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BALTIMORE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1861.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

The Treasury Report of Mr. Secretary Chase will unquestionably be read by all who are anxious to understand the present condition of the Federal Exchequer, a desire to know what Mr. Chase has to say with regard to the means for carrying on the war—how the monies are to be obtained, and to what an extent the Government is plunging the country into debt. It would be difficult to follow Mr. Chase through his long statement of the measures which have been adopted by him thus far under Congressional sanction for raising the amount of money necessary to meet the extraordinary expenditures of the Government, and moreover he does but recapitulate what is already very generally known. We pass, therefore, this portion of the Report, merely premising that he succeeded in negotiating with the associated Banks to the Eastward two loans of fifty millions each, on the condition that they were to be reimbursed, as far as practicable, from the amounts to be subscribed by individuals to the National loan, based on an issue for three years of Treasury notes bearing an interest for that period of 7.30 per cent., which bonds were subsequently to be merged into stock of the United States. A third loan was negotiated for fifty millions with the same parties in November last, by agreeing to issue to them fifty millions of dollars in six per cent. bonds at a rate equivalent to par for the bonds bearing seven per cent. interest, as authorized by the act of July. The amount of demand notes put into circulation up to the 30th of November last is stated to be rather over twenty-one millions of dollars. The aggregate realized from loans in various forms is said to be one hundred and ninety-seven millions two hundred and fifty-two thousand five hundred and eighty-eight dollars.

The revenue receipts from customs for the past fiscal year have disappointed the expectations of Mr. Chase. He estimated the receipts at fifty-seven millions of dollars—the returns show but thirty-two millions—but including the direct tax of twenty millions, and minor sources of revenue, the aggregate revenue, it is supposed, will amount to some fifty-four and a half millions of dollars. In view of the increasing demands upon the Treasury, Mr Chase urges retrenchment and reform in every department of the Government.

To enable the Government to obtain the means still necessary to prosecute the war to a final issue, he suggests the propriety of depriving the banks of the country of the authority to circulate notes of their own issue, and to substitute in their stead notes issued by the government. Two plans for accomplishing this are suggested. 1st. By a gradual withdrawal from circulation of the notes of corporations, and of the issue in their stead of United States notes payable in coin on demand. 2nd. A National Banking Institution which shall distribute the notes of the Bank to local banking institutions, to be secured by the pledge of United States bonds. Mr. Chase favours the adoption of the second plan.

A further augmentation of the duties on sugars, teas, and coffee, is recommend, but no other modification is thought to be advisable at the present time. An increase of the direct tax to twenty millions for the loyal States is regarded as absolutely necessary, as is also duties on stills, distilled liquors, tobacco, bank notes, carriages, legacies, paper evidences of debt and instruments for conveyance of property, and other like subjects of taxation. The proposed income tax, it is suggested, shall be abandoned.

From Kentucky we learn that the Federal forces under General Schoeff, had been compelled to retreat before an advancing force of Confederates, ten thousand strong. The latter are said to have crossed the Cumberland river and to be marching on Somerset.

The Confederates are rapidly accumulating an immense number of men at Columbus, in anticipation of an attack upon that place by the naval flotilla.

There has been some skirmishing on the Upper Potomac, which is said to have resulted in dispersing a party of Confederates. From the lines opposite Washington we have no report whatever; but it is known, in official quarters, that on Friday and Saturday last there was severe fighting, and that both days the Federal troops suffered very heavy losses.

We continue our extracts from the English papers. The appearance of the Nashville in an English port has given rise to considerable excitement and no little discussion as to the manner in which she ought to be received. The weight of opinion however, appears to incline towards conceding to her the same privileges that were accorded to the United States steamer James Adger. Some correspondence is said to have taken place between Mr. Mason and the British Government in relation to the numerous attempts to intercept the British mail steamer, and the *Scotsman* reports, on what is said to be good authority, that the law officers of the Crown have expressed the opinion that "there might be fair legal grounds for an American cruiser seizing a mail steamer as a prize, even in British waters." Whether the case of Messrs. Mason and Slidell will fall under this interpretation remains to be seen, as also whether the law officers of the Crown have given any such opinion at all. It is certainly singular that a paper published in Edinburgh should become acquainted with the nature of the correspondence that passed between the American Minister und the British Government whilst the London journals remained wholly ignorant of it.

BERNOT'S PATENT FILE CUTTING MACHINE.—The cutting of files by machinery has long been a desideratum with mechanics, and various patents have been taken out in this country for machines which were designed to accomplish this object. But not one of them was found on trial, capable of giving to the teeth of the file, the peculiar set which they acquire in cutting them by hand, or the form which constitutes their excellence in rasping solid substance.

This difficulty has, however, been triumphantly overcame in Bernot's machine—which is a French invention—and which is now on exhibition at Ives' machine shop in Frederick street near Baltimore. Its ingenuity of construction and perfect adaptation to the purpose for which it is designed is not less remarkable than the speed and accuracy and economy of labor with which the work is accomplished. Our object in noticing this machine is to call the particular attention of our capitalists and property holders to the great importance of building up in this city, by its use, a monopoly of the trade in files for the whole country.

That the ownership of the patent, if the necessary works were put in operation, would give to the proprietors an entire monopoly of the manufacture of files, can, we think, be satisfactorily demonstrated to every one who will give themselves half an hour to investigate the working of the machine.—The patent for the United States is, we learn, entirely owned in Baltimore. The machine now on exhibition was built in Baltimore, and the owners of the machine are very desirous that the factory also should be established here. Whilst making a personal examination of the machine, to which we were led in consequence of the general invitation that was extended to all persons to do so through the columns of this and other papers of the city, an incident occurred which satisfied us that the owners of the patent could, if they thought proper, easily dispose of all the interest they are inclined to part with in a Northern city of less than one-fourth the population of Baltimore. The incident may be briefly told. Whilst looking at the machine in operation, a well-known Northern Senator, who happened accidentally to be in the city, entered the machine shop. He examined carefully the operation of the machine for a period of half an hour, and then quietly asked the price at which the owners held the right to use it. On being told, he remarked, at once, "I will take one-eighth of it wherever it may be established; but if the owners should finally determine to establish the factory in my own State, I ask the privilege of taking a larger interest in it" It remains for our citizens to say whether a machine which is destined to revolutionize the entire manufacture of files, shall be owned here or elsewhere.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Army Orders Relative to Enlistments.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—General Orders No. 104 invite attention of the officers of the army to the following, in addition to the orders of the Secretary of War embraced in the Regulations for the Recruiting Service:

First—The large number of enlisted men discharged on certificates of disability has attracted the notice of the General-in-Chief, and as it is an especial duty to render the rank and file of the army as effective as possible, the attention of superintendents and other officers concerned either with the enlistment of men or their discharge on account of disability, is directed to the judicious discharge of their respective duties. Evidence is abundant, as attested by the records of the Adjutant General's office, that many men have been enlisted who were "unfit for service" prior to or at the date of enlistment. It should be borne in mind that the law provides for the enlistment of "effective, able-bodied" men, and if any officer shall enlist any person contrary to the true intent and meaning of the law, it is further provided that for every offence "he shall forfeit and pay the amount of the bounty and clothing which the person so recruited may have received from the public, to be deducted out of the pay and emoluments of such officer."

With this object in view, paragraphs 980 and 981, Revised Regulations, must be strictly complied with. A sense of duty to the public will cause an enforcement of the laws and regulations governing the service, and these must be the guidance of the officers obtaining recruits. Officers cannot be too circumspect in the discharge of their duties, and they are called upon to comply strictly with all the regulations applicable to the subject.

Second—As to minors, every precaution should be taken to prevent their enlistment, except as provided by the Regulations. A true record of the age is of great value. In a majority of cases the recruiting officer may be justified in recording the age as stated by the person offering to enlist, yet many cases occur in which he should not rely more upon his own judgment, and less on the recruit's affirmation, in ascertaining his probable if not his actual age. In every doubtful case, therefore, as to minority or the over-age of the man, it becomes the duty of the officer to judge for himself, to a certain extent, and not in any case to accept a recruit who, under anxiety to enlist, manifestly misstates his age.

Third—It will be observed that Regulations at this time contain no direct prohibition to enlist married men. In the regimental service this must be governed by the want of laundresses for companies, and in the general service by the Superintendents.

Fourth—It is enjoined on all Superintendents and other officers commissioned and men commissioned, to conduct the service with diligence, unceasing personal attention and economy.

By command of MAJOR-GENERAL MCCLELLAN,
Official: THOS. M. VINCENT, Assistant Adj. Gen.

Military Appointment Solicited.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Hon. C. B. Calvert, of Maryland, and Hon. R. H. Duell, New York, waited upon the President to-day urging the appointment of Col. John C. Robinson as Brigadier-General. The latter commanded at Fort Mellenry on the 19th of April, and now commands a brigade at Annapolis Junction.

The Case of Col. Kerrigan--Military Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Colonel Kerrigan, who for some time past was confined in the city prison was this morning arraigned before the Court-Martial, when the specifications and charges were read to him, to all of which he pleaded "not guilty" excepting to the charge of sleeping outside his camp without the permission of his superior officer. The court adjourned till to-morrow in order to afford Colonel Kerrigan an opportunity to obtain counsel.

Captain Boyd, of the Lincoln Cavalry, who made the successful reconnoissance to Fairfax Court House a few days ago, and for which he was complimented by Genl. McClellan, has been detached from his regiment, and is now performing the duty of Provost Marshal for the District of Columbia.

Col. Mulligan arrived at Washington to-day and was warmly received.

Republican Caucus.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Republican caucus was in session to-night for several hours. General Pomeroy, of Kansas, acted as Chairman, and Mr. McPherson, of Pennsylvania, as Secretary. Ten-minute speeches were made by Messrs. Stevens, Potter, Dunn, Bingham, Kelly, Edwards, Lane, Campbell, Ashley and Davis. The discussion is represented as having been very spirited.

The general feeling seemed to be to confiscate the slaves and all other property of the Confederates, and of their aiders and abettors, but not to interfere with those of the Unionists. A resolution somewhat to this effect it is said is pending.

Owing to insufficient notice, the attendance of Representatives and Senators was not as large as was desired, hence no vote was taken, and the caucus adjourned until Wednesday night.

Large Naval Operations in Prospect.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—During the coming few weeks the Navy will require a large number of vessels now fitting out, and it is earnestly hoped that fishermen and others returning from their summer cruises will enlist in this branch of the Government service. Several thousand men will be needed.

Secty Chase's System of National Finances.

A well known gentleman of financial ability has prepared, and will publish this week, a pamphlet explanatory of the Secretary of the Treasury's proposed system of national finances.

Confederate Mail Facilities.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The following is an abstract from a recently intercepted Southern letter:

"I suggest that you send your letters through Hon. James M. Mason, at London. In this way they will be sure to reach their destination."

The Slavery Question in Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—As to-morrow and Wednesday will be devoted to proceedings consequent on the death of Senators Baker and Bingham, the House has postponed the consideration of the various slavery propositions until Thursday.

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, has modified his resolutions in several important particulars, namely: Declaring there can be no solid and permanent Union so long as slavery exists, and that all slaves be proclaimed free; full compensation to be made to loyal masters, who have been and continue to be supporters of the Union.

The bill introduced by Mr. Hutchins, of Ohio, to-day, proposes unconditionally to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

The notice for a caucus to-night at the Capitol, as read after the House adjourned, invited the attendance of Republicans of both Houses, on matters of importance. Mr. Vallandigham apparently expressed his surprise, remarking that he thought these were the days of no party.

Naval Officers Retired--Dismissal from the Service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Commanders E. K. Thompson and Overton Carr, and Lieut. Jas. A. Doyle, of the U. S. Navy, have, upon recommendation of the Board now in session in New York, been retired upon furlough pay.

Commander F. A. Neville, a native of Virginia, and late of the receiving-ship Ohio, has been dismissed from the navy.

FROM GEN. BANKS' DIVISION.

FREDERICK, Dec. 8.—The First Brigade, General Abercrombie, is located on the Baltimore turnpike, about midway between Frederick and New Market. A regular guard is now stationed in the latter place to preserve order and prevent the sale of spirituous liquors to the soldiers.

The Third Brigade, General Hamilton, is about one mile south of the First, on a by-road, and about the same distance north of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The sites of the regiments have been selected with a view to comfort during the approaching winter. They are generally situated on southern slopes, with forests on the north and west, and in the immediate vicinity of considerable streams.

Capt. Knapp's Pennsylvania battery, which was originally intended as an adjunct to Col. Geary's regiment, has recently been attached to this division and placed under the control of Capt. Best, the senior artillery officer. This battery is composed of six ten-pounder Parrott guns, a section of which was yesterday dispatched to Point of Rocks.

So soon as the proper stables and huts shall have been erected Capt. Best will open a school to instruct the officers of the battalion in artillery practice. The battalion officers at present are Capt. Best, Fourth United States Artillery, Commanding; Lieut. Muhlenberg, of Pa., Adjutant; Lieut. Cushing, of Best's battery, but formerly of the Rhode Island battery, Quartermaster; and Dr. Weir, nephew of the great painter, Surgeon.

The indiscriminate use of bad whiskey, procured generally from country groggeries, caused great annoyance along the route from Darnestown hither, and in some instances was near producing serious results. On the third night after leaving Darnestown, the 29th Pennsylvania bivouacked on the Monocacy below the junction. Permission was granted the soldiers to procure supper at the farm houses. One of the privates of Company C, an Irishman, named Alexander Lynch, in a state of partial intoxication, offered an insult to the lady, when he was promptly seized by Major Scott, but before assistance could be called Lynch made a furious assault upon the Major with a heavy Western knife. This the latter wrested from him, but quick as thought Lynch drew a second and smaller knife, and would have killed his officer had not Lieutenant Colonel Parham arrived just in time to avert the blow and secure the weapon. The culprit is now in confinement awaiting trial.

During the same night Quartermaster Sergeant Hoppel, of the same regiment, while reposing on the ground, was kicked by a vicious horse belonging to the wagon train, dissevering his ear entirely from his head and fracturing his skull. Assistant Surgeon Jackson was thrown from his horse, dislocating his knee, when leaving Darnestown. Surgeon Duffee, of the Twenty-ninth, being absent, the Surgeon of the Twenty-seventh Indiana was called upon to attend the injured.

On the 15th of last month an estimate was made of the sickness in the army, when it appeared that General Banks' Division was the healthiest by a considerable per centage.

Important from the Upper Potomac—Attack of the Confederates at Dam No. 5—Their Final Repulse.

FREDERICK, Dec. 9.—Col. Leonard, of the Thirteenth Massachusetts regiment, arrived here this morning, from Williamsport, with important advices from the upper Potomac. On Saturday afternoon a Confederate force consisting of a battery of six pieces and about four hundred infantry and two hundred cavalry, made their appearance at Dam No. 5, on the Virginia side of the river, and commenced throwing shells and shot at the dam and houses on the Maryland shore, burning a barn and riddling all the houses within range, continuing the fire until dusk. The only Union forces there to oppose the enemy, were a company of the Thirteenth Massachusetts, on a picket duty, and an unarmed regiment from Illinois. As the Massachusetts company were armed with smooth-bore muskets, their fire was not effective at that distance.

Early on Sunday morning the Confederates resumed the fire with artillery and small arms, and, emboldened by the slight resistance met with on Saturday, came down to the very brink of the river and exposed themselves without fear. During the night, Col. Leonard despatched a canal boat from Williamsport and brought another company of his regiment, armed with Enfield rifles, who were concealed as skirmishers along the Maryland shore. On the renewal of the attack, the riflemen opened fire from their concealment, and in a short time the Confederate artillerists were compelled to draw off their battery in hot haste, the infantry and cavalry leaving the ground about the same time.

The Confederate loss is believed to have been from fifteen to twenty killed and many wounded. For want of sufficient infantry force and a battery to protect their movements, Colonel Leonard was compelled to let the Confederate guns remain in position, and after night-fall the enemy returned and took them off. Their battery consisted of three Parrot ten-pounders, one twelve-pounder, carrying the Sawyer shell, and two smooth-bore six-pounders. Some of the enemy's infantry were armed with improved long-range rifles. This force came from Baltimore, and the cavalry and infantry came by the railroad from Martinsburg. They, probably, were en route to Winchester or Harper's Ferry, and stopped at that point to destroy the dam, and thus impede canal transportations.

This morning the Confederates were in considerable force, and kept up a scattering fire with their rifles upon our men whenever visible. One of our men was struck twice, and severely wounded; but this is the only casualty on our side during the whole affair.

At 11 o'clock last night, a portion of the 1st brigade here was put in readiness to start for Williamsport, but at a later hour the order was countermanded.

Thursday, at noon, a battery of Parrot guns was forwarded to Harper's Ferry by a train, to be in readiness should the Confederates again wish to test their skill in projectiles.

FROM KENTUCKY.

Advance of the Confederates--Retreat of General Schoeff.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 7.—Several letters from Somerset and Stanford, dated the 6th inst., just received, state that the Federal forces under General Schoeff had been compelled to retreat this side of Somerset, and that the Confederates, 10,000 strong, had crossed the Cumberland river, and are marching on Somerset. Men, women and children are leaving Somerset in every possible conveyance, and rushing into Stanford.

The people of Stanford think that Gen. Schoeff should be reinforced.

The *Democrat*, in an editorial, thinks that General Schoeff's purpose in falling back on Somerset is to catch the Confederates under Zollicoffer in a trap.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 7.—Some ten thousand additional troops have arrived at Columbus, Kentucky, since the battle of Belmont. The Confederate troops are rapidly concentrating there, and they declare that seventy-five thousand men cannot take the position.

Some papers say there is great excitement at Nashville in regard to the drafting of troops.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 7.—It is reported that the bridge over Bacon creek was burned by the Confederates yesterday.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA.

Capture of a Party of Confederates While En Route for Texas.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6.—A party of Confederates on their way to Texas, overland, were captured on the northern border of the State by the Union troops. It is supposed that one hundred and fifty others, intending to leave California by the same route, will be.

The weather is rainy. Business is dull. Crushed sugars are selling at 15 cents per pound. Candles received via Panama 23 cents. Butter 32 cents.

War News from Memphis.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 9.—The Memphis *Avalanche* says that the Federal troops are leaving Cairo and Paducah in large numbers, supposed with the object of cutting off Jeff. Thompson.

The *Avalanche* confirms the Federal victory by Brownlow in East Tennessee.

It is rumored at Memphis that the Federals are becoming terribly alarmed for the safety of St. Louis and Cairo, and that Paducah is being evacuated.

Hollins' battering ram passed Memphis on the 4th inst. for Columbus, Ky., to be used in the defence of that place.

Massachusetts Municipal Elections.

BOSTON, Dec. 9.—Mayor Wightman was re-elected to-day by 1,000 majority over Mr. Tobey, the Republican candidate. At Lowell, Mr. Hesford was elected Mayor, over Graves, Republican. At Lynn, P. M. Neal is elected Mayor. At Roxbury, Wm. Gaston was re-elected. At Charlestown, P. G. Stone was elected. At Worcester, P. E. Aldrich was elected; and at Newburyport, Geo. W. Jackson was re-elected, nearly unanimously.

New York Bank Statement.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The weekly statement of the City Banks show the following totals: Loans—decrease, $2,996,000; deposits—decrease, $2,685,000; specie—increase, $810,000; circulation—increase, 288,000.

Destruction of a Distillery.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Messrs. Furman & Co.'s distillery at Williamsburg was partially destroyed this morning by the explosion of one of the stills, killing Francis Teague, and destroying nearly twenty thousand dollars' worth of property.

Exchange of Prisoners.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—Next week eleven officers and two hundred and forty prisoners of the North Carolina regiments will be sent to Fortress Monroe, from Fort Warren, and released on parole. An equal number of our men will be returned from Richmond.

Sunday Concert Saloon Broken Up.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—A German concert saloon on the Bowery was visited by the police on Sunday night, who arrested all the musicians, performers, singers, bar-keepers and the proprietor.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS----FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, presented the credentials of the delegate from Dacotah.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, gave notice that on to-morrow he would introduce a bill donating lands to certain States as shall establish colleges for agricultural and mechanical arts.

Mr. BLAKE, of Ohio, offered a resolution that the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads inquire into the expediency of printing one thousand copies of the President's Message in the Spanish language, for the use of the people of New Mexico and Colorado.

Mr. SERGEANT, of California, offered a resolution, which passed, requesting the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the expediency of furnishing, by Congress, relief to the starving population of Ireland.

Mr. LOVEJOY, of Illinois, offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be and he is hereby required to revoke the first section of General Order No. 3, bearing date 20th November, 1861, of Major-General Halleck, commanding the Western Department.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, moved to lay the resolution on the table, upon which he demanded the yeas and nays. Ordered.

Yeas 63—nays 68. So the House refused to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. LANSING, of New York, asked the gentleman from Illinois to withdraw his demand for the previous question, to allow him to offer an amendment.

Mr. LOVEJOY said he would so amend the resolution as to read "requested" instead of require; and upon which he called the previous question.

The SPEAKER was about putting the previous question, when—

Mr. OLIN, of New York, moved that the House adjourn, upon which motion the yeas and nays were ordered. Yeas 74, nays 97.

The question then recurred on the demand for the previous question, when, at the suggestion of Mr. LANSING, of New York, Mr. LOVEJOY withdrew his demand, in order that he might allow him to offer the following amendment: "That the order issued by Major-General Halleck was cruel and inhuman, and that the President be requested to inform General Halleck to recall said order, or make it conformable to other orders issued by these departments."

Further consideration of the subject was postponed until Thursday next.

Mr. KELLOGG, of Illinois, introduced a bill for the relief of J. Hadduck. Referred.

Mr. ARNOLD, of Illinois, introduced a bill authorizing the Postmaster General to establish branch post offices in cities. Referred.

Mr. R. CONKLING, of New York, introduced a bill to subject certain persons to military trial, and for other purposes. The bill proposes to try contractors who are guilty of felony, and those who either give or are instrumental in giving or receiving bribes for the advantage of furnishing military stores to the Government. After discussion the bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. RICHARDSON from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following:

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested to inaugurate systematic measures for the exchange of prisoners in the present rebellion.

Passed.

Mr. NOELL, of Missouri, introduced a joint resolution in relation to the confiscation of the property of the rebels. Further consideration postponed until the 10th instant.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, offered a resolution calling upon the President to furnish, if not incompatible with the public interests, to the House copies of all proclamations or orders issued by the Departments or himself, relative to the pending contest with the so-called Confederate States. Adopted.

Also, that the Clerk of the House be directed to procure for the use of the members, 200 copies of "Hickey's" Constitution. Adopted.

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, offered the following:

RESOLVED, That the Committee for the District of Columbia be requested to report the number of fugitive slaves that have been confined in the Government jail in Washington during the last year and a half, and by whom claimed; whether any of these fugitives have been returned to their claimants, and by what authority, and to whom. Also, specifying what number, if any, have been returned since the recent order of section second, in reference to alleged fugitives; to whom and by whom delivered.

Passed.

Mr. BINGHAM, of Ohio, offered a joint resolution, repealing all acts and parts of acts in the District of Columbia, which authorize the commitment to the jails of said District of persons as runaways, or suspected or charged with being runaways, and of free negroes, mulattoes, or other persons living without visible means of maintenance.

Mr. BIDDLE offered the following:—

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Interior be requested to furnish to this House information as to the number of slaves now holden or resident within the District of Columbia, and their estimated value; and also such information as he may possess as to their intellectual and moral character.

Disagreed to.

Mr. WEBSTER, of Maryland, offered the following:

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of constructing a military road from Washington city to New York city, by way of the route of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railroad.

Referred.

Mr. WORCESTER, of Ohio, submitted the following:

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Military Affairs be requested to inquire into the present state of the law regulating the enlistment of minors; and if they find that the minors over the age of 18 years, without the consent of their parents or guardians, that they be requested to report a bill authorizing such enlistment.

Referred.

Mr. BINGHAM, of Ohio, introduced a bill to organize the Medical Department of the army of the United States. Referred.

Mr. UPTON, of Virginia, introduced a bill to facilitate judicial proceedings in the confiscation of captured property, and for the better administration of the law of prizes.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, offered the following:

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Ways and Means be requested to consider the subject of the tariff and taxation, with a view to equalize the burdens of the present war upon all citizens, upon all sections, and upon capital and labor; and that for this purpose the present tariff and direct tax be so modified as to carry out the principles of just and equal taxation.

Referred.

Mr. WRIGHT, offered the following:

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Military Affairs be directed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to authorize a company to make a passenger railroad on the Pennsylvania avenue, in Washington city, from the Capitol to Georgetown—with a provision that the President, Heads of Departments, and members of the Senate and House of Representatives may pass free on the same, during the session of Congress.

Passed.

Mr. HUTCHINS, of Ohio, introduced a bill abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted* by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, That slavery within the District of Columbia be, and the same is hereby abolished, and that hereafter there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in said district, otherwise than in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

Referred.

On motion of Mr. STEVENS, the assignment for to-morrow was postponed until Thursday.

On motion the House adjourned.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE----SPECIAL SESSION.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5.

The Senate was called to order at one o'clock by the PRESIDENT, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. DAVENPORT, Chaplain to the House. The proceedings of Friday were read and approved.

Mr. J. W. Rider, Committee Clerk, was qualified.

The PRESIDENT appointed Messrs. Goldsborough, Smith, Fiery, Briscoe, Billingsley, Committee on Federal Relations.

A message was received from the Governor, transmitting for a communication from the United States Department, enclosing a letter from Dr. A. A. Lynch, Senator from Baltimore county, dated Fort Warren, Boston harbor, explaining why he is not in his seat.

The communication states that on the 13th of September last he was arrested by a band of armed men, and that he was conveyed to Fort McHenry, and afterwards to Forts Monroe, Lafayette and Warren, where he is now deprived of his liberty. He states that he knows no reason why he is thus incarcerated—he has done nothing in violation of his oath or the Constitution of his country. The communication was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

The bill authorizing the Commissioners of Montgomery county to build a jail was reported, and read a second time.

Mr. BRISCOE, of Calvert, moved that the communication of Dr. Lynch be entered on the journal. He thought it was due to Dr. Lynch as one of the Senate. When a Senator is absent it is usual to enter the cause of his absence on the minutes.

Mr. EVERETT, of Allegany, said that the documents were now in possession of the committee and that it would be better to wait the report of the committee.

Mr. GOLDSBOROUGH, of Dorchester, was in favor of entering the letter on the journal. He recognized the right of the Senators to explain why they were absent, and every Senator, as long as he is such, was a peer, no matter if he differ in opinion from his associates.

The question was taken and the letter ordered to be entered.

The Senate at half-past one adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House was called to order at eleven o'clock by the SPEAKER, and an impressive prayer was delivered by the Rev. Mr. PATTERSON, Chaplain of the Senate. The proceedings of Friday were read and approved.

The SPEAKER announced the Standing Committees of the House, as follows:

Committee on Elections.—John A. J. Cresswell, William Price, James Bowie, W. A. Willis, Wm. H. Harrison, J. H. T. Jerome, Henry F. Dunbar.

Committee on Ways and Means.—Thomas Donaldson, Michael Warner, Allen B. Davis, James M. Coale, John H. T. Jerome, Hamilton Morton, George R. Westcott, Francis P. Phelps, Sr., John F. Dent.

Committee on Claims.—William S. Reese, Thos. Hammond, Richard B. McCoy, John V. L. Findlay, John S. Green, John Q. Leckie, Thos. A. Carrico.

Committee on Judiciary.—William Price, Edward Hammond, Thomas S. Alexander, Geo. A. Pearre, Reverdy Johnson, R. Stockett Matthews, James M. Coale, John A. J. Creswell, G. W. P. Smith.

Committee on Pensions.—Thos. Hammond, Warren L. Little, Jacob W. Hugg, Chas. W. White, Robert W. Dougherty, Charles McCollister.

Committee on Internal Improvements.—George A. Pearre, Edward Hammond, Robert P. Dunlap, John V. L. Findlay, Edmund Wolfe, Dorsey F. Herbert, David Kerr, Jr.

Committee on Education.—Francis P. Phelps, Sr., George Pearson, Steptoe B. Taylor, Jno. B. Pearce, Somerset R. Waters, Hiram H. Gunby, B. G. Harris.

Committee on Militia.—John V. L. Findlay, Jas. Stockdale, Levi Duncan, G. W. P. Smith, George Everheart, Andrew McIntire, Elisha Lewis.

Committee on Agriculture.—Allen B. Davis, John B. Pearce, Henry R. Harris, James Bowie, Thos. H. Kemp, W. T. Purnell, Jno. Walton.

Committee on Corporations.—John T. Ensor, Michael Warner, Hamilton Morton, Wm. S. Reese, Thomas Johnson, Wm. F. Smyth, Hiram H. Gunby, Richard B. McCoy, Peregrine Davis.

Committee on Inspections.—G. W. Duvall of G., N. Christopher, Andrew McIntire, Samuel Rohrer, Charles McCollister, James Stockdale, George W. Nutwell.

Committee on Colored Population.—William F. Smyth, Thomas King Carroll, Wm. T. Purnell, N. Christopher, Marmaduke Dove, Thomas Johnson, John Bowie, Sr.

Committee on Lotteries.—Richard B. McCoy, Robert W. Dougherty, Lloyd Lowe, Somerset R. Waters, F. Dorsey Herbert, Henry F. Dunbar, B. D. Bond.

Committee on Library.—R. Stockett Matthews, Thomas S. Alexander, John J. Thomas, Hiram Buhrman, Joseph Wright, Warren L. Little, A. Chamberlain.

Committee on Printing.—G. W. P. Smith, John S. Given, R. Stockett Matthews, Andrew McIntire, James Stockdale, Thomas H. Kemp, George W. Nutwell.

Committee on Insolvency.—George Everheart, Jno. Turner, Joshua Biggs, Jacob W. Hugg, Marmaduke Dove, W. A. Willis, J. F. Dent.

Committee on Engrossed Bills and Resolutions.—John S. Given, Levi Duncan, Saml. Rohrer, Steptoe B. Taylor, Charles W. White, John Q. Leckie, David Kerr, Jr.

Committee on Expiring Laws—R. E. Hardcastle, Marmaduke Dove, Lloyd Lowe, Thomas S. Alexander, Henry R. Harris, Robert W. Dougherty, D. R. Magruder.

Committee on Federal Relations—Reverdy Johnson, R. Stockett Mathews, Thomas Donaldson, John V. L. Findlay, George A. Pearre, John A. J. Creswell, D. R. Magruder.

Committee on Currency—Michael Warner, Thos. Donaldson, Geo. R. Westcott, G. W. Duvall of G., A. Chamberlain, John J. Thomas.

Committee on the Contingent Fund placed at the Disposal of the Executive.—Thomas King Carroll, Robert P. Dunlap, William S. Reese, John H. T. Jerome, Joseph Wright, Elisha Lewis, John Bowie, Sr.

Committee on Roads and Highways.—Thomas H. Kemp, John Turner, Joshua Biggs, Geo. Pearson, Wm. F. Smith, R. E. Hardcastle.

It was ordered that H. C. Shipley, of Allegany county, act as Committee Clerk, in place of A. Swartwalder, who is confined by sickness, until he be able to enter on his duties.

Mr. PHELPS offered an order that the House meet daily at ten o'clock.

Mr. PRICE suggested that it would be better to meet at eleven o'clock, so as to allow the committees to meet in the morning. He moved to amend the order by inserting "eleven o'clock."

The amendment was accepted, and the order passed.

Leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill making valid a deed in Cecil county.

An order was passed authorizing the Governor to commission the Justices of the Peace, &c., in Prince George's county.

Leave was given for a bill to be reported, granting authority to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Calvert county to have rebound certain land records in his office.

Leave was given the Baltimore county delegation to report a bill regulating the terms and time of meeting of the Baltimore County Orphans' Court.

On motion of Mr. PRICE leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill amending the law of appeals.

Mr. ALEXANDER reported a bill authorizing the Court of Appeals to hear and determine at its ensuing term the appeal of the State from an order passed in the Superior Court, in the cause of the State against the Northern Central Railway Company and others.

Mr. ALEXANDER explained the bill. The Company owed the city $117,000, the payment of which they resist on the ground of damages sustained in the 19th of April riots; and recently, in a suit before the Superior Court, the case was decided in favor of the Company, the counsel for the State taking an appeal. This bill was for the purpose of having the cause determined at the earliest possible moment.

The bill was read a second time, and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. MATTHEWS, leave was given to the Committee on Corporations to report a bill amending the charter of the Associated Fire Insurance Company of Baltimore.

The House at twelve o'clock adjourned.

WAR ITEMS.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.

FROM MISSOURI.

Ovation to the Released Camp Jackson Prisoners.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 4.

This goodly city was the scene of a perfect ovation on Monday morning last, on the occasion of the departure of from sixty-five to seventy of the Camp Jackson prisoners, who were about to join the Southern army. For full two hours did the thousands assembled at the Pacific Railroad depot to witness the departure stand shivering on the snow-clad ground, totally regardless of their own comfort in the desire that pervaded all hearts to manifest by their presence their sympathy in the cause in which the released prisoners are soon to take an active part. There were gentle ladies in the crowd, some on foot and some in carriages, who bravely endured the biting cold of that bleak December morning, without a murmur, for the purpose of testifying their interest in the men who were about to leave them for the seat of war.

One poor mother, with the tears streaming down her cheeks, was heard to say that her only son was of the party; her husband having found a resting place under Mexican earth fifteen years ago. Yet, much as she loved her child, and sadly as she should miss him, nevertheless, she said she parted with him cheerfully, in view of the cause he had espoused, and the noble sacrifice he had made, in obedience, as he believed, to the call of duty. A younger lady remarked that her brother was of the little band, and rejoiced that he was so.

By the terms of the compact between Generals Price and Fremont, and under which the Camp Jackson prisoners were to be exchanged for those captured at Lexington, the former were to have the privilege of joining any division of the Confederate army they might elect—the representative of the Washington powers binding himself to furnish them with transportation, an escort, and every facility through his lines, by which they might speedily reach their destination. In view of this, Gen. Price actually released Col. Mulligan several weeks ago, and gave him an escort to this city; and the utmost good faith of the agreement solemnly entered into between the high contracting parties. Those who thought so, however, were speedily to be undeceived.

After the baggage had been stowed away in the cars, and after the stores which were to serve "the boys" on their march from Sedalia to Price's army had also been deposited in freight cars, Leighton, the Provost Marshal of this city, coolly informs Gen. Frost that, after due reflection, he has determined, for highly important military reasons, not to allow the party of which he (Gen. F.) was the head to leave by the Pacific Railroad, but to send them by boat to Cairo instead, from whence they would be conveyed under a flag of truce to Columbus! In vain was he remonstrated with and told that wagons would be in waiting at the extremity of the railroad to convey their stores, and that by this route they would make the journey in a week at farthest; whereas, by the route he had named, they would be