SENATE.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Mr. WRIGHT, of Indiana, presented a memorial from Jonathan Brock for the privilege of laying street railways in Washington, under any of the bills before Congress, promising to build them within 60 days, and give $10,000 per annum for the improvement of the city, for the privilege.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, offered a resolution declaring that the war should be vigorously prosecuted and continued to compel obedience to the Constitution and laws within every State and Territory by all citizens and residents thereof, and for no further end whatever. Laid over.

On motion of Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, the bill relative to highways in the county of Washington, D. C., was taken up, and the amendments of the House concurred in, and the bill passed.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, called up his resolution directing the Military Committee to inquire whether further legislation is necessary to prevent the return of fugitive slaves by the military forces.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, answered on the course of Generals Hooker, McCook, Buell and Halleck in a number of specified cases of interference in behalf of persons seeking fugitive slaves in their camps. He read a letter from Assistant Adjutant General Halsey relative to Hooker's division, and commended the course of Gen. Doubleday, who, when applied to to exclude alleged slaves from his camp, issued an order permitting them to come in, and prohibiting them being sent out. He read a letter also detailing a barbarous case in Gen. McCook's command in the West, where a colored boy was beaten out of camp to his master by soldiers, who were paid $15 dollars apiece, and another letter depicting the trials of the negroes at Louisville, Ky., under the army patrols.

He read also Gen. Halleck's famous order No. 3, prohibiting fugitive slaves coming into his lines, declaring that it does not belong to the military to decide the relations of master and slave, and condemned it as unconstitutional, wanting in common sense and common humanity. How, he asked, could Gen. H. exclude these blacks, except by first deciding that they were slaves? His order was, therefore, absurd, and a black and direct table inconsistency. The contrary course of Gen. McDowell and Gen. Wool was pointed to, and related the advantages which they had derived in gaining information from contrabands. The first knowledge Gen. McDowell had of the evacuation of Fredericksburg by the Rebels was from a fugitive slave who had heard his master report it, after arriving home the evening before; and the first advices we had of the fall of New Orleans Gen. Wool had obtained through another fugitive. The colored population, he said, were all loyal, and on the information they furnish, great events—the decision of a battle, the movement of an army—may be decided. He had great respect for the abilities of Gen. Halleck, but none for his wisdom in excluding those from his camp who might be of the utmost service to the national cause.

Mr. SAULSBURY, of Delaware, moved to amend the resolution by adding to it the following: "And what further legislation is necessary to prevent the illegal capture and imprisonment of the free white citizens of the United States."

He said that the Senator from Massachusetts has informed us of many abuses, which, in his judgment, arise from the action of the commanders of our armies in reference to fugitive slaves. He did not propose to enter into the discussion of that branch of the question, but (said Mr. S.) I prefer upon this occasion to represent the interests of the free white citizens of my country, and this resolution gives me the opportunity of bringing to the attention of the Senate some instances in my own State, where persons have been illegally taken and carried out of the State by military authority.—Without attempting anything like a formal speech, I shall proceed simply with a narration of facts.

Some three or four weeks ago a highly respectable citizen of the town of Dover, a member of the bar, a gentleman of family, having a wife and children, was in the house of his wife taken from his family, shut up in the court-house of that town, as I am informed, and the next day hurried off by the military authorities to the State of Maryland, detained there for nearly a week, and finally discharged because the officer had to say, like Pilate, that he found "no fault in him." That man was John B. Pennington. Unfortunately he was *white*.

At the same time, sir, another highly respectable citizen of my State, at present the clerk of the Senate of the State, was taken by the same military authority, for no cause whatever, carried from the capital of the State into the State of Maryland, detained for a week, and then released because they could find no fault in him. He, too, had the misfortune of being *white*.

At the same time Mr. Whorter, a most highly respectable citizen of my State, residing near the Capitol, was dragged away from his home and carried into the State of Maryland by the military authorities, there detained for a week or more, and then discharged—no fault found in him. He, too, sir, was one of that unfortunate class of the people of this country who at the present day seem not to awaken much interest, and to whose interests not much attention is paid. He, too, was *white*. William A. Atkinson, ex-Sheriff of the county, a man universally esteemed, a true friend, a noble man, and as loyal to the constitutional Union of the fathers as any man that lives, was at the same time dragged by the same arbitrary power from his family and home and hurried to a military camp in the State of Maryland. Unfortunately he too was *white*, and *white* men now-a-days seem to have but few rights which either *negroes* or *public functionaries* feel bound to respect.

Several others at the same time were dragged from their homes. In the county where I live, a student of law, one of the most respectable young gentlemen in the county, was dragged away from his home and carried off into Maryland, detained for nearly a week, and then, when nothing could be found against him, he was discharged. He, too, was one of the unfortunate class of *white* men, who can be dragged from their homes into other States, and detained without cause, without a warrant, without process of law, and in utter violation of every principle of right secured to the American citizen by the Constitution and laws of his country.

Again, sir, some two or three weeks ago the city of Wilmington was visited and several of the most respectable citizens in that city were dragged from their families and their homes, one of whom I now name, Mr. Wm Graves, a most respectable citizen. They were marched between a file of soldiers down the public streets of Wilmington to the depot, carried off to Drumondtown, in Virginia, and detained there for one or two weeks. No private was issued against him; he had committed no offence against the laws of his country; no citizens of the State of Delaware, that I know of, ever breathed aught against his loyalty. No voice which is potential in behalf of freedom on this floor, or in the other hall, can be raised for him, because, unfortunately for him, safer as his personal rights are concerned, he too belongs to that unfortunate class of people who are *white*.

Now, sir, if the military authorities act oppressively against the negro race, if they abuse their authority to the injury of the humblest being on the face of God Almighty's earth, I am not here to advocate oppression. In times like these I know that the citizen necessarily must suffer some little wrong, because it is impossible in all cases to discriminate nicely in reference to what should or should not be done under particular circumstances; but while saying nothing in reference to the action of the military authorities in regard to the negro race—what I ask is, that if their wrongs are to be redressed, if their grievances are to be brought into the Senate chamber, let the same measure of justice at least be meted out to the loyal white citizens of the country. I ask nothing for those who have raised their hand in rebellion against the constitutional authorities of the country. Let them suffer the full severity of the law, if you think it advisable and have the power to inflict it. If any man violates the laws or the Constitution of his country he ought to be punished, and I am not here to advocate that such a man as that should be allowed to go free. But while we are entertained every morning with a narration of the grievances and wrongs of the black men of this country, the free negroes and the slaves, thinking equally as much—and although it may be an infirmity and a weakness at the present time to say it—thinking a little more of the free white citizens of my country, I will in my place demand that justice shall be done them, and that free white men who have done naught to injure their country, to destroy its institutions or its union, shall be protected, and that inquiry shall be made to see if further legislation is necessary to secure them in their rights.

The morning hour having expired, the subject went over.

The confiscation bill came up, as the special order.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, proposed to amend the 6th section of the substitute bill proposed by Mr. Collamer, of Vermont, by requiring the President to make proclamation and free the slaves of those who are in rebellion thirty days after the passage of this act, instead of only authorizing the President to issue a proclamation and giving sixty days.

Mr. WILSON said he was free to confess that his chief solicitude was for the emancipation of the slaves of rebels, and was in favor of the confiscation of the property of the leaders and amnesty to the masses. But slavery was the cause of the rebellion, and was the great rebel against the Government, and he could not therefore see how the loyal men could be the friends of slavery.

Slavery had been for thirty years aggressive on everything good and free in the Government. He could not see soldiers stick or wounded, or lying in the grave, but he felt that slavery had done it, and slavery had been the murderer of these brave men. If slavery was the great enemy and only enemy of the country, and to-day is the criminal and murderer trying to throttle the Government and destroy the national life—seeing and feeling all this, he would strike at slavery and destroy it if he could. If Congress adjourned without putting a law for confiscation upon the statute books, he believed they would be false and recreant to the country. He believed they should go to the very verges of the Constitution, and if there was doubt he would give it in favor of the country and not in favor of slavery. To almost every measure here for the support of the Government, and in behalf of humanity, objection had been made, that it would offend men in the border States, perhaps offend Rebels.

When we proposed to abolish slavery in this District, we were told it would not do, that it would unite the hearts of the traitors against us and the country; that it would be a rock of offence to our border State Union men. Sir, said Mr. W., we passed the bill; and this day, this very hour, thirteen thousand black men in this District, in their churches, are offering up their prayers to Almighty God for blessings on us for the act. He was tired of all these objections. Destroy slavery, is a enemy that can never love the Government, and the love for the Union and the Constitution will then return, together with a feeling of shame that men could have been so perverted by that monster.

Mr. HOWARD, of Maine, entered into an analysis of the several bills, declaring that some of them meant nothing, and were proposed by Senators who did not desire to do anything, while others proposed to do something, but not enough (those of Messrs. Harlan and Sherman), and others again went to extreme, and the rebellion. He denied that the original bill freed all the slaves of the rebels and confiscated all the property, as had been said, as it only referred to the slaves and property of rebels. It provided a means for assisting in crushing the rebellion, whereas others (his colleague's, Mr. Collamer's, especially) proposed to do nothing till the rebellion was suppressed, and then turn the whole country into a vast criminal asaize for years, for the purpose of punishing it. He did not believe, therefore, that it was expected the measure would ever be carried out. The people would have something better to do after the war than conducting criminal prosecutions.

Referring to Mr. Cowan's bill, which is a proposed supplement to the act of 1790, he declared that it would not and was not designed to give any aid to the President in putting down the rebellion. He was opposed to shirking the responsibility, and throwing it upon the President to seize this property, when he had no power to confiscate it. The army could take and use property to the extent necessary, but the President could not give title to a single bit of property without a law of Congress. The original bill provided for all this, and would be of practical effect now for ending the rebellion.

Mr. HOWE, of Wisconsin, briefly repelled the idea that he could be deterred from voting his sentiments, though he had desired the reference to a special committee. He was in favor of some confiscation act, though he could not say that he would support this one, as he had not examined it.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, proposed to amend the bill by providing in effect that the property forfeited under the act shall vest in persons, or their heirs, who may serve in the army, navy or marine corps, during the rebellion, and in loyal men whose property has been seized and confiscated by the Rebels. He argued at some length in support of his amendment, and that some Senators, so that slaves were freed, did not care what else was done.

Mr. ANTHONY, of Rhode Island, from the Committee on Printing, reported in favor of printing 50,000 copies of the report of the Committee on the War, relative to the barbarities of the Confederates on prisoners and the dead of the Federal soldiers.

On motion of Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, the Senate went into Executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, called up the regular order, which was the consideration of the House bill reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, authorizing the appointment of a Board of Fortifications to provide for the sea-coast and other defences of the United States, and for other purposes.

Mr. BLAIR advocated the necessity of the bill, and urged its immediate passage, on the ground of expediency and present need. If we intend to defend our coast and the country generally, we must initiate a movement of this sort at this time, with a view to an ultimate and speedy remodelling of our system of defences and methods of protection.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, thought that the further consideration of the bill should be postponed until a future day.

The whole subject was postponed until Tuesday week.

Mr DUNN, of Indiana, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill for the better organization of the Adjutant General's Department. Re-committed to the same committee.

Mr. LOVEJOY, of Illinois, from the Committee on Territories, reported a bill to render freedom national and slavery sectional, and asked to have it printed and re-committed to the same committee. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. CAMPBELL, of Pennsylvania, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Chrisfield, of Maryland, in the chair), and resumed the further consideration of the Pacific Railroad bill.

The committee occupied the entire day in endeavoring to perfect the sub-titute for the bill. Quite a number of amendments were offered and rejected.

Without coming to any conclusion the committee rose.

Mr. SILVESS, of Pennsylvania, reported from the Committee on Ways and Means a bill amendatory of the tax bill passed last August, crediting the different States for the amount of supplies furnished to the Government. Referred.

Adjourned.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to the N. Y. Times.

LOYALTY IN ALEXANDRIA.

Some of the citizens of Alexandria are putting on loyal airs, and asking that the Government release them from the restraint consequent upon the existence of martial law. From all the evidence obtained by our troops, stationed at that place since the murder of young Ellsworth, there are a large number of the citizens of Alexandria who are rank Secessionists, and are not entitled to be released from that bondage into which they voluntarily plunged themselves. Every loyal citizen of Alexandria is safer while martial law exists there, and until the traitorous Government at Richmond abandons its piratical flag and submits to the Constitutional Government at Washington.

CENSURE OF SECRETARY CAMERON.

The House dopted the resolutions reported by the Van Wycke Corruption Committee, censuring ex Secretary of War Cameron, but excusing Secretary Welles from censure. Can the President allow a man with such a brand upon him to go as representative of the Government to the Court of the Czar?

LIEUT. BENNETT RESIGNED.

Lieutenant Jas. G Bennett, of the Revenue service, who has been "serving the Government" on board his own yacht, the Henrietta, for six months past, at Port Royal, has surrendered his commission and withdrawn from the service.

Special Despatches to the New York Tribune.

PENNSYLVANIA CONTRABANDS.

Privates Joseph Randall, of Company A; Chas. Roth, Theo. Goll, Jno. Sunggg, and Allen Kilburn, of Company B; Stephen Briggs, James S. Betts, of Company E; John Coleman and George Brown, of Company G, all of the 19th New York regiment, having been tried and convicted "of desertion," a general court martial convened by Gen. Banks, were sentenced to forfeit all pay due, or to become due up to January 1, 1863, and to be confined during the same period in the penitentiary. The sentence has been confirmed, and the convicts, now under Gen. Burnside, have been ordered to Washington under guard.

ACCESSION OF LOYAL BLACKS.

Loyal blacks are coming rapidly within our lines from beyond Freder ckburg. Not less than two hundred men, women and children have already taken sent to Aquia Creek and thence to Washington. Many more have been incorporated into the Rappahannock army as cooks, hostlers and body servants. The information they eagerly volunteer has uniformly proved correct, and is often valuable.

CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.

The ten prisoners captured near Fredericksburg, a few days ago, have reached here. Two of them, named Farleh, claim to be relatives of Mrs Lincoln, and say that thirteen of their company, Carolina County Light Dragoons, are of the same family connection.

Special Despatches to the New York World.

THE MERRIMAC.

A gentleman arrived to-day here from Norfolk. On Sunday he was able to visit the Merrimac, owing to his acquaintance with some of the officers. She is fully repaired, is in fighting trim, and carries a black flag. Her sides have been smoothed and greased, so that when hit with shot they will glance off. Her roof reaches the wateredge.

NORTHERN NEWS IN SOUTHERN PAPERS.

The Petersburg *Express* of Monday publishes President Lincoln's message, signing the emancipation act here, and also the number of gunboats we have near Fortress Monroe, adding significantly that it believes that the Monitor is still in Hampton Roads.

THE EMANCIPATION COMMISSIONERS.

The Emancipation Commissioners were to-day in the receipt of a large number of applications from the largest slave-owners in Washington, many of whom transact their business in this respect with a very bad grace, but find that they can sell their negroes at much more profitable rates to the commissioners than in Baltimore or the adjoining counties in Maryland.

INFLUX OF CONTRABANDS.

Contrabands continue to come in with great rapidity. Over forty reached here to-day; thus swelling the number who have escaped from the eastern counties of Virginia to this city alone to nearly two thousand. They report that there are but few slaves between Washington and the Rappahannock.

Special Despatches to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

A CONTRACTOR'S FLOUR CONDEMNED.

A Philadelphia contractor has had twenty-five hundred barrels of flour condemned by the Government, as not coming up to the army standard. His loss in freights and other expenses will be about five thousand dollars. The Government officers here refuse to make any purchases for the army unless the prices and qualities are the same as they can be bought by private individuals.

ARREST OF A RETURNED REBEL.

Frank Hutchens, who returned here on Saturday from Fredericksburg, has been arrested and committed to prison as a Rebel. Before he left here, about one year ago, he said he would not return until he was able to conduct the Confederate army into the city as a pilot. He at that time threatened to shoot his son because he had joined the District of Columbia Volunteers.

MRS LINCOLN'S BROTHER.

The report that a brother of the wife of the President was among the Confederate slain at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, is contradicted.

POST-OFFICE MATTERS.

Postmaster General Blair, to-day, established a new post-office at Hanover, Howard county, Maryland, and appointed Robert W. Wilson postmaster, between Elk Ridge Landing and Annapolis Junction.

Also, a new office at Bear Lake, Warren county, Pennsylvania, Caleb Carr, postmaster—between Pine Valley, Pennsylvania, and Broken Straw, New York.

The newly restored mail service from Washington, by Falls Church, Peach Grove and Vienna, to Fairfax Court House, went into operation to-day, in charge of Mr. John W. Clubb, the contractor. The service is three times a week.

Route from Martinsburg, Virginia, to Williamsport, Maryland, is now let to Michael H. Miller, of Hagerstown, Maryland. The service is six times a week, to connect both ways with the cars to and from Baltimore and Washington.

MAIL MESSENGERS APPOINTED IN MARYLAND.

Green Spring Furnace, Four Locks and Little Georgetown, from North Mountain, (B. & O. R. R.) W. W. Faulkwell.

At Agricultural College, near Bladensburg, Mary-and—Thomas Magee, in place of J. L. Hoff.

At Old Town, Allegheny county, Maryland—Ezekiel Kenads, in place of John King.

At Duncansville, Pennsylvania—John McCabe, in place of Wm. Vaughn.

Special Despatches to the Philadelphia Press.

THE TAX BILL.

The Tax bill will most probably not reach the Senate this week. Senator Simmons, after a brief absence, has returned to the sessions of the Finance Committee, but Senator Pearce still remains absent from illness. The published changes made in the House bill are by no means accurate, being unauthorized by the committee, and are, therefore, calculated to mislead the public. It is evident that the House bill will be very much changed. Remonstrances continue to pour in from every conceivable interest, but especially from the liquor dealers. To-day the memorial of the New York Chamber of Commerce was presented, advocating an entirely different system of taxation from that adopted by the House.

THE CAPITOL CONSTRUCTION.

The Secretary of the Interior is beset by some parties who want to get contracts for the Capitol construction, whose antecedents are rather of the lobby character. When Gen. Meigs supervised the construction, he gave contracts only to persons of the highest character, who were regularly engaged in business. In other words, he paid fair prices for good work. He disbursed a half-a-dozen millions of dollars for no other compensation than the pay of captain in the army.

GENERAL M'CLELLAN.

A Washington correspondent of the New York *Commercial* says:

I am glad to assure those of your readers who have relatives or friends in the army before Yorktown that everything there is going on in the most satisfactory manner.

McClellan stock has risen rapidly since the General commenced his operations before Yorktown. Men who up to that time seemed unable to grasp fully his grand design and to understand the steps towards its consummation, now unequivocally and in public avow themselves among the warmest admirers of the man whom at one time they were afraid fully to trust.

I have it on the highest authority—one that admits of no error or misrepresentation—that whatever may have been the bearing of certain members of the Cabinet hitherto towards General McClellan, they are now unanimous in giving to him an implicit confidence.

I may go further and say that the highest military authority in this city openly declares that General McClellan's demonstrations before Yorktown, which he has professionally visited and inspected, are those of a master in military strategy.

PREPARATIONS OF THE MERRIMAC.

We have this evening conversed with a gentleman who has just arrived from Norfolk, and who visited the Merrimac on Sunday last. The monster was entirely ready for sea, and her whole outside had been freshly painted and greased. She is now commanded by Com. Tatnall, and from her flag-staff a black flag floats. She has been much strengthened and prepared for her future struggles.

The greatest activity prevails at the Norfolk Navy Yard, and several large gunboats, on the plan of the Merrimac, are being constructed there.

CONTRABANDS.

There is a rumor afloat there to-day that there is an important correspondence in town, or a copy of it, between Gen. McClellan and Gen. Hooker on the question of "contrabands." The story goes that Gen. McClellan, in the correspondence alluded to, takes the ground that all slaves coming into camp or captured are not to be given up to the enemy, but are to be protected, and the question of their freedom or confiscation left to the Government. How much truth there is in the rumor I cannot say. I certainly have not seen the alleged correspondence.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

(Regular Session.)

FIRST BRANCH.—Present Wm. S. CROWLEY, Esq., and all the members.

Mr. MULES offered a resolution of inquiry relative to the cost of laying down a railway on Jackson and Harvey streets. Adopted.

Dr. SCHWARTZE offered a resolution directing the Park Commissioners to repair Patterson Park.—Laid on the table.

Mr. KIRKWOOD called up the ordinance relative to the duties of the physician of the Marine hospital. Referred to the Committee on Health.

Mr. MULES called up the ordinance prohibiting the running of small boats as ferries in the harbor.

Mr. SULLIVAN moved an indefinite postponement. Carried.

Adjourned.

SECOND BRANCH.—Branch met. Chas. J. BAKER, Esq., President, in the chair, and all the members present.

Mr. MILLER presented a message addressed to the First Branch in relation to the non-action of that body on the resolution in relation to deepening the channel of the Chesapeake Bay and Patapsco river. Adopted.

A resolution allowing Benjamin German to erect a frame awning in front of the building occupied by him on the corner of Madison and Spring streets, was received from the First Branch and adopted.

Adjourned.

OPERATIONS OF FLAG OFFICER FOOTE—THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT PILLOW.

The correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, writing from before Fort Pillow, under date of April 24, gives the following:

THE PLANTERS BURNING THEIR COTTON.

We learn from a reliable source that the planters and Confederate authorities have burnt, or are now engaged in burning up their entire cotton crop, the yield being very productive in this quarter. Taylor's cotton was fired by the authorities, but he succeeded in extinguishing the flames after they had departed. All the cotton on the plantation of Mr. Lance and her sons in Social Bend, Arkansas, opposite Island No. 34, has been burned. This is really "cutting off the nose to spite the face."

THE CONFEDERATES REINFORCED.

The enemy at Fort Pillow have been reinforced with both troops and gunboats, and we verily believe they mean to "show fight." To-day we conversed with an intelligent planter, who informed us that he frequently met with acquaintances from Forts Pillow, Randolph, and below, one of whom assured him that the force at Fort Pillow and vicinity had been increased from between 5,000 and 6,000 men from 13,000 to 15,000, and furthermore, that five more of Captain Edward Montgomery's fleet of gunboats, including the veritable and formidable iron-clad propeller Louisiana, just completed, had arrived from New Orleans, Captain Montgomery being in command in person. This will make their entire fleet, two-third of which are of very little account, number fifteen gunboats. The land war or water batteries are inundated, more particularly the fortification known as "Battery No. 1."

FORT RANDOLPH BEING FORTIFIED.

The enemy are also busily engaged in fortifying Fort Randolph again, and hope to be successful in the coming contest. Captain Edward Montgomery, it is generally conceded by his old and intimate friends, is a man of more courage than judgment, and you need not be surprised to hear by telegraph shortly that he comes up around Cairo and attacks our boys a little turn with his fleet. He is welcome, and will be warmly, if not cordially, received by "Old Flag." It may be that Jeff. Thompson, who arrived at Memphis from Des Arc, Arkansas, last Thursday, or a portion of Price's troops, constitute the reinforcements at Fort Pillow. One fact we do know, and that is that General Bragg and General Vilipigue have both joined Beauregard near Corinth, Mississippi, and that General Albert J. Rust (formerly member of Congress from Arkansas) is in command at Fort Pillow, during their absence.

THE ARKANSAS LEVEE CUT.

The levee on the Arkansas shore was cut by our men last night, and a vast stream of water is now flowing across the land and pouring out opposite Fulton, Tenn., twelve miles below here. Two or three Confederate gunboats are at the mouth of the chute, and guarding the pass. It is said we will be enabled to get transports through there in a day or two, but if we do, they will require defence from our gunboats.

DISTRESS IN MANCHESTER—80,000 DESTITUTE OPERATIVES.—The Manchester *Guardian* of the 10th says: "It is a very sad fact that the distress in this city, caused by want of work, is steadily on the increase. The inclement weather of the winter having passed, the hopeful anticipations of the spring time have blinded many to the consideration that want of bread is as hard to bear in April as in December. It is a fact, established by the returns prepared under the careful superintendence of Captain Palin, the chief constable, that, from the 7th of January to the 8th of this present month, there has been an increase of nearly two thousand in the number of persons wholly out of employment. The numbers were, during the week ending January 7th, 6,187; during the week ending April 8th, 8,059. The latter number has been attained by a weekly increase, on an average of the thirteen weeks of one hundred and fifty individuals. But the number, 8,059, was exceeded by the number in the previous week, namely, the last week in March, when the number of operatives dependent upon the labor of their hands for their daily bread, and having no such labor for their willing hands to do, was 8,369. With how earnest a cry, each morning, would the words be spoken from those eight thousand hearts: 'Give us this day our daily bread?'"

CONGRESS.—The daily negro debating society assembled at the Federal capital might as well adjourn. Its proceedings are monotonously nauseating. If we except the Treasury note bill, it would be difficult to name an act of practical benefit to the country passed by it since the commencement of the session. Its members thirst on the negro, talk on the negro, and vote on the negro, and the negro is the beginning and the end of all its deliberations. Yet, outside of Washington that subject is of the least possible present practical consequence to any portion of the American people. The subject may be interesting to Wilson and Lovejoy, because it comprises their whole political stock in trade, but the army and the great majority of the people look upon their protracted and effeminate debates of the question with a most serene indifference or with open contempt.—*Milwaukee News.*

MAY-DAY MOVING.—The house-moving to-day will be quite general, although a great many have avoided the May-day rush by moving during the past two weeks, and will congratulate themselves while witnessing the confusion of their neighbors. For large, expensive houses there is but a limited demand, and the rents of such necessarily fall very considerably, while houses renting at from $200 to $500 are in a great demand as ever, in consequence of people retrenching expenses by taking such residences the present year. Many people who paid $1,000 or $1,500 last year find it necessary to retreat to $300 for the next twelve months, and many who rented large houses will occupy a second floor, with other families above and below. The consequence is that cheap houses will be crowded, and large ones, in very numerous cases, empty. The poor and medium classes will hardly have an equal chance for retrenchment with the rich.—*New York World.*

THE TERRITORY OF LANNIWA.—Mr. Pomeroy's bill for the organization of the Territory of Laniwa (a Shawnee word, signifying Indian) is intended to provide for the region lying between Kansas and Texas, west of Arkansas and east of Colorado, Texas and New Mexico. The district has hitherto borne the appellation of the Indian Territory, and Mr. Pomeroy has simply translated it into Shawnee. One of the peculiarities in the bill is that it proposes to allow the Indians in the Territory free participation in governmental affairs and equality before the law.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

The Montreal *Transcript* gives some particulars concerning the disasters attending the breaking up of the ice, last week, on the Richelieu river. Four steamers were sunk, viz: Dawn, Unity, Castor and Cultivateur, all much damaged before sinking. Two dredges, nine barges, seven scows and thirty-eight sail vessels were also sunk; twenty steamers and twenty-five barges and schooners were damaged; besides a number of craft sunk and damaged further up the river.

ROMANCE OF THE WAR.—A young and passably good-looking girl was arrested in Rochester on Saturday last, as a common street-walker, whose history has some romance connected with it. She gives her name as Antoinette Rogers, and says that she resides in the vicinity of Rochester. When the war fever first broke out she enlisted in one of the companies from Rochester, and was taken to Elmira with the company, and remained with them until her sex was accidentally discovered, when she was sent home. She afterwards enlisted in another company, and was taken to Washington, where her sex was again discovered, and she was sent back. Since then, she appears to have led a half-wandering vagrant life. She first attracted attention by an attempt to obtain men's clothing.

Mr. Russell, of the London *Times*, writing to that paper under date of March 25, compliments Gen. McD well as "an accomplished and well-instructed officer," but says he is "surrounded by a number of young gentlemen, very earnest, gallant, and hard-working, but ignorant for the most part of the proper duties of staff officers." He also states that "the general officers of the American army know its defects; the people do not."

The prospect of a large peach crop in Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey, is represented as being very promising.

BOARD OF TRADE.

Committee of Arbitration for the month of April.

HOOPER C. EATON, JOS. A. BUCK, WILSON P. BRYANT, C. MORTON STEWART, J. HY. G ESE.

Monetary and Commercial Review.

BALTIMORE, May 1, 1862.

There was some little activity at the Stock Board to-day. Government and State securities were very dull, and no sales reported. For Maryland inscribed 6's 1870 and 1890 95¾ was bid, without finding sellers; for Missouri 6's 50 was bid, 52 asked. There was some movement in City stocks—$5,500 6's 1875, sold at 96; $3,465 do. 1890 at 97¼, and $400 do. at 97¼, the latter being a cash sale; the closing rates were for 1870 95 asked; 1875 95¾ bid, 95¾ asked, and for the old issue of 1890 97½ bid, 97¾ asked. In Railway bonds, we notice sales of $1,000 Northwestern Virginia 6's first mortgage, guaranteed by the city, at 88; $1,000 do. do. at 88¼; closing at 88¼ bid, 89 asked; for do. do. second mortgage, guaranteed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, 85 was bid; also sales of $10,000 Northern Central 6's 1885 at 75, closing at 75 bid, 75¼ asked; also $6,000 Western Maryland 6's 1890, first mortgage, but not having the city guarantee, at 65, closing at 64 bid, 65¼ asked; for Baltimore and Ohio 6's 1862 66 was bid, 67 asked; do. do. 1867 92 bid; do. do. 1875 89 bid; do. do. 1885 85 bid, 88 asked. There were no transactions in Railway shares; Baltimore and Ohio closed at $66 bid, $67 asked regular way; $66¾ bid, buyer's option 60 days; Northern Central $21 bid, $21¼ asked regular way, and $22 asked, seller's option 60 days. We notice a sale of 8 shares Bank of Baltimore at 187¾. In other stocks we have no change to notice. Mining stocks continue very dull. For Baltimore and North Carolina 30 cts. was asked; Cambridge 25 cts. asked; Deep River 20 cts. asked; Gardner $1 bid, $1.20 asked; Guilford 50 cts bid, 65 cts. asked; North State 25 cts. asked, and for Springfield $2.45 bid, $2.55 asked. For Canton Company $14 was bid, $14¾ asked.

The rates for foreign Exchange are firm, with only a moderate demand. Messrs. Graf & Engler, Exchange Brokers, quote on London, bankers' bills, at 112¾; do. commercial bills, 111¾@112; on Paris, 60 days sight, 5.07¾@5.02½; do. short sight, 5.; on Antwerp, 5.07¾; Amsterdam, 42¾@42¾; Bremen, 81; Hamburg, 37¾; Cologne, 74¾; and on Frankfort on-the-Main, 42¾@42¾.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD.

THURSDAY, May 1, 1862

$5,500 Baltimore city 6's	75		96
9-0 do.		90	
650 do.		90	97¾
300 do.		90	97¾
365 do.		90	97¾
200 do.		90	97¾
1,000 do.		90	97¾
401 do.		90	97¾
1,000 Northwestern Virginia R. R. 6's			88
1,000 do. do.			88¼
2,000 Northern Central Railroad bonds		'85	75
1,000 do. do.	do.	'85	75
4,000 do. do.	do.	'85	75
2,000 do. do.	do.	'85	75
1,000 do. do.	do.	'85	75
6,000 Western Maryland bonds unendorsed			65
8 shares Bank of Baltimore			187¾

The following are the rates at which the Baltimore Brokers are buying and selling Gold:

	BUYING.	SELLING.
Gold	1¼ per ct prem.	1¾ per ct. prem.

PRICES AND SALES OF STOCKS IN NEW YORK

Through WILLIAM FISHER & SON, Stock and Bill Brokers No. 22 South street.

	1st Board	2d Board
Virginia 6's	57¾	00
Missouri 6's	56¾	50¾
Tennessee bonds	50¾	00
North Carolina bonds	65¾	60
American gold	102¾	00
Canton Company	13	00
Erie Railroad	37¾	37¼
New York Central Railroad	81¾	81¾
Reading Railroad	49¾	47
Rock Island	00	00

dull, unsettled.

The New York *Herald* of yesterday says:

Government sixes rose to-day to 99—¾ per cent, above yesterday's closing price; the 7.30 notes sold at 102 3-16. The morning session of the board was one of the most active on record. Between the boards there was some realizing; but prices were fully sustained. At the second board some securities advanced at the closing firm. Comparing the closing prices of the day with those of yesterday we note an advance of 1¼ in Panama, 1¼ in Illinois Central and Michigan and Quincy, ¼ in Pacific Mail and Michigan Southern, ¾ in Michigan Central, ½ in Reading, ¼ in Missouri, ¼ in Prairie du Chien and Toledo, ½ in Erie, Erie preferred, Hudson and Galena, and ¼ in Harlem.

BALTIMORE MARKETS.

THURSDAY, May 1.

COFFEE.—The market continues quiet but firm. We have no sales to report. There is a fair demand from the trade, but holders are not disposed to press sales. We quote Rio prime Rio nominally at 19@20¾ cts; La guayra at 21@22 cts., and Java at 26@27 cts. per lb. The stock of Rio in first hands is now 31,000 bags, with a very light supply of other descriptions.

FLOUR.—We continue to receive inquiry for Howard Street and Ohio for export, but we are not advised of any transactions. There is a fair demand for good brands of Howard Street Super, for the wants of the retail trade, and in the absence of any supplies of moment, the market closes very firm; we notice sales to-day amounting to 300 bbls. at $5.37¾ per bbl. There is nothing whatever doing in City Mills Flour. Holders of good brands of Howard Street Super are asking $5.37½, and for good to choice Extra do. $5.62½@5.75 per bbl. is demanded. We quote standard City Mills Superat $5.12½, and Extra do at $6.25 per bbl. by the day load, at $5.25 for Baltimore, and at $7.75 for high grade Extra.

RYE FLOUR AND CORN MEAL.—The market for Rye Flour is very dull, and we quote it at $3.37½@3.50 per bbl. There is only a moderate demand for Corn Meal. We quote it at $2.87½ per bbl. for both Baltimore and Brandywine.

GRAIN.—We have little or no change to notice in the Corn Exchange were quite large, amounting in the aggregate to 32,379 bushels, viz: 3,355 bushels Wheat, 15,342 bushels Corn, 13,502 bushels Oats, and 150 bushels Rye. The market for Wheat was rather dull, the principal demand was for prime; choice parcels for the use of millers. The only sales reported were 350 bushels white at 145 cts; 200 bushels red at 134 cts.; 240 bushels do. at 132 cts.; 500 bushels at 131 cts; and 100 bushels at 130 cts. We still continue to quote common to medium white at 125@135 155@160 cts.; fair to prime Pennsylvania red at 120@128 cts., and Southern do. at 120@124 cts. per bushel. The demand for Corn was rather better, the sales footing up over 6,000 bushels, as follows, viz: 1,670 bushels white at 63 cts; 1,375 bushels do. at 62 cts; 927 bushels do. at 60 cts; 1,050 bushels yellow at 59 cts., and 2,000 bushels do. at 58 cts. There was a large supply of Oats at market, but the only sales reported were 800 bushels Pennsylvania at 39 cts., and 300 bushels Maryland at 38 cts. We quote at 36@38 cts. for Pennsylvania; 35@37 cts. for Maryland, and 33@36 cts for Virginia. Rye is very dull; we note sales of 150 bushels Pennsylvania at 71 cts per bushel. We still quote Pennsylvania at 70@71 cts., and Maryland at 67@68 cts. The only offering at the Maryland Exchange was 1,625 bushels Corn, of which 225 bushels yellow were taken at 55 cts per bushel.

MOLASSES.—The market continues dull. The stock on hand is very light, and the market is dull at our quotations, viz: Cuba Muscovado at 24@30 cts; do. clayed, sour and sure 22@26 cts; Porto Rico 30@40 cts.; and New Orleans 52@54 cts per gallon.

PROVISIONS.—The market remains quiet, and no transactions of importance are reported. Pork—We now quote Western Mess at $12 50@13; Prime Mess at $11.50; Prime do. at $10, and Dump at $9 per bbl. Bulk Meats.—Shoulders are rather dull to-day, and we quote them at 4@4¼ cts. There is some little demand for cts. per lb. Bacon.—We now quote Shoulders at 4¾@5 cts; Sides at 6@6¾ cts. per lb; Hams at 6¾@8¾ cts Beef is steady at $12.50 per bbl. for Baltimore No 1; at $15@16 for do. Mess, and $17 per bbl. for Extra Mess Lard—We are without sales; the market is firm at our quotations, viz: Western, in bbls. and tierces, at 8¾@8¾ cts; do. in kegs (regular packages) 8¾ cts; city rendered Leaf 7¾ cts., and refined 9¾ cts. per lb.

RICE.—There is no Rice here, but we quote it nominal at 7@7¾ cts. for good to prime Carolina. We quote East India at 6@6¾ cts. per lb.

SALT.—The demand for jobbing lots from store continues quite light. We now quote as follows, viz: Ground Alum 110 cts. per sack; Jeffrey & Darcy's 170 cts.; Marshall's and Worthington's 180 cts., and Ashton's fine at 35 cts. per bushel.

SEEDS.—The season for Cloverseed is nearly over, and there is now scarcely anything doing. We