Pittsburgh Gazette.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 25, 1862.

CITY AFFAIRS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the *Gazette*, by G. E. Shaw, Optician, 55 Fifth street,—corrected daily:

	IN SUN	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	00	48
12 " M.	00	50
6 " P. M.	00	49
Barometer,		29 4-10

Birthday of Robert Burns.

To-day is the 103d anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns,

"The simple bard, rough as the rustic plough,
Learning his tuneful trade at every bough,"

—whose poetic genius is admired wherever the English language is spoken, and who has painted the rougher scenes of Scottish life in the most pleasing and gorgeous hues.

Robert Burns was born on the 25th of January 1759, on the banks of the Doon, near the ruined walls of "Kirk Alloway," the scene of Tam O'Shanter's midnight ride. His tenderness, pathos and droll humor; his faults and misfortunes; his conscious folly, culminating in premature death, have surrounded his character with a melancholy interest; yet he stands before us,

"A man for a' that,"

individualized in his writings, for honest manliness and sturdy independence.

For some reason or other, (perhaps because so many of our Scotch fellow citizens are off to the wars,) no arrangements have been made for celebrating the day. It needs, however, no social gathering, no formal celebration to keep alive the remembrance of him who has rendered immortal the "banks and braes" of his own classic land.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The Pittsburgh Subsistence Committee beg leave to acknowledge contributions of clothing and eatables for the hospitals at St. Louis, from the following persons: Mrs. Atwood, Mrs. Geo. Breed, Mrs. A. Bidwell, Mrs. R. T. Kenneday, Scholars of Mrs. Cosgrave's School, Mrs. Howard, W. G. Johnston & Co., H. A. Sandal, Mrs. M. S. Sanger, Mrs. C. Linhart, Mrs. Geo. Weyman, Mrs. D. Dravo, Mrs. Geo. Albree, Mrs. W. O. Davis, Mrs. D. McKee, Mrs. McMasters, Mrs. Filmes, Mrs. J. Pennon, Mrs. Keen, Mrs. Bughman; also, 2 boxes from Mrs. E. T. Harper, of Bakerstown, and 1 box from the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society, of Harrisonville, Butler county.

THEATRE.—Miss Dora Shaw closes her engagement at the Theatre this evening, on which occasion she will appear in two pieces. The bill offered is a good one, and we hope she will have, as she deserves, a full house. The performance will conclude with the "Fireman's Bride," in which Miss Kate Newton takes the leading character.

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

The Home Guards---A Suggestion.

During the past few days there have been three funerals of soldiers whose bodies have been returned by their friends for interment—those of Smith, Sahl and Harper. In each case, detachments from two of our companies of Home Guards attended the funerals, and gave token of their respect for the memory of the brave departed, and their sympathy with the bereaved friends, by such military honors as are customary in the army.

This is right and proper; and we are glad to see so many of our citizens—merchants, manufacturers and professional men—marching through the muddiest of streets, in the most disagreeable of weather, to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of those who had so gallantly gone forth in the service of our beloved country, and offered up their lives in defense of our liberties. No doubt the friends who mourn the loss of a husband, brother or father feel gratified by this recognition of the duty we all owe to those who have lost their lives while in our armies.

What we desired to suggest to the only military organization that now remains in our vicinity—the Home Guards—was this: Let the proper officers call a meeting of those who shall represent the various companies—say those of Allegheny and vicinity in Excelsior Hall, and those on this side the river at City Hall—and let them re-organize the Guards into two divisions; then the proper officer, commanding, could call out, at a few hours' notice, a suitable detachment for a funeral escort, or for any other purpose, at short notice.

By this means a military spirit would be engendered, which would do much to re-establish the organization of the Home Guards; and the duty of paying the last sad rites to the departed heroes whose bodies are returned for interment, would be guaranteed.

We have expended time and money in equipping, arming and drilling our Home Guards. The expenditure was not in vain, since almost the entire organization has been broken up at home by the number of enlistments for the more active service in the field. But now that our armies have attained the maximum required in the field, let us gather up the fragments that remain, and effect a re-organization at home, and to meet whatever duty may devolve upon us, and make what use we may of the time and money already expended upon the organization.

Will the officers and members of the Home Guards take this subject into consideration, and speedily effect some organization that may meet the apparent need.

Police Appointments in Allegheny.

The Police Committee of Allegheny Councils held a meeting last evening, and in connection with Mayor Drum made the following police appointments for the ensuing year:

High Constable—Samuel Long.

Day Police—Wm. Bowden, Robert Jamison, Sylvester Tyler, Henry Herman.

Night Police—Wm. McKean, Wash. Swain, Charles McChesney, and Thomas Smith.

It will be seen that no change has been made in the present constabulary force, with the single exception of Thomas Smith, who has been chosen to fill a vacancy in the Night Police. It may be worthy to remark that Capt. Smith was High Constable under Mayor Foster, upwards of twenty years ago, and although far advanced in life retains much of his youthful spirit and vigor.

The day and night police organizations will be continued as last year, the Committee and the Mayor being satisfied that such a disposition of the police force will best conduce to the interests of the citizens. The night police, it is true, is quite limited considering the extent of territory and the number of inhabitants, but by strict attention to their duties they can do much towards suppressing rowdyism, and protecting property from the depredations of night prowlers.

The city during the past year has been comparatively free from roughs, robbers and incendiaries, and if the present year shall prove as exempt, the Mayor and police may congratulate themselves upon a very successful administration.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR COFFEE.—Among the various articles now being used as partial substitutes for coffee, is the carrot. A gentleman who has tried the experiment, gives the following directions:

Cut raw carrots in thin slices, and brown slowly in the oven; then grind or pound them, and mix with coffee in equal portions; or the slices may be put to boil with the coffee without being broken. He says that the carrots cannot be detected by the taste of the beverage, and that several gentlemen, at a dinner party where he was, drank each two or three cups of this coffee, who seldom indulge in but one, ignorant of the ingredients, attributing the superior flavor to the excellent quality of the cream.

THE PEAK BELL RINGERS.—Concert Hall was again crowded last night, to witness the novel and interesting entertainment of the Peak Family. The singing of the juveniles, in costume, and their droll mannerisms, excited great applause, and pleased young and old. The bell performances are excellent, and the concerts are conducted in an acceptable manner. An exhibition will be given on Saturday afternoon, for the convenience of children who cannot attend at night.

A CHANCE FOR POLICE OFFICERS.—The Mayor of Philadelphia has offered a reward of five hundred dollars for the arrest of the person, or persons, who murdered John Connelly, on the 8th inst., in that city, the efforts of the detectives to discover the perpetrators of the deed having been unsuccessful.

The Negley Body Guard Not Recognized by General Buell--Difficulty Between the Company and Capt. Vancleve.

The Negley Body Guard, recruited in this State, by Captain H. L. Vancleve, which was generally composed of very fine men, splendidly uniformed and equipped, and which passed through here some time since for Kentucky, has not received the official recognition of Gen. Buell, who informed them that Gen. Negley was not entitled to a "body guard," and that they must take the field as cavalry, or quit the service. This gave rise to great dissatisfaction, and many of the men charged Capt. Vancleve with having grossly imposed upon them. As they had not been sworn in they claimed the right to disband, but their Captain informed them that if they left their quarters they would render themselves liable to a charge of desertion. Notwithstanding this, some forty of the men left Louisville on Monday last, and arrived in this city on Thursday evening. Since their arrival here we have received the following letter from Capt. Vancleve:

CAMP NELSON, LOUISVILLE, KY., January 20th, 1862.

Eds. Pittsburgh Gazette: Enclosed list of names please publish to your community as having this day left the service of the United States Government, after having been clothed, fed and transported to this place at government expense:

M. Murphy	Edwin Moorhead	R. Hunteker
A. W. Miller	R. M. Humphries	Henry Ritter
Eli Bisley	Albert Courtney	Andw. F. Morris
Jacob Bonahire	Wm. Young	Geo. Phillips
W. F. Purgerson	Henry Stanley	Jos. N. Smith
Wm. P. Allison	Frank Leech	Michael Brennan
Robt. Patterson	Robt. Stewart	David Moore
Martin J. Murry	Geo. Hamilton,	Nicholas Brady
Wm. Grant	Wm. Hill	G. F. Thompson
John W. Orten	Thos. M. Malarky	Jas. M. Gordon
Jas. F. Corbin	Henry Ackerman	Geo. Rauch
A. Steinmyer	John Rauch	David Girt
Robt. Porter	John B. Lee	John Wier
Wm. F. Warren	Frederick Erp	John Hall
	J. C. Wilson	

By order of H. L. VANCLEVE,
Commanding Negley Body Guard.

In connection with the above we subjoin the following card, signed by nearly all the men above named, and leave the public to form their own conclusions in reference to the conduct of both parties:

We, The undersigned, for the information of our friends and the public, make the following statement: That we enlisted under a man who styled himself Capt. Vancleve, and had it not been for Lieuts. Murphy and Miller would have been sold to the highbidder, or in any other manner would have been disposed of as he saw fit. Now, we would caution the public not to trust him. We also pledge ourselves to raise a company for Lieut. Murphy to act as Captain, and Lieut. Miller for First Lieutenant. We do this to prove to the public that it is the Captain alone that has our dislike, and not the Lieutenants. He imagined that once in Louisville, he could dispose of us as he pleased, but we have proved to the contrary. We also clear our Lieutenants of any blame in regard to the disorganizing of our company, we remain yours, etc.

[Signed by 37 names.]

It is to be very much regretted that the company, having been organized and equipped at so much expense, is now virtually disbanded. It strikes us that if Capt. Vancleve has been guilty of dishonorable and unsoldierly conduct, the proper course would have been a court martial. The whole difficulty has originated in neglect to have the men mustered into the service at the proper time.

Burglary in Allegheny.

Last night, about twelve o'clock, the night police in Allegheny were startled by cries of "fire!" "robbers!" "murder!" etc. The police were then on Federal street, near the market house, while the cries proceeded from a German in the store of Samuel Dyer & Co., corner of Lacock and Federal streets, some four squares distant. On reaching the spot, they learned from the excited John, who slept in the store, that a thief had entered by prying open a window shutter on Lacock street, and raising the window. He had lighted a candle, and was about to commence the work of plunder, when John was awaked by his "guardian angel," and fled to the front door and gave the alarm. While John stood on the street in his "cutty sark," making the outcry, the thief escaped through the window, and was seen no more. Nothing was missed from the store, and it would seem that the robber was not aware of John's presence in the store, or he would have proceeded more cautiously.

The police were very anxious to obtain a description of the thief, but John was unable to say whether he was man or boy, white or black. John was evidently a little "agitated" and expressed great thankfulness that he had escaped with a whole skin and a sound head.

A BOLD RASCAL.—One day last week a very genteel looking man entered a store at Johnstown and asked permission to write a letter. The proprietor invited him to walk round to the desk, where he furnished the necessary materials, and being engaged waiting on some customers, paid no further attention to his visitor. After the stranger had finished his letter, he walked forth, returning his thanks, and bowed himself out, without awakening even a suspicion that there was anything wrong about him. Upon counting up the cash at night, however, it was discovered that the money drawer was short some fifty or sixty dollars, and the suspicion was irresistible that the *gentleman* letter-writer had pocketed the cash while using the desk.

ARREST AND ESCAPE.—A man named Zimmerman was arrested in Centreville, Butler county, on Thursday of last week, charged with stealing a horse in Ohio. He was taken to the Butler jail and, as we were supposed, securely manacled, awaiting the requisition of the Governor of Ohio. On Tuesday morning, a young man went to the cell with a box of coal, when the prisoner, who had cut his manacles, rushed past him, locked the door, and made good his escape. He was subsequently found in a tan yard, where he had concealed himself beneath a pile of tan bark, and re-conveyed to his old quarters in the jail.

OPERATIONS IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.—A Washington correspondent says: The sudden return of General Rosecrans to his command, after he had issued his proclamation upon their going into winter quarters, shows active movements are on foot on his line. The appearance of his body guard at Gauley river, and the advance of more regiments from Ohio, have like significance.

LECTURE.—Alex. Clark, of the *School Visitor*, will lecture before the Allegheny County Teachers' Association, at Central Hall, Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock. Subject—"Money vs. Truth." Teachers and friends of Schools will attend. The subject will be an interesting one, and presented in an agreeable and original manner.

SHOCKING.—The Ebensburg *Alleghanian*, last week, noticed the sudden death of the Cambria county pedestrian, William Singer. Starting from Loretto one evening, very much intoxicated, with a party in a sled for Cresson, he fell off his seat and was allowed to lay in the bottom of the sled. On arriving at Cresson he was found cold and stiff and dead.

ACCIDENT ON THE RAILROAD.—An elderly woman named Manon, while walking on the railroad between Johnstown and Conemaugh on Wednesday afternoon, was knocked down by a passing train and had both her legs so badly injured that it supposed amputation of both feet will be necessary.

HAND TORN OFF.—On Tuesday of last week, in Franklin township, Benjamin Bates, a boy aged eleven years, had his hand torn off by a threshing machine. The poor boy suffered terribly.

NEWSPAPER CHANGE.—The Erie *Observer* has changed hands, Messrs. Whitman and Brecht having purchased the establishment from Andrew Hopkins, the former proprietor.

NOW IS THE TIME to purchase winter clothing, and to our readers who desire to do so, we would commend the establishment of Messrs. Wm. H. M'Gee & Co., corner of Federal street and the Diamond, Allegheny City. They have now on hand a full stock of ready-made clothing, and having an experienced cutter and a large selection of suitable goods, they are also prepared to make men's and boy's clothing to order in any desired style, at short notice, and on the most reasonable terms

THE MIASMS and Foul Vapors generated by the hot sun, will be far more deadly to our volunteers than the enemy's bayonets. In the Indian and Crimean campaigns, Holloway's Pills were used in enormous quantities. They kept the troops in perfect health. Only 25 cents per box. Soldiers, supply yourselves.

WM. FORREST, Carpenter and Joiner, Jobbing Shop Virgin alley, between Smithfield street and Cherry alley. All kinds of House Repairing done on short notice and in workmanlike manner. Charges moderate. Leave your orders. All orders promptly attended to.

Important to Steamboat Owners--Rules for the Shipment of Freight.

We have received the subjoined note from Capt. Batchelor, Surveyor of this Port, covering important rules adopted by the United States Treasury Department, relative to the shipment of freight and the clearance of boats from this point westwardly. As these rules will be strictly enforced steamboatmen should at once make themselves thoroughly acquainted with their provisions:

U. S. CUSTOM HOUSE,
PITTSBURGH, JANUARY 24th, 1862.

Messrs Editors: By directions of Thomas Heaton, Esq., special agent of the Treasury Department, I herewith enclose for publication rules to be observed by officers of steamboats clearing from this port, and shippers having occasion to send goods to any place on the Ohio river.

Respectfully, Yours,
CHAS. W. BATCHELOR, Surveyor.

All steamboats navigating the Ohio river between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, are required to observe the following

RULES:

1. No boat shall receive on board any freight, unless the same is accompanied with a permit of a duly authorized officer of the Treasury Department.

2. No boat shall put off or discharge any freight, at any other place or landing than that named as the place of its destination.

3. All army supplies shipped under military orders are excepted from the above rules; but this exception does not extend to goods of sutlers or others, designed for trade or sale at military posts.

4. A fee of twenty cents will be charged for each permit on every shipment made for the purpose of trade; but family supplies, goods of families moving, and articles sent to soldiers in the Union army by their friends, are exempted from this permit fee.

5. Boats clearing for points below Cincinnati will report a manifest of their cargoes to Enoch T. Carson, Esq., Surveyor of that port, and be governed by his instructions.

6. Every steamboat clearing at the port of Pittsburgh, must take out at the Custom House a regular "clearance" for each trip—for which a charge will be made of fifty cents. To this rule there are no exceptions.

7. All boats violating the above rules will be proceeded against according to law; and no permits will be granted for the shipment of any freight, baggage or parcel on board any boat known to have violated any of the above rules.

THOMAS HEATON,
Special Agent U. S. Treasury Department.

GOOD NEWS, INDEED, to buyers of dry goods, either at wholesale or retail! The Messrs. Barker & Co., 59 Market street, purposing to enlarge and improve their store, will, in order to dispose of a large portion of their goods, which is of great importance to them, offer without any reservation their entire stock at such prices as will soonest accomplish this purpose. Prints, lecter than what they have been selling, at 12c, and de laines ditto, all kinds of silk, cloaks, shawls, dress goods, housekeeping articles, embroideries, hosiery, gloves, gent's and boys' wear, &c., &c. Read their advertisement, and be sure and visit them at your earliest convenience.

A GOOD reason for selling cheap is that furnished by Barker & Co., 59 Market street, in their advertisement. Read it, and be sure you see their goods before purchasing, if you would not part with more money than is necessary in making your purchases. And were to those who are indifferent as to price, superior inducements are offered in a large stock of new goods.

DOCTOR C. BEALS, Water Cure and Homopathic Physician; also agent for Rainbow's celebrated Truss for Ruptures. Corner of Penn and Wayne streets.

DIED.

GARRISON—On Thursday, January 23d, at 11 o'clock, a. m., Mrs. CATHERINE GARRISON, in the 78th year of her age.

The funeral will leave the residence of her son-in-law, Robert Barnett, Centre street, Birmingham, on SATURDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock. The friends of the family and of her son, A. Garrison, are respectfully invited to attend.

The War Party in England.

From the Manchester Examiner and Times, Jan. 4.

With the prospects of peace our sympathies begin to change sides. We feel very much for those generous patriots, who have gone on the supposition that the American government is the slave of the people, and that the people are all maniacs or fools. They already betray a painful sense of discomfiture. The Africa's advices laid them, figuratively speaking on their backs. They showed a calmness, a moderation, a degree of reflectiveness far superior to their own. Instead of a whirlwind of blustering defiance, they felt on their hot cheeks the gentle gales of peace. As soon as they recovered from the momentary disappointment, they set to work to prove, as well as they were able, that these peaceful indications meant nothing, and that war was still as likely as ever. We do not affirm that all danger has passed away; we are hardly prepared to expect the immediate release of Messrs. Mason and Slidell in Liverpool; and we think it quite possible that the question of peace or war may yet depend considerably upon the reception which our government shall give to Mr. Seward's next dispatch. This, however, will not help our good friends who have been calculating so confidently on American obstinacy and madness. We submit that, however the affair may end, the Americans have already cleared their reputation. They are not in a passion. They talk quite as rationally and coolly as we do. They are not mobbing the government. There have been no Anti-British demonstrations. There has been no indignation meeting at New York like that which was held in Liverpool. There is a total absence of rant and "bunkum." It is clear that the people are quietly awaiting the decision of the Cabinet, and that the President will be upheld in any course which he may deem it his duty to pursue. Hence, if a war should, after all, be the sad result of the present misunderstanding, it will be unjust to ascribe it to the prejudices and passions of the American people. Mistaken they may be, but they will assuredly enter upon it, quite as much as we shall, in compliance with the decision of the coolest judgment, and in the conviction that they are right. But, if the affair should be settled peacefully, what will our railers do? One would say they ought for once to render ample justice to the moderation and good temper of the Americans, and acknowledge that a republic can, on a pinch, be as wise as oligarchs and kings. Will they adopt this creditable course? By no means. Their ingenuity will easily supply material for invective. They will not be shut up to the honest duty of doing justice to a people whom they are resolved to black-ball at all hazards. They will tell us that the Americans, like all bullies, are cowards too; that they talked boastingly till they found out that we were in earnest, when they got down from the stump and quietly chewed the leek.

AMUSEMENTS.

PITTSBURGH THEATRE.

Positively the last night of the engagement of

MISS DORA SHAW.

THIS EVENING,

HONEY MOON.

JULIANNA.....MISS DORA SHAW.
DUKE.....MR. HENDERSON.

LOAN OF A LOVER.

GERTRUDE, with song.....MISS DORA SHAW.

To conclude with the

FIREMAN'S BRIDE.

THE BRIDE.....MISS KATE NEWTON.

CONCERT HALL.

POSITIVELY FOR FOUR NIGHTS ONLY.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22, 23, 24 and 25.

First appearance in Pittsburgh of the far-famed

PEAK FAMILY,

VOCALISTS, HARPISTS, AND ARLANGASHIRE BELL RINGERS.

First established in 1839.

CARD TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS PLACE.

After nine months sojourn in the isle of Cuba, and a successful tour through the British Provinces, the above troupe of Artists contemplate a series of concerts through the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, previous to their departure for California the coming Spring. Having closed a very successful engagement at Niblo's, New York, they will have the pleasure of appearing in your city as advertised.

The only Company of Original Bell Ringers in the United States. Two full sets of SILVER BELLS, two octaves in number. Selections from the Opera of Martha, Bohemian Girl, &c., upon the Bells. Songs, Ballads, Duetts, Humorous and Characteristic Pieces. The entire Company will appear in the SWISS COSTUME.

For further particulars see Programmes.

Admittance 25 cents. No half price in the Evening. Tickets for sale at the Music Stores and at the Hall.

A Grand Matinee will be given on

SATURDAY AFTERNOON,

For the accommodation of Families and Children. Children admitted to the Matinee for TEN CENTS. Doors open at 7½; to commence at 8 o'clock. Matinee to commence at 3 p. m.

A splendid set of Photographs may be seen at the Post-Office and Hall. C. C. CHASE,
ja22:tf Business Manager.

PRODUCE—20 bbls. Ex. Fam. Flour,
5 sacks Flax Seed,
10 kegs Lard,
Just received by J. S. DILWORTH & CO.,
ja14 Wholesale Grocers, Second street.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Interesting Correspondence Between Gen. Halleck and Gen. Price.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 23.—The following correspondence has taken place between Generals Price and Halleck. The principal points of Price's letter are as follows:

HEADQUARTERS MISSOURI STATE GUARD,
Springfield, January 12, 1862.

GENERAL: I have received information that as Major General Commanding this Department, you have either ordered or allowed the arrest of citizens in pursuit of their usual and peaceful avocations; that men, officers and privates belonging to this army have been taken prisoners on the Kansas border, and conveyed to Fort Leavenworth, and as such, and for no other established offence or crime, have been shot. In some cases I have learned that my discharged soldiers have been seized whenever and wherever they have shown themselves, and that they have been, by military coercion, forced into a servitude unknown to international and civilized usages in such cases. I have obtained information that individuals and parties of men, specially appointed and instructed by me to destroy railroad culverts and bridges by tearing them up, burning, etc., have been arrested and subjected to a general court-martial for alleged crimes, which all laws of warfare, heretofore recognized by the civilized world, have regarded as distinctly proper and lawful. I have learned that such persons, when tried, if convicted of the offence or offences, as stated, are visited as lawful subjects for capital punishment: These statements I cannot believe to be correct; but lst us understand each other on this subject. Do you intend to continue the arrest of citizens engaged in their ordinary peaceful pursuits, and treat them as traitors and rebels? If so, will you make exchanges with me for such as I may, or will make, for similar cases? Do you intend to regard members of this army as persons deserving death whenever and wherever they may be captured, or will you extend to them the recognised rights of prisoners by the code of civilized warfare? Do you regard the destruction of important roads and transportation facilities for military purpose as the legal right of a belligerent power? Do you intend to regard men whom I have specially dispatched to destroy roads, burn bridges, tear up culverts, etc., as amenable to the enemy's court-martial? or will you have them tried, as usual, by the proper civil authorities according to the statutes of the State. [Signed:] STERLING PRICE,
Major General Commanding.

The following embraces the main portion of Gen. Halleck's reply:

HEAD QUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI,
St. Louis, January 22, 1862.

Gen. Sterling Price, Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your letter, dated Springfield, January 12th, is received. The troops which you comprise of on the Kansas frontier, and at Port Leavenworth, are not under my command. In regard to them, I respectfully refer you to Major General David Hunter, commanding the Department of Kansas, Head Quarters Fort Leavenworth. You also complain that individuals and parties of men, specially appointed and instructed by you to destroy railroad culverts and bridges, by tearing them up, burning, etc., have been arrested and subjected to a general court martial. This statement is in the main correct. Where individuals and parties of men violate the laws of war, they will be tried, and, if found guilty, will certainly be punished, whether acting under your special appointment and instructions or not. You must be aware, General, that no orders of yours can save from punishment, spies, marauders, robbers, incendiaries, guerilla bands, etc., who violate the laws of war. You cannot give immunity to crimes. But let us understand each other on this point. If you send armed forces, wearing the garb of soldiers, and duly organized and enrolled as legitimate belligerents, to destroy railroad bridges, etc., we will treat them as we kill them, if possible, in open warfare, or if we capture them, we will treat them as prisoners of war. But it is well understood that you have sent numbers of your adherents, in the garb of peaceful citizens, and under false pretenses, through our lines into Northern Missouri to rob and destroy the property of Union men, and to burn and destroy railroad bridges, thus endangering the lives of thousands, and this, too, without military necessity or possible military advantage. Moreover, peaceful citizens of Missouri, quietly working on their farms, have been instigated by your emissaries to take up arms as insurgents, and to rob, plunder and commit treason and murder. They do not even act under the garb of soldiers, but under false pretences, aid in the guise of private citizens. You certainly will not pretend that men, guilty of such crimes, although specially appointed and instructed by you, are entitled to the respect and immunities of ordinary prisoners of war. If you do, will you refer me to a single authority on the laws of war which recognizes such a claim. I am daily expecting instructions respecting the exchange of prisoners of war. I will communicate with you on that subject as soon as they are received.

[Signed] H. W. HALLECK,
Major General Commanding Department.

The Battle near Somerset, Ky--Interesting Details.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 24.—This morning's papers contain full accounts of the battle at Mill Springs. It was a fair, open battle, and the rebels fought well and were overcome only by superior fighting on our side.

Accordingly to their accounts their force consisted of 10 infantry regiments, 3 batteries, and some cavalry, altogether about 10,000 men. They fought in the bushwhacking style, from ravines, and behind trees, bushes and rocks.

The brunt of the battle devolved on the 4th Kentucky, and 2nd Minnesota, 9th Ohio, 10th Indiana. For nearly three hours the roar of musketry was kept up.

Shortly after 11 o'clock, Col. Hoskins succeeded in flanking the enemy on the extreme right, when the 9th Ohio and 2nd Minnesota, charged with bayonets, with triumphant yells, which broke the rebels ranks and the rout began. They fled pell mell to their camp, strewing the road with muskets, blankets, overcoats and knapsacks, and abandoned two guns and caisson.

Zollicoffer was shot through the heart, at the head of his staff, by Col. Fry, of the 4th Kentucky regiment. It appears that Zollicoffer lost his way in the bushes, and suddenly emerged before Col. Fry, who was accompanied by some staff officers. The two parties mistook each other for friends, and approached within a few yards of each other, when finding their mutual mistake, both halted and prepared for a hand to hand conflict. One of Zollicoffer's aids shot at Colonel Fry, but only brought his horse down. The federal Colonel immediately drew his sig shooter, and brought Zollicoffer from his saddle at the first fire. The rebel staff deser ted their chief's body, which was taken to Somerset the day after the battle.

An East Tennessean, writing to the *Commercial*, says all the credit and honor of this battle is due the 10th Indiana, 9th Ohio, 4th Kentucky, and 2d Minnesota, for they did all the fighting single handed, with the exception of what support they received from artillery. They fought nobly, and never wavered from a fixed determination to gain the victory. Combatants were so near each other at one time that the powder burned their faces in discharging their pieces.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The following has been signed by the War Department:

This Department recognizes as the first of its duties to make measures for the relief of the brave men who, having imperilled their lives in the military service of the government, are now prisoners and captives. It is therefore ordered that two Commissioners be appointed to visit the city of Richmond, in Virginia, and wherever else prisoners belonging to the U. S. army may be held, and there take such measures as may be needful to provide for the wants and contribute to the comfort of such prisoners at the expense of the United States, and to such extent as may be permitted by the authorities under whom such prisoners are held.

(Signed,) EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

The Senate to-day in executive session confirmed Judge Swain as Assistant Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and F. H. Watson as one of the Additional Secretaries of War.

The bill reported to-day by Senator Sherman proposes to attach to the Navy Department in addition to the bureaus now existing, a bureau of detail and equipment and a bureau of steam engineering and machinery, the present bureau of equipment to be transferred to the bureau of detail and equipment.

Utah Demands Admission.

SALT LAKE, Jan. 23.—The delegates assembled in Great Salt Lake City, Jan. 22d, and drew up a State Constitution, to be submitted to Congress. Utah demands admission into the Union.

XXXVIIth CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1862.

HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the bill making more stringent the provision in the Indian intercourse act against the sale of spirituous liquors.

Mr. Edwards, of N. H., in his explanation, said the present law is evaded by vending intoxicating drinks outside of the Indian limits or frontier, hence the necessity for further legislation to protect the Indians from such degrading and destructive influences.

The House passed the joint resolution from the Senate, appropriating $10,000 to pay the expenses of the Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the war. Also the Senate bill, appropriating $25,000 to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, if, in his judgement, the same be necessary for the protection of emigrants in the overland routes between the Atlantic States and California, Oregon and Washington territory.

Mr. Fenton, of New York, presented a resolution of the New York Legislature in favor of the enactment of a law to prevent frauds on the Government in the matter of furnishing supplies.

Mr. Fenton said that the Special Committee on Contracts had the subject of which these resolutions treat under consideration, and when a bill was introduced some weeks ago to punish frauds, &c., one of its members, Mr. Holdman, moved it be referred to the committee, but the House determined to send it to the committee on Judiciary, and he was not advised that it has been heard from in the House since. It was a subject of great importance and required immediate legislation. Therefore he moved its reference to the Special Committee on the investigation of war contracts.

The motion carried.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill to amend the Indian Intercourse Act, and passed it.

The House considered the Senate's amendments to the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill. They non-concurred in these, including Florence among the Consul General's ships, and striking out Hayti and Liberia, etc. The bill will be returned to the Senate.

Mr. Olin gave notice of his intention shortly to move to take up the bill reported by Mr. Blair, of Mo., to liberate the slaves of the rebels and colonize them.

The consideration of the bill was postponed till Tuesday week.

Adjourned till Monday.

SENATE.—Mr. Fessenden, of Maine, from the Committee on Finance, reported back the resolution to appropriate $10,000 for the expenses of the committee of the House in regard to contracts in any department of the government. Passed.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, introduced a bill creating two new Bureaus in the Navy Department. Referred.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, introduced a bill providing for the charter of certain banks in the District of Columbia. Referred.

Mr. Davis, of Ky., presented the credentials of Robert Wilson, appointed Senator from Missouri, to fill the vacancy caused by the expulsion of Polk.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Minn., moved to refer the credentials and certain papers he had, to a Committee on the Judiciary. He said he had reports of certain meetings, held about the 1st of May, and Mr. Wilson was one of a committee who reported a set of resolutions, two of which are as follows:

Resolved, That we, the people here assembled, declare fealty and sympathy with the South for the protection of Southern institutions.

Resolved, That we condemn as inhuman and diabolical, the war now waged by the federal government against the South.

Mr. Davis said that Mr. Wilson had no part in the resolutions, and they were entirely without his sanction in any way. He had a paper read, signed by Governor Hall and others, attesting his loyalty. Also, a letter from Mr. Wilson to Mr. Davis, asking a thorough investigation, so that the country might be satisfied of his loyalty.

Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, said that he knew Mr. Wilson, and knew that he had the reputation of being a good Union man. His reputation was so good that he had to go around through Iowa to get home, and was hunted like the rest of the Union men by the rebels.

Mr. Wilkinson withdrew his objection, and Mr. Wilson took the oath.

On motion of Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois, the bill in relation to certain judicial districts of the United States Courts was taken up.

On motion of Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., the bill in relation to certain districts of the United States Courts, was taken up. The bill was passed as reported by the Committee.

The case of Senator Bright was taken up.

Mr. Davis, of Ky., made an explanation of the Mr. Harlin, of Iowa, said in reference to the law against punishing slaves. He said that where he lived they had schools and Sunday schools, where the slaves were taught to read. His own slaves when born were baptized in the rites of the church to which he belonged, and the female slaves given the same in marriage as white persons. Mr. Rhett himself, who owned a large number of slaves, built a church and employed a preacher especially for their edification. One of the great causes of the rebellion which he omitted to mention yesterday was the division of the church North and South.

Mr. Cowan did not see sufficient cause for finding Mr. Bright guilty of treason nor expelling him from the Senate.

Mr. Harris, of New York, could not convict the Senator of treason on the facts of the case. He thought case should be used in establishing so dangerous a precedent.

Mr. Ten Eyck, of New Jersey, opposed the expulsion of the Senator.

Mr. Clark, of New York, thought the Senate could not properly satisfy the country, or support the administration if we permitted such a Senator to retain his seat.

The Senate went into executive session and adjourned till Monday.

From Ship Island--Surrender of Biloxi--Schooner Captured, etc.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The Navy Department has dispatches from flag officer McKean, dated Ship Island, January 8th, in which he reports the arrival at that place of the U. S. steamer Mercedita, and U. S. gunboats Winona and Sagamore. By the first named he had received the communication of the Secretary of the Navy, and says that in accordance therewith he shall dispatch the frigate Potomac to Vera Cruz. Having been informed that a rebel steamer was at anchor near Biloxi, on the 21st of December, he dispatched commander Smith with the steamers Water Witch, New London and Henry Lewis to endeavor to capture her, but upon reaching Biloxi it was found that she had been removed. Commander Smith demanded the surrender of the place, which was complied with, and a detachment of seamen and marines landed. A small sand battery was destroyed, and two guns, a nine and six pounder were brought off. The place was found to be almost deserted by the white population, but was crowded with colored men, women and children. The schooner Captain Spedden, loaded with lumber, was also captured and brought out by the Henry Lewis. She is a very useful prize—the lumber being much needed by the Army Quartermaster for the construction of storehouses, and the schooner making a serviceable lighter. Both have been transferred to the Quartermaster at a valuation fixed by a board of survey.

The steamer King Philip, which came up from the flotilla last evening, reports affairs unchanged down the river. The King Philip is now in charge of acting master Cook. Capt. Mitchell having resigned.

The U. S. brig of war Perry, which had been anchored below Alexandria, left her anchorage yesterday afternoon and proceeded down the river in tow of the Pursey.

The King Philip, on her return to the yard, met the Pursey below Mount Vernon making good headway.

From California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 17.—During the past fifty hours it has rained hard, almost incessantly. The storm still continues. Yesterday noon the water at Sacramento commenced rising again, and a third inundation was unavoidable. The area of land now overflowed in the State is 25 miles broad and 250 miles long, taking upwards of 2,000,000 of acres, mostly arable, a considerable portion being actually fenced and tilled. It is estimated that 4,500 cattle and sheep have been drowned since winter commenced. The unprecedented succession of tremendous storms has washed the mining regions where the ground was previously uptorned and dug over, producing great changes and rendering a probable large increase of the gold product from Placer diggings the coming Spring.

The Iroquois and Quaker City.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—The United States gunboat Iroquois was at St. Thomas on the 4th. The Quaker City sailed on a cruise on the same day.

News Through Secesh Sources--The Expedition--The Defeat of Zollicoffer--Cedar Keys (Florida) Captured--A Schooner Taken, &c.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 24.—The Old Point boat brings no news of importance. There has been no arrival from the Burnside expedition.

The Norfolk *Day Book*, of yesterday, discredits the accounts of the expedition being in Pamlico Sound, and says that a reconnoissance from Roanoke Island, on Monday, made no such report. This seems to be the latest advices, and since then a storm has cut off all communication with the coast.

The *Day Book* published the federal accounts of the defeat of General Zollicoffer, but says it don't believe a word of it, and tells its readers that it is a Wall street lie, got up to raise their spirits after the defeat of the Yankees by Jeff. Thompson at Ironton.

A flag of truce took three released prisoners and brought back several ladies and gentlemen, to go North.

The storm still continues.

The Norfolk *Day Book* contains the following dispatches:

Savannah, Jan. 22.—The *Republican*, of this morning, learns from a gentleman from Florida that Cedar Keys was captured by the federals, on Thursday. Heavy firing was heard in that direction the same day.

Mobile, Jan. 22.—The schooner Wilder, from Havana, was captured on the 20th, three miles below Fort Morgan.

Mobile, Jan. 21.—Capt. Cattrell's company had a sharp contest, yesterday, at the mouth of the Sagoon river, over the schooner Wilder. There was no loss on our side. The enemy lost the ship's gig and a number of men, but succeeded in taking possession of the schooner and cargo.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 24.—The Norfolk *Dispatch* says, in reference to the Kentucky news: We publish a batch of these dispatches, and do not believe there is a word of truth in them. The fact is, as our readers will perceive on reading the money article from the N. Y. *Post*, that stocks were going down at such a rapid rate, owing to the failure of the Burnside