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Weekly and Semi-Werkely Telegraph.

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Pennsylvania Legislature

REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE TELEGRAPH.

HOUSE OF RERRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, Jan. 24, 1861. The House was called to order at 11 o'clock M., by the SPEAKER, and opened with

Drayer by the Rev. Mr. Carson.
The Clerk read the Journal of yesterday. Mr. DUFFIELD moved that the bill entitled, Philadelphia and Delaware river Railroad company," read in place by him yesterday, be re-ferred to the Committee on City Passenger Rellroads, instead of the Committee on Rail-

the motion was agreed to.

Mr TRACEY asked for and obtained leave of absence for Mr. Bliss, for a few days.

Mr. WILDEY asked for and obtained similar

leave leave for Mr. Thomas. ME RHOADS asked for and obtained similar SMITH (Berks.)

THOMAS asked for and obtained similar

for Mr. Collins.

greeably to order. resolutions submitted by Mr. Armstrong,

e 9th inst. ie question was on the amendment offered ARMSTRONG.

y and treasonable in their character. All on our own side; we take arour unchange-pennsylvanians, acknowledge the obli-of States to observe both the letter and occupromise whatever to be made."

that the full and free expression of opinion,

ely tested by the demands made from, ncessions made to, the South by the comhe country breathed free, and we all, with onsent, agreed that these the vexed ones-It was only when the South rather political aspirants courting her asked that that solemn compact had given peace for thirty years, e broken; it was then that a strife comd, which, in the short space of six years, town to such fearful magnitude that it weatens the dissolution and destruction fairest fabric that ever was reared on a

unconstitutional. I shall not stop to s point on which eminent statesmen jurists have been here brought to issue that that act was a solemn compact, we protected it from all assaults, come sectity Yet it was broken; and

the bar of the people, secured a verdict has said "Thus far thou hast gone; re—which the said "Thus far thou hast gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou hast gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou hast gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou hast gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou has gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou has gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou has gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou has gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou has gone; re—which we have the said "Thus far thou has said " They have felt the rebuke re willing to recede. They are vanquished. re victorious, and can afford to be gener-Shall we meet them on the old landand agree that the old line shall be lished, extended to the golden borders Minished, extended to the golden borders a step can not do any harm. We do not sacrifice of principle, secure for our distribution peace? Leave this, the main on at issue, to the voice of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people, and the secure for our distribution of the people and the secure for our distribution of the people and the secure of t erwhelming majority will answer "yes." we are told it is a sacrifice of principle; re-establishing this line we are fastenvery upon all territory south of that line. ertainly not. We leave it to the people s. shall apply for admission to the

adopt or reject slavery.



Telegraph.

county

(local.)

affected.

and canals.

"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS-NEUTRÁL IN NONE"

VOL. XIV.

HARRISBURG, PA., MONDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 28, 1861.

NO. 21.

Referred to the Committee on New Counties

and County Seats.

Mr. COPE, one from citizens of Northampton

county, praying for a supplement to an Act to incorporate the Bethlehem water company.

Referred to the Committee on Corpora

Mr. DISMANT, one from citizens of Limerick

Referred to the Committee on Education.

Mr. EILENBERGER, one from the firemen

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

phia, praying for the repeal of so much of the 95th and 96th sections of the Penal Code as re-

fer to the rendition of fugitive slaves.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary (gen

Mr. MOORE, one from citizens of Philadelphia

praying for the repeal of so much of the 95th and 96th sections of the Penal Code as are not

maugh, of like import.
Referred to same committee.

Beferred to the Committee on Banks

Mr. MYERS, one from inhabitants of Adams

county for the repeal of the act passed the 14th day of April, 1859, for the protection of game,

so far as the same relates to the county of Ad-

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

certain laws may be extended to said compan-

Referred to the Committee on Roads, Bridges

Mr. BREWSTER, one from citizens of Hun-

tingdon county, praying that part of said county be annexed to the county of Fulton.

Referred to the Committee on New Coun-

Mr. HECK, one from citizens of Dauphin

county, praying the re-enactment of the provisions of the Act of 1780.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary

Mr. PIERCE, one from citizens of Upper Ox-

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary,

Also, a Memorial of the Philadelphia Female

of all persons, within the Commonwealth, who

Mr. RHOADS, one from citizens of Amity

Douglas and Earl townships, Berks county, praying for a further supplement to the act incorporating the Limerick and Colebrookdale

turnpike company, incorporated March 15

Referred to the Committee on Roads, Bridges

Also, one from citizens of Northeast ward o

the city of Reading, to divide said ward into two election precincts.

Referred to the Committee on Election Dis-

Also, one from inhabitants of Berks and

Mr. MARSHALL, one from the citizens o

McCandless township, Allegheny county, praying for a change in the place of holding elections

Referred to the Committee on Election Dis

Mr. ROBINSON, one from citizens of Butlet

The petition was read, and

line between said counties

local.l

(General.)

general).

and Canals.

local.)

end Canals.

in said township

tricts.

county of Crawford.

Domestic Manufactures.

orough of West Chester.

and lot in said township.

of Northampton county.

into the Union? If so, we repudiate the man of our choice, who has said he will not take. such a position.

How are we ever to arrive at any adjustment of this question, if we are unwilling to com-promise upon any terms? And if at all, why not upon terms; based, at least, on the pro-position named in these resolutions? We are only expressing the voice of Pennsylvania, and is it not becoming the position and character of Pennsylvania to propose at least some basis of adjustment?

The gentleman from Lycoming (Mr. Armstrone) has shown us that, as the territories supplement to an Act to incorporate the now stand, since the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and by the construction placed upon the Constitution by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, those territories are now open, both North and South of the original line, to the introduction of slavery: Was not the battle fought on the fields of Kansas upon this question? By the establishment of this line we cut off all that vast productive and fertile region North of the line from this curse of slavery, confining it to the territory lying South of the line. Even with regard to that portion of our national territory in which we do not prohibit slavery, we do not fasten the institu-tion upon it. We leave to the people themselves to regulate the subject in their own way.

Mr. MARSHALL. I would like to ask the

If or Mr. MILLER.

ELLIOTT asked for and obtained similar for Mr. Collins.

ACKER asked for and obtained similar for Mr. Collins.

SPECIAL ORDER—STATE OF THE UNION. receably to order, ellipse resumed the consideration of the resolutions submitted by Mr. Armstrong,

I was about to observe that by this proposed measure we shall not fasten slavery upon any territory, even that south of that line. We Ir. ARMSTRONG.

Ir. AUSTIN. Mr. Speaker:—It will not be defed that the Constitution of the United States is, or should be, the supreme law of the lard. The only difficulty seems to be in the different constructions placed upon it. That any of the States have a right to enact laws twould prevent the full and free force and the would prevent the full and free force and the provisions I trust is not entering the states have a right to enact laws to do do? Are we, as Pennsylvanians, going to say that slavery shall never enter any portion of our national territory—that even though our refusal should involve the dissolution of this on of all its provisions, I trust is not enter-refusal should involve the dissolution of this Union, we will not allow slavery in another me. Certainly no citizen of Pennsylvania inch of our national territory? If that is to be advocate doctrines so dangerous in their character, all on our own side; we take as our unchange-

but this compromise whatever to be made.

But this compromise will not rest upon precisely the old terms. The South having securcet to insist upon its enforcement in all
the rend should if necessary and the latter and driven up from territory conservation. takes; and should, if necessary, supply the fulfile means.

And driven us from territory once consecrated to freedom, they are now willing to go back. Why? Because they find that the voice of the people has indicated a determination that must and will be heard.

I cannot see why we, as Pennsylvanians, can

d from the compact, so far as their own can effect a separation, it becomes us, as bers of the Keystone of this glorious arch, it proposition. By our action here we do not make it the law of the beany remedy.

Le leading and principal cause can easily be defined its effect. It is slavery; the blast-withering, blighting curse of slavery is the tand fruitful source of all our troubes. Y? Oh! why was there entailed upon us Nation this great evil? The ways of the ite are beyond the comprehension of minds. It exists, however, and we, as insylvanians, have only to enquire what is unty as fellow members of the confederacy, what are our rights. Whilst we concede constitutional rights of other States, we our own. The freedom of speech and epress are among the dearest rights and leges we enjoy; and while we have no athy for those who, by interfering with somestic institutions of their neighbors, hemselves into trouble, yet we demand the full and free expression of opinion, he had not a separate to take this position? It at least, am prepared to make all reasonable efforts to avoid any such total alteration of the North and the South. Let us show some disposition to preserve this confederacy, of States we controlled the pression of poinion, the full and free expression of opinion, the full and free expression of opinion to preserve this confederacy of States entire. Does it not become the position of the country, or declare that those States that have gone may go, and those that propose to second may go, and those that those of the country, or declare that those States that have gone may go, and those that propose to second may go, and those that propose to second may go, and those that propose to second may go, and those that the sum that the full and free expression of opinion.

Are we not willing to make one effort be either by speech or through the press, by our entire. Does it not become the position of Pennsylvania to make some advances—to offer some proposition? I hope gentlemen are not disposed to atom? disposed to stand upon nice scruples which the compromise of 1820 the South were might prevent them from taking an attitude nore than satisfied. They conceived that favorable to a reconciliation of our present nahad secured a glorious triumph; and they had. Yet the people of the North true, and faithfully fulfilled their part of ontract. Their faith and patience were the people of the North basis of adjustment. I would prefer that the true, and faithfully fulfilled their part of ontract. Their faith and patience were tional difficulties. I am not prepared to say the people-might have the power to prohibit as I am positively opposed to fastening or forcees of 1846 and 1850. Yet after that of ing slavery upon any portion of our people, o territory. But let us endeavor to meet on some ground, and be willing to compromise on some terms, even if they should not be all we could

There is another proposition comprised in these resolutions which I presume the great body of this House is willing to accept—the proision that the Judiciary Committee shall be charged with the duty of inquiring whether any laws now in force in Pennsylvania conflict with her constitutional obligations to the govtairest fabric that ever was reared on a with her constitutional configurations of the government, controlled remment of the United States. I advocate this people.

I shall not stop to conciliation and peace. With regard to South Carolina or any of the States that have followed her in seceding, I have no proposition to offer-nothing. So long as they occupy the position which they have chosen to assume, they can thought they requarter they might. Conceived, thought may have been, to forward and cover schemist of wicked and designing men, yet the chromatances of its passage should have given to offer the olive branch to them—let them to offer the olive branch to them—let them to offer the olive branch to them—let them alone and to the proper authorities. We. I thep to day the bitter fruits.

hope, have a government sufficiently strong to enforce the laws. But there is another view of the nent, and they who secured its overthrow this subject. We profess to be Union lovers biled to accomplish the desired end. Kan- and law-abiding citizens. As Union men, it is to-day, and I hope forever will be, a free to-day, and I hope forever will be, a free to-day, and I hope forever will be, a free to-day, and I hope forever will be, a free tour duty to say to our brethren in the border the tour duty to say to our brethren in the border the tour duty to say to our brethren in the border who are now struggling against the tour consummated the organization of a weare willing to stand by them and to assist in effecting some adjustment of this question, which will enable them to keep their position which will prevent them from being dragged. our duty to say to our brethren in the border -which will prevent them from being dragged into that whirlpool of ruin in which other States farther South are eudeavoring to involv

For this reason I am disposed to advocate the repeal of at least a part of the 95th section, which has been so much discussed here. Such

In the fourth resolution of the series we de mand that when we visit the States of the South, our rights as citizens of Pennsylvania shall be respected. We also in another declare our willingness that the Constitution shall be the supreme law of the land, and our readiness of slavery, save only, that they shall not be not representative in the supreme law of the land, and our readiness at all times to be governed by it. If after all proper action on our part, we cannot obtain from the States of the South this protection of ess, shall apply for admission to the our own rights, I shall be among the first to b, when they may, in their constitution, demand our rights. I am willing that the Constitution and the laws should be carried out stitution and the laws should be carried unitation of our territory, south of that line, those seceding States that we are determined to show that we have a government, whose pecognizing slavery, shall be admitted laws must be obeyed. If no other measures

blockading their forts; of withdrawing their mails; and if attempts are made to resist federal

Mr. ARMSTRONG. I am, well aware that

be committed by them.

But shall we refuse to make any concessions?

These are the views which I honestly enterthis motion, which I submit to the judgement this whom I have the honor, in part, to represent upon this floor.

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW. I am in favor of present upon this floor.

Mr. HOFIUS. I do not rise for the purpose of making a speech. I have already consumed more of the time of the House than I intended upon the resolutions from the Senate. I have ecome satisfied that a part of the great princioles of the Republican party are about to be thrown aside by a portion of our Republican members upon this floor. If those members occupied merely an ordinary position in the par-ty I should not have a word to say; but amongst those who appear willing to abandon their former position, I find the Major Generals, the Adjutant Generals, the Brigade Inspectors and all the officers of high rank, who last winter appeared before this House with all the pomp and splendor of a lofty military character. With such men as these I am not willing to part such men as these I am not willing to part. With this view I rise for the purpose of offering an amendment to the resolutions now under consideration; and I hope that my proposition will bring together all the different branches of the Republican party as well as the Democratic party.

The amendment was read as follows: Strike out all after the word "Resolved," in the sixth resolution, and adopt the following

propositions in lieu thereof: First. That when any fugitive slave escapes into any non-slaveholding State and shall be arrested according to the provisions of the Constitution and laws of the United States, providing for his rendition, and shall be rescued from the proper officers of the law, the government of the United States shall pay to the owner, or his legal representatives, the market value of said fugitive, and the cost of his attempt.

sailor, who shall be charged with no crime; and who shall be taken from any vessel sailing from a non-slave holding State, and cast into prison in any port of a slave-holding State, the deference to the judgment of the gentleman government of the Tuited States shall pay to said free negro or mulatto; the sum of ten dollars a day, for each and every day he shall be norming for the consideration of this subject.

The transport of the said sailor shall be so imprisoned; and if the said sailor shall be But at that time many members will just be related the determine of the said sailor shall be so imprisoned; and if the said sailor shall be so imprisoned; and if the said sailor shall be so imprisoned; and if the said sailor shall be said sailor shall sail sailor shall sailor in imprisoned; and if the said salor shall be substituted that the time of the United States shall pay to the family or legal heirs of said negro or mulatto sailor the sum of five thousand dollars:

Fourth: That for tarring and feathering, or riding on a rail, any citizen of a non-slaveholding State, on account of his opinions on Slavery, in grant of compression between the gentlement of compression and the results of the solution of the said salor shall be substituted that the time of the House will be largely taken up by such business.

Besides, some of them may not return so early as Monday. They desire to learn the feelings of their constituents on this question. By

ing State, on account of his opinions on Slavery, unexpressed, or expressed only to free white persons, the government of the United States shall pay to the injured person the sum of one suggest that Tuesday morning be named as thousand dollars; for shaving the head, whip-thousand dollars; for shaving the head, whip-thousand dollars; for shaving the head, whip-the time.

Mr. WILLIAMS. I accept that as a medifideforming a citizen of a Free State, the govern-ment shall pay to the injured party the sum of ment shan pay to the injuried party the sain of three thousand dollars; and for hanging or otherwise killing by mob violence any citizen of a free State, the parties so offending shall be deemed guilty of and be punished for murder, and the government of the United States shall pay the family or legal representatives of the ceased the sum of twenty thousand dollars : the same to be recovered of the county where the violence was committed, and of the individual, as provided in the first proposition.

Fifth. That the State of Virginia and other Southern States shall repeal their laws for the illegal and unconstitutional search and taxation of Northern coasting vessels entering their ports; and that the Northern States having statutes conflicting with the Constitution and laws of the United States in relation to the renlition of fugitive slaves, shall forthwith repeal the same.

The question being on the amendment of Ir. HOFTUS, it was declared not agreed to.
Mr. HOFTUS. I call for the year and nays.

MANY MEMBERS. Oh, no! The SPEAKER. The year and nays have been demanded by the gentleman from Mercer (Mr. Horrus) seconded by whom?

MANY MEMBERS. Nobody. The call for the yeas and nays was not see

The question then recurred on the amend next of Mr. ARMSTRONG Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Speaker, I desire after consultation with numerous members of the House, to move that the resolutions b

the special order of the day, at half-past eleven Mr. ROBINSON. We have now been here Means three or four weeks, and almost the whole of our time has been occupied in the discussion of our federal relations. Our attention is demanded by many measures affecting more par-ticularly the various interests of our Common wealth. It is evident to all that, until we dispose of all these resolutions with regard to the tate of the Union, we cannot concentrate our attention upon any measures of State legislation. I hope, therefore, that the consideration of this special order will be continued, and that the House will come to a conclusion as speedily

is possible. Mr. ABBOTT. No doubt the gentleman from Lycoming (Mr. Armströng) has good reasors for making this proposition for postporement. In fact he has intimated that he has such resons; but they have not been expressed. Ingret very much that the discussion of this subset they have not been expressed. ect should be delayed. It is a subject involing topics connected with the present condition of the country and the relation of the States to each other. I desire that we shall continue this discussion until some definite conclusion shall be attained by the House. If the gentleman from Lycoming will state any reasons why our action should be delayed, I shall cheerfully acquiesce. But it appears to me that as there will Mr. BLANCHARD, one signed by numerous Refision be before us pressing business, involving local or State legislation, it is desirable that this engrossing national subject should receive and that banks be permitted to issue and pay counteen our final action. The state of the repeal of the "small note law." Mr. BLANCHARD, one signed by numerous Refisher. ken our final action. I rose simply to ask from this gentleman such an explanation as will en-

will answer the purpose, I would be in favor of able us to determine intelligently this question of Huntingdon county, against annexing parts of Dublin and Springfield townships to Fulton

authority, execute the laws at all hazards, there is business affecting the interests of our own State which should be attended to; and I have no disposition to interfere with the pro-per consideration of such business. But it is Shall we refuse to make any concessions:
Shall we stand upon nice scruples, with regard to our own dignity, fearing that it might be compromised by propositions that look toward reconciliation? I hope not. If we are to be brought to deadly conflict, let the responsibility rest upon the other side. Let us be able to say that they have refused to meet us; that propositions for reconciliation have been offered by us in vain. with many members of the House, to make

> postponing the consideration of these resolu-tions for the present. Any determination of the question at this time, whether favorable or unfavorable, might operate to forestall public opinion, or rather might give to our members of Congress an incorrect impression with regard to the position of this Legislature and the people of this State. There are various propo-sitions now before Congress. The Pennsylvania delegation stand in a very peculiar posi-tion. A proposition similar to that embraced in these resolutions is now before the Congress of the United States; and it is receiving that grave consideration which it deserves. I hope this Legislature will take no action on the sub ject for a week or two, until we shall hear something definite from the Seat of Govern ment.

Mr. STRANG. I am favor of the postpone-ment of these resolutions. I am influenced partly by the considerations which have been suggested by the gentleman from Schuylkill, (Mr. Barmolomew.) But there are other considerations. We are here as representatives now: and I am anxious to learn the views of

my constituents upon this question.

Mr. WILLIAMS. It seems to me that the object which my friend from Lycoming, as I understand him, has in view, will be equally well accomplished by a postponement until tomorrow. So far as regards the action of Congress, and I confess I am not prepared to look in that direction for instruction, it strikes me that these great questions are now transferred to the Legislatures of the several States of this Union; at all events they will be called on to ue of said fugitive, and the cost of his attempted as upon them eventually. We should not ed recovery; the same to be sued for by the general government, and recovered of the county must look in this direction. The States must

in which said resoure took place; and the county in which said resoure took place; and the county to sue for and recover of the person or ipersons engaged in the unlawful resoure; and the county of the person or iperson or ipersons engaged in the unlawful resoure; and in the present occupied and unlock in the unlawful resource in the interest of th to agree. are of compromise, however, I pro

That for every free negro minutes: As a second of compromise, however, I pro-sailor, who shall be charged with no crime and pose to amend the motion by designating Mon-

suggest that Tuesday morning be named as

ation. Let it be Tuesday.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. I have no personal ob-

ection to designating that time, but membe who have just spoken to me, inform me that they expect to be absent, and will not return until Tuesday evening, and hence they would prefer that the subject should be postponed until

Wedresday.
Mr. BUTLER, (Crawford.) I do not conceive that there is any necessity that we should be in a hurry on this question. It is my opinion that Wednesday is quite soon enough.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. I would suggest, in ad ition, that Tuesday is Private Callendar day.

Mr. COLLENS. I dont urge my proposition

as a motion, it was merely a suggestion.
The amendment of Mr. WILLIAMS was not agged to, and the question recurring on the at or near Jersey Shore, Lycoming county.

Referred to the Committee on Roads, Bridges metion of Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. SELTZER moved to amend by making

t Wednesday evening at seven o'clock.
Mr. ARMSTRONG accepted the amendmen asa modification, and
The motion as modified was agreed to.

LETTERS, PETITIONS, &C. Mr. SMITH, one from citizens of Upper Tul

pehocken, Berks county, praying for the passage of an Act for the relief of Michael Lauck, an old soldier of the war of 1812. Referred to the Committee on Pensions an Gratuities.

Mr. AUSTIN, one from one hundred citizens of Franklin county, praying that no legislation to repeal the tax on tonnage on the Pennsylva-nia Railroad, or to extend the time in any postponed until next Wednesday, and be made Eric Railroad, be given during the present ses-

ion.

Anti-Slavery Society," praying for the passage
Referred to the Committee on Ways and of such laws as are necessary for the protection

Mr. PIERCE, one from citizens of London-derry township, Chester county, praying for an alteration in the law relating to do a. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and

Domestic Manufactures.
Mr. BOYER, one from inhabitants of Berks and Schuylkill counties for the appointment of commissioners to change a part of the boundary line betwern said counties. Referred to the Committee on New Counties and County Seats.

Mr. DOUGLASS, one from inhabitants of Elizabeth township, Allegheny county, for a law to tax dogs in said township. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. MYERS, one from inhabitants of Adams county, for the repeal of all laws conflicting with the Compromisc Acts of Congress, passed in 1850, and all laws of this State conflicting in any way with the laws of other States.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary (general.)
Mr. GRAHAM, one from citizens of Butler and County Seats.

and Allegheny counties, to attach the farm of Cyrus J. Anderson to Butler county. Referred to the Committee on New Counties

county, praying for an increase in the compen-sation of the commissioners of said county, Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, out small notes.

Referred to the Committee on Banks.

Mr. BLAIR, four remonstrances from citizens

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MG Business notices inserted in the Local column, or effore Marriages and leaths, FIVE CENIS PER LINM yeach insertion. Warriages and Deaths to be charged as regular

Mr. BARNSLEY, one numerously signed from citizens of Bucks county, praying for the repeal of the 95th and 96th sections of the Berised Penal Code

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary (general.)

Mr. ABBOTT, the memorial of Samuel Hazand, Philadelphia, editor of Pennsylvania Ar-

The memorial was read, and

Referred to the Committee of Ways and township, Montgomery county, praying for an Act to sell and convey Bowman's school house Mr. COPE, a petition from citizens of North ampton county, remonstrating against any change in the Auction law in said county. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

Mr. RANDALL, one from the citizens of Philadelphia praying for the repeal of certain por-tions of the 95th and 96th sections of the Penal Mr. PUGHE, one from citizens of Green-field, Tell and Carbondale townships, Luzerne county, asking for a repeal of a supplement to

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

an Act incorporating the Milford and Owcgo (local).
Mr. HUHN, one from citizens of Schuylkill Turnpike Company, so far as Luzerne county is county praying for the repeal of such portions of the 95th and 96th sections of the Revised Referred to the Committee on Roads, Bridges Penal Code as may be deemed unfriendly to Mr. ABBOTT, one from citizens of Philadelister States.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary, (general.)

'IRGINIA'S PROPOSITION FOR A NATIONAL CONVEN Mr. RANDALL submitted the following:

Werkers, The Legislature of Virginia has recommended to the several States in the Union to appoint delegates to hold a National Convention at the city of Washington on the 4th day of February next:

and sour sections of the renal code as are not needed for the protection of the rights of the citizens of Pennsylvania and may be construed to be unfriendly to other States.

Mr. MULLIN, a remonstrance of the Burgess and Council of Conemaugh borough, Cambria county, against annexing any portion of said borough to the borough of Johnstown. AND WHEREAS, The people of Pennsylvania are anxious that every possible effort should be made to restore harmony and good feeling among the several States. Therefore,

aid borough to the borough of Johnstown.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary, (local.)

Also, a remonstrance of citizens of ConeNational Convention at the time and place de

signated as aforesaid. Resolved, That the Scnate and House of Representatives will meet in joint convention on the 29th inst at 12 o'clock noon, and will then elect five citizens of this Commonwealth to rep-Also, a remonstrance of certain citizens of Johnstown, Cambria county, against the granting of a new charter to said borough.

resent here in the said National Convention.

The resolutions were read a second time.

Mr. RANDALL. I wish to say merely a few words in explanation of these resolutions. Virginia has proposed that a Convention of dele-Referred to Committee on Judiciary, (local.) Also, a petition of divers citizens of the bor Also, a petition of divers citizens of the borough of Conemaugh, praying that that portion of said borough in which they reside may be annexed to the borough of Johnstown.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary, (local.]

Mr. MANIFOLD, one from citizens of Heideburg township, York county, for an act to change the place of holding elections in said township. ginia has proposed that a Convention of delegates from the several States should be held for the purpose of taking into consideration the grievances which may be complained of by any of the States, and of suggesting to the several State Legislatures, or to Congress, such measures as may seem most expedient in the way of remedy. The action of this convention will not bind any of the States; the convention will have no power to make any nogitive anget. township.

Referred to Committe on Election Districts. Mr. ANDERSON, three from citizens of this Commonwealth, asking for the repeal of all laws against, and prohibiting, the banks of will have no power to make any positive enactthis Commonwealth to issue and pay out notes ment of any sort. Its only object is that the States may suggest may be considered and remedial measures suggested to the different States. I consider that, in a national convention Mr. RANDALL, one from Spaulding and togers. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, such as is contemplated, Pennsylvania should le represented: Her voice should be heard there, whether it be for or against the suggestions which may come from her sister States. On these considerations I have been urged by many Mr. PIERCE two from citizens of Chester county praying for the repeal of all laws inter-fering with the fugitive slave law of 1850; also favoring the adoption by Congress of the Critmembers of this House to prepare and introduce a resolution to this effect. I hope it will re-ceive the favorable action of the House at this tenden compromise.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciar

Mr. WILLIAMS. Will the gentleman inform us as to the terms of this invitation? What States are intended to be embraced? Is it confined to the States called "border State s it to be a general convention of all the States of this Union? Are New York and the New England States to be excluded?

Mr. BARNESLY, one from the stockholders I may also remark, while I am upon the floor, of the Spinnetsburg and Milford Square turn-pike Road Company, asking that provisions of that this proposition involves very siderations. Is the Legislature of Pennsylva-nia, on short notice, to elect commissioners without a reference to the people? It is a question which involves an exerc sovereign powers—one upon which I should be very loth to vote under any circumstances. But I desire to know from the gentleman what are the precise terms of the invitation?

Mr. RANDALL. I have already stated the

object of the Convention. The invitation is by its terms to every State in the Union. Mr. BALL. This resolution, if offered at the

proper time, would present to us a subject on which we would necessarily be called to act. I think the gentleman from Philadelphia, (Mr. Mr. BRESSLER, one from citizens of Clinton county, for the passage of an Act authorizing the erection of a boom in the Susquehana river RANDALL.) when he reflects a moment, will concur with me in the opinion that he should either withdraw these resolutions or consent that their consideration shall be postponed for a time. The resolutions which, according to Mr. BUTLER, (Crawford), one relative to the the accounts of the newspapers, have been adopted by the Virginia Legislature, appointing protecting of sheep and taxing of dogs in the commissioners to a national convention, Referred to the committee on Agriculture and which delegates from the slave States are invited, must, in due course of time, reach in an official form the Executive of this Commonford, Chester county, praying for an alteration in the laws relating to dogs in said township. wealth, by whom they will be transmitted to both branches of the Legislature. At that time the action of Virginia will be properly before us, and such a resolution as that presented by the Also, one from the Commissioners and others f Chester county, praying, for an alteration in gentleman from Philadelphia, will appropriately come under our consideration. When Virthe law relating to the payment of the fees of ginia's action shall be thus officially before us, Justices of the Peace and Constables in the I for one shall be ready to consider the question; but I am not now.

I agree with the gentleman from Alleghenv (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the question involved is one of a very delicate nature—one demanding deliberate and solemn reflection—one on which we should understand the views of our respective constituents. Whatever may be our action on a question of this character, we shall stand upon the record for all time, be it for weal or for woe. So delicate are the relations between the border States and the free States at the present moment, that we should take special care that no vote be given here which may be misconstrued or tortured so as to misrepresent our real sentiment. For that reason, I ask the gantleman to withdraw his resolution at this time.

Mr.RANDALL. I have only to say in reply to the gentleman from Erie, that the time between this and the period for the assembling of tween this and the period for the assembling of the convention is certainly very short. If there is any probability that this matter will receive our attention within the time allowed, I cer-tainly have no objections to the postponement

of these resolutions.

Mr. BALL. The time is short, I admit; but if Virginia is sincere in inviting Pennsylvania and other States into an informal convention for Schuylkill counties, for the appointment of commissioners to change a part of the boundary the consideration of the delicate questions which Referred to the Committee on New Counties now disturb the public mind, we should allow sufficient time. If this is merely a tub thrown to the whale-if sufficient time is not to be allowed for the transmission, in due form, of ther resolution, through our Executive to this Legis-lature—it is very certain that she is not sincere. believe, however, that Virginia is sincere in this proposition. I only regret that in the resolutions, as I have seen them in the newspapers, I discover a condition which I fear would be fatal to the declared aim and object of the

[Continued on Fourth Page.]