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Pennsylvania Telegraph

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Pennsylvania Legislature.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 6, 1861.

The House was called to order at 10 o'clock. A. M. by the SPEAKER, and opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. JOHNSON.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S REPORT. Mr. BLISS submitted the following. Resolved, That one thousand copies of the sixth volume of the transactions of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, as published under the superintendence of the Secretary of said Society, be furnished for the use of the members of this House.

THE SOUTH AND THE UNION. Mr. HOPKINS asked for and obtained leave of absence for Mr. Gibson, messenger, for a few days from to-day. Mr. BRODHEAD, asked for and obtained the same leave for Mr. Devins.

SITES FOR SCHOOL HOUSES. Mr. TELLER submitted the following: Resolved, That the Committee on Education be and they are hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending the provisions of an Act passed on the 6th day of April, 1850, entitled an Act supplementary to an Act to authorize the School Directors of Chester and Delaware counties to select sites for school houses to the several counties of the Commonwealth.

ASSESSORS AND PROPERTY HOLDERS. Mr. BLAIR submitted the following: Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be and they are hereby instructed to report a bill requiring the Assessors of the different townships, boroughs, wards, &c., in making out their respective assessments to invariably require the property holder or his or her agent to make their statements on oath or affirmation.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY CAUSE. Mr. HOPKINS moved that the House resume the consideration of House bill No. 61, entitled an Act relating to the collection of taxes in Lawrence county.

THE SOUTHERN ISSUE. Mr. HOPKINS moved that the House resume the consideration of House bill No. 15, entitled 'Joint Resolutions relative to the military forces of this Commonwealth.'

Mr. HOPKINS: Now, Mr. Speaker, is this all; they have made war upon this Government by firing upon a vessel in our service. These causes are sufficient to excite apprehension in the minds of all loyal citizens—all who are faithful to the Union and the Constitution. Is it not the duty of the President to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in this emergency?

Mr. TELLER: I believe that the Southern States are a unit in their demands on this slavery question. They require of us that we shall make a constitutional acknowledgment of the right of property in slaves. They demand still further: the right of transit or sojourn with their slaves in the free States.

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