THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. I---NO. 95. BALTIMORE FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SEE FOURTH PAGE.

BOARD OF TRADE.
Committee of Arbitration for month of January.
A. H. STUMP.
H. VON KAPFF, | W. T. RIGGS,
GEORGE COOK, | A. S. CHASE.

Monetary and Commercial Review.

BALTIMORE, January 9, 1862.

Stocks generally were firm to-day, but the business at the Board was not large. For Railroad shares there was some inquiry, and a sale was made of 100 shares Northern Central at $17, seller 60 days, the market for it closing at $17 bid, $17¼ asked regular way. For Baltimore and Ohio $48¼ was bid, and $52 asked, but no sales were made. Railroad bonds were quiet, the only sale made being one of $1,000 Northern Central 1885's at 61, which figure was bid for more at the close. Baltimore and Ohio bonds left off at 81¾ bid for 1867's; 74 bid for 1875's; 71¼ bid for 1880's; 49 bid, 50 asked for 1862's, the extra dividend bonds; and for Northwestern Virginia first mortgage bonds 76¼ was bid, and 78 asked. There was some inquiry for State and City 6's, and we note sales of $1,000 Maryland 1870's at 90; and $1,300 Baltimore City 1890's at 88. Maryland 6's closed steady at 90 bid for 1870's and 1890's, and Baltimore 6's left off at 87¼ bid for 1875's, and 88 bid for 1890's. A sale of 7 shares Citizens' Bank was made at the Board at 87¼, but this was the only transaction in Bank stocks. Canton Co. was quite firm to-day, $10¼ being bid for it. Springfield Mining closed at $1.65 bid, $1.75 asked; Gardner Hill do. at 60 cts. bid, 80 cts. asked; and Guilford do. at 35 cts. bid.

For foreign Exchange rates are nominal, but drawers are firm at the quotations, which are as follows, viz: 115 for bankers' sterling; 113¾@114 for commercial do.; 4.90 for francs, short sight; 4.95@5 for do. 60 day bills; 84@85 for Bremen, 43@43¼ for Amsterdam; 77 for Cologne; 39¾ for Hamburg; and 43¾@44 for Frankfort-on-the-Main.

In New York to-day Virginia 6's declined ¾; Erie ¼; but Missouri 6's advanced ¾; Tennessee 6's ¼; Canton ¾; and Reading ¼. North Carolina 6's and New York Central closed at the same figures as on yesterday.—Treasury notes sold at 99¾, a decline of ¼.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD.
THURSDAY, January 9, 1862.

$1,000 Maryland 6's '70	90
200 Baltimore 6's '90	88
550 do. '90	88
375 do. '90	88
9,000 Northern Central Railroad bonds '85	61
7 shares Citizens' Bank	87¼
100 shares Northern Central Railroad	860..17

PRICES AND SALES OF STOCKS IN NEW YORK.
BY TELEGRAPH.
Through WILLIAM FISHER & SON, Stock and Bill Brokers. No. 22 South street.

	1st Board	2d Board.
Virginia 6's	49	00
Missouri 6's	41¾	41¾
Tennessee bonds	42¾	00
North Carolina bonds	00	00
Canton Company	10¾	00
Erie Railroad	34	34¼
New York Central Railroad	81¾	81¾
Reading Railroad	35	36
Treasury notes, 2 years 6 per cents	99¾ steady.	00 firm.

The New York *Herald* of yesterday says:

Stocks were less active to-day than yesterday, but there was a great deal of outside buying nevertheless. After the board the market steadied, and gradually gained strength, until, at the close of the second board, it was quoted strong at a small advance. The features of the situation appear to be a scarcity of stock, and a gradual increase of outside business, coupled with a tendency on the part of the street and board jobbers to move with caution so long as any doubt remains with regard to the action of Congress on the financial question. Government stocks continue to appreciate; the 6's of 1881 rose ¼, and so did the 5's of 1874. There was an active demand for Treasury notes. Among the State stocks, North Carolinas rose ¾, and Missouris ¼; Virginias declined ¾. The favorites among the railway shares continue to be the Erie, Central, Toledo, Galena and Burlington and Quincy. Central rose to-day ¾, Erie preferred ¾, Galena ¾, Michigan Southern ¾, Michigan Central ¼, Toledo ¾, Rock Island ¾, Burlington and Quincy ½.

BALTIMORE MARKETS.

THURSDAY, January 9.

COFFEE.—There has been some little inquiry for Coffee to day and we notice a sale of 200 bags of Rio to go to Cincinnati at 18¾ cts. net cash. We quote Rio at 18¾@19 cts. for fair, 20@21 cts. for good to strictly prime: Laguayra at 23@24 cts.; and Ceylon and Java at 24@25 cts. per lb. The stock of Rio is about 15,000 bags, but of other descriptions there is very little here.

FLOUR.—Flour continues very firm. There is however but little offering, and the transactions are in consequence limited. We notice a sale to-day of 500 bbls. Ohio Extra at $6 12½ per bbl., but although there was some inquiry for Super, we heard of no sales. Far Howard Street Super holders are firm at $5.75, and we quote Ohio do. at $5.62½, and City Mills do. at $5.50 per bbl. Extra Flour closes steady and firm at $6.12½ for Ohio; $6 12½@6 37½ for Howard Street; and $6.50 per bbl. for City Mills.

FAMILY FLOUR.—Family Flour is still selling by the more, $5.50@7 for Ohio and Howard Street, and Baltimore high grade Extra is bringing $7.75 per bbl.

RYE FLOUR AND CORN MEAL.—Rye Flour is selling at $4.25 and Corn Meal at $3.20@3.25 per bbl. for both Baltimore and Brandywine.

GRAIN.—Corn was in good supply to day, the receipts amounting to nearly 30,000 bushels, but of other Grain the offerings were light. Of Wheat there were some 2,500 bushels, all red, at market, and it was mostly sold at 135@137 cts. for good to prime. There being no white Wheat at market we are unable to give quotations for it. White Corn was in fair demand but yellow do. was quite dull. Yellow sold at 59@61 cts. for good to prime, but one or two small lots brought 62@63 cts., and white at 59 cts. for ordinary, 61@63 cts. for good, and for some prime dry lots suitable for export, 65 cts was obtained. Of Rye there were about 800 bushels offered, and sales were reported of 650 bushels Pennsylvania at 76 cts., and 100 bushels do. at 77 cts. Oats were in light supply only 1,800 bushels being at market. They sold at 41@42 cts. for Maryland, and 43 cts. per bushel for Pennsylvania.

MOLASSES.—There is nothing doing in Molasses so far as we are advised, but we still quote as follows, viz: Cuba at 24@26 cts. for sweet clayed, and 28@30 cts. for Muscovado; Porto Rico at 34@38 cts; English Island at 28@32 cts; and New Orleans at 50@55 cts.

PROVISIONS.—There is nothing doing to-day in Provisions so far as we have heard, and the market for all descriptions is heavy as well as dull. In the absence of transactions quotations for almost everything are nominal. There is no Bulk Meat selling, and we can give no quotations for it; but we quote Bacon at 4@4½ cts. for Shoulders; 6 cts. for Sides; and 6@6¾ cts. for Hams. Lard may be quoted at 6¾@8¾ cts.; and we quote Mess Pork at $12.50@12.75 per bbl. for new. Beef is still quoted at $12.50 for No. 1; $13 50 for Mess; and $14.25@14.50 per bbl. for Extra Mess, but it is tending upward.

RICE.—Rice may be quoted at 7¼@7¾ cts for Carolina, but East India is selling in New York at from 5¾ to 6¾ cts., the latter figure being for London dressed.

SALT.—Salt is in fair demand and Liverpool is selling in lots from shipboard and store at 110@115 cts. for Ground Alum, 170@175 cts. for Marshall's, Worthington's and Jeffrey & Darcy's fine, and 185 cts. per sack for Ashton's do. Turks Island Salt is selling at 25@30 cts. per bushel from store.

SEEDS.—We hear of no sales of Grass Seeds to-day, but we quote Clover at $4@4.25, and Timothy at $2@2.25 per bushel. Flaxseed is bringing $1.75@1.80 per bushel.

SUGARS.—There are no Sugars selling, and there is but little inquiry for them, but the market, although quiet is quite firm in tone, and we continue to quote as follows, viz: Cuba at $7.75@8 for refining, and $8.25@9 for grocery grades; English Island at $7.75@8.50; Porto Rico and New Orleans at from $8 25 to $9 75; and Manilla and Pernambuco at $8@8.25. Clayed Cuba Sugars Nos. 9 to 18 range at from $7.87½ to $9.75.

REFINED SUGARS.—The rates for refined Sugars are still as follows, viz: 11¾@11¾ cts. for loaf; 11¾@11¾ cts. for crushed, powdered and granulated; 10¾@10¾ cts. for soft crushed white; and 10¾@10¾ cts. for C yellow.

WHISKEY.—Whiskey is firm, but the market for it is quite unsettled. It is generally held to-day at 22¾@23 cts. for both City and Ohio, but some parties are asking 23¾@24 cts. for Ohio.

BALTIMORE LIVE STOCK MARKET.—Jan. 9.—CATTLE.—There was a considerable falling off in the receipts of Beef Cattle to-day, the offerings at the Scales amounting to only 575 head, against 950 head last week. There was no special activity in the market, and prices were about as on last Thursday. Of the Cattle offered, 125 were sold to go to Washington; 100 were left over unsold, and the remaining 350 head were taken by Baltimore butchers at prices ranging from $3 to $4.75 per 100 lbs gross.

HOGS.—Live Hogs were in good demand and steady today at last week's figures, viz: $4 87¾@5.25 per 100 lbs. net. for good to prime lots. The supply was fair.

SHEEP.—Sheep are scarce and wanted, and prices for them are higher. We quote them to-day at $3.75@4.75 per 100 lbs. gross.

From the Washington National Republican, Jan. 9th.

MAKING TREASURY NOTES A LEGAL TENDER.

Certain wiseacres have discovered that the prohibitions in the Constitution of the United States, against making anything but gold and silver a tender in payment of debts, against *ex post facto* laws, and against laws in violation of contracts, only apply to States, and they deduce the inference that each and all of these prohibited things may be done by Congress.

The special object of this new discovery is to procure the enactment of "a new way of paying old debts," in the shape of an edict making some sort of paper a legal tender.

The States have a general sovereignty, which gives them all powers not prohibited. Congress, on the other hand, only has just such powers as are expressly given to it.

The question in this case, and in all other cases, is, not what Congress is prohibited from doing, but what Congress is authorized to do; and unless the power is given by express words, or by necessary inference, that body has no more right than the Emperor of Russia has, to step in between citizens of the United States and say that A, who has agreed to deliver B one hundred bushels of wheat, may discharge his contract by delivering one hundred bushels of oats, or that C, who has promised D one hundred dollars, can discharge the contract with anything but dollars.

Congress has power to "coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coins," but has no power over private obligations.

There is not the slightest excuse for now making any kind of paper a tender in payment of debts; and the proposition to do so is as unnecessary as it is revolutionary. The country is full of gold and silver, and with any tolerable management of the war and of the finances, the Treasury scrip which is now in circulation, and which may be put in circulation, will pass freely in the ordinary transactions of life, without any unconstitutional edict making it a legal tender. We have got along twice before, during this generation, with a general suspension of specie-payments, without any such extraordinary measure, and which is now less necessary than ever, in consequence of the unprecedented accumulation of the precious metals in the country.

Is it in the midst of arms and of extraordinary events on all sides, that it is opportune to shock public confidence by an invasion of the sacred rights of private property? Is it in the very first year of the civil war, that we are to be driven to a measure which has, heretofore, in the history of nations, been reserved to mark the exhaustion and despair of protracted conflicts?

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Acting Masters and Masters' Mates in the Navy.

WASHINGTON, January 9.—Applicants for situations as Masters' Mates in the Navy are required to accompany their papers with recommendations from their last employers. They must have seen three years' sea service, and not be over thirty years of age. Acting Masters are similarly appointed, with the exception that they must not be over forty years of age.

Speech of Senator Sumner on the Trent Affair.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The Senate galleries were densely crowded to-day to hear the speech of Senator Sumner on the Trent affair. The Diplomatic Corps were largely represented, including the Austrian and French Ministers. Lord Lyons was not present. Secretary Chase was among other prominent personages who occupied seats upon the floor.

United States Agricultural Society.

WASHINGTON, Jan 9.—The United States Agricultural Society to-day re-elected President Hubbard, Secretary Poore, Treasurer French, and nearly all the old Vice-Presidents. The Executive Committee was re-organized, and consists of Marshall P. Wilder of Massachusetts, Frederick Smyth of New Hampshire, Isaac Newton of Philadelphia, Charles B. Calvert of Maryland, Legrand Byington of Iowa, J. H. Sullivan of Ohio, and Mr. Myers of California.

President Lincoln's recommendation of the establishment of an Agricultural and Statistical Department was warmly commended, and he was elected an honorary member.

The suggestions made in the President's address were debated and endorsed, and a large edition of the address was ordered to be printed.

The establishment of an Agricultural Department was discussed and recommended.

There was a decided expression of opinion given against national exhibitions, unless they can be held at Washington.

General Herran.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—It is implied, in a recent publication, that General Herran consented to act as Minister of the legitimate Government of New Granada when he was made aware that he would not be received as the representative of Mosquera. This is not correct.

It is well known here that immediately after Gen. Herran's arrival at New York our Government was informed that he would proceed to Washington, to act on his former credentials, and before any opinion in that respect could have been expressed by our Government.

Released Prisoners at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—One hundred and ninety of the prisoners recently released from Richmond arrived here to-day, and were comfortably provided for at the Government Volunteer Receiving House, near the railroad station. Dr. A. Tripp, of Scranton, Pa., is among these arrivals. The remainder of the party either went home after arriving in Baltimore from Old Point, or are detained there at the Government hospitals, owing to their wounds breaking out afresh. The object of the party now here is to receive their pay and to ascertain the disposition of the Government concerning them.

Diabolical Attempt to Blow Up the Military Hospital at Alexandria.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—An attempt was last night made to blow up the "Mansion House," in Alexandria. This building was formerly occupied as a hotel, but now as a hospital. A barrel had been secreted in the cellar, filled with powder and projectiles, and a fuse was found extending from them to the stable. In proximity to the combustibles, lucifer matches and Chinese crackers had been plentifully distributed, and the fuse end at the stable had actually been ignited. But this fact was fortunately discovered by the guard, and the progress of the slow fire extinguished. But for this watchfulness and prompt action not only would several hundred lives probably have been lost, but other casualties resulted.

Important Arrest at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—William T. Smithson, the banker and broker, arrested here yesterday afternoon, by order of the Government, on suspicion of communicating with the Confederates, left in the same afternoon train for Fort Lafayette. This is considered one of the most important arrests which has taken place since the commencement of the rebellion.

Congressional Items.

WASHINGTON, Jan 9.—The Senate Committee on the Judiciary, have come to the conclusion, by a vote of six to one, to report against the expulsion of Senator Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana, the question involving his legality, having been referred to them.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Fortress Monroe—Burnside Expedition.

The latest accounts received here from Annapolis, the troops of General Burnside's expedition were embarking on board the transports with all convenient despatch, and the whole fleet was expected to sail to-day for Hampton Roads.

The United States steamer Connecticut, from New York, arrived this afternoon and is to sail this evening for Port Royal. Judge Mervine, of the Admiralty Court at Key West, takes passage.

The French steamer Catinet arrived in the Roads from New York this afternoon.

The Confederate batteries on Cracy Island have been practising all day.

The small steamboat Phœnix has sailed for Port Royal with the mails. Her small size and light draft will make her useful.

The steamer Rancogas had sailed for Hatteras.

On Sunday a saw-mill in the Norfolk Navy Yard was fired by an incendiary. It was, however, extinguished with but little damage.

The residence and outhouses of Fayette McMullen, in Wythe county, Va., were destroyed by fire on Wednesday morning.

Judge Hemphill, ex-Senator of the United States Congress, and late member of the Confederate Congress, died at Richmond on Saturday morning.

Nobody will come forward to take the office of Collector of the War Tax in the Norfolk District, and H. P. Garnett, the Chief Collector of the Confederate War Tax for Virginia, in a formal advertisement, threatens to appoint some one from outside of the District to perform that duty, which, in this proclamation, he admits to be odious to the people there.

There have been several fires in Charleston, S. C., within the past few days.

FROM KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 8.—The *Democrat* is informed that a United States scouting party brought five prisoners into Columbia, Kentucky, who were endeavoring to join the Confederate Zollicoffer.—The party reported that Zollicoffer, with four thousand men, is between Greensboro' and Columbia.—The town of Greensboro' had been almost depopulated by the Confederates, but General Ward's United States brigade had gone there to take possession.

The Confederates had captured five soldiers, who were guarding Borale's Ferry, killing a man named James, and taking fifteen or twenty muskets. The guard was surprised by Confederate detachments on each side of the river.

An Advance Movement from Cairo.

ST. LOUIS, January 9.—A special despatch from Cairo to the *Democrat* says:—Twenty-five thousand troops are now on their way from different points, and as soon as they arrive here, a column of from sixty to seventy-five thousand strong will march from here and Paducah under Gen. Grant, destination Nashville; whence, if a junction can be made with Gen. Buell's command, the entire army will proceed to New Orleans.

From the Upper Potomac—All Quiet.

FREDERICK, Jan. 9.—All is quiet everywhere, as far as we are advised here. There is no news of the least interest to report. The weather has become quite pleasant again.

The Latest.

FREDERICK, Jan. 9.—P. M.—Affairs continue unchanged along the line. Stages leave here on the arrival of the cars daily for Hancock. The latest from Martinsburg says that only 150 militia are there, with no disposition to fight.

Timely Hint to Congress.

ALBANY, Jan. 9.—A resolution was offered in the Assembly, stating that while New York has furnished more than her quota of men and money for a vigorous prosecution of the war, she is opposed to Congress wasting precious time in debating the emancipation of slaves, and other unconstitutional measures. Laid over.

Giving Aid to the Enemy.

BOSTON, Jan. 9.—The brig A. B. Cook, Capt. Perkins, has arrived at Holmes' Hole, in charge of the U. S. authorities, on the allegation of supplying coal to the privateer Sumter, in the harbor of St. Thomas. She sailed from Elizabethport, New Jersey.

The Steamer Parana Not Lost.

HALIFAX, Jan. 9.—The steamer Parana, falsely reported lost, was at Sydney to-day, and will reach here to-morrow. The steamer Cleopatra has arrived with troops.

Release of Ex-Governor Morehead.

BOSTON, Jan. 8.—Ex-Governor Morehead, of Ky., was released from Fort Warren on parole to-day.

From the Boston Courier, Jan. 8th.

TREASON AT HOME.

"A Democratic paper at Flint, Michigan, makes a startling disclosure upon, it declares, perfectly reliable authority, to the effect that a secret political society has been organized in that city, in pursuance of a general plan designed to embrace the whole North, and upon which numerous societies have already been organized elsewhere, whose single purpose is to make the war the engine of complete and entire emancipation. The Flint paper states that the society in that place is considerable in numbers. We ourselves know the place to be a hot-bed of Abolitionism."

This undoubtedly refers to the "Emancipation League," a meeting to inaugurate a branch of which took place in this city a few weeks ago, and which was so complete a failure, so far as any sympathy was manifested with it, except by the stereotyped list of old abolitionists. To the same purpose is the outrageous memorial to Congress, printed, drawn and signed by just the same set of men in New York, so far as we recognize their names at all. These are the proper inmates for Fort Lafayette and Fort Warren; and if they and such as they had been sent there in the beginning of our troubles, the breach might soon have been healed.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.----REGULAR SESSION.

SENATE.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 9.—The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. PATTERSON. The roll was called and the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. GOLDSBOROUGH, it was ordered that five thousand copies of the Inaugural Address of Governor Bradford be printed for the use of the Senate.

Mr. HARRISON presented the petition of J. Emory, praying compensation for services rendered by his father in the Revolution, which was referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Claims.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, it was ordered that the Committee on Claims pay John M. Brower, late Reading Clerk, mileage, &c.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, leave was granted Messrs Smith, Willis and Billingslea to report a bill incorporating Druid Hill Railroad Company.

On motion, leave was given the Committee on Finance to report a bill to pay George Vickers for legal services.

Mr. FIERY submitted a message asking the appointment of a joint committee to report a bill apportioning the members of the House of Delegates.

The PRESIDENT appointed Messrs. Fiery, Goldsborough and Sellman.

The joint resolution of thanks to the loyal officers of the army and navy were taken up and passed.

The bill making an appropriation for the redemption of unused stamps was read the third time and passed.

The bill authorizing Charles Beall to act in the capacity of Magistrate and Postmaster was passed.

At half-past twelve the Senate took a recess to half-past one o'clock.

On the Senate re-assembling the bill authorizing the Comptroller to pay to clerks of tobacco warehouses arrears of salary, was read a third time and passed.

The act allowing R. W. Hook, former Sheriff of Baltimore county, further time to make his collections, was read a third time and passed.

The bill to refund S. T. Hopkins and others monies over-paid by them, was read a second time.

At two o'clock the Senate went into executive session, and confirmed the nomination of William B. Hill for Secretary of State.

The doors were then opened, and

Mr. SMITH offered a resolution repealing the resolution passed authorizing the Governor to appoint Commissioners to the International Exhibition to be held in London in May next.

Mr. WILLIS hoped the gentleman would withdraw his resolution, as he had already made his arrangements to visit that exhibition.

Mr. SMITH hoped that the gentleman would be able to go without the certificate of the Governor. He thought the repealing of the resolution was eminently just and proper, and that it would be showing an act of discourtesy to England, who had acted in so cowardly a manner in demanding the Southern envoys, and thus showing that while professing to be neutral, she was acting the hypocrite's part. He stated that Maryland at least should not recognize her as a friendly Power.

Mr. WILLIS moved to lay the resolution upon the table.

Mr. BRISCOE said that he thought we had better not act too fast, and that he thought the best plan would be to refer the resolution to the Committee on Agriculture, who had reported the original resolution. He therefore moved that motion, which was adopted, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House was called to order at eleven o'clock by the SPEAKER, and opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. DAVENPORT. The roll was called, and the proceedings of yesterday read and approved.

Mr. DENT asked that the Journal might be corrected, so that his name should appear as voting in the negative on the resolutions of thanks to Governor Hicks. He stated that he did not wish it to be understood that he voted so on account of any want of courtesy towards Governor Hicks, but that his sense of propriety, and the obligations he owed to his constituents, would not allow him to vote for the resolutions.

Mr. PHELPS moved that ten thousand copies of the Governor's Inaugural be printed for the use of the House.

Mr. WATERS moved to amend by making the number fifteen thousand. He thought that such a document should be circulated from the Alleghanies to the shores of Worcester.

Mr. PRICE moved to amend by making the number five thousand. He thought that that number was amply sufficient, for, except in a very few portions of the State, the people would have it through the newspapers.

The vote was then taken on the motion of Mr. Waters, when it was voted down.

The amendment of Mr. Price was adopted and the order passed.

On motion of Mr. FINDLAY, it was ordered that the Adjutant General report to the House the number and disposition of the arms of the State.

On motion of Mr. LECKIE, the papers was referred to the Committee on Ordnance, composed of Messrs. Leckie, Gunther and Willis.

On motion of Mr. COALE, leave was given the Militia Committee to report a bill compensating that portion of the 16th regiment who performed guard duty at the State Armory in Frederick, by order of Gov. Hicks, last spring.

Mr. CRESSWELL obtained leave for the Committee on Elections to apportion the number of delegates in the several counties and the city of Baltimore.

Mr. WOLF obtained leave for the Committee on Military to report a bill providing extra pay for the Maryland troops.

Also obtained leave for the Baltimore Delegation to report a bill to promote the health of the city of Baltimore.

Mr. MATTHEWS obtained leave for the Judiciary Committee to add a section to the law relating to abatements.

Mr. CRESSWELL obtained leave for the Committee on Elections to report a bill laying off the State into Congressional Districts according to the apportionment.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the report of the Comptroller of the Treasury, which was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

Mr. FINDLAY, from the Militia Committee, reported back the Senate bill repealing certain portions of the Militia Laws, which was read a first time.

Mr. WATERS, from a Special Committee, reported a bill for the relief of Miranda and Harriet Porter, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. WILLIS, from a Special Committee, reported a bill for the relief of S. D. Collins and others, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the report from Tobacco Warehouse, No. 1, which was referred to the Committee on Inspections.

Dr. PHELPS offered an order directing the Committee on Inspections to inquire into the expediency of passing a law repealing the law licensing Inspectors of Wood, &c., and providing that hereafter the Inspectors be appointed by the Governor.

Mr. PRICE, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill amending the law respecting prayers and instructions and appeals.

Mr. PURNELL obtained leave for the Committee on Agriculture and Roads and Highways to report a bill providing for the improvement of public roads.

The bill offered by Dr. REESE relating to hearing of petitions for writs of *mandamus* growing out of the opening of Holliday street, by the Court of Appeals at its present term, was read a second time.

The bill authorizing the improving of Pocomoke river was read a second time.

The bill amending the law relating to oysters was read a second time and referred to the Select Committee on Oysters, Fish, &c.

Mr. CRESWELL presented the petition of sundry citizens, asking the repeal of the stay law, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. FENBY, from a select committee, reported a bill adding a section to the laws in relation to the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace, which was read by special order three times and passed.

Mr. DONALDSON obtained leave for a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Donaldson, Cresswell and Magruder, to report a bill relating to the power of Chancery Courts to sell land.

Mr. MATTHEWS offered a resolution directing the appointment of a committee of three to procure a portrait of Governor Hicks, to be placed in the Executive Chamber, which lies over under the rule.

Mr. DUNNAN, from a Select Committee, reported a bill relating to the running at large of hogs around the city of Annapolis, which was under a suspension of the rules read three times and passed.

Mr. CRESSWELL obtained leave for a Special Committee, consisting of Messrs. Cresswell, Dougherty and Purnell, to report a bill relative to attachments issued by Justices of the Peace against witnesses.

Mr. LECKIE presented the petition of J. F. Elliott and others, praying an alteration of the lines between Districts No. 1 and 12, in Dorchester county, which was referred to the Dorchester delegation.

Mr. DONALDSON introduced a substitute for the Jury bill.

The House at half-past 1 o'clock adjourned.

A PAWNBROKERS' BANK.

The following bill has been introduced in the Senate of Maryland by Mr. Smith, of Carroll, which seems to be based on the pawnbrokers' system. It will certainly be regarded as a novelty in banking:

Section 1. BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of Maryland, That William Callon, George F. Needham, Thomas Sewall, Jr., George H. Dutton and Thomas H. Gardner, of Baltimore city, their associates and successors, are hereby incorporated, under the name of the Collateral Bank of Baltimore City, with the powers and privileges, and to be governed by the rules and provisions established by law relative to banks in this State, so far as applicable to the objects of this institution. It shall loan only upon collateral security, whether personal property or real estate.

Section 2. That the capital of said bank shall not exceed $250,000, in shares of $50 each; it shall have the power of borrowing on its own notes not exceeding the amount of capital paid in, and for periods not exceeding one year.

Section 3. That when $100,000 have been duly subscribed and $25,000 thereof actually paid in, the stockholders may organize and proceed to business under this charter.

Section 4. That the rate of interest on all loans shall not exceed six per cent. per annum, but a reasonable charge may be made for storage, certificate, tickets, &c., and all charges shall be uniform.

Section 5. That when the bank has disposable funds it shall loan upon all collateral securities offered, embraced within its rules and regulations, in the order in which they are offered, with this exception, that the bank may always discriminate in favor of small loans to the indigent; it shall loan to four-fifths of the appraised value on all gold and silver plate or ware, and to two-thirds of the appraised value on all other goods and chattels as aforesaid.

Section 6. That the government shall be in the hands of seven Directors, who shall be chosen annually, in the month of January, by the stockholders; and the Board thus created shall elect one of their number President, and elect such other officers as may be deemed necessary.

Section 7. That all loans shall be on a fixed time and not over twelve months, and the borrower shall have the right to redeem his property pledge at any proportionable rate within the specified time, on payment of loan and provided, that in all cases the bank shall be entitled to receive the rate for a period of not less than one month.

Section 8. That if the property pledge is not redeemed within the time limited, the same shall be sold at public auction, and the net surplus after paying loan, charges and expense of all kinds, shall be held three years for the owner; if not then called for, the same shall go into a fund for the year, when the entire forfeiture takes place, called the Profit and Loss Fund.

Section 9. That all losses on loans from failure of title or other causes shall be satisfied from said Profit and Loss Fund.

Section 10. That the net balance of said fund, at the end of each year, shall be made up annually to the first day of January, and said balance shall be paid over to the Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor of Baltimore City.

Section 11. That the bank shall give to each borrower a card, inscribed with the name of the bank, the security pledged, the name of the borrower, the amount of the loan, the rate of compensation, the date when made, the date when payable, and the page of the book where recorded.

Section 12. That the books of the bank shall always be open to the inspection of the State Treasurer or Comptroller.

Section 13. That the stockholders may establish such by-laws, rules and regulations, for conducting the business of said bank as they may deem necessary, not inconsistent with the laws of the State.

Section 14. That the stock shall be transferable only at said bank and on its books.

Section 15. That this act shall take effect from the date of its passage, and shall be and continue in force for twenty years, and until the next session of the General Assembly that shall happen thereafter; but the Legislature shall have the right, at any time, to alter or repeal the same, or any part thereof.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.----FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Various petitions were presented, among them one by Mr. HALE from the citizens of Massachusetts, praying the passage of a law to prevent the appointment of agents to make purchases by the Government, not authorized by statute. Mr. Hale said this memorial was with the view of preventing such a course as had been pursued by the Secretary of War in the appointment of Mr. Cummings to make contracts for the army, and by the Secretary of the Navy in the appointment of Mr. Morgan to purchase ships for the Navy, as such a system leads to frauds upon the Government. As there was no proper committee to refer such a petition to, he asked that it lie on the table.

Mr. COWAN, of Pennsylvania, presented petitions from citizens of that State professing the Jewish faith, asking that religious tests may be excluded in the appointment of chaplains for the army.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, presented petitions from citizens of Eastport, in that State, asking that dry and pickled fish be made component parts of the army rations.

The Vice PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, enclosing a report of the Board convened to inquire into the origin and character of typhoid fever as existing in the army of the Potomac, together with the consolidated report of the sick and wounded of the armies in different sections of the country, for October, 1861, etc. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. COLLAMER reported from the Postoffice Committee the House bill to promote the further efficiency of the dead letter office, with an amendment. The bill authorizes dead letters to be returned to the writers for collections of postage, and the amendment authorizes, (not over twenty-five,) additional clerks, at a salary of $600 each.

Mr. WILSON said that he understood that there was double the number of clerks in the 6th auditor's office, where postoffice accounts are audited, than needed, and thought they could be detailed for this duty.

Mr. COLLAMER explained that the measure was an experiment, and it was expected by the Postmaster General that the expenses would be paid out of the postages collected by the return of letters. The Postmaster General had no authority over the clerks in the 6th auditor's office.

The amendment for clerks was adopted, when, on motion of Mr. WILSON, the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. TEN EYCK, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the resolution for the expulsion of Trusten Polk, a Senator from Missouri, reported it back, and recommended its passage. The committee make a report on the facts of the case, which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. TRUMBULL, from the same committee, made a like report for the expulsion of Waldo P. Johnson, the other Missouri Senator, which was also ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. LECKIE, a committee was raised to organize the divisions of the army, to authorize an increase in the clerical force in the offices of the Adjutant General and of the Postmaster General—with amendments.

Mr. SHERMAN, from the committee appointed at the last session, under the act of July 31, providing a commission to examine in relation to the compensation of all officers of the Government, reported a bill regulating the pay of officers of the army, and also a bill regulating the pay of officials connected with the two Houses of Congress, and by which their pay is generally reduced. These bills were made the special order for Tuesday next.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, offered a resolution requesting the Secretary of State to communicate the number, names and residences of all Consuls and commercial agents appointed under the act of August 2, 1861; what instructions have been made in their compensation, &c. Laid over.

Mr. HALE introduced the bill of which he had given previous notice, for punishing frauds upon the Treasury. It imposes fines and also imprisonment from one to ten years. The bill was passed to a second reading, and then referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CLARK, of N. H., introduced a bill to amend the act establishing the Court of Claims.

The joint resolution from the House to allow tea, coffee and sugar, in warehouses at the time of the passage of the late act increasing the duties on those articles, to be taken out under the former rates, was taken up and passed—yeas 25, nays 15.

The order of the day—the message of the President communicating the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the British and French Governments on the seizure of Messrs. Slidell and Mason—was taken up on the pending motion of Mr. SUMNER to refer the same to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Sumner addressed the Senate at length on the subject. He remarked that every principle of international law, when justly and authoritatively settled, becomes a safeguard of peace and a landmark of civilization, and rehearsed the circumstances of what he termed the taking from the Trent of "two old men," citizens of the United States, and two younger ones, fellow-rebels, who had stolen out of the country to the neutral port of Cuba. One of these "two old men" was the author of the fugitive slave law, and the other of that filibustering which had so disgraced the country.

Following out the principles and characteristics thus indicated, they had finally instigated a rebellion for the overthrow of the Government. It was such men as these that Captain Wilkes had captured on an English vessel, and brought back to our shores. Captain Wilkes had obeyed the impulse of patriotism, and, under British examples which he could not forget, had fallen, it seems, into a violation of national law—even the great principle of the American doctrine in support of the rights of neutrals. But

"Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and famous,
Loyal and neutral in a moment? No man."

We had captured those who were traitors, conspirators and rebels, all in one, but it was better even that such should go free than that the law of nations should be violated—better that many guilty should escape than one innocent not go free.

It should not be forgotten that this question was simply one of law—just as was that of a matter of trespass between individuals, the object being to determine which was right and which wrong. But it cannot be forgotten that, in times past, *on this identical point of law*, Great Britain persistently held an opposite ground from that which she now takes.

There are yet other points, however, on which, had the ship been carried into port for adjudication, controversy must have arisen. The three following points have been presented:

1. That the seizure of the rebel emissaries, without taking the ship into port, was wrong, *inasmuch as a navy officer is not entitled to substitute himself for a judicial tribunal.*

2. That had the ship been carried into port, it would not have been liable on account of the rebel emissaries, inasmuch as neutral ships are free to carry all persons not apparently in the military or naval service of the enemy.

3. Are despatches contraband of war, so as to render the ship liable to seizure?

These propositions Mr. S. proceeded to argue at length, with the view of exhibiting the proud position which the United States early and constantly maintained on this question, and declared that in exchange for the prisoners we receive from Great Britain a practical assent to a principle standing forth in every page of our history. In this connection he traced the former course of Britain under the boast, "Rule, Britannia, rule the waves," when American ships and cargoes, in the language of Lord Russell, "pursuing a lawful and innocent voyage," suffered from the British admiralty courts more than from rock or tempest; and Lord Castlereagh admitted that there had been discovered in the British fleet 3,500 men claiming to be impressed Americans, and at our Department of State 6,000 cases were recorded, the quarter-deck of a British man-of-war being thus made a floating judgment-seat in so many instances.

The ablest papers in our diplomatic history are devoted to the effort to procure a renunciation of this intolerable pretension; and the only serious war in which we have been engaged, until summoned to encounter this rebellion, was to overcome by arms this very pretension, which would not yield to reason. Beginning in the last century, the correspondence is at last closed by the recent reply of Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons. The long-continued occasion of conflict is now happily removed, and the pretension disappears forever, to take its place among the curiosities of the past.

Mr. Sumner then proceeds, and gives from the official record of our archives complete testimony, from the time of the administration of Washington, when the pen of Jefferson, his Secretary of State, was enlisted against it. The extracts from documents are voluminous and very interesting.

Mr. S. then took up the point which has been made that the steam packet having on board the emissaries was, on this account, liable to capture, and rebutted it. He said that the policy of our government, most positively declared in its diplomacy and also attested in numerous treaties, leaves no room to doubt that a neutral ship with belligerent passengers—not in the military or naval service—is not liable to capture, and therefore the whole proceeding was wrong, not only because the passengers were taken from the ship, but also because the ship, howsoever guilty morally, was not guilty legally in receiving such passengers on board.

If this question