

**Who Charges against Bishop Onderdonk.**

The testimony of this interesting investigation by the Court of Bishops, into the charges against Bishop Onderdonk, have been ordered to be published, when the public will have an opportunity of judging of the justice of the decision which the court has come to. During the investigation, the newspapers were filled with various rumors of the nature of the charges and the character of the evidence presented. The only distinct charges which have yet transpired we find in one of the New York Sunday papers. The whole subject is one which has excited much interest in the community, and we copy the statement of the paper alluded to, as follows:

The trial of Bishop Onderdonk appears to have been the great feature of the week, and the extraordinary result has occupied the attention of both the moral and religious world, to the exclusion of almost every topic. The course of proceeding was thus: Bishop Onderdonk was presented by three of his brethren of the Episcopal Church, under the canon of the Church which authorizes a presentment by a portion of the bishops, or by a general convention of the diocese. The charges were nine in number, and charged generally that the Bishop was guilty of immorality and the impurity in the manner and form set forth in the specifications annexed. The ninth charge, with its specification, was thrown out by the Court, being too vague in not setting forth, with sufficient minuteness, time, place and circumstance.

The first charge and specification sets forth that in June, 1837, when travelling towards Syracuse, in a carriage with the Rev. Clement M. Butler and his wife, he thrust his hand indecently under her clothes, &c.

The second charge specified the same thing, with the same lady, her husband being present, &c.

The third alleges that in the summer of 1838, the Bishop was guilty of indecency towards a Miss Jane A. Bowles, whilst travelling in a public stage towards the city of Utica, and that Miss B. was so outraged by his conduct, that she had to leave the coach before getting to the end of her journey. Of this, however, the Bishop was acquitted, there being no proof offered to support the allegation.

The fourth charge, that in July, 1839, he insulted Miss Anne Wilson, by thrusting his hand into her bosom. The charge was abandoned, the specification not being supported by the attendance of the witness named.

The fifth set forth that in the summer of 1841, he insulted Ellen M. Rudderow, whilst accompanying her home from church to the house of her mother, where he was engaged to dinner.

The sixth charge was, that immediately after the Bishop and Miss Ellen had got inside the House, he outraged the feelings of Jane O. Rudderow, the sister of the aforementioned lady, by thrusting his hand into her bosom. On these two charges the Bishop was found guilty.

The seventh and eighth charges and specifications accused the Bishop of similar misconduct towards the wife of the Rev. Henry M. Beare, during a visit to the house of that gentleman, at Little Neck, L. I. First, while on the way home from church, in the middle of the day, and subsequently, after they arrived at home. Of this, the Bishop was found guilty.

The testimony adduced in support of these grave charges, is said to have been of a very unique character, presenting this singular state of things; that the misconduct is said to have been submitted to by ladies, when a number of other persons were present, as in the case of the married ladies, under the immediate eye and protection of their husbands, and that since the period when these things were done, several years had elapsed, and the parties had been on the most friendly and affectionate footing with the bishop; the ladies had not objected to his society, with the exception of Mrs. Butler, and that nothing had been said, nor any whisper circulated respecting the chastity of the bishop, at the time when the other witnesses to the transactions could have been called in support of the accusation. It was also alleged, according to our information, that both the Messrs Rudderow admitted, in their cross-examination, that they wore exceeding high dresses, quite up to their throats; and that, despite that obstacle, and in the presence of other persons, the bishop did get his hand into their bosoms. These, and a variety of other inconsistencies and improbabilities, we are told will appear in the testimony when the trial is published.

The Rev. Lewis Frasier, of S. C., it is said, is about to put to press a pamphlet, as to the real origin of the proceeding against Bishop Onderdonk.

**INTERESTING FACTS IN BRIEF.**—Out of every thousand men, twenty die annually. The number of inhabitants of a city or county is renewed every thirty years. The number of old men who die in cold weather, is to those who die in warm weather seven to four. The men able to bear arms form the fourth of the inhabitants of a country. The proportion between the deaths of women and men, is one hundred to one hundred and eight. The probable duration of female life is sixty, but after that period the calculation is more favorable to them than the men. One half of those who are born, die before they attain the age of seventeen. Among three thousand one hundred and twenty-five who die, it appears by the registers that there is only one person of one hundred years of age. More old men are found in elevated situations than in valleys and plains.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, Jan. 18, 1845.

**V. B. P. L. MER, Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, No. 59 Pine Street, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising.**

**Also at his Office No. 160 Nassau Street, New York.**

In another column will be found statistics of the Coal Trade, from the Miners' Journal. The Wilkesbarre region has more than doubled its operations over last year. This great increase is owing to the great consumption of Coal by the Furnaces at Danville. The Shamokin region will, at no distant day, supply vast quantities for like purposes.

The Legislature is now completely organized and cutting out business. Little, however, of importance will be transacted until after the Inauguration.

Congress is busily engaged making speeches; most of them upon the Texas question, which seems to swallow up everything else.

The Inauguration of Francis R. Shunk, Governor of Pennsylvania, will take place on Tuesday. He will assume the duties of his office with a high character for integrity, experience, and ability. The people generally, of all parties, place great confidence in him, and many of those who voted against him are well satisfied that he succeeded over his opponent. Pennsylvania is just emerging from her difficulties. By proper management and legislation she will soon again appear what nature designed, the bright galaxy in the Union.

**SCHUYLKILL CANAL.**—The managers of this great work have resolved upon enlarging the Canal, so as to render it capable of carrying boats of 200 tons burthen, propelled by steam. They have, it is said, agreed to appropriate \$1,200,000 for the immediate completion of the work. The calculation is, that coal can then be carried at an actual cost of about 26 cents per ton, from Pottsville to Philadelphia. This is a great enterprise, and one in which we feel a deep interest. It will, undoubtedly, urge forward the speedy completion of the Shamokin, Mahoning & Schuylkill Rail Road, which will form a continuous line of Rail Road from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna, at this place. The immense travelling that would seek this route, would of itself be an inducement, independent of the produce and great mineral wealth that must pass over it. The contemplated tunnel would cut a large number of coal veins. The whole road would, in fact, traverse one of the best Coal fields in the State. Lateral Rail Roads, running from the different mines on the route, would intersect the main road in every direction, and when it is known that no roads pay so well as those upon which coal is transported, we should not be surprised to see this all important work commenced before another year. To us we are aware the completion of the road would be a great benefit, but to Philadelphia its advantages would be incalculable.

**UNITED STATES SENATOR.**—At 12 o'clock A. M., on Tuesday, both branches of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives, in convention, for the purpose of electing a Senator of the U. States for a period of six years, from the 4th of March next, the Speaker of the Senate presiding. Mr. Bigham, of Allegheny, moved to postpone the election until 12 o'clock to-morrow. Not agreed to—yeas 55, nays 74. The convention then proceeded to a ballot which resulted as follows:

DANIEL STURGEON, dem.	had	72	votes.
JAMES COPPER, whig	had	49	
J. W. ASHMEAD, native	had	5	
E. W. KEYSER, " "	" "	2	
E. C. REIGART, " "	" "	1	
J. SERGEANT, whig,	" "	1	
Hon. Daniel Sturgeon, of Fayette county,	having received a majority of all the votes given,		was declared duly elected. Necessary to a choice 66.

**JOSHUA HARTSHORNE, Esq.,** the new Canal Commissioner, assumed his official duties on the 15th inst.

**WM. JACK** has been elected clerk of the House of Representatives, and E. S. GOODRICH of the Senate.

**ANOTHER DUEL BETWEEN TWO CONGRESSMEN.**—A duel came off on the 13th inst., between Messrs. Clingman and Yancey, members of Congress, at Rosburg, about ten miles from Washington city. After an exchange of shots, which proved ineffectual on both sides, a reconciliation was effected, and the parties quit the ground after shaking hands and becoming friends. Beautiful representatives of a moral people, indeed.

**SANTA ANA.**—This noted warrior and political dictator, has been deposed from office, and the command of the army by the Mexican Congress. Santa Ana has long ruled Mexico with a rod of iron. His hopeless and ineffectual efforts to re-conquer Texas, has only betrayed his weakness. It is not yet known what course he has taken, or whether he has made his escape at all. Santa Ana, it is said, is wealthy, having invested three or four millions in European and American funds.

**CHEAP POSTAGE.**—The Phila'd Ledger says there is some talk of the Post-office Bill being laid aside this session of Congress. We hope it is not so. It is the business of the peoples' servants to do their work, and the people demand that this bill shall pass. As far as the newspaper press expresses public opinion on this question, it is unanimous throughout the country in favor of the passage of a bill this session, bringing down the rates of postage to a reasonable point. On this subject, the New York Tribune suggests that a public meeting be called in that city. If there be a positive indisposition upon the part of Congress to satisfy the public in this regard, and Congress forced from their dilatory position, to a proper degree of action. The Tribune says that the Senate is not so deeply immersed in the Texas question that it has time on its hands. If the Senate alone is in that enviable position, let it take the matter in hand.

**SUPPLY OF COAL.**—The following statement, says the Miners' Journal, will show the quantity of Anthracite Coal shipped from the different regions in 1844, in comparison with 1843.

	1844.	1843.
Schuylkill Canal,	298,443	447,058
Rail Road,	411,491	230,237
Pinegrove,	34,916	22,605
Schuylkill County,	874,850	700,200
Lehigh,	577,821	267,734
Lackawana,	251,065	227,605
Wilkesbarre,	114,966	58,600
Shamokin,	13,987	10,000
	1,631,669	1,263,539

Increase in 1844, 368,130 Tons. The supply this year, over and above the consumption of last year (which was 1,213,537 tons) is 368,130 tons, a large increase, but it is not believed to be more than the market requires.

A general impetus was given to business in all branches by the passage of the tariff of 1842. Furnaces and factories have been re-opened, and new ones erected and put in operation in all parts of the country, and hence a vastly augmented demand for coal. Anthracite coal, too, is very generally used on steamboats, and it is estimated that 500 tons per day are consumed in boats leaving the city of New York alone, and it has been introduced into use, in almost every business where a steam engine is employed. This greatly increased consumption has necessarily demanded an increased supply. In every district within the circumference of the different coal regions, there has been a greatly augmented supply over 1843. In the Wilkesbarre region, which belongs to the same formation with the Lackawana, and is part of the same field, it has been augmented from 58,000 to 114,966 tons, although it is probable, that little more than the usual quantity has reached tide water; the furnaces, &c., in the vicinity of Danville, having consumed within the past year from 40,000 to 50,000 tons.

**IRON WORKS AT HARRISBURG.**—We took a glance the other day at the Anthracite Iron Works now being built at Harrisburg, by Governor Porter and Michael Burk, Esq., and we are surprised to find that it will be so extensive an establishment. The stack is completed within five feet. The house for the engine and the blowers finished, and the whole work is in such a state of forwardness as to insure an early start in the spring. The stack is 35 feet square at the base, and will be 25 feet high, with hoes of 11 feet diameter. The engine house is 74 by 48 feet, and the cast house 69 by 37. The engine of 90 horse power and the blowing cylinders of 58 inches diameter and 64 feet height, are from the shop of the celebrated manufacturer, Messrs. Bolton, Taylor & Co., of Reading. The renowned Iron King, Perry, is also engaged as founder.

The location of this establishment has many great advantages; among them we may mention that of being situated immediately on the Pennsylvania canal and at the termination of the Harrisburg and Lancaster Railroad, thus affording an easy market for the iron at all seasons.

The cost of ore on the bank will be from \$2, to \$2 50 per ton. Coal from the Wyoming region \$2 40, and limestone which abounds in the immediate vicinity, 50 cents, and it is supposed that the following will be the cost of a ton of iron, viz:	
24 tons of ore at, say 2 25	\$5 02
2 do do coal 2 40	4 80
1 do do limestone,	50
Labor and contingencies,	4 00
	\$14 92

The price of pig iron is usually from 25 to 30 dollars per ton. These works will be capable of turning out from 80 to 90 tons weekly, and if the blast be continued a year, the product will exceed 4000 tons. Altogether we think the undertaking promises a rich reward to the enterprising proprietors. We wish them every success.—*Spirit of the Times.*

**LEHIGH COUNTY BANK.**—Thompson's Bank Note Reporter (N. Y.) tells a mysterious story about the subscription to the stock and management of this bank.

**THE DEBT OF BOSTON.**—The city debt of Boston is 1,167,000 dollars. It is to be liquidated in fifteen years.

The public debt of Mexico, besides what she owes to the United States, is said to be eighty-two millions of dollars, upon which the annual interest is nearly five millions of dollars.

Hon. Caleb Cushing has been requested to lecture on the countries he has just visited,—at Washington city. It is thought he will accede to the request.

A New York paper says that several tons of brimstone have been ordered to Washington, to cure those loafers stationed there who have an itch for office.

**Report on Coal.**

The report on coal made by Professor Johnson, to Congress, contains a vast amount of information of great interest, especially to Pennsylvania. It is a volume of over six hundred pages, shows the applicability of American coals to steam navigation and other purposes, ascertained by a series of experiments.

"In reference to the several ranks of coals, we find the following remarks directly applicable to the naval service:

"For the purposes of steam navigation, the rank most important to be considered is the fifth in which the coals stand in the order of their evaporative power under given bulks.

"This is obviously true, since, if other things be equal, the length of a voyage must depend on the amount of evaporative power afforded by the fuel which can be stowed in the bunkers of a steamship, always of limited capacity. At the head of the fifth rank stands Atkinson & Templeman's Cumberland coal, on the right of which is 506.2, the number of pounds of steam produced by one cubic foot of that coal. This number used as a divisor for the whole series, gives the relative value as follows:

	Relative values.
1. Atkinson & Templeman's	1,000
2. Beaver Meadow Slope, No. 5,	982
3. Peach Mountain,	964
4. Forest Improvement,	955
*5. Easby's "Coal in Store,"	946
6. New York and Md. Mining Co.,	927
7. Queen's Run,	913
8. Blossburg,	911
9. Neff's,	906
10. Easby & Smith's,	903
11. Beaver Meadow slope, No. 3,	893
12. Beaver Meadow (Navy Yard),	883
13. Mixture Beaver Meadow & Camb'd,	880
14. Lehigh,	872
15. Lyeomg Creek,	871
16. Cambria county, Penn.,	860
17. Mix. Beaver Meadow & Midlothian,	850
18. Barr's Deep Run,	845
19. Lackawana,	844
20. Karthaus,	843
21. Dauphin and Susquehanna,	835
22. Lyken's Valley,	812
23. Pieton. (New York sample.)	796
24. Midlothian, (aver. gr.)	792
25. Crouch & Sued's,	785
26. New Castle,	776
27. Midlothian, (900 feet shaft.)	766
28. Midlothian, (New shaft.)	759
29. Pieton. (Conard's sample.)	758
30. Chesterfield Mining Company,	726
31. Midlothian, (screened.)	722
32. Natural Coke,	698
33. Creek Company's,	692
34. Pittsburg,	678
35. Sidney,	669
36. Liverpool,	663
37. Scotch,	625
38. Tippecanoe,	618
39. Cannelton,	616
40. Clover Hill,	614
41. Coke of Neff's Coal,	592
42. Coke of Midlothian,	499
43. Dry Pine Wood,	175

The Nos. marked by \* are specimens of Cumberland coal.

It will not fail to be remarked that the justly celebrated foreign bituminous coals of New Castle, Liverpool, Scotland, Pieton, and Sidney—coals which constitute the present reliance of the great lines of Atlantic Steamships—are fully equalled, or rather surpassed in strength, by the analogous coals of Eastern Virginia; that they are decidedly surpassed by all the free-burning coals of Maryland and Pennsylvania; and that an equally decided advantage in steam-generating power is enjoyed by the anthracites over the foreign coals tried, whether we consider them under equal weights or equal bulks.

Experiment appears to demonstrate that, for the purpose of rapid evaporation, and for the production of illuminating gas, the coal of Indiana, though neither very heavy nor very durable, is inferior to none of the higher bituminous class to which it belongs; since in heating power, and in freedom from impurity, it surpasses the splint and cannel coal of Scotland.

**OUR PRODUCTION OF COTTON.**—A Southern paper well observes, "every reasonable man engaged in the cotton culture at this time, must admit the fact, that over production is the principal cause of the present extreme low price, yet he will himself, in making this admission, also acknowledge that he is at this very moment engaged in straining every nerve to clear more land to make more cotton. Aware that such has been the course pursued by almost every planter in Mississippi and Louisiana for several years past, we have at several different times directed the attention of our friends to the consideration of their impolitic and suicidal course, and have repeatedly suggested the propriety of directing a portion of their force to the culture of some other of the many articles of produce that can be grown here with fair profit.

**CENTRE COUNTY MARBLE.**—The Lewistown Gazette contains a glowing description of marble that has been discovered in Centre county, not far from Bellefonte, which has been worked at Lewistown, and found equal to any Egyptian marble for fineness and beauty.

**THE EVIDENCE IN BISHOP ONDERDONK'S TRIAL.**—It is announced in the Courier and Enquirer by the Appletons, publishers and booksellers in Broadway, that they have purchased the copyright of the proceedings, evidence and arguments before the Court of Bishops, and that they intend to publish the whole in the course of next week. They have given \$800 for the copy-right.

Alphadelphia Tocsin is the title of a new paper, devoted to the laboring classes, published at Alphadelphia, Michigan. It has eight editors, and ought to be a good paper.

**LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.**

From the Phil. Ledger.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 10.

**SENATE.**—Mr. Crabb read, in place, a supplement to the Act incorporating the Delaware Insurance Company of Philadelphia.

On motion of Mr. Champneys, the Senate proceeded to nominate candidates for the office of U. S. Senator, and the following named gentlemen were nominated, almost every Senator naming one or more:—Walter Forward, Harmer Denny, Daniel Sturgeon, David Wilmot, James R. Snowden, Geo. W. Woodward, Jesse Miller, Job Mann, James H. McLanahan, Thomas McKean Thompson McKennan, (all one name.) J. Bredin, H. W. Smith, Simon Cameron, John S. Gibbons, A. C. Ramsay, Ellis Lewis, J. Clarke, John Gilmore, Wilson McCandless, William Bigler, David R. Porter, John Galbraith, John Sargeant, Charles J. Ingersoll, James Irvin, N. B. Eldred, H. B. Wright and E. B. Hubley.

Mr. Darsie called up bill No. 1: an Act to provide for the resumption of the Beaver Division by the State, and it was debated over an hour. Messrs. Darsie, Bigler, Hill and Steriger advocated the bill, and Messrs. Sullivan and Champneys opposed it. About 12 o'clock the subject was postponed, and Mr. Fegely, of Berks, announced, formally, the death of Mr. Hunter. The usual resolutions of respect and condolence were passed, and the Senate adjourned for the day.

**Horse.**—I mentioned, casually, in my noon letter, several matters that will not lose any thing by a more explicit repetition. The bill providing for the redemption of the over issues of the Berks County Bank, which passed at the last session, and was returned this morning with a veto, was made the order of the day for Tuesday two weeks. The bill to compel the Tidewater Canal Company to receive its own issues in payment for tolls, also vetoed, was made the order of the day for this day two weeks.

The Annual Report of the State Treasurer was received, as also the Report of the Commissioners to sell the Delaware Division, and a Statement of their expenses, while vainly attempting the sale.

Mr. Trego read, in place, a bill providing that persons holding property in trust may purchase real estate therewith; also, a bill to prevent holders of claims becoming witnesses by transferring said claims to third persons.

Mr. McCaslin submitted the following:

"Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in general assembly met, that our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested to take immediate efficient measures to extend the jurisdiction of the United States over that region of country west of the Rocky Mountains, known as the Oregon Territory."

Mr. Dunlap brought forward a resolution providing for closing the Hall on Sundays, which caused considerable debate, and finally passed by a vote of 52 to 43. During its consideration, Mr. Herr moved to suspend the pay of members on the Sabbath, but the patriots refused to go into that branch of reform. Mr. Brady afterwards brought in a resolution, exonerating the officers of the House from performing duty on the Sabbath, such as carrying parcels for members, distributing their letters, &c. This was adopted, after an amendment by Mr. Cochran, declaring it an offence worthy of serious reprobation, for a member to go to the post-office on a Sunday, had been voted down. These resolutions created considerable merriment, and it is to be hoped the good to be effected will be equal thereto.

Mr. Bigham presented a petition from citizens of Pittsburg, praying for the removal, by impeachment, or otherwise, of Judge Patton, on account of his ignorance of law and mankind, his partiality, tampering with parties' insults, &c. It was read and laid on the table. In presenting the memorial, Mr. B. remarked, that he did not assent to the charges, and that the cause for them had passed away.

A call was made by a resolution, on the Governor, for a statement of the number of troops called out to protect life and property in Philadelphia, during the May and July riots. The State is going to pay them.

There was quite a sensation created in the House, near the hour of adjournment, by a motion from Mr. Mageehan, to expel the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Simmons, on a charge of bribery, fraud, &c. After the reading of the resolution, Mr. Mageehan handed the following note to the Clerk, who read it. It was addressed to Mr. Painter, of Westmoreland, and written in pencil on the back of a letter to Mr. Bigham, of Allegheny. Here is the note:

"MR. PAINTER.—I feel myself bound to go for your man, Whittaker, as Mr. Burnside did not talk to Mr. Smith in the caucus. Yours, T. P. SIMMONS."

In submitting this affair to the House, Mr. Mageehan desired to learn if such collisions and bargains for the votes of members were common law matters with the Legislature, and proceeded to inveigh against the practice. Mr. Smith, of Berks, looked upon it in a less serious light, and moved the indefinite postponement of the motion to expel. Mr. Cooper opposed this motion, and Mr. Herr had just gotten the floor when the hour of adjournment arrived.

I have been told, this evening, that the note was written yesterday morning, after the caucus nomination of Mr. Simmons, and that it was merely intended to inform the member from Westmoreland that he would appoint his "man, Whittaker," as another, whom he expected to appoint, had failed to do some specified work to get S. nominated.

Previous to the introduction of the last matter, Mr. Burnside presented a paper from James Dundas, President of the Commercial Bank of Philadelphia, informing the Legislature that the stockholders had declined to accept the Act re-chartering said bank, on account of the individ-

ual liability clause, and asked a recharter without that provision.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 11th.

**SENATE.**—The Secretary of the Commonwealth being formally introduced, presented the returns of the election for Governor, held on the second Tuesday of October last. Laid on the table.

Mr. Rahn presented a remonstrance signed by eight members of the Bar of Schuylkill county, against the confirmation of Luther Kidder, as President Judge of the 21st district. These lawyers think that Mr. K. was mainly instrumental in getting the new district set off to feather his own nest, and that the Governor took too much time (eight months or more) to consider who to appoint, &c.

Mr. Heckman moved to refer it to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions to report a bill repealing the law establishing the new district, and adding Dauphin county to the Lancaster District. Some objections were made to the repeal, and it was finally referred, with instructions to inquire into the "expediency" of making the proposed repeal and change proposed. If the Court is abolished, in all probability the Judge will claim his salary for ten years. Two memorials, signed by fifteen members of the Schuylkill Bar, were presented in favor of the confirmation of Mr. Kidder.

The Governor, by Message, transmitted to the Speaker, who laid it before the Senate, the evidence which he had received on the 18th December last, of the completion of the Erie Extension from Erie to New Castle. It consists of the affidavits of numerous persons who passed from one to the other of the places named, in boats or barges.

A message was received from the Governor, nominating Percipher Lemon to be an Associate Judge for Wayne county.

Mr. Darsie, from the Select Committee, to which was referred the letter from the Secretary, at War, reported a bill ceding to the United States three lots of ground, purchased for an U. S. Arsenal, at Pittsburg.

Mr. Darsie also read a bill in place, extending the time for the completion of a portion of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, through a corner of the State of Pennsylvania. Mr. Sullivan in place, a bill more effectually to enforce the judgment of Courts, giving to sentences of Criminal Courts the effect of judgments rendered in civil suits.

Monsieur Tonson was introduced by Mr. Hickman, in a new suit, viz.—a bill to authorize the Elizabethtown and Somerville Railroad Company to extend their road by a bridge over the Delaware, at or near the borough of Easton, in said borough, or South Easton.

Mr. Sullivan offered a resolution requesting the Auditor General to inform the Senate what action had been had under the act of last session in relation to the settlement of the accounts of W. J. B. Andrews, late Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Darsie moved to add, "and whether an action has been had in relation to the collection of the amount due the Committee from Frederick Fritz and others; which, after some discussion was agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Mr. Fegely offered a resolution for the adjournment of the Legislature on the 4th March (2) next. Laid on the table.

Mr. Sherwood, a resolution of inquiry to the Judiciary Committee, as to the expediency of granting jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace hold jury trials (with three justices) in cases as assault and battery and petty larceny. Adopted.

Mr. Hill, a resolution of inquiry to the Committee on Finance, as to the expediency of porting a bill subjecting State loans and all sales or transfers of State stock to such taxes as imposed on other securities.

Mr. Bigler, a resolution of inquiry to the Committee on the Judiciary, as to the expediency of vesting in Courts of Common Pleas or County Commissioners, power to regulate election districts. Adopted.

Mr. Foulkrod, a resolution fixing the hour 12 on the third Tuesday, inst., as the time for opening and reading of the returns of the election for Governor, and for the appointment of a Joint Committee of six to escort the Governor elect to the House of Representatives. Laid on the table.

House.—The matter of alleged fraud in the election of Sergeant-at-Arms was resumed, after some explanation, postponed indefinitely by a vote of fifty to forty three.

Mr. Muse, of Allegheny appeared and took the oath of a member. Mr. O'Brien is still absent and one vacancy in Berks, leaving 98 members present.

Mr. Herr read in place a bill to construe act of 31st May last, so that School Direct shall assess, for common school purposes, a not less than \$1 per every taxable inhabitant and not more than three. By the act of last session, it has been reduced to fifty cents per taxable, and this act is to renew the old one.

Mr. Merryfield read, in place, an act to authorize the holding of Jury Trials before Justices of the Peace, for certain petty cases, as is the law in New York and other States.

Mr. Bayard read, in place, by its title, an Act for the Suppression of Riots. The bill provides for the reading or proclamation of the Riot Act by peace officers, in the name of the Commonwealth, at any tumultuous, riotous assemblage of ten or more persons; and in case, the persons thus riotously assembled do not disperse they may be dispersed and arrested, and shall be imprisoned for from three months to three years. The same penalty is named for obstructing any officer from reading the act at such a gathering. It also provides that force may be used to disperse assemblages, if needed, and awards no damages to those hurt by the use of such force, if they refuse to retire to their homes or places of business or labor when required to.

Mr. Hollingshead read, by title, an act to extend to the Districts of Philadelphia the laws now and for years past in force relating to the suppression of nuisances in streets, lanes and alleys