Pittsburgh Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MORNING, FEB. 25.

CITY AFFAIRS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

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

	IN SUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	00	35
12 " M.	00	34
6 " P. M.		38
Barometer		29.430

Suit about a Hand.

A rather novel case was brought before Alderman Donaldson on Tuesday. Dr. M'Cook, Sr., entered suit against Wm. M. Johnston, millwright, of the Sixth Ward, for $67 due for professional services. Mr. Johnston had his left hand badly smashed by the fall of a heavy piece of iron, in Lippincott's shovel factory, some two years ago, and was attended by Dr. M'Cook. The hand had been split open, and terribly crushed, and it was at first feared that amputation would be necessary. The hand was saved, however, but as it healed up the leaders became contracted, and the fingers are very crooked and ugly. It was alleged that this contraction was the result of bad surgery, and Mr. Johnston not only refused to pay the bill, but talked of prosecuting the Doctor for mal-practice.

A great deal of medical testimony was heard—the doctor having summoned a number of first rate physicians and surgeons to pass upon the case. It was admitted that the hand had been split open by the immense weight of iron which fell upon it, and that some of the friends of the injured man insisted upon amputation, but the doctor declined to use the knife and saw while there was any hope of saving the member. Surgeons of unquestioned skill testified that the treatment was not only proper, but that under the circumstances, and taking the character of the injury into account, it was remarkable that the hand was saved at all.

The bill for services rendered was not deemed exorbitant, and was only resisted on the ground that the treatment was bad. The plaintiff having shown that the injury was treated in a skillful manner, and that the contraction of the hand and fingers resulted from causes beyond the control of the surgeon, judgment will be entered for the amount of the bill.

An Explanation.

In alluding to the case of the two boys who were found lying in the snow, on Monday night, almost frozen to death, we stated that their story was that they had got the liquor at the "Bowery" saloon, on Fifth street. Since then, the proprietor of the saloon has called upon us, and states that he was absent from the city during that evening, having left his bar in charge of a boy, who declares that no liquor was sold that evening to boys. The proprietor states further that he is very particular not to sell anything to minors, and has repeatedly turned boys away from his bar. He thinks the lads are mistaken as to the place, although he cannot be positive, as he was not present. This explanation is certainly due to him, and we are free to admit that the mere "say so" of the boys should not be taken as correct.

SALES OF STOCK by J. G. Davis, Auctioneer at the Commercial Sales Rooms, No. 54, Fifth street, Tuesday evening, Feb. 24:

Bank of Pittsburgh	$74 50
do do	73 50
Exchange Bank	63 25
Iron City Bank	61 00
Mechanics Bank	58 50
Merchants and Manufacturers Bank	56 50
Citizens Bank	58 75
Allegheny Bank	58 00
do do	57 50
Birmingham Deposit Company	57 50
Pittsburgh Gas Company	86 50
Pennsylvania Central R. R. Co	66 00
Pittsburgh Insurance Company	36 50
People's Insurance Company	29 25
do do do	28 75
Allegheny Insurance Company	32 75
Little Saw Mill Run Railroad	5 50
Pittsburgh & Connellsville Railroad	7 50
Monongahela Navigation Co	39 75
Chartiers Valley Railroad Co	4 00
Lot on Water street, near Redoubt alley, 24 feet front by 160 feet deep, to First street	$4,000 00

BENEFIT OF MR. M'DONOUGH.—Mr. J. R. "Donough, the "Mrs. Pinto" of the "Seven M[illegible]," takes a benefit at the Theatre this [illegible] Sisters." The "grand spectacle" still con[illegible] evening. A new large audiences, filling the [illegible]thuses to c[illegible]ening, and of course the house [illegible] Theatre each e[illegible] the present occasion. Eu[illegible] will be jammed on [illegible] the day. [illegible]gage your seats durin[illegible]

THE SPECIAL ELECTION [illegible] held in the First [illegible] for a member of [illegible] Ward, Allegheny, yesterday, [illegible] caused by [illegible] Select Council, to fill the vacanc[illegible] resulted in the death of Mr. George Lewis. [illegible] the choice of Mr. Henry Irwin, a gen[illegible]tleman [illegible] of energy and ability, and one well qua[illegible] for the position.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES.

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

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

SAMUEL GRAHAM, merchant tailor, is closing out his Fall and Winter stock of goods at extremely low prices. They consist of all the very latest styles of cloths, cassimeres and vestings; of which a large assortment is adapted for the Spring wear. Gentlemen wishing to save money would do well to call early, knowing that you will pay twenty-five per cent. more for goods in the Spring than at the present time. Don't fail to call and get a good fitting garment. Samuel Graham, Merchant Tailor, No. 54 Market street, one door from Third.

FASHIONABLE CLOTHING.—Gentlemen can always find a superb supply of ready made clothing for themselves or boys, at the clothing emporium of W. H. M'Gee & Co., corner of Federal street and Diamond Square, Allegheny. Those who prefer having their clothing made to order, are assured that the stock of materials for overcoats, business and dress suits cannot be equalled for variety and quality in this vicinity, while a good fit may be confidently expected.

DIARRHŒA AND DYSENTERY will decimate the Volunteers far more than the bullets of the enemy therefore let every man see to it that he carries with him a full supply of HOLLOWAY'S PILLS. Their use in India and the Crimea saved thousands of British Soldiers. Only 25 cents per box. 213

THE VOLUNTEER RELIEF COMMITTEE.—The committees of ladies appointed to distribute the above fund in the city of Pittsburgh will meet at the school house, on the 28th inst., between the hours of two and four o'clock, p. m., to pay the same to those who are entitled.

CROWN HOLIDAY PRESENT.—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.

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

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 485 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

LADIES, see the advertisement of Barker & Co., 59 Market street. They commence tomorrow, the greatest sale of silk fabrics ever known in our city, and at the lowest rates, considering the recent advance. See their advertisement.

VALUABLE STOCKS.—Sixteen shares of the Iron City Bank stock will be added to the list of stocks to be sold this evening at Davis' auction.

DIED:

BOWAN.—On Tuesday, 24th inst., at 1 o'clock a. m., HENRY B., second son of Henry and Catharine Bowan, aged 6 years and 3 days.

The funeral will take place from the residence of his parents, No. 20 Clark street, Sixth Ward, on WEDNESDAY, 25th instant, at 2 o'clock p. m. The friends of the family will please accept this notice.

BIERBAUM.—At half past 3 o'clock Tuesday morning, Mr. ARNOLD BIERBAUM, in the 78th year of his age.

The funeral will take place from the residence of his brother, Wm. Bierbaum, No. 55 Colwell street, WEDNESDAY, 25th instant, at 2 o'clock p. m. The friends of the family are respectfully requested to attend.

State of the Army of the Potomac.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

I received letters on Saturday from officers in the Army of the Potomac, and there has just returned from an extensive survey of the various divisions of the army, a gentleman of intelligence and education, and from these and many other sources, I am convinced that the army was never in a finer or more effective condition.

The confidence of the officers and men in Gen. Hooker is becoming more stable every day, and his military ability is now manifest to all, in removing abuses, infusing into all departments of the service a more earnest activity; every order tells on the men, and leads to the universal exclamation, "Old Joe sees what is needed." The army is now confident of victory under his banner. My friend found little of that murmuring discontent and demoralization which is so often reported, but on the other hand, he gathered from conversation with thousands of soldiers in different camps and stations, that they were well fed and hopeful, and never more loyal than at this moment.

On the cars from Aquia Creek to Falmouth were several hundred Union soldiers going back to their regiments. Many of them were returning from hospitals, some from detailed duty, and some from visits to their homes on furlough. In the car where my friend found a shelter from the storm, on the way from Aquia to Falmouth, there were several officers and a large number of privates. One of these officers was loud in speech, and addressed himself to a civilian who stood near him. My friend thought that these gentlemen had arranged, before coming into the cars, to talk, and discuss various topics for the benefit of their companions in travel. The officer commenced by telling the man of peace that he had just come from Washington; had been to Congress to listen to the debates, and that the old fools there knew no more about the army than his father's crumply horned cow about astronomy; that the President was a reed shaken in the wilderness; that the government was spavined and wind broken; that he was sick of the war; that he did not believe the war would ever come to an end under the present Generals; that the army was disheartened and demoralized; the men would not fight; they hated the negroes, and despised a government that aimed to place miserable slaves alongside of white men, and that he, for one, would not stand it." And to this, and much more, the civilian replied: "Exactly, my friend, you are right. The people feel just so, and, in fact, we have no hope of a better State of things until we have George B. McClellan in power and President. We are going to do that thing, and we want your help in the army." "You shall have it," said the officer. "I am tired of defeats, retreats, mud, negroes, a weak-kneed government, and generals that know how to run, but not to fight. I tell you, we want stand it much longer," and looking around with the tragic air of a man crushed by mighty grievances—putting on the look of Cassius—his expression said: "I am a martyr, and we are all sufferers together." At this moment, a lawyer from Philadelphia, Elijah Thomas, spoke out of the throng, and said: "Sir, are you an officer of the army?" "Yes, I am." I had supposed as from your uniform, but not from your speech, for certainly you are no enemy to your country, and you are one of the men who, in the army, are trying to stab your country to the heart. Do you not know that every word you have been saying is in direct violation of the letter and spirit of military law, for you have spoken in scorn of Congress, in contempt of the President. You have sneered at every member of the government; you have found fault with every civil and military movement; you have said that the army was disheartened and demoralized. Such men as you are, wearing the insignia of military power, are the very persons who have done this evil; and if the rebel government had a thousand spies and emissaries in our army, they would all talk just as you have done. Now, sir, I do not charge you with being a traitor, but I do say that any officer who dares to talk as you have has no business in the army. You ought to resign, sir. You had better go home and grumble there." "Sir," said the officer, "you I ask your advice you will have some right to instruct me in regard to my duty, but till then any man who talks to me in that style had better have some regard for his personal safety." At this juncture, the lawyer with imperturbable coolness erected himself, threw back his cloak and disclosed a chest that Hercules might have envied. "Precisely so," said he. "I expected your answer. I admire your courage here. You may be a brave man, but you are taking the very course to make cowards of your men. Suppose you are called into action to-morrow, what do you say to the men? My brave fellows, we are going to meet the enemy. It is very probable that many of you will fall in battle, and it is altogether probable that we will be defeated, for we have now no general in the army who can lead us. I am sorry to say our cause is bad, for we are no longer fighting for our country, but for the d— niggers. If you fight and fail your effort and sacrifice will accomplish nothing, for our government has the blind staggers and is shaking all through. It is no use, my brave boys. But still I do not say to you, desert. I don't say to you lay down your arms—don't misunderstand me, boys; you are soldiers. If any of you have a appetite for fight, go in. But if some of you think you ought to consult your personal safety for the sake of your families, perhaps there I cannot advise you. It may be better there to live to fight another day."

"Sir," said the officer, livid and pale by turns with rage, "I am not going to stand this." "You will have to stand it," said the lawyer, "so long as I am in this car. Go back to the army, sir, and resign; then go back to your State and stump it for disunion. Open a correspondence with Vallandigham and Mayor Wood. Go to the Louisville Convention, and there will be one name in your family covered with the veil of eternal infamy."

At this the officer's rage forbade any distinct utterance—coughs, oaths and tobacco, all rolled together, formed a most burry conglomerate in his throat. The lawyer, thinking a little more blistering might relieve him, said again: "Sir, you have not told the truth about the army. I have been here often, and I know that the army is not disheartened, and were not, even after the reverse before Fredericksburg, and is now in better condition than ever before. And nine-tenths of the men feel sure that, under Gen. Hooker, we shall have success. And you, and such as you, misrepresent the army when you say the men are discouraged, sick of the war, without confidence in the Government, and anxious to escape from a service which they feel dishonors them. Sir, I know better."

At this there squared around before the lawyer a fiery-bearded officer, with a pug-nose, a small twisted up cartilege covering the gums below the nose, but leaving bare the entire picket guard of upper teeth, hence his whole face bore the agreeable aspect of a growling bull dog. "Sir," said he to the lawyer, "I don't care who you are, but I know you are an impudent rascal to come into the army and talk to an officer in the way you have done. You are for the niggers, are you? If you like them so well, go and live with them, and keep the d— vermin out of the army—and if I had my way I would hang up all the sneaking scoundrels who come whining about our camp, talking of the rights of man—of the duty of upholding the government—of standing by the President—of keeping in good heart. Now, sir, it is uneasy thing to talk, but to suffer as we have done, is another thing. We have been hungry for weeks; exposed to storms; encamped in mud; many of us sick in hospitals. We want to be led against the enemy; we don't want to be buried in the swamps and forest of this miserable slave State. Sir, I'll not stand such reflections on the men who will not kiss the dirty negro—for one I have not sunk so low as that yet." "As for the matter of kissing," replied the lawyer, "I do not know why would have the most reason to complain—you or the negro. Certainly my taste would lead me to kiss neither. But because I would not kiss a negro I would not be unfaithful to my country, violate the oath I had taken as an officer, put myself above the national Congress and the government. No, sir, it is your duty to obey orders. The government must take such measures as it can to crush this rebellion, and if you will not fight we must try the negroes. Now, I would advise all men like you who complain of mud, the food, the tents, the Generals, the Government, to resign; in nothing can you benefit your country more; get out of the way, there are plenty of good men ready and true to take your place." To this the man made no reply, but muttered and snub-nose [illegible] his den. Soon growled like a beast [illegible] was another took up the glove. He [illegible] soon disarmed, and shamed into silence; and long before the cars reached Falmouth every tongue but the lawyer's, and those who gathered around him, was silenced. And I am sorry to say that both these officers left the car without bidding "good-bye," or expressing the slightest desire that Mr. Thomas should visit their camps. M.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatches to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 24, 1863.

HOPSE.—The bill relative to livery stable keepers in Allegheny county, was reported favorably by the Committee to whom it was referred.

Mr. Henry offered a bill to refund to the Bank of Beaver County certain moneys wrongfully paid into the State Treasury.

Mr. Kaine offered a bill to change the venue of certain cases from Philadelphia county to Allegheny county; also, to change the trial of suits pending in Philadelphia, by the heirs of Girard against the city of Philadelphia.

A bill was offered to provide for the payment of money by those who have conscientious scruples to bearing arms. It makes a fine of $300.

The private calendar was gone through with on the first reading.

Mr. Gross objected to the bill declaratory of the intent and meaning of an act to authorize the Governor to incorporate a company for erecting a bridge over the Monongahela river opposite Pittsburgh.

Mr. Slack objected to the bill supplementary to the act incorporating the Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Company.

Mr. McCullough presented a supplement to the act incorporating the Allegheny city and Freeport Railroad company. The time for opening the books for subscription, and the completion of the Allegheny city and Freeport Railroad is extended five years after the passage of the bill. Alex. Anderson, Samuel Fullerton, James A. McCullough, Hamilton W. Grant, and S. D. Kearns are named as commissioners in Armstrong country instead of those mentioned in the first section of that act.

Mr. Beck presented a bill explanatory of an act regulating the militia of the State In the absence or upon the failure of the proper military board to give proper certificates upon the Treasurer for pay, the Commissioners of the county are authorized and required to draw such certificates or order for all services authorized or directed by them or their predecessors in office.

Mr. Brown, of Warren, presented a bill to incorporate the Oil Creek and Warren Transportation Company. It provides for a company to run boats on the Allegheny river. The capital is $20,000. The corporators are Chapin Hall, S. P. Johnson, G. W. Schofield, C. C. Wetmore, R. Brown, William A. Irvine, L. D. Wetmore, C. B. Curtis, R. P. King, L. F. Watson, Thomas Struthers, J. F. McPherson, J. Y. James, Lewis Arnott, Andrew Hontsel, and H. P. Kinnear.

Mr. Barger offered a supplement to an act relating to co-partners and joint debtors.

Mr. Lee introduced a bill to protect the bridges of plankroads and passengers railroads from injury by fast driving. The provisions of the bill are applicable to Philadelphia only. The fine is five dollars.

Mr. Beck introduced a bill to incorporate the Continental Express Company.

Mr. Gross offered a supplement to the bill to give jurisdiction in equity to the Supreme Court, and Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia in cases of disputed boundaries. It extends the provisions of that act to Allegheny county.

Numerous petitions were presented on the following subjects:

For the passage of a law authorizing the call of a National Convention.

For the passage of such laws as will afford protection to the citizens of Pennsylvania, against arbitrary arrests.

For a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors.

For a law prohibiting negroes and mulattoes coming into the State to acquire residence.

For an appropriation of thirty thousand dollars to make the School of Design for Women, in Philadelphia, a State school.

For compensation for losses sustained during the rebel raid in October last.

For the passage of a law prohibiting the payment of laborers' wages in orders on storekeepers.

Mr. Gilfillan presented petitions of citizens of Allegheny county, praying for the passage of a law regulating the location of sites for public school houses in said county.

Mr. Benedict presented a petition of citizens of Pennsylvania, praying for the repeal of existing laws in relation to marriage, and for the passage of a general marriage law, requiring all persons contemplating marriage to take out a license, the license to be issued by the Clerk of the Court of the county, where such marriage is contemplated—a small fee to be charged.

Adjourned till three o'clock, afternoon.

HOUSE.—*Afternoon Session.*—The following bills were passed:

A bill to incorporate Oakland Railway Company.

A supplement to the act incorporating the Jamestown and Franklin Railroad Company. approved the 5th of April, 1862.

A further supplement to the act relating to Allegheny county, approved the 1st of May, 1861, and the supplement thereto approved the 8th of April, 1862.

A bill to authorize the Auditor General and State Treasurer to re-examine the account between the Commonwealth and Messrs. Darragh & Mellon.

A bill extending the provisions of the act of March 6th, 1849, in regard to floating lumber, to oil and oil barrels, upon the Alleghany, Monongahela and Ohio rivers.

A bill relative to a bridge over the Monongahela river at Brownsville.

A bill to revive and continue the act chartering the Excelsior Railroad and Coal Company, approved the 26th of April, 1855.

The following are the names of the corporators of the Continental Express Company, according to the bill introduced this morning: J. R. Lee, Collum Colket, O. Watson, George W. Middleton, Robt. F. Taylor, John Daily, Alfred C. Hosmer, Joseph B. Maitland, Albert Crane, Thomas Smith and J. Harvey Humes. Capital stock ten thousand shares, of $100 each.

SENATE.—The bill to extend the time for the removal of the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company from a portion of Liberty street, Pittsburgh, was reported favorably by the Railroad Committee.

Several petitions for the calling of a national convention were presented.

Mr. Reilly presented a petition, from the citizens of Schuylkill county, against the passage of the law granting to large corporations the right to hold land for mining purposes in this State.

Mr. Penney presented a petition, from the citizens of Allegheny county, asking for the explanation of certain acts relative to school houses of the County of Allegheny.

Mr. Hiestand offered a further supplement to the act incorporating the Washington and Maryland line railroad company.

Mr. Kinney introduced a bill to provide for the sale of the bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and apply the proceeds thereof to the payment of the State debt.

Mr. Penney introduced a bill to authorise the Western Pennsylvania Hospital to receive a certain bequest.

Mr. Lamberton offered a resolution requesting the Governor to inquire of the proper authorities at Washington, whether the draft has been enforced in States other than free States, if not, to ascertain, if possible the reason why. Laid over for one day.

A bill was introduced to allow the trustees of the First Presbyterian congregation of the city of Allegheny, to vacate a certain grave yard, and for other purposes. Passed.

A bill was introduced to incorporate the Rostraver Coal Co., Westmoreland county. Passed.

The New York *Times* says that General Hooker was in consultation with the President on Monday.

Late accounts from the army of the Potomac indicate a greatly improved discipline and gives promise of a state of efficiency never before known there. The scouting system is admirably organized. Desertions are becoming less frequent.

About four hundred names of those who have died in Southern hospitals, will be immediately published at Washington.

Gen. Phelps, Military Governor of Arkansas, is in Washington, and it is understood he desires a command in the field instead of his present position.

It is stated on good authority that General Butler has been re-assigned to the department of the Gulf, embracing Alabama. Gen. Banks will go to Texas.

The Postal Reform bill which passed the House on Saturday, contains a provision authorising soldiers in camps and hospitals to send and receive letters free of postage. R.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 24, 1863.

In the House, last night, Mr. Hopkins, of Washington, made several ineffectual attempts to have a reconsideration of the vote on the supplement to the act incorporating the Pennsylvania Railroad, so as to have it recalled from the Senate. B.

FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatches to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1863.

THE RISE IN GOLD.

The sudden rise of seven per cent. in gold to-day, was begun by the conviction in Wall street that the dead lock in Congress on the Finance bill was likely to result in the further large issue of legal tender. It was increased by rumors of a misfortune to one of our vessels at Vicksburg, and culminated in combination of the leading Wall street bulls, headed, as is believed, by Morris, Ketchum & Co., to run the prices up. Mr. Ketchum was here in close consultation with the financial managers till yesterday. The effect of the rise here is to render the further issue of legal tenders less probable.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The Joint Conference Committee had a session this morning, but come to no conclusion. Numerous propositions were submitted and discussed, when it adjourned to meet again to-morrow.

The prevailing belief in financial circles, most in sympathy with the administration, is that Thad. Stevens' original suggestion of the interest bearing treasury notes made a legal tender for their face, is the expedient most in favor with the Committee, and that to-day's gold panic increases the chances for its adoption.

The Democrats began filibustering at eight o'clock this morning, as soon as the Conscription Bill was taken up. To prevent a vote, some Republicans most unaccountably and factiously aided them, till finally the Chairman of the Military Committee withdrew his call for a previous question, announcing that he was forced to do so by the conduct on the Republican side, and permitted the debate to go on.

Mr. Mallory led off, protesting against the passage of the bill as an outrage on popular rights.

Mr. Dunn, of Indiana, followed in a speech of remarkable power.

Mr. Pendleton urged technical objections to the bill, and insisted on amendments.

Messrs. Voorhees, Porter, and Shanks, had a dispute as to the nature of the resistance to the draft in Blackford county, Indiana, last fall, resulting in the overturning of some of Mr. Pendleton's arguments.

The great speech on the bill thus far, was made by Mr. Dunn, and coming from a conservative, it has the more weight, and is the subject of general praise.

The debate will be resumed to-night, and appearances now indicate a renewal of filibustering at any attempt to press a vote.

The House is still in a full tide of debate on the Conscription Bill.

Thad. Stevens has made a very able speech, bringing out the famous Scott letter complaining of McClellan's insubordination recently referred to in these dispatches. It fell like a bombshell among the Democrats

Little "Sam Cox" is now making a characteristic speech.

Little hopes of a vote to-night, and the general tone of the Democrats are more defiant and venomous than ever before this session.

Mr. Vallandigham perpetrated a huge joke by denouncing the New York *World* as an abolition sheet.

NO MORE LEGAL TENDERS.

The highest financial authority has stated to-night that there will be no further issue of legal tenders. This seems to be conclusive on this much mooted point.

ARIZONA—CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT.

Mr. Gurley is almost certain to be Governor of Arizona. He is recommended by the whole Ohio delegation, and by the delegate from Arizona. Mr. Wade and Gen. Heintzelman have warmly pushed his claims and regarded his success as certain. For the Secretaryship of the Territory, Mr. M'Cormick, late Republican candidate for Congress, is most frequently mentioned. For Chief Justice of the Territory the chances of John N. Goodwin, member of the present House from Maine, are regarded as the best. Sidney Edgerton, member of the present House from Ohio, is a prominent candidate for one of the other Judgeships. Mr. Poston, now speaking on the Arizona mines, (11 o'clock, p. m.,) is the most prominent candidate for Indian Agent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The Richmond *Examiner*, of the 21st, contains a dispatch from Port Hudson, dated the 18th, announcing that a report was in circulation of the capture of the Queen of the West, the United States iron clad gunboat which recently run the batteries at Vicksburg. She was attacking the fortifications on the Red river, and after a brief cannonade struck her colors. Thirteen of the officers and crew were said to have been captured.

From Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 24.—The excitement here the past two days, turns out to arise from the fact that about eight hundred rebel cavalry under Col. Leroy Pluke, entered Richmond, Ky., on Sunday, and stayed about two hours and then passed through Winchester, where a skirmish with slight losses occurred, after which the rebel cavalry cleared out in the direction of Mt. Sterling. Everything quiet in the vicinity of Frankfort and Lexington. No apprehensions entertained at Nashville.

Col. Blake, of the Fortieth Indiana Volunteers, court-martialed for the disobedience of field orders at Stone river, was unanimously acquitted and returned to duty.

XXXVIITH CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1863.

HOUSE.—The Speaker stated the pending motion to be for the previous question of the Senate's bill to organize the national forces, and for other purposes.

Mr. Vallandigham, of O., moved a call of the House, and demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Ancona, of Pa., moved to be excused from voting.

The Speaker said that Mr. Ancona's motion was not in order, for the reason that a call of the House presupposed that there was no quorum present, and if the proceedings were devoted to excusing members from voting a quorum never would be secured.

Mr. Olin, of N. Y., wished to make a suggestion to the other side.

Mr. Hickman objected.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., hoped Mr. Hickman would withdraw his objection. By thus doing they would get to vote sooner.

The House, by a vote of 43 to 85, refused to order a call.

Mr. Olin withdrew his demand for the previous question, and moved a suspension of the rules so that the debate on the bill would be concluded at half past three o'clock.

Several gentlemen objected to this—among them Wickliffe, of Ky., who said he had important amendments to offer.

Mr. Olin verily believed that if there were a proposition that all mankind shall be saved, somebody would object to it. [Laughter.]

Mr. Olin introduced his resolution under a suspension of the rules. The question being stated on its adoption, Mr. Cravens, of Ind., moved that there be a call of the House.

Mr. Hickman moved that when the House adjourned to-day it would be to Thursday next. On this he demanded the yeas and nays, and the question was decided in the negative—yeas, 33; nays, 122.

Mr. Olin withdrew his resolution, and also his demand for the previous question on the passage of the bill, thus the debate was reopened.

Mr. Mallory, of Ky., entered his solemn protest against the passage of the bill. He referred to the President changing his position to slavery emancipation, and incidentally mentioned that the President was now side by side with such men as Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania, who was at one time the most ultra pro-slavery man.

Mr. Kelly replied: It was true, he was a member of the Democratic party so long as it adhered to the teachings of Jefferson and Jackson, but when the party threw down the sacred barriers of human rights, he stood by the fathers of the Constitution of the United States and went for freedom. (Applause in galleries.)

Mr. Mallory resumed, saying that Mr. Stevens is the Moses of the Republican party to lead his brethren out of the wilderness to the great and promised land of light and knowledge and bringing them into the land of milk and honey.

Mr. Mallory held that recessionists were immediately accountable for all unconstitutional abolition acts passed here. Secessionists ought, as they were bound, to have sent representatives hither. As to Kentucky, she was as loyal to the Constitution as any State. She scorns, repudiates and spits upon the doctrine of secession. No such government as ours can exist, if we recognise secession as a constitutional doctrine. There could be no peace by recognizing the Southern Confederacy. It would be a perpetual and structive war, lasting through ages, until one side or the other shall be totally subjugated by the other. He was for bringing back the rebels to their family of States, to enjoy their constitutional rights as they enjoyed them before they engaged in their rebellion. He would never acknowledge their independence, but as criminals, would forgive them and restore to them their rights.

Mr. Dunn, of Ind., contrasted past times with the present. When sentiments of disloyalty were uttered here, and applauded by the galleries, no indignation was expressed by those who are now highly incensed, because loyal sentiments are at this time applauded. He had heard speeches here such as would become the rebel Congress. The gentleman from Ohio, Messrs. White and Vallandigham, and his colleague, Mr. Voorhees, uttered their warning voice of retribution. He caused letters to be read from Democratic officers in the army in contrast with the words uttered on this floor. These officers speak of the miserable traitors at home engaged in creating discontent, in consequence of which frequent desertions take place. The rebellion was the monstrous child of the Democratic party. It was nursed by that party which now stood by it. In conclusion he said he was for every measure which would give efficiency to the Government to crush the rebellion.

Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, spoke about an opportunity not being afforded to remedy the defects of this bill and ameliorate the severity of its provisions. We could never carry on a war with a force obtained by conscription, and in further opposition to the bill he said it was a part of a system designed to place the whole power of the Government in the hands of the Executive. He desired an amendment adopted, providing that the term of treasonable practice, if not to be held and taken to include discussions or conversations in newspapers, or public assemblages of the people as to the purposes, objects or origin of the war, or the measures adopted by Congress or the President for its prosecution, or the necessity of its termination. In criticising the various provisions of the measure, he argued that it gives the Executive uncontrolled power over the liberty of the citizens, and subjected him to heavy burdened oppression. The House then took a recess from half past four o'clock to seven o'clock.

Evening Session.—Mr. Wickliffe argued that the militia were designed for the defence of the several States, and not for the service of the United States, as a conscript army, which this bill contemplated. There was no right, under pretence of raising an army, to absorb the militia, who were not constant soldiers, but called out only as exigencies may require. This was the twin brother of the negro bill, and gave the President the discretion to call out the militia without restriction. The provision to the appointment of Provost Marshals was a disgraceful emanation from the War Department. He never felt like shedding blood but once, and that was last session, when a degraded Provost Marshal was sent to his house to arrest the only child he had, and as loyal as anybody.

Mr. Sargeant made the following proposition: That the debate proceed till nine o'clock to-night; that the amendments be explained for one hour, in five minute speeches; that the House then vote on the bill and the pending amendments.

Several objections were made on the opposition side.

Mr. Stevens desired to accommodate the General by an arrangement in regard to taking action on the bill. Several propositions he made were objected to on the opposition side, one of which required a vote to be taken to-night, finally, under a suspension of the rules. The following was agreed to, to be terminated at one o'clock to-morrow: One hour to be devoted to voting on the amendments, without debate; then the bill was to be voted on without further preliminary.

Mr. Stevens argued that the troops proposed to be raised under the bill were in no wise a militia, but a national force, and as such warranted by the Constitution. It was a beneficent and benevolent bill. The clamor in and out of this had so frightened a timid Senate that they dare not pass a bill passed by the House, which would have given us half a million of troops. This bill, therefore, became the only remedy. For six months past a large party had been discouraging volunteering as far as possible, going from house to house, and town to town, persuading them to stay at home. Hence, in some States, demagogues carried the election. The Provost Marshals provided for in this bill were to keep an eye on traitors. The opposition side of the House did not like such a watch.

Mr. Stevens said our great want of success was in suffering the Breckinridge Democrats to head our armies—men without heart or disposition to crush the rebellion. When General McClellan was at Yorktown, he was promptly ordered to attack the enemy and break his lines; he never obeyed the order. When ordered to send troops to aid General Pope, he stood idle eleven days before he started, and then at a snail's pace, he sent his troops under pet Generals, who never reached the battle ground. Porter was one of them, and was justly dismissed from the army for [illegible]. General McClellan being reinstated, he was ordered to pursue the enemy, then invading Maryland. He had one hundred and twenty thousand troops, and moved at the rapid rate of six miles a day till he got up with them. Antietam was a great victory, and while in sight of the rebel army, he suffered the enemy to cross into Virginia, taking the last man, wagon and ambulance with them, and shortly after, when ordered by the Commander-in-Chief to pursue the enemy, he hesitated for three weeks, and then took the South Mountain path. These were four distinct instances of disobedience of orders.

Mr. Stevens desired to have read a letter from General Scott to Secretary Cameron.

Mr. Mallory inquired where Mr. Stevens procured the letter.

Mr. Stevens replied that it was a copy of a letter on file at the War Department, and was read as follows:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, Oct. 4, 1861.

Hon. S. Cameron, Secretary of War:

SIR—You are, I believe, aware that I hailed the arrival here of Major Gen. McClellan as an event of happy consequence to the country and the army. Indeed, if I did not call for him, I heartily approved of the suggestion and gave it the most cordial reception and support. He, however, had hardly entered upon his new duties, when encouraged to communicate directly with the President and certain members of the Cabinet, he in a few days forgot that he had any intermediate commander, and has now long prided himself in treating me with uniform disrespect, running into disobedience of orders of the smaller matters, neglects though in themselves which are grave military offences. I need not speak to the face of the following to suppress an irregularity more conspicuous in Major General McClellan than in any other officer. I furnish the following general order No. 17:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, Sept. 16, 1861.

There are irregularities in the correspondence of the army which need prompt correction. It is highly important that junior officers on duty be not permitted to correspond with the General-in-Chief or other commanders on current official business, except through intermediate commanders of the same rule applies to correspondence with the President direct or with him through the Secretary of War, unless it be by the special invitation or request of the President.

By command of Lieut. Gen. SCOTT.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

With this order fresh in his memory, Maj. Gen. McClellan addressed two important communications to the Secretary of War on, respectively, the 12th and 20th of the same month over my head, and how many since to the Secretary, and even to the President direct, I have not inquired, but many, I have no doubt, besides daily oral communications with the same high functionaries, all without my knowledge. Second—To correct another class of gross neglects, I, the same day, caused to be addressed to Major General McClellan, the following order:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, Sept. 16, 1862.

To Major Gen. McClellan U. S. Commanding Department of the Potomac:

The Commanding General of the Army of the Potomac will cause the positions, state and number of the troops under him, to be reported at once to General Headquarters by divisions, brigades and independent regiments or detachments, which general report will be followed by a report of the new troops as they arrive with the dispositions made of them, together with all the material changes which may take place in the same army. By command,

Lieut. Gen. SCOTT.

E. D. TOWNSEND, A. A. G.

Eighteen months have now elapsed and not the slightest response has been shown to either of these orders by Major General McClellan. Perhaps he will say, in respect to the latter, it has been difficult for him to procure correct returns of divisions and brigades. No; doubt. But why not have given me proximate returns such as he so eagerly furnished the President and certain Secretaries. Has then a senior officer no corrective power over a junior officer in case of such patient neglect, and disobedience. The remedy by arrests, and trial before a court martial would probably soon cure the evil, but it has been feared that a conflict of authority near the head of the army would be highly encouraging to the enemies, and depressing to the friends of the Union, hence my long forbearance and continuing though but nominally on duty, I shall try to hold out the arrival of Major General Halleck, when, as his presence will give me increased confidence in the safety of the Union, and, being as I am unable to ride in the saddle, or to walk, by reason of dropsy in my feet and legs, and paralysis in the small of the back, I shall definitely retire from the army.

I have the honor to remain,
With high respect,
Your most obed't serv't,
WINFIELD SCOTT.

Mr. Cox opposed the bill at length, believing that it would break down the States and terrify the citizens. He was unwilling to trust the President with such stupendous power as was sought to be imposed. Repeal the confiscation bill, emancipation proclamation, and other unconstitutional acts; withdraw the negro bill, and a conscription bill would be unnecessary to reinvigorate the country.

Mr. Kelly said the opponents of the bill could not complain of not being heard. They, instead of adducing of argument, had indulged in remarks as were calculated to discourage enlistments, chill patriotism and produce discontent. This bill was intended to reach traitors in the South and their traitor sympathizers in the North. He never would shake hands with rebels over the graves of murdered Americans and beg their pardon. He was for eradicating the subtle poison, which engendered the rebellion. This bill was the first to recognize the manhood of the colored race, and would be passed into a law without the insertion of the word white as proposed by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Cox), and give all the troops we need.

He replied to the gentleman, who, he remarked, had attempted to poison the popular mind by proclaiming peace on any terms, and especially to Mallory, who said he would hail revolution should this bill pass. He reminded that gentleman that Pennsylvania had protected Kentucky homes, and somehow liked there, buried. The sons of Pennsylvania would never visit those graves in a foreign land. Pass this bill, and it will be announcement to France, England, and other countries that if they intermeddle with our affairs, they will have a nation to meet. We do not pass the bill as a threat, but because the exigencies of the times require it. The intelligence of its passage will reach Europe in twelve days. European States will be notified that if they put their fingers in our pie, they may tumble, trap with a sudden spring. You are not to wait to until the sting of the copperhead is in your heel, before you crush its head. His objection to the Administration was, that it had not dealt more promptly with traitors; if it had, it would have had support where it now has censure.

Adjourned.

SENATE.—Mr.