THE CITY.

THE SHERIFF DIFFICULTY.

THE CASE TO BE ARGUED BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

Thompson to Discharge the Duties of the Office.

According to agreement, at the usual hour yesterday the office of the sheriff was opened by one of Mr Ewing's deputies, who held possession of the keys during the night. The clerks and other employees under the late acting sheriff assumed their positions at the desks, while Messrs. Edwin T. Chase and James Freeborn, who represent Sheriff Thompson, were also present. No writs were received by the new clerks, except those which required immediate attention. A large concourse of spectators were in attendance during the morning, anxiously waiting for the result. The inside of the office was also filled with the friends of both parties, and but little business was transacted.

THE CASE IN COURT.

It soon became known that the case would be carried into court for judicial action. Justice Woodward had been applied to for an injunction to restrain Mr. Thompson from interfering with Mr. Ewing in the discharge of his duties as High Sheriff for the city and county of Philadelphia. The hour of 10 A. M. was fixed for the hearing. At that time the court room was densely crowded. Messrs. Hirst and Wharton appeared for Mr. Ewing, and Messrs. Thayer, Brewster, and Gilpin represented Mr. Thompson. Mr. Hirst introduced the case to the notice of Justice Woodward, and read the following bill by Mr. Ewing, in support of his application for an injunction:

THE BILL.

To the Honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court:

1st. That your orator was elected sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia, at a general election held in the aforesaid city, on the 8th day of October, A. D. 1861, and entered security, which was duly recorded according to law, for the faithful performance of the duties of said office, and was duly commissioned by the Governor of Pennsylvania sheriff of said city and county, by his commission, under the broad seal of the Commonwealth, dated November the 27th, A. D. 1861, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked "A," which said commission was duly recorded; by virtue of which commission your orator took his oath of office and went into possession thereof, and has since exercised and is still exercising the duties of said office.

2 That a complaint contesting the election of your orator was presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia county, on the 23d of November, A. D. 1861, and was in such manner processed thereon in said court. That on the 18th of October, A. D. 1862, the said court rendered a decree thereon, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked "B"

3. That on the same day, to wit: 18th day of October, A. D. 1862, your orator cut sued out of your honorable court a writ of certiorari, to the Judges of said Court of Quarter Sessions directed, to remove the proceedings and decree had as aforesaid in the said court upon the said complaint, and filed his affidavit and gave security according to law, which writ or certiorari was duly issued and served upon the said judges, by filing the same in the office of the said court upon the same day.

4. That your orator is advised and believes that the legal effect of the said writ is that all proceedings under and by virtue of said election and upon said complaint and decree had and that election under said decree in disregard of, or disobedience to he said writ, is illegal.

5. That the said John Thompson well knowing that the said writ of certiorari has been issued and served, and in contempt and disregard thereof has applied to the Governor of the Commonwealth to ob ain a commission as sheriff of the said city and county under said decree, and has received a commission for said office which your orator prays may be produced.

6. That the commission of your orator as sheriff aforesaid is in full force and effect, and has not been revoked, annulled, or made void, and the said commission so obtained by the said John Thompson is null and of no legal validity

7. That notwithstanding the said commission of your orator is in full force, the said John Thompson threatens and intends to claim to exercise the said office and to disturb your orator in the peaceful possession and enjoyment thereof; and in pursuance of said threat and intention, the said John Thompson, in company with a large number of persons, entered the office of your orator while peaceably in the discharge of his duties as sheriff, with intent, as he avers, to expel him therefrom.

8. That the said respondent may discover and true answers make, on his oath or affirmation, to the following interrogatories:

1st Whether or not your orator was not elected sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia, on the 8th day of October, A. D. 1861, and duly commissioned sheriff of said city and county, under the seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, dated November 27th, A. D. 1861, as hereinbefore averred

2d. Whether or not a complaint contesting the election of your orator was presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions on the 28th day of November, A. D. 1861, and proceeded in as hereinbefore averred.

3d. Whether or not your orator on the 18th day of October, A. D. 1862, did not sue out and serve a writ of certiorari in said case, to the Judges of said Court of Quarter Sessions directed, and filed his affidavit, and give security according to law, as is hereinbefore averred

4th. Whether or not said respondent has not since applied for and received a commission from the Governor for said office of sheriff, knowing that the said writ had been so sued out and served as her inbefore averred.

5th Whether or not said respondent does not threaten and intend, under color of said commission, to claim to exercise said office, and disturb your orator in the peaceable possession and enjoyment thereof

That your Honors will presently, and after final hearing, perpetually enjoin the said John Thompson, his agents, and servants, from interfering and intermeddling with the said office of sheriff, or disturbing or molesting your orator in the peaceable possession and enjoyment thereof, under and by virtue of your orator's said commission, pending the said writ of certiorari, or persisting or continuing so to do, and from all and every other act or acts in contempt or disregard thereof, and such other relief as your orator may be justly entitled to and as to your Honors may seem meet

May it please your Honors to grant unto your orator the Commonwealth's writ of subpœna to be directed to the said John Thompson, thereby commanding him at a certain day, and under a certain pain to be therein limited, personally to be and appear before your honorable court, and then and there full, true, direct, and perfect answer make to all and singular the premises, and further to stand to perform and abide such further order, direction, and decree therein as to your Honors shall seem meet. And your orator will ever pray.

Mr. Hirst next read Mr. Ewing's commission as sheriff.

Mr. Brewster for Mr. Thompson, in response, read the following answer by Mr. Thompson:

THE ANSWER.

John Thompson, on his solemn affirmation, saith:

That he is advised and so suggests that your Honors will not, upon a motion for a special injunction, decide upon the validity of the commission under the great seal of the State and regular upon its face.

That upon the face of the return of the return judges, on the second Tuesday of October, 1861, it appears that he was duly and legally elected sheriff of sheriff by a majority of votes then cast. That the approval in receiving, as its basis, a return of votes in one district which was unconstitutional and void. A true copy of the return is annexed:

That the commission under which complainant claims was issued to him not only upon a return which did not justify or authorize the issuing of the same, but after a petition had in fact been filed in the Court of Quarter Sessions for the county of Philadelphia, contesting the election and return of your orator as in said petition, &c., and after notice of the filing of the said petition had been served upon the complainant.

That after the filing of said petition, proceedings were suspended to await the decision of the court upon the constitutionality of the law authorizing the so called army vote, and this deponent well hoped that the complainant would abide by said decision, and retire from said office when the said law had been duly declared to be unconstitutional and void. But after this result was announced the complainant filed an answer charging that upwards of 1,000 votes had been illegally and fraudulently polled for deponent in the county, and thus the complainant changed his position to that of a contestant of deponent's county returns.

After many months consumed in the hearing of the case upon said answer, the complainant's counsel, after their case was closed, admitted to the court that they could not successfully attack deponent's said return, upon the ground of fraudulent votes received for deponent, and rested their case with the court upon objections to certain polls, and the allegations that the whole vote should be rejected.

After a full and patient hearing, all these objections were overruled by the court, (whose decision upon the merits deponent is advised is final,) upon which decree, a true copy whereof is exhibited herewith, and as part hereof, whereby it appears that the return under which complainant claims is a false return. And deponent admits that he thereupon applied to the commission, but he ascertained that complainant desired a hearing before the Governor and the Attorney General, which was accorded to him, and after such hearing the commission under which deponent now claims his office was duly and legally issued to him.

And deponent further saith that his sureties have been justified in open court, that he has been regularly sworn into office, and his commission read in all the courts of the county then in session. And he verily believes that when he entered the sheriff's office attended by a large crowd of persons; on the contrary, deponent went there in company only with his counsel and a friend. And deponent exhibits as part hereof a copy of the record in the said Court of Quarter Session.

The commission of Mr. Thompson, as sheriff, was also read to the court, after which Mr. Brewster offered the certificate of the return judges, filed in the office of the Common Pleas, showing that Mr. Thompson had received a majority of the votes cast for sheriff, and was, therefore, duly elected.

The reading of the papers having been concluded, Mr. Hirst was about to proceed with his argument, when Justice Woodward interrupted him, and inquired if there was any power in the Supreme Court to revise a decree of the court below on the merits. As the case stood, he was of opinion that the point taken in Mr. Thompson's answer, that the decree was final as to the merits, was well taken.

Mr. Hirst replied that this might be admitted without affecting the rights of the parties; but there were other questions involved. He was about to proceed with his argument, when Justice Woodward again interrupted him, and said that his brethren were preparing to leave for Pittsburg to attend the regular sessions of the Supreme Court in that city, on Monday next. From the importance of this case, it would be impossible to hear and decide it just upon the eve of his departure. He therefore suggested a postponement of the hearing until next week, when the court would receive the consideration of a full bench at Pittsburg

Mr. Thayer suggested that if the case was postponed until next week, for the purpose of having a full court, it might be argued upon the question raised by the certiorari, and thus the main question be disposed of.

This was acquiesced in by all the counsel.

After some further discussion, Wednesday next, the 29th inst., was fixed for the argument at Pittsburg.

Until the matter is decided by the court, the writs will be received and executed by Messrs. Chase and Freeborn, the deputies of sheriff Thompson.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence has taken place between the late Sheriff, Robert Ewing, and John Thompson, the present Sheriff of this county:

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 22, 1862.

JOHN THOMPSON, Esq.—*Sir*: A large number of persons, in company with yourself, entered the Sheriff's office, this morning, while I was in possession thereof, and quietly performing the duties of Sheriff, and, by their presence and noise, interrupted the business of the office. The crowd has continued until the present hour of the afternoon at which I address you.

Being desirous of avoiding any conflict which would disturb the public peace and impair the dignity of the law, I prefer appealing to the Supreme Court of the State for a correction of the wrong, and for a determination of the question which of us has the right to exercise the office of Sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia during the pendency of the cause in the Supreme Court on the writ of *certiorari*.

Very respectfully yours,

ROBERT EWING.

The following reply was soon after received:

PHILADELPHIA, October 22, 1862.

ROBERT EWING, Esq.—*Sir*: I have received your favor of to-day. Its misstatement of the fact requires correction.

I did not enter the sheriff's office this morning in company with a large number of persons, or in any way, that I am aware of, to interrupt the business of the office.

I presented myself there in company with my counsel and a friend, for the purpose of informing you courteously of the fact that, after the decree of the court deciding that I had been duly elected, I had entered security as required by law—had been duly commissioned and qualified, and that my commission had been read in the courts this morning. It was my object also to add that, although my oath required of me immediate attention to the duties of the office, it was yet my object to take possession, at a time, and in a manner, to be arranged between us, with regard to your comfort and the closing up of your business. Upon all this being stated to you, you replied, referring me to your counsel.

As the business could not await their consultation, I was compelled to announce to you, through my counsel, that I took formal possession of the office, and when one of your counsel arrived he acquiesced in my discharge of the duties. It is my intention to continue to do so, believing that after reflecting upon the full and impartial hearing you have enjoyed before the court, the Attorney General, and the Governor, you will not further interfere with my performance of the duties of the office.

You intimate that you prefer appealing to the Supreme Court. I have only to say, that I shall throw no obstacle in the way of any application you may have to make in that behalf, and that my counsel will attend at any time and upon the shortest notice.

I have, from the commencement, been content to abide by the judgment of the law, upon the merits of my case.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN THOMPSON, Sheriff.

The Fair at Norristown.

THIRD DAY.

As was anticipated, the exhibition at Norristown was thronged from morning till night, yesterday, notwithstanding the high winds which prevailed, and the clouds of dust which swept over the fields and down the roads. This unexpected addition to the programme interfered somewhat with the racing, but the sport lost little of its interest, and was witnessed by hundreds of ladies and gentlemen.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

On the open space north of the exhibition room, not occupied by the "Ohio Fat Boy" and the "Living Wonders," was an extensive display of the implements of tillage. Some of them had seen service, but most of them were resplendent with the glory of fresh paint and varnish, and all were staunch-looking. Among the exhibitors were several Norristown, Phillipsburg (N J), and Philadelphia firms.

A Norristown manufacturer had a variety of machines on exhibition Among them was a combined trencher and cleaner, to which is attached a self-adjusting cylinder box. This box being kept always level with the cylinder shaft, does not bind, retard the speed of the cylinder, grow warm, or wear so rapidly as it otherwise would. This machine, with from three to five hands with it, is said, fresh and clean, fit for market from 125 to 175 bushels of wheat or rye, or twice as many of oats, per day.

Another novel contrivance was the one horse power thresher and receiving separator, which, with three hands will thresh from seventy-five to one hundred bushels of wheat per day. This machine is said to be taking the place of the vibrator runs lighter, is more durable, and does its work neatly and rapidly. By the same manufacturer was exhibited one and two-horse power machines. They are capable of driving all kinds of machinery that admits of being driven by horse power. The double-power set occupies, in working, a space of five feet by nine. The platform is four feet wide by eight long, affording ample space for the largest horses. The one-horse machine differs from this only in width, the platform being eighteen and a half inches wide. Two band wheels are fitted to both sides of the power, so that two machines may be driven at the same time.

Among the Philadelphia-made machines we noticed a Kirby's harvester, a Pennock's iron harvester, a newly-patented fork for unloading hay, Davis & Entricken's combined mower and reaper, and Wood's little mower.

An improved plough and seeding machine attracted particular attention It is designed for sowing wheat or any kind of grain, and ploughing in the seed at the same operation. By a slight alteration it is readily adapted to the cultivation of corn and potatoes, ploughing four furrows at the same time, and throwing the dirt either toward or from the rows as may be desired The ploughs are held in the ground by means of levers thereby causing them to run flat, without choking. The machine is said, is capable of ploughing from seven to nine acres of corn or truck, or of sowing and ploughing the same quantity of grain per day.

The Union machine was exhibited by a Philadelphia establishment. A brief description of it may be of interest to agricultural readers It has two drive wheels, which enable it to turn to the right or left without clogging or stopping the motion of the knives. Near the platform is a foot lever, operating on a clutch, whereby the machine can be thrown in or out of gear while in motion The driving shaft is fitted out with raceers, so that in backing no motion is imparted to the knives. The finger-bar is so hung that both ends conform to the inequalities of the ground, but become instantly rigid when passing over stones, stumps, or other obstructions When the lever is used to elevate the cutter over an obstruction, the pitman and crank-head are also raised, so that the machine can pass over a stone as high as the axle. Another advantage claimed for this mower is that the height of the blades can be adjusted without the necessity of stopping the machine.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Among the household inventions worth noticing was a self-adjusting clothes wringer It is made of vulcanized rubber and galvanized iron, and will stand in hot or cold water. Among other advantages claimed for it, it is said that it enables the washing to be done in one-third less time; that it will wring a handkerchief or bed-quilt with equal facility, and without alteration; and that it saves the clothes from the washer-woman's terrible wear.

The improvements made in the burners of coal-oil lamps have all failed to furnish a clear and brilliant light except with the aid of chimnies; among the novelties recently patented is one exhibited by Sperry, an Irishvoir coal-burner, which it is claimed will burn the most impure coal-oil in a brilliant white flame, (almost equal to gas) without the use of a chimney, and free from smoke or unpleasant smell. It consists of a reservoir containing a supply of water, and arranged immediately below the perforated air-chamber of the lamp in respect to the wick tube. So that the heat imparted to the water will generate steam, which, issuing with the air, impinges against the base of the flame, rendering the latter more clear and brilliant, at the same time preventing the disagreeable smell, characteristic of coal-oil The burner will fit on any ordinary lamp.

Another improved coal-oil burner was exhibited in the main hall. It is called the "Delaware burner" Its principal merit is its cheapness, as it retails for twelve cents. It consists simply of a perforated metallic cone, which is made to fit on the tube of the lamp in such a manner as not to interfere with a free supply of air to the flame. The light is as brilliant as in the chimney-lamps, and it has this advantage, that it cannot be extinguished by a sudden draft of air. The only objectionable feature seems to be that it will smoke if placed in a current of wind.

A novelty added to the collection in the exhibition room since yesterday, was a handsome work-box, the exterior of which was covered with variegated shells gathered on the beach at Hatteras Inlet. It was both pretty and ingenious, and would be an all-sufficient ornament for any centre table.

TROUBLE FOR ORANGE.

A source of much vexation at the ticket office was the scarcity of specie, and the consequent trouble in making change. Nine-tenths of the visitors offered dollar-bills for their admission fee, but the offer was "respectfully declined." In most cases, the matter was adjusted by two or more persons clubbing together to purchase tickets. It would have been rather a poor speculation to to take a one dollar-note for a twenty five cent ticket, and give change in specie worth a premium of at least twenty-five per cent.

The oyster-saloons which had established themselves within the enclosure, struggled through the dilemma manfully, in one way or another; some of them had issued their individual promises to pay, written on pieces of card, supposed to represent a value of six cents, and these attained an extensive circulation, disproportioned to the merits of their orthography. The postage stamp currency seemed unusually scarce.

THE PREMIUMS.

The following were among the premiums awarded yesterday: Mrs. Lewis, best butter, $2; Mrs W Walker, best bread, 75 cents; Mrs. Boyer, best cakes, $2. In class 6 (paintings, drawings, &c.), the following persons received premiums: Miss Kramer, $1; Miss Bush, $1; B F. Beisner, $5 and diploma; Miss Longaker, $1; Miss Comfort, $1; Dr. Hallowell, $1 and diploma; Oak-street Public School, $5 and diploma; Mrs. Ramon, $1 and diploma; Miss Freedley, diploma Dr. S. F. Foley, for the best display of pears, $3; James S Hill, for the best display of apples, $3; Levi Rush, for the best display of wines, $2; Levi Rush, sewing machines, $2 and diploma; J. E. Gould, pianos, $5 and diploma; 1st Regiment P. V., diploma; Atkinson & Jenkins, printing press and job Solomon, $5.

SESSION OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—This body reassembled yesterday at Franklin Hall, Sixth and Arch streets, Grand Worthy Patriarch Joseph B. Bolton in the chair. The journal for the past year was read and approved. From it we learn that, during the year, 1,062 members have been initiated into the different lodges, of which 52 were by card. During the same time 83 withdrew; 83 resigned; and 33 deaths. The total number of members in the various lodges is 5 229. Receipts for the year, $12,783; benefits, $5,367; expenses, $7,329; balance on hand, $4 752; invested, $31,546; suspended members, 217; expelled, 732; rejected, 16; reinstated, 36; lady visitors, 2,311.

The subject of admitting lady delegates was warmly discussed, without coming to any definite conclusion. The session adjourned finally yesterday.

The following are the officers elected for the ensuing year:

Grand Worthy Patriarch, Wm. W. Axe, from Division 55; Grand Worthy Associate, Benjamin Lochtman, from Division 380; Grand Scribe, Joseph W. Martin, from Division 380; Grand Treasurer, Isaac Baker, from Division 19; Grand Conductor, J. Brading Davis, from Division 30; Grand Chaplain, Rev. Wm. B. Wood, from Division 385; Grand Sentinel, John Savage, from Division 206.

THE DRAFT IN THE THIRTEENTH WARD.—The proper directions are being taken by the inhabitants of the Fifth precinct, Thirteenth ward, to prevent that portion of the city being included by the commissioners in the draft. A committee has been appointed to canvass each block in the precinct, and to discover the number who have enlisted since the marshal's return The committee was appointed at the meeting held at Seventh and Green, and, being quite large, set immediately upon its labors, and ended them by midnight on Wednesday. They discovered the names of twenty residents who had enlisted from the precinct, and who had not been credited to the ward. The quota of this precinct will, therefore, be materially diminished. If, however, any more recruits are to be raised, it will be done by private subscription. May all other wards and precincts follow this example, and thus do away with the necessity of a draft.

A HOSPITAL CHAPEL.—Rev. Nathaniel West, chaplain of the West Philadelphia Army Hospital, has issued an appeal to our citizens in behalf of the construction of a hospital chapel. The cost of such a building he estimates at $1,500. Dr. West says:

"All in authority, the general commanding, the medical director, the quartermasters, the surgeon in charge, the chaplains, and all concerned, heartily concur in the project of erecting a hospital chapel. The plan and specifications are prepared, the site is selected, and nothing but money wanted. This the Christian people of Philadelphia will not withhold. A city whose devotion to the army has been so signal, whose loyalty to the Government has been so eminently manifested, will surely give her sick and wounded a 'house for God,' that it may prove 'the gate of heaven to their souls.' Nothing can be done, however, until the sum required is secured.

"S. Morgan Smith, Esq., president of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, has kindly consented to receive and pay over contributions for this object; so will Dr. West. His address is 1602 Filbert street, Philadelphia, or the West Philadelphia Hospital. Now let us work, and we will hand over the first handsome contribution?" Let us go to work at once. The thing can be done. Let us not wait for Government action, but save it that expense and cheer it onward!"

SOLDIERS' FAIR AT CARPENTERS' HALL.—It gives us pleasure to call attention to the fair now being held at Carpenters' Hall for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers. The tables are laid out with infinite taste, and all the arts of feminine ingenuity appear to have been ransacked in the manufacture of these articles of beauty. The patriotic pictures, relics, and curiosities preserved in the room of this hall, where the Continental Congress met in 1774, should induce a flock of visitors, independent of the beauty of the display and the purity of the motives. The fair will continue until next Saturday week.

THE TAX ON COAL.—A house engaged in the coal trade in this city has received from Commissioner Boutwell the following letter:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, Oct 22, 1862.

GENTLEMEN: In reply to your favor of 21st inst., I have the honor to inform you that the tax on coal is applicable to all that was not removed from the place of production prior to September 1

Respectfully yours, GEO S. BOUTWELL, Commissioner.

AT INDEPENDENCE SQUARE AGAIN.—The removing of the recruiting tents from Jefferson to Independence Square has once more given additional life to that vicinity. No locality has offered greater recruiting advantages than the present one, and it is fitting that that spot, where independence was first proclaimed, should become the rallying point of our present champions of liberty.

DEATHS AT THE ARMY HOSPITALS.—The following deaths were reported yesterday at the various army hospitals:

Master street.—John Conant, C, 4th Vermont; Robert B. Mann, corporal, C, 123th Pennsylvania.

Hestonville.—Thos A. Pugh, A, 1st North Carolina.

A FATAL FALL.—On Wednesday evening, at her residence, 733 Callowhill street, Catharine Barry, aged 28 years, fell down stairs, and hurt herself so badly that she died yesterday morning at half past seven.

ALARM OF FIRE.—The counter of the hotel of James Heckman, 827 Walnut street, sustained damage by the burning of some combustibles upon it The alarm took place at about a quarter past four o'clock yesterday morning.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCILS.

Dispute Relative to the Seat of John Dolman, Esq.—The Approaching Draft for Soldiers—Interest on City Warrants—Veto Messages from the Mayor.

SELECT BRANCH

met at half past three o'clock, the President, THEO. CUTLER, in the chair.

Communication from the Mayor.

A communication was received from the Mayor vetoing the resolution for the grading of Lehigh avenue from Kensington avenue to Second street. Nineteenth ward, at a cost not exceeding $2,700. "The largest part of the work," the Mayor states, "has already been performed by the parties who entered into contract in the month of March, 1861, to pave Lehigh avenue, except its intersections.

"The resolution of November 12 1860, under which such contract was made, expressly provides that the city shall not be liable for the grading of this street, but for the paving of the intersections only. A revision of the grades of this avenue was directed by resolution of Councils dated October 29 1860, so that no reasonable allegation of ignorance can be made by the contractors of the nature of the work undertaken by them.

"If there be any equitable claims which may be advanced in this case for compensation, they would be made the subject of special examination and respect."

Action upon the veto was postponed for the present.

A further message was received from the Mayor, vetoing the resolution permitting the superintendent of the Bridesburg Arsenal to construct a telegraph line into the city. The Mayor holds that the supervision of its construction belongs appropriately to the superintendent of the Police and Fire Alarm Telegraph, and not, as therein given, to the Chief Engineer and Surveyor. The grantof right of way for telegraph purposes should be definite as to the route chosen and the dimension of poles to be erected, and should be restricted to special routes, expressly prohibiting all present or future connection with other telegraph lines. The Mayor recommends the passage of the resolution suggested.

Laid on the table

Petitions, etc., Presented.

The following communications were received and referred to the standing committees:

For the location of a fire plug in the vicinity of the Volunteers' Hospital, Broad and Prime streets; for the construction of sewers in Columbia and Montgomery streets; for the proper and thorough drainage of the district through which flows the Schoolkenk creek; from Richard Kneass, Esq., relative to culverts in various quarters of the city.

Resolutions Presented.

A resolution providing for the construction of a telegraph line from the city to the Bridesburg Arsenal was presented, and after some discussion, referred to a committee.

A Petition Relative to the Seat of John Dolman.

Mr. ARMSTRONG presented the following petition of certain voters of the First ward:

To the Select Council of the City of Philadelphia:

GENTLEMEN: The petition of the undersigned, citizens and qualified voters of the First ward, respectfully represents:

That John Dolman, a member of your body from the said First ward, was an alien, not naturalized, as is alleged, until the past three or four weeks.

And your petitioners pray that an investigation may be ordered, and if it be true that the said John Dolman has taken the oath and occupied a seat in your body, while an alien, that he may be expelled therefrom.

Mr. UHLER said that the issue raised by the petition was one of the most peculiar and singular character. A gentleman had been a member of the Chamber for twelve months, during which time he had borne himself nobly and honorably. The imputation just made was certainly directed against the authorities from whom Mr Dolman received his commission. If that gentleman was an alien, the speaker thought it would be a good thing if there were more like him

The petition was then referred to the Committee on Law.

Reports from Committees.

Mr. MEGARY, chairman of the Committee on Water, submitted an ordinance providing for the laying of water-pipes in portions of Locust, Twenty-first, and other streets. Passed.

Also, an ordinance for the confirmation of contracts for supplying the water-works of the city with coal. Adopted.

Mr. FORD, from committee, presented a bill for the erection of a municipal hospital, as previously discussed at other meetings The ordinance provides for an appropriation of $40,000, and the work to be done under the supervision of a committee, who are to select both the location and the plans. Passed.

[There is not at this moment, in the city, any provision for small-pox patients, Philadelphia being the only city in the Union without any accommodation of this character.]

The Approaching Draft for Soldiers.

Mr. WETHERILL, from the Committee on Finance, presented an ordinance relating to the approaching draft for soldiers. The bill read as follows:

Whereas, The city of Philadelphia, although due credit has not been given her for the number of her patriotic volunteers, which in truth greatly exceeds the entire number of her lawful complement, under all the successive requisitions of the President, is still desirous to perform voluntarily and without the compulsion of a draft, every duty which may even appear to rest upon her towards our common country in the present public exigency; therefore

Sec 1. The Select and Common Councils of the city of Philadelphia ordain, that the commissioners appointed by the Mayor under the provisions of the ordinance of Councils entitled "An ordinance to provide additional volunteers to aid the enlistment of volunteers," approved July 26, 1862, be, and they are hereby, authorized and instructed to offer one to pay to such volunteers from the city of Philadelphia, as may enlist during the period of ten days succeeding the passage of this ordinance, a bounty of $250 in cash to each of such volunteers upon his being duly mustered into the service of the United States

Sec. 2. In addition to the foregoing section of Councils, the proper authorities be asked to postpone the making of the draft for the time mentioned in the previous section of this ordinance.

Mr. MCINTYRE moved that the ordinance be referred to the proper committee, in order that time might be allowed for its mature consideration.

The question being on the motion,

Mr. WETHERILL said that the people of our city felt they had offered more than their sufficient number of men to fill the quota of Philadelphia. The city was, therefore, very ill prepared to submit to the burning shame of a draft The authorities of Boston had come forward and avoided the necessity of a draft in that city by a well-expended appropriation. He was willing to agree upon any amount that might be considered proper by a majority of the Chamber, but that some appropriation should be made to attain the object in view was undeniably requisite. The probable aggregate of expense arising under the ordinance would amount to about $700,000.

Mr. MCINTYRE thought that a draft would prove neither disgraceful nor dishonorable. He thought that by the immediate adoption of the ordinance, there would be a greater likelihood of danger than in its delay. Moreover, he inclined to the opinion that this proposition was premature, and recommended those who had volunteerily offered their services in the field.

Mr. MCMAKIN stated that eighteen thousand and seventeen recruits had been mustered into service in this city, whose residences were not given at the time of enlistment. The draft commissioners were undecided whether to credit any of this number as being a part of the city's quota. The suggestion had been made by them that two-thirds of the total number should be allowed to the city, leaving one-third to the country.

Mr WETHERILL inquired whether the Draft Commissioners had not been in possession of these facts, and whether, with this knowledge, the Governor had not or words to that effect.

Mr MEGARY said that the success of the pending proposition would greatly equalize this matter between the rich and the poor. It would be of considerable importance to those who could afford to buy substitutes whether the draft became a reality or otherwise, but with the poor man the case was different. He therefore favored the measure.

Mr. WETHERILL thought that the great trouble appeared to be the expense. He, therefore, moved to amend the ordinance by providing that the amount specified should be but $150 instead of $250.

This amendment was afterwards withdrawn, and an amendment to fix the bounty at two hundred dollars adopted.

Mr. FOX said that, before he would consent to the disruption of homes, from which the heads could not be spared; before he would see families made paupers on the threshold of a hard winter, he would put his hand in his own pocket. He believed that society in general would feel in the same way, and, therefore, he would vote for any means whatever to avert what must bring upon this community very great distress.

Mr FOX then offered an amendment that the bounty should be applied so as to fill any deficiencies in Philadelphia's quota that might exist.

The bill finally passed unanimously, paying $200 to each volunteer enlisting within ten days after its passage.

[It is probable that, in view of this action, the Governor will postpone the draft fixed for the 28th inst; for five days, that the quota of the city may, if possible, be filled without a draft]

From Common Council.

The ordinance from Common Council, making an appropriation for certain steam fire engine companies, was taken up and concurred in.

Also, the ordinance from Common Council, making an appropriation to pay police magistrates for the year 1862, was concurred in.

Also, a resolution from Common Council directing the paving of Diamond and Salmon streets, in the Nineteenth and Twenty-fifth wards respectively, was concurred in.

Mr. WETHERILL, from the Committee on Defence and Protection, submitted an ordinance authorizing certain expenditures. Passed.

Several ordinances and resolutions from the co-ordinate branch were concurred in; after which, the Chamber adjourned.

Personal Explanation by Mr. Dolman.

Previous to adjournment, Mr. Dolman rose and said that he had designed saying nothing concerning the communication received in the early part of the evening, but would now ask leave to say a few words. The paper had been presented in a spirit of malice, and from the basest of motives. He had been informed that he had come to this country at the age of two years. His father was a naturalized citizen, and, therefore, he, as a matter of course, was such. His father died, when early age of ten years the speaker found himself alone, and dependent upon his own exertions. Upon the breaking out of the war, he chose to enlist in the army of the country—his country. At the age of twenty-one years he exercised the rights of a citizen without dispute—his first vote having been cast at Utica, New York, where his father had been well known as a voter. Lately he had been informed that his rights were questioned and that the law required certain record evidence, which he would be compelled to produce. During the past year, therefore, he wrote to Utica, and had a search made among his father's papers, without avail. He then took out papers for himself, not to make himself a citizen, for he claimed to be as good a one as any since maturity, but in order to possess the necessary record evidence in case of dispute. This act had given rise to the present cry against him.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Dolman's remarks, on motion of Mr. Wetherill, the communication referred to was withdrawn from the committee to which its reference had been made, and laid on the table.

COMMON COUNCIL.

The Finance Committee introduced an ordinance making the annual appropriation to the City Controller; Laid over.

Interest on City Warrants.

The same committee reported a supplemental ordinance, authorizing the City Treasurer, whenever there is not enough money in the treasury, to endorse on all warrants issued by the city these words: "This warrant was presented ——— day of ———, and will bear interest until the first day of March, 1871."

Mr. QUINN opposed the ordinance He said that there are a number of persons now buying city warrants, as they are considered a better investment than anything else, and they are glad to get them at 2½ @3 per cent. discount. If this ordinance should pass, every man who owns a warrant of the will find that it is worth $1.06. They are a better security than the city loan, because the money can be obtained, if the city be sued He proposed to make a loan for the payment The city was poor enough, without compelling her to pay more money than necessary.

Mr. CRESSWELL said that the city ought to pay its debts, as well as every other corporation. When the city is not able to pay her debts, the interest, at least, should be paid.

Mr. HARPER coincided in this view.

Mr. QUINN still resisted the passage of the bill. He further said that the city should always have sufficient money in the treasury to meet current expenses.

The ordinance passed finally by an almost unanimous vote.

Paving of Streets.

Mr. QUINN, of the Highway Committee, reported resolutions providing for the paving of Diamond street, and the grading of Hancock and Christian streets.

After a tedious debate, in which the shortcomings of the Highway Department were spoken of and rebuked, the resolutions were referred back.

The same committee also reported a resolution authorizing the paving of Wallace street from Twenty-second to Twenty-third, and Seventeenth street from Washington avenue to Federal. This was also recommitted.

The Falls Bridge.

Mr. SIMPSON offered a resolution, authorizing the planking anew of the bridge at the Falls of Schuylkill. Referred to the Highway Committee.

Another Appropriation.

Mr. WOLBERT, of the Police Committee, offered an ordinance, making an appropriation of $2,000 to pay police magistrates for 1862. Agreed to.

The Fire Department.

Mr. LOUGHLIN, of the Committee on Fire and Trusts, introduced an ordinance, appropriating $8,333 33 to pay the Fairmount, Assistance, Southwark, and United States Steam Fire Companies for expenses incurred as steam fire companies. Agreed to

Neglect of Duty.

Mr. BARGER submitted a resolution directing the Commissioner of Highways to enforce the ordinance requiring passenger railways to keep their roads in order with respect to the Girard avenue Passenger Railroad Company. Agreed to.

Message from the Mayor.

A message was received from the Mayor in reference to a joint resolution donating hunting park, in the Twenty-third ward, to the United States government for hospital purposes. This action, he said, (as doubtless had from a desire to offer every facility to the Federal authorities in providing adequate accommodations for the sick and wounded of our army, and almost adverting to the peculiar title by which the city holds this property

A communication from the City Solicitor was appended, by which it appears that objection has been made by some of the owners to such use of the park as inconsistent with the terms of its gift to the city, and it was the work," the Mayor states, "has already been performed by the parties who entered into contract in the month of March, 1861, to pave Lehigh avenue, except its intersections.

"The resolution of November 12 1860, under which such contract was made, expressly provides that the city shall not be liable for the grading of this street, but for the paving of the intersections only. A revision of the grades of this avenue was directed by resolution of Councils dated October 29 1860, so that no reasonable allegation of ignorance can be made by the contractors of the nature of the work undertaken by them.

"If there be any equitable claims which may be advanced in this case for compensation, they would be made the subject of special examination and respect."

Action upon the veto was postponed for the present.

A further message was received from the Mayor, vetoing the resolution permitting the superintendent of the Bridesburg Arsenal to construct a telegraph line into the city. The Mayor holds that the supervision of its construction belongs appropriately to the superintendent of the Police and Fire Alarm Telegraph, and not, as therein given, to the Chief Engineer and Surveyor. The grantof right of way for telegraph purposes should be definite as to the route chosen and the dimension of poles to be erected, and should be restricted to special routes, expressly prohibiting all present or future connection with other telegraph lines. The Mayor recommends the passage of the resolution suggested.

Laid on the table

Petitions, etc., Presented.

The following communications were received and referred to the standing committees:

For the location of a fire plug in the vicinity of the Volunteers' Hospital, Broad and Prime streets; for the construction of sewers in Columbia and Montgomery streets; for the proper and thorough drainage of the district through which flows the Schoolkenk creek; from Richard Kneass, Esq., relative to culverts in various quarters of the city.

Resolutions Presented.

A resolution providing for the construction of a telegraph line from the city to the Bridesburg Arsenal was presented, and after some discussion, referred to a committee.

A Petition Relative to the Seat of John Dolman.

Mr. ARMSTRONG presented the following petition of certain voters of the First ward:

To the Select Council of the City of Philadelphia:

GENTLEMEN: The petition of the undersigned, citizens and qualified voters of the First ward, respectfully represents:

That John Dolman, a member of your body from the said First ward, was an alien, not naturalized, as is alleged, until the past three or four weeks.

And your petitioners pray that an investigation may be ordered, and if it be true that the said John Dolman has taken the oath and occupied a seat in your body, while an alien, that he may be expelled therefrom.

Mr. UHLER said that the issue raised by the petition was one of the most peculiar and singular character. A gentleman had been a member of the Chamber for twelve months, during which time he had borne himself nobly and honorably. The imputation just made was certainly directed against the authorities from whom Mr Dolman received his commission. If that gentleman was an alien, the speaker thought it would be a good thing if there were more like him

The petition was then referred to the Committee on Law.

Reports from Committees.

Mr. MEGARY, chairman of the Committee on Water, submitted an ordinance providing for the laying of water-pipes in portions of Locust, Twenty-first, and other streets. Passed.

Also, an ordinance for the confirmation of contracts for supplying the water-works of the city with coal. Adopted.

Mr. FORD, from committee, presented a bill for the erection of a municipal hospital, as previously discussed at other meetings The ordinance provides for an appropriation of $40,000, and the work to be done under the supervision of a committee, who are to select both the location and the plans. Passed.

[There is not at this moment, in the city, any provision for small-pox patients, Philadelphia being the only city in the Union without any accommodation of this character.]

The Approaching Draft for Soldiers.

Mr. WETHERILL, from the Committee on Finance, presented an ordinance relating to the approaching draft for soldiers. The bill read as follows:

Whereas, The city of Philadelphia, although due credit has not been given her for