Pittsburgh Gazette.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 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	45
12 " M.	00	48
5 " P. M.		46
Barometer		29 2-10

The Opening of Streets in the Second Ward, Allegheny--Public Meeting.

A meeting of citizens was held in the Second Ward, Allegheny, at the public school house, on Friday evening, for the purpose of taking action in regard to the proposed opening of Palo Alto, Bascos, Monterey and Buena Vista streets, which work has already been authorized by Councils.

Mr. John McDonald was called to the Chair, and Mr. H. Davis was chosen Secretary.

The Chairman submitted a plot of the ground, with the benefits and damages which had been marked thereon, and called the attention of the meeting to the fact that the assessment of benefits was very irregular, and several lots were pointed out upon which no benefits whatever had been assessed. Exceptions were also taken to the damages awarded, and an instance was cited in which one man (Mr. C. Schleiper) had been awarded $1800 damages, while he had offered to sell his property some time ago for $1,600.

Several gentlemen mentioned irregularities in the report, and the rate of compensation charged by the Viewers ($1,000 00) was commented upon severely.

Capt. H. McKelvy moved that the members of Councils from the Second Ward be instructed to vote in toto against the reception of the award, when presented to that body.

Mr. Hopkins asked that the motion be so modified as to give the members of Councils a chance to consider the report. He had never seen it yet.

Mr. Sheriff made a vigorous speech against the whole business. He had never been able to find a single person who had petitioned for the opening of these streets, and the entire proceeding was unjust and uncalled for.

Mr. Hutchison took the same ground. No one had even asked for the opening of the streets, and no benefit would result to him from it. Where did Councils, then, get the right to tax his property for that purpose?

Mr. Hopkins spoke at considerable length in regard to the action of Councils in the premises, and was replied to by Mr. McDonald, who pronounced the matter little less than an outrage and an imposition.

Further remarks were made by Messrs. Dill, Tate, McIntyre, Hopkins and others.

When Mr. Dill was on the floor, he asked: "Is there a man present in favor of the opening of the streets." All answered "no," with a single exception.

Mr. Dill stated that he would vote just as his constituents instructed him; while Mr. Hopkins stated that he had always been in favor of opening the streets, and would vote for it through thick and thin.

Mr. Sheriff—Against the instructions of your constituents?

Mr. Hopkins—Yes, sir. Sooner than vote otherwise, I would resign.

Several gentlemen expressed themselves satisfied that he should resign, while Mr. Sheriff remarked that they would attend to him hereafter.

Mr. McKelvy had a better opinion of Councils than to suppose that they would force this opening upon the citizens of the ward, when they were unanimously opposed to it. He had asked one of the Viewers how they over came to the conclusion that he was benefited by the opening, and he replied that he did not know where the property was! He was asked how they assessed him $90 benefit, while his next neighbor was assessed nothing? He answered, "I don't know, unless we needed that much, and finished there." (Laughter.)

After some further sharp-shooting between Mr. Hopkins (who was charged with being the "father" of the measure) and some of his constituents, the question was called upon the adoption of Mr. M'Kelvy's resolution. The motion was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Sheriff, the members of Councils from the Second Ward were instructed to oppose all efforts for the opening of the streets.

On motion of Mr. Dill, Messrs. Hugh McKelvey, George R. Riddle, John Ramsey, John M'Donald and Wm. Robinson, Jr., were designated as a committee to prepare a remonstrance and present the same to Councils.

Mr. Ramsey moved that the meeting adjourn to meet on Friday evening next, to sign the remonstrance. Adopted.

The following is the award of damages made by the Viewers, Messrs. John Bissell, James Graham, and William Dilworth:

PALO ALTO STREET.

Dorman	$1,171 00
Weiss	1,621 00
J. & W. Crider	480 00
C. Schleiper	1,800 00
Mease	120 00
Viewers' compensation	221 60
Total	$5,513 60

BASCA STREET.

Miss Pearson	$400 00
A. Bunn	1,250 00
H. Neeb	1,250 00
Robinson	165 00
Viewers' compensation	206 25
Total	$3,271 25

MONTEREY STREET.

Jane Campbell	$1,800 00
Mr. Fry	50 00
W. Burgoyne	1,321 00
John Fryer	1,031 00
Viewers' compensation	237 50
Total	$3,749 50

BUENA VISTA STREET.

Mrs. Morgan	$3,550 00
R. Campbell, barn	100 00
do lot	400 00
Nelson Campbell	400 00
Viewers' compensation	244 50
Total	$3,694 50
Total amount	$16,228 85

The total amount awarded for damages, compensation to viewers, etc., ($16,228 85) is assessed upon the property benefitted, or supposed to be benefitted, and reaches a vast amount of property. Only a small portion of these assessments was laid before the meeting, and we omit them. We may remark, however, that they are almost unanimously condemned as unjust and irregular.

The mud in the Allegheny wharf is ankle deep, and rising. We should think that the rights of boatmen, shippers and consignees, should be so far regarded that, at least, a portion of the money paid by them for wharfage should be devoted to paving this wharf. We remember having heard a decision some years since that money collected for wharfages should be devoted to building a wharf, and keeping it in suitable repair, and that if there was any surplus it might be loaned to the city for other purposes, upon the same conditions that a loan could be obtained from private individuals. The rights of every person doing business on this wharf demands that it should be put in proper order as a landing place for merchandise.

SELLING OFF—THE TIME SHORTENING.—Mr. J. L. Carnahan, of 116 Federal street, Allegheny, is about relinquishing business, and has to give up possession of his premises on or about the 1st of March next; he is therefore obliged to offer unusual inducements to clear out the balance of his stock of cloths, cassimeres, vestings, ready made men and boys clothing, furnishing goods, &c., which he is now doing, by selling at extraordinary low prices. Those who prefer to have clothing made to order can select from the piece goods, and have them made up at a comparatively small cost. We advise all bargain seekers to give him a call.

IN HOSPITAL.—Rev. R. C. Christy, Chaplain of the 78th Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. Stiwell, is now in the Mercy Hospital of this city, suffering severely from a fever contracted while in camp. His friends will learn with satisfaction that he is under the treatment of good physicians, and that he receives the kindnest attention and care from the experienced nurses of that institution. We trust that he may soon recover and be able to resume the position which has rendered him so popular in his regiment.

THE SEVEN SISTERS.—This new "sensation drama" drew another large audience to the theatre last evening, and the representation, in some of its working details, was even more perfect and satisfactory than on its first production. Every seat was occupied, and many persons thronged the avenues outside of the boxes. The piece will be presented again this evening, and every evening until further notice.

The Sanitary Committee.

An adjourned meeting of the Pittsburgh Sanitary Committee was held at the Western Insurance Company's office, on Monday morning, 16th inst.

Present—Thomas Bakewell, Esq., President, and Messrs. Miller, Hanna, Suires, Edgar, McCreery, Shinn, Philips and Brunot.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, and the object of the meeting stated by the President.

Mr. Brunot suggested for the consideration of the Committee the following resolution and organization.

Resolved, That in view of the increasing number of sick and wounded soldiers in our armies, and to anticipate the wants of the still greater increase which will result from active operations and severe battles in the spring, it is expedient for this Committee to engage with renewed energy in the work for which it was appointed, and to effect for this purpose a partial reorganization on the following plan. (See elsewhere report of Committee.)

On motion of Mr. Shinn, the resolution was unanimously adopted—the plan suggested to be referred to a Committee.

On motion of Mr. Hanna, Messrs. Hanna, Edgar, McCreery and Brunot, were appointed a Committee on Organization, with instructions to report to an adjourned meeting, to be held at 9 o'clock on the 18th inst. The President was also requested to prepare an address, to be submitted at the same time.

Messrs. Edgar and McCreery reported that Orin Newton, Esq., had generously offered the free use of his warehouse, on Second street, for the present purposes of the Committee.

Committee adjourned.

Wednesday, 18th—9 a. m.—The Sanitary Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—President Bakewell in the chair, and Messrs. Loomis, McCreery, Miller, Shinn, Bennett, Philips, Hanna, Hunter, Edgar and Brunot.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Organization reported as follows:

The undersigned, in accordance with the resolutions of the Pittsburgh Sanitary Committee, adopted at the meeting on the 16th inst., respectfully recommend the following plan of organization for active operations:

1st. The Sanitary Committee shall consist of a President, two Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, Secretary and twenty-one executive members, with as many associate members as the Committee may appoint. Associate members shall not be required to be present at all the sessions of the Committee, and it shall only be necessary to notify them of general meetings—they may vote at any meeting of the Committee. The Committee may be called together at any time by the President, and on a vote of the Committee, or on the application of five associates, he may call a general meeting.

2d. The following sub-committees shall be appointed by the President, viz: A Committee on Finance, consisting of three members, with power to appoint an additional member should it be deemed necessary to canvass the city and vicinity. A Committee on Storeroom, sanitary stores, receiving, shipping, &c., consisting of six. A Committee on Soldiers' Claims, whose duty shall be to secure for widows and orphans of deceased soldiers, and for disabled soldiers, without charge, the bounty, pay or pensions which may be due to them from the Government. The President, on motion, shall appoint such other committees as from time to time may be necessary.

3d. This Committee will co-operate with, and aid as much as possible, the United States Sanitary Commission, the Christian Commission, the Pennsylvania Soldiers' Aid Society in Washington, and the Pittsburgh Subsistence Committee—these agencies for the relief of the soldiers having our entire confidence. In the disposition of all the money and stores entrusted to us, we will use every precaution to see that the sick and wounded shall alone receive the benefit.

4th. The Committee shall issue an address to the people of Western Pennsylvania, setting forth the importance of renewed activity in providing for the sick and wounded. Issue weekly, monthly or quarterly reports—and make such other publications as shall seem desirable.

JOSHUA HANNA,
WM. M'CREERY,
WM. M. EDGAR,
FELIX R. BRUNOT, } Committee.

On motion of Mr. Hunter, the report was accepted and the Committee discharged.

On motion of Mr. Edgar, the proposed plan of organization and the resolution attached were unanimously adopted.

The President read the proposed Address, and on motion, it was unanimously ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the Committee.

The following are the officers of the Association:

THOMAS BAKEWELL, President.
REUBEN MILLER, Vice-President.
F. R. BRUNOT, do.
JAS. PARK, JR., Treasurer.
JOS. R. HUNTER, Secretary.

The Resources of Pennsylvania.

The committee appointed to confer with the Auditor General in relation to the publication of a map showing the railroads, canals and navigable waters, coal fields, iron factories, and oil districts in Pennsylvania, have reported that the State has twenty-five thousand miles of railroad, and about a thousand miles of canals, ten thousand square miles of bituminous coal land, four hundred square miles of anthracite, affording nine and one-third million tons of anthracite, and sixty-seven million bushels of bituminous coal of the tonnage of 1860. Her improved lands, cash value, was six hundred and sixty-two million, fifty thousand seven hundred and seven dollars; agricultural implements, twenty-two million, four hundred and forty-two thousand, eight hundred and forty-one dollars. Of the total products of iron ore in 1860 in the United States, which were two million, five hundred and fourteen thousand, two hundred and eighty-two tons of iron mined, there were one million, seven hundred and six thousand, four hundred and seventy-six tons mined in Pennsylvania. The total product of bar iron in the United States in 1860 was four hundred and six thousand, two hundred and ninety-eight tons, of which two hundred and fifty-nine thousand, seven hundred and nine tons were made in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania contains ninety-three anthracite furnaces, one hundred and fifty charcoal and coke furnaces, one hundred and ten refining forges, and ninety-one rolling mills.

THE steamer Starlight is on her way up, having on board two or three of the crew of the Sallie List, who are affected with smallpox. A strong police force were stationed at the Wheeling wharf to prevent her landing there. She may be expected here to-day.

THE case of Clark vs. Hague, Woolslayer, Moon, et al., came up yesterday for a hearing before Alderman Taylor. Some additional testimony, which could not at present be obtained, being necessary, it was continued over until next Tuesday.

THE saw mill of Messrs. Wilson & Dunlevy, situated on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, about five miles east of Cameron, was totally destroyed by fire on Wednesday morning last.

DIED:

HUNTER—On Friday, the 20th inst., at 5½ o'clock P. M., DOUGLAS, son of Joseph R. and Carolette C. Hunter, aged one year, six months and thirteen days.

The funeral will take place this AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock, from No. 35 Federal street. The friends and relatives of the family are invited to attend.

Black Pennsylvanians Enlisting in Massachusetts Regiments.

A few days ago recruiting and transporting offices were opened, somewhat privately, in Philadelphia, to enlist black soldiers for Massachusetts regiments. At different times small squads of negroes were sent down to Boston, and on Tuesday of this week twenty-five well developed men marched through the streets to the transportation office and depot, which was the first information that the public had of negro enlistments. Gov. Andrew sent an officer to Philadelphia to consult with the leading men of color, and the interview was very satisfactory. Should the Governor confirm what the officer agreed to, which relates to bounty and such matters, there will be a grand rush of blacks from this State to enlist in the Massachusetts regiments.—*Harrisburg Telegraph.*

THE U. S. REVENUE HYDROMETER, for ascertaining the true per cent. of Alcohol in Inspected Liquors, by which the amount of duty to be paid for Internal Revenue is calculated, for sale by Fritz Reif & Son, 64 Fifth street. The instrument, with glass jar and book of table and instructions, is packed in a polished mahogany box, with lock and key. Price $7. Book only 50c. SURVEYING TRANSITS, LEVELS, COMPASSES, SURVEYING CHAINS, SWISS DRAFTING INSTRUMENTS, made by JAMES W. QUEEN & CO., Manufacturing Opticians, 924 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa. jel4:1m

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20, 1863.

THE CAPTURE OF VICKSBURG.

A dispatch from Gen. Rosecrans, received at the War Department three days ago, states that the rebel officers they had received under a flag of truce declared that Vicksburg had fallen. This, doubtless, is the origin of the rumors that have been flying on the streets all afternoon that General Grant had taken Vicksburg. There is no confirmation of the report, however. Both private and public accounts from Vicksburg differ very much as to the prospects. The last accounts from Grant and Porter anticipate the happiest results from the cutting of Yazoo Pass and Lake Providence levees. The Mississippi is represented to be already rushing through the new channel. On the other hand other advices say that the canal is not likely to be successful for a long time at any rate, and add that the difficulties of taking the place have not been fully estimated by the public.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Democrats have declared that they mean to filibuster till the 4th of March, to prevent the passage of the Conscription bill. The Republicans will do their best to get it up as speedily as possible; and if it becomes a question of physical courage, they will bear it not less manfully than they did before.

The passage of Mr. Sherman's Bank bill, embodying Secretary Chase's views, by the decisive majority of fourteen, is regarded as an administration success. Its friends now claim that the Senate will carry its point in the matters of disagreement between the House and Senate, especially as to the reduction of the amount of legal tenders to be issued, and the two per cent. bank taxation. Its opponents say that the Bank bill only received the votes of certain Republicans on pledges that, in the settlement of these differences in a conference committee, preference should be given to the House policy.

A better opinion, however, is that the Senate measures will be regarded as embodying the policy of the Administration, and as such it will be sure to be made successful.

Mr. Wade succeeded in getting through the Senate to-day a bill for the organization of a territory for Arizona, which passed the House last session. A Governor, Secretary and other territorial officers, will probably be appointed before long. The intimations of danger from the French encroachments in Mexico are supposed to give additional importance to this step now.

Nothing has transpired as yet relative to the tax law amendments. The Committee will probably not attempt bringing them up till after the passage of the conscription bill.

The Committee of Conference on the Nine Hundred Million bill, appointed to-night, consists of Senators Fessenden, Sherman and Hicks, and Representatives Morrill, of Vermont, Vallandigham and Fenton. The composition of this Committee indicates that the opposition to Secretary Chase's measures will die hard, if at all.

A bill is soon to be introduced in the Senate for the organization of a National Academy of Science on the French plan, to consist of fifty members, and to prosecute scientific investigations at the instance of the government, as well as their own.

FALSE REPORTS.

A report, that Gen. Banks has met a repulse at Port Hudson, is in circulation. It is vague in statement, and is supposed to have come through rebel channels, but cannot be traced.

There is not a word of truth in the double-headed paragraph in yesterday's *Herald*, emboldened since sent West by the Associated Press, reporting to be a dispatch from Washington, in which the assertion is made that Secretary Seward is to form a new Cabinet, and General McClellan to become General-in-Chief. The correspondent of the *Herald* sent no such dispatch. It was manufactured in New York.

M'KINSTRY'S CASE.

The general order in McKinstry's case shows that he was found guilty on the charge preferred, viz: Neglect and violation of duty to the prejudice of good order and discipline, and upon twenty-six of the specifications, in whole or in part. The order, after setting forth the specifications and findings at length, proceeds and sentences: "And the Court does, therefore, sentence Major Justus McKinstry, Quartermaster of the United States army, to be dismissed from the service."

Second—The foregoing proceeding, findings, and sentence, are approved, but exercising the discretion given by article 89 of the rules and articles of war, the execution of the sentence is suspended until the pleasure of the President of the U. S. can be known upon the recommendation of some members of the court for a remission or mitigation of the sentence. This suspension and the proceedings of the court-martial are being transmitted to the President for his determination.

[Signed] H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, Jan. 26, 1863.

The following is the order of the President: The sentence in the foregoing case will be carried into execution by the dismissal of Major Justus McKinstry, Quartermaster U. S. A., from the service of the United States.

[Signed] A. LINCOLN.

Washington, Jan. 28, 1863.

From Nassau, N. P.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—The steamer British Queen, with Nassau dates to the 16th inst., arrived this evening.

The steamer Leopard arrived at Nassau, Jan. 19th, from Charleston, with a full cargo of cotton, and sailed on the evening of the 7th inst. on her return trip. A sloop with turpentine also arrived from Charleston on the 21st ult.

The steamer Flora cleared on the 7th ult. for St. John, N. B., but probably to run the blockade.

Major Muller and Capt. Wheeler, of the 23d Connecticut regiment, had reached Nassau to procure assistance in getting wrecked stuff from the ship Plaster.

The steamers Douglass and Nina cleared for St. John, N. B., on the 23d; both are neutral blockade runners.

The pirate Florida sailed from Nassau on the morning of the 27th ult., after recruiting for a day.

The steamer Giraffe arrived at Nassau on the 25th, and the steamer Antonica from Savannah on the 31st, both with cotton. The steamer Thistle cleared on the 26th to run the blockade. The steamer Giraffe sailed again on the 7th, and also the steamer Annie Childs, to run the blockade. The Antonica has gone to St. Thomas. The steamer Calapso, from Charleston, arrived at Nassau on the 9th. The steamers Eagle and May Queen, from St. Thomas, and the Emma and Granite City, from Greenock, arrived on the 9th, they are to be added to the neutral fleet of blockade runners. The steamers Ruby sailed on the 9th, the Nicholas the First on the 10th, and the Eagle on the 14th, all to run the blockade. A few schooners had also arrived from Southern ports with cotton. All the above mentioned blockade runners were consigned and cleared by the notorious firm of Adderly & Co.

Post Office Robbed.

SACO, Me., Feb. 20.—The Post-office was entered last night and robbed of all the letters it contained.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 20, 1863.

HOUSE.—Mr. Shannon called up the bill changing the mode of selecting field and company officers in the Reserve Volunteer Corps. The bill passed.

Mr. Young called up a further supplement to the act incorporating the Pennsylvania Railroad. It changes the annual meeting to the third Tuesday in February of each year. It also provides an additional Vice President. The third section provides that the directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company be authorized to create bonds payable at such time as they may determine upon, with coupons attached, bearing interest not exceeding six per cent. per annum, to an amount sufficient to meet the necessary outlay upon any branch road to be hereafter constructed under the provisions of the charter of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, its supplements or laws affecting said company. The bonds so created shall be secured by a mortgage upon said branch road.

Mr. Hopkins, of Washington, offered an amendment, provided that this section shall not be so construed as to legalize directly or indirectly the act for the commutation of tonnage duties on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Mr. Hopkins, of Washington, wanted time to examine the bill and see whether there was a snake in it.

Mr. Kaine objected to the third section. He thought the bill was intended to legalize the legislation of 1861.

Mr. Shannon wanted to know what roads were to be constructed. Nobody seems to know anything about the real object of the bill; for that reason it is our duty to oppose it. When the time comes that these branch roads are to be created by this legislature or any subsequent legislature, there is time enough to pass on a section like the third one in the bill. He could see no necessity for the passage of this bill; a measure so fraught with interest should not be hurriedly passed over. If the gentleman will satisfy us that it is a pure, clean measure, then we can act with a proper disposition. He wanted a full explanation of the proposed measure.

Messrs. Pershing, Barger and Vincent favored the bill.

Mr. Hopkins' amendment was agreed to.

The bill passed.

The House adjourned till half-past seven o'clock Monday evening.

SENATE.—Mr. Penney introduced a bill to extend the charter of the Exchange Bank of Pittsburgh. Referred to the Committee on Banks.

Also, a bill to extend the time for the removal of the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company from a portion of Liberty street, Pittsburgh. Referred to the Committee on Railroads.

A supplement to an act to protect fruit, &c., and to punish trespassers in the counties of Huntingdon, Washington, Allegheny, Berks, Lancaster and Delaware; approved March 30th, 1860.

The Speaker presented a memorial from the State Agricultural Society, praying the Legislature to provide and authorize the publication of its proceedings since 1858. Also, of several county societies. Also, of the doings of the State Agricultural College—the printing and distribution of said reports to be under the control of the Legislature, and all matters for publication to be prepared by the Secretary, free of charge. Every preparation is being made for holding the eleventh annual exhibition this year. The Treasurer's report shows a balance of $1,113 19.

The Senate adjourned till three o'clock on Monday.

The New York *Times* says:

The Internal Tax bill has been perfected by the Committee on Ways and Means, and will be printed. It is authoritatively stated that no increased tax is recommended on whiskey or tobacco. Perhaps.

The Committee on Ways and Means have really agreed to report in favor of reducing the duty on foreign paper.

The condition and position of the Army of the Potomac is entirely satisfactory.

Gen. Burnside left Washington on Thursday, for New York, and will immediately assume his new command.

Glowing accounts are given of Rosecrans' army.

The Senate Judiciary Committee have unanimously reported a bill annulling an objectionable provision in a law of Nevada Territory which does great injustice to a large class of people engaged in mining operations there.

Mr. Wilson has introduced into the Senate a joint resolution to facilitate the payment of sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals and convalescent camps, directing them to be paid in thirty days.

Mr. Fessenden, of Me., said that he was in favor of the object, but he understood there was some difficulty in the way, and that many soldiers were paid twice.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass., said the difficulty arose from the want of system and the loose manner in which the Paymaster's Department is managed. That Department is managed in the most wretched manner, and unless it is reformed the country will find enormous loss.

On motion of Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, the time for payment was extended sixty days, and the resolution was then passed.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Minn., from the Committee on Territories, reported a bill to enable the people of Nebraska to take preparatory steps to be admitted into the Union as a State.

Mr. Lane, of Kansas, reported a similar bill in relation to the territory of Colorado.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported adversely on the bill to amend the act admitting the State of Western Virginia.

Mr. Collamer, of Vt., from the Postoffice Committee, reported a bill relating to post routes and providing for bridges across the Ohio river.

Mr. Cowan, of Penna., called up the bill to appoint an Assistant Treasurer, at a salary of $3,000, and additional clerks, and increasing the compensation of the Treasurer to $6,000.

Mr. Grimes renewed the amendment to make the salary $5,000 instead of $6,000. Adopted—yeas, 24; nays, 12.

Mr. Grimes moved to make the salary of the Assistant Treasurer $2,500, instead of $3,000. Adopted—yeas, 28; nays, 7. The bill was then passed.

The bill to provide a temporary government for the territory of Arizonia was then taken up and passed—yeas, 25; nays, 12.

Mr. Fessenden moved that the Senate take a recess till seven o'clock, it being nearly half past four. Adopted—yeas, 28; nays, 12.

Evening Session—The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill reorganizing the courts in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Davis resumed his remarks, and spoke at length against the bill.

Mr. Saulsbury moved to amend so as to have judges elected by the people. Rejected.

Mr. Trumbull offered an amendment providing for a revision and codification of the laws of the District. Adopted.

The bill then passed—yeas 19, nays 16.

On motion of Mr. Fessenden, a Committee of Conference was appointed on the bill to provide for ways and means to support the government.

At 10:15 p. m. the Senate adjourned.

From Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 20.—It is reported that the rebel Colonels Tucker, Chewalt and White, with from six to one thousand mounted men crossed the Cumberland at Mill Spring, bound northward. The reports of large bodies of rebel cavalry recently crossing the Cumberland river are not credited at headquarters.

Vallandigham.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 20.—The lecture announced for this evening at the Maryland Institute, by Hon. Vallandigham, did not come off. The unmistakable evidence of that loyal sentiment of Baltimore would not tolerate his presence, having induced the abandonment of the lecture.

XXXVIITH CONGRESS--SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20, 1863.

HOUSE.—Mr. Shellabarger, of Ohio, offered a resolution, which was adopted, setting forth the difficulties which have arisen regarding the pay of volunteers from Ohio and other States, and instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into it, and report whether additional legislation is necessary for an explanatory act to secure the payment of said soldiers from the time they entered the service, instead of from the period when their companies were filled and mustered.

The National Currency bill was taken up.

Mr. Fenton, of New York, concluded his remarks from last night in favor of the measure.

Mr. Noel, of Mo., did not feel at liberty to vote against the bill, but appealed to the gentlemen to refer it to the Judiciary Committee, and to inquire how far it deprives the States of the right to regulate their own financial concerns under a valid law.

Mr. Alley, of Mass., advocated the amendment. He proposed to offer one reducing the tax on the circulation of notes to one per centum per annum, in order to induce banks to endorse the system and plan, themselves in co-operation with the government to supply uniform currency, and to prevent undue expansion. The bill gives to the banks a better circulation than that under the present system, and protects all their interests.

Mr. Hooper, of Mass., had no desire to continue the debate, and moved the previous question.

Mr. Roscoe Conkling, remarked that the reading of the bill was not concluded until nearly nine o'clock last night, when it was distinctly agreed that a fair opportunity should be allowed for a discussion. To take a vote now would be a violation of the agreement, two hours, to-day, only having been spent in debate.

The speaker said that no such proposition had been stated by the Chair. If the House should vote down the demand for the previous question, the bill would be open for amendment.

The House, then, by a vote of 75 yeas against 73 nays, agreed to order the main question to be put.

The House refused to table the bill—yeas, 57; nays, 89.

A third reading of the Bank bill was then ordered by a vote—yeas, 83; nays, 67.

Mr. Conkling called for a reading of the entire bill.

Mr. Washburne raised a point as the bill had once been read through—that the House could dispense with a second reading.

The Speaker overruled Mr. Washburne's point, quoting a rule that it is undoubtedly right for any member to have a bill read through at each of its stages.

The Clerk read the bill.

Mr. Holman moved to lay it on the table. Disagreed to.

The bill was then passed—yeas 73, nays 64.

House adjourned till seven o'clock.

Evening Session—The House took up the Senate's Postoffice reform bill, Mr. Colfax explaining its provisions and corrected a misapprehension in the public mind as to the registration of money in letters, which is to be left voluntary. It is now proposed to have a uniform letter postage of three cents, and reduce the three hundred or more different rates for printed matter to twelve or fifteen rates; and to establish other important reforms, including the reduction of incidental expenses. Among the amendments now made was one striking out the clause requiring publishers to prepay postage on magazines, and adding a clause charging an additional rate for registered letters, and providing for a charge of twenty-five cents for a letter for special delivery, so marked, and delivered day or night. Mailable matter is divided into three classes: First, Letters. Secondly, Printed matter. Thirdly, Miscellaneous matter.

Mr. Colfax, in the course of his remarks, stated that he, himself, was, as he always had been, in favor of abolishing the franking privilege, but the Senate was known to be hostile to it, and had so voted in Congress, and as the abolition could not, therefore, be carried, he was in favor of curtailing it.

Mr. Alley's amendment was adopted, restricting the franking privilege by the officers of the departments and by the postmasters to official business, and requires all letters, sent to all franking officers, to be prepaid.

Mr. Blake offered an amendment, which was adopted, to establish a money order system for one, and not exceeding ten dollars, five cents over ten, and not exceeding twenty dollars and ten cents for every additional sum of ten dollars, or less than five cents.

Mr. Cox offered an amendment providing that the people, by election, designate their postmaster, but was rejected.

No quorum being in attendance at quarter of ten o'clock, the House adjourned.

SENATE.—A Committee of Conference has been appointed on the indemnification act.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Treasury in answer to the resolution of the Senate, asking what steps had been taken with regard to the frauds in the New York Custom House, and whether a report had been made.

Mr. Wade, of Ohio, from the Committee on Territories, reported back the bill to allow the people of Nevada Territory to take preparatory steps for being admitted into the Union, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the resolution inquiring into the expediency of admitting New Mexico as a State.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass., from the Military Committee, reported back a joint resolution to facilitate the payment of sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals and convalescent camps, directing them to be paid in thirty days.

Mr. Fessenden, of Me., said that he was in favor of the object, but he understood there was some difficulty in the way, and that many soldiers were paid twice.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass., said the difficulty arose from the want of system and the loose manner in which the Paymaster's Department is managed. That Department is managed in the most wretched manner, and unless it is reformed the country will find enormous loss.

On motion of Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, the time for payment was extended sixty days, and the resolution was then passed.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Minn., from the Committee on Territories, reported a bill to enable the people of Nebraska to take preparatory steps to be admitted into the Union as a State.

Mr. Lane, of Kansas, reported a similar bill in relation to the territory of Colorado.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported adversely on the bill to amend the act admitting the State of Western Virginia.

Mr. Collamer, of Vt., from the Postoffice Committee, reported a bill relating to post routes and providing for bridges across the Ohio river.

Mr. Cowan, of Penna., called up the bill to appoint an Assistant Treasurer, at a salary of $3,000, and additional clerks, and increasing the compensation of the Treasurer to $6,000.

Mr. Grimes renewed the amendment to make the salary $5,000 instead of $6,000. Adopted—yeas, 24; nays, 12.

Mr. Grimes moved to make the salary of the Assistant Treasurer $2,500, instead of $3,000. Adopted—yeas, 28; nays, 7. The bill was then passed.

The bill to provide a temporary government for the territory of Arizonia was then taken up and passed—yeas, 25; nays, 12.

Mr. Fessenden moved that the Senate take a recess till seven o'clock, it being nearly half past four. Adopted—yeas, 28; nays, 12.

Evening Session—The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill reorganizing the courts in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Davis resumed his remarks, and spoke at length against the bill.

Mr. Saulsbury moved to amend so as to have judges elected by the people. Rejected.

Mr. Trumbull offered an amendment providing for a revision and codification of the laws of the District. Adopted.

The bill then passed—yeas 19, nays 16.

On motion of Mr. Fessenden, a Committee of Conference was appointed on the bill to provide for ways and means to support the government.

At 10:15 p. m. the Senate adjourned.

Washington Items.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Attention has been called to the report in the New York newspapers, and made the subject of pointed comment, that members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations have been most earnest in their demonstrations of friendship to M. Mercier and to the government he represents. On inquiry it appears that M. Mercier's dispatch and relations with France, as shown by recently published dispatches, have not been considered in the Committee, nor is it known that any member of the Committee has made any demonstrations to M. Mercier. Some of the Committee attended the recent diplomatic dinner of Mr. Seward, (given since the publication of the dispatches,) at which the French Minister was an honorary guest, but Mr. Sumner, who was ill at the time, was obliged to decline, under the advice of his physician. There is not a member of Congress who does not recoil from the idea of foreign mediation or intervention in whatever form it may take.

C. F. Miller, who has been employed as clerk in Richmond, arrived here to-day, having made his escape to one of the Potomac flotilla. He represents that the Merrimac No. 2 was at Fort Darling during the latter part of January, having a lighter placed on each side, owing to her top-heaviness. She carries four guns, but is pierced for eight. Longstreet's division passed through Richmond several weeks ago, for the south and south-west, and a large number of the army of the Rappahannock have followed them. He says the country between Richmond and Fredericksburg, over which he travelled on foot, is nearly desolate.

Fleet Captain Pennock has, under date of Cairo, yesterday, informed the Secretary of the Navy that the steamer Rowena, White Cloud and Knapp has been seized as prizes by the gunboat New Era, at or near Island No. 10, for containing contraband goods, such as quinine and morphine, in large quantities, arms, Confederate uniforms, army blankets, and other general merchandize contraband of war. The White Cloud had on board a large rebel mail, containing important information.

The steamer Horne was seized by Admiral Porter and sent up there from below.

An exploded story of Banks being defeated near Port Hudson has been revived. The Government has received no unfavorable information whatever from that quarter.

The Senate's Currency bill passed the House to-day in the precise form it came from that body.

The Senate to-day passed the bill organizing the Territory of Arizona. It only awaits the signature of the President to become a law. This territory contains one hundred and twenty thousand square miles, and is, therefore, larger than three States of the size of Ohio. It is said, by those who have spent several years there, to contain more and richer silver and copper mines than any territory under the Government. Gold is also found in many parts of the territory. Hostile Indians have heretofore prevented extensive operations. The mines, but with a government such as is about to be established, they will be fully developed. It is asserted, by persons who have had opportunities to form a current judgment, that the richest silver mines of the world are found in Arizona. There are fifteen hundred troops now there, and it is probable the number will be soon largely increased.

Markets by Telegraph.

CINCINNATI, February 20—Noon—Flour dull and Superfine offered freely at $5; small sales of Extra have made at this rate. Wheat firm and quiet for prime red and white. Corn is in good demand at 62c for shelled and 64@65 for ear. Oats dull at 75c. Rye at 81. Barley at 90@90 for prime Spring and Fall. Whisky, 51. Mess Pork unchanged and quiet; no sales; bulk steady at 4⅝ and 6 for heavy shoulders, and sides. There is a large demand for Lard; sales of 3,000 tierces at 9¼@9½, delivered at points in the interior, and 10c delivered here. The demand is chiefly from New York. Groceries firm and unchanged. Cloverseed firm at $8 75.

Gold, 100@101. Demand notes, 150. Exchange dull, and rates the same.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20—Evening—Cotton, 88@89c. Flour 5@10c lower; sales 14,500 bbls., at $7 10@7 25 for State; $7 00@8 for Ohio and $7 00@8 25 for South-ern. Wheat 1@2c. lower; sales 65,000 bush. at noon rates. Pork dull; mess $14 70@15. Lard heavy. Whisky steady at 55@57c. Sugar firm at 9½@12½c. Coffee firm. Molasses firm. Freights less firm. Wool firm and active; domestic fleece 58@67½c.

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