Pittsburgh Gazette.

MONDAY MORNING.....DEC. 7, 1863.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

OFFICIAL PAPER.

The New Bridge Project—Public Meeting.

A large and influential meeting of the Commissioners and subscribers to the stock of the proposed bridge to be erected over the Monongahela at the Point, was held on Saturday afternoon at Hare's Hotel. A great deal of interest was manifested by all present at the success of the project, and when once the Company is properly organized the construction of the bridge will be commenced and pushed rapidly to completion. The interest taken in the erection of the proposed bridge is not confined exclusively to those more directly concerned, whose property will be benefitted by the improvement, but our capitalists look upon it as a most excellent chance for investment.

The meeting on Saturday was organized by calling B. C. Sawyer, sr., to the chair, and appointing Thomas Steel, Esq., Secretary. The Act of Assembly appointing Commissioners to receive subscriptions to the stock of the proposed bridge was read, after which a statement of the proceedings already had been made.

Mr. Steel suggested that they should go to work more systematically than they had been doing. There was the best of feeling in the community towards the erection of the bridge. In referring to the success of the project, Mr. Steel alluded to the advantages this bridge would have in comparison with others in bringing the multitude into the city. The Birmingham and Monongahela bridges had each two roads to supply them with travel, while the new bridge would have four turnpikes converging to a point at the bridge. Again, with the facilities which this bridge would afford, property between Pittsburgh and Mansfield would increase in value from fifty to one hundred per cent. Land now in the same direction was looking up, and that was the only part of the country about the city that had not been exhausted by speculation, which will induce people to rapidly settle in that section. In addition, the interests, involved in the great manufactories such as Zug & Painter, Singer, Nimick & Co., James Wood, the oil refineries, the population of Temperanceville and surrounding villages, together with the coal and lime business, are of sufficient magnitude to make the bridge pay. He thought five or more of the Commissioners should be instructed to inform the Governor that sufficient stock had been subscribed to warrant the commencement of the bridge, secure letters patent, and then organize and go ahead.

Mr. Robert Woods desired to know whether as many subscriptions could be obtained after an organization as before it. He was of the opinion that those who subscribed stock would like to vote for the organization.

After some further remarks, B. C. Sawyer, jr., moved that five or more of the Commissioners be instructed to certify to the Governor the present condition of the project and apply for letters patent. The motion prevailed.

In relation to the matter of procuring subscriptions Mr. Chess informed the meeting that some persons were backward about subscribing on account of their anxiety to know who would be the directors of the company. He had suggested to such persons to subscribe and then aid in electing the board of directors.

Mr. Wm. Hall asked for information, if his subscription of $500, made some five years ago, was still binding on him.

Mr. Trunick informed Mr. Hall that all the subscriptions made under the act appointing Commissioners were valid. Since the last meeting Mr. Trunick had obtained some $23,000 new subscriptions, and a great many who subscribed were anxious to know who would be the directors.

Mr. Hall was satisfied with Mr. Trunick's explanation, and subscribed $500 additional.

Mr. Chess, in alluding to the backwardness of persons to subscribe, remarked that some had paid in one dollar per share, of which they had never heard any account.

Mr. Steel remarked that this fact showed the necessity of an organization.

On motion of Mr. Joseph Ross, the subscription books were opened, and a considerable number of additional shares were subscribed.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Commissioners present afterwards held a meeting, and proceeded to frame a communication to the Governor, with the view of procuring letters patent. As soon as these are received, the stockholders will meet and organize, and the preliminary steps for the erection of the bridge be taken.

Relief for the Families of Soldiers—A Commendable Project.

On Saturday evening, a large meeting of the citizens of Manchester was held in the School house, for the purpose of devising ways and means for the relief of a number of soldiers' families, residing in the borough.

Burgess Spratt was called to the chair, and James Miller was chosen Secretary. After the object of the meeting had been stated, two letters were read from soldiers' wives, setting forth the destitute condition of their families.

After some discussion, it was proposed that each taxpayer should contribute an amount equal to his borough tax, (five mills on the dollar,) to constitute a Relief Fund, which should be disbursed by a committee appointed for the purpose.

Some objections were urged to this plan, as there was no law to compel a man to pay the tax. Those who were generous and humane, would pay promptly; while those who were niggardly and selfish, would contribute nothing.

Some pretty sharp talk followed, in which it was asserted that the law of *public opinion* would compel those who were disposed to act meanly to pay their full share of the tax. The name of every man who refused to pay so small a sum for so worthy a purpose, would be published to the world.

A vote was then taken, and the resolution passed unanimously.

Messrs. Wm. B. Ross, Isaac Stewart, James Miller, George Motherell and Wm. Kirk were appointed a committee to transcribe the borough duplicate, and collect the tax from the people.

On motion, Thomas B. Updike, Esq., was elected Treasurer of the fund.

If the tax is collected, as anticipated, a fund of some $2,000 will be secured for the relief of those families which may be in want, in consequence of the absence, in the army, of those who support them. The plan is certainly a good one, and we hope to see the example followed in every district in the county. There is certainly no better method of accomplishing the object than by uniform taxation. The millage, of course, should be regulated so as not to impose a greater tax upon the people than is necessary.

The meeting adjourned to meet on Saturday evening, December 26th, to hear the report of the Committee.

From the 139th Regiment—Two Men Shot.

We learn, from a reliable source, that two men named Wm. Cherry and —— Aughenbaugh, members of Co. F, 139th Pennsylvania regiment (Col. Collier) were shot on the 1st of December, by some rebel cavalry in United States uniform. Cherry is supposed to have been killed. Aughenbaugh was wounded, but managed to escape. They were separated from their company at the time, and were deceived by the disguise worn by the treacherous rebels.

A letter from Colonel Collier, dated the 3d inst., states that the regiment is back in the old camp at Brandy Station, and all are well.

A Big Sum.—We understand that one of our well known druggists being so well pleased with the wonderful merits of the French Hair Restorer "Rejuvinator," as tested in the cases of several gray haired and bald headed persons, has purchased, for the sum of ten thousand dollars, the exclusive right to manufacture and sell the article in this country. This will be good news to many.

From the 103d Regiment.—We are under obligations to Col. J. F. Lohman, of the 103d Pennsylvania regiment, for late Southern papers. The regiment is now stationed at Plymouth, North Carolina, and the men are enjoying their usual good health.

Theatre.—Mr. Miles, the great equestrian performer, appears this evening in an entirely new drama. See card.

The Rattigan Case—Further Investigation

On Saturday afternoon Coroner M'Clung continued the investigation of the circumstances connected with the death of Thomas Rattigan.

Patrick M'Names, Sr., testified that he was with Rattigan on the evening before he received his injuries, but on the evening of the assault he was not out of his own house. John McNamee, son of the first witness, testified that his father was not away from the house on the Saturday evening on which Rattigan was injured.

James Taylor testified that, on the night in question, between eleven and twelve o'clock, he saw two men running across the street from the canal bridge. He had heard a fuss before, and he asked these men if there was any fire, but they made no answer, and acted as though they had done something wrong. John H. McElroy, who was in company with Mr. Taylor, corroborated his statements, and stated further that he heard the noise of broken glass, loud talking, and a scuffle, as though some one was being put out of doors. He could not tell where this noise came from.

Joseph Cupples stated that he passed along Penn street, near the canal bridge, a few minutes before twelve o'clock that night, and saw an abused man, who said "it was done in the alley." There were four men standing at Lanahan's Exchange, without offering to help the injured man. Witness did not know the man, and could not say that he was Rattigan. He took his arm, and started with him to get a doctor, but on reaching the curbstone a man came from Lanahan's, in his shirt sleeves, and as he appeared to know the injured party, the witness left him in his custody.

Thomas Rattigan, jr., son of the deceased, and John Crinin, son-in-law, testified that they had been forbidden by the attending physician, to talk to their father, owing to his dangerous condition, and they had no information from him as to how he received his injuries, further than this—that on his being brought home he stated that he had been beaten on the Hand-street bridge.

James Farley, watchman at the railroad crossing on Penn Street, stated that he did not hear any unusual noise on the night in question.

The investigation was then adjourned until Friday next, at ten o'clock.

John Zundel.

As this celebrated composer and organist is about visiting our city for the purpose of giving instructions on the organ, and in harmony, it may not be uninteresting to know *who* and *what* he is. Mr. Zundel, who is a pupil of the celebrated Rink, was for seven years organist of St. Ann's Lutheran Church, in St. Petersburg, Russia, during which time he gave frequent concerts on the organ, the first few of which yielded him 2,000 rubols each, (about $1,500.) He founded an orphan asylum with the proceeds, which is at present in a very flourishing condition. Such was the attraction of these organ concerts that the music-loving Russians nightly crowded his church, to the detriment and neglect of their own, and the jealous Russian authorities were thus induced to withdraw their permission for the continuance of similar musical feats. On the representations, however, of the famous Madame Sontag to the Emperor, Mr. Zundel (who for three years taught Madame S.'s children in music) was permitted to resume his organ exhibitions. A Boston family, Roper, then resided at St. Petesburg, induced Mr. Zundel to come to this country, since which time—twelve years—he has been the organist and member of Henry Ward Beecher's church. Here, then, is a rare chance for the musical improvement of our amateurs. Mr. Z. will produce, in his forthcoming concerts, only sacred music, of the most orthodox masters, and we trust that he will receive such a welcome at the hands of our pastors and choirs as has been awarded to him wherever he has gone in his works of charity and art.

Mr. Zundel is expected to arrive in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, the 8th, and will be pleased to have all who wish to avail themselves of his instructions, meet him promptly, as his stay will be limited, at Central Hall, 3d story of Dispatch Building on Tuesday evening.

Arrest of an Alleged Imposter.

On Friday, Col. Cross, Acting Quartermaster General of this department, in company with Acting Adjutant General Reed, of Gen. Brooks' staff, and two Sergeants, visited Cleveland, for the purpose of arresting a man passing under the name of Major W. G. Crow, who is charged with being a common swindler. The pretended Major was in this city, a few days since, and stopped at the St. Charles Hotel. It is alleged that, while here, he pretended to have authority to settle claims against the Government, and by this means succeeded in swindling several persons. He wore the United States uniform, but unfortunately for him he is said to be without a commission. His operations here came to the knowledge of Col. Cross, and, hearing that he had left for Cleveland, the Colonel determined to arrest him. Their trip was entirely successful, and on Saturday evening Mr. Crow was delivered into the custody of Capt. Wright, Provost Marshal, who committed him to prison to await an investigation of the charge preferred against him.

Telegraphic Consolidation.

The New York and Buffalo Telegraph Company's lines, extending from New York to Buffalo, have been consolidated with the Western Union lines, and Anson Stager, Esq., of the latter, has been appointed superintendent of the whole. The Cincinnati *Gazette* says:

Mr. Stager commenced business at Pittsburgh as an operator, upon the first telegraph line built west of the mountains. He was subsequently appointed Manager of the Cincinnati office, which position he filled with great efficiency for several years. He was next chosen Manager of the House Line, and subsequently Superintendent of the Union Lines. Now he is General Superintendent of the most extensive range of lines in the world. The position is one of great responsibility, but he is fully equal to it.

Re-Enlistments to be Credited.

Capt. John Cuthbertson, Provost Marshal of the 24th District, recently addressed an inquiry to Col. J. B. Fry, Provost Marshal General, viz: "Will men in the three years regiments, now in service, who re-enlist under circular No. 95, be credited to the quota under the President's last call?" The Provost Marshal General answered as follows: "Re-enlistments in accordance with circular No. 95, *will* be credited to the quota under the recent call."

Vigorous efforts are being made in Beaver county to fill their quota without a draft, and hence the above correspondence.

Funeral of Capt. Atwell.

The remains of the late Capt. Charles A. Atwell, were interred on Sunday afternoon, from the residence of his father-in-law, Mr. James Gregg, Craig street Allegheny. The remains were interred with military honors, and the procession was headed by the Provost Guard, under Capt. Griffith, a detachment of Knap's Battery A, and a squad of veterans from the Military Hospital. The obsequies were most solemn and impressive, and the cortege was one of the largest ever witnessed in the city.

Just Received.—A fresh stock of Photograph Albums, of the best styles and at low prices, also all sizes diaries for 1864, and all the new books, magazines, papers, &c., at Frank Case's news depot, Chronicle Building.

Brown's Bronchial Troches, for Coughs, Colds, Pulmonary and Asthmatic Disorders, have proved their efficacy by a test of many years, and have received testimonials from eminent men who have used them. daw.

The Rejuvenator will prevent the hair from falling out. Price one Dollar. For sale by all respectable Druggists. Simon Johnson, general agent, corner of Fourth and Smithfield streets.

Omnibus and carriage calls will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 410 Penn street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance.

Firemen's Association.—A meeting of this body will be held this evening, at their hall in the City building.

Great bargains in Carpets, at J. Finch's, corner of Grant and Fifth streets.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES.

Facts for the People.—Embroidering machines are not the thing for family sewing. Read the following:

One prominent defect of the double thread loop stitch is the waste of thread in forming it. Each yard of seam requires on an average 7½ yards of thread, or twice and one-half the amount required by the "lock stitch." An estimate may be easily made of the comparative expense of using the two. In the skirt manufactory of Messrs. Douglass & Sherwood, a day's work of ten hours for one person is estimated at 1,000 yards of straight seam, ten stitches to the inch, with the lock-stich machines, which they use; this length of seam requires three thousand yards of cotton thread, and with the double thread chain or knitting-stitch machine, 7,500 yards would be required. The cost of 3,000 yards of cotton thread would be $1,35 at wholesale, and the cost of 7,500 yards would be $3,10, making a difference of $1,85 a day in this item alone, or more than $5,000 a year; with costlier thread or silk (at present prices at $11 per pound), the difference would be much greater. In shirt and collar manufacture, where the stitch is finer, and less length of seam is sewed, the difference per day is only about 75 cents in favor of the lock-stitch machines. In a manufactory like that of Winchester & Davies, where one hundred and sixty of these machines are used, the saving is $120 per day. The result is that the chain or knitting-stitch is not used on this work. In quilting, where silk is used, the difference each day would amount to more than two dollars and twenty-five cents on each machine.—*Scientific American.*

The Wheeler & Wilson is the best machine for family use. Office No. 27 Fifth street.
1wd:1tw

The Queen of Bavaria (Germany) has ordered a Sewing Machine to be made in this country. It is now finished and ready to be sent abroad. It was manufactured by the celebrated Grover & Baker Co., and makes the Grover & Baker stitch. The Bavarian royal arms are beautifully inlaid with pearl and gold on the top of the iron work table. As all the different parts of the machinery (such as pivots, cams and wheels) are of silver, their simplicity is seen at a glance. The whole is to be enclosed in an elaborate case, and will be forwarded to the Queen by an early steamer, so that it may reach her by the Christmas Holidays. We would advise all of our readers to go and do likewise—that is, order one of Grover & Baker's celebrated Sewing Machines for a holiday present, as there is surely no more useful or acceptable gift than one of these machines.

For Fall and Winter Wear.—The Summer is past, and by the morning's frost, we begin to apprehend, that fall and winter will shortly be upon us, and we must provide ourselves with the material to keep us comfortable. A nice fall suit, or a good and well-made overcoat are the very thing, and we do not know of any place where our readers would suit themselves better than at Messrs. W. H. McGee & Co's clothing establishment, corner of Federal street and Diamond Square, Allegheny. They have also received a complete assortment of gentlemen's furnishing goods, and a great variety of new patterns for waistcoating, &c.

DIED:

FORD.—On Saturday, Dec. 5th, of inflamation of the lungs, GEORGE HARRY, infant son of William W. and Mary A. Ford, aged 4 months and 16 days. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, from the residence of his parents, No. 164 Shanapin street, North Commons, Second Ward, Allegheny City.

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

The river is still receding slowly at this point, with four feet six inches in the channel by the pier marks last evening. The weather was raw and cold and the prospect of rain is not encouraging—for the present at least

Business was pretty active at the levee, on Saturday, and with modera e receipts, the shipments were fair, though not up to the expectations of shippers. There is no perceptible falling off in the offering of freight, but the great drawback now is a scarcity of tonnage.

The only transient arrival we have to record is the Leonidas from Cincinnati. It seems that she was unable to bring all of her cargo above Wheeling, in consequence of low water, and Capt. Amawalk was forced to put out a portion of it at that point. After discharging here, she left again for Wheeling on Saturday evening to bring up the balance of her freight

The Orilla, with an excellent trip, cleared for Cincinnati on Saturday evening, as did also the Julia for Zanesville. The Adelaide left Portsmouth to bring up a load of metal.

The Emma Graham from Zanesville, and the Reserve from Cincinnati, were both due last night and will doubtless be found at the wharf this morning

The officers of the Julia claim that on her recent upward trip, she brought more freight than was ever brought here before on the same stage of water. Notwithstanding she was loaded down, she came up over Glass House,—to use a steamboat phrase,—"without ever wetting a spar."

The Miami, White Rose, and Nannie Byers, were advertised to leave Cincinnati for Pittsburgh on Saturday. The Starlight left there for this point on Friday.

Among the arrivals at Cincinnati on Friday, was the Westmoreland. Notwithstanding she has been in the Government service for over a year, she is as old as she is excellent order, and only requires a coat of paint to make her as "good as new."

The Reserve, Capt. D. B. Herron, clerk, W. M. List, is announced to leave for Cincinnati to-morrow evening.

The new and commodious steamer Darling, Capt. F. T. Batchelor, as will be seen by card, is announced to leave for Memphis on Tuesday.

The prompt and punctual steamer Emma Graham, Capt. Ayers, returns to Zanesville as usual, to-morrow at 4 p. m.

Markets by Telegraph.

New York, Dec. 5.—Cotton steady, and in fair demand at 79@80c. Flour less active and scarcely so firm; prices nominal without decided change at $6.30@$7.40 for Extra State, $7.40@7.50 for Extra W. R. H. O. and $8.50@9.50 for trade brands, closing dull and heavy, with no buyers at outside quotations. Wheat irregular and unsettled at 84c for Western; for large parcels, favorite brands Western, 85c refused. Wheat less active, but without decided change; $1.43@$1.46 for Chicago Spring, $1.44@1.45 for Milwaukee Club, and $1.50@$1.56 for Winter Red. Barley inactive at $1.25@$1.35 for State, including 10,000 bu very choice at $1.36. Wool quiet and and nominally unchanged. Petroleum excited and firmer; Refined, free, 50@52c; 4,000 bbls in bond 50@50½c; 15,000 do for December, 51c; 100 do do for January 50c. Pork firm and in fair demand at $16.75 for old Mess, $18.37½@18.50 for new Prime, and $16.00@17.50 for new Prime Mess, including new City Prime Mess at $20.00; also 1,500 bbls new Mess for February at $21. Beef quiet and steady. Bacon Sides in moderate request; 11½c for city Long Clear and long Cut Hams. Dressed Hogs a shade easier at 7¾@8¼c for city. Lard quiet.

New York Stock and Money Market.

New York, Dec. 5.—Money moderately active at 7. Sterling quiet without material change at 160@160½. Gold opened at 152, declined to 151½, advanced to 152¾, and closed heavy at 152¼@152½. The total exports of Specie for the week were $1,771,000.

Government Stocks quiet and firm. U. S. 6's, 1-Year Certificates 98.

Stocks dull and lower.

C. & R. I.	103	Reading	110¾
P. Ft. W. & C.	82¾	M. C.	124¾
A. & T. H.	56	M. S.	75¾
C. & N. W.	46¾	Ills. C. Scrip	118
T. & W.	52	C. & P.	104¾
C. & Tol.	113¾	Erie	105⅞
O. & C.	107	N. Y. C.	134
Erie, Pfd.	102¾	Quicksilver Co.	55
Hudson	123¾	Mo. 6's	66

St. Louis, Dec. 4, 8 p. m.—Cotton dull; light sales at 73c for Middling. Flour inactive, pending letting of Government contracts; bids for 40,000 bbls opened to-day. Corn advanced 2c. Oats declined 1@2c.

Philadelphia, Dec. 5.—Flour quiet; sales 1,000 bbls Ohio Extra $7.75. Wheat heavy; sales 3,000 bu at $1.05@1.08 for Red, and small sales White at $1.50@2.00. Corn quiet; sales 5,000 bu at $1.21@1.22 for old Yellow and $1.05@1.10 for new. Whisky 83@85c. Petroleum very much excited; sales of Refined at 38@40c, and 48@52c for free.

STEAMBOATS.

For WHEELING, MARIETTA AND ZANESVILLE.—The fine passenger steamer EMMA GRAHAM, Monroe Ayres, Commander, leaves Pittsburgh every TUESDAY, at 4 p. m., and Zanesville every FRIDAY, at 8 o'clock a. m. The new steamer JULIA, Wm. Coulson, Commander, leaves Pittsburgh every SATURDAY, at 4 p. m., and Zanesville every TUESDAY, at 8 o'clock a. m. For freight or passage apply on board or to
J. D. COLLINGWOOD, Agent, Pittsburgh;
H. S. PIERCE & CO., Agents, Zanesville, Ohio.
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For MEMPHIS.—The fine new side-wheel steamer DARLING, Capt. F. T. Batchelor, will leave as above on TUESDAY, 8th inst., at 4 o'clock p. m.
For freight or passage apply on board or to
J. D. COLLINGWOOD, } Agents.
de7 JOHN FLACK,

For CINCINNATI & LOUISVILLE.—The splendid steamer RESERVE, Capt. D. D. Herron, will leave as above THIS DAY, 7th inst., at 10 o'clock a. m.
For freight or passage apply on board or to
JOHN FLACK, } Agents.
de7 J. D. COLLINGWOOD,

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

Washington City, Dec. 6, 1863.

COLFAX AND THE SPEAKERSHIP.

General gratification is expressed to-day over the harmonious result of last night's Administration caucus. Colfax has made, in several respects, a remarkable canvass. He has passed through the contest, which resulted in finally crowding every competitor he had off the track, without making a single pledge of any position to a single member, without entering into a single combination of any kind with any of the candidates for other offices, without any bargains, and without a drop of liquor in his rooms. It is a high tribute to him that, after a canvass like that, he was nominated by acclamation. The plot by which the Copperheads hoped, through the defection of Emerson Etheridge to carry the organization, has been to-day everywhere the topic of earnest and angry discussion. The law passed in the last days of the last session requires the clerk to place upon the roll of the House no names save those who are certified to him as having been duly elected under the laws of the State or of the United States. The object of the law was to prevent the possibility of filling the House with bogus members from the Southern States, who had never been really elected, but who might, nevertheless, present certificates of some sort, and gain admission in sufficient numbers to control the House. The words, however, Etheridge claims, require him to insist that each certificate shall distinctly specify in this given form, that the member was elected according to the laws of the State of the United States. Now the certificates from Oregon, Minnesota, West Virginia, Old Virginia, Maryland and part of Missouri, read that the members were duly elected according to law. This Etheridge holds to be insufficient, and accordingly throws them out, thus taking away at least sixteen of our votes, and possibly enabling the opposition to carry the House. This might possibly be regarded as simply an over nice straining of verbal technicalities were there not this proof of deliberate scoundrelism, to wit: The States of Illinois, Indiana Ohio and New York, all having Democratic majorities, were notified by him in ample time, to have their certificates corrected in accordance with his interpretations. During the last month, however, certificates from the delegations that were thrown out, were also presented. The certificates Etheridge examined, and pronounced all right. Then, after this, on last Saturday morning, when it was too late to procure new certificates, he notified them of alleged informality and his consequent refusal to put their names on the roll. Of course this is just the same sort of a performance as playing with loaded dice. When the matter had been fully discussed in a caucus last night, a Committee of five was finally appointed, to mature a plan of action. This Committee have decided to follow it. The famous John Quincy Adams, precedent of Etheridge, persists in the plot. Thaddeus Stevens will move that Washburne the oldest member, act as Speaker, pro tem. The motion will of course be carried, and Washburne will at once be escorted to the chair peacefully, if possible, forcibly if need be. Meantime efforts are making to induce Mr. Etheridge to abandon the plot. Secretary Seward gave him this afternoon an legal opinion on the proper interpretation of the law. If Etheridge refuses to accept his interpretation, Mr. Bates will probably give him one in the morning, which, coming from the Attorney General, may compel him to see the enormity of the crime he is trying to commit. If all this fails, however, the Speaker *pro tem.* will be promptly put in over his head. The members have resolved not to be forced into filibustering for delay, and an organization to-morrow is determined upon. It is believed that this plot was originally hatched some months ago, when the prospects indicated a much smaller Administration majority, with a view of electing Fernando Wood. But they are not likely to take the odium of voting for that person, unless they are sure of electing him, and more probable, therefore, that their votes will be cast to-morrow for Cox.

ESTIMATES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

A synopsis of the estimates for expenses of the ensuing year, is embraced in the forthcoming official report of the Secretary of the Treasury, calls for the following sums for the fiscal year commencing the 30th of June, 1864: For Army and Navy, seven hundred millions of dollars, of which one hundred and forty-two millions are for Navy. The civil list of Indian expenses amounts to one hundred and two millions of dollars, making a total of eight hundred and two millions of dollars. On the 30th of June, 1864, the Treasurer estimates he will have a surplus from last year's appropriation of about eight million of dollars. Estimates have been carefully prepared, and figures put as low as possible.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Judge Edmonds, gives a total of five classes on lands disposed of for the five quarters ending September 30th, 1863, of three million eight hundred and forty-one thousand five hundred and fifty acres. The aggregate quantity of surveyed lands offered and undisposed on September 30th, 1863, was one hundred and thirty-three millions four hundred and eighty-seven thousand four hundred and ninety-five acres, of which eighty-three millions two hundred and sixty five thousand five hundred and nineteen acres were offered and fifty millions two hundred, twenty-one thousand five hundred and seventy-six unoffered lands. The commissioner recommends legislation that no pre-emption be recognized in which the settlement is not continuous, and at least for a period of one year upon unoffered lands, and for a whole year on offered lands from the date of settlement, and that settlers upon unoffered lands be required to prove and pay up within two years from the date of settlement. He recommends that the homestead act be so amended that parties entering lands shall pay full commissions to the register, and recover when the entry is made, instead of paying only one half at the time of entry, and the remainder when the final certificate is issued at the end of five years. Under the military bounty laws, fifty-eight millions, nine hundred and sixty nine thousand four hundred and thirty acres have been entered.

The following States have accepted the Agricultural and Mechanical College grant: Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Rhode Island, Illinois, Kentucky, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Connecticut, absorbing three millions seven hundred and fifty thousand acres. Under the grants for railroad purposes of 1856 and 1857, twelve millions seven hundred and fifty-eight thousand eight hundred and forty-five acres have been absorbed by Iowa, Michigan, Mississippi and Louisiana. Under the Swamp Land Act forty-four millions five hundred and eighty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-five acres have been approved in the States. Since the last report, three millions one hundred and eighty-seven thousand eight hundred and eighteen acres of land have been ordered sold, principally, in western localities—Michigan and Kansas.

FRAUDS DISCOVERED.

Frauds on the Government amounting to the sum of $640,000 has been discovered in the accounts of Capt. Wm. Stoddard, Quartermaster at Alexandria, in the receipt and delivery of forage for the Army of the Potomac. Stoddard has been arrested and confined in the Old Capitol prison. Capt. Ferguson has been arrested on a similar charge. Stoddard's frauds were perpetrated by collusion with contractors, who furnished mixed grain of thirty-two pounds to the bushel, in which were twenty pounds of oats and twelve pounds of Corn, at the price of a bushel of oats, which was higher in price in proportion to the weight. By this means he and his confederates made at the rate of fifteen cents per bushel on all the grain purchased for the army.

CONDITION OF THE MILITARY PRISON.

The Committee appointed by Secretary Stanton, consisting of Messrs. Chester, of Illinois, and others, have visited the military prisons in the district. The prisoners in the Old Capitol prison were found to be well provided for. They are principally rebels. The condition of the Central Guard House and Georgetown prisons were pronounced bad. Cases of persons confined upon no specific charges are presented for discharge, or on trial.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, &C.

The President's message is not yet finished. He now expects to furnish the last pages to the printer to-morrow forenoon. It will make about a sixteen page pamphlet, coarse type. Secretary Chase's report will perhaps make three or four more pages. It is not yet finished either, but probably will be to-morrow. The other reports are now in type. Chase's had to be delayed to receive estimates from other departments. It is known that the main feature of the President's message is his position on reconstruction, as intimated some days ago in these dispatches. On this point he will not differ materially from the views expressed by Chase in his Mount Hall speech

PUBLIC LANDS.

The General Land Office has sent to the Governor of Iowa authority to locate twenty two hundred acres of land as indemnity for a like quantity in Jasper county, Iowa, claimed as swampy, but sold as available public land. Returns from the Surveyor General of Minnesota, show the progress of surveys on both sides of the Crow Wing and Long Prairie reserves.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON TERRITORY BOUNDARY

Reports from the expedition to run the boundary line between Oregon and Washington Territory, show that the party were detained from reaching its destination till later than intended by the hostile Indians. Snow had commenced on the Blue Mountains, and the work would have to be postponed till the spring

THE UNION LEAGUE.

H. Harland, Grand Secretary of the Illinois Union League, and other delegates from that State, have arrived here to attend the meeting of the Grand League in this city, on Wednesday next.

MR. KNOX.

Of St. Louis, is here to contest the seat of P. Blair, of St. Louis.

SEAT TO BE CONTESTED.

Mecking Sleeper, of Illinois, is here to contest the seat of Kerr.

DESERTER SHOT DEAD.

Cyrus H. Hunter, a deserter from the Third Maine Volunteers, was executed on Friday last, near Gen. Birney's headquarters.

THE LEGISLATURES CLOSED THE RAPIDAN

At home fords on Saturday night, three or four regiments at each. They now occupy the north bank, after making a feint to cross in the afternoon.

GUERRILLAS CAPTURED

Two men in the employ of the Quartermaster at Vienna captured, on Saturday, within a mile of the camp, eight guerrillas.

TRAIN ATTACKED BY GUERRILLAS

At half-past six o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the guerrillas attacked a train, near Boalton. The engine was struck by about twenty bullets. The engineer was shot through the cap. There was another damage done.

PRESENTATION.

The lady managers of the Northwestern Fair, recently held at Chicago, through Mr. Arnold, presented the President with a fine gold watch, the donation of James H. Hoes, Esq., of Chicago, to the President, as the person who had made the largest donation to the Fair, in the shape of the Emancipation Proclamation, which cost Gen. $7,000.

NOMINATIONS FOR MINOR OFFICES.

No nominations for minor officers in the House will be made till after the Speaker's election.

THE CLERKSHIP.

The Clerkship contest excites much interest and is greatly mixed. Green Adams, McPherson and Buffington now seem to have it between them, but which has the best chance no mortal can tell. Buffington has been gaining immensely since last Saturday morning. Horace Greely is favoring either Green Adams or any other reliable man.

DOOKKEEPER.

The border States may present for doorkeeper Hawkins, but Taylor, of Iowa, seems to be ahead.

POSTMASTER.

The chances of Brooks, of California, for postmaster, is first class.

SURGEON HAMMOND.

Since Surgeon General Hammond's exile to the West, the Board of Investigation have discovered the gravest corruptions in his late management of his department, such as frauds in contracts, purchases of drugs, etc.

Cotton at Memphis—Rebel Raid—Gen. Forest—The Government Fraud—Arrival of Prisoners and Deserters.

Cairo, Dec. 5.—The steamer Hillman, with sixty-five bales of cotton and Memphis papers of the 3d has arrived. The Bulletin says that cotton is less active than any days previous to October sales. Seventy-two bales at forty to fifty cents.

The rebels made a raid on Saulsbury on the 2d and tore up the railroad track some distance, tearing the ties up, bending the rails and cutting the telegraph. Hatch's cavalry was in pursuit. We have forty prisoners and same number of horses. The railroad was repaired in twenty-four hours.

Report was brought here last night from Memphis that the Rebel General Forest was encamped at Rocky Fork, fifteen miles from Holy Springs Thursday last, with seventeen regiments, numbering perhaps eight to ten thousand men.

Maj. Devassee returned here and says he can refute the charges against him in regard to defrauding the Government.

Ninety-three rebel prisoners from Vicksburg were brought up on the Hillman, to be sent to Memphis, and forty rebel deserters from Louisville, have also arrived.

Rioters Sent to Fort Mifflin.

Philadelphia, Dec. 5.—Lieutenant Lavonty, with a detachment of 14 men, arrived in this city this morning, from Reading, having in charge 150 men who were concerned in the recent outrages in the coal regions. By order of Maj. Gen. Sigel he delivered the prisoners to Gen. Cadwallader, by whom they were sent to Fort Mifflin for safe keeping. These men are the worst and most dangerous of the rioters. The rest, about forty in number, will be kept at Reading. The prisoners are charged by the Government with murder, arson and rioting. Some of them are implicated in the murder of Mr. Smith, at Summit, and various acts of incendiaries.

Late Southern News.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 5.—The following dispatches are taken from Richmond papers:

Charleston, Nov. 30.—The Yankees to-day fired twenty-two mortar shells at Sumter. One man was killed.

Charleston, Dec. 1.—The Yankees fired thirteen shells at the city last night. Three buildings were struck.

The enemy reconnoitered to Pocataligo and carried of twenty-seven negroes.

Second dispatch.—The enemy fired sixteen shells into the city this afternoon. Several buildings were struck. One woman was severely wounded.

Charleston, Dec. 2.—The enemy opened fire this afternoon on the city and threw six shells. A concentrated fire from our batteries caused them to cease firing.

Bristol, Dec. 2.—The firing at Knoxville has ceased. The surrender of Burnside is not officially confirmed.

Orange Court House, Dec. 2.—There has been no fighting to-day. The enemy still make a show on our front, but is believed to be falling back to recross the Rapidan without fighting, or they are going to Fredericksburg for winter.

Mobile, Dec. 2.—Banks, with fifty thousand troops, has captured Brownsville, but he did not capture over fifty bales of cotton.

Atlanta, Dec. 1.—Claiborne's division engaged Osterhaus one mile this side of Ringgold, on Friday, driving him back. The enemy are in our front at Ringgold, and our troops are in line of battle advancing.

Atlanta, Dec. 2.—The enemy is intrenching at Chickamauga. There was heavy fighting yesterday at Charleston, Tennessee. The enemy burned a pontoon bridge to-day, and attempted to destroy the bridges and railroad track at Chickamauga.

The Yankees hold Cleveland and are advancing on Charleston, Tenn.

The Richmond papers of the 3d have been received here. The *Examiner* states with certainty that no succession of Bragg has yet been appointed by the President. Hardee now commands the army and will continue to do so till the Chief shall appoint one.

The same papers says that the reverses that have recently befallen the Confederate arms in East Tennessee is beyond doubt. It is gratifying to learn that in West Tennessee our army is springing up like magic. It resists the invading foes, and defends the West Tennessee, West Kentucky and North Mississippi to the Tallahachie, all of which district has been formed into a Department, to be known as the Department of West Tennessee, under the command of Col. Tarshall.

Caucus Meeting

Washington, Dec. 5.—The Union or Republican members of the House of Representatives, held a caucus meeting at the Capitol to night. Mr. Orth, of Indiana, placed in nomination Mr. Colfax, and this was agreed to without dissent. Nominations were made for the other officers of the House. The subject being held in reserve for future consultation, a long discussion took place beginning with a review the acts of the present Clerk of the House, Mr. Etheridge, who, it is said, had omitted from the list the name of legally certified members elect for informalities in the certificates. Whether this is so or not it is certain that the printed official list of members present at the caucus, omits the following from the border States: Messrs. Smith, Anderson, of Kentucky, Boyd, Loan, McClurg, of Missouri, Crswell, Davis, Thomas, of Md., and Segar, from East Virginia.

The Democrats of the opposition members held a meeting in one of the Committee Rooms.

Sixty or seventy members were present, including several from the border States. The object of the consultation was to suggest or argue upon the proper means to concentrate what is regarded by them as the Union or Conservative elements. No nominations were made, and the meeting adjourned to meet again on Monday.

From Washington.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The President's Message, according to the present aspect, will not be forwarded to Congress until Tuesday.

There is much conversation relative to the coffer of the Clerk of the House of Representatives in making up the roll of members. The law to regulate the duties of the Clerk in preparing for the organization of the House, passed on the 2d of March last, provides that before the first meeting of the next Congress and of every subsequent Congress, the Clerk of the next preceding House of Representatives shall make a roll of the representatives elect, and place thereon the names of all persons and of such persons only whose credentials show that they were regularly elected in accordance with the laws of their State respectively, or of the United States. On inquiry to day, it is ascertained that no credentials have been filed from Minnesota, Kansas, or California up to this time. All the other States have filed and all are correct, except West Virginia, Oregon, Vermont, Missouri and Virginia. Last Friday the Clerk sent a telegram to the Secretary of State of Western Virginia to be here by Monday to correct the returns from that State. He will doubtless arrive in time. On the same day he also sent dispatches to Vermont, New Hampshire and Connecticut—the last two of which have already filed corrected credentials.

Mississippi Steamboats Fired Into.

Cairo, Dec. 6.—The steamers Fanny and Welcome have arrived from New Orleans. Both were fired into with musketry at Waterproof, on the way up. The watchman on the former was slightly wounded. The Sultana and Brazil were also fired into at the same point. The cook on the latter was