at Washington passed resolutions that the same gress at Washington passed resolutions that the war is only waged in order to uphold that (pro-slavery) Constitution, and to enforce the laws (many of them pro-slavery); and out of 172 votes in the lower House, they received all but 2, and in the Senate all but 1 vote. As the army commenced its march the commanding General issued an order merch the commanding General issued an order that no slaves should be received into, or allowed that no shaves should be received into, or allowed to follow, the camp. The great object of the war, therefore, as now officially announced, is not to five the slave, but to keep him in subjection to his owner, and to control his labor through the legislative channels which the Lincoln Government designs to force upon the master. The undersigned, therefore, submit with confidence, that as far as the artisle very santiment of England is concerned it can have no sympathy with the North; hay, it will probably become disgusted with a canting hypocrisy which would enlist those sympathies on false presents of the surmise that the Lincoln Government may, under stress of circumstances, change its policy, a policy based at present more upon a wily view of what is to be its effect in rearing up an element in the Confederate States favorable to the reconstruction of the Union than puon any hopest desire to tion of the Union than upon any honest desire to uphold a Constitution, the main provisions of which it has most shamelessly violated. But they confi-dently submit to your lerdship's consideration, that dently submit to your lerdship's consideration, that success in producing so abrupt and violent a destruction of a system of labor which has reared up so vast a commerce between America and the great States of Europe, which, it is supposed, now gives bread to 10,000,000 of the population of those States, which it may be safely assumed is intimately blended with the basis of the great manufacturing and navigating prosperity that distinguishes the age, and probably not the least of the elements of this prosperity, would be visited with results disastrous to the world, as well as to the master and slave."

Here is a virtual confession that the only danger with which the institution of slave y is now, or may hereafter be threatened, arises not from any aggressive spirit in the North, but solely from the exigencies of the war forced upon the nation by the Secession conspirators; and the people of the seceded States are admonished by their own betrayers that whatever damage may be done to their cherished institution will be produzed by the revolt into which they were misled by gross misrepresentations.

The National Weath and Resources. The debt incurred in suppressing the Rebellion, great as it may seem, and burdensome as it may prove to some of the interests of our country, bears a much lower relation to the wealth and resources of the nation than is the true value of the real and personal estate

of the United States was estimated at \$16,159,-

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No one, of course, seriously proposes or expects that the debt now being incurred will be paid at once, or at any very early period. No doubt, the South has a large amount of | The general expectation is that a considerable war. If the power of the Government is tho-

tion of the increased value of American property doing the next ten years would be equal | throw the loyal sentiment of the West.

in amount to the whole national debt. The value of the agricultural and manufactured products of the Union is estimated in round numbers at \$4,000,000,000 per annum. The whole national debt incurred and to be incurred by the war, will probably not amount to two per cent. of the value of these products for ten years. An annual revenue of \$200,000,000 would

be derived from a tax of one and a quarter per

cent per annum upon the value of the whole

real and personal estate of the country, or a tax of five per cent. per annum upon the value of our annual products. Our revenue system is a compound of direct and indirect taxation, and more money is derived from the taxes upon foreign imports and upon special articles and interests, than from direct tax upon real and personal property. We do not expect or desire to see a radical change in this matter made, and the whole burden of the war thrown upon the existing owners of property. But it would be well for those who are disposed to magnify the expenses of the war, to consider the resources of the nation.

WHAT WILL be the policy of the Government in dealing with the seceded territory now reoccupied by the Federal armies? The successes in North Carolina, the capture of Clarksville, and the impending occupation of Savannah, give this question a practical meaning, and Congress may very soon be called upon to prescribe a certain policy for the government of these States. Several propositions have already attracted the attention of Congress, but it is impossible to indicate what may be adopted. The whole subject is subordinate to the necessities of military events. In times of revolution the plans of to-day are uncertain beyond to-day, and circumstances may compel new laws and a new policy tomorrow. The object to be attained is the restoration of Federal authority in the disloyal territory, and our statesmen will be compelled

to shape the successes of our soldiers into

permanent and comprehensive policy. What will be done with this reoccupied territory? The course of our Government in Maryland, Missouri, and Western Virginia, affords a pointed precedent. In Maryland the Secessionists obtained control of the State. They burned bridges, impeded the progress of our troops, possessed a majority of the Legislature, and were as audacious and powerful as they are in North Carolina or Alabama. The Administration took possession of the old State organization, imprisoned the disloyal members of the Legislature, and, by throwing a force into the lower counties on the day of the recent election, secured a triumph at the polls. In Missouri, the same policy was virtually adopted. In Western Virginia, the loyal people were enabled to assume control of the Government, and the Administration, by recognizing Mr. PIERPONT as Governor, and Congress, in receiving Messrs. Cartile and WILLEY as Senators, ratified their action. That the Administration will follow this precedent in dealing with Tennessee and North Carolina is probable. It is based upon the assumption that in these States a large Union feeling exists, having been coerced into silence by the presence of an overpowering rebellion. The Government, by overturning this overpowering force, enables the people to resume their functions as citizens, and to come again into the Union as loyal States. It enables such men as Andrew Johnson and his persecuted friends to return to Tennessee, depose HARRIS, expel the Legislature, and bring the

be adopted in all parts of the South? May it not enable the disloyal States to come again paramished into the Union and restore the old order of things? If we permit the rebels to resume all the privileges of citizenship, they may, without any difficulty, vote themselves HAM LINCOLN as by JEFFERSON DAVIS. It is back into power-vote DAVIS and SLIDELL, or men as infamous as Davis and SLIDELL, into Congress-and re-establish the old tyranny. The contemplation of such a thing is terrible. This war would be a vain contest, a Republican President would virtually de- and the debt we have incurred a criminal and unnecessary burden, if the possibility of such a calamity was permitted to exist. To guard against this is as necessary as it is to guard against the capture of Washington by BEAU-REGARD; and in permitting the old State machinery to be placed in operation we must take care that it does not become an instrument of treason in the hands of traitors. It is contended by those who dread this contingency that the policy of provisional governments is the proper one. Or, to be more explicit, the reduction of these States once more into a Territorial condition, depriving them of all power as members of the Union, and governing them by military rulers and an army of occupation, postponing their recognition as States until years have elapsed, and the country has been repopulated and reorganized. We are not prepared ourselves to support such a harsh measure; but it may become necessary, and when necessary, we stand ready to advocate it as we have advocated every stringent measure, in order that the Union may be saved and the Constitution vin-

THE promotion of Brigadier General GRANT to be a major general, and of Col. GARFIELD to be a brigadier general, indicates the policy army appointments, while the prompt confirmation of these gentlemen by the Senate shows that the conduct of the Secretary is approved by Congress. We are pleased that this course has been determined upon by the Administration. It was necessary, in organizing an army of the magnitude of the army of the Republic, to go into civil life to procure onicers. Our old military system was small and inefficient, and we took officers and soldiers from the peaceful professions as a military experiment. The necessity for extemporizing generals, colonels, and captains out of peaceful professional gentlemen no longer exists. We have an educated and organized army, who have seen service in the camp and on the field. They must rise, like the great generals of NA-POLEON, and indeed like great generals in every age of the world, by reason of their merit and

The appointment of holiday officers at this time is a source of complaint on the part of moritorious officers, and especially those who have served in the regular army. They say truly, that if men in civil positions are to obtain the honors and positions to which long years of service entitle them, every motive for emulation or honorable ambition will pass away from the army, and the service, for all practical effect, ever after will become demoralized. This consideration is an important one, and we are glad it has excited the attention of the Senate and the Secretary of War. When men win their laurels upon the field, when, like General GRANT and Colonel GAR-FIELD, they show themselves capable of commanding an army, it will be proper to invest

them with the power to command. THE COUNTRY will honor Governor Morton, of Indiana, for appointing, as the successor to Mr. BRIGHT in the Senate, Hon. JOSEPH A. WRIGHT. Mr. WRIGHT is a native of Pennsylvania, and has been a citizen of Indiana for a number of years. He served in Congress as a Representative of that State from 1843 to 1845, was chosen Governor for several terms, and was appointed by Mr. Bu-CHANAN minister to Prussia in 1857, retiring with the Administration of his chief. He was a warm supporter of the late Mr. Douglas, and did not hesitate, at all times, to denounce the atrocities of which that illustrious statesman was the victim. At the Prussian Court he was eminent for his discretion and loyalty, and his influence went far towards conciliating that Power, and defeating the machinations of the rebel ambassadors. On his return to this country he placed himself in the advance of the Union sentiment in Indiana, and has been bold and untiring in his support of the Administration

in its war policy.

The appointment of such a man is a high tribute on the part of the Governor of Indiana to the loyal Democracy of that State, and it will be appreciated by the loyal Democracy in every part of the Union. In sending a representative Democrat to the Senate Governor MORTON recognizes the devotion of the Democratic masses to the Union, and their sacrifices to maintain the honor of our flag. If the example of this Republican Governor would only be followed by the Republican leaders elsewhere, it would produce the most gratifying results, and strengthen the public sentiment now sustaining the Administration. Onio, in

electing Governor Top, and Indiana, in send-

The Arguments of the Secessionists in roughly re-estab'ished, and our usual state of ing Joseph A. WRIGHT to the Senate, have FROM WASHINGTON. prosperity is fully restored, bu a small frac- sacrificed partisanship to patriotism, and strengthened beyond the possibility of over-

> The Last Hope Gone. This reporting a Parliamentary speech is such an unusual, as well as useless a thing, for it is certain to be corrected at once, that perhaps it was only by accident that The London Times. giving what purported to be Lord DERBY'S speech on the Address to the Queen, on the opening of the Session, made him say: "I think the time is nearly come when the Government may probably be called on to recognize the so far successful revolt of the seceded States." Lord Denny lost no time in assuring the House of Lords that he was misreported. His correction reads thus: "What I said was, that the time has not come when it can properly be called on to recognize the Goveriment representing the successful revolt of the Southern States. I added that, though it is the practice to recognize a de facto Government that has succeeded in establishing itself, I did not think that the resistance of the Southern States had been so successful as to justify us in recognizing them as a Power able to maintain its own independence." This is a different version, and shows how Whig and Tory in the British Senate agree that the Southern Confederacy is not to be recognized. We never did believe that Lord DERBY, in whose Colonial Secretaryship, some thirty years ago, Negro Emancipation in the British Colonies was carried, could give his sympathics to the South, where Slavery is an institution.

Dr. Russell's Prophecies. Out of the millions of spoken and written prophecies which are declared every year, some few must come true. Nothing is easier than political vaticination, because, in numerous cases, what will be may be judged from what has been. This is almost as certain as the result of sowing grain in a ploughed land and precieting that, in a certain number of months. will wave in the golden beauty of harvest. In politics especially, the Past is the prophet of the future. Dr. Russell, of the London Times, has been some ten months in this country, during which he has written as much concerning this country, its affairs, its inhabitants, as would fill two volumes as large as any of MACAULAY's great history. He has travelled through the length and breadth of the country -from Niagara to New Orleans and Mobile, from East to West-he has been hospitably received everywhere, admitted to sources of information studiously kept back from the leading journalists of the country; he has been in confidential communication with leading personages on all sides; he is shrewd. out a single prophecy of this distinguished "special correspondent" that has been fulfilled. Long since this curious fact must have struck his own mind, but, with a persistency worthy of a better cause, he has persevered in this prediction line, and his latest letters in The Times are just as prophetic as the carliest. When we find that even one of his prophecies comes true we shall certainly chronicle the

Salaries and Fees. The bill introduced into the House of Representatives, to tax the salaries of all Govantageously be taken as a model in the principal cities of the whole United States. It is intolerable that a collector, sheriff, prothonotary, or any person, installed into office without any peculiar personal qualification, should sometimes receive in fees, an amount equal to the annual salary of the President of the United States. Each State, county, and city officer should be paid according to the responsibility of his situation and the labor he may have to perform—should be said by a fixed salary, giving him fair and moderate compensation for his services, and no more, and every cent received in fees should be duly accounted for on oath and duly paid over, at frequently recurring periods, into the public treasury of the State, county, or city aforesaid. We are persuaded that this is a suitable subject for State as well as general legislation, and commend it to the attention of our lawmakers at Harrisburg. In the city of Philadelphia, where "the spoils" are enormous, the proposition should be entertained with respectful consideration—as likely to save a great deal of public money. It might be expected to be unacceptable in "the Row," but the pure-minded and unselfish officials there sisting what would so eminently and effectively serve the public weal.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, February 27, 1862.

The inaugural of Jefferson Davis, the counterfeit President of a counterfeit government, is exceedingly tame and despondent. No one can fail to perceive that nearly the same arguments he employs against the people of the loyal States and the regularly constituted Government are used by certain of the so-called to be pursued by Secretary Stanton in making | Democratic leaders in the North and Northwest, who, while pretending to favor the war, quietly resort to every means to embarrass those engaged in the prosecution of the war. He uses the favorite falsehood that Secession was produced by the hostility of the Northern section of the Union to the domestic institutions of the Southern States, which monstrous allegation you will remember was corrected. refuted, and trampled under foot by the illustrious Douglas in all his speeches during the campaign of 1860, and in the Senate of the United States prior to his lamented death. Like the New York Journal of Commerce, Davis bewails the imprisonment of citizens arrested without civil process or indictment duly found; like Mr. Pendleton in From the ranks our future officers must rise. | the House of Representatives, he declaims against the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus; like his friends in Marvland, he is indignant at the arrest of a State Legislature on account of known Secession proclivities; and, not to be outdone in imitation of the complaints of those who sympathize with him in the free States, he predicts, as they predict, that the regular Government must sink under the immense load of debt which has been incurred. Thus it is that the organs of hostility to the Federal Administration, who claim to favor the Government and to oppose Secession, insensibly adopt the language and use the arguments of Davis himself, or, rather, furnish to him language and arguments to support his monstrous treason against the Constitution and the laws. By a significant coincidence, too, it will be observed that in nearly every case the men who oppose the Administration of Mr. Lincoln in the prosecution of the war, or who affect to approve what they call his conservatism, in order that they may damage him with his own political friends, were closely associated with Breckinridge during the late Presidential campaign. Their condemnations are hestowed not so much upon the rebels in arms as uponathe Republican party, and, no doubt, thomands of them heartily sympathize with their leader, who drew his sword against the Constitution, and is now acting as a perjured member of the rebel Congress in the city of Richmond. Very fow of the real friends of Judge Douglas participate in this bad business. Here and there a displaced office-holder or a revengeful politician may be found to lend himliam B. Reed, the illustrious Ben Wood, and other desperate and unforgiving enemies of the late Senator from Illinois. The Democrats of the free States, if they needed any further admonition, would find it in the close and unbroken similarity between the close and unbroken Davis the head of self to the machinations of such men as Wilother desperate and unforgiving enemies of arguments of Jefferson Davis, the head of the rebellion against the Government, and the argument of the so-called Democratic leaders against the Administration of Mr. Lincoln. The question is often asked whether this session of Congress will be a long one or short one. Much important business remains to be done, but as our legislators are working very hard this might be accomplished within a month or two. A protracted session, however, may be necessary in order to admit to scats such persons as may be chosen by the people and the Legislatures of the reorganized

THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS. INCREASED RATIO OF REPRESENTATION.

THE LONDON EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY.

The United States Note-Bill Law. Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26, 1862. Certificates of Indebtedness to Public The following is a copy of the letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, accompanying the bill submitted by him authorizing the issue of certificates of indebtedness to public creditors, and which bill was yesterday promptly passed by Congress and has received the approval of the President : TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 25, 1862.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 25, 1862.

SIR: Notwithstanding all possible exertions on my part to provide the means of satisfying the just demands of the public creditors, and notwithstanding the actual payments, averaging nearly a million and a half of dollars each day, arrearages have largely accumulated, and the accumulation has caused great inconvenience, and, in some instances, serious trouble and distress. Those creditors especially who have furnished supplies of arms and transportation urgently require payment, and ought to have it. The delay affects not themselves only, but, through manifold ramifications, large numbers of others, not to say whole communities. only, but, through manifold ramineations, large numbers of others, not to say whole communities. The amount of unsatisfied requisitions from the several departments is \$26,430,557.83, of which \$21,281,555.69 is from the Department of War. The amount of floating debt, chiefly existing in the War Department, probably exceeds forty millions. It is impossible to borrow advantageously, until the financial measures negregary to insure a graph. It is impossible to borrow auvantage to insure a prompt the financial measures necessary to insure a prompt the financial measures necessary to insure a prompt payment of interest from taxes, and to provide the best possible market for the bonds of the United States, shall have received the sanction of Congress, and the means of payment by the notes to be issued under the act of Congress just passed cannot be provided except after the lapse of the considerable time required for their preparation and completion. Under these circumstances, I have anxiously sought for some measure of relief, and, after much reflection, have determined to submit to the consideration of the Committee of Ways and Means a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue, for the amounts found due on the final settlement to such creditors as may desire to receive them, certificates or the line settlement to such creditors as may desire to recoive them, certificates of the Treasurer of the United States, payable in one year after date or earlier, at the option of the Government, and bearing six per cent. interest. These certificates, issued either for the full ameunts due, or for portions of such amounts not less than one thousand dollars, would probably an easyer mest of the purposes of actual payment, and swer most of the purposes of actual payment, and afford very considerable relief, while the Govern-ment would incur no risk, and could suffer no loss

ment would near no risk, and could start he loss in consequence of their issue.

Trusting that this measure will receive the favorable consideration of the committee, and, if approved, the earliest possible sanction of Congress. I remain, with great respect, S. P. CHASE, Secretary of Treasury.

To Hon. Thaddens Stevens, Chairman of Ways and Means

The following is a copy of the bill as passed : leading personages on all sides; he is shrewd, sharp, well educated, experienced in the art of dashing journal writing, (especially when describing battles of which he only saw the distant smoke, and retreats in which his own wagon took the lead,) and in the seventy or eighty letters from America which he has written for publication in England he has ventured on several hundred predictions. Yet, marvellous to mention, no one can point to the same upon requisition of the states, certificates for the whole amount due or parts thereof, not less than one thousand (1000) dollars, and signed by the Treasury of the United States, and countersigned, as may be directed, by the Search of the Whole amount due or parts thereof, not less than one thousand (1000) dollars, and signed by the Treasury which rected, by the Search of the Search of the Government, and ion of the G shall bear interest at the rate of 6 per centum.

The London Exhibition of Industry. The following notice to the public has just bee

issued:

"Washington, Feb. 24, 1862.

"The undersigned, on bohalf of the commissioners appointed by the President to represent the interests of such American citizens as might desire to appear at the exhibition of the industry of all nations, to be held in the city of London, during the present year, submits the following statement:

"The Congress of the United States, after due consideration, has declined to adopt any measures to further National representation of our works of industry, invention, and art at the aforementioned industry, invention, and art at the aforementioned exhibition. The authority of the Commission has therefore ceased. They have advised the commissioners appointed by the British Government that of the citizens of this country on that occasion. But they have thought it not improper at the same time to recommend to the consideration of the royal com-missioners that such works of industry and art as have received the authentication of the Commission

may, to a limited extent, be presented for exhibi-tion through individual exertion. "WM. H. SEWARD." The U. S. Note Law. The President has approved of the U.S. note

bill. It is therefore a law. Direct from Roanoke Island The steamer Bultimore, from Roanoke Island, run the blockade last night, and arrived at the navy yard this morning. She left Roanoke on Sunday, and reports that none of our vessels at Old Point suffered from the effects of the severe gale on Monday. The Confederate batteries did not fire a single shot at the Baltimore as she passed up the

Potomac last night. The President's Family. Little THADDEUS, the youngest son of the President, is now considered entirely out of danger from the disease which prostrated him. Mrs. Lincoln, who was much indisposed from anxiety and watching over her children, is now improving, but is still confined to her room. She is overwhelmed with sympathizing friends.

· Our Friends, the Russians. The reply of Secretary SEWARD to Princs GORT. are too patriotic, of course, to think of re- SCHAKOFF relative to the Trent affair is expressive generally of the friendship between our country, a great Republic in the West, and Russia, a great monarchy in the East. He repeats the assurance that the war will end in the perfect restoration of

the Union on the old and well-tried Constitution. Mr. Julian's Speech. A large edition of Mr. JELIAN's speech, made i the House on the 14th of January, having been exhausted, a new edition, and also one in the German language, have been issued, which can be had. folded and franked to order, at sixty cents per

hundred copies. General McClellan's Staff. Major FERDINAND LECOMPTE yesterday formally cocived his appointment on General McClellan's taff. He is considered one of the most intelligent and energetic officers in the Swiss service, and is

known as an author as well as a soldier. He obtained a leave of absence from his own Government The Schuvlkill Steamers. The little stern-wheel steamers which for years plied on the Schuylkill have been chartered by the dovernment. Com. CALEB S. WRIGHT, with his

invenile fleet, has been ordered to report at An-The Ninety-Eighth Pennsylvania. This regiment is still encamped at Tennallytown, expecting every day to receive marching orders. Col. BALLIER is in Philadelphia, suffering from an attack of typhoid fever. Lieut. Colonel MERLAR is sick in camp. Major George Wynkoor is temporarily in command of the regiment. He is a

consylvanian, and a most excellent, practical Rev. Mr. Ames. Rev. CHAS. G. AMES, of Illinois, has excited much interest here during the last week, by his lecture at the Smithsonian on the "Diseases of the Republic," and his sermon on "The True and False Peace." The discourses were high toned and eloquent, strikingly kind and charitable towards opponents. They made a most favorable impression, and were in a temper calculated to

be most serviceable. Mr. Ames sustained creditably his high reputation. The American Telegraph Company. WASHINGTON, February 26.—The undersigned gives notice to the public that the military possession of the telegraph, taken by order of the President, will make no change whatever in the conduct of social, private, and commercial business by tele-

graph. The lines and business remain in the hands o he telegraph officers, duly authorized by the War E. S. SANFORD. President of the American Telegraph Company

A Skirmish at Independence, Mo. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 26 .- A skirmish occurred at Independence, on the 18th, between a de-tachment of Ohio cavalry and a band of rebels, eaded by Gauntrel Parker. The latter work routed, with a loss of three killed and several wounded, and several taken prisoners. A quantity of arms was also captured. The Federal loss was one killed and three wounded.

From Harrisburg. HARRISBURG, Feb. 26.—The following important order has just been issued : GENERAL ORDER, NO. 17.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA, ? missioned officers and privates in the companies where the vacancies occur.

This order only applies to officers below the rank of field officers, and will be enforced, except in special cases, which may be presented through the colonels of regiments.

A. G. Currin.

By order of A. G. Curtin,
Governor and Commander in Chief.
To A. L. Russell, Adjutant General P. M. A grand presentation of State flags took place to-day in front of the argenal. Four regiments of infantry, commanded by Colonels Campbell, More-dith, Lehman, and Wilson, were drawn up in line. The firing of cannon was the signal for the Gover-nor to commence the ceremonies. Its speech was eminently patriotic and cloquent, and he expressed unlimited confidence in General McClellan. The replies of the colonels were short and appropriate. The ceremonies concluded with three cheers for Pennsylvania.

seceded States, and it a system of provisional governments should be adopted a continued Sentence of a Slaver. session will be inevitable. One thing is cer-NEW YORK, February 26.—David Hall, who was convicted of having voluntarily served aboard the slaver 'Erre, has been sentenced to nine months tain-no man will be permitted to take a seat in Congress, from a secoded State, who has ever been suspected of treason. Occasional.

MEMPHIS AND COLUMBUS.

CAIRO, Feb. 26 .- [Special to the Chicago Tri-Nothing has transpired in reference to Columbus Reports from rebel sources represent that a stand will be made at Columbus. The Randolph and Memphis forces are concen-

trating at the latter place. The streets of Memphis are harricaded with cotton bales. The reports of the pacification of Tennessee are denied. Late Memphis papers contain a savage war speech delivered by Governor Harris

FROM NASHVILLE.

Sr. Louis, Feb. 26 .- A despatch from Fort Donelson, dated yesterday, to the Democrat of this city, says that a boat which had just arrived rom Clarksville reported the evacuation of Nushville by the rebels. The Union citizens at that place sent a boat to

Clarksville, which towed one of our gunboats for The rebels, with Governor Harris retreated to Murfreesboro. Harris burnt all the State documents before leaving. General Grant has declared martial law over

West Tennessee, with the understanding that when a sufficient number of citizens of a State return to their allegiance, and show a desire to maintain aw and order over the territory, all military retrictions will be withdrawn. Postal facilities have been extended to Clarksville, and the mail-bags will follow the flag.

THE WAR IN NEW MEXICO.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 26.—The Santa Fe mail, with dates to the 10th inst., has arrived. Sibley's proclamation did not have the desired ffect. Instead of rallying men to his standard, it has strengthened the Union army by at least two regiments and placed nearly all the citizens under arms. Great enthusiasm prevails in the counties of Bernadilla, Venicia, Socarro, and in the upper ounties.

The militia has turned out in large numbers. Advices from Fort Craig are to the 7th inst. The Texans, under Sibley, were at Fort Thome. ive hundred miles from Fort Craig, and advancing on the latter place. Their supplies were scarce heir transportation poor, and their only alternative was to fight or starve to death. Our forces are anxious for a battle. They have every advantage, and are confident of success, proiding there be no treachery.

A grand Pontifical mass was held in all the churches in the Territory on the 10th, to pray for the souls of the Catholics killed in battle. An Important Order.

The following important order has been issued:

GENERAL ORDERS—NO. 60.
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, WASHINGTON, Feb. 21, 1862. Brigadier General Andrew Porter is announced as Provest Marshal General of the army of the Poas Provost Marshal General of the army of the Potomac, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. A provost marshal for each division will be appointed by its commander. The division provost marshal will obey the orders of the division commander in all matters affecting interior police, but will be responsible to the provest marshal general, and be guided by such instructions as he may from time to time give. A sufficient guard will be detailed by the division commander for duty under inc orders of the provost marshal. A local provost marshal for a city or village will, when necessary, be appointed by the commanding officer or by these headquarters. For brigades and detachments a deputy provost marshal may, when necessary, be ap-

puty provost marshal may, when necessary, be ap-pointed by the division commander.

The duties of the provost marshals, general and In a duties of the provost marshais, general and local, relate to the general police of the army, and embrace the following subjects:

Suppression of marauding and depredations, and fall brawls and disturbances; preservation of good order and suppression of drunkenness; beyond the limits of the camps, prevention of stragging on the mysch's suppression of graphing. yond the limits of the camps, prevention or strag-gling on the march; suppression of gambling-houses, drinking houses, or bar-rooms and brothels; regulation of hotels, taverns, markets, and places of public amusement; scarches, seizures, and ar-rests; execution of sentences of general courts-martial, involving imprisonment or capital punishment; enforcement of orders prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, whether by tradesmen or sutlers, and of orders respecting passes; deserters from the enemy; prisoners of war taken from the enemy; countersigning safeguards, passes to citizens, within the lines and for purposes of trade; complaints of citizens as to the conduct of the soldiers. The provost marshals, general and local, will notify the regimental commanders concerned of all arrests of soldiers made under their orders, and will cause the men to be delivered, with a copy of the charges against them, to their proper officers. They will see that the orders respecting passes to officers and men absent from their camps are enofficers and men absent from their camps are enforced. All passes will be taken up by the guards
at their expiration. Passes so taken up will be
turned over daily to the provost murshal of the disision to which the guard beleng, who will causa
them to be examined, and all forged passes, or
passes granted by improper authority, or for unauthorized periods, to be reported to the division
commander.

All prisoners captured from the enemy will be
turned over to the provost marshal of division,

twined over to the provost marshal of division, who will send them, at the earliest practicable moment, with complete descriptive lists and information as to where, when, and how they were capmation as to where, when, and now may note captured, to the provost marshal general.

All safeguards granted at these headquarters will be countersigned by the provest marshal general. Persons found violating such safeguards will be instantly arrested by the provest marshals. Passes to citizens within the lines, and for purposes of trade, may be granted by the provest marshals, of trade, may be granted by the provost marshals, general and local, who will be guided strictly by the instructions heretofore given by these headthe instructions heretotore given by these head-quarters upon the subject.

The provost marshals will investigate all com-plaints of citizens in regard to the conduct of the troops, and will report the facts in the case to the division commander. By command of

Major General McClellan.

S. Williams, Assistant Adjustant General.

S. WILLIAMS, Assistant Adjutant General.

General Bushrod R. Johnson

[For The Press.]
MR. EDITOR: In your paper of the 20th inst., under the head of "The Latest War News," you say "Bushrod R. Johnson, who was captured at Fort Donelson, and whose name has been confounded with that of Albert Sidney Johnson, is a native of Kentucky, and graduated at West Point in 1836." &c.

If you refer to the register of officers and graduates of the U.S. Military Academy, compiled by Capt. George W. Cullum, 1850, you will see at No. 1039: Bushrod R. Johnson, born in Ohio, ap pointed from Ohio, and graduated in 1840. The remainder of his history you have given correctly, according to the same authority.

LETTER FROM COMMANDER SEMMES.

To the Editor of the London News:
Sir: An article in the Daily News, reviewing the rights and duties of belligerents and neutrals, has recently come under my observation, in which has recently come under my observation, in which the following expressions occur:

"At the same time, it must be admitted that both the Sumpter and the Nashville have grossly violated the laws of civilized warfare, by burning merchant ships to the water's edge, instead of carrying them before a prize court. Their conduct is certainly much more like that of pirates—hostes humani generis, as the commander of the Sumpter says. Nor is it clear that a community which sanctions such barbarous proceedings deserves to be treated with the same consideration which is universally accorded to those who themselves observe

treated with the same coosideration which is universally accorded to those who themselves observe the laws of civilized warfare."

Now, the above remarks are exceedingly unjust—not that I suppose you intended injustice, but you have not rightly appreciated the position in which we of the Confederate States have been placed by those "civilized" nations whose rule of warfare you say has been violated. Great Britain has acknowledged us as a beltigerent. Thus acknowledgement gives us all the rights of war equally with the other party. One of the most essential of these rights on the high seas is the right of destroying the enemy's commerce, and thus disabling him from carrying on the war; a right which Great Britain, in all her wars, has exercised to its fullest extent, and with terrible effect upon her enemies. And when she has not found it convenient to send her prizes into her own ports she has had that over-And when she has not found it convenient to send her prizes into her own ports she has had that over-weening influence with the nations of the earth which has enabled her to send them into neutral ports, and there to have them condemned by her

which has enabled net to send them into heater ports, and there to have them condemned by her own prize courts.

The ports of the Confederate States were blockadded on or about the first of June, 1861. Subsequently to this period, and with full knowledge of the fact, Great Britain, France, and Spain, and the lesser maritime Powers of Europe, all issued proclamations, defining their positions in the war. In these proclamations they prohibited belligerent cruisers from bringing their prizes into their ports—except in case of necessity, and, in that event, both the cruisers and their prizes were to depart within twenty-four hours. In this state of facts, how can it be insisted that we shall send our prizes into port for adjudication? Into whose ports shall we send them? We cannot send them into our ewn ports, for they are blockaded—at least so far blockaded as to render it difficult for ordinary sail ships to enter them. We cannot send them into any of to enter them. We cannot send them into any of the ports of those "oivilized" nations who are so shocked at the barbarity of our burning them. What, then, shall we do with them? They are our

What, then, shall we do with them? They are our lawful prizes, captured, says Europe, by the cruisers of a recognized de facto Government. Shall we let them go? This would deprive us of our right of capture, or render null that right, which is the same thing. And can this be what impartial Europe intended when it penned its proclamations? It is readily admitted that the usual and more proper course is, as you say, for a cruiser not to burn her prizes to the water's edge," but to send them into a "prize court for adjudication," and this is the course which I need not assure you we would be glad to pursue if the thing were possible. this is the course which I need not assure you we would be glad to pursue if the thing were possible, for obvious reasons. But if the nations of the earth put it out of our power to pursue this course, is it generous to find fault with us because we do not pursue it? To show you the earnest desire which I had, in the beginning of my cruise, to send my prizes in for adjudication rather than take the responsibility of sitting in judgment on them myself, I send you enclosed a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Governor of the town of Cienfuegos, in the island of Cuba, as early as the 6th of Juty last. This letter will explain itself, and I have only to remark with reference to

as the 6th of July 18st. This letter will explain itself, and I have only to remark with reference to it, that I had not at its date seen the Spanish proclamation. I rely upon your sense of justice to give place in your columns both to this communication and the letter.

B. SELMES, Commander Confederate States Navy. B. SEMMES, Commander Confederate States Navy. C. S. steamer Sumpter, Gibraltar, Jan. 20, 1862.

A CAUTION—TREASURY NOTE COUPONS.—The public are cautioned against a piece of villainy, by which the operator cuts the coupons off the \$50.7.30 which the operator cuts the coupons on the 3.5. 'vertex reservy notes, and passes the note as a demand note in trade, thus pocketing \$10.95, the amount of the coupons for three years, which he may collect half-yearly upon presenting them at the Gavernment offices. Traders should bear in mind that there are no \$50 demand notes, only \$55, \$103, and \$208.—Peterson's Counterfett Retector,

XXXVIITH CONGRESS-FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26, 1862. SENATE. GENERAL BANKBUPT ACT.

Mr. HABHIS (Rep.), of New York, presented a pe-tition from the merchants, &c., of New York, praying or a general bankrupt act. MEMORIALS. Also, a memorial from the Academy of Medicine, New York; against the employment of homosopathic sur-

Mesers. DOOLITTLE (Rep.), of Wiscensin, and RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH FROM WISCONSIN. Mr. McDOUGALL (Dem), of California, from the special committee on the subject, reported a bill for the establishment of a railroad and telegraph line from Wiscomin to the Pacific ocean. OCCUPATION AND CULTIVATION OF COTTON LANDS. On motion of Mr. WADE (Rep.), of Ohio, the bill for the occupation and cultivation of cotton lands was the occupation and cultivation of cotton lands was taken up.

Mr. DOOLITTLE (Rep.) thought it a question whether the Government should go into raising cotton and attempt to run plantations. He thought it a very doubtful experiment in a pecuniary sense. If it was a proposition to lease out the lands he would not object.

Mir. WADE said that he did not suppose that the bill would realize any great sum of money, but there was a large extent of territory abandoned, and the slaves left at large, and something must be done to take care of them. This was not any actived golicy, only a temporary measure for one year to meet the necessities of the case.

Mr. DOOLITTLE thought that if commissioners had been sent down to Port Royal to see the dephant we have on our hands, we might have received much in-Mr. WADE asked if he had read the report of Mr. Pierce on the subject.

Mr. DOOLITTLE said that he had not, and confessed

Mr. DOOLITTLE said that he had not, and confessed to his ignorance on the sub,ect. He wanted the Government to take some measures to collect revenue and taxes in those States, even if we had to sell the lands.

Mr. SUMNEK (Rep.), of Massachusetts, thought that nature would not wait for the operations of Congress, and if we expect to get any crops, seed must be planted soon, and it will not do to delay the matter. There was a necessity for immediate action.

Mr. BROWNING (Rep.), of Hilmois, considered this a very important measure, and should be carefully considered. He thought the bill vague, and needed revision. He moved to refer the bill to the Judiciary Committee. There was great danger of doing injury to loyal men, who deserved protection. There was great danger of doing injury to loyal men, who deserved protection.

Mr. HALE (Rep.) said that if the war could be prosecuted to a successful issue without hurling anybody, he yould be glad of it, but he did not think that this was possible. He thought there was great force in the remarks of the Senator from Massachusetts, that "the seed time is upon us." That was one of the most prophetical remarks that he ever made in the midst of so many classical quotations. It is a fact that the seed time is upon us, and, if we do not take advantage of it, we may be obliged to say that "the summer has massad, the harvest

us, and, if we do not take advantage of it, we may be obliged to say that "the summer has pussed, the harvest ended, and we have nor saved."

Mr. FOSTER (Rep.), of Connecticut, thought the bill was carefully drawn up. It was made expressly for the purpose of saving property, and not to destroy. It proposes to provide for those who will be in a perishing condition unless speedy relief is furnished. NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES. The norning hour having expired, the bill fixing the mill of the members of the House of Representatives

was timen up.

Mr. COLLAMER (Rep.), of Vermont, offered an amendment to make the number 241. He spoke at some length in favor of his amendment as producing a more correct ratio of representation. The amendment was adopted, and the bill passed.
Mr. TRUMBULL (Rep.), of Illinois, moved to tak he confiscation bill.

Mr. HARRIS (Rep.), of New York, moved to take np THE CASE OF MR. STARKE.

Mr. DOOLITTLE (Rep.), of Wisconsin, said the enate was in the middle of a discussion on three bills to thought it would be better to take up the one that ad been discussed first, and finish it, and then take up next. fr. TRUMBULL withdrew his motion, and the case of larke was taken up. . HALE withdrew his motion to recommit the subject the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. SUMNER offered an amendment to the resolution reported by the committee, so as to make it raid a that Mr. Starke be not entitled to take the oath without inrestigation into his loyalty."

He spoke at some length in favor of the amendment, contending that the Senate, in self-defence, ought not to admit a suspicion of disloyalty, and it was not justice to the people of Oregon to admit a disloyal representation, which was, in fact, no representation of their will. He claimed that the affidavits in the case were worthy of insections in and the Senate was bound to meet disloyalty. claimed that the affidavits in the case were worthly of in-vestigation, and the Senate was bound to meet dusloyalty on the threshold. We should not allow a person to per-jure himself in the Senate. We should preserve the sacred oath to support the Constitution. Such an oath was not an oath of purgation. Mr. McDOUG & LL (Dem.), of California, said the Sana-tor from Massachusetts had made a most unwarrantable security of a preserve who was not permitted to route.

sault on a person who was not permitted to reply. Mr. SUMNER said he had only spoken on the facts of he case, and wanted to know in what he had made an Mr McDOUGALL replied, the Senator had said that if the applicant from Oregon was permitted to take the oath, it would be perjury on his part.

Mr. SUMNER said the Senator did not do him instice.
Senators had urged here that the applicant from Oregon should be permitted to take the eath in order to purge himself. He had said that, with all the evidence he had allowed the applicant to go forward to take the outh, they would allow him to go forward to perjure himself. He would go still further and say that they would un-He would go suit tutting and any dertake to enact a coniedy.

Mr. DAVIS (U), of Kentucky, thought the Senate had all the evidence before them. He contended that the Senate could not exclude a member for mere opinion's the Senate could not exclude a member for mere opinion's the senate could not exclude a member for mere opinion's the senate of the se sake. There must be some overt act committed. What is disloyalty? That is the question. He thought the majority of the people think that the Senator from Massachusetts was disloyal. He could take the resolution myhich had been offered by the Senator from Massachusetts. self.

Mr. COWAN (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, said that if
members were to be excluded by mere caprice, we could
not tell on whom the blow will next fall. The question
is, what is this thing disloyalty! What are its bounds
and limits! He would like the Senator from Massabreather delive it.

ty for afty cents on the dollar and go and fight for the South.

Mr. COWAN said he had asked a definition and got an example. He was just as wise as he was hefore. Did dieloyalty consist in talking against the Government or selling property at half price! He contended that the Senate had no right to go outside of the qualifications mentioned in the Conscitution, but the Senator from Massachusetts proposed to go outside and make the individual opinions of a Senator a malification.

Mr. DOOLITILE (Rep.), of Wisconein, asked if we admitted Mr Starke to be sworn, and if he was proven a terward te have been a traitor, could we expel him without finding him guilty of the commission of some overt act after his admission!

Mr. COWAN said he might answer that question when it arises; but that was not the case now before us.

Mr. WILMOT (Rep.), of Penns) Ivania, said that disloyalty night be defined as unfaithfulness to one's country and Government, by associations and sympathy, aside from an overt act like treason. The simple question is, when shall the Senate consi ter the question of disloyalty? If a person is disloyal, he is certainly not e titted

loyalty? If a person is disloyal, he is certainly not e stitled to a seat. He thought that now was the proper time to loyaity? If a person is disloyal, he is certainly not entitled to a sent. He thought that now was the proper time to settle this question.

Mr. CARLILE spoke at some length He contended that the Senate had no power to exclude any person sent with the proper qualifications for a State. There were different views entertained as to what was meant by disloyalty. For instance, there were fifteen Republican papers charging the Senator from Massochusetts with disloyalty. He would never declare, by his vote, that the States were held subordinate to the pleasure of the Senate, in their right to representation.

Mr. SHERMAN (Rep.), of Ohio, said the question was not one of disloyalty, but whether Mr. Starke should he sworn in, and whether a Senator could be prevented from being sworn in by exparte testimony. At the expiration of this Congress there will be only thirty Senators left, and if this rule prevails, it would be in their power ever after to exclude any other Senator, and such a rule would everthrow the Government. The Constitution provides that a Senator shall take the oath, but does not provide the time or place. The oath might be taken anywhere. He was inclined to think from the evidence that Mr. Starks was disloyal; yet he would not reduce Oregon its representation. If Pillow should he sent here he would expel him beforc he could take his seat. He cited various cases in England where persons were expelled for offences committed long before.

Mr. TRUMBULL (Bep.) thought the Senator from Ohio had stated some very extraordinary propositions—that the cath could be administered anywhere and by anyhody, and that the Senator from mere caprice, if they do that, then the Government is good for nothing. Mr. DINON (Rep.) said he knew no difference behald the law of the season the lader of a rebellion and the man who in phold it.

Mr. HARRIS (Rep.), of New York, spoke at length against the amendment of Mr. Sunner.

The Scante then adjourned. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THANKS TO MAJOR GENERAL HALLECK.

but Mr LOVEJOY objected.

Mr LOVEJOY objected.

The resolutions commend the sentiments and policy avowed in General Hableck's general order of February 23d, already published, as eminently wise and patriotic, and in strict conformily to the Constitution, and that the war should be conducted in accordance with the same.

The thanks of Congress are tendered to General Halleck for the said order, and for his military achievements as Commander of the Department of Missouri.

PERSONAL.

PERSONAL. PERSONAL.

Mr. VAN WYCK (Rep.), of New York, asked to be excused from serving further, at present, as chairman of the Committee on Government Contracts. A few days would be necessary to close up some unfinished invostigations. He would always feel actively interested in the results of the committee. It has yet much to do, although the unfinching integrity and untiring watchfulness of Secretary Stanton relieves it of many cases. He also Committee on Revolutionary Pensions. He trusted the House would grant the request.

RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY. Mr. VAN WYCK then offered the following reso Resolved, That the Computee on Government Couracts be directed to inquire into the amount of money received by the United States officers in the city of New York by virtue of their office; also, as to the ownership and rents of the bonded warehouses; also, the terms, considerations, and profits of the labor contract and general orders contract for the aborting, halling, and delivering, Ac., of foreign goods in the city of New York, when made, by whom, and who are now interested in the

The SPEAKER ruled that as to the chairmanship from which the gentleman asked to be excussed from service, that was a question for the committee to determine.

UP 10N ELECTION CASE. The House proceeded to the consideration of the Up-ton election case, being the Representative from the S. venth Congressional district of Virginia. Mr. WORCESTER (Rep.), of Ohio, maintained that there was no proper evidence that Mr. Upton, the sitting member, had received any votes, hence the Committee member, had reported manimously squins him.

Mr. SEDBWICK (hep.) angued that the other mambers from Virginia were admitted under the same law which governs in this case, the only difference being as to the number of votes.

Mr. RIPDLE (Rep.) and Mr. FESSENDEN (Rep.)
spoke in favor of, and Mr. SHEFFIELD (U.) against,

spoke is favor of, and Mr. Sii Ei Mr. Upten's claim. The subject was then laid over. THE NEW BATIO OF REPRESENTATION. THE NEW RATIO OF REPRESENTATION.

The House concurred in the Senate amendment to the bill fixing the number of Representatives—viz: that there shall be two hundred and forty-one under the comes of 3860—an additional Representative from Ponasylvania, Onio, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Minneasta, Virmont, and Rhode Band, owing to the large fractiona of the cetablished raits.

The House then adjourned.

Marine Disaster. GREENPORT, February 26 .- The schooner Meteor. of New Bedford, for New York, has been totally lost on Plumb Island. Three of the crew perished, the captain only being saved.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE. HARRISBURG, February 26, 1862.

SENATE. The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock by the Speaker. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Bartine, of Philadelphia. Mr. CONNELL presented a remonstrance from residents of Germantown against the supplement to the North Philadelphia Plank-road Company.

Mr. STEIN presented two petitions from Lehigh county in layer of constituting that county a separate judicial district.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, MF. ROBINSON (Corporations), with amendments, the bill to incorporate the Pennsylvania Potroloum Fransportation Company.

Mr. McJLUBE (Railroads), as committed, the supplement to the act incorporating the Macaulay Mountain Railroad Company. Railroad Company.

Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, from the select committee on the subject, reported, as committed, the joint resolutions adopted by the House relative to the defences of Delaware river and bay. BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. HIESTAND, a bill to extend the charter of the Lancaster County Bank.
Mr. SERRILL, a bill relative to a certain burial ground in the beyongh of Christer.
Mr. CONNELLI, a bill for the more convenient and economical settlement of decedents' estates. BILLS CONSIDERED, &c.

The bill providing for the appointment of fence viewers came up in order on second reading, and passed finally, after being so amended by Mr. Connell as to require that the Board of Surveyors and Regulators and receive no extra compensation for the duties imposed by The bill te incorporate the North American Shafe Company came up in order on second reading, and passed finally.

Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, on leave given, read in place a supplement to the act of 1939, relative to the attachment of vessels.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, the joint On motion of Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, the joint resolutions relative to the defences of Delaware river and hay were considered and passed.

On motion of Mr. KINSEY, the supplement to the act to enable joint tenants, tenants in common, and adjoining owners of mineral lands, to manage and develop the same, was taken up on second reading, and passed finally.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, the bill relative to the Green Ridge improvement Company was considered and passed. Adjourned. HOUSE.

The House met at 10 A. M., Hen. John Rowe, peaker, in the chair. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Steele. SPECIAL ORDER. An act to repeal the act, approved ith March, A. D. 301, entitled wan act for the commutation of tonnage inties."
The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Armstrong, of Lycoming, in the chair.
After consideration, the bill was reported back as com-The House then proceeded to the consideration of the COMMUTATION OF TONNAGE DUTIES.

COMMUTATION OF TONNAGE DUTIES.

Mr. KAINE, of Fayette. This is a very important bill. That the Legislature has a right to repeal an act of the preceding Legislature, unless on a particular circumstance, is not to be disputed or denied. The report of the Committee on the Judiciary (general) implies, at least, that there were doubts hanging around this quostion. If the Legislature have not the right, there must be something in the act of last session different from ordinary legislation. If there is anything in that act that looks beyond the pale of the Legislature, it must contain something within itself that is protected by the Constitution of the State. If it is, as is alleged, a selemn contract spiered into between the Commonwealth of Ponnaylumia on the one part, and the Pennaylumia Railroad Company on the other part, upon good and legal consideration, it would be a contract. A contract, I believe, is defined to be an agreement made between two parties, lawfully to do or not to do some particular act.

The first position I take upon this question is, that the act proposed to repeal by this act was illegal because it infringed a principle of public policy, and because it was in volution of the fulls of this Commonwealth.

I take it that the Legislature has a right to regulate

wealth. I take it that the Legislature has a right to regulate the toll. No corporation is entirely independent of the Legislature. The Pennsylvania stailroad Company, at the time of the passage of the law, was in debt to the Commonwealth at least the entire amount of \$550,000, The money belonged to the Commonwealth of Ponnsylvania that the control of \$550,000, The money belonged to the Commonwealth of Ponnsylvania that the entire amount of \$550,000, The money belonged to the Commonwealth of Ponneyi-vania, and was, or ought to have been, within its treasury; and, to disrobe this thing of all its surroundings, it was nothing more or less than an appropriation of \$850,000 to ten railroad companies. Pennsylvania was giving the Pennst Ivania Bailroad Company \$850,000 to be distributed after the passage of the bill by the Legislature. Is that any part of a contract when it is agreed that the whole amount of this money, or nearly so, belonged to Pennsylvania!

The act of 1861 provided that these \$550,000 should be divided among ten railroad companies, when certain work was done. When certain conditions in this law were complied with, then it was mode the duty of the sampany to appear with the sampany to appear with the sampany to appear with the sampanies they say that to six railroad companies they have appropriated this money. At the same time, they admit that these railroads were not in a condition to receive the money.

these railroads were not in a common of the commoney.

Mr. SCOTT, of Huntington. The law in itself is prejudicial to public interests—to the interests of the people, Its passage was procured by frau!.

The Constitution of the United States provides that no State shall pass a law impairing the validity of contracts. Mr. S. proposed to consider whether the State has made a contract in this case. We must take the act as it stands. The right of the Commonwealth to collect tonnage duties has been questioned. If there be in that law any provisions that infining the Constitution of the United States, that the Legislature transcended their powers in setting apart that money, the remaily is opan. He was forced to believe that thre is in this law contract. The question is whether a fraud in this transaction can be reached, either by this body or any judicial bedy of this Commonwealth! It is the duty of every member of this House to give his most serious attention to this question. A more important one could not be brought Lafeta any body, legi-lative or judicial. Howas not guided, in considering the propriety of the ropeal of the act, by any blind admiration of the Pennsylvania Railroad Campany, nor of hostility to it. He looked upon the railroad as a great enterprise. It had greatly developed the resources of the State, and it the late national exigency did much towards saving the capital. But money was used in procuring the passage of the law last year. This renaitly must be atoped. Unless we stop the use of money in public business it will not be many years before a travelling artist takes his stand upon the unfinished shaft reared to the memory of Wachington, on the banks of the Potomac, and sketches the rains of a crumbling Capital, they should

sketches the rains of a crumbing Capitol.

If the Legislature has been corrupted, why should not the courts take comizance of the question! If the Legislature can be corupted, and there is no judicial resembly, and this corruption can go on, we may soon begin to fear that gold will begin to find its way in all legislation—among all public officers; and hold the scales, not for the justness of the cause, but the merit of the bribe.

Mr. TRACY, of Brudford; wished that the gentleman, and more like him, were here last whiter. Lit possible Mr. TRACY, of Bradford, wished that the gentleman, and more like him, were here last winter. Is it possible that the Legislature cannot repeal a law, although it be an act contracted and consummated in frend and corruption! It (Mr. Tracy) believed that the Legislature have the remedy for corruptions of this kind—that the remedy is here, among us, and it is the duity we owe our constituents and ourselves, and the Commonwealth whose representatives we are. The remedy must be now and speedy. He thought gentlemen from the city should express their views.

A SUBSTITUTE. Mr. WILLIAMS, of Allegheny, said he had prepared a bill which he proposed as a substitute for the one now upon the table.

An act to repeal the act entitled an act for the commutation of the tonnage duties, approved March 7, A. D. 1861.

Whereas, An act was passed at the last session of the Legislature, purporting to be an act for the commutation Whereas, An act was passed at the last session of the Legislature, purporting to be an act for the commutation of the tennags duties, by means whereof the sum of \$752,308.41, or thereabouts, besides interest then owing to the State by the Pennsylvania Railroud Company, and in contemplation of law in the treasury of the State, together with a large annual revenue stipulated to be paid by the said company, as the price of the charter and by way of compensation for the deterioration in value of the main line of the public works apprehended and actually inflicted by the construction and operation of the said road, which revenue had already reached the sum of three hundred thousand dollars and upwards, and would have amounted at this time of a greatly larger sum, with the prospect of indefinite increase, was wrongfully, unjustly, and unconstitutionally withdrawm from the sinking fund provided by the Canstitution and laws of this State for the payment of the public dobt thereof, and made sacred and invibiable for that purpose, upon suggestions which were false and pro-tended, considerations which were either in conflict with tion, without any substantial equivalent whatever, there-by yielating the plighted faith of the State and increasing the burden of the people, at a time when the necessities of the country pre-eminently required the most rigid economy and the strictest husbandry of their resources: And whereas, The said act was approved by the Gosernar, as shown in his message to the House of Reprosentatives of the 5th day of February Inst past, under a
stipulation in writing for the benefit of the people, which
was not made known to them, and has since bean surrendered to them without their knowledge or consent on
the demand of the said company, without any previous
registering in the proper office, and without even the prasentation of a copy thereof:

And whereas, It is affirmed and believed that the
terms of the said act of the Assembly were dictated by
the said company, and that the passage thereof was procured by improper and unlawful means other than those
which have been already recited on the part of said company and its agents.

which have been already recited on the part of sand expany and its agents.

Section 1. Be it therefore enacted, de., That the said recited act of Assembly of the 7th of March, A. D. 1861, be, and the same is hereby, repealed, and the said toninger tax or duties imposed by the act incorporating the tall Pennsylvania Ruilroad Company is hereby reastored, reimposed, and made payable to the Commonwealth in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as though the said repealing act had never been massed. SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of the Atterney Genetonnage tax, which were due and owing at the time to the passage of the said recited act, which is bereby repealed, together with such additional tax or duties as would have accrued upon the ionnage of the said company, until the date of the present act. And for the proper accrtainment of the amount of the said additional tax, it shall be the duty of the said company to file forthwith in the office of the Auditor General a statement duly authenticated by the oaths of the president and treasurer of said company, of the amount of their business so made tuxable for the intervening period and also to furnish to the Attorney General, from time to time, such other and additional statements and such access to their books as he may judge necessary for the purposes of the said suit, or other proceeding hereby anthorized: provided, however, that the moneys paid by the said Company, on account of the said pretended commutation, over and beyond the annual instalment or instalments payable by them on their bonds for the purchase money of the public works, shall be credited upon the arrears of the said tray, which were due and owing at the passage of the said stream.

During the discussion on the motion to set a day for the special consideration of the bill, the hour of one are rived, and the Speaker adjourned the House till to-morrow at 10 A. M.

row at 10 A. M. SALE OF DRY GOODS, &c., At. Auction .- The attention of purchasers is requested to the large and varied assortment of British, French, German, In dia, and domestic dry goods; also, a line of linear handkerchiefs, embracing about 500 lots of staple and fancy articles, in woollens, worsted, linen, cotton, and silk, to be peremptorily sold by catalogue, for cash, commencing this morning, at 10 o'clock, the sale to be continued, without intermission, the greater part of the day, by John B. Myers & Co.,

auctioneers, Nos. 232 and 231 Market street. cluding lecture of a series, gotten up by the Lutheran Board of Publication, is to be delivered this (Thursday) evening, at Concort Hall, Chestnut Subject: "Our Country." The fertility of the theme, coupled with the lecturer's eminent ability to present it in an attractive and popular form, will, we doubt not, insure a full house.

THE CAPITOL EXTENSION .- We observe that Mr. Foot, of Vermont, has introduced into the Senste . joint resolution, reported from the Committee on Pub lie Buildings and Grounds, transferring the supervision of the Capitol extension and the erection of the new dome from the War Department to the Pepartment of the Interior. Our panders are aware that this proposition does but contemplate a roturn, so far relates to the department chargels with, an oversight of the work, to the original arrangement which was established at the laception of the ar-chitectural improvement of the Capitol. At pre-acht the extraordinary engagements of the military branch of the Government would naturally render this labor an incumbrance of which it might well desire o be relieved, to the end that the work in hand be prosocuted to its earlier complotion. The suspension of the work during the war is, moreover, open perhaps, to ob-jections on political grounds, as seening to saply a lingering doubt respecting the expediency of patting the capstons to the national edifice. - National Intelligence