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THE WEEKLY GAZETTE,
TWO EDITIONS,
WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
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The Pittsburgh Gazette

ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

At the organization of the Allegheny Councils yesterday, Mr. JAMES McBRIER, the former President, having been re-elected by acclamation, took the Chair, and after due acknowledgment of the continued confidence of his colleagues, made some very timely and judicious suggestions pertaining to the new Councils.

In reference to the enlarged limits of the city, he expressed a hope that the districts added would be liberally dealt with, and made, as soon as possible, share in those advantages of water, gas, police, &c., hitherto peculiar to the old wards. We doubt not, if Mr. McBRIER's advice be followed, the new wards will quickly and cordially fraternize with the old, and both will, ere long, be satisfied with the new family arrangement.

In Common Council, Mr. JOHN S. SLAGLE, was elected President without opposition. We were not present, and consequently did not hear his inaugural, but we feel safe from our knowledge of him in congratulating the members in their choice, as a better could not have been made. He will preside with dignity, impartiality and grace.

The Councils are both made up with men of worth, talent and progressive ideas, and in their keeping the interests of our sister city will be carefully guarded, while its affairs will be conducted with wisdom, prudence and safety.

MAYOR SIMON DRUM.

This gentleman was sworn into the office of Mayor of Allegheny City, in the presence of the joint meeting of Councils, on Friday morning. He spoke briefly on the occasion, pledging himself to a faithful and honest effort to justify the confidence of his fellow-citizens by a careful and diligent discharge of the duties of his office. Mr. DRUM is a gentleman of fine presence, courteous and dignified. His elevation a second time to the Mayoralty is honorable alike to himself and his constituents.

EX-MAYOR MORRISON.

This gentleman was present on Friday, at the inauguration of his successor, and gracefully returned thanks to Councils and to his fellow-citizens for their uniform kindness and support during his several terms of office. Mr. MORRISON has possessed the confidence and esteem of the people of Allegheny City not only, but of Allegheny county, in as high degree, perhaps, as any other man. He has filled various offices and in all his exhibited fire administrative abilities. He retires from public life with the warm regards of all who have enjoyed his acquaintance.

MR. WM. MUNDOCH, the Director of the Poor elected in Allegheny at the late election, was sworn into office yesterday. We are told on all hands, and on making his acquaintance yesterday were strongly impressed with the same opinion, that he will make an energetic, efficient and humane officer. His new duties will bring him into communication with the poor and destitute, whose numbers are greatly increased this winter by the high cost of the necessaries of life and the comparative dearth of employment. Mr. MURDOCH's office is one that should be held by a man of sound judgment and large heart. We think the right man is in the right place.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

—Mr. Theaker, Patent Commissioner, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted.

—A German engraver named Miller has been arrested for making iron breast plates for conspirators at Havana.

—The Alabama State Treasurer has surrendered the keys of the treasury, but refuses to give up the money or books.

—Gilmore's full band left Boston last night for Chicago, to furnish music for the great Charity Ball and Concert there on Monday night.

—Santa Anna and his companions are reported busy intriguing at Havana, against Mexico, and strange developments are expected.

—Gen. Meade has removed John P. Barnes, Controller of the State of Georgia, and appointed Capt. Charles Wheaton, of the 33d Infantry, in his stead.

—Gen. Ord, in a conversation with President Johnson, is reported to have asserted him that negro suffrage would operate successfully consummated in the South.

—At St. Andrews, Canada, at midnight on the 4th, a severe shock of an earthquake was felt. A slight shock, accompanied by loud noise, was also experienced at Montreal.

—The public health of Havana has greatly improved, and it is stated clean bills will soon be issued. Te Deum will be celebrated to-morrow (19th) for the deliverance of the city from epidemic disease.

—A Committee from Florida petitioned General Meade to postpone the Convention in that State for thirty days, to allow correction of registration frauds, but General Meade declined, after consulting General Grant by telegraph.

—The dispatch in the morning papers of yesterday, giving an account of the proceedings of the Common Council of Washington, relative to the reinstatement of Secretary Stanton, was mislaid. The occurrences therein were in the Philadelphia Common Council.

—Henry, a liquor dealer in Montreal, recently purchased two hundred and thirty packages of spiritous liquors, subsequently detecting the liquors and substituting water, thus defrauding the revenue of thirteen thousand dollars. Henry escaped to the United States.

—Judge P. G. Wood, of Selma, Alabama, having decided that he could not comply with General Pope's order in regard to placing negroes on juries without guard to placing negroes on juries without violating his official oath, his Court was suppressed by the military authorities. The Bar of Dallas county, at a called meeting, unanimously sustained Judge Wood.

—Hon. W. T. Hamilton was yesterday chosen United States Senator from Maryland for six years, to succeed Reverdy Johnson. The vote on the last ballot stood: Hamilton, fifty-six; Swann, forty-six; Merrick, five; Pratt, one. Reverdy Johnson received no votes. Mr. Hamilton was formerly a member of Congress from Maryland.

THE GRAND ARMY

Convention at Philadelphia—Grant Favored for the Presidency.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

PHILADELPHIA, January 17.—The Grand Army of the Republic, in Convention to-day, elected General Logan, of Illinois, as Commander-in-Chief, and General Owen, of Philadelphia, as Senior Vice Commander. Two hundred and forty thousand persons are represented by the delegates now here.

The National Convention of the Grand Army of the Republic met in mass convention last night. General Sickles occupied the chair. The Committee on Resolutions, consisting of General Hurlburt, of Illinois, General Nathan Kimball, of Indiana, General James B. McPeak, of New York, General B. Halstead, of New Jersey, and Major Clayton, of New Jersey, and Major Clayton, McMichael, reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That veteran soldiers and sailors are as steadfast now as ever to the Union and flag, and fully recognize the claims of U. S. Grant, General of the Army of the United States, to the confidence of the people, and recommend him for President, of the United States, in implicit confidence that the victories won under his guidance in war will be fully carried out by him in peace in such measures as shall secure the full fruits of our exertions.

FIRST EDITION.

MIDNIGHT.

HARRISBURG.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

Rules of the House Considered.

The Johnstown Accident Suits:

House Adjourned Till Monday.

(Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

HARRISBURG, January 17, 1868.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was opened with prayer by Rev. John Douglass, of Pittsburgh.

Nearly the whole session was occupied in discussing and amending the rules of the House.

Finally, on motion of Mr. HICKMAN, of Chester, it was

Resolved, That the rules adopted by the last House be adopted for the present body, except that after a bill has been ten days in the hands of any Committee after having been referred to them, a majority of votes shall be sufficient to order it to be reported.

The vote stood: Ayes, seventy-two; Nays, ten.

Mr. LINTON, of Cambria, offered the following:

WHEREAS, It appears in the *Legislative Record* that Senate bill 1,601 of the session of 1867, an act authorizing the removal of certain suits at law from the Court of Cambria county to the Court of Centre, was amended in the House by substituting Somerset for Centre; *And whereas*, it appears from the Senate journal that, notwithstanding the amendment of the House, the bill was returned to the Senate as having passed the House without amendment, whereby said bill was passed as a law without the concurrence of both Houses; therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of three members be appointed to wait on the Senate and report to the House the circumstances attending the passage of said bill.

Agreed to. The Committee will hereafter be announced. This refers to the suits for injuries at the Johnstown accident in 1866.

Adjourned till Monday evening.

The Stanton Resolutions in the House and Senate—Democrats Modify their Position to Be Safe Dodge—Wrigging at the Copperheads.

(Special Correspondence Pittsburgh Gazette.)

HARRISBURG, Jan. 16, 1868.

The Stanton resolutions were the chief subject of debate in both houses to-day.

The House held an afternoon session upon them, the whole time, from three to seven, being occupied in debate, and almost of that time was employed by Democrats. All of them seemed hurrying with speeches. The tone to-day, however, was much milder than yesterday, and the chief object of the leaders on that side appeared to be to explain away the ultra remarks of yesterday's debate, and to obliterate, if possible, the the bad impressions then made.

Every possible effort was made by them to explain away Mr. Playford's remarks eulogizing "the gallant Lee." It was plain that the leaders saw that expression was going to stick to them like a burr, and that they must make every possible effort to shake it off. Accordingly, the more moderate and prudent speakers were put forward to-day, and they took every opportunity to show that Mr. Playford did not mean to eulogize the Rebel Chief, but simply to express admiration of his bravery.

But it will not do. Mr. Playford was never more in earnest in his life. He meant exactly what he said, and his hearty praise of "the gallant Lee," unfortunately for his Democratic colleagues, was as cordially received by them as it was earnestly spoken by him. It were one of those expressions which come out in moments of excitement, and reveal truly feelings, which in calmer moments, would be carefully concealed. We must keep it in constant remembrance as one of our texts for the coming campaign.

The House, before adjourning, passed the resolutions endorsing Stanton's resignation, under the provisions of a question by a strict party vote, and then adjourned until to-morrow.

In the Senate, the Democrats contented themselves with filibustering, so as to stave off action, until their main force returns, and in this they succeeded. The previous question is seldom moved in that body. The resolutions were postponed until Tuesday night next, and made the special order for that time.

The only notable feature in the Senate debate was the flare up of Davis, of Berks, when Mr. McConaughy spoke of the opposition to Stanton's reinstatement as "the virus of the serpent and the adder." Davis regarded this as personal, wriggled and twisted under it in a state of great excitement, and finally demanded, in a passionate tone and with a stamp of the foot, that the Senator from Adams should not be allowed to speak of Senators as "serpents and adders." Mr. Colerane suggested the substitution of the word "Copperheads," but this did not seem to mollify the Berks' man in any wise. This wrigging under a sharp reply was, I thought, an encouraging sign.

The Senate, I am sorry to say, adopted a resolution to adjourn over to Monday next, by a vote of 15 to 14—five Republicans, viz: Billingsfelt, Ridgeway, Taylor, Brown, of Lawrence, and Coleman, voting with the nine Democratic Senators for it. The Democrats make a great outcry about economy; but when a chance of this kind occurs they vote solid for long adjournments, and then try to throw the onus of it and the responsibility for it upon the Republicans.

ALLEGHENY.

MISSOURI.

The Legislature—Bill to Sell the South West Branch of the Pac. R. R. Railroad, &c.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 17.—The members from Southwest Missouri, in caucus at Jefferson City, last night, agreed upon a bill to be presented to the Legislature for the sale of what is known as the Southwest Branch of the Pacific Railroad, recently forfeited by General Fremont and associates for non-compliance of the terms of purchase. The bill provides for the sale of the road for one million of dollars, which is to be paid back to the purchasers in installments as subsidies as fast as the road is extended.

The resolutions introduced in the House some days since to memorialize Congress to grant subsidies to the Kansas branch of the Union Pacific Railroad, equal to those given to the Omaha Road, met a steady opposition. The main argument against the proposition is that such subsidies will enable the Kansas Pacific Company to extent their road over a considerable portion of the route designed to be covered by the Atlantic and Pacific, would cut the latter company out of direct connection with the Pacific coast and keep a large extent of country in Indian Territory and New Mexico, which is specially tributary to Missouri and St. Louis for early development.

Gov. Fletcher sent a message to the Legislature to-day, giving his reasons for seizing the Iron Mountain Railroad. They are simply because Thomas Allen, who had purchased the road, has failed to comply with the terms of the sale in expenditure for the extension of the road.

The City Councils of St. Louis to-day adopted resolutions to memorialize the Legislature for permission to issue one million dollars of bonds to enable the city to raise money to pay accruing interest and liquidate other debts; also asking the Legislature to place the Board of Health, Board of Water Commissioners and Police Commissioners, under the control of the City Government; also, asking the Legislature for permission to use the newly acquired wharf, for the benefit of manufacturing establishments, elevators, &c.

The State Senate to-day adopted a resolution commending the United States Senate for reinstating Edwin M. Stanton Secretary of War.

Destructive Fire.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

CINCINNATI, January 17.—Barber, Chonte & Naher's furniture factory was destroyed by fire this morning. Loss about $80,000; insured for $64,000 in Cincinnati and Covington offices.

Type Banquet.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The Typographical Society celebrated the birth-day of Franklin by a banquet this evening.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Case of McArdle, Vicksburg Editor.

U. S. Attorney Appointment.

Mint Commissioners Designated.

Freedmen's Bureau Report.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1868.

IMPORTANT MEASURE.

The Committee on Ways and Means this morning adopted the following very important resolution:

Resolved, As the sense of this Committee, that one hundred and fifty millions of dollars be considered as the total amount of revenue to be obtained from internal taxes, and that the same, as far as practicable, be collected from: First, distilled spirits and fermented liquors; Second, tobacco and manufactures of tobacco; Third, stamps; Fourth, special taxes; Fifth, incomes; Sixth, dividends; Seventh, luxuries and amusements; Eighth, banks and railroads. Leaving the least possible sum to be collected from industrial pursuits, or relieve that class of interests entirely.

SUPREME COURT—THE M'ARDLE CASE.

The Supreme Court was crowded this afternoon with many of the most distinguished members of the bar now in Washington, to hear the argument connected with case No. 350, *ex parte* Wm. H. McArdle, on an appeal from the Circuit Court of the United States for the Southern District of Mississippi. It will be recollected McArdle was arrested and imprisoned by order of General Ord, and ordered to be tried by Military Commission, on the charge of hindering reconstruction by certain publications in a paper at Vicksburg, of which he is editor. The accused was held to a bail in two thousand dollars to await further proceedings. The motion argued to-day was as to giving an early hearing to all the principles involved.

Senator Trumbull was counsel for the military authorities. He contended that this was not in any sense a political question, nor was it of such a criminal character as required the Court to give it preference. Besides, the accused being now at liberty, though under bail, was not suffering so grievous hardship.

Judge Black took issue with Mr. Trumbull, and contended that the interests not only of McArdle, but of all citizens of the United States, were involved in the question, and he contended that the liberty of the citizen was the most precious of all blessings. He did not ask the court to consideration of the case as a matter of favor, but of justice.

Judge Shellabarger briefly showed the importance of the course suggested by Judge Black.

Mr. Hughes, appearing for the Government, opposed the motion for an early trial.

The Court took the matter under advisement.

FREEDMEN'S BUREAU ON THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI.

Gen. Sewall, Assistant Inspector General, reports, under date of Vicksburg, January 8th, that an unsettled state of affairs exists, with great destitution, but no starvation. Comparatively few plantations will be working the ensuing year, though more attention will be paid to cereals. Few contracts are yet being made with freedmen. He could find no evidence of the truth of the assertion that the planters had determined on converted action to force people to work at lower wages. He thinks it will be necessary for the government to issue a limited number of rations in the rural districts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas, but in the interior there is little appreciation of suffering. He gives a report that an agent of Lake Providence absconded with $8,000, deposited with him by the freedmen, and concludes by saying there never was a time when the bureau was more needed than at the present time.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY APPOINTMENT.

Egbert H. Grandin was yesterday confirmed by the Senate as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, in place of Mr. Marlin, removed. This latter, it will be recollected, is the man who recently shot Judge Busted.

RESOLUTION OF THE ARMY.

The House Military Committee, at a meeting this morning, decided not to report a bill providing for the retirement of the army in view of the bad condition of affairs in the Southern States. Should reconstruction be completed in the South before the present Congress adjourns they will then report a bill looking towards such retirement.

MINT COMMISSIONERS.

The following named gentlemen were to-day designated by the President as Commissioners for the mint and assay a the United States Mint, in Philadelphia, on the 10th of February: Hon. Samuel Ringle, New York; Professor Jos. Henry, of Washington, Professor John Forney, of New York; Hon. J. P. Usher, of Indiana, Hon. J. R. McClintock, of Pittsburgh, D. E. D. Bell, of Louisville, Gen. John C. Fremont, Col. Francisco John J. Knox, Treasury Department, and Franklin Peale, of Philadelphia.

THE GOLD OF ALASKA.

The State Department is in receipt of a dispatch from Sitka, stating that there was a sample of gold ore from Alaska given thirteen thousand dollars per ton.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

(By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, January 17, 1868.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

HOUSE CALLED FOR.

The SPEAKER announced the regular business in order during the morning hour to be the call of Committees for reports of a private character.

On motion of Mr. BUTLER the Senate amendments to the deficiency bill were referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. DODGE, from the Military Committee, reported a bill for the relief of Captain C. D. Johnson, 11th Iowa Infantry.

Mr. RAUM, from the same Committee, made an adverse report on the petition of George Wilson for an appropriation in consideration of his services in detecting the Camp Douglas conspiracy. Laid on the table.

Several private bills were passed, including one granting a pension to David Van Ostrand, of the Twelfth Indiana Volunteers.

GENERAL DEBATE ON SATURDAY.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, it was ordered that the session of to-morrow be for general debate only.

On the suggestion of Mr. BINGHAM it was agreed that the debate on the construction bill proceed go on to-day, and that the subject might also be discussed to-morrow, and that the previous question shall be considered seconded on Monday after the morning hour.

CURRENCY CONTRACTION BILL NON-CONCURRED IN.

Mr. SCHENCK, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported back the Senate substitute for the House anti-contraction bill, with the recommendation that it be non-concurred in. He proceeded to explain the difference between the propositions of the House and the Senate, saying the Senate substitute accomplished, but by a vague phraseology, what the bill accomplished in a direct, plain and unmistakable manner. The Committee of Ways and Means was unanimous in recommending a non-concurrence in the Senate amendment.

The amendment was non-concurred in, and the bill goes back to the Senate.

THE DEBATE ON RECONSTRUCTION RESUMED.

The House at half past one o'clock resumed the consideration of the bill reported from the Committee on Reconstruction, on which Mr. BOUTWELL was entitled to the floor.

He yielded twenty minutes to Mr. GARFIELD, who addressed the House in advocacy of the bill. He defended the section vesting the General of the Army with the powers now exercised by the President, by reference to various acts of Congress authorizing subordinate officers to perform certain duties. The President of the United States himself was a subordinate of Congress. If Congress could pass laws controlling subordinates, what new doctrine was this, that it might not give its orders to the General of the Army. The President and his associates were obstructions in way of the restoration of the States recently in rebellion, and Congress proposed to remove that obstruction by transferring the power from the hands of one who had shown disloyalty to the laws of the United States. He obey the laws of the United States (Mr. Garfield) wanted it distinctly understood, and he believed he might say so for the party to which he belonged, that the party intended to take no step backward. They had inaugurated a policy in the Thirty-ninth Congress, and were in the process of carrying it out. The gentlemen on the other side were manifestly arrayed with the President. Without charging on them rebel sympathies, and without saying harsh term concerning them, he would say their conduct was pleasing to every unrepentant, unchanged rebel in the South. The whole mass of the rebel population were in favor of obstructing the reconstruction policy of Congress. There was not a man who went into rebellion, not a guerilla who shot down Union soldiers in an ambuscade, not a man who burned northern cities or steamboats, not a man who starved Union prisoners, not a man who made a raid into Northern States, not a rascal of the rebellion, who was not within their party in Congress attempting to obstruct the reconstruction laws and policy of Congress. With such a hostile combination did anybody expect that the victorious Republican party would now retire? Did anybody pretend it should move or slip backward? Much less did anybody expect that Congress would permit a subordinate to fling back his lectures and tell Congress what ought to be and what ought not to be.

Mr. BOUTWELL addressed the House in support of the bill. When the people complained of Congress, they should take notice that for twenty-four months Congress had struggled for the reorganization of the Southern States; struggled with a man whose heart and whose purposes were in the rebellion, and who was likely to be a candidate of the opposition, for he was to-day the most formidable of all. But he had the expectation that when, in November next, in the States lately in rebellion, and which before then would be restored to the Union, black men went to the polls, they would be driven from them by white men, and there would come up to Congress in February next certificates of election for the candidates of the opposition. The country would then be brought again to the extremity of civil war, or else they should be compelled to surrender at discretion to the infernal rebels. He knew of no way out of it but the country would yet see that there was but one way out of those difficulties. The President would treat that this law, as he had thwarted others. Whether the future were to be for weal or woe, the duty of Congress was still the same: To maintain the authority of the people as represented in Congress, and to enforce by every Constitutional power the rights of the loyal people of the country.

Mr. BROOKS, of New York, and Mr. HUBBARD, of Connecticut, opposed the bill in an elaborate speech, characterized the bill as more than infamous. Every State in the Union had a perfect government under the Constitution, and yet this bill simply contained the principles of the robber. He gave notice that if they should succeed in passing the law, and execute it in the manner required, he would be taking on him a job which would break his back before the people at the Presidential election. He did not care how great a man Grant was, if he, after having taken the oath of allegiity of the Constitution, should now assume to execute this law, he would forfeit all the honor which he had thus far nobly earned. The Mark Anthonys, who proposed to offer the crown to Julius Grant, would find that both they and he would meet condemnation.

Mr. PETER addressed the House in support of the bill and sent up and had read by the Clerk a letter from a gentleman in Alabama, stating that he did not wish to make public, but who described himself as an officer of the Freedmen's Bureau and a member of the Constitutional Convention, picturing the social condition of affairs in Alabama, declaring the disposition of the rebels there was more malignant and desperate than any other place.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, stated in the same connection that he had received a letter from one of the most reliable gentlemen in Alabama, bearing out the general statements of the other letter, and mentioning the fact that the rebel General Clanton was stumping the State against reconstruction and telling the people that if they would only be unanimous against reconstruction and telling the people that if they would only be unanimous against reconstruction and telling the people that if they would only be unanimous