Pittsburgh Gazette.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 21.

CITY AFFAIRS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the *Gazette*, by G. R. Shaw, Optician, No. 55 Fifth street—corrected daily:

	IN SUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	00	35
12 " M.	00	40
6 " P. M.		38
Barometer		29 3-20

Meeting of Allegheny Councils--Election of City Officers.

A special meeting of Allegheny Councils was held on Tuesday evening, in Excelsior Hall, for the purpose of electing city officers for the ensuing year.

In *Select Council*, all the members were present.

Mr. Marshall, having been elected President of the Select Council, while absent in the East, returned his thanks to the members for this mark of their approbation and confidence, and expressed his gratitude for the honor conferred.

In *Common Council*, all the members were present excepting Mr. Stockten. President Brown was in the Chair.

After administering the oath of office to one or two members who had not previously been in attendance, the Clerk notified the Select Council that Common Council was now ready to meet them in Joint Session, to elect city Officers.

JOINT SESSION.

Councils then went into Joint Session for the election of City Officers.

The result was as follows:

City Treasurer—D. Macferron, by acclamation.

Street Commissioner—Arthur Hobson, by acclamation.

Superintendent of Water Works—John Nelson, by acclamation.

Clerk of the Markets—D. Dallas and M. McGonnigle were nominated. The result of the ballot was:

Dallas..... 17 | McGonigle..... 10

Mr. Dallas was declared duly elected.

Weighmaster, Diamond Scales—W. Beardrett and Robert Enis were nominated. The ballot resulted:

Beardrett..... 20 | Enis..... 7

Mr. Beardrett was declared duly elected.

Weighmaster, Second Ward Scales—The nominations were—Jonathan Rush, John Price, J. A. White. (Postponed until the other officers were elected.)

Recording Regulator—Wm. McHendry, by acclamation.

Assistant Regulator—Robert Wray, by acclamation.

City Solicitor—Solomon Schoyer, Esq., and William M. Moffatt, Esq., were nominated, and the ballot was announced as follows:

Schoyer..... 18 | Moffatt..... 9.

Mr. Schoyer was declared duly elected.

Assessor of Water Rents—A. Davis, by acclamation.

Board Measurers—First Ward, A. Gray; Second Ward, Wm. Murdoch; Third Ward, S. W. McGinness; elected by acclamation. Fourth Ward—E. Falhauber and Robert Brown were nominated. The ballot resulted: Falhauber, 12; Brown, 14. Mr. Brown was declared duly elected.

Official Paper—(English)—*Gazette* and *Dispatch* were nominated. The ballot was announced:

Gazette..... 14 | *Dispatch*..... 12

The *Gazette* was declared duly elected.

German Paper—The *Freedom's Friend* was elected by acclamation.

The matter of the election of Weighmaster for the Second Ward Scales was then called up.

Mr. Wright moved that Councils proceed to their separate chambers, the object being to consider an ordinance relative to the compensation of this officer.

The motion did not prevail.

On motion of Mr. Hopkins, the Convention proceeded to elect in the usual manner.

The ballot was announced as follows:

White..... 22 | Rush..... 4 | Price..... 1

Mr. White was duly elected.

Wharf Master—Alexander Maxwell, by acclamation.

Salt Inspector—Alexander Maxwell, by acclamation.

Measurer of Wood and Bark—Alexander Maxwell, by acclamation.

The business of the Joint Session having been completed, Councils adjourned to their respective places.

In *Select Council*, Mr. Riddle moved that the Committee on City Property be instructed to inquire into the propriety of procuring a suitable place for holding the meetings of Councils until the new Council Chambers shall have been erected.

The resolution was adopted, and concurred in by Common Council.

Mr. Bissell presented a preamble and resolution, setting forth that inasmuch as the Joint Standing Committees for the present year had been appointed and printed by order of some person or persons, without consulting the President of Select Council, that they be reviewed by him and announced in proper form, as required under the rules of Councils.

The proposition was discussed at some length by Messrs. Bissell, Marshall, Riddle, Ashworth, Kirkpatrick, and Atwell, from which it appeared that the Committees had been prepared without the knowledge or concurrence of Mr. Riddle, the Chairman pro tem., and that, being informal, the action was not satisfactory to many of the members.

The President (Mr. Marshall) suggested that inasmuch as the Committees had not yet been announced in either branch, perhaps the resolution was premature.

After mutual explanations had been made, Mr. Riddle asked if it would not be proper now to adjourn, and let the matter rest with the Presidents of Councils? He made a motion to this effect, which was adopted, whereupon Councils adjourned.

Verdict in the Nuisance Case.

On Tuesday afternoon, the case of the Commonwealth vs. John Smitley and others, indicted for erecting and maintaining a nuisance in the construction of a coal railway over a portion of the Washington turnpike and a portion of Carson street, in the borough of West Pittsburgh, went to the jury under the charge of Judge Stowe. As to Messrs. Shaler and McGowan, the Court ordered a *nolle prosequi* to be entered, it appearing that they had only managed the construction of the road. In reference to the other defendants, Messrs. Smitley, Gamble, Slacker and Leidy, the jury would consider their connection with the case. The important point in this case was, whether the borough of West Pittsburgh had authority to authorize the construction of a railway track on or over Carson street, one of the public thoroughfares of the borough.

The points submitted by the counsel for the Commonwealth, Messrs. Cochran and Barton, were simply as follows: 1st. Is the Washington pike (or Carson street) a public thoroughfare? 2d. Is there a railway erected thereon? 3d. If so, the law pronounces said railway a nuisance. 4th. Who are the guilty parties?

The Court held that the borough of West Pittsburgh had no authority, in law, to authorize the erection of a railway over any public thoroughfare or highway within its limits; that the owners of the railway must show a charter from the Legislature; and that if a railway is laid down upon a public thoroughfare, without authority of the Legislature, the railway is a nuisance *per se*. This was the law, so laid down by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Woods, on behalf of the defendants, asked the Court to instruct the jury that they were the judges of the law as well as of the facts.

Judge Stowe remarked that he could not so charge the jury. They must take the law from the mouth of the Court.

The jury retired, and after a short absence they brought in a verdict of *guilty of maintaining a nuisance*, as against John Smitley, George R. Gamble, John Slacker and Francis Leidy. The verdict includes the firm of Messrs. Gamble, Slacker & Co., the owners, and Mr. John Smitley, the manager of the railway.

Mr. Woods made a motion in arrest of judgment and for a new trial.

MISS FANNY BROWN.—This young and beautiful actress was to appear at the theatre on Monday, but her mother died on Saturday, which mournful event detained her in New York. It may now be some time before she will be able to visit our city.

The Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company Indicted for Nuisance.

In the Criminal Court, on Tuesday afternoon, Judge Stowe presiding, the case of the Commonwealth vs. J. N. M'Cullough and others, and the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company, was called up for trial. The defendants are indicted for creating and maintaining a nuisance, in laying their tracks along and over Preble and Walnut streets, in the borough of Manchester.

Mr. Otis, of Cleveland, Solicitor for the Company, and S. Schoyer, Jr., Esq., appeared for the defendants, and District Attorney Kirkpatrick for the prosecution.

The existence of the company, and the fact that they had constructed their tracks over the streets above named, and were using their locomotives and cars on the same, together with the fact that Mr. M'Cullough was President and General Superintendent of the road, were proved by the prosecution, after which they rested their case.

No testimony has yet been offered on behalf of the company. Several collateral points of law were raised and argued, but the prosecution strikes at the legality of the charter of the company, and it will devolve upon them to show that they have a proper legal right to construct their tracks over the streets named. On trial.

AURORA FLOYD.—This excellent story, just re-published by Messrs. Peterson, of Philadelphia, is received and for sale at the store of W. A. Gildenfenney, 45 Fifth street. We have already spoken in terms of high praise of this work, and need only add to-day, that from all quarters we find the same opinion of its merits expressed in the journals of the day.

THE following are the sales of stock by J. G. Davis, Auctioneer, at the Commercial Sales Rooms, No. 54 Fifth street, Tuesday evening, January 20th:

Exchange Bank..... 62 50
Merchants and Manufacturers Bank..... 52 75
Allegheny County Bonds issued to Allegheny Valley Railroad..... 50 cts.

SOCIAL SUPPER.—The city officers elect gave an elegant supper last evening, at the St. Clair Hotel, to the members of Councils. Business elsewhere prevented us from attending, but we learn that the reunion was exceedingly pleasant and agreeable, and passed off to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

PROF. FOWLER, the eminent phrenologist, drew a large audience to Concert Hall, last evening, and the lecture was listened to with deep interest. He will lecture again this evening, on an interesting subject, which is announced in our advertising columns.

OPHTHALMIC AND AURAL SURGERY.—Dr. Jones, of New York city, the *Eye and Ear doctor*, will practice at the St. Charles Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa., from the 22d of January to the 22d of February, 1863.

THE CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT.—The full and interesting report of the City Solicitor, J. W. F. White, Esq., as read before Councils and ordered to be published, will be found on the first page of to-day's paper.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES.

GROVER AND BAKER'S SEWING MACHINE, for family and manufacturing purposes, are the best in use.

A. F. CHATONY, General Agent, No. 18, Fifth street.

FOR FALL AND WINTER WEAR.—The winter is upon us, and we must provide ourselves with the material to keep us comfortable. A good and well-made overcoat is the very article, and we don't know of any place where our readers can get one that will look as well, and at the same time withstand the most severe weather, as at W. H. McGee & Co.'s, corner of Federal street and Diamond Square, Allegheny. Their stock of overcoats, business and dress clothing, pantaloons of all descriptions, are well assorted, and of the latest style. The gentlemen's furnishing goods department is all that a purchaser would wish. Call on McGee & Co. if you desire a nice suit.

SAMUEL GRAHAM, merchant tailor, would most respectfully inform his friends and the public generally that he has just returned from the East with his new stock of fall and winter goods. His stock consists of the latest styles of cloths, cassimeres and vestings, selected from the latest importations. Gentlemen desiring a neat fitting garment, and at prices lower than at any other tailoring establishment in the city, would do well to give him an early call. Samuel Graham, merchant tailor, No. 54 Market street, one door from Third.

VOLUNTEERS, ATTENTION!—For the derangements of the system incidental to the change of diet, Wounds, Eruptions, and exposures, which every Volunteer is liable to, there are no remedies so safe, convenient, and reliable as Holloway's Pills and Ointment, 25 cents per box. 209

CHOICE HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—J. M. Roberts, No. 17 Fifth street, is now opening the most choice stock of fine Gold and Silver Watches, Jewelry, Silver Ware and Fancy Goods ever displayed in this city, and is selling them at remarkably low prices.

GIFT BOOK STORE.—All in want of photograph albums, family, pocket and pew Bibles, can buy them at greatly reduced prices at No. 118, Wood street. A costly gift worth from 50 cents to $100 given with each.

NOTICE to the property owners of this city is hereby given, that any repairs needed about their house will be done promptly, if they leave their order at Outbert's Carpenter and Joining Shop, on Virgin alley, just above Smithfield street.

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 495 Liberty street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance. 6m

OCULIST.—S. A. Starrett continues to devote special attention to all affections of the eye. Cataract removed by a new operation, causing but slight pain. Residence, 277 Penn street.

DIED:

MONTOOTH—On the 19th inst., at 12 o'clock, m., Mrs. AMELIA A. MONTOOTH, wife of James Montooth, aged 45 years.

The funeral will take place on WEDNESDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock, to proceed to Allegheny Cemetery. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

MERCHANT TAILORS.

HENRY G. HALE & CO.,

(Successors to James G. Watt,)

Merchant Tailors,

Are now receiving their

FALL AND WINTER STOCK,

Which in extent, choice, taste and prices will compare favorably with anything in the trade, comprising all the newest and best makes of French

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS, and OVERCOATINGS.

Also, the largest and best selected stock of Goods for business suits ever brought to this market.

Likewise a very choice selection of

GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS

always on hand.

Any orders intrusted to our care will meet with prompt attention and punctuality in all cases.

COR. OF PENN & ST. CLAIR STREETS.

no10

LADIES' FANCY FURS;

CHILDREN'S FANCY FURS;

GENT'S FUR CAPS, COLLARS & GLOVES;

HATS AND CAPS.

Every variety and style of the above goods on hand and for sale at

McCORD & CO.'S,

no15 No. 121 WOOD STREET.

MADISON STARCH AGENCY.

The undersigned are Agents, for Pittsburgh and vicinity, for

WATT'S MADISON STARCH COMPANY,

And keep constantly on hand a supply of their STARCH, various style packages, which will be sold in quantities to the trade on most reasonable terms.

SCHOMAKER & LANG,

de18tf 89 LIBERTY STREET.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1863.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

It is given out at the State Department that they have highly cheering advices from Europe, and particularly from England, giving accounts of a popular reaction in our favor.

Unofficial advices also represent the middle and lower classes in England as beginning to exercise a healthy influence on their Government in our behalf. Some, at the State Department, go so far as to speak of the late advices as precluding the possibility of intervention for months to come.

JOHN MITCHELL'S INTERCEPTED LETTER.

The letter of John Mitchell's to the Dublin *Nation* newspaper, recently intercepted, is remarkable for such sentences as these:

"North of the Potomac, there is no law, and in traveling through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and especially Maryland, I often asked myself if this is America, or is it Poland or Venetia?"

He describes Richmond thus:

"Richmond, I find very little changed. The Yankee accounts had prepared me to see the inhabitants generally barefooted and ragged, but I never saw better dressed people in the streets, nor greater show of ladies. All tell me there was not the slightest apparent panic in town, even during the desperate seven day's fight, and it is refreshing to hear men, women and children speak with such sovereign scorn of Yankees. The city is, of course, thronged with strangers, and not even in Paris do you see as many empty sleeves, nor hear the clatter of so many wooden legs. All, however, are cheering and resolute. Apparently they do not know yet that the Backbone of rebellion is broken, as Seward assures us."

GEN. SHERMAN.

Dispatches received here state that General Sherman acted at Vicksburg under the orders of Gen. Grant, and formed the right wing of his army, in accordance with the belief that Grant would come up, but the latter having got his communication cut off, failed to notify Sherman. Sherman's friends say the official reports will vindicate him from some, at least, of the charges made against him, and will show that he and McClernand acted in harmony throughout.

GREAT EXCITEMENT IN RICHMOND.

Some arrivals from Richmond to-day bring news of great excitement in the rebel capital, about the 12th inst., owing to reports that a large Federal force, numbering eighty thousand, were on their way to Weldon, N. C., and that a large fleet of gunboats were in the waters of North Carolina, about the same time. Anderson's division, of Jackson's army, numbering about fifteen thousand men, passed through Richmond, going South.

THE REBEL IRON-CLAD MERRIMAC.

Of the long-talked of Merrimac there is no question, they say, of her being a perfect failure, being too top-heavy, and is lying at Rocketts' with a scow on each side to keep her afloat. She has several times been taken out in the stream with scows alongside, but whenever it was attempted to remove the scows she careened at such a rate that they were obliged to replace them and bring her back to her moorings. For upwards of three weeks they tried her in this manner, but, at last, tired out with attempts to make her set right in the water, they have given her up and acknowledged her to be a failure.

RICHMOND IRON WORKS.

They say that the Tredegar Iron Works are working about six hundred men, casting heavy guns, but using such poor iron that many of their guns are worthless. They had set about one hundred and fifty Union prisoners at work in these founderies. But a small number of troops are in the city.

It was understood that the main body of Lee's army was on the railroad about midway between Fredericksburg and Richmond.

It is believed in Richmond that Governor Seymour would not let any more troops be drawn from New York and a similar action was hoped for from others.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

The Senate will pass the Court of Claims bill in its present shape, so as to make its judgments final, and add two more Judges. Over thirty political lame ducks are understood to be candidates for the offices it creates. Senator Browning, Representative Kellogg, and Ebenezer Peck, of Chicago are among the most prominent. There is some doubt as to the eligibility, under the Constitution, of the two former.

The Senate Finance Committee have unanimously agreed to reduce the salary of the Assistant Secretary of State, raised to $3,000.

The substitute for the bill concerning letters of marque, reported by Senator Hale, to-day, revises the acts of July 26th, 1812, and January 27th, 1813, and puts them in force in relation to all that part of the United States where the inhabitants have been declared in a state of insurrection, in relation to all vessels and property belonging to them, wherever found, on the high seas or in port.

Senator Wilson introduced to-day a voluminous bill for the prompt and uniform administration of military justice and better government of the military forces. It creates a Bureau of Military Justice, a Judge Advocate General, with the rank of Brigadier General, to be at its head, and Assistant Judge Advocate General, with the rank of Colonel of cavalry. It authorizes the appointment of a Judge Advocate for each department or corps, with rank of Lieutenant Colonel of cavalry. It presents at great length the Constitutional modes of proceeding and the powers of courts-martial, general and inferior grade courts-of-inquiry, Provost Marshal's courts, &c. The only punishments for military offences are to be death, cashiering, suspensions from office, with or without forfeiture of pay, reduction to ranks, dishonorable dismissal, disability to hold a commission, forfeiture of pay, reprimand, public or private, and imprisonment, shaving the head and other badges of infamy are forbidden. The bill as presented was drawn up by Major Bolles, Judge Advocate of the Seventh Army Corps. It may pass the Senate, but stands a very poor chance in the House.

Among the amendments to the army bill as reported by the Finance Committee are appropriations of $5,000 for artificial limbs for soldiers and sailors; nearly $150,000 for ice, fruits and other comforts for sick soldiers; between $400,000 and $500,000 for private physicians and medicines furnished by them, and $75,000 for soldiers acting as cooks and nurses.

The French Spoliation bill, reported by Senator Sumner from the Committee on Foreign Relations to-day, is Crittenden's bill, by which it is provided that satisfaction be made to an amount not exceeding five millions to American citizens, for claims for indemnity upon the French Government for illegal captures, &c., prior to the treaty of September 30, 1800. This same bill, substantially, has been reported forty times favorably and three times unfavorably to either the Senate or the House—has been twice passed and twice vetoed, once by Polk and once by Pierce. The first report was made to the Senate in 1822.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

Colonel Vandever's case excited great attention in the House to-day, from the fact that the principle involved in its decision would apply to a number of Colonels and Generals who are members of the House, and a still larger number who are elected to the next House. After a long debate the vote was taken, which showed a majority in favor of declaring his seat vacant. The case now hangs on an appeal from the decision of the chair, that a majority is sufficient to declare a seat vacant, it being claimed that a two-thirds vote is necessary for such a purpose. Unless this appeal is sustained, several more seats will speedily be declared vacant, and in the opinion of some able lawyers in the House Gens. Schenck, Garfield, Dumont and other military officers elected to the next House, will have their seats declared vacant and new elections ordered if they continue in the military service after the 4th of March next. Among other unfortunate results of such a decision would be giving Vallandigham another chance for his life.

A NEW BILL.

The Secretary of the Interior communicated a bill to the House to-day, organizing a bureau of statistics, to include the census bureau, and to be under a commission at $4,000 a year. The first result of this would be to oust Kennedy, the present Census Superintendent, and a known secession sympathiser.

FROM HARRISBURG.

[Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

HARRISBURG, Jan. 20, 1863.

HOUSE.—Mr. McMurtrie introduced a joint resolution to the following effect:

Resolved, That so much of the act approved on the 12th of June, 1840, as requires the interest on the public debt of the Commonwealth to be paid in specie, or its equivalent, and also the third section of the act approved on the 11th of April, 1862, be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the State Treasurer to pay all interest falling due on the public debt of the Commonwealth, on and after the first of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, in such notes as have been or may be issued and made a legal tender by the United States Government.

Mr. Vincent opposed the postponement of the consideration of the plain proposition now before the House. It is: whether the State shall pay a premium of five hundred thousand dollars, or whether its creditors shall be paid the same as other creditors.

The resolutions were referred to the Committee of Ways and Means with instructions to report on Thursday.

Mr. Wakefield offered a resolution to appoint a Committee of five to examine the facts relative to the election of a United States Senator last Tuesday, with authority to send for persons and papers, and report to the House. Passed.

Messrs. Wakefield, Pershing, Brown, of Warren, Beebe, and Kaine form the Committee.

The bill relative to the Allegheny Valley railroad was passed.

Mr. Hutchman introduced a bill relative to the roads of the Commonwealth, authorizing township road supervisors to contract with the land owners for constructing roads.

Mr. Pershing introduced a supplement to the act relating to the Orphans' Courts. The object is to allow any judgemnt creditor, where there is an extension, and whose judgment was action at the time, on a failure to pay instalments, to issue a writ of vendition. Also a bill to lay a tax on bankers and brokers, and to repeal the Act of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

Mr. Rhodes introduced a bill relative to sheriffs' and prothonotaries' costs. Also a bill relating to the public lands granted by the United States to the several States and Territories.

Mr. Cochran introduced a bill relative to Notaries Public allowing them to take depositions and administer oaths.

Mr. Ramsey introduced a supplement to the bill to revise and amend the penal law of the Commonwealth. It is designed to protect minors, imposing fine and imprisonment on guardians for the embezzlement of money entrusted to their care.

SENATE.—Mr. White introduced a resolution requesting the Governor to communicate what information he has as to when the volunteer militia has been paid, and when they will be paid; or if he does not possess such information fully, to request the same from the War Department.

On motion of Mr. Clymer the rules of 1860 were adopted for the government of the Senate.

The bill relative to foreign attachments was amended so as to extend to and include all attachments in execution.

We learn from Washington that Senator Morrill's bill relative to the bribery of officials, extends its provisions to all agents or employees of the government.

Quartermaster Donaldson succeeds Quartermaster Montgomery at Pittsburgh.

Schooner Captured.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The Navy Department has received a dispatch from Commodore Harwood, commanding the Potomac flotilla, dated the 19th, stating that the Leslie had arrived at Hampton Roads on Sunday, with the schooner Hampton, of Baltimore, in tow, which was captured by the Currituck on the morning of the 13th, in Dividing Creek, and also states that the vessel cleared light ostensibly for the oyster trade, but took in her cargo at Baltimore. She had on board several passengers who, from letters found on board, appeared to be persons who had been in the habit of passing to and from Virginia.

At the time of the capture of the Hampton a canoe at the same place escaped, but was afterwards taken at Indian Creek, not, however, until her crew had escaped to the woods and the principal part of her cargo had been, it is supposed, thrown overboard.

Commodore Harwood also reports before these occurrences the Currituck broke up for the present an establishment for supplying in salt to Richmond by destroying the kettles used in its manufacture. It appears, from the report of Acting Master Linnekin commanding the Currituck, that when he arrived at Dividing Creek he was informed by a negro that at the south west branch there was a large manufactory for salt in a steam mill, owned by a man named Oscar Sealey, who had been extensively engaged in supplying the rebels with salt. The commander of the Currituck proceeded thither, and sent a party on shore and destroyed all the kettles, &c., with the exception of a boiler, and left word for the proprietor to discontinue the occupation under penalty of complete destruction of the mill and a large amount of lumber.

Dividing Creek is one of the points to which George N. Saunders advised his correspondents to make shipment.

Mr. Bowley, the Indian agent for the sanction of the Sioux, which tribe has been friendly towards the Government throughout the Indian difficulties, reached here to-day. He has come to Washington with a view to urge the proper departments to take precautionary measures against troubles which may possibly occur in the spring with the same party of Sioux, and other branches of that tribe. He states, at present, there need be no apprehension of any difficulties. Mr. Bewley brought with him, as far as Sioux city, Iowa, the white prisoners who were captured by the Sioux and ransomed by our Government.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue (Boutwell) has submitted his first statement concerning the transaction that the Bureau, from which appears the entire number of persons employed in assessing and collecting the revenue to be 3,882. He has no means at the present time of estimating with confidence the amount of revenue which will be derived under the excise law of July, 1861. During the last month he has caused a careful investigation to be instructed into the several sources of the revenue, and an estimate to be made of the amount which may be derived from each. According to this he received from all sources excepting stamp duties during the current fiscal year, ending with June next, the sum of $61,777,799.

He estimates that the receipts from stamp duties during the same period will amount to fifteen millions, making the aggregate sum $77,777,799. It may be asserted that without material change in the business of the country, the revenue from the same sources for the fiscal year 1863-4 will not be less than one hundred and fifty millions. The estimates of the receipts and expenditures show the cost of assessing and collecting the taxes under the present system will be two and one hundredths centum. The Commissioner has the strongest confidence that in the States now acknowledging the authority of the Constitution the expense can never exceed three centum.

XXXVIITH CONGRESS--SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1863.

HOUSE.—The Speaker stated that the pending question was on referring the President's message, in connection with his approval of the one hundred million dollar treasury note bill, to a Select Committee of five Representatives and four Senators.

Mr. Washburne, of Ill., supposed it due to the President and Secretary of the Treasury that the message be sent to a Select Committee, and at any rate to one which had not prejudged the matter as it was understood the Committee of Ways and Means had done. He did not suppose that any gentleman on the Committee of Ways and Means, and particularly any gentleman who was opposed to the measure suggested by the President, would object to the message being sent to another Committee, as to refer it to the Ways and Means under these circumstances would be to put out an orphan child to an unfriendly guardian.

He meant no reflection on that committee, believing that two or three members of it were in favor of such a reference. Of course this would have committed nobody to the scheme. He had only proposed to send the subject to a committee which would give it a fair and just consideration. He had no unkind feeling in the matter, as there was perhaps an indisposition to refer the subject to a Select Committee, and as there was now a bill before the House relating to it, he would withdraw his motion and move that the message be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. This was agreed to, and the message ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Kellogg, of Ill., it was

Resolved, That the Select Committee on the subject of military railroads between Washington and New York be empowered to send for persons and papers, and examine witnesses under oath, for the purpose of ascertaining the probably cost of construction of a road, the probable receipts from express companies and other sources, and the receipts from those railroads now constructed between the two cities.

On motion of Mr. Pike, of Mo., the Secretary of the Navy was requested to inform the House what action, if any, should be taken relative to the appointment of Washington, as suggested by him in his annual report.

On motion of Mr. Eliot, of Mass., it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy communicate any information in his possession to show that American vessels, cleared for any foreign port, have engaged in the African or Coolie slave trade, and submit such suggestions to prevent it as he may deem proper.

Mr. Thomas, of Mass., from the Judiciary Committee, submitted explanatory resolutions in relation to the tax law. That the salaries of the President, Vice President and Judges of the Supreme and inferior courts of the United States be exempted from the tax.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the resolution reported from the Committee on Elections, that Mr. Vandever has not been entitled to a seat in the House since he was mustered into the United States service as Colonel of the 9th Iowa regiment, namely, in Sept., 1861.

Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, said Mr. Vandever served during the extra session and a portion of the second session previous to the 20th of September, 1861. The question raised by Mr. Maynard was one of such importance that it ought to be submitted to the House, because having acted as a member of the House we cannot declare his seat vacant, except by expulsion.

A running debate ensued, in which Messrs. Rosser, Cutkling, Davis, Maynard and Wilson participated, the last named briefly controverting the constitutional position of Dawes. Finally, Mr. Maynard appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Pending this question the House went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union on the bill providing ways and means for the support of the Government.

Mr. Walker, of Mass., resumed his remarks from yesterday to show that the rates of interest are highest when the greatest amount of paper is in circulation.

Mr. Edwards, of N. Y., opposed the proposed national system of banking.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., said the system established in the bill reported by the Committee on Ways and Means, if continued, at least until the end of the war, will involve the nation in great trouble. He made no factious opposition to it, but deemed it his duty to state his objections, which he proceeded to do. He expressed his belief that there was recuperative energy in this country by which we will be enabled to hurl destruction at the rebels at the South and at all the traitors of the North, whether in or out of this House, who advise us to lay down our arms and sue for peace.

The Committee then proceeded to act on the bill.

Mr. Spaulding, of N. Y., on behalf of the Committee of Ways and Means, proposed an amendment to the first section, which was agreed to, so as to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to borrow, from time to time, on the credit of the United States Government, a sum not exceeding two millions of dollars for the current fiscal year, and six hundred millions for the next fiscal year, and to issue these for coupon or registered bonds payable at the pleasure of the Government after twenty years from date, and of such denomination, not less than fifty dollars, as he may deem expedient, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 6 per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually in coin.

Mr. Thomas, of Mass., offered an amendment, which was agreed to, making coupon or registered bonds payable at the pleasure of the Government, after twenty years from date, in coin.

Mr. Spaulding moved to strike out the restriction of the sale of bonds at not less than par, so that the Secretary may, in his discretion, dispose of them at any time upon the best terms he can.

Pending the consideration of the amendment, the Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

SENATE.—Mr. Sumner presented the memorial of citizens of New York asking for the establishment of a reliable camp hospital and ambulance corps for the army.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., presented a petition in favor of a general bankrupt law.

Mr. Sumner, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill to pay the French spoliation claims.

Mr. Hale, of N. H., from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported back a bill to authorize letters of marque and reprisal, with certain amendments. He said he should call it up at an early day.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass., introduced a bill for the prompt and uniform administration of military justice and better government of the military forces of the United States.

On motion of Mr. Trumbull, a bill to alter the judicial district of the United States, placing Michigan and Ohio in the 7th district, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Harding, of Ky., called up a bill authorizing the President to negotiate treaties with certain Indian tribes.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., moved to take up the bill to reorganize the Court of Claims.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, hoped that no bill of this general character would be taken up, while so many important measures were pending. There was the bill concerning the discharge of State prisoners. Unless something was done on that subject we should have collisions between the States and the Government. There were two important financial measures and bills from the Military Committee. He desired to impress on the Senate the necessity of acting on these important measures. We have now almost a civil war in two States of the Union, and he would vote to take up no bill of this kind until a conscription law was passed and the financial measures disposed of, and some bill passed so that disloyal citizens could be arrested according to law. It could possibly make no difference whether the Court of Claims had three Judges or five.

The motion to take up the bill was agreed to. Yeas, 23; nays, 13.

Several amendments were adopted.

At the expiration of the morning hour, the Chair called up the special order, being the bill for the discharge of State prisoners.

Mr. Trumbull moved to postpone the special order.

The motion to postpone was agreed to; yeas, 23; nays, 13.

The consideration of the Court of Claims bill was resumed.

Mr. Hale, of N. H., moved to strike out the clause providing for two additional Judges.

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., moved to amend, so as to increase the number of Juges, by one, making four; which was rejected.

The question then securing, on motion to strike out the provision for two additional Judges.

It was rejected. Yeas, 16; nays, 19.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, moved to strike out the whole bill after the enacting clause, and insert as a substitute for repealing the original bill, establishing the Constitution.

Mr. Foster, of Ct., moved to lay the bill upon the table, on the question no quorum voted.

Mr. Hale moved to adjourn. Rejected—yeas 5, nays 29. Still no quorum voting.

Mr. Clark, of N. H., moved that the Sergeant-at-Arms request the attendance of absent members. Agreed to.

Mr. Collamer, of Vt., protested against being obliged to sit and wait doing nothing, while the Sergeant-at-Arms searched out the absentees. He moved to adjourn. Agreed to. The Senate then adjourned.

Markets by Telegraph.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 20.—Noon.—There it less doing in Breadstuffs, but holders are firm in their views. Sales of 2,000 bbls of Ohio extra family at $7,25@7,50. 5,000 bbls superfine at $5,37½. Rye Flour steady at $4,25. Corn Meal $3,50@3,75. There is less demand for Wheat, and 3,000 bushels sold at $1,55@1,57 for red, and $1,57@1,60 for white. Rye commands 95c. Corn scarce and in demand at 8 c. for old, and 85@87c for new. Oats in fair request, and 3,000 bush sold at 64c. Coffee has an upward tendency, but very little doing. Provisions are looking up, and supplies from the West come forward slowly. Sales 1500 tierces Lard at 10½@10¾c. Whiskey is active and higher; sales of 500 barrels Ohio at 46c.

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