Pittsburgh Gazette.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 27.

CITY AFFAIRS.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

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

	IN SUN	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	40	34
12 " M.	60	44
6 " P. M.	66	45
Barometer,		29 5-10

FOR SALE.—Two good counting room desks, in this office.

Small Notes and Specie Payments.—The *Evening Chronicle*, in its local columns, has frequently, of late, enlightened its patrons with some disquisitions on financial matters, always taking its text from the Philadelphia *Ledger*. This is a little local penny paper, without any influence whatever in commercial affairs, and although circulating largely at home, has no circulation abroad.

The financial hobbies which the *Ledger* rides, and which, from their constant quotation, the *Chronicle* seems to have adopted, are the following:

Violent opposition to small notes, and to banks generally; advocating a compulsory redemption in Philadelphia, at par, by the other banks of the State; and also an immediate resumption of specie payments.

All these ideas are impracticable fallacies. The opposition to small notes is very surprising, for all business men acknowledge the advantages derived from their issue by the banks of Pennsylvania. Small notes will be used generally, in spite of any prohibition. They will come from other States if we do not provide them at home. This fact has been demonstrated by experience.

A remarkable specimen of logic may be found in the *Chronicle* of March 25th, where the writer says: "While small notes are allowed to circulate, retail merchants, mechanics and traders will be greatly inconvenienced for want of specie change." This is a singular perversion of common sense, which admits of no discussion. It is a well known fact that there is not sufficient small gold and silver coin for our ordinary wants, and the withdrawal of the small notes would cause very serious embarrassment. The gold dollar, which was so eagerly desired, soon became unpopular, and has been called in by the mint to a large amount, and re-coined into the larger pieces. Most persons preferred paper dollars to gold ones; they were less liable to loss or counterfeiting.

Of late years gold has been superceding silver in this country, until silver has become very scarce. Formerly it was reversed, and a horse and dray were required to take five or ten thousand dollars in coin to or from a Bank.

The California discoveries enhanced the value of silver, and the debasement of the coinage has not kept it in the country. There is not enough to replace the small note currency which has become so universal.

When the Legislature granted the right to issue notes less than five dollars, the Philadelphia Banks did not, with one exception, avail themselves of the privilege at once; but after waiting some months, they have been compelled to order plates, and will soon have small notes out.

It has always been a favorite project of Philadelphia to compel all Banks in the State to redeem their notes at par in that city. This would require them to keep large deposits there to provide for this redemption, and it is really the deposits they wanted and not the par currency. There is no justice or practical reasons for requiring a Bank to pay its debts any other place than at home. It has been tried in this State and abandoned.

It is strange that any complaints should be made here about our currency. It has never been so uniform or so good, and exchanges have never been so favorable. The brokers are suffering for want of business. Not long ago our local currency included a large amount of Western depreciated bank notes, and many manufacturers paid their hands in notes depreciated five and six per cent.

At present our circulating medium is almost entirely composed of city bank notes, or their equivalent. The depreciation on the notes of the country banks is very trifling, and of no consequence.

Exchanges East and West are merely nominal, and coin, if anything, below New York rates.

An actual resumption of specie payments is impracticable, while United States notes are a legal tender, and not redeemed in coin.

A sound banking institution can only be required to keep its issues on an equality with those of the Government. This has been done heretofore, and I presume will continue.

In making the comments on the articles in the *Chronicle*, I do not attribute them to the Editor; but I presume that there is justification in for a hint that the "Ed. Chron." should exercise some supervision over his local, as well as telegraphic items. Q.

Dr. William Addison.

Departed this life on Wednesday morning, the 26th inst., Dr. William Addison, of this city. Than the subject of this notice few ever possessed a higher claim to the admiration and affection of those around him. The clearness of his perception, the soundness and discrimination of his judgment, the extent and accuracy of his learning, the fertility of his resources, and his energetic and prompt application of the normal principles of medical science and art, entitled him to the very highest rank in his profession; and it may be truly said of him, that to an intellect of the highest order he added those rare accomplishments, both as a physician and a man of letters, which could have been attained only by the most assiduous improvement of the means and appliances within his power. As a man, too, he has left a record which it will do to contemplate. Generous even to a fault; true to the instincts of a genial and persistent friendship, devoted as a husband, affectionate as a father, faithful and loving as a brother, a high-toned gentleman, and an upright and honorable man, an occasional sharpness of manner, and that indulgence in sarcasm to which men, conscious of great intellectual power, are characteristically prone, could not obscure from the view of those who knew and loved him the real kindness of his heart and the intrinsic excellence of his character. He died in the unfaltering faith of Christ, and comforted by the consciousness of having faithfully devoted his time and talents to the exercise of a high and honorable profession, has gone, as we humbly trust, to those heavenly habitations where "*the souls of those who sleep in Jesus enjoy perpetual peace and felicity.*"

Peace to his ashes, and a joyful re-union with him in the Paradise of the blessed, is the fervent prayer of one who has known him for forty years, who deeply mourns his departure from among us, and who will ever cherish his ardent and friendship, with a *pleasing* and a *sacred* remembrance. D. O. P.

March 26, 1862.

The Musical Magician.

The mysterious Heller, surprisingly known as *Robert le Diable*, is increasing the *furore* he created at his first magical and musical *soirees*. The theatre last night presented a still larger and more fashionable appearance than upon either of the previous evenings, and more delighted audiences were never assembled within the old Temple of the Muses. As a slight of hand performer, equally dexterous with hand and tongue, Heller cannot be surpassed, while his developments of the seeming preternatural mystery of "Second Sight" would almost warrant the conclusion at which he hints, that the "Luminous Shadow" so graphically described in Bulwer's last has something to do with it.

As a pianist and interpreter of the great ancient and modern masters, his undoubted ability is conceded by every scientific connoisseur, and indeed he has created no common *furore* among the musical critics. His engagement will close on Saturday.

THE WIZARD.—We need only remind our readers that Prof. Anderson, the great Wizard of the North, performs again this evening at Concert Hall, which he has filled, full up, for three nights past, with very fashionable audiences. We understand that he closes his engagement here on Saturday evening, so that those who desire to witness his wonderful performances must avail themselves speedily of the opportunity. Seats can be secured during the day, and owing to the crowded state of the house it is best for gentlemen to secure seats, particularly if they are accompanied by ladies.

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

Highway Robbery--Merchant Seized and Robbed of $2,840!

This morning, between five and six o'clock, Mr. D. M. Barbour, a well known business man, residing on the Perrysville plank road, near the Green Tree tavern, about three miles north of Allegheny city, appeared before Mayor Sawyer and stated that he had been seized on Penn street, a short distance below St. Clair, by two men, who robbed him of a package of twenty dollar treasury notes, amounting in the aggregate to $2,840. The circumstances of the affair were thus detailed by Mr. Barbour:

He had been at Washington City, where he had obtained the money on account of flour furnished to the Government, and reached this city at one o'clock this morning, by the Pennsylvania Railroad. He had previously telegraphed to his friends here that he would arrive on that train, and directed them to have his horse and buggy at McMaster's livery stable, in waiting to convey him home. Immediately on his arrival, he started down to the livery stable, but found no one up, and, after rapping in vain for some time, he concluded to take his carpet sack to the toll house of the St. Clair Street Bridge, and go out home on foot. He started from the stable with this intention, and while passing Hall & Speer's warehouse, on Penn street, he was accosted by two men from a large man, with a high crowned hat, and the other small, with a low hat. The larger one seized him by the cravat, and twisted it tightly round his neck, while the other assisted in throwing him down. While on the ground, with their knees upon his chest, they tore open his coat and vest, and took from an inside pocket, in the left side of his coat, the package of notes, which had been wrapped up in a piece of newspaper. They then left him, and as he raised up on his side, he saw them walk away. He was unable to make any outcry, and soon after getting upon his feet, he met a watchman, who conveyed him to the Mayor's office.

Mr. Barbour's clothes were considerably torn, particularly about the pockets, and a hole was discovered in his coat, as though a knife had been thrust through it. His person was not injured in the slightest, not even a scratch being visible. After relating the circumstances of the robbery to the Mayor, he drove out home, and soon after returned and made an information in blank against the parties who robbed him. He is unable to describe their features, however, and thinks he would not be able to identify either of them. Under these circumstances, it is hardly possible that the police will be able to obtain any clue to the robbers.

Sunday Liquor Selling in Allegheny.

The law in reference to Sunday liquor selling is constantly violated in Allegheny, notwithstanding the efforts of the police to suppress the evil. A certain class of beer sellers seem to regard Sunday afternoon as not a whit more sacred than Saturday, and a much more desirable season for dealing out and pouring in the lager. This may suit their own peculiar habits and tastes, but the fact that it is a flagrant violation of law should exert a restraining influence, and force a change of custom. Quite a number of beer halls were open on Sunday last, and we are not certain that the majority of them are accessible to certain customers on every Sunday in the year. It is difficult, however, for the police to return these violations, unless they assume the garb of spies, which, although right and proper in the eye of the law, is by no means agreeable. Hence it is that the offenders go unpunished until some injured wife or indignant neighbor makes an information.

Messrs. Lutz & Walt, who keep a beer hall at the foot Troy hill; Henry Herd, whose saloon is on Third street, above East lane; Mr. Wessell, of the Fourth Ward, have each been arrested upon information preferred before Mayor Drum, for selling liquor on Sunday last, and had to answer to a hearing this evening. Other parties will doubtless be arrested, and if the evil is not abated it will do no harm to make an example now and then, by way of letting offenders know that the law is not yet a dead letter.

Railroad Taxation in Moon Tp.

In pursuance of a previous notice, a respectable number of the tax-payers of Moon township met at school house No. 4, on Saturday, March 22d. The meeting was organized by calling Mr. Hugh Stewart to the Chair and appointing J. G. Cunningham Secretary. Messrs. J. D. McCormic, Samuel Stewart and Mathew Scott were appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. Mr. R. McClurran and others gave their views on the subject. The Committee handed in the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That we consider the proposed tax to pay interest on railroad bonds, to be unjust and oppressive; that the bonds were issued without the consent of the tax-payers of Allegheny county; that they were sold at a ruinous discount, and that we do protest against the collection of said tax if imposed.

Resolved, That we consider it a plain and positive duty to resist, by every means in our power, the efforts that are being made by the holders of the said railroad bonds, to force the collection of a tax to pay interest on said bonds.

Resolved, That the growing expenses of our county are becoming a very serious and oppressive burden, and we should admonish our County Commissioners to retrench in every possible manner our expenditures; let the strictest economy be observed; let no money be spent that can be avoided.

Resolved, That we suggest that the country districts, south of the river, meet in convention at Mansfield, or some other central place.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Pittsburgh papers.

Escape of Prisoners--$100 Reward.

Two men escaped from the Crawford county jail, at Meadville, on the night of the 18th inst., between nine and ten o'clock. They accomplished their purpose by partly burning and then sawing a hole in the door, leading from the cells to the main entrance, and during the absence of the turnkey, on a fruitless errand for some water, they forced out a panel and decamped. One named William Danes, was in on a charge for counterfeiting. He is about five feet eight inches high, brown hair, light complexion, twenty-eight years of age, wall built, and has a habit of winking quick when in conversation, and weighs probably one hundred and sixty pounds. He had on dark clothes. The other, named John S., alias James M. Lowry, is about five feet ten inches high, sandy complexion and whiskers, and chestnut colored hair. He is a large, well built man, and weighs probably one hundred and seventy pounds. Had on darkish colored clothes. He was arrested recently, in Titusville, for forgery. The sheriff offers one hundred dollars for the arrest and delivery of either of the aforesaid prisoners, at the jail in Meadville.

Life of Gen. Geo. B. McClellan.

This biography forms one of Beadle's Dime Series, and will no doubt be read at the present time with great interest. It includes, of course, every fact of any public importance in the life of Gen. McClellan—his services in Mexico, on the Red River Exploring Expedition, on the Pacific Railway Survey, on the European Military Commission, etc., and concludes with an account of the campaign in Western Virginia. The author is Louis Legrand, M. D., who is faithful enough to his assumed functions of biographer, to endeavor to set off his subject to the best advantage; but he prudently abstains from entering into any elaborate defense of his hero, where he has been assailed, contenting himself with a sneer at "On to Richmond factionists" and "fault-finding newspaper paragraphists," which, in the good Doctor's easy "self-assurance" he may perhaps fancy will make those obnoxious persons feel very uncomfortable!

Mr. HENRY MINER, Fifth street, is agent for the sale of Beadle's Dime Libraries.

RAILROAD EXTENSION.—The Meadville *Journal* says: "We are authorised to say, by a gentleman belonging to the Board of Managers, that there is now no doubt of the immediate commencement and speedy construction of the Atlantic and Great Western railroad from Corroy to this place. The Company are contracting for the Ties, and shanties for the workmen are in the course of erection all along the route."

ATWATER'S PATENT COPYING PRESS.—This useful and cheap invention, by means of which copies of letters can be preserved for reference by the writer, can be obtained at Bradley's, on Smithfield street. It is exceedingly simple in construction, and costs so little that no business man should be without it.

Death from Intemperance.

Coroner McClung was called to-day to hold an inquest upon the body of Mrs. Margaret Patterson, wife of Robert Patterson, residing on Pennsylvania avenue, in the Eighth ward. The testimony developed the following facts: Mr. Patterson left home at six o'clock Tuesday morning, to go to work. On returning, in the evening, he found his wife lying dead on the floor, and his two children sitting by the fire, which was nearly out. The children imagined that their mother was sleeping, and stated that she had been drinking from a bottle which she kept hid under the bed. It was in evidence that she had been drinking to excess for several months, and was very much debilitated from disease. The jury found a verdict of "death from intemperance and disease." The deceased was about thirty-five years of age, and the mother of three children, the eldest of whom was hired out. She was at one time highly respected, and her sad end is attributed to domestic troubles and difficulties.

The Late Col. Murray.

The telegraph has already announced the death of Col. Wm. G. Murray, of the Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Regiment. He fell while gallantly leading his regiment in the late battle at Winchester. Col. Murray, on the declaration of war against Mexico, raised a volunteer company in the interior of the State, and served with ability and distinction throughout the entire campaign. At the close of the war he settled in Hollidaysburg, where he married, but his wife died some months since. Being a prominent Democrat, he held the office of postmaster under President Buchanan, and in the late Presidential campaign was an ardent supporter of the traitor Breckinridge. True to his flag, however, he threw aside politics when treason reared its head, and quickly responded to the call of President Lincoln. He has sealed his devotion to his country with his blood, and his loss is regretted alike by the army and the State at large. His remains are expected to arrive at Hollidaysburg for interment.

Pickpockets at Conference.

Strange as it may appear to some, churches have of late become a very "fashionable" place for pickpockets. Here persons are less suspicious than anywhere else, and it is the last place on earth where an honest man would expect to encounter a thief. During the last session of the Methodist Conference, held in Christ Church, on Monday evening, at least half a dozen persons—mostly ladies—had their pockets picked, and so expertly was the work done that the losers knew nothing of the larceny until they were on the way home. Methodist ministers are not noted for the size of their purses, but rather for their poverty, and one would suppose that the light-fingered gentry would "pass by on the other side," but it would seem that pickpockets, like government agents, are seeking new objects of taxation. The words of caution, "Look out for Pickpockets!" so conspicuously displayed about railroad depots, auction houses, theatres, etc., will soon have to be transferred to church doors, if the rascals do not mend their morals and quit going to church!

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—Last evening, a little daughter of Mr. Sullivan, tailor, residing on Tunnel street, was burned in a horrible manner, by her clothes taking fire. The child is about two years old, and while her mother was in the cellar, getting some coal, she approached the fire and was soon enveloped in flames. The mother, hearing screams, hastened to the rescue of her child, but before the flames could be smothered the body was so shockingly burned that life is despaired of.

POINT DECIDED.—In the case of the Girard Fire and Marine Insurance Company, Garnishees of John Roth & Co.; vs. Field, Merritt & Co.—error to the District Court of Philadelphia—Judge Thompson holds that an unadjusted claim for a loss upon a policy of insurance against fire is subject to attachment in the hands of the Insurance Company. Judges Lowrie and Woodward did not sit, and Judge Strong dissented from the opinion.

CORRECTION.—In the returns of the election in Wilkins township, Lucky Davidson had 109 votes for Justice of the Peace, instead of 100, as published. John Horner, Esq., was elected Judge, instead of John Homer—the error being typographical.

LIEUT. COL. HERRON, who was wounded and taken prisoner by the rebels at Pea Ridge, has been conveyed to the United States army, under a flag of truce, and offered in exchange for rebel prisoners. This will be welcome news to the numerous friends of Col. Herron.

NOT IN SESSION.—The Criminal Court is not in session to-day, there being no business to engage the attention of the traverse jurors.

Coughs.

The sudden changes of our climate are sources of *Pulmonary, Bronchial and Asthmatic Affections*. Experience having proved that simple remedies often act speedily and certainly, when taken in the early stages of the disease, recourse should at once be had to *"Brown's Bronchial Troches,"* or Lozenges, let the cold, cough or irritation of the throat be ever so slight, as by this precaution a more serious attack may be effectually warded off. Public speakers and singers will find them effectual for clearing and strengthening the voice.

[From the Evening Post, N. Y.]

Brown's Bronchial Troches, advertised in another column, are highly recommended for public speakers and others, for the relief of colds and to clear the voice. Their efficacy is strongly attested by congressmen, clergymen and actors and singers, who use them. Among the certificates to their merits we observe letters from Henry Ward Beecher, N. P. Willis, E. H. Chapin, and others of eminence.

Caution.—As there are many imitations, ask for and *obtain* only "Brown's Bronchial Troches," which by long experience have proved their value, having received the sanction of physicians generally, and testimonials from eminent men throughout the country.

DIED:

ADDISON—On Wednesday morning, 26th inst., Dr. WILLIAM ADDISON.

His funeral will take place on FRIDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 129 Penn street.

WILLIAMS—On Tuesday evening, 25th instant, ISAAC ARTHUR, aged 12 months, only son of Isaac J. and Ann Williams.

Funeral will take place at 10 o'clock, a. m., on THURSDAY, 27th inst., from No. 49 Chatham street, near Pennsylvania Avenue. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

NOTICE.—BONDHOLDERS OF THE PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO, THE OHIO AND PENNSYLVANIA, THE OHIO AND INDIANA AND THE FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD COMPANIES.—Holders of First Mortgage Bonds of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the Ohio and Indiana Railroad Company, and the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad Company, who have not heretofore deposited their bonds with John Ferguson, No. 35 Pine street, under the plan of reorganization, are again notified to do so on or before the 1st day of April next, or they will be excluded from its benefit.

Holders of Second Mortgage Bonds of the same Companies, or Construction Bonds of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad Company, who have not already deposited their bonds as above, are notified to make application to the Purchasing Committee, at my office, 52 Wall street, to be admitted to the benefits of said reorganization, on or before the same day, or be excluded therefrom.

J. P. D. LANIER,
Chairman Purchasing Committee.

☞ Holders of any of the Bonds referred to in the above Notice can deposit them at the office of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway Company, No. 23 Fifth street, in this city.

March 18, 1862.—td G. W. CASS.

PEOPLE'S INSURANCE COMPANY OF PITTSBURGH.—Notice is hereby given, that in pursuance of an Act of Assembly relating thereto, and the Charter of Incorporation, approved March 17th, 1862, Books to receive subscriptions to the Capital Stock of the PEOPLE'S INSURANCE COMPANY OF PITTSBURGH, will be opened at the Merchants' Exchange, Fourth street, Pittsburgh, Pa., on TUESDAY, the 22d of April next, to remain open for five days (unless the stock be sooner subscribed) from 10 a. m., to 4 p. m.

George R. White,	John I. House,
John R. Parke,	John Phillips,
Edward House,	C. Hanson Love,
Samuel P. Shriver,	Wm. B. Hazlett,
A. W. Loomis,	Frank Van Gordor,
D. Hostetter,	James Ross,
D. H. Chambers,	James Gardiner,
W. S. Haven,	Thos. B. Hamilton,
Daniel Wallace,	John S. Leet,
James Robb,	Wm. H. Kirkpatrick,
Wm. F. Gardner,	James W. Ratter,
J. J. Robinson,	

mh19:td Commissioners.

PRODUCE NOW ARRIVING—
2 bbls. and 1 box fresh Butter;
8 do fresh Eggs;
20 bush. small White Beans;
10 do bright Dried Apples;
10 bbls. choice Rambo Apples.
Received and for sale by H. RIDDLE,
mh19 No. 166 Liberty street.

HOMINY—20 bbls. white Flint Hominy for sale by J. B. CARFIELD.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

XXXVIIITH CONGRESS---FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, March 26, 1862.

HOUSE.—Mr. Dawes, of Mass., rose to a privileged question in behalf of the Government Contract Committee. He referred to the Pamphlet issued by Alexander Cummings, who charged the Committee with having altered and falsified the record and testimony furnished by them willfully and perversely, for the purpose of creating a sensation in the House and country, and convicting him of charges, which the Committee knew were false.

Mr. Dawes examined the statements of Mr. Cummings, and vindicated the integrity of the Committee.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., briefly exposed what he characterized as a fallacy of the Committee. Their report, he said, went forth to damn a man's reputation; founded on the falsification (who ever did it) of Mr. Cummings note, which, as printed, makes it appear that he had retained in his hands $150,000, when the note itself showed that he never had a dollar in his hands.

Mr. Fenton, of N. Y., asked, but failed to obtain leave, to introduce a resolution instructing the Committee on the Conduct of the War to inquire into the cause of the exposure of large bodies of our troops belonging to the army of the Potomac, consisting of regiments, brigades, etc., in some instances of whole divisions, who have been deprived of shelter for days and weeks, in consequence of having their orders to march continued, and then being again ordered to march and again countermanded, while they were left without adequate food, and report who is responsible for this needless exposure and suffering of our troops.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the tax bill.

Among other amendments adopted was a proviso that the tax on goods, wares, merchandise and manufactures, pursuant to contract under this act, shall be paid by the purchasers before the delivery thereof. Several sections of the bill were acted upon, when the Committee arose.

Mr. Rice, of Minn., from the Naval Committee, reported a joint resolution appropriating $50,000, to enable the Secretary of the Navy to test plans and materials for rendering ships and floating battering invulnerable. The House then adjourned.

SENATE.—Mr. King, of N. Y., presented a memorial asking that 5,000 copies of the reports of the Patent Office be printed in German.

Mr. Howes, of Wis., presented the petition of the citizens of New York, asking the passage of the bankrupt law. Also, a petition asking for the continuance of the liberty of the press in this country. Referred.

Mr. Latham, of Cal., read an extract from the Detroit *Tribune*, which said that a curious document had been found, showing that there was a league formed in Michigan for the purpose of overthrowing the federal government. The document was dated October 5th, 1861, and said that the League was doing noble work in Maryland and among the soldiers at Fortress Monroe, and that Ex-President Pierce was among the influential members of the League.

Mr. Latham also read a letter from ex-President Pierce, dated March 4th, calling his attention to an article published in the Boston *Journal*, the substance of which was before published in Michigan, and saying that the subject was not new to him (Mr. Pierce); for he had had a correspondence with the Secretary of State on the subject as early as last December. He asked Mr. Latham if he would offer a resolution calling for the entire correspondence with the Secretary of State, as such imputations ought not to rest on any man.

Mr. Latham therefore offered a resolution that the Secretary of State be requested to transmit to the Senate copies of all the correspondence between William H. Seward, Secretary of State, and Ex-President Pierce, having reference to this supposed conspiracy against the Government.

Mr. Chandler, of Mich., said he knew there was such a letter, the writer of it was Dr. Hopkins, there was such an organization, and it was very wide spread. At the commencement of the war, the Knights of the Golden Circle thought they would be very patriotic and go into the army, and to his certain knowledge a large number of the worst traitors were in the United States army, and they are there now.

Mr. Howard, of Mich., said he knew there was such a letter in existence, as he had seen it. He suggested that the Senator frame his resolution so as to include that letter.

Mr. Latham said he only wanted to find out whether any man who had been a President of the United States was engaged in any such conspiracy or not. He amended the resolution so as to include all other papers.

The resolution was then adopted.

Mr. Latham said he only wanted to find out whether any man, who had been a President of the United States, was engaged in such a conspiracy or not. He amended the resolution so as to include all the other papers. The resolution was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Trumbull, the joint resolution offering aid to the States in case of their emancipation of slaves, was taken up, the question being for their consideration.

Mr. McDougal opposed the provisions of the resolution as beyond the power of Congress, and simply creating a cause of discussion in Congress.

Mr. Powell thought the resolution simply a pill of arsenic, sugar-coated, and intended to inaugurate the agitation of slavery in the slave States, which will tend to the injury of the States.

After further discussion, Mr. Davis's amendment was disagreed to—yeas 4, viz.: Messrs. Davis, Henderson, of Missouri, Powell and Wilson, of Missouri; nays 34.

Mr. Henderson, of Mo., offered an amendment providing that nothing contained in the resolution shall be construed to imply a willingness, on the part of Congress, that any State shall withdraw their allegiance, but it is hereby declared to be the intention of the Government to prosecute the war until the Constitution is restored in every State. Rejected.

On motion of Mr. Henderson, the further consideration of the resolution was postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. Anthony, of R. I., offered a resolution that the thanks of Congress be given to Gen. Burnside, and his officers and men. Also a resolution of thanks to Commander S. C. Rowan. Referred.

Mr. Wright, of Indiana, introduced a bill to establish an Agricultural Department. Referred.

The bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia was taken up.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Minn., made a speech in favor of the bill. He said he was willing to conform his action to the principles of practice. The bill was opposed on grounds of expediency, but believing as he did, that slavery was the great sin of this country, he could not place expediency in the scale against practice. We refuse to do right for fear of consequences. He believed, with the here of New Orleans, that it is always safe to do right, and he should allow no false motives of expediency to interfere. The Senator from Virginia, Mr. Willey, the other day, said he spoke as a Border State man, and spoke the sentiments of the loyal men of Virginia, and begged Senators to pause to consider the position they occupied. How many of the loyal men of Virginia or Maryland came to the defence of the the Capitol? Not one. He then referred to the attack on the Massachusetts troops in Baltimore, and contended that Baltimore was never loyal until the guns of Fort McHenry were turned toward the city, and Maryland was only kept in the Union by the power of the government. The Senator from Virginia, Mr. Willey, seemed to censure Northern senators for their course on this bill. He read from Mr. Willey's speech. He, Mr. Wilkinson, grew impatient when censured by men from the Border States, who would have never been here but for the valor of Northern men. He read an account of the massacre of the Union troops at Guyandotte, Va., as showing the inhumanity of slavery. He then referred to the speeches of Messrs. Kennedy and Davis, as showing the violent hatred to the free speech and free sentiments of the North, and the tending to excite the people of the South against the North.

The question was then taken on Mr. Saulsbury's amendment, offered yesterday, to distribute the slaves among the northern States, &c., which was disagreed to.

Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, offered as an amendment that the Commissioners make just and equitable settlement of the accounts between the master and his so-called slaves, allowing the master all reasonable expenses for supplies and clothing to the slave, upon disability, and to allow the slaves for all their services and labor performed.

The bill was then postponed, and the Senate went into executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

THE BATTLE NEAR WINCHESTER.

DEEDS OF BRAVERY AND HEROISM.

The Force of the Rebels.

GEN. SHIELDS' ARM BADLY SHATTERED.

Interesting Details of the Battle.

&c., &c., &c.

WINCHESTER, March 26.—The details of the fight on Sunday, record more deeds of personal bravery and daring than any battle fought since the commencement of the rebellion.

Captain Shriver, Aid and Inspector of Gen. Shields' division, while riding to the crest of the hill, to the left of the stone edge, in company with two orderlies, was confronted by five rebel cavalry, who emptied their revolvers, killing the two orderlies; Capt. Shriver charged on them, running one through to the hilt of the sword, and receiving a ball through his cap, but he escaped unhurt.

Capt. Perkins, the chief of General Banks' staff, was mainly instrumental in planning the attack, and performed deeds of skill and valor.

The twelve rebel regiments engaged were all Virginians, including the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 13th, 23d, 42nd and 52nd Virginia regiments, and one provisional cavalry regiment. They had the assistance of Ashby's cavalry, and two eight gun batteries, one six gun battery and one four gun battery, making twenty-six guns, among which were some of the captured Bull Run pieces.

The four color bearers of the 5th Ohio were successively killed, when Capt. Witcomb seized the colors, and prepared, sword in hand, to defend them. He fell with a shot through the head.

A youthful rebel fell, receiving two wounds in the breast. When he was approached by one of our officers he inquired if the officer knew Gen. Banks. He received an affirmative reply. Tell him I want to take the oath of allegiance, said the boy, for I have three brothers in the Federal service and I want them to know that I die true to the Union.

Gen. Shields' arm was badly shattered, and owing to the imperfect setting it first received, he must undergo the painful operation of having it reset.

This morning many of the bodies of both the rebel and Union soldiers remained on the field, but they have since been interred.

Many of the wounded have died since they have been brought to this city.

The ladies of this town are busy furnishing the wounded with comforts.

The ladies connected with the theatre, which is now occupied as a hospital, are also assiduous in their attendance to the sufferers.

The latest reports to-night represent all quiet in the neighborhood of Strasburg.

It is reported that two sons of the late John A. Washington were in Tuesday's fight, and both were wounded, while one was taken a prisoner.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company have taken charge of the Winchester and Potomac road. Tickets can be purchased of the Baltimore Company.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The following dispatch from Gen. Shields to Senator Rice, dated Winchester, to-day, was read in the Senate this afternoon: On the morning of the 23d my command, 7,000 or 8,000 strong, was attacked near this place by Jackson, with eleven regiments of infantry and the Irish battalion, about 1,600 cavalry and 28 pieces of artillery. After a severe fight the enemy was put in complete rout, leaving behind two pieces of cannon, four caissons and a large number of small arms, besides about 300 prisoners. Our loss is 150 killed and 300 wounded. The enemy's loss is 500 killed and 1'000 wounded.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—A Democratic Conference was held last night, continuing in session until a late hour. The call was signed by all, excepting four or five of the members of Congress, who were elected as Democrats. Representative Corning presided, and representatives Pendleton and Shiel acted as Secretaries. An injunction was placed upon all present not to reveal the proceedings. It is, however, ascertained from private conversations, to-day, that the Conference was principally confined to the consideration of the resolutions reported from a Committee of which Vallandigham was Chairman, declaring, in substance, that the restoration of the Union and the maintenance of the Constitution require that the organization and principles of the Democratic party of the United States should be fully and faithfully adhered to, and inviting all citizens, without distinction of sections or party, to co-operate with the democracy in supporting the Constitution and restoring the old Union. A Committee of one from each State represented by Democrats, either in the Senate or House, was appointed to report at a future conference. The names of the members are not yet known. It is understood that several members from the Border Slave States were present, and participated in the proceedings. The entire number at the meeting was about forty.

The proceedings are represented as having been harmonious.

The Senate to-day, in executive session, confirmed the nominations of Colonel Gordon Granger, of the Second Rigiment of Michigan Cavalry, to be Brigadier-General of volunteers, and Noah L. Jeffries, to be Assistant Adjutant General in the volunteer service; also, confirmed the following nominations: Henry W. Reed, of Iowa, to be agent of the Indians of the Upper Missouri; John Evans, of Ill., Governor of the Territory of Colorado; Wm. H. Evans, of Ohio, Consul at Maranham; Edward H. Perkins, of Pennsylvania, Consul at Santa Cruz; S. H. McMarth, of Ohio, Consul at Tampico; Joseph L. Degraw, of New Jersey, Consul to Guayaquil; Jesse A. Hughston, of New York, Marshal of the Consular Court of the United States, at Shanghai; Joseph Pyle, Surveyor of Customs of Perth Amboy; Edward L. Bayly, Collector of Customs for the District of Charrystone, Va.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—A dispatch received to-night from Cairo, bringing the latest intelligence from Island No. 10, says the main works of the enemy on the mainland are overflowed, and also nearly the whole of the Mississippi valley in that vicinity. This will delay effective operations by our forces at present.

The promotions made by the Secretary of War for the gallant service at Fort Donelson and Mill Spring having been confirmed by the Senate, the commissions have been signed by the Secretary, and will soon reach those thus honored.

The official report from Pea Ridge has not yet been received, nor has that concerning the recent action near Winchester.

Gen. Davis, of New York, has been assigned to duty in Gen. Halleck's department.

Gen. Hunter is on his way to take command of his department of the South.

The Secretary of war issued an order yesterday, stopping the release or parole of prisoners taken at Fort Donelson. It is known that an agreement for the exchange of prisoners was made some weeks ago, under the direction from the Secretary of War, by Gen. Wool with Gen. Cobb, by which all of our prisoners were to be delivered the next day under a flag of truce at Craney Island. A boat was sent to receive them, but no prisoners were brought from Norfolk. The same was repeated for two days without success. Explanations were demanded by Gen. Wool, but none furnished. Pending this breach of faith by the rebels, all release or exchanges will be refused by the Government.

The members of the Van Wick Investigating Committee have all returned, and Col. Van Wick has joined his regiment.

The following prisoners were to-day released on parole: C. Allen, Z. J. Penneman, James Conner, John Berson and G. M. Gofmeley. Two others, B. W. Jenkins and F. M. Ellis, were re-committed for further consideration.

The following dispatch was telegraphed to Gen. Shields to-day:

WAR DEPARTMENT, March 26, 1862.

Brigadier General Shields:

Your two dispatches relating to the brilliant achievement of the forces under your command have been received. While rejoicing at the success of your troops, deep commiseration and sympathy are felt for those who have fallen victims in the gallant and victorious contest with treason and rebellion. Your wounds, as well as your success, prove that Lander's brave division is still bravely led, and that wherever its standard is displayed the rebels will be routed and pursued. To you, and to the officers and soldiers under your command, the department returns its thanks.

[Signed] EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

The amendments thus far made in the tax bill are not decisive, but merely the action of the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. The House having finally to act upon them, it is believed that Congress will, in conformity with the bill proposed by the Secretary of the Treasury, increase the tax on tobacco, whisky and other luxuries. The hasty clause taxing the stock of whisky now in the hands of dealers will probably be reconsidered, as it is deemed by many prominent gentlemen to be *ex post facto*, and as with this clause stricken out the bill will be more acceptable.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Steamship China.

SANDY HOOK, March 26.—The steamship China, from Liverpool, has been signalled, and a summary of her news obtained.

The steamship Bohemia arrived out on the 4th inst.

The proposed amendments of the Liberal party in the French Legislature to the paragraph relative to American affairs in the address to the Emperor, had been withdrawn.

On Saturday the Paris Bourse was dull; rentes were quoted at 68f., 75.

COMMERCIAL—*Liverpool, March* 14.—Flour has declined 6d. Wheat dull and 1@2d lower. Corn 6d lower.

Provisions.—Beef and pork steady. Lard active and steady.

Produce.—Ashes declining; pots 32s 7d. Pearls 32s 6d. Rosin easier; common 12@12s 6d. Spirits of Turpentine dull at 65s. Sugar dull. Coffee firm. Rice firm. Linseed Oil 38@36s.

London, March 14.—Breadstuffs are declining. Corn dull. Sugar quiet but steady. Tea firm at 13s 2d for common Congo. Spirits of Turpentine dull at 64s. Rice; sales small. Linseed Cakes slightly lower. American securities are active and advancing.

LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN.—*Liverpool, Saturday.*—Cotton is firm but unchanged; sales to-day of 7,000 bales, including 2,000 bales to exporters.

Breadstuffs are very dull but unchanged.

Provisions are quiet but steady. Bacon is firm.

London, Saturday.—Consols are quoted at 93@93¼.

The proceedings of the British Parliament were of but slight importance.

Mr. Milner Gibson, in reply to an inquiry, stated that no information had been received by the government as to the practical increase of duties on imports with the United States, consequent upon such duties being made payable in specie.

During a debate on mail subsidies, Mr. Barter showed the losses of the system, and advocated a reduction of the subsidies as the contracts fall in. He opposed any new contract for America, and favored open competition and the discontinuance of subsidies.

Mr. Peel admitted the truth of what was said, and stated that as the contracts fall in, every care should be taken to reduce the subsidies. The vote of 905,000 pounds sterling was agreed to.

The *Morning Herald* thinks it is a pity that the United States does not make use of the first auspicious occasion presented by the recent successes for concluding peace. The United States, it says, have it now in their power to retire from the desperate strife with something like honor.

The *Daily News* argues that by simply refusing any sort of participation in the slavery question the United States Government will practically doom slavery to extinction.

The *Times* speculates on the difficulties of a settlement and points out the public debt, the tariff, the taxation, the slave laws, &c., as rocks ahead, when it loo