Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 7, 1862.

CITY AFFAIRS.

THE 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	42
12 " M.	00	54
6 " P. M.	00	53
Barometer,		29 4-10

Meeting of Allegheny Councils--City Taxes for 1862, etc.

A regular monthly meeting of Allegheny Councils was held last evening—members generally present.

In *Select*, Mr. Atwell, Chairman of the Finance Committee, submitted the following:

"In submitting for your consideration the annual appropriation ordinance, we deem it proper, for the information of parties interested, to explain why no assessment is made at this time to cover obligations that have been decided as due by the city to the railroad bondholders. A determined effort is being made, and a proposition has been submitted, for a final settlement of the entire issue of bonds by the city to the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and not having, as yet, received a reply to the proposition, we cannot *understandingly* levy a tax to meet the obligation. Not wishing to be considered in contempt of Court, or discourteous to parties with whom we are negotiating, we deem this explanation proper.

"Councils having in good faith, (in view of all the circumstances involved in the case) submitted a liberal proposition of settlement, have good reason to believe the difficulty will be amicably arranged."

The same gentleman submitted the Appropriation ordinance for 1862, levying a tax of *ten mills* for city purposes, *two mills* for poor purposes, and *one half mill* of a business tax. The ordinance was passed. The only difference in the tax, from that of 1861, is an increase of *one mill* for the support of the poor.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, from the Water Committee, presented a report, with resolutions for the payment of sundry bills.

The same gentleman presented a report of the Police Committee, notifying Councils of the annual police appointments. Also, an ordinance relative to hogs running at large in the city. The ordinance was referred back to Committee.

Mr. Hopkins presented the report of the Street Committee, with a resolution for the opening of the following streets, running north of Shennapin street, in Mrs. Denny's plan of lots: Daisy, Walnut, Pine, Cherry and Oak. The resolution was adopted.

The same gentleman presented an ordinance for the grading and paving of a portion of Shields alley, to connect with Carroll street. Adopted.

Mr. Kirkpatrick presented the annual report of Mr. A. Davis, Water Assessor, which was referred to the Auditing Committee for publication. It details the number of the various dwellings, establishments, etc., throughout the city, supplied with water. We extract as follows:

4122 dwelling houses pay	$29,004 07
309 stores, dwellings attached	2,436 75
97 stores and offices, separate	456 75
103 miscellaneous workshops	562 25
14 schools and colleges	164 00
25 churches and halls	162 25
1 house of industry	23 00
3 cotton and woolen mills	1,087 25
7 planing mills and saw mills	315 00
5 foundries	330 00
3 flour mills	320 00
5 oil mills and lead factories	330 00
4 machine shops and edge tool factories	190 00
11 tanneries	960 00
8 turning and cabinet shops	111 00
18 breweries, and 1 distillery	1,205 00
1 soap and candle factory	30 00
4 livery stables	245 00
89 taverns, hotels and beer halls	2,197 00
1 gas works	150 00
1 railroad depot and station	1,225 00
1 state prison, 288 prisoners	400 00
3 taverns and 17 cattle yards	790 00
15 slaughtering houses	122 50
22 bakeries	89 50
3 bridges	45 75
20 baker shops	103 25
437 horses and mules, not including livery stables	533 75
213 cows	106 50
118 hogs for sugars, etc	324 00
	$44,002 57
Assessment on new buildings	412 29
Total	$45,014 86

In the year 1860 there were 73 dwellings, 4 saw mills and 1 lead factory supplied with city water. The number of dwellings now unsupplied is 67, with the saw mills and lead factory mentioned. There have been 139 new buildings erected during the year, at a cost of $137,450. The total number of buildings in the city is 4,841, occupied by 5,943 separate families, making a difference of 16 families more than last year. Nearly 2,000 families are compelled to rent and occupy parts of houses. The population has increased little, if any, during the past year.

Mr. Kirkpatrick presented a resolution placing the Presidents of Councils upon the Committees of Finance, Water and Railroads. Adopted.

Mr. Ashworth presented a resolution calling upon Mr. Brown, City Gauger, to enter upon his duties forthwith, or give notice that he declines to do so. Passed.

Mr. Atwell presented a resolution rescinding the resolution adopted at a previous meeting, relative to the vacation of that portion of the canal within the city limits. Adopted.

In *Common Council*, a petition was presented to prohibit the running of passenger cars on the Sabbath. Referred to Police Committee.

Petition from the Columbia Hose Company, asking for an appropriation sufficient to obtain a suitable place for their apparatus, was read and referred to Committee on Fire Engines and Hose.

A resolution was adopted providing for the grading and paving of Irwin avenue, from Western avenue to Shennapin street, and for the substruction of so much of the sewer along the same as may be necessary. The resolution was adopted, but Select Council nonconcurred and referred to Street Committee, to report at next meeting.

After disposing of some minor matters, Councils adjourned.

After the adjournment, Councils proceeded, by invitation, to the house of John K. Brown, where a splendid oyster supper had been prepared by the recently elected incumbents of the several city offices. Every thing passed off in good style, and after the table had been cleared and the usual round of jokes and wit had been disposed of, the company left with a unanimous expression of thanks to Mr. B. for his preparation of the supper.

Special Meeting of Common Council.

A special meeting of Common Council took place last night. All the members present, except Messrs. Coffin, Diamond, A. Hays, Kelly, Kirsch, O'Neil and Snively.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Mr. McVay.

In the absence of Mr. McMaster, Wm. M. Hartzell was appointed clerk, *pro tem.*

On motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Mr. Morrow, Clerk of Select Council, presented the preamble and resolutions passed at the last meeting of that body, asking the Legislature to repeal the act of Assembly creating the office of Inspector of Liquors in Allegheny county.

The preamble and resolutions were read and concurred in.

The resolution passed by Select Council, January 3, authorizing the payment of $191-18 to Messrs. O'Neil, Noonan & Crowley, for grading certain cross streets, was non-concurred in and referred to the Street Committee, with power to act.

A communication, signed by Mr. John Irwin, President of the Suspension Bridge Company, was sent in by Mayor Sawyer, relative to the danger of having crude oil landed on the Allegheny wharf. The communication sets forth that the Suspension Bridge is in great danger of being destroyed by fire in consequence of this oil, and asking Council to take some action in the matter. After considerable debate it was received and ordered to be filed.

Mr. Roberts presented a communication from Mr. McMasters, Clerk of the Common Council, giving at length his reasons for recording the ordinance relative to the removal of the railroad track from Liberty street. It was a calm and temperate statement, in which he claimed to have performed his duty in the premises as he understood it.

Mr. McAuley, President of Select Council, being present, was invited to make a statement in reference to this matter. He stated in substance that the ordinance had not received his signature, that he had advised Mr. McMasters to obey the will of the Councils, which he promised to do.

Mr. Killen thought Mr. McMaster had treated this body with contempt, and that he was unworthy to hold the responsible position he occupied.

Mr. Roberts, although a personal friend of Mr. McMaster's, thought he had acted wrongly in recording the ordinance.

Mr. Irvin moved that a committee of five be appointed to investigate the matter, which was agreed to, and the following gentlemen were appointed by the President: Messrs. Irvin, Killen, McGowin, Fryer and Barckley.

On motion the communication of Mr. McMaster's was received and ordered to be filed.

Adjourned.

Anniversary of the Allegheny Bible Society.

The twenty-second anniversary of this society was held in the Central Presbyterian Church, (Dr. Plumer's) on the evening of January 21st. The devotional exercises were conducted by Drs. Plumer, Pressly, Rev. J. J. Aiken and Rev. A. K. Bell.

Able and eloquent addresses were delivered by Rev. Charles A. Dickey and Rev. Henry Beck. We would be glad to present a synopsis of the remarks of these gentlemen, which were exceedingly valuable and interesting, did not the pressure on the columns of the daily press forbid.

The report of the Board of Managers for the past year, shows the work of this society to be in a condition promising great results from a little expenditure of time and means, and such as to encourage the members of the society to greater and more faithful exertions for the cause. The result of the exploration made by Mr. Davis, the missionary of the society, confirm the belief, that the work of supply in our densely populated districts is never finished, and cannot be suspended for a year without an alarming increase of Bible destitution being the result.

Many instances drawn from the experience of the missionary were given, to show the power of Divine truth in its silent operation on the human heart, and which afford much encouragement to those who sustain the yearly operations of this society.

In prosecuting the missionary work of this society, the agent visited 3,820 families during the year, and, in this visitation, found over 300 families destitute of the sacred scriptures. About half of these were supplied by him, whilst the others *refused* to be supplied. The subscriptions to the funds of the society this year, are..... $1,124 53
The amount collected is..... 885 25

Leaving outstanding subscriptions to the amount of..... $239 28

And the amount paid in on the outstanding subscriptions of last year, is $161 50.

The Board of Managers report 20 copies of the Bible granted to the Western House of Refuge; 50 copies of the same to the Allegheny County Poor House; 27 copies of the same to part of a company of volunteers, in the Regiment of Col. Leasure, and about 500 copies of the New Testament, distributed to the men of several companies in the Regiment of Col. Black. [The Executive Committee who aided in the distribution of these, expressed great satisfaction with the spirit in which the books were generally received, and trust that the moist eye, and grateful words which spoke their thanks, augur well for the use which would be made of them. The Board feel authorized to suggest too, that there is, perhaps, no moment in a man's life so auspicious for bestowing on him a copy of God's word, and commending it to his heart, as that in which he steps from the sacred and hollowed spot called *Home*; turns his back upon the even and quiet life of citizen: emerges into the character of "soldier" and embarks for the distant field of a soldier's life. Have we all, who love this Bible, done our part to place a copy of it in the hands of every soldier now in camp, for the defence of his country?]

The following names were offered, and unanimously elected, as the Board of Managers for the current year:

First United Presbyterian Church—Thomas McCance, A. Lyale, James Patterson.

Second United Presbyterian Church—John Dean, James McCandless, Wm. M. Bell.

Third United Presbyterian Church—Thomas S. Wakeham, Wm. Park, Wm. Dyer.

Fourth United Presbyterian Church—Charles Arbuthnot, D. Dennison, Jos. McNaughter.

Reformed Presbyterian Church (Dr. Sproul's)—David Gregg, Isaac Taylor, Dan'l. Ewner.

Reformed Presbyterian Church (Dr. J. McMillan)—J. P. Fleming, Jas. Williams, Rob't. Neillie.

First Presbyterian Church—A. Cameron, H. E. Davis, Robert Davis.

Central Presbyterian Church—R. Bard, S. S. Bryan, W. D. Biddle.

Baptist Church—F. J. Hoskinson, J. S. Estep, W. T. Brown.

Methodist Protestant Church—John Clancy, James Reno.

Disciples Church—Robert Ashworth.

Beaver Street M. E. Church—A. Hobson, Israel V. Hogg, J. B. Ingham.

English Lutheran Church—C. Yeager, B. Heckert, Daniel Manspeaker.

The first monthly meeting of the new Board of Managers will be held in Dr. Rogers' Church on this (Friday) evening, at 7½ o'clk., when the organization with the general Halleck, of officers for the current year, will take place. A full attendance of the members is earnestly desired.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday last, Mr. Adam Bottomfield, of Morgan tp., Greene co., while engaged with his sons in getting out a saw log, pulled out the block which secured one of them on the side hill. The log thus untrammelled, commenced rolling, and rolled over the old man, literally crushing his head to a jelly, producing instant death, before he could get out of harm's way. Mr. Bottomfield was one of the most respected citizens of the county, and had reached the advanced age of 75 years.

BENEFIT OF MISS THOMPSON.—To-night Miss Thompson, the accomplished actress, who has been performing at the Theatre during this week, takes a benefit, on which occasion she will appear as "Juliet," in the admirable play of "Romeo and Juliet." We predict a full house, and thus attest the fact that our citizens patronize and appreciate real *merit*—such as this lady possesses. Mr. Henderson personates "Romeo." Miss Thompson also appears as "Widow Cheerly" in "The Soldier's Daughter."

EVACUATION OF ROMNEY.—We learn, says the Wheeling *Intelligencer*, from soldiers who arrived last evening from Patterson's Creek, that the rebels evacuated Romney on Monday night last. They either feared a rout attack from our forces, or contemplate making one in another direction.

AUCTION PRICES FOR DRY GOODS have always been supposed to be the lowest, but this is a mistake will be readily made apparent by calling at Barker & Co.'s, 59 Market street. Silk Shawls and Dress goods, of almost every description, new and desirable, can be found there in abundance, and at prices less than auction prices. We repeat our advice to our readers, to give them a call.

YOUR LAST CHANCE.—Mr. J. M. Burchfield, in his closing out sale of Dry Goods, proposes to sell out his entire stock at greatly reduced prices, to make room for his new goods; and as in a few days the new stock will arrive, therefore it is your last chance to buy winter goods at such low prices as Mr. B. proposes to sell.

WIVES, MOTHERS AND SISTERS, whose husbands, sons and brothers are serving in the army, cannot put into their knapsack a more necessary or valuable gift than a few boxes of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. They insure health even under the exposure of a soldier's life. Only 25 cents a box or pot. 219

THE question is no longer asked where shall we go to buy our dry goods, the answer always being the same, Barker & Co.'s, 59 Market street. Of course, go then, reader. Always go there at least before buying.

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.

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at Hunt's Book Store, Masonic Hall, Fifth street, and at the Omnibus office, No. 456, Liberty street. Day or night, all orders left in either the two places will be promptly attended to.

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

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

Destructive Fire--Pittsburgh Plow Works Damaged--5,000 Plows and 38 Gun Carriages Destroyed--Firing of Rock Oil in Bulk--Narrow Escape of the Hand Street Bridge--Loss $50,000--Insurance $40,000.

About daybreak this morning, the extensive plow works of Mr. John C. Bidwell, located on Duquesne Way, Garrison alley, and Fayette street, in the Fourth Ward, caught fire and was badly damaged—the main building being entirely destroyed. The building was erected for the manufacture of plows, and was one of the most extensive establishments of the kind in the west. The main works fronted the Allegheny river, and were 60 feet wide by 80 feet deep. The walls were brick, very heavy, and five stories high. In the first and second stories were the machinery rooms, for iron and wood work; the third story was known as the wheel room, while the fourth story was used for painting and storing. The fifth story was used exclusively for storage. The first, second and third stories were filled with valuable machinery, lumber, tools, etc.

The fire caught in the paint room, fourth story, but it is not known how it originated, although the men had already gone to work. Owing to the inflammable character of the material here, the fire spread with great rapidity, and soon the main building was completely enveloped. The firemen promptly answered the alarm, but their efforts were devoted mainly to saving the foundry and blacksmith shops, in the rear of the machine works, and other property adjoining. The foundry and smith shops are under the same roof, and cover an area of 120 feet square. While the main building, with nearly all its contents, fell a prey to the flames, the foundry and smith shops escaped with comparatively little damage. The fine, powerful engine, used in propelling the machinery, was in the latter apartment, adjoining the main building, and escaped with very little damage—a portion of the wall and some heavy timbers having fallen upon it.

These works, as we have already stated, were erected mainly for the manufacture of plows, and the trade with the South having been cut off, Mr. Bidwell had an immense stock of plows on hand—full 5,000—finished and ready for market. Of this large number, not one was saved, being stored principally in the fifth story.

Having facilities for manufacturing all kinds of iron and wood work, Mr. Bidwell had obtained several contracts from the Ordnance States Government, and has been engaged for several months past in the manufacture of gun carriages, wagons, shells, etc. His last contract was for fifty gun carriages, only twelve of which had been delivered. The remaining thirty-eight had all been manufactured, and were just being put together preparatory to delivery. They were all destroyed, resulting in a loss of about $10,000. In addition to this, Mr. Bidwell has a large contract for casting heavy shells, which business will be continued without interruption. The main building is a mass of ruins, but Mr. Bidwell, with that enterprise and perseverance which has heretofore characterized him, will rebuild immediately—while the foundry will be in operation to-morrow.

There was a very large amount of seasoned lumber, in various stages of manufacture, most of which was destroyed, but we may state that enough has been saved to enable the proprietor to continue the manufacture of plows without interruption.

The origin of the fire has not been satisfactorily ascertained, but it is supposed to have resulted from a spark falling into some turpentine, as the gas was being lighted. The greatest care was taken, however, to guard against fire. There was not a stove in the building save one, which was in the office. The whole establishment was heated by steam, and lighted with seventy-five gas burners.

There were two sets of hands constantly employed in the works, the "day turn" numbering one hundred men. At night the number employed was considerably less.

The office was in the main building, but the books and papers were saved by hauling the safe into the street. Mr. Bidwell estimates his entire loss at $50,000, upon which there is an insurance of $40,000, as follows:

Allegheny	$ 5,000
Monongahela	5,000
Citizens'	5,000
North American	5,000
Manhattan, New York	3,750
Phœnix, Hartford, Ct.	2,500
Springfield Fire and Marine	2,500
Hartford " "	5,000
Providence, Washington, R. I.	3,750
Home, New York	2,500
Total	$40,000

ANOTHER FIRE.

While the plow works were in flames, (the breeze being from the south,) numerous sparks were carried towards the river, where large quantities of rock oil had been landed in barrels, and also one flat containing several hundred barrels in bulk, without cover or protection of any kind. A falling spark ignited this oil, and a terrible conflagration ensued. The oil was moored but a few rods above the Hand Street Bridge, and as the flames leaped and roared in the air it was feared that the bridge could not escape. Adjoining this flat was another, loaded with oil in barrels, which also caught fire. The greatest excitement prevailed, and when the latter boat broke her mooring and escaped all hope of saving the bridge was abandoned. The firemen lined the bridge, mounted the roof, and kept incessant streams of water pouring over it, but the chances looked hazardous indeed. Slowly the volcanic mass descended, and as it neared the bridge its progress was arrested by an old stump projecting from the first pier, which caused it to stand a moment and then swing round under the bridge. This was the critical moment, and as the burning mass descended below, leaving the bridge uninjured, the air was rent with the shouts and cheers of the assembled spectators. It is thought that the dense volumes of smoke which smothered the flames at that moment, saved the bridge.

Another panic immediately followed among the boatmen on the Allegheny wharf, between the Hand street and St. Clair street bridges. The Venango pulled in her lines and dropped down the stream ahead of the burning boat, but the Echo, Belle and Cottage held their positions. They all escaped, although the Echo was brushed by the flames in passing, and the paints of all the boats were blistered.

The St. Clair street bridge, the beautiful iron structure erected at a cost of $300,000, was also passed in safety, and the fire continued on its course, illuminating the river and the banks in its descent, and finally lodging at the head of Brunot, some two or three miles below.

The other flat was burnt to the water's edge, all the oil having been licked out of it by the flames. The oil belonged to Messrs. Robert Ashworth & Co., of Allegheny, and was valued at $750. Of course there was no insurance upon it.

It is proper here to state that there were large lots of oil in barrels, in the vicinity of the fire, none of which ignited, although the sparks fell profusely, some being carried across the river into Allegheny.

The firemen worked most nobly—the steamers rendering invaluable aid in saving the Hand street bridge, McKee's barrel factory, and adjoining property.

Important Rumor--50,000 Troops for Kentucky.

It has been currently reported, for some days past, that a large number of troops will soon be transferred from the army of the Potomac to the "dark and bloody ground" in Kentucky, to meet the reinforcements said to have been forwarded by Jeff. Davis, from Manassas, to Bowling Green, where Beauregard has assumed command. It is sought to confirm this rumor by another, which has been current here since the visit of Col. Thos. A. Scott, Assistant Secretary of War, to the effect, that while here he entered into arrangements for the sole use and occupancy of the entire rolling stock of the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad Company (connecting this city with Cincinnati) for the period of six consecutive days, commencing at a given date, and the object was to transfer 50,000 troops from Washington to Kentucky.

We do not say that we are indebted to any "reliable gentleman" for this information—if such it may be called. It is currently talked of through the streets, and not at all improbable. Its publication can do no harm, even if it should turn out to be true, as every important movement about Washington is heralded in rebeldom before it reaches the "Smoky City."

MANCHESTER BOROUGH TAX.—At a meeting of Manchester Council, held last evening, an ordinance was passed laying a tax of five mills on the dollar of the county valuation, and appropriating the same for borough purposes.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

Par. Premium and Discount.

The distinguished Cashier of the Bank of Pittsburgh, in the *Gazette* of Monday, has undertaken to reply to certain financial interrogatories propounded by a gentleman of Carrollton, Ohio, in which the definition of the word "par" is given, and why gold is at a premium in New York, and bank notes are at corresponding discount. The gentleman of Carrollton is much at fault in his common understanding of ordinary business transactions, and financial exchange; and Mr. Harper, in his elaborate effort to make *much* out of *very little*, has attached grave importance to the subject, by at once launching off into exchanges on London, and setting forth what every boor knows, that banks discount notes and bills of exchange, and receive deposits and par checks, and finally, gravely concludes that as to the bank suspensions, now pretty generally prevailing throughout the country, it may be considered a "*financial or political necessity*, but is a customary wrong in (my) *his judgment*," and that "it *demoralizes* both debtor and creditor!" Also, that "it *removes land marks!*" And then to continue his Quixotic tilt against the wind-mill banks of suspension, and leaving his Sancho Panza far in the rear, he sets about in a dash to prove that "seven furlongs are not a mile," and that thirty-five inches are not a yard," *ergo*, "ninety-seven cents are not a dollar," and that the "clearing house" may make some of the suspended New Yorkers" *shiver*" one of these days for their "flat balances."

I consider all this rambling as quite irrelevant to the wishes of the men of Carrollton; and Mr. Harper should simply have stated that the word "par" is relative and local, and can not be of universal application even to specie or coin, as the exchange is affected or made to diverge from par by two classes of circumstances: *first*, by any discrepancy between the actual weight or fineness of the *coin*, or of the *bullion* for which the substitute used in their place will exchange, and their weight or fineness as fixed by the mint regulations; and *secondly*, by any sudden increase or diminution of the bills drawn in one country upon another.

As to the question of gold being worth a premium of three per cent. in the city of New York, over current bank notes, or country bank notes, as the case may be, the laws of trade and commerce govern; and although the notes of the *old Bank of Pittsburgh* are par here, and payable in specie any time, at its counter, yet in Montreal or Quebec they would not be any more current than our suspended bank notes; and Montreal and Quebec specie paying bank notes would be looked upon in Pittsburgh as *outlandish*; and so I might go on to enumerate, but think it unnecessary here, though I may in a future article dwell upon the subject of Exchange, Discounts, Banking and Bank Suspensions.

EX-BANK DIRECTOR.

MANCHESTER BOROUGH OFFICERS.—At an election for Borough officers, held by Manchester Council last evening, the following gentlemen were chosen: Regulator, Thomas W. McIlenry; Treasurer, A. M. Stevenson; Printers, Foster & Fleezon; Constable and Tax Collector, Isaac Stewart; Wharfmaster and Street Commissioner, R. G. Hilliard; Board Measurers, Wm. Crawford and R. M. Parke.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF A SOLDIER.—Corporal R. C. Lowrie, Company C, Sixty-Second Pennsylvania regiment, Colonel Black, was instantly killed on Monday, 3d inst., by the accidental discharge of a revolver he should be no paper currency not easily and readily convertible into gold and silver.

Mr. Roscoe Conkling viewed the bill as the commencement of a paper system, which would plunge the country into an abyss, from which there would be no resuscitation and resurrection.

Mr. Hooper, of Mass., briefly argued, that to strike out the legal tender clause would render the bill useless to the Treasury Department.

Mr. Crisfield's amendment, striking out the legal tender, was rejected—yeas 53, nays 93.

Various amendments were offered and rejected, when Mr. Horton, offered Mr. Morrill's substitute with amendments for the bill.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., presented a modification of the original bill. It was then agreed that the committee should use and report these measures to the House.

The House then rejected the amendments of Mr. Horton to Mr. Morrell's substitute for the bill—yeas 55, nays 93.

Mr. Stevens' substitute was then passed—yeas 93, nays 59. It limits the amount of the two kinds of notes, providing that they shall at no time exceed $150,000,000, and retains the legal tender clause. Adjourned.

SENATE.—At twelve o'clock not a single Senator was in the Chamber, and there were but very few persons in the galleries. A few minutes after three Senators came in, and the Chair called the Senate to order.

Mr. Howard, of Mich., presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Michigan, asking a grant of certain land to endow a military school.

Mr. King, of N. Y., presented several petitions, asking that 30,000 copies of the agricultural report of the patent office be printed in the German language. Also, several petitions against the emancipation of slaves.

Mr. Chandler, of Mich., presented a memorial from the merchants of New York city, praying that the salary, fees and perquisites of the naval officer and surveyor be reduced.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, presented sixteen petitions of water coming over it, but the chances looked hazardous indeed. Slowly the volcanic mass descended, and as it neared the bridge its progress was arrested by an old stump projecting from the first pier, which caused it to stand a moment and then swing round under the bridge. This was the critical moment, and as the burning mass descended below, leaving the bridge uninjured, the air was rent with the shouts and cheers of the assembled spectators. It is thought that the dense volumes of smoke which smothered the flames at that moment, saved the bridge.

Another panic immediately followed among the boatmen on the Allegheny wharf, between the Hand street and St. Clair street bridges. The Venango pulled in her lines and dropped down the stream ahead of the burning boat, but the Echo, Belle and Cottage held their positions. They all escaped, although the Echo was brushed by the flames in passing, and the paints of all the boats were blistered.

The St. Clair street bridge, the beautiful iron structure erected at a cost of $300,000, was also passed in safety, and the fire continued on its course, illuminating the river and the banks in its descent, and finally lodging at the head of Brunot, some two or three miles below.

The other flat was burnt to the water's edge, all the oil having been licked out of it by the flames. The oil belonged to Messrs. Robert Ashworth & Co., of Allegheny, and was valued at $750. Of course there was no insurance upon it.

It is proper here to state that there were large lots of oil in barrels, in the vicinity of the fire, none of which ignited, although the sparks fell profusely, some being carried across the river into Allegheny.

The firemen worked most nobly—the steamers rendering invaluable aid in saving the Hand street bridge, McKee's barrel factory, and adjoining property.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

XXXVIIITH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, 1862.

HOUSE.—The House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and proceeded to the further consideration of the Treasury note bill.

Mr. Kellogg, of Ill., said that in ordinary times he might have some doubts as to the constitutionality of this measure, but in this extremity, when we are struggling for the national perpetuity, he was willing to go to verge of the Constitution in order to sustain the Government. He regarded this as a war measure. In the course of his remarks he said we must have no more surrenders of rebel prisoners, cheerfully made, though Russia, France, England, Spain and the combined powers of the world demand it. We must stand by our integrity, and by the honor of the nation, and if we are worthy of the name of a people we shall be sustained. The exigency of the times would never compel him to vote for a bill which is in violation of the Constitution, for, when Congress violates the Constitution it is but mockery to say we are carrying on a war under that instrument to maintain the Constitution, but he argued it was clearly within the power of Congress, under the Constitution, to make the notes proposed a tender in payment of debts, and to pledging the entire property of the country for their redemption.

Mr. Conway, of Kansas, asked leave to offer the following, to which Mr. Maynard objected, and it went over, unanimous consent being required to introduce it:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish the House, if not incompatible with the public interests, with the names of all persons arrested under the order of any executive officer without legal processes, and confined in any of the forts, and other persons of this country, exclusive of persons taken as prisoners in the war; the names of the forts or other prisons in which said persons have been and are confined, respectively; the date of their several arrests, together with a full statement of the charges, if any, upon which they were arrested; also, the names of all such persons who have since been discharged, the date of their several discharges, and the reasons for the same.

The Committee then proceeded to consider Mr. Crisfield's (of Md.) amendment to strike from the bill that which proposes to make the notes lawful money, and a legal tender in payment of all public and private debts.

An incidental debate ensued, during which Mr. Morrill, of Vt., mentioned the fact that the pending bill was reported by only half of the Committee of Ways and Means. The other four members wish to have it understood that they are as cordially united on their own project as the others are on theirs. The substitute proposed by him was not his, particularly, but had been modified in order to meet the views of those who had submitted amendments.

Mr. Hickman, of Pa., thought that the tax bill should have been first reported, and the basis of credit thus exhibited, but having been informed that the Treasury and Administration regard this as a governmental necessity, he was disposed to waive the question of property. He briefly argued that the impress of sovereignty could as well be made on paper as on gold and silver.

Mr. Lovejoy, of Ill., said that if they commenced the issue of such paper, they would not stop short of paying all the expenses of the war in depreciated paper, amounting perhaps, to $150,000,000. He desired to have the bill re-committed, with instructions to frame one with a clause, driving back to their homes, all depreciated bank notes. Thus we should be no paper currency not easily and readily convertible into gold and silver.

Mr. Roscoe Conkling viewed the bill as the commencement of a paper system, which would plunge the country into an abyss, from which there would be no resuscitation and resurrection.

Mr. Hooper, of Mass., briefly argued, that to strike out the legal tender clause would render the bill useless to the Treasury Department.

Mr. Crisfield's amendment, striking out the legal tender, was rejected—yeas 53, nays 93.

Various amendments were offered and rejected, when Mr. Horton, offered Mr. Morrill's substitute with amendments for the bill.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., presented a modification of the original bill. It was then agreed that the committee should use and report these measures to the House.

The House then rejected the amendments of Mr. Horton to Mr. Morrell's substitute for the bill—yeas 55, nays 93.

Mr. Stevens' substitute was then passed—yeas 93, nays 59. It limits the amount of the two kinds of notes, providing that they shall at no time exceed $150,000,000, and retains the legal tender clause. Adjourned.

SENATE.—At twelve o'clock not a single Senator was in the Chamber, and there were but very few persons in the galleries. A few minutes after three Senators came in, and the Chair called the Senate to order.

Mr. Howard, of Mich., presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Michigan, asking a grant of certain land to endow a military school.

Mr. King, of N. Y., presented several petitions, asking that 30,000 copies of the agricultural report of the patent office be printed in the German language. Also, several petitions against the emancipation of slaves.

Mr. Chandler, of Mich., presented a memorial from the merchants of New York city, praying that the salary, fees and perquisites of the naval officer and surveyor be reduced.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, presented sixteen petitions of water coming over it, but the chances looked hazardous indeed. Slowly the volcanic mass descended, and as it neared the bridge its progress was arrested by an old stump projecting from the first pier, which caused it to stand a moment and then swing round under the bridge. This was the critical moment, and as the burning mass descended below, leaving the bridge uninjured, the air was rent with the shouts and cheers of the assembled spectators. It is thought that the dense volumes of smoke which smothered the flames at that moment, saved the bridge.

Another panic immediately followed among the boatmen on the Allegheny wharf, between the Hand street and St. Clair street bridges. The Venango pulled in her lines and dropped down the stream ahead of the burning boat, but the Echo, Belle and Cottage held their positions. They all escaped, although the Echo was brushed by the flames in passing, and the paints of all the boats were blistered.

The St. Clair street bridge, the beautiful iron structure erected at a cost of $300,000, was also passed in safety, and the fire continued on its course, illuminating the river and the banks in its descent, and finally lodging at the head of Brunot, some two or three miles below.

The other flat was burnt to the water's edge, all the oil having been licked out of it by the flames. The oil belonged to Messrs. Robert Ashworth & Co., of Allegheny, and was valued at $750. Of course there was no insurance upon it.

It is proper here to state that there were large lots of oil in barrels, in the vicinity of the fire, none of which ignited, although the sparks fell profusely, some being carried across the river into Allegheny.

The firemen worked most nobly—the steamers rendering invaluable aid in saving the Hand street bridge, McKee's barrel factory, and adjoining property.

Mr. Howe, of Wis., moved to strike out the 9th section. Disagreed to. Yeas—Messrs. Howe and McDougall—2. Nays, 36.

Mr. Howe moved to recommit the bill to the Military Committee.

The Senate then went into executive session and subsequently adjourned.

From Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 6.—Some 500 of the military prisoners now in this city are to be transferred to the penitentiary buildings at Alton, Ill. The captive have been committed to the custody of the 13th U. S. Infantry, Lieut. Col. Benbank commanding, who will escort them to selected quarters.

ROLLA, Feb. 6.—A messenger from Lebanon, who left yesterday at 10 o'clock a. m., reports the enemy's pickets within 30 miles of that place, and that the several pickets were in hailing distance. Firing had taken place, but was subsequently suspended, as if by mutual consent. The report was also current at Lebanon that Price had made an ineffectual attempt by three different routes to move off his baggage, but failed to accomplish his purpose. He finally assured his men that the only alternative left was to fight or surrender.

Major Wright's battalion was 12 miles west in possession of a flouring mill. The messenger passed Gen. Sigel's body guard, near the Gasconade, and also Gen. Asboth, who was crossing that river.

Thirteen miles this side of Lebanon, a batch of prisoners had been captured, including a Capt. Mansfield.

The troops from Sedalia had not arrived at Lebanon when the messenger started.

ROLLA, Feb. 5.—A correspondent of the Missouri *Republican* says the remainder of Gen. Seigel's division started West on Sunday morning, under command of Acting Brigadier General Colar. Asboth's division started several days ago, and there are now left at this place only the troops who are to remain for the protection of the post.

The roads have somewhat improved, and army trains are progressing with much less difficulty.

The Union refugees, from South Western Missouri, are taking up their line of march for their homes once more. Every day they may be seen on the road, winding their way South-West.

There is a rumor that Raines has been captured by Lane's forces, but it needs confirmation.

Advices from Lebanon justify the inference that it will be several days, perhaps weeks, before the army moves forward, and no movement of importance need be expected until the troops to take part in the campaign shall have been concentrated at that point.

The latest news from Price, received by the public, is that he is eight miles this side of Springfield, and intends to show fight.

From California and Mexico.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—The bark Australia has arrived here, with dates from the Sandwich Islands to the 14th ult. The news is unimportant.

The steamer Golden Age has arrived from Panama. She brings $80,000 in treasure, from Mansenaiello.

The steamer St. Louis, from San Francisco, had arrived at Mansenaiello, Mexico, on the 29th of January. She has $1,400,000 to go via Panama to New York.

The steamer Panama arrived here yesterday from Mazelta. She brings $75,000 in treasure.

A courier arrived at Acapulco previous to the 26th ult. with intelligence of the defeat of the Spanish army by the Mexicans, in a severe battle at the National Bridge, near Vera Cruz. The battle lasted five hours.

Intelligence from Western Mexico represents that there is a general termination of international dissolution among the people, and a union of all parties to resist foreign invasion.

From Cairo.

CHICAGO, Feb. 6.—A special dispatch to the *Journal*, dated Tennessee river, noon, yesterday, says:

The first and second brigades of McClernand's division, 8,000 strong, encamped yesterday evening four miles below Fort Henry.

Three of our gunboats made a renonnoissance to the head of Panther Island, during a brisk fire between the gunboats and the fort. The enemy used five guns, only one of them, a rifled 24-pounder, reaching the boats.

Gen. Grant returned to Paducah last evening, to bring up Smith's brigade of 7,000. McClernand is left in command of the country in the vicinity.

Fort Henry is being thoroughly reconnoitered to-day. Seven gunboats, under command of Foote, are in the stream and ready.

It is reported that the rebels have been strongly reinforced. Rumor puts Beauregard in the fort.

Our troops are in most confident spirits.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 5.—The United States transport Constitution, which sailed yesterday afternoon for Ship Island, spoke the gunboat Miama, about 40 miles north of Hatteras, last night, in a sinking condition, and unable to make steam enough to take her into port. The Constitution arrived here at one o'clock this afternoon, with her in tow. She will take in a small quantity of coal, and probably sail again in the morning.

The French steamer Catinet sailed this forenoon for Havana.

The Pomone, flag-ship, is still here. It is probable that the French fleet in our waters will be represented here for some time, one or two vessels being always in port. Another steamer is daily expected.

The rebel fleet in Elizabeth river has been moving about considerably all day. During the afternoon a very heavy firing was going on at Sewall's Point, and this afternoon a tug was seen steaming around, and at one time towing something, supposed to be a floating battery, to the Point.

A Gunboat Fleet Passing up the Tennessee River.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Important intelligence of military movements at the West has just been received at the War Department. Official dispatches from the federal officers in Kentucky state that a gunboat expedition is now moving up the Tennessee River, in order to attack the enemy, and that the passage of the gunboats is protected by a flank movement of infantry