The Press.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1864.

The Probabilities of the Situation.

The intelligence received to-day adds to the probability that LEE has resolved to fall back within the entrenchments of Richmond. The Wilderness, which the Army of the Potomac has passed without opposition, would have been naturally the place to expect opposition. There the army was severely punished in the battle of Chancellorsville, and if General LEE intended to oppose the advance it would seem probable that he would have there placed his forces.

It is, however, thought that LEE is entrenched near Orange Court House. The objections to this theory a glance at the map will make obvious. If it be true, he has not only permitted General GRANT to flank him, but has abandoned Richmond to the advance of the army on the Peninsula. The forces under BUTLER are, no doubt, sufficient to capture the city, if LEE's army is not in position to defend it, and, in that case, it is clear that General GRANT should not force a battle until BUTLER's movement should become decisive. His policy would be to detain LEE until the capture of the city is effected, and a strong force established in his rear. We believe that the simultaneous advance of two or more large armies upon one position must force its defenders to concentrate upon the central point attacked, and are not disposed to believe that LEE will commit the blunder of giving battle at a point so far distant from Richmond. Much, however, depends upon facts that are unknown—upon the strength of the rebel armies, and their ability to offer desperate resistance on the Peninsula as well as beyond the Rappahannock. Criticism based so generally upon conjecture is not worth much; but if we are permitted to assume that our armies are much larger than those of the rebels, we do not see how the conclusion that LEE has retreated upon Richmond is to be avoided.

The report that General BURNSIDE was attacked, on Monday last, by LONGSTREET, at Thoroughfare Gap, and defeated, was so plainly false at the first that we were surprised any journal should be found sufficiently mischievous or credulous to publish it. But it is now positively proved untrue by despatches from General BURNSIDE's headquarters, dated the 4th instant. He was then at Warrenton Junction, expecting to move that day.

If LEE retreats to Richmond he will have the great advantage of the concentration of all the troops which the enemy can bring up for the defence of the East. He will be reinforced most probably by BEAUREGARD, who will be at the least near enough to co-operate. His rear it will be easier to protect, and he will defy the Union army from behind entrenchments upon which the best engineering skill of Confederacy and the labor of three years have been expended. In that event, a siege is inevitable, and General GRANT will give us another Vicksburg, and not another Chattanooga. It is evident that much depends upon the celerity of our movements and the force of our blows. The events of this week have probably already determined whether Richmond is to be besieged, or the enemy forced to give battle in the open field.

We have no fears of the result. In Gen. GRANT we have the fullest confidence, and equal faith in the spirit of the grand army he commands. We judge his future by his past. He has never been in haste to advance, but when he has once challenged battle nothing has daunted or repelled him. When he had once crossed the Rappahannock, he never stopped fighting till he held the city with an iron grasp; before Chattanooga he waited until the country began to doubt whether the attack would ever be made, but when it was made it was overwhelming. We have a logical right to adduce from these premises a very emphatic conclusion, and to expect a campaign that shall of all things be energetic. Energy is what we most want. The Army of the Potomac would have conquered long ago, we firmly believe, if it had been handled as it deserved to be. If the giant had had as much energy in his brain as in his body, it would not be now! Let General GRANT to destroy the rebellion in Virginia, and deal upon its head a blow inspired by the full strength of the country. But let the past bury the past. Let us even cease the useless effort to unveil the future. It is with the present that we are alone concerned, and its aspect could not be more encouraging. We have reason to hope for so much that it is very little reason for fear.

General Butler's Advance.

General BUTLER's movement on the Peninsula is of extraordinary importance. He is in personal command of the whole army, aided by the presence of Generals W. F. SMITH, GILMORE, TERRY, and WEITZEL. From the ability of these leaders we may infer the size of the army they command, and know that the movement is an indispensable element in the general attack. BUTLER, a man of remarkable energy, has already disembarked his troops at City Point, as we learn from a despatch received at the moment of sending this edition to press. He is thus opposed to BEAUREGARD, who is known to be at Petersburg with thirty thousand men. From City Point he threatens the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, and if he defeats BEAUREGARD will cut off the rebel capital from reinforcement from the South. When we consider the vast importance of the movement, and the necessity of its success to the complete triumph of the entire campaign, we are the more astonished that a general marching on the enemy should be attacked by Northern journals. Yet we are not altogether surprised, for our politicians understand the very moment to attack a soldier is when he is about to give battle and is embarrassed with national duties. After all, if it makes little difference to General BUTLER who defames him, it should not make much to us; his best defence is the service he is doing the country, and if this be ample refutation of slander, then other argument would be useless.

The Churches To-Morrow.

We alluded yesterday to the sublime sympathy of Christianity with Freedom, and the all-encouraging fact that the influence of the Christian Church everywhere sustains and justifies our Government. But if ever prayers were needed it is now. To-morrow will be to us a day of peace, but for our armies it is far more likely to be one of deadly strife. We would therefore recommend to our clergymen and churches the duty of dedicating this day to earnest prayer for the success of the Union armies in the grand movements they have just begun. The presence of the members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States, including so many distinguished men, will give further interest to the solemnity of the day, and there is no reason why all sects should not be united in the performance of this national duty.

If we are Defeated?

It is not often that we find in the New York *World* opinions we can fully sustain, and it is, therefore, with unusual satisfaction that we quote the following paragraph. A newspaper that is usually in the wrong is the more emphatic when occasionally right. The surprise with which we have read this good advice will be shared by the public, which we entreat to remember that this counsel is more impressive, being given by the *World*, than it would have been if given by a thoroughly loyal journal:

"The most important counsel we can offer to our countrymen when such great events are impending is to fortify their minds against discouragement from any possible result of the coming battles. We should cry shame upon our soldiers, if they should flinch and lose the victory by want of heroic steadiness. We can fully trust them on that score; but can we trust ourselves? If the advance is beaten, the reserves will come up with the same vigorous alacrity as if all had gone well; they would disgrace themselves if they should give up while there was the slightest possibility of success. The public sentiment of the country stands in the same relation to the whole army that the reserve does to the advance. If the country waverse and is cast down in case the army is repulsed, we shall disgrace our manhood as irretrievably as we should by cowardice in battle. There is no use of offering any counsel as to what the country should do if we are victorious. Success is competent to take care of itself. But if, contrary to our hopes and expectations, we should be beaten, we trust that every man of position and influence, who loves his country, will set his face like a flint against any talk or intimation of succumbing to fortune. We are in a crisis when posterity cannot overlook us; and since we are certain to go into history, let us sit for our picture in a decent and manly attitude."

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, May 6, 1864.

The Sanitary Commission.

The United States Sanitary Commission chartered a steamer at Baltimore yesterday, and loaded her with the following, among other stores, and despatched her to Hampton Roads:

Four-and-a-half tons of hospital clothing and bedding, twenty-two-and-a-half tons of hospital food, one ton of hospital dressing, thirty-two tons of ice, and two tons of miscellaneous stores, in charge of an inspector and eleven relief agents.

The Commission will send another steamer tomorrow, with still larger supplies. These preparations are in addition to those already made in the Army of the Potomac, by the Commission, to provide a complete organization for the battle-field adapted to the peculiar needs of the corps.

Treaty with the Indians.

Mr. MIX, Chief Clerk of the Indian Bureau, left Washington to-day for Western New York, to make a treaty with the Indians in that section, about 8,000 of them.

Improper Enlistments of Troops.

Heavy stoppages have been made against the pay of certain private regiments and surgeons for the improper enlistment of recruits declared by the Board of Examiners to be unfit for the military service of the United States.

McNeill's Guerillas.

The guerillas under MCNEILL, who committed the late depredations at Piedmont, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, are largely composed of recreant Marylanders.

The Treasury-Department Trouble.

Pending the investigations under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, and also by the Congressional Treasury investigating committee, HANSEN A. RISLEY, Esq., supervising special agent of the Second Agency, has been directed to take the oversight of the printing division of the National Currency Bureau. Mr. CLARK meanwhile continues in charge of the work.

The Draft.

In addition to those States heretofore announced, a draft has been ordered in the deficient districts of Vermont, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and New York.

The 10-40 Loan.

The subscriptions to the 10-40 loan reported at the Treasury Department to-day amounted to $1,050,000.

A Missing Chaplain.

Serious fears are entertained for the safety of Chaplain N. FROST, of the United States navy, who has been missing since the 1st of April.

Appointed Surgeon.

James W. Fitzpatrick, of New York, assistant surgeon at Harewood Hospital, died to-day.

Generals Butler and Peck.

The following is an extract from a communication addressed by Major General BUTLER to Major General PECK, from which it appears that the administration of the latter in his department was in novice disapproved by General BUTLER:

HEADQUARTERS 18TH ARMY CORPS, ETC., FORTRESS MONROE, May 3, 1864.—GENERAL: Your note of the 4th of April reached my hand to-day, and I hasten to inform you that being relieved from the command by me in no manner implies any censure upon your action or disapproval of your administration, and was ordered upon that day long before the order was actually sent, and before it was known or believed there would be any demonstration upon your command by the enemy.

That order was delayed by the necessities of the service in other movements of the department, which are solely subjects of explanation.

With entire respect and esteem, respect and esteem, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major General.

To Major General PECK.

By the above, it will be seen that the fall of Plymouth, on the 20th of April, had nothing to do with General PECK's change from North Carolina, and that no censure is imputed to that officer.

The National Banks—Opinion of Secretary Chase.

The following letter was read by Senator SHERMAN to-day, during the consideration of the National Currency bill:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, May 2, 1864.

SIR: Nothing but my deep sense of the importance of sustaining, by every possible means, the public credit, upon which the sole dependence of the Government by means to suppress the insurrection must rest, would induce me to address you this letter upon a subject which has already received so much consideration.

The bill in relation to the national banking system, now under debate, is in the nature of an amendment to the act of last session. Though a complete bill in itself, it contains a few provisions not substantially embraced in that act, among which that in relation to the measure and distribution of taxation may be regarded perhaps the most important. Under ordinary circumstances there might be no objection to leaving the property of company organized under the national banking law subject, as are almost all descriptions of property, to general taxation, both National, and municipal; but, in the present condition of the country, I respectfully submit that this particular description of property should be placed in the same category with imported goods before entry into general consumption, and be subjected to exclusively national taxation.

At the present moment the duties on imports form the sole reliance of the Government for means to pay the public debts. If to these imports the means the taxes to be paid by the National Banks shall be added, a most important addition will be made to these measures. The mere fact that these taxes are made payable to the National Government, and so available for the payment of interest on the public debt and for the reduction of its principal, will greatly enhance the credit and facilitate the negotiation of the necessary loans at moderate rates of interest. I have no doubt that such a disposition of these taxes would be worth more to the Government during the present struggle in practical results than three times the actual value of the taxes themselves.

I do not at all suggest that this description of property should not be taxed as heavily as any other description of property. On the contrary, I think it just that it should bear its full proportion of the public burdens. I am only anxious that the taxation upon it shall be made so direct that its burdens are as possible to the general welfare; and it is the conviction deeply impressed on my mind that it will contribute more when expended in one mass, and made to tell upon the general public credit, than when divided between the nation and the States and numerous municipal corporations, that prompts me to address these views to you.

Under any plan of taxation that may be adopted, the amount of the taxes distributed to the several States and municipalities will be comparatively small and unimportant, and it is quite possible that the total taxation of banking property for all purposes will be less than it would be if taxed exclusively for national purposes. The advantages of partition by States and municipalities will therefore be small, and banks may fairly claim to be treated as a whole. The nation alone will be injured. It will not be understood, of course, that the foregoing suggestions are intended to apply to real estate held by any banking institutions.

That description of property must necessarily be held under State laws, and should properly be subjected exclusively to State taxation, except in the event of a direct tax by Congress.

The taxes on the personal property and credit of the banking associations, therefore, receive their organizations from national law, and for great national purposes, and may therefore, with great propriety, and as I have endeavored to show at the present time, with great public advantage, be subjected to exclusive national taxation.

Very respectfully yours, S. P. CHASE.

Hon. WM. PITT FESSENDEN, Chairman of Committee on Finance, Senate Chamber.

Speculations, Rumors, &c., about the Army of the Potomac.

BALTIMORE, May 6.—In the absence of reliable information, many wild stories are afloat, but as far as known here all the information from the most trustworthy and best informed parties is of an entirely encouraging character. The story about a movement on the south side of the James river is not deemed credible here.

The rebel forces of Imboden, and others, in West Virginia, are believed to be falling back towards Richmond.

Private information from Burnside's corps shows that the story about his defeat, published in the *World* this morning, is nothing but a canard.

By direction of General Grant, all ordinary communication with his armies in Virginia is emphatically prohibited. Thus there is no communication with Fortress Monroe, except by the military telegraph.

In this city all is confidence and high hope with the loyal people, while the disloyal endeavor to encourage one another by circulating stories of disaster which are not worth repeating, because manifestly false.

Serious Railway Accident.

LOUISVILLE, May 6.—The *Journal* has received the particulars of an accident on the Louisville and Nashville railroad, yesterday morning, near the South tunnel, in the vicinity of Gallatin. The construction train left Nashville early yesterday morning, and came in collision with the downward train for Louisville, containing the 10th Indiana Cavalry. Both locomotives were completely destroyed, 3 soldiers were killed, and 87 wounded, some of them mortally.

A Fight with Guerillas.

LOUISVILLE, May 6.—Morganfield (Ky.) advices say that Captain Brown, commanding a squad of Union cavalry, overtook Bennett's guerillas while attempting to cross Green river. He made a charge on them, killing Capt. Cook, a notorious guerilla, and captured ten horses and several small arms.

There is no news from the front.

The New Navy Yard.

[Special Despatch to the Evening Post.]

WASHINGTON, May 6.—The Naval Committee of the House voted this morning upon the question of selecting a site for the new navy yard for iron-clad vessels. New London was chosen, after a vote upon League Island and the Hudson river.

Arrival of Steamers.

NEW YORK, May 6.—The steamer Bavaria arrived to-day. Her advices have been anticipated.

The steamer St. Andrew, from Glasgow, *via* Portland, has also arrived.

The Gold Market.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Gold closed at 171 this evening.

THE WAR IN VIRGINIA.

GEN. LEE WITHDRAWING HIS CAVALRY.

SKIRMISHING AT THOROUGHFARE.

GENERAL BUTLER'S FORCES AT CITY POINT.

RUMORS FROM THE ARMY.

SPECULATIONS, RUMORS, &c., ABOUT THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock, information was received by General Burnside that a large force of rebels was moving southward by way of Thoroughfare Gap. This was communicated by signals, and General Burnside at once started a large force of cavalry, who came up with the enemy as they were passing through the Gap. A volley from our men brought to the ground a lieutenant, supposed, from the mark on his shirt, to be named Marchand. He is believed to have been an aid to either Lee or Stuart, as orders were found upon his person, signed by order of General Lee, directing Imboden and his cavalry, and all of the cavalry force in Northern Virginia, to move at once and join General Lee. These orders were dated on the 4th inst., and it is supposed that the cavalry retreating south was not only that of Imboden, but all the rebel cavalry in Northern Virginia, except probably a few guerilla bands and marauders who could not in time receive the notice. This information shows that the statement telegraphed from New York of the defeat of Burnside at Thoroughfare Gap was without foundation.

REBELS ON THE LOWER POTOMAC.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—The tug Primrose, of the Potomac flotilla, which arrived here to-day, reports that a few days since a party of rebel cavalry were seen near Matthias Point, when the Primrose and Teaser opened on them with shell, causing them to take shelter behind the walls of an old building, whence they were driven by one of the shells of the former ship knocking down the wall.

GEN. BUTLER'S ARMY LANDED AT CITY POINT.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Official despatches, received to-night at the War Department, announce the advance of Gen. Butler with his command, and their successful landing at City Point, Va.

THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The Gunboat Eastport and two Transports Destroyed.

ATTACK ON VICKSBURG ANTICIPATED.

CAIRO, May 6.—A gunboat, armed from Red river, brings information that finding it impossible to get the Eastport off, and being attacked by the enemy while endeavoring to lighten her, she was destroyed by order of Admiral Porter, to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy. The ironclads Fort Hindman and Tollet, and two transports, which were despatched to assist in relieving the Eastport, were caught while returning by the batteries of the enemy, who lined the banks of the river on both sides, firing upon the boats from a twelve-pounder battery, making it necessary also to destroy the transports, which were burned.

Several men of the crews of the iron-clads were killed and wounded. Among the killed was Sylvester Pond, of Newport, Ky., executive officer of the Eastport, who had charge of the sharpshooters on the Fort Hindman. He was struck on the back of the head by a twelve-pound ball. The latest advices from below report the appearance of the enemy on both banks of the Mississippi river. Our pickets have been driven in at Vicksburg, and it is anticipated that an attack will be made on that place.

Natchez and Memphis dates of the 4th represent that the cotton market is firm; inquirers are numerous, all offering being readily taken at ruling rates. The receipts are trifling; middling to strict middling 68@70; good 71@73; fair 75.

Steamer Golden Eagle, from Memphis, passed up for Cincinnati with eight hundred bales of cotton.

The Condition of Released Union Prisoners.

BALTIMORE, May 6.—To-day, Major General Wallace and Messrs. Wade, Harding, Gooch, Julian, and Odell, the Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War, visited the hospitals at Annapolis, for the purpose of examining the returned soldiers from Richmond as to their treatment by the rebels. Several were examined, and they confirm the reports already published of the barbarous and cruel treatment. The committee returned to this city to-night, and examined some soldiers in the hospitals here on the same subject.

Photographs of some of the half-starved heroes are to be taken, to accompany the report when printed.

The Evening Stock Board.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Closing prices of stocks, 11 P. M.: Gold, 173; Erie, 107¾; Reading, 123¾; Michigan Southern, 87; Rock Island, 106; Cumberland Coal, 65.

Reception of a Cavalry Regiment.

BOSTON, May 6.—A portion of the Independent Battalion of Massachusetts Cavalry, who won a glorious record in the recent campaign in Florida, and on other battle-fields of the South, arrived here to-day on a brief furlough.

The Enlistment of Foreigners.

The Secretary of State has received a letter from WM. B. WEST, United States consul at Dublin, dated April 20, in which he says: "So many falsehoods and calumnies have been stated in the public press as to the treatment of the famous one hundred and two men brought out by Mr. FERNY and Mr. KIDDER, of Boston, who were said to be forced into enlistment by being starved and drugged, &c., and this Government having directed their minister, Lord LYONS, to get an explanation thereof from you, I have thought it advisable to inquire into the place of origin of the several written in a similar strain, to poor parents here, by the recipients of Messrs. KIDDER and FERNY's free emigration, who rejoice in their good fortune, and are in entire ignorance of the bad treatment said to be received by them, and for which claim is made to such sympathy from their Irish friends, who would have let them starve or go to the poor-house, had they remained much longer in Ireland."

One of the letters above referred to is dated Galoup Island, Boston, March 22, 1864, in which the writer, addressing his parents, says: "When we landed in Portland there was a great hubbub among the boys. There were gentlemen met us on the pier and gave us plenty of public liquor and food, and wanted us to enlist. There were about five of them enlisted, and the remainder came along with Ferny to Boston. I remained at Portland till next day, and could get work there at $2.25 per day if I liked to stop, but I was not in working trim, for I did not eat a good meal for a week during the time that I was coming across, so I came to Boston the next day, and enlisted in the 3d Cavalry, which is stationed now in New Orleans, or rather on the lakes, until it leaves New Orleans where I will have to learn my drill. I got $400 dollars in hand, and I sent home $225. The bounty I enlisted for was $325. I only get $400 in hand; the remainder I get in instalments every two months, along with my pay. "Everything is very dear here at present. Butter is 50 cents a pound; sugar 17 cents a pound, and everything in proportion; but still wages are good. No one need starve here. But don't be inducing under the idea that men are very scarce here. There is no such thing. There are plenty of them. Dear parents, you would be surprised to see the men that are enlisting here.

"The generality of them are dressed like gentlemen, with watches in their pockets. It is a good thing that you cannot be forced to do anything here, and as to forcing us to list, no one could do it, except you were a citizen, and then you would be subject to the draft, and you must be drafted out of the country before that can be done. We would be very comfortable here, only there is no chance of drink on the Island. I have seen fellows give eight dollars for a quart of whisky. All the fellows are buying watches out of their bounty and fancy shirts, and I bought nothing. I don't regret that. I might get shot, and some guerilla might have the pleasure of turning me over, and if I don't, why I shall have the pleasure of turning over many of them. Contrary to what I was always led to believe, the men work twice as easy here than at home." &c.

Another recruit, writing to his "Dear Parents," from Galoup Island, Boston Harbor, March 17, 1864, says: "My brother and I belong to Portland, and when we landed there were hundreds of civilians there to meet us, and they gave us brandy, whisky, pies, puddings, sugar, or anything we liked, for to enlist along with them. Faith, we took all we got, and did not go with them after all. Ferny brought us over with the Boston recruits. I believe the whole of enlisting is after, but he was disappointed, for any of us that did list was not with him.

"We were paraded on Boston Common, and I enlisted the first day I came here. I have sent you in this letter $300. There is a good many of the batch enlisted, and a great many of them did not. I belong to the 28th Massachusetts regiment of foot," &c.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—1st SESSION.

WASHINGTON, May 6, 1864.

SENATE.

Mr. FOOT, from the Committee on Pensions, reported back the bill in relation to the compensation of Government pension agents, with amendments.

Mr. COWAN, from the Committee on Patents, called up the bill to amend the act of March 3, 1863, to promote the useful arts. It extends the time within which patentees who have neglected it may pay the final balance due, to secure their patents, for six months from and after the passage of the act. The bill was passed.

The Elective Franchise.

On motion of Mr. DIXON, the bill "to amend section five of an act entitled an act to continue, alter, and amend the charter of the city of Washington, approved May 17th, 1861, and further to prevent the purity of elections and guard against the abuse of the elective franchise, by prohibiting the employment of money in Washington, D. C.," was taken up. He said that as the time for the municipal election in this city was near at hand, it was important that the bill should be acted on at once.

He submitted an amendment as a new section, providing that if the Board of Registration, or any one or more of them, shall neglect or refuse to perform the duties required of them, the Supreme Court of the District, on being informed of the fact, shall appoint some other person or persons to perform all the duties and things required by the act, and said acts and things so done, shall be valid, the same as if done by said Board. The amendment was adopted.

Mr. COWAN moved to insert the word "white" before "male citizen," in designating those who are to be voters.

Mr. SUMNER said, I hope not, I hope not, Mr. President.

Mr. COWAN thought this amendment very proper, and especially as we were making an experiment which now trembled in the balance in behalf of a superior race. It was a great mistake to suppose the right to vote was an inherent right, as many seemed to do. It was a mere conventional right, and existed only when agreed upon.

It was on the basis of white men that the experiment of republican government was set up in this country. Our white women are not allowed to vote, and it will hardly be claimed that rude, semi-barbarous, uneducated negroes, who have just emerged from a degraded state of servitude, as to the ease with the larger number in the city, are more capable of exercising that function than the intelligent white woman; and then there are minors, say from sixteen to twenty-one years of age, who are certainly more generally intelligent and capable, of exercising the elective franchise than these negroes, who are now allowed to exercise political power as a class, and it is not to be doubted that these colored men would vote, or be forced into vote as such, if given the power to do so.

Mr. SUMNER said that the colored volunteers in Boston did not do so.

Mr. COWAN said they were too few in numbers there, in comparison with the other electors, to be of any weight in an election, and therefore there was no motive for class action. But even in Boston negroes cannot vote unless they can read and write, so that if these negroes were transported to Boston they would not generally be voters.

In Pennsylvania, negroes had formerly voted, but the moment they became numerous enough, by reason of the accession of fugitives from the Border Slave States to be felt and appreciated in the community, the people of the State almost unanimously decided to take from them from the privileges of the elective franchise. He thought his amendment should certainly prevail.

Mr. DOOLITTLE moved to postpone all prior orders, so as to consider two or three Indian bills.

Mr. DIXON hoped that this would not be done. He had already said this bill was important, in view of the coming election.

Mr. DOOLITTLE said he knew these Indian bills were more important.

Mr. WILLEY hoped the bill would be postponed. There was no necessity for action on it. The motion to postpone was rejected—yeas 14, nays 21.

Mr. WILLEY then addressed the Senate at some length in opposition to the bill till the close of the morning hour, when the national bank bill came up in order.

The Tax on Banks.

Mr. SHERMAN called for the reading of a letter from Secretary Chase, dated the 2d instant, addressed to Mr. Fessenden, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and which had been referred to in the course of debate yesterday.

The pending question was on the amendment of Mr. Sumner, to increase the tax on banks established under the act, to be applied to the payment of the interest and principal of the public debt.

Mr. SHERMAN said the amount of taxes imposed by the amendment of the Senator from Massachusetts was greater than that proposed by the Finance Committee; but as this was purely a national tax, he should vote for it in order to avoid any embarrassment to the passage of the bill.

Mr. SUMNER's amendment was rejected—yeas 11, nays 24.

The thirteenth section of the bill, in relation to the rate of interest to be charged by the banks being under consideration, Mr. SHERMAN moved an amendment, which makes the clause read as follows:

"That every association may charge the rate allowed by the laws of the State or Territory where the bank is located, and no more, except that where by the laws of any State a different rate is limited for banks of issue organized under State laws, the rates so limited shall be allowed for associations organized in any such States under this act.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. CHANDLER offered an amendment to the thirty-fourth section, striking out the cities therein named, in the West, and the rest of the section, relative to the redemption of the circulating notes of associations under this act, designating simply New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, as the points of redemption, which, after debate, was adopted.

The thirty-second section was then amended, so as to conform with the preceding one, by providing that instead of redeeming their notes at par in said cities, each bank shall select an institution in either of the cities named, at which the notes shall be redeemed at a rate of discount not exceeding one-fourth of one per cent.

Mr. HENDERSON moved to amend the twenty-second section by striking out the limit of $300,000,000 for circulating notes, and further striking out the words "The amount now authorized to be issued by the Comptroller of the Currency under the act of June 3, 1863."

Mr. DOOLITTLE said that he desired to offer an amendment which would restrain this over-issue of paper money.

It provides that no bank shall issue any new notes after the passage of the act, except National notes, to be redeemed in gold and silver coin on demand, and also that every bank shall reduce the amount of their circulation to the extent of each capital paid in, and so much more as may be required for the purpose of redemption. Under the act of June 3, 1863, the amount of United States or State stocks, on penalty of a tax of one per cent, per month, was required to be held, and that his amendment proposed to amend the act so as to prevent the inflation of the currency, but the enormous amount of Government issues; and it was unjust, because the State banks were at this moment unable to redeem their notes in gold on demand, that they should be driven from existence, and an issue of a better character substituted.

He cited the case of the Bank of Commerce of New York, which, now, with nearly two million of coin in its vaults, has a circulation of only seventeen hundred dollars, and yet under this bill, while pretending to complain of inflation, she will be allowed and induced to issue over a million of dollars.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Blair's Seat.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Elections, reported back the two resolutions, which he over for the present; one declaring that F. P. Blair is not, and the other that Mr. Knox, the contestant, is entitled to a seat as representative from the Fourth Congressional district of Missouri.

On motion of Mr. FARNSWORTH, of Illinois, it was resolved that when the House adjourn to-day, it be till Monday.

The Missouri Elections.

Mr. GANSON, of New York, called up the resolution of the Committee on Elections declaring that neither Mr. Loan, the sitting member from Missouri, nor his contestant, is entitled to a seat as Representative of the Seventh Congressional District of Missouri.

Mr. CARSON, of New York, in supporting the resolution, said that a majority of the committee had, after a review of the testimony, come to the conclusion that the interference of a portion of the armed militia in this district was not directed against any person, and the contestant us to render the election a nullity; and, therefore, they had concluded to refer both gentlemen back to the people, that there may be a full and fair expression of their preferences.

Mr. UPSON, of Michigan, a member of the Committee on Elections, made a speech sustaining the views of the minority, namely, that Mr. Loan is entitled to retain his seat, and contended, also, the necessary evidence of "falling back" upon No. 935 North Ninth street.

Mr. SMITHERS, of Delaware, of the minority of the Committee, contended that the evidence showed that, in two or three instances, the election was conducted with fairness, and that the officers were in no manner or other desire than to secure a fair expression of public will. He claimed that Loan was entitled to retain his seat.

Mr. ALLEN, of Massachusetts, said it was the duty of keeping treason away from the ballot box, as through it, as applied to our political institutions, the Government might be injured in its vital parts. The Executive should not only keep treason away, but give instructions against the controlling power of the country as the result of any elections. The House owed it to themselves to see that no such of things should be established to see that no parties come here unless with the free voice of the people, and to accept the fact as shown by the testimony that these men had been forced into a valid election. He could not see how any Massachusetts man could hesitate to give his emphatic answer in the negative in affirmation of the position occupied by the minority of the committee.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, was at a loss to know why his colleague had directed this remark to him, but he could not but feel that he had fully read the testimony and had come to the conclusion to vote for retaining the sitting member.

Mr. BLAIR, of Maryland, wished to know what the judgment of the people of Massachusetts had to do with the discussion of the question before the House.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, said he had uttered no such sentiment.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, repeated, he understood the gentleman as asking how any Massachusetts man could be in favor of such a vote as this.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, could not understand why soldiers should control the polls when he considered that in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Iowa meetings were opened with prayer. He could not understand why soldiers should be bayoneted through files of bayonets or at their points; but he could understand how the gentleman from Delaware and Maryland could have a similar position taken by his friends from his own.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, asked for the evidence of such elections in those States.

Mr. SMITHERS, of Delaware, said the gentleman from Massachusetts had, in making his remarks, alluded to him in a manner for which he was sure the gentleman would, on reflection, be sorry, and had alluded to the Delaware election in no complimentary terms. He wished to know whether the gentleman alluded to us.

Mr. DAWES replied, with all frankness, that the relations between him and the gentleman had always been friendly, and should continue such. The gentleman had no right to take any remark he uttered in an offensive sense.

Mr. SMITHERS. With that explanation I am perfectly satisfied.

Mr. DAWES, resuming, said he had alluded to Delaware and Maryland without designing any offence. His friend from Maryland could not be expected to see the same way as Delaware or Massachusetts.

Mr. SMITHERS, of Delaware, declared that he had impugned the voting in Massachusetts.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Pennsylvania, said the gentleman had opposed the admission to seats of members from the Southern States. Was that the policy, he asked, to be, had better join the gentlemen from Ohio and Maryland, namely, Long and Harris, and let the gentleman have the benefit of the McClellan ticket for Vice President.

Mr. DAWES replied, if he could not succeed by more votes than the gentleman represented in the last Congress, it was not desirable to have such a ticket. As to being opposed to members being admitted from South of Mason and Dixon's line, he had only to say that he received full proxies for two members from Louisiana admitted to the last Congress, and also two members from Arkansas, because they were the free choice of their respective districts by a sufficient number of votes.

Mr. WHALEY, resuming, spoke of the loyalty of his mountain district, and said there were four thousand soldiers from that district at Vicksburg and elsewhere who had not an opportunity to vote for him. Were the volunteers of that district at home he believed he could get a majority of the regiment from Massachusetts, and not a musket should be used to influence the election.

He (Mr. Whaley) had a reputation for bravery, having, as a soldier, been in the wars. The gentleman from Massachusetts had not, he had no doubt, gunpowder. [Laughter.] I am only a mountaineer. I have no pretensions to be a soldier, I am a farmer. I have speech you have made will set like a shower—both on the Border-State men. When Massachusetts men shall be found in Kentucky and Tennessee, it will be time for the people to take the subject into serious consideration.

The Contestants to Speak.

The debate for the day here terminated.

An understanding was arrived at, by unanimous consent, that the contestants and the sitting member should speak on the pending subject.

Mr. BALLARD, of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Printing, reported in favor of printing 40,000 copies of the report and evidence concerning the Fort Pillow massacre, and the same was agreed to.

The House then adjourned till Monday.

WE ISSUE TO-DAY, in a supplement, the new National Tax Bill, in full, as it has passed the House. It is unlikely that it will receive any important amendment from the Senate, and, therefore, will become a law in its present shape. Our readers will find it a valuable document to keep.

CHARGES REVOKED.—An order has been issued by the War Department revoking the charges made against Washington Burg of Lancaster county.

EXTRA LARGE SALE VALUABLE REAL ESTATE and STOCKS, Tuesday next. See Thomas & Sons' advertisements.

Public Entertainments.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The opera of "Notre Dame" last evening was heard with such interest and applause, will be given this afternoon as a matinee performance. No one should miss hearing its grand chorus, and seeing its splendid scenes. It deserves a crowded and brilliant attendance, both for its own merits and for the support due to a native production. Let our crowded columns defer a longer notice of this important attraction.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—Frank Drew will begin a new engagement on Monday, appearing in two of his best parts, "Handy Andy" and "Mazeppa." His late engagement at Mrs. John Wood's Theatre was most satisfactory.

BOHEMIAN-GLASS BLOWERS.—A matinée will be given this afternoon, at the Assembly Buildings. The exhibition, developing, as it does, a combination of science and the mechanic arts, is decidedly interesting.

A BENEFIT for the bounty fund of the Twentieth ward will be given this evening, at Carneross & Dixey's Eleventh-street Opera House. This benefit was to have taken place last night, but was postponed, and the tickets issued will be good for tonight's performance.

CITY ITEMS.

CLARK'S NEW REFRIGERATOR "RELIANCE."—As the season is now opening when housekeepers and others will be in want of refrigerators, we have taken a glance at the Refrigerator market. In this department Mr. J. S. Clark, No. 1008 Market street, will this season carry off the palm. He has not only had a large force at work for months past, in getting up an A No. 1 stock of these indispensable household articles, but he has brought out an entirely new Refrigerator, which will strike every intelligent purchaser as the best thing of the kind yet given to the public in this department of the mechanic arts. We allude to his splendid new "Reliance" Refrigerator, the superiority of which consists in its economical consumption of ice, and its undoubted excellence in preserving meats and other provisions the longest period of time at the least expense. The principle upon which it is constructed will be readily understood and appreciated upon examination. Besides, as Mr. Clark is one of the largest manufacturers of these articles in this country, he has facilities for selling them far below the ordinary prices. "Go to headquarters to make your purchases," is a good rule. He has also a large stock of Porcelain-lined Water Coolers, which he is selling very low.

THE BEST FAMILY SEWING MACHINE IN EXISTENCE.—We do not detract from the merits of any other sewing machine in assigning to the "Grover & Baker" instrument, sold at 730 Chestnut street, the place to which it is entitled as the BEST machine, for all kinds of family sewing, that has ever been given to the public. Competent and obliging hands are employed at the rooms of the Company, to afford the fullest examination to all who call. The fine Embroidery which this machine alone executes is considered a marvel. It is operated with the greatest ease, and, as those who have it say, it never gets out of order.

NEW CARTES DE VISITE BY GUTEKUNST.—Mr. F. Gutekunst, 704 and 706 Arch street, has just issued fine card pictures of the late Rev. Robert Taylor, of Germantown, pastor elect of the North Presbyterian Church; also, of the Rev. Phillips Brooks, Rt. Rev. Bishop Wood, Rev. J. P. Berg, D. D., Rev. Dr. Plumer, Miss Anna E. Dickinson; Generals Totten, Grant, Hancock, Meade, Crawford, G. D. Ramsey, chief of ordnance, U. S. A., and a capital picture of the ruins of the Cathedral lately burned at Santiago.

We would also invite attention, in this connection, to the fine Imperial Photographs, finished in India ink, now on exhibition at Mr. Gutekunst's gallery. They are the finest specimens yet produced in this important branch of the photographic art.

A FACT FOR THE LADIES WORTH CONSIDERING—We invite the attention of our lady readers interested in the coming Fair for the Sanitary Commission to the advertisement, in another column of our paper to-day, of Mr. John M. Finn, corner of Arch and Seventh streets. The stock of goods offered by Mr. Finn embraces the most extensive assortment of Zephyrs, of all colors and shades, Shetland Wools, Cambric Edgings, Quilled Ruffings, Bugle Gimps, Braids, Bindings, Embroidering Silks, Crochet Cottons, Zephyr Patterns, the celebrated *Germantown Wool*, Fans, Pocket-books, Hosiery, Gloves, Morocco Satchels, Travelling Bags, and a capital assortment of Sun Umbrellas. Mr. Finn's liberal offer to deduct *eight per cent. from all bills bought for the use of the Fair*, we hope will elicit the response it deserves.

MAGNIFICENT STOCK OF SPRING CLOTHING, now ready at the popular warerooms of Messrs. C. Somers & Son, No. 625 Chestnut street, under Jayne's Hall. These gentlemen have been besieged with customers during the present week, as the fact has become generally known that a more elegant suit can be procured at C. Somers & Son's, for the same price, than at any other clothing establishment in Philadelphia.

THE SEASON FOR SUN UMBRELLAS—WHERE TO BUY THEM.—Mr. John M. Finn, Seventh and Arch streets, in another column of our paper to-day, under the head of "*Ladies Preparing Articles for the Great Central Fair*," &c., offers a splendid catalogue of goods, many of which are highly suitable for making up fancy and useful