Laguayra.

Massachusatts.

The Press. FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1862.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS. We have further news from General Banks' column this morning. All the commands are in fine condition, and the men are eager for a fight. Several skirmishes have taken place, in which our troops have been victorious. An unsuccessful attempt was made on the 3d instant by the rebels to outflank Col. Geary's regiment. The rebels are in strong force at Winchester, having no less than 60 guns, field artillery included, and they have erected some formidable earthworks.

A despatch from Cairo to the Chicago Tribune, last evening, states that our pickets at Columbus were driven in by the rebel cavalry on the previous day. The woods in the vicinity of the town having been shelled, however, the enemy discreetly retired. The despatch further states that heavy firing was heard at Columbus at four o'clock yesterday morning, as though in the direction of New Madrid. The rebel army at that place has been largely reinforced from Columbus and Memphis, and is stated to number forty thousand men.

New Madrid is the capital of a similarly-named county of Missouri, on the Mississippi, 280 miles S. E. of Jefferson City, and about 50 miles south of Cairo. It has hitherto done a large business in shipping corn, lumber, and cattle, to Southern markets, but the trade has, of course, been cut off by the rebellion. The houses here are mostly built of wood, on account of the frequency of earthquakes, one of which greatly injured the town in 1811. The next earthquake will probably come in the shape of a bombardment from our gun-

The Havana correspondent of the New York Express, writing under date of March 1, states that United States Consul General at that port, Mr. Shufeldt, has discovered that certain New York merchants are in the habit of shipping waterproof musket caps, saltpetre, powder packed in corn and white beans, and other cereals, to agents of the rebels in Havana, to be reshipped by them to some Southern port by vessels running the blockade. Consul Shufeldt has all the names of the parties, and he has despatched them, with the necessary documents, to Secretary Seward, so that proceedings can be had against the traitors.

The Annual Conference of the East Baltimore Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session, has adopted the following resolution, by a vote of 132 yeas to 15 nays: "Resolved, That we hereby approve and en-

dorse the present wise and patriotic Administration of the Federal Government in its efforts to defeat the plans and to overcome the armed resistance of the so-called Confederate States, with a view to maintaining and perpetuating the unity of this Go-

It is stated that the War Department will shortly be able to furnish the newspapers with all of the important was news which the Government is willing to have published. Mr. Sandford, the Government censor, is endeavoring to arrange matters in such a manner that a bulletin board shall be established at his rooms, for the use of newspaper correspondents, so that all papers will be treated

Congress Yesterday. SENATE. - A joint resolution was passed, tender. ing the thanks of Congress to Captain Goldsborough and his command for the Rosnoke victory. HOUSE.—The bill providing for the organization of the staffs attached to divisions of the army, whether volunteer or regular, was passed with

amerdment.

A message was received from the President, suggesting the passage of a joint resolution co-operating with any State for the abolition of slavery by pecuniary compensation. On motion of Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. In the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. Kelley presented a defence of Mr.

Cummings, after which the House adjourned. THE ELECTION of the Hon. REVERDY JOHNson, of Maryland, as a Senator from that State, is a most suggestive event. At any time we would welcome into our national councils a statesman so eminent, and at this time especially, when he comes the representative of a regenerated sentiment, and from a regenerated State. Mr. Johnson was among the first of the Southern public men to identify himself with the Union feeling when the popular opinion seemed to be against the Union. He gave his great name and the weight of his great influence to the Administration in the hour of its extremest peril, and at all times unfalteringly he has been a true and tried friend of the cause. We congratulate the country upon the election of a man of such enlarged and liberal views to the Senate.

JEFFERSON DAVIS finds the war a little nearer home than Tennessee. The Union feeling which has so long been hidden in Richmond is now bursting and budding forth under the genial influences of our Tennessee victories. So of statesmanship or argument, we recognize strong is this feeling, that the rebel chief is compelled to cover his capital with martial law; his soldiers are employed in the work of disarming the citizens; John Minor Botts and other public men are thrown into prison, and there is a constant vigilance exercised to prevent any uprising of the masses. To read the Richmond papers one would think that Mr. DAVIS was dealing with a conquered city. The people of his capital are beginning to realize the infamy of the great conspiracy. The feeling in Richmond is the feeling manifested in all parts of the South. They see in the army of the Republic an army of deliverance. It brings them hope for the future, retribution for the past, and they are preparing authority over the Union as an inevitable to welcome it by offering up Davis and his minions as a sacrifice to the spirit of Liberty and loyalty.

COMPARE Richmond and Nashville-one a city in the hands of the rebels. the other a city in the hands of the Federal troops. "Drunken men reel and tumble into the gutters, sprawl over the sidewalks, brandish knives and pistols, and oftentimes indulge in those deadly conflicts which fill our prisons with candidates for the gallows." This is Richmond from a rebel point of view. Nashville, on the other hand, is quiet, peaceful, and orderly. "The rebels admit," savs an authority, "that the Hessians have not committed a single outrage, while the conduct of their own troops was outrageous." Thus it will always be. Wherever the flag of the Union floats, there will be law, order, and protection. Wherever the rebels are in authority there must be disorder, anarchy, and rapine.

Mr. Murdoch's Repetition of T. Buchanan Read's New Poem. A very large and intelligent audience greeted Mr. Murdoch at the Academy last evening. The announcement of T. Buchanan Read's new poem, with the telling title of the "Wild Wagoner of the Alleghanies," and the high repute of the elecutionist, drew together many leading citizens and scholars. The author himself occupird a private box, and among those seated upon the stage we noticed Bishop Potter, President Allen. Henry C. Carey, and a number of clergy men, actors, and editors. The curtain was down and two candels are lighted the stage. Mr. Murdoch was introduced by Colonel James Page, and after a few introductory remarks proceeded in his clear, ringing tomes to describe Berkley Hell, the mansion of Sir Hugh Berkley, situated upon the Schuylkill river, near Philadelphia. The baronial adornments of this hall seemed a little incongruous in our sober colovial latitude, but the descriptions of old armor, ancestral Sir Hugh appeared to be a frigid, haughty personage, whose brother, too proud to willing hospitality at Berkley Hall, had wandered away, and afterward became the Wagoner" of the poem. The knight had been married twice, his second wife having espoused him in preference to a colonial lover who fell in a duel with Sir she afterward became lunatic and formale the hall for the wilderness. The knight's daughter, Esther, departed for England, to be educated, and her place at home was supplied by his vagrant son, Hugo, neither knowing of the consenguinity existing between them.

The other characters were Edgar, a protege of Esther's, a British colonel, and other soldiers, loyelists, and patriots. The second canto, descriptive of the vagoner and his mountain life, was full of beautiful pastoral passages, and a soug, prophetic of which we print as a part of the proceedings. the Revolutionary feeling, was kindly received. When the manner in which Mr. Cummings has and to be assigned from the surgeons or assist-In the subsequent cantos the opening of hostilities, been criticised and investigated, alike by the the battle of Brandywine, the winter at Valley Forge, and the Meschienza in Philadelphia, were delineated. In each caute there were glowing stanzas. The dramatic interest of the fieri in was not allowed to flag, and a few humorous paragraphs alternated with the prevailing seriousness of the poem. The denouement, intense, indeed, in the perusal, was made doubly effective by the wondrous elecution of hr. Murdoch. The piece terminated melodramatically, and amid profound and

attentive silence. Mr. Gottschalk will give another concert at Musical Fund Hall on Monday evening next He will be assisted as before, by Hinkly, Susini, Sanderson, Brignoli, and Max Meretzek, etc. The two planists will perform upon separate pianos the celebrated overture of the Chase of King Henry. Gottschalk will also perform the Miserere of Trovatore, and will accompany Brignoli in a serenade, composed for him by the planist

The "Comedy of Errors," the "Serious Family," and passed in both Chambers, in order to carry out the ob-Mr. Drew's repetition of Shamus O'Brien, will be the ject of the petition. We understand that the friends staples of the bill at the Arch-street Theatre to-night, of Col. Corcoran in this city intend to bear all the ex-Dan Rice has been crawing tolerable houses at the this being the occasion of Mr. Drew's sixth benefit. Walnut. He gives a good entertainment—the riding of but merely demand that Councils may extend to him Monsieurs Zoyara and Melville being unrivalled in the those hospitalities which are due to all such brave and chronicles of the ring.

FEW MEN understand the fitness of things better than Mr. President Lincoln. He doe everything at the proper time and in the proper way. His message of yesterday could not have been written at a more appropriate period. It comes to the country when it is almost satiated with victory. Wisely following events, instead of rashly disregarding them, the President takes the occasion of our recent successes in the West, and the large extent of reoccupied territory obtained by

those victories, to publish to the world what his policy shall be, and to ask of Congress an endorsement of that policy. And in making this request, the President pays a high compliment to his legislative colleagues in the administration of the affairs of Government. They have clothed him with an abundant confidence, and placed in his hands imperial and unquestioned power. In the exercise of that power our Chief Magistrate has driven the steel of loyalty into the heart of the rebellion. He has brought the mightiest conspiracy history records to the verge of an ignominious fall, and while pushing on the good work to a speedy consummation he pauses to indicate the policy his conscience calls upon him to

That policy meets our heartiest approval. We can see nothing in the resolution the President suggests, or the arguments with which he sustains that resolution, to conflict with our own recorded opinions. It comes to us with almost the awe of inspiration. We see in its author the chief of a mighty people, the champion of a great principle, the leader in a glorious war; we see a ruler whose responsibilities are greater than those of Cincinnatus when he became dictator, greater than those of Wishington when he assumed command of his enthusiastic and undisciplined army. Conall things well, we should have felt it our duty. even had we differed from President Lincoln, to have surrendered our convictions to the good of the Republic. We take it that the feeling we thus express will be echoed by the country; for there is no true friend of the country, no sincere lover of our flag, who would not sacrifice his opinions unhesitatingly to the general welfare. That sacrifice will be

demanded. The President recommends the gradual abolition of slavery, with compensation to loyal owners. His words are plain: The gradual abolishment of slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State, in its discretion, to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system." There can be no objection to the terms in which this recommendation is couched. He does not ask Congress to inaugurate any measure of emancipation—to pass a saying that the slaves of South Carolina shall be emancipated and their owners compensated without South Carolina's consent, but that the Government "ought to co-operate with any State" seeking to free itself from slavery. There is nothing harsh, unjust, or arbitrary. There is nothing even positive. As a practical measure, Mr. Lincoln's message means nothing. As a moral declaration of the intentions of the Government, it is of extraordinary importance. It adopts no idea, and is based on no theory. We can see wherein it will displease our radical friends, who will be satisfied with nothing but immediate, universal, and unrecompensed emancipation. Those gentlemen of Southern ideas who consider slavery as a blessing far above any other existing will also be indignant and denunciatory. The people, however, who have no sympathy with either

It will be seen that the President expresses no opinion upon the judicial questions arising out of this war. He says nothing of confiscation-of employing slaves for military purposes-of freeing the slaves of disloyal owners. We regard his silence as an evidence of consummate wisdom. These questions must be determined by the necessities of military events. The necessities of military events are peculiar to the States occupied. They can only be appreciated by the generals in command, and to his generals the President leaves them. He takes care not to violate the integrity of a State's existence, by any interference with its local rights, but bases his action upon the broad principle, that, in tendering compensatory emancipation to the owners in the Border States, we dissolve the tie that makes them in sympathy with the Cotton States, and by depriving the traitor leaders of any hope arising of that sympathy, substantially end this rebellion. The President's argument on this point is ingenious and conclusive.

Passing from all these considerations, how-

ever, and dismissing this question as a matter in the message of President Lincoln a teibute to that great Northern sentiment which is so universally felt, which dwells in the conscience of every reasoning man, and which we are glad to see at last officially recognized—the sentiment of regret at the existence of slavery. The men who have doubted our President will find in this expression of his opinion that they have done him wrong. They will see that amid the overwhelming interests and responsibilities of his high station, he does not fail to meet what, after all, is the great issue involved in this war. He makes no question of loyalty or disloyalty. He assumes the restoration of our and immediate fact. He considers these people of the South as the deluded citizens of the Union, which in their madness they attempted to destroy. And in order to secure the Republic against any recurrence of the frenzy whose bitter results we are now so sadly experiencing, he asks Congress so to shape its legislation that the institution existing in the South, controlling its statesmen and crushing its people, which has fostered the social and political aristocracy on which this rebellion is based, shall pass away. Not violently, not cruelly, not to the injury of any individual or State rights, not by outraging our feelings of humanity at the inauguration of servile war and nsurrection, not ignoring a single provision of the Constitution, not even offending the prejudices of those who are so sensitive on this institution; but by a calm, just, and considerate act of legislation. He recognizes the obligations of the Administration upon the one part, and of every constituent of the Administration upon the other, preserving sacredly

the good faith that should exist between Therefore, we hail this message of President Lincoln as the opening of a new era in our history. We have had victories in the field-let us unite and secure a victory in the Cabinet and council chamber. No loyal man can hesitate or falter when the President leads. There can be, hereafter, but two parties in the political contest, as there are but two parties in the military contest—those who oppose the Administration, and in doing so oppose the Union, and those who give to the President that warm and ardent support which knows no selfish and no personal consideration. Our course is clear on this question, and so, we think, is the course of every true-minded and patriotic man. We see in the policy of the President the path to be followed; and it is permanent commanding officer, as follows: the only path to national union, peace, and perpetuity.

JUDGE KELLEY, the representative from the Fourth Pennsylvania Congressional district, in the course of his speech in the House yesterday, presented a paper signed by ALEXAN-DER CUMMINGS, Esq., of this city, in reply to the charges of the Van Wyck Committee. newspapers and members of Congress, the opportunity of allowing him to appear in his own behålf cannot be denied to him. And we are frank to add that he certainly makes out a clear and powerful case—a fact that will go far to dispel many of the accusations against him, and greatly gratify his personal friends.

RECEPTION OF COL. CORCORAN. Yesterday, in Select Council, Mr. Fox, of the Twelfth ward, presented a petition, signed by sundry citizens asking that the hospitalities of the city might be extended to Col. Corcoran upon his arrival in Philadelphia. An ordinance, making an appropriation was subsequently

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

Washington, March 6, 1862. How similar the situation and perplexities of the patriotic political leader and the loyal military chief in these changeful and eventful imes! Both dedicated to the task of serving and saving the Republic, and of defeating its enemies, they are often hampered by precedents and prejudices, and constantly subjected to the suspicions of friends and the criticisms foes. One of the oldest and ablest of the Republican journals, the New York Commercial Advertiser, uttered the following fruitful thought, a few days age, which is directly applicable to what I have just written:

Nothing makes alive like war, if nothing kills

like it. It sets all the wits, the energies of people in operation, and galvanizes ince almost superhu-man activity both civilian and soldier. Throwing routine in a great measure to one side, it presents routine in a great measure to one side, it presents novel situations and exigencies, demanding capacities that shall anticipate events, and be prepared to deal with them as they arise. It calls for statesmen—not more politicians—who have observed closely the characteristics of the people to be governed; who understand their strong and weak points, and who, covering up these, can turn those to the best advantage; who have alike at their disposal an intimate knowledge of details, with a readiness of educing therefrom general principles, and who combine with these qualities eminent industry and zeal in the nation's service. In a crisi like the present, when great public questions are sprung upon Congress in an service. In a crisis like the present, when great public questions are sprung upon Congress in an hour; when unexpected events may compel the men at the wheel to veer to this or that point of the compass, it is evident that examples drawn from our own past history or that of other countries can furnish little guidance; much less can political platforms present any safe rule of action. These may do wall aponeth when the nublic servants have little o well enough when the public servants have litt do well enough when the public servants are little to do save travelling on their annual rounds in true horse-mill fashion. But they are as imapplicable at present as would be the battering rams of antiquity for the capture of Fort Donelson. New times de-mand new measures as well as new men."

This paragraph is not merely a text, but a sermon. No reflecting man, who is not subfiding in the wisdom which thus far has done | jected to the narrow bounds of his own little sphere, or tied to the past by the red tape of what is called "a record"-no representative American, in civil or military life, will fail to see and to accept this practical counsel. There is not an hour of these times, so crowded with novelty, that I do not meet and onverse with those upon whom the forunes of parties and armies depend; and in every case I can read what indeed no one atempts to conceal-that he can serve his country best who is most prompt in giving up his own personal ideas and interests—and that the coldest benefactor, and the truest friend of the common cause, is the statesman or soldier who seizes the most effective weapon, no matter by whom supplied, to put down the rebellion, to

cripple the traitors, and to keep them in eternal banishment or obscurity. There are several classes who will of course reject this theory, and content themselves by isolation from the vexations and labors that must be the lot of all men who prefer to help their country first and their party afterwards. An incident that took place yesterday will illustrate this expression. A prominent politician, who really desires to support the Administration, but is so restrained by his party feelings as to be often found voting with men he despises, said to me, " unless this is done [alluding to one of his plans for compromise] we will create a party that, without having had any of the responsibilities of this war, will sweep the ountry." Take another class, even those who profess to be friends of the Administration. They will yield nothing, and believe nothing. save what squares with their dogmas; and finally settle down into a course of chronic complaint, and angry criticism of their own as-The debate in the Senate of the United

States on the confiscation bill, and the coming discussions in the House on this and cotemporaneous measures, are significant. Because the theorist or the traitor, will see in this dethey disclose differences among men who claration of the President the true expression should agree on a common plan and platform, of their wishes, and a policy kind and just s, in itself, nothing. Such only natural at all times, but now, in this world's crisis, they must frequently appear, and are marked with much feeling. What is to be apprehended is that these discussions may create such a chasm between friends as may never be closed, and that the opponents of the Administration, by uniting with one of the divisions, may achieve all they desire. I am in favor of the most decided measures to crush out the rebellion. Nothing can be too severe or radical in my eyes. But rather than trust the destinies of my country to the men who have been prominent in pushing her into this strife, I would agree to give up much in order to insure hearty union among those who are by principle and interest the best supporters of the war policy of the Administration. Observe, that nearly every measure necessary to the vigorous policy of the war is criticised and opposed by certain class of partisans, in Congress and throughout the country. These men are not statesmen in any sense. They are simply struggling to obtain possession of the Govern ment, and to this end will strive to emasculate any law which contemplates the rigid punishment of treason and such a restoration of the Union as will prevent other designs upon its integrity. What is needed to counteract these schemes is wise and comprehensive legislation, and an irresistible combination in support of such legislation as will make the Administration respected and powerful.

## FROM WASHINGTON THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

IMPORTANT MESSAGE OF

THE PRESIDENT. A SOLUTION OF THE SLAVERY QUESTION PROPOSED.

Confirmations by the Senate

ARREST OF NOTED SECESSIONISTS.

A DEFENCE OF ALEXANDER CUMMING

Special Despatches to "The Press."

The President's Message.

The President's message excited a deep interes in the House to-day. It was evident that a document of such an important character was not gene-rally anticipated. The reading was called for by Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, and, on his motion referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, in which it will be discussed Some of the members, not fully understanding it as pronounced from the desk, perused the manuscript at their seats. The subject therein discussed form to-night a theme of earnest conversation. The message, of a similar character, transmitted to the The Tax Bill.

The demand for the tax bill is very great. The printers found it utterly impossible to complete i to-day. Important Bill for the Organization of

the Staffs of the Army. The House passed Senate bill, to-day, without important amendment, providing for the organization of the staffs attached to divisions of the army, regulars and volunteers. The bill provides that, during the present rebellion, each division of the forces of the United States, consisting of two or more brigades, shall have the following officers attached thereto, who shall constitute the staff of the

One assistant adjutant general, one quartermas-

ter, one commissary of subsistence, and one assistant inspector general, who shall bear respec tively the rank of major, and who shall be assigned from similar ranks and corps of the army, it consistent with the interests of the service; if not, to be appointed by the President. Also, three aids de-camp, one with the rank of major and two with the rank of captain, to be appointed by the President. The bill also provides for one medical director with the rank of major, ant surgeons of the regular army, or from the brigade surgeons of the volunteers. The division commander may detail an officer of his command, with rank of captain, to act as judge advocate of the division, or a lieutenant of said command may be assigned by the President to act as such division judge advocate, with the rank of captain while so

The bill goes back to the Senate for concurrence in an unimportant amendment, and will, doubtless. be a law in a very brief time.

Funeral of Brig. Gen. Lander—A Solem and Imposing Ceremony. The body of the gallant and lamented LANDER reached this city about two o'clock yesterday afternoon, for interment. It was at once embalmed by Drs. Brown and ALEXANDER, and was this morning removed to the residence of Secretary CHASE, at the corner of Sixth and E streets, where the funeral ceremonies (which were most imposing, and vituessed by a dense throng of sorrowing citizens),

Two of the deceased General's body guard, who accompanied the remains to this city, were placed

on duty at the door. During the morning hundreds of citizens and strangers called to take a last look at the deceased, but were informed that Mrs. LANDER was with the body of her deceased husband, and that no one except the intimate persons friends of the deceased would be admitted. Shortly before 12 o'clock the doors of the man-

sion were opened, and a great many persons were admitted to view the body. Among those present were the President and members of his Cabinet, General McClellan, General McDowell, Senators, and Representatives, and a host of other distinguished persons, military and civil. The form of the deceased was clothed in full uni form, with sash and sword, and lav in a coffin which was covered with black cloth, and mounted with silver. On the lid of the costin was a silver plate

bearing the inscription—

"Frap W. Lander, Brig. Gen.
Died March 2, 1862, at Camp Chase, Va.,
Aged 39 year s.

Brayest or the Braye."

A few minutes after 12 o'clock the coffin we closed, and was then brought out and placed upon a caisson. It was covered with a large American flag, on which were laid the sword and cap of the deceased; also, a beautiful wreath of white flowers. The funeral procession was formed as follows-the military escort being in column: 104th Regiment Pennsylvania volunteer infantry, with reversed arms, preceded by a fine band.

Company A, 2d Artillery, (Capt. Tidball's battery, six pieces. A squadron of cavalry—two companies of (Col. Rush's Pennsylvania) Lancers. Brigadier General Silas Casey and staff.

Officiating clergy and clergy of the District.

Pall-bearers, in carriages—Hon. F. P. Blair, Hor Henry Wilson, Major General G. B. McClellan, Brigadier General S. Williams. Caisson, with the body.

Calsson, with the body.

Pall-bearers, in carriages—Hon. John F. Potter, Hon.
Charles Sumner, Brigadier General B. B. Marcy, Colonel T. M. Key, A. D. C. The relatives and friends of the deceased. The Eleventh Maine Regiment Volunteer Infantry, with side arms, in undress uniform. Officers of the Army.

The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, and District Judges of the United States. The President and Secretary of the Senate. Senators and officers of the Senate.

The President of the United States and Members of th

Survivors of the War of 1812.

Governors of States and Territories Speaker and Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Members and officers of the House of Representatives. Justices and officers of the Court of Claim Members of the Sanitary Commission. Citizens and Strangers.

The members of the deceased General's body guard, who accompanied his remains to this city, about thirty in number, were formed on each side of the body, which was also guarded by the artillerymen attached to the caisson on which it was

The procession being formed, moved from the residence of Secretary Chase, corner of Sixth and E streets; through E street to Thirteenth, through Thirteenth to G, and was formed in front of the Church of the Epiphany.

The sacred edifice was crowded to its utmost ca-

pacity. The coffin was borne up the central aisle, receded by the pall-bearers, one of whom was Gen. McClellan. Following came Mrs. Lander, leaning on the arm of Secretary CHASE, and Miss CHASE accompanied by Secretary STANTON. The other members of the Cabinet having entered, the form of President Lincoln was seen, and after him came Gen. McDowell, and other army offi-

At the conclusion of the services the procession re-formed and marched through G street to Fourteenth, through Fourteenth to Pennsylvania avenue, through Pennsylvania avenue to New Jersey avenue, through New Jersey avenue to the railroad

In the meantime the organ and choir of the church joined in a solemn dirge. The audience been seated, the Rev. Bishop PARK, of Rhode Island, proceeded with the impressive funcral service of the Episcopal denomination, being assisted by the Rev. Dr. HALL, pastor of the

The flags all over the city were displayed at half-mast throughout the morning, and our citizens manifested every token of respect for the hero who so gallantly sacrificed his life in the service of Arrest of Noted Secessionists.

This morning the authorities brought to this city, from Baltimore, and confined in prison, Mrs. WM. H Norris and Mrs Rogers, two ladies belonging to the "first families" of Baltimore, on the charge of giving aid and information to the enemy. These ladies belonged to an association for the manufacture of clothing, which was surreptitiously forwarded South for the rebel soldiers. Both ladies have sons in the rebel army, while their husbands departed South during the arrests made ın Baltimore last summer.

Sepator Johnson. Senator Jourson did not leave to-day for Nashville, as widely rumored and generally believed: He does not know on what day he will be able to take his departure. It is stated that he will not exercise the position of brigadier general unless the exigencies of the State may imperatively demand it. It is supposed that Senator Johnson will be accompanied by Representative MAYNARD.

Ex-Lieutenant Woolsey. The papers in the case of this officer, praying for restoration to the navy, were reported on adversely yesterday, but to-day were again referred to the enate Committee on Naval Affairs.

Provision for the Purchase of Coin. The bill reported from the Committee of Ways and Means to-day authorizing the purchase of coin, and for other purposes, provides that the Secretary of the Treasury may dispose of any bonds or note bearing interest, authorized by law, for coin, at such rates, and upon such terms, as he may deem most advantageous to the public interest, and may issue. under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, certificates of indebtedness, such as are authorized by the act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue certificates of indebtedness to public creditors, approved March 1, 1862, to such creditors as may desire to receive the same in discharge of checks drawn by the disbursing officers upon sums placed to their credit on the books of the treasurer, upon requisitions of the proper department, as well as in discharge of audited and settled accounts as provided by said act. It is further provided that the demand notes, authorized by the act of July 17, 1861, and by the act of February 12, 1862, shall be receivable, and shall be lawful the same purposes and to the same extent as the notes authorized by the act to authorize the issue of

noney and a legal tender, in like manner and to United States notes, and for the redemption and funding thereof, and for funding the floating debt of the United States, approved the 28th of last month. The Post Office Department. Pestal communication is entirely reopened to Acmac and Northampton counties, Va

The Post Office Department is ready to establish. as soon as Congress shall give authority, offices for free delivery in cities, with uniform rates of postage for local and general letters. Promotions for Services in the Field.

The President, in addition to the other officers promoted for gallant conduct, has nominated Brigadier General Thomas to a major general, as a re-Also, Col. HARVEY BROWN, to be brigadier general hy brevet: Major ARNOLD, to be lieutenant colonel by brevet; Captain HILDT, major by brevet; Major Tower, lieutenant colonel by brevet; Captains AL-LEN, CHALFIN, CLERSON, ROBERTSON, BLUNT, DURYEA, and Langdon, majors by brevet: and First Lieutenants McFarland, Shipley, Jackson, PENNINGTON, SRELY, FRANK E. TAYLOR, and TODD o be captains by brevet, for good conduct at Santa Rosas Island. Retrenchment in the House

The Committee on Accounts of the House this morning agreed unanimously to report a bill transferring the superintendency of the folding room for the doorkeeper of the House to an independent superintendent, who is to be elected in the same manner as the clerk and postmaster of the House. The bill, which contemplates other changes, is expected to reduce the expenditures of the folding some ten thousand dollars.

Additional Mailable Matter. The Senate Committee on Post Offices, this morning, reported adversely to the House bill authorizing the Postmaster General to permit articles not now included in the schedule of mailable matter to be sent through the United States mails at the rates now established for book postage. It was believed that if this bill became a law, the mails would be ourdened with packages that should go by express, while the increased expense would not be exceeded much by the revenue anticipated.

Skirmish Near Pohick. We learn that a skirmish took place yesterday morning, on the Telegraph road, near Pohick, between a party of Texan Rangers and a company of HEINTZLEMAN'S division, resulting in three killed and one wounded on our side. What loss befel the enemy is not known. The killed on our side were lieutenant, and a private, and one private wounded.

Miscellaneous. A proposition to place a suitable tax on cotto in the new tax bill, is to be introduced in the House. A caucus of Republican members of Congress

was held to day at which the subject of emancipation was considered. No result was reached. The funeral of Brigadier General F. W. LANDER at noon to day, was a grand and solemn spectacle. It formed at E and Sixth streets. The pall-bearers were as follows: Hon. F. P. BLAIR, Hon. HENRY WILSON, Major General G. B. McCLELLAN, Brigadier General S.

WILLIAMS, Hon. John F. Potter, Hon. CHARLES SUMNER, Brigadier General R. B. MARCY, Colonel T. M. King. A. D. C. General McClellan's staff, who attended the One Hundred and Fourth Pennsylvania and the Eleventh Maine, were in the funeral certege, with many military celebrities. The body will go by railroad to Salem, Massachusetts, with a proper

Confirmations by the Senate. Charles Howard Edwards, of New Jersey, to be onsul at Alicante. Abyaham Hanson, of Wisconsin to be consul at Efias Wampole, of Pennsylvania, to be consul

Thomas Spencer, of Hilo, to be consul at Hilo. Alexander Henderson, of Pennsylvania, to be onsul at Londonderry. Thomas Hogg, of New York, to be marshal of the Consular Court of the United States at Kans gaira; Erasmus D. Shattuck, of Oregon, to be attorney of the United States for the district embracing the State of Oregon.

Calvin H. Hule, of Washington Territory, to be superintendent of Indian affairs for Washington Territory; Thomas S. Nelson, of Missouri, to be

recorder of land titles for the State of Missouri. J. Remington Fairlamb, of Pennsylvania, to be consul at Zurich. Hugh Young, of Pennsylvania, to be consul at Santa Cruz William W. Mills to be collector of the customs or the district of Paso del Norte, in the Territory of New Mexico. Luther Haven to be collector of the customs for the district of Chicago, in the State of Illinois.

John E Slatker to be collector of the customs for the district of Annapolis, Maryland. William L. Ashmore to be collector of the customs at Burlington, New Jersey.
Charles A. Perkins to be collector at Oswego, Charles F. Swift to be collector at Barastable

N. K. Sargent to be collector at Kennebunk. Warren Thornberry to be surveyor of the customs at Paducah, Kentucky. Joseph Spencer to be surveyor of the customs at East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Wm. W. Gorton to be surveyor of the customs at Pawtuxet, R. I. George Howland to be surveyor of the customs

Creek, Marvland. J. J. Witzig, of St. Louis, Mo., to be supervising nspector of steamboats. E. M. Shield, of Cincinnati, Ohio, to be supervising inspector of steamboats. Thomas B. Stillman, of New York, to be superising inspector of steamboats. Hosen Stout, of Utah, to be attorney of the United

James Jones to be surveyor of the port of Town

States for that Territory. Isaac L. Gibbs, of Nebraska, to be marshal of the United States for that Territory.
Sewell R. Jameson, of Nebraska, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of lands subject to sale at Brownsville, Nebraska.
William H. Evans to be consul at Cyprus. Charles W. Chatterton, of Illinois, to be agent

for the Indians of the Cherokee agency. R. D. McDougal, of Ohio, to be register of the land office at Chillicothe, Ohio. Wm. F. Elkin, of Illinois, to be register of the land office at Springfield, Illinois. Warren Wasson, of Nevada, to be marshal of the United States for that Territory. ASSISTANT PAYMASTERS IN THE UNITED STATES

NAVY.
Edward May, of Massachusetts; Henry M. Denniston, of New York; Richard Washington, of Virginia; Wm. H. H. Williams, of Connecticut; Chas. 7. Hasler, of Virginia; Thomas C. Master, of New York; Rufus Parks, of New York; Frank C. Cosby, of Kentucky; Edwin Stewart, of New York; Wm. T. Meredith, of Pennsylvania; Wm. I. Thompson, of New Hampshire; Jos. A. Smith, f Maine; Richard H. Douglas, of Pa.; R. Julius Richardson, of Vt. : Lawson C. Morrill, of Wis. ; Jas. S. Turnbull, of Connecticut; Clifton Hellen, Kansas; A. J. Clark, of New York; Charles E. Hammond, of Pennsylvania; Geo. Cochrane, of Pennsylvania; L. S. Stockwell, of California; Thomas T. Caswell, of Rhode Island; Geo. A. Sawyer, of District of Columbia; Casper Schenk, of Il-Wm. W. Williams, of Ohio; F. C. Upton, of New York: Judson S. Post, of Missouri; Wm. H. Welden, of Ohio; Charles Hoy, Jr., of New York; A. J. Pritchard, of Maryland; and B. F. Camp, Jr., of New York, to be assistant paymasters in the United States navy.

ARMY OFFICERS CONFIRMED Thomas E. Noell, of Missouri, to be captain. Edwin R. Ames, of Indiana, to be second lieu-Charles L. Truman, of New York, to be first lieuenant in the Eighteenth infantry. POSTMASTER OF NEW YORK CITY.

Abram Wakeman to be deputy postmaster at New York. R.K. Smith, of Pennsylvania. Eugene F. Sangor, of Maine. Me edith Clymer, of Pennsylvania.

ADDITIONAL PAYMASTERS IN THE VOLUNTEER FORCE CONFIRMED John M. Pomeroy, of Pennsylvania. Valentine C Hanna, of Pennsylvania. Mogan S. Martin, of Wisconsin. Charles J. Sprague, of California.

FLAG OFFICERS CONFIRMED. Captain Charles H Bell, United States Navy, to be flar officer in command of the Pacific squadron. Castain William W. McKean, United States Navy, to be flag officer in command of the Gulf Blocksding Squadron. Captain Louis M. Goldsborough, United States Navy, to be flag efficer in command of the North

Atlantic Blocksding Squadron.

Captala Samuel F. Dupont, to be flag officer in command of the South Atlantic Blockading Squad-Lieutepant Stephen B. Luce, to be a lieutenant n the navy.

Wm. H. Mills, of Missouri, to be first lieutenant in the Fourteenth Regiment of infantry. ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT Joseph H. Liebenan, of New York, Sergeant Jo seph McCoy, of the Fifth Regiment of cavalry, and Simos F. Barstow, of Massachusetts, to be assistant adjutants general, with the rank of captain.

SIXTEENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. First Lieuterant Wm. J. Slidell to be captain. Second Lieutenant Wm. H. Bartholomew to be first lieutenant. Jos. T. Hoyer, of Pennsylvania volunteers, to b second lieutenant First Regiment Cavalry. Wm. K. Pollock, of Pennsylvania, to be second lieuenant First Regiment Artillery. Jss. T. Dickson, of Pennsylvania, to be second

lieuenant Third Regiment Artillery. ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT. Major George D. Ramsay to be lieutenant colonel Captain Peter V. Hagner to be major. First Lieut. Stephen V. Bevel to be captain. Second Lieut. D. W. Flagler to be first lieutenant Im F. Gensel, of Pennsylvania, to be second lieu. tenant of the Fourth infantry. Wm. F. Clark to be assistant adjutant general

with the rank of captain. M. L. McPherson, of Iowa, to be commissary o subsistence, with the rank of captain, in the volunteers; D. H. Strother, of Virginia, to be assistant adjutant general, with the rank of captain; Jesse Thornton, of Ohio, to be commissary of subsistence with the rank of captain. George B. Halsted and Pilsen John to be as

sistant adjutants general, with the rank of captain. Assistant Adjutant Generals. The following is the number of assistant adjutant generals of volunteers nominated to the Senate: From Ohio, 8; Pennsylvania, 8; Illinois, 7; New Jersey, 2; Maryland, 1; Kentucky, 2; Maine, 1; Washington Territory, 1; Missouri, 1; New York, 19; Indiana, 3; District of Columbia, 2; Michigan 4: Massachusetts, 6; Iowa, 1; at large, 1; army, 1; not known, 15; Kansas, 3; Vermont, 1; Delaware, 1; Wisconsin, 1; Rhode Island, 1; Califor nia, 1; Dacotah Territory, 1; Oregon, 1; total, 93. ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTERS OF VOLUNTEERS NOMINATED TO THE SENATE.

From Indiana, 8; Illinois, 15; Massachusetts, 6; Vermont, 2; Michigan, 4; Kansas, 1; Kentucky 1 : Washington Territory, 1; Iowa, 2; Pennsyl New Hampshire, 2; Wisconsin, Maine, 2; New Jersey, 1; Missouri. 3; Colorado Territory, 1; Ohio, 12; Virginia, 2; New York, 17; Connecticut, 1; California, 2; Oregon, 1; District of Columbia, 1; Maryland, 1; Not known 12; Total, 117. Charles Henry Foster.

CHARLES HENRY FISHER has returned to Wash ington, and again presented his petition for a seat as a member of Congress from the Second Congressional district of North Carolina. The case is before the Committee on Elections.

Postal Money Order System. The Senate Committee on Post Offices, this morning, reported adversely to the bill introduced in the House, by Mr. HUTCHINS, of Ohio, establishing a uniform money order system at all post offices, which may be deemed suitable. The bill provided that the deputy postmaster might issue a check to any one depositing with him the sum desired to be sent by mail, which check was to be paid to the address at the other end of the route; the deputy postmaster sending such address and his order for the payment of the check or money order. A suitamission was provided for the revenue arising

Confirmed.

We are pleased to announce that Capt. SAMUEL RINGWALT, of Pennsylvania, has been confirmed 23d, near Grand Glaze, Arkansas. Forty-two lives by Congress for the position of quartermaster. The were lost. appointment cannot fail to give satisfaction, as the post is one of no small responsibility, and, to be capably filled, must be filled by a person of integrity, energy, and experience. The appointments of M. Hoopes, W. M. Riley. and John M. Pomenor, to paymasterships in the army, were to day confirmed.

The Kansas Legislature. LEAVENWORTH, March 6.—The Kansas Legislature has adopted a resolution, nearly unanimously, instructing the Kansas Senators and requesting the Representatives in Congress to aid the passage of the Rollins' Pacific Railroad bill, and a ratification of the treaty with the Pottowatomie Indians.

Defruction of the Beverly Rubber Factory.

Roston, March 6.—The Beverly Rubber Fac-BOSTON, March 1.—The Boston, 100,000. Insured for \$70,000. The company had a contract for the manufacture of 70,000 rubber blankets for

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE. NESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of

Representatives: I recommend the adoption of a

Resolved, That the United States ought to cooperate with any Etate which may adopt gradual
abolishment of slavyry, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State in its discretion, to compensate for the inconvenience, public
and private, produced by such change of system.

If the proposition are trued in the resolution de-

If the proposition contained in the resolution doe

not meet the approval of Congress and the country,

there is the end, but if it does command such ap-

proval, I deem it of importance that the States and

people immediately interested should be at once distinctly notified of the fact, so that they may begin

to consider whether to accept or reject it. The Fede-

ral Government would find its highest interest in

such a measure, as one of the most efficient means of:

self-preservation. The leaders of the existing insur-

rection entertain the hope that this Government will

ultimately he forced to acknowledge the independ-

ence of some part of the disaffected region, and that

all the slave States north of such parts will then-

say—The Union for which we have struggled be-

ing already gone, we now choose to go with the

Southern section. To deprive them of this hope

substantially ends the rebellion, and the initiation

of emancipation completely deprives them of it as to all the States initiating it. The point is not

that all the States tolerating slavery would very

soon, if at all, initiate emancipation; but that

while the offer is equally made to all, the more

Northern shall, by such initiation, make it certain

to the more Southern, that, in no event, will the

former ever join the latter in their proposed

confederacy. I say initiation, because, in my

judgment, gradual and not sudden emancipation is

better for all. In the mere financial or pecuaiary

view, any member of Congress, with the census

tables and Treasury reports before him, can readily

see for himself how very soon the current expend

tures of this war would purchase, at a fair valua-

tion, all the slaves in any named State. Such a pro-

position, on the part of the General Government,

sets up no claim of a right, by Federal authority, t

interfere with slavery within State limits, referring,

as it does, the absolute control of the subject, in each

case, to the State and its people immediately in-

terested. It is proposed, as a matter of perfectly

free choice with them. In the annual message

last December I thought fit to say : " The Union

must be preserved, and honce all indispensable

means must be employed." I said this not hastily.

but deliberately. War has been made, and con-

tinues to be an indispensable means to this end. A

practical reacknowledgment of the national au-

thority would render the war unnecessary, and it

would at once cease. If, however, resistance con-

tinues, the war must also continue, and it is impos-

sible to foresee all the incidents which may attend,

and all the ruin which may follow it. Such as

may seem indispensable, or may obviously promise

great efficiency towards ending the struggle, must

and will come. The proposition now made is an

offer only. I hope it may be esteemed no offence

to ask whether the pecuniary consideration ten-

dered would not be of more value to the States and

private persons concerned than are the institution

and property in it, in the present aspect of affairs.

While it is true that the adoption of the proposed

resolution would be merely initiatory, and not

within itself a practical measure, it is recom-

mended, in the hope that it would soon lead to

important practical results. In full view of my

great responsibility to my God and to my country

I carnestly beg the attention of Congress and the

FROM GEN. BANKS' COMMAND.

TER. WITH 60 PIECES OF ARTILLERY

Unsuccessful Attempt to Flank Colonel

Geary's Command.

A REBEL PICKET CAPTURED.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., March 6 .- Reliable intel-

ligence states that the enemy is in full force at

Winchester, and have completed formidable earth-

works on this side, mounted with sixty guns, in-

Nothing of special importance transpired yester-

day. The work on the railroad progresses rapidly,

and every point is strongly protected from Cum-

berland to Harper's Ferry, and every facility is

being afforded to the company. A large force is

employed on the bridge and iron trestle-work at

the ferry. The work has been found in better con-

dition than was at first supposed by the engineer,

and ten days is fixed as the time when a through

All the commands of this division are in the best

condition, and anxious for an attack on the enemy.

Bunker Hill was occupied by our forces yes-

A scouting party of cavalry reports that Ash-

ley's rebel cavalry last night attempted to cut

hem off near Berryville, but were foiled in the at

Four regiments of rebels, with a four-gun bat-

tery, attempted, on the 3d instant, to flank Colonel

Geary near Lovettsville, but were driven off

Yesterday several deserters were brought into

town by the cavalry. Among them was Lieute-

nant Arthur Markell, of the Fifth Virginia vo-

CHARLESTOWN, March 6-P. M.-A squad of the

Van Allen Cavalry, to-day, captured a rebel picket,

five in number, near Bunker Hill. They belonged

to the Second Virginia Infantry, and were carried

before the division provost marshal, Lieut. Colonel

Andrews, of the Second Massachusetts regiment.

LATEST FROM CHARLESTOWN. VA.

SMITHFIELD OCCUPIED.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., March 6-8 o'clock P. M.

Smithfield, seven miles northwest of this place.

General Banks has issued a general order for-

bidding all kinds of depredations or marauding

upon the property of citizens. He says: No officer

r soldier shall disturb in any manner the ordinary

business of the country. He has appointed Major

S. H. D. Crane, of the Wisconsin Third, as the

officer in charge of all seizures of property for the

The country supplies, which, on our arrival, were

cut off, are new coming in more freely. Public

sentiment in regard to our presence is gradually

undergoing a favorable change, and faces which

scowled upon the Union soldiers now smile in plea-

The army storehouses here are fast filling up

with confiscated articles of produce and manu-

factures, and such as are required are being issued

to the army. The seizures include five hundred

and seventy barrels of flour and two hundred

bushels of wheat, the latter being in bags marked

FROM CAIRO.

The United States Pickets at Co-

lumbus Driven In.

THE REBELS SHELLED BY THE GUNBOATS.

Heavy Firing Heard in the Direction

of New Madrid.

CHICAGO, March 6 .- A special despatch to the

The Federal pickets at Columbus were driven in

yesterday by the robel cavalry.

The woods in the vicinity of the town were

It is reported that heavy cannonading was heard

at Columbus at four o'clock this morning, in the

The rebel army at that point numbers 40,000, having been largely reinforced from Columbus and

Memphis. They have also eight wooden gun-

From the rebel papers, we glean the following:

The steamer Cambridge was sunk, on the

The machinery from the various workshops at

Nashville was removed, previous to the evacua-

demanding that Jeff Davis should take the field.

The people of the South are warmly urging and

A bitter contest was going on at Memphis, as to whether that town should be burnt on the approach

Arrival of the Northern Light.

tion of that place, to Chattanooga.

of the United States gunboats.

shelled by the gunboats, when the rebels fled.

sant intercourse with the officers and men.

was occupied to-day by a strong force.

erday, as the extreme post on the west.

There is some movement of troops to day.

HE ENEMY ENTRENCHED NEAR W

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

people to the subject.

cluding the field batteries.

connection will be made.

without a battle.

for examination.

use of the army.

"Confederate States."

Tribune, from Cairo, says

direction of New Madrid.

boats.

lunteers

t resolution by your honorable bodies which

the following message

shall be substantially as follows:

SENATE. HE INDICATES A POLICY ON THE The Smate was called to order at 11 o'clock, by the SLAVERY QUESTION. PETITIONS. GRADUAL EMANCIPATION RECOMMENDED

PETITIONS.

Mr. CONMELL, a remonstrance against the North Philadelphia Pinuk Road Company.

mr + MITH, of Montgomery, a petition from citizens of Delaware and Montgomery countries in favor of a law making the bridge at Monayunk a fort bridge.

Dr. REILLY, a petition from 250 citizens of Schuyl-kill country for the Aussac of a law better securing the payment of the wages of labor.

Also, eight putitions of the import.

BEPORTS OF COMMITTERS "THE UNION MUST BE PRESERVED." WASHINGTON, March 5, 1862. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES The President to-day transmitted to Congress

BEPORTS OF COMMITTEMS.

Mr. IMBBIK (Finance)) are committed, the bill provideing for the payment of certain efficients of veltaineers.

Also, the bill to relinguish the purchase mency due the the Commentwealth on a certain place of land of the German Reforted Church in Ledight county.

Mr. PRESEX (Judiciary)) with amendment; the bill relative to accounts against the Commonwealth.

Also, the ledit authorize the counts of Common Pleas to comput the Seconding of Largains of sale, death; and other instruments of writing.

Mr. KETCH MM (same), as symmitted, the supplement to the act providing for the incorporation of insurance companies. companies.

Mr. CONNELL read in place a Bill relative to records of titles of real estate in Philadelphite:

Mr. NICHOLS, on leave given, presented the reconstrance of the School Board of the School district against the bill to reorganize the Board of Controllers. BILLS CONSIDERED; AC. The bill relative to copartners and joint debtors came op in order on third resding and parasifunally.

On motion of Mr. Shi DTH, of Philashiphia, the supplement to the act of June 13, 18:6, relative to the attachard of seals was considered.

HARBISBURG, March 6, 1862.

ment to the act of Juno 13, 18:6, relative to the attachment of vessels, was considered and quasact.

On motion of Mr. IRISH the joint resolutions in favor of the abelition of slavery in the District of Columbia were taken up and passed, in Committee of the Whole; and, being on second reading, Mr. CV MEE moved to postpone for the present.

Mr. IRISH moved to amend by postponing indefinitely, which brought the merits of the satject before the Senate. Mr. ITISH addressed the Senate at length in favor of the adoption of the resolutions.

Mr. LANDON spoke on the same side unit after one o'clock, when the Senate adjourned.

The House met at 10 A. M., Speaker Rowe in the chair. Prayer by Chaplain Felty, of the Onc-kundred-

SPECIAL ORDER. SPECIAL ORDER.

An act to provide for the adjudication and payment of certain military claims was considered in Committee of the Whole. After being reported to the House, the bill was taken up, amended, and, on motion of Mr. ARM-STBONG, was referred, together with bill No. 170, upon the same subject, to a joint committee, composed of the Committees of Ways and Means and Militia.

Mr. COWAN moved that the committee be instructed in report to marginal. Mr CESSN.t moved that the bill be taken up immediately after receiving the report of the committee.

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES. PETITIONS AND BEMONSTRANCES.

Mr. THOMDSON, of Philadelphia, a remonstrance of numerous owners and occupiers of real estate on Arch street, between Second and Front streets, and on Front street, between Arch and Dock streets, in the city of Philadelphia, against the extension of the Fairmount Passenger Esaliwss.

Mr. Momakin, of Philadelphia, a remonstrance from the property owners and citizens against the passage of a bill authorizing the extension at the Arch-street Passenger Ballway down Front street from Arch to Dock street.

senger Bailway sown Front street from Arch to Duck street.

Mr. GASKIEL. of Philadelphia, a remonstrance of the Board of Public School Directors of the Second ward, Philadelphia, against the bill now before the Legislature changing the mode of selecting Controllers of Public Schools in the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. BATES, of Crawford, a petition of citizens of Crawford sounty praying for an act to creat a new county out of parts of Crawford, Warren, and Venango.

Mr. THOMPSON, of Philadelphia, a remonstrance, accompanied by resolutions, from the Board of Directors of the Fifth school district, against any interference in the present mode of choosing school controllers in Philadelphia. Mr. JOSEPHS, of Philadelphia, a petition from seventy

five pilots on the Delaware river, asking for the repeal of certain parts of an act passed 1836-37; also, for the re-peal of a portion of an act of 1851, relating to pilots and ollotage.

Mr. DENNIS, of Philadelphia, a petition from Lieut.

A. W. Miller, praying for the passage of an act to refund in money expended in recruiting.

Mr. QUIGLEY, of Philadelphia, a resolution of the Board of School Directors of the Twelfth school district of Philadelphia, remonstrating against the passage of a bill reorganizing the Board of Control.

Mr. WILDEY of Philadelphia patition of citizens of Mr. WILDEY, of Philadelphia, petition of citizens of Philadelphia remonstrating against the passage of an act entitled an act supplementary to an act 'incorporating the Fairmount and Arch-streets Passenger Railway ompany. Mr. McMANUS, of Philadelphia, petition of citizens of he Twenty-fifth ward, Philadelphia, praving for the pening of Clearfield street, between Amber street and

opening of Clearfield street, between Amber street and Mr. ABBOTT, of Philadelphia, petition and remonstrance of the School Board of the Twenty-fourth district of Philadelphia, in opposition to the proposed change in the mode of appointing controllers.

Mr. BLANCHARD, of Lawrence, petition of citizens of Lawrence county, praying a change in the relief law. It merely asked changes in the payment from the county to the State Treasury, of moneys to the families of soldiers. diers.

Mr. DONNELLY, of Philadelphia, petition of citizens of Schuylkill county praying the passage of an act to protect the wages of labor.

Mr. BEX, of Montgomery, petition of citizens of Montgomery county, asking for a free bridge at Mana-

Mr. LEHMAN, of Lancaster, petition of citizens of Set Cocalico townsh'p, Lancaster county, opposed to uny change in the present school laws of the State. It egards the present school system efficient, and says that regards the present school system efficient, and says that time will show its great superiority over any other.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of a bill to annul the marriage contract of Stanley S. Hinman, of Bradford county, P.a., and Wealthy, his wife.

After a lengthy discussion, in which Messrs. Dennis, Smith, of Chester, and Wakefield opposed the bill, it was lect—yeas 29, nays 46.

The hour of one having arrived, the House took a recess till 3 o'clock.

AFTE SNOON SESSION. AFTE ANOON SESSION.

The House reassembled at three o'clock and was called to order by the Speaker.

The bill repealing the act for the commutation of the tennage tax was then taken up.

Mr. SCOTT, of Huntingion, offered an amendment to the preamble. The amendment declares that the act of last session is not only prejudicial to the public interests, but is unconstitutional. Also, that the alleged contract is unconscionable to such an extent that any court of equity would relieve the contracting parties from the fulfillment of its terms. The amendment further declares that rumors are affoat that the act was pronured by corruption and bribery on the part of the company. In order that these allegations may be made the subject of judicial inquiry, the amendment declares it to be the duty of the Attorney General to institute proceedings in the judicial inquiry, the amendment declares it to be the duty of the Attorney General to institute proceedings in the proper court for investigating purposes, and also to test the unconstitutionality or unconscionability of the act of the last ression. If the act is found subject to these objections it is to be declared void.

A discussion ensued, and the bill was finally made the special order for to morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The House then adjourned.

Democratic State Convention of Michigan DETROIT, March 6.—The Democratic State Convention met in this city yesterday, and organized by electing H. H. Riley, of St. Joseph county, por-manent president. The attendance was very large, fully five hundred delegates being in attendance, and the proceedings were harmonious throughout.

It was deemed inexpedient to nominate candidates for State offices at this time. Resolutions were passed expressive of the position of the Democracy of Michigan in the present crisis promising the support of the Government in all constitutional means to suppress the rebellion, and opposing the termination of the war until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the Government of the War until all resistance to the Government of the G ment under the Constitution shall cease everywhere Abolitionism is strongly denounced as equally guilty with Secessionism, and the speedy extinguishment with Secessionism, and the speedy extinguishment of both hoped for. They approve of the President's modification of Fremont's proclamation and Cameron's report, and the appointment of the present Secretary of War, as an indication of the determination of the President to adhere to the Constitution. The resolutions also denounce corruption and extravagance, and demand honesty and economy in the administration of the Gevernment.

Our Fortress Monroe Correspondence

FORTRESS MONROE, March 5, 1862. AN AUDACIOUS REBEL. About half past eleven o'clock this morning the quietude of the day was broken by the reports of ome heavy guns. Be sure your correspondent was quickly upon the dock to learn the cause. Just in front of Sewell's Point, and running as hard as she could to get within the protection of the battery, there was a little robel tug, but dignified by them with the name of gunboat. An enormous Secesh flag flaunted from her stern. The reason for this audacity is unknown. I suppose that it was only a

part of their game of brag.

THE TRANSPORT CONSTITUTION IN DANGER. The steam transport Constitution, which has been at Newport News since Sunday, is expected to come down to day. She was to have come last night; but on account of her great draught of water (22 feet) it was throught advisable to bring her down in broad daylight, and dofy the rebel batteries. The rebs are boasting that they will fire at her on her way down, and, as she will be compelled o pass the Pig-Point battery at a distance of less than two miles, they will doubtless put their threat in execution. A number of the rebels' armed tugboats are hanging around her, watching her movements, but they wisely keep out of the range of he rifled cannon. In anticipation of her being fired into, the steam gunboat Mystre, the steamers Rancocas and Express, and an armed tugboat, the name of which I could not learn, have gone up to render any assistance that may be necessary. The frigate Minnesota, too, is all ready for a forward

Nothing daunted by the rebel boasts, she was got under weigh about noon, and steamed majestically down the river. As she passed the batteries at Sewell's Point and at Pig's Point the rebels fired at her with shot and shell, but, as is usually the case, missed. All the shots fell short. She is, by the time you receive this, far on her way to her

WEATHER.

Yesterday and to-day have been bright over head, but high winds have prevailed, and the bay is quite rough. Still it is quite preferable to the og which has enveloped the whole peninsula for some days past, and the almost constant rain. Last night was as beautiful as could be desired. Every star was out, and the crescent moon shone in all her splender. The quiet of the night was enly broken by the occasional challenge of a sentinel as some straggler came within his vision. At night, without the countersign, a person would be in a most unenviable situation. P. S.—It is beginning to rain. A squally night S OXDE

General Order—Trade on the Cumber fand and Tennessee. Find and Tennessee.

St. Louis, March 6.—A general order issued this evening states that surveyors and other custom-house officers and agents in this department, as well as en the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, are expected to respect the permits issued by the surveyors of sither of the ports of the Oble river, and braring his official signature and seal. Military officers in command of posts, where there are no custom-house officers, or acting in concert with such officers, will in like meaner respect these permits. Scaled baggage, while the scals remain unbroken, will also be respected by the officers. Goods, wares, or merchandise in transit, thus sealed, will be allowed to go forward to their places of destination, unless there is good and sufficient reason for their detention on information obtained from reliable sources. Until further orders, the transportation of this department is not open to munitions of war, except under regulations with the military authorities. Whisky, for the time being, is prohibited in the resumed commerces of the Cumberland and Tennessee. By command of Arrival of the Northern Light.

\$1,000,000 in specie.

New York, March 6.—The steamer Northern Light, from Aspinwall, has arrived with the California passengers and about one million in gold.

The Panama papers of the 25th ult. contain the following: Washington's birthday was colebrated at Panama with much spirit. The United States steamer Wyoming arrived on the 18th. Business in Chili was reviving, and the harvest was abundant. Peace has been re-established in Bolivia. Revolutionary attempts to agitate in Peru are in progress. It is stated that the hishops and other clergy are endeavoring to create public opinion in favor of annexation to Spatu.

An Important Homestead Bill. The following act, to secure homestcads to actual settlers on the public domain, and to provide a bounty for soldiers in lieu of grants of the public lands, passed by the House of Representatives on February 28th, has been read twice in the Senate, and referred to the Committee on Public Lands: and referred to the Committee on Public Lands:

Be it exacted by the Senate and Horse of Representatives, &c., That any person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a criticen of the United States, or who shall have filled his declaration of intention to become such, as required by the naturalization laws of the United States; shall, from and after the first January, eighteen hurdred and sixty three, be entitled to enter, free of cost, one hundred and sixty acres of unappropriated public lands, upon which said person may have filed a pre-emption claim, or wifeth may, at the time the application is made, he subject to pre-emption at one deltar and twenty-five cents, or less, per acre; or eighty acres of such unexperipriated lands, at two deltars and fifty certs per acre; to be located in a body, in conformity to the legal subdivisions of the public lands, and after the same shall have been surrayed.

sec. 2. And le it further enwored, That the per-

SEC. 2. And be it furifier enterted, That the person applies for the benefit of this act shall, upon application to the register of sire land office in which he arishe is about to make with entry, make affidavit before the said register or receiver that he or she is the head of a family, or is twenty-one years or more of age, and that such application is made for his or her exclusive use and benefit, and those special/Thorntoned in this act, and not either directly or indrectly for the use or benefit of any other person or persons who more very and upon thing the affidavit with the register or receiver, he or she shall the reunen be permitted to extent the other person or persons who move over; and upon or she shall thereupen be permitted to enter the country of land specified: I foulded, hencever, he or she shall thereupen be permitted to enter the country of land specified: I foulded, hencever, That no certificate shall be given or patter is seed therefor until the expiration of five years from the date of such time, or at any time within two years there after, the person making such entry—or if he be dead, his widow; or in case of her death, his beirs or derisee; or in case of a widor making: such entry, her heirs or derisee, in case of her death—shall prove by two credible witnesses that he, the, or they have resided upon or cuttivated the tenne for the term of five years immediately succeeding the time of filing the affidurit aforestial, then, and in such case, he, she, or they, if at that time a citizen of the United States, shall; on payment of ten dollars, be entitled to a patent, as in other eases provided for by law: And provided further, That in case of the death of both father and mother, leaving an infant child, or children, under twenty-one years of age, the right and fee shall enure to the benefit of said infant child or children; and the executor, administrator, or guardian may, at any than the warm to be the said. and the executor, administrator, or guardian may, at any time within two years after the death of the at any time within two years after the death of the surviving parent, and in accordance with the laws of the State in which such children for the time being have their domicile, sell said land for the benefit of said infants, but for no other purpose; and the purchaser shall acquire the absolute title by the purchase, and be entitled to a patent from the United States, on payment of the office fees and sum of money largein specified

SEC. 3. And he it further enacted. That the register of the land office shall note all such applications on the tract books and plats of his office, and keep a register of all such entries, and make return thereof to the General Land Office, together with the proof upon which they have been founded.

SEC. 4: And be it further enacted. That no

founded.

SEC. 4: And be it further enacted, That no lands acquired under the provisions of this set shall in any event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the Issuing of the patent therefor. the patent therefor.

Buc. 5: And be it further enacted. That if, at any time after the sling of the affidavit, as required in the second section of this act, and before the expiration of the five years aforesaid, it shall be proven, after due notice to the settler, to the satisfaction of the register of the land office, that the person hawing filed such affidavits hall have actually absorbed his or her residence. changed his or her residence, or abandoned the said outry for more than six months at any time, then and in that event the land so entered shall

revert to the Government.

SEC. 6: And be it further enacted. That no individual shall be permitted to make more than one entry under the provisions of this act; and that the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby required to prepare and issue such rules and regu-lations, consistent with this act, as shall be neces-sary and proper to carry its provisions into effect; and that the registers and receivers of the several land offices thall be entitled to receive the same land offices shall be entitled to receive the same compensation for any lands entered under the provisions of this set that they are now entitled to receive when the same quality of land is entered with money, one-half to be paid by the person making the application at the time of so doing, and the other half on the issue of the certificate by the person to whom it may be issued. Provided, That nothing contained in this act shall be so construed as to impair or interfere in any manner whatever with existing pre-emption rights: And provided, further, That all persons who may have filed their

applications for a pre-emption right prior to the passage of this act shall be entitled to all privileges of this act.

Sec. 7. And be it further exacted, That all comperform military service under the proclamation of the President, of the fifteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or any of the acts of the first session of the thirty-seventh Congress, or under any acts which may hereafter be passed by Conany acts which may hereafter on passed by Congress during the present war with States in rebellion against the Federal Government, or war with any grees during the present war with States in recentions against the Federal Government, or war with any foreign nation during the same; and all militia, volunteers, or State troops of any description, of any State or Territory, who have performed, or who shall becenfter perform any military service in aid of the Federal Government, or in defence of their own State or Territory, against armed forces in rebellion against the Federal Government; and, also, every officer, commissioned and non-commissioned, seaman ordinary seaman, flotilla man, marine, clork, and landsman, who have performed, or shall hereafter perform, service in the navy of the United States, in the present war, or in any foreign war during the same, thall be entitled to the right of homestead secured by this act, any limitation hereinbefore contained to the contrary notwithstanding: Provided, however, That as to all teamsters and wagonmasters, who have been, or shall hereafter be employed under direction of compotent authority in the present war, or any foreign war, during the same, shall be entitled also to the right of homestead secured by this act.

during the same, shall be entitled also to the right of homestead secured by this act.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That in lieu of bounty land grants, each of the three-months volunteers, officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, called into military service under the proclamation of the President, of the iffeenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty one, and who have performed service during the period of three months, or been honorably discharged within that period; and the widow, if there be one, and if not, then the legal beirs, of all of such three-months volunteers as shall have died, or been killed, in service during said term, shall, in addition to the months volunteers as shall have died, or been killed, in service during said term, shall, in addition to the right of homestead secured by this act, be entitled to receive from the tressury of the United States, the sum of thirty dollars. And all commissioned and non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates of volunteers, enlisted in pursuance of the act of July twenty-second, eighteen huadred and sixty-one, who shall have served for a period of not less than six months, or have been honorably discharged within that period; and the widow, if there be one, and if not, then the legal heirs of such as die, or may be killed inservice, shall be outitled to receive the one hundred dollars provided for such as die, or may be killed inservice, shall be outtled to receive the one hundred dollars provided for
by said act of July twenty-second, eighteen hundred
and sixty-one, in addition also to the right of
homestead secured by this act: Provided, That
in case of the death of any person entitled to the
said bounties of thirty dollars or one hundred dollars, as the case may be, after the accruing of his
right thereto by his honorable discharge or by the
expiration of his term of service, as hereinbefore
limited and expressed, the widow, if there be one,
and if not, then the legal heirs, shall have the right
to receive the same: And provided, further, That
in no case shall the said bounties be liable to be taken for the debte of either the person originally
entitled to the same, or his widow or legal heirs in
case of his death; and also that the pay of the pricase of his death; and also that the pay of the pri case of his death; and also that the pay of the private soldier, seaman, or marine shall in no case be liable to be taken for his debts, or the debts of his widow or legal heirs in case of his death.

SEC. 9. And be it further enacted, That the proof of service to entitle any one to the right of homestead secured by this act, by reason of having performed service as hereinbefore limited and expressed about he the same as now provided for hy the

ed, shall be the same as now provided for several existing laws granting bounty lands to several existing laws granting bounty lands to soldiers.

SEC. 10. And he it further enacted, That the period during which any one performing service within the meaning of this act may have been held as a prisoner of war shall be reckoned a part of his actual service in ascertaining whether such person is entitled to the benefits of this act.

SEC. 11. And he it further enacted, That no claim for the beauties aforesaid shall be assignable or transferable in any manner whitever until the same shall have been ascertained and allowed by the proper department; and all sales, mortgages, contracts, or agreements, of any nature whatever, made prior thereto, for the purpose or with intent of alienating, pledging, or mortgaging any such claim, are hereby declared, and shell be held, null and void.

GENERAL LANDER.—General Lander's last public act was to promote Private Cannon for his bravery at Bloomery Gap; and his last public speech was the following, on the presentation of colors to the Stity-sixth Onto Volunteers, Cot. Candy, on the 22d of February:

"You have asked me to present to you this regimental flag—this emblem of the hopes, prayers, and devotion of those at home. Do not soil such memories, do not betray such a trust. Let no mean, dastardly act disgrace the forvor which it represents—the high faith which, in the donation of this banner, follows you to battle. You may think that it is only required of yeu to fight; that some bright morning, with this gallant flag flung out, bands playing our national airs, drums beating to the chivalrous onset, you are to be led to victory. Soldiers, much more is demanded of you. Remember that your adversaries are your fellow citizens. Burn no dwellings, frighten no women and children. Go to battle with noble thoughts, high motives, and the consciousness that the eyes of your general are upon you. Bear the march steadfastly, obey orders cheerfully, have no small blekering among your selves. Let the holy phrase, 'Comrades in battle,' cause you to live, to respect, and to bear with each other. Within the last twenty-four hours one gallant private has been promoted for bravery beforest the enemy. Therefore, have faith in yoursclees, GENERAL LANDER.—General Lander's last other. Within the last twenty-four hours one gal-lant private has been promoted for bravery before the enemy. Therefore, have faith in yourschees, and I will find you opportunities and see that you are rewarded. Fellow-soldiers of the Sixty-feight Regiment, I transfer to you, in behalf of the donors, their gift—this flag. Never desert it. Rally around it while you are alive; it shall were over you when dead; and if each one of you were to live a thousand years, believe that you can find no nobler opportunity to die than beneath its folds for liberty and the rights of free government, and the cause it represents."

GENERAL HALLECK AND THE STALLOUSIANS.-General Halleck and the Sallousians.—
The citizons of St. Louis having tandered a complimentary dinner to Major General Mallock, that officer in his letter declining the proffered house, said: I regret that the uncertainty of my commovements, and the fact that I may leave this city at any moment, compet me so decline your polite invitation. Fermit me to say, in conclusion, that the trade of the Cumberland; and Tennesser rivers is now open to the merchants of this city, and I hope in due time to add, that of the Mississippi. The restraints which were necessarily imposed on commerce, in order to crush the robels in this State, in their, mad attempt to destroy the Constitution in their mad attempt to destroy the Constitution and the Union, will very soon be removed, and St. Louis will assume her sway as the commercial

Queen of the West.

JOHN BELL, in his large iron mill, destroyed by our troops, worked two thousand negroes, turning out balls and shell for the South. The hardest blow that the South has received is in cutting them off from this and, other iron-works that line the Cumberland river, for it was from these that they derived their chief supply.