THE DAILY EXCHANGE.

VOL. VI---NO. 913. BALTIMORE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1861. PRICE TWO CENTS.

BOARD OF TRADE.
Committee of Arbitration for month of February.
OTHO WILLIAMS.
JNO. E. R. CRABBE, | JAS. H. EASTER.
ED. REESE, | W. T. LANDSTREET.

Monetary and Commercial Review.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 12, 1861.

There was more done in Stocks to day than on yesterday, but the business at the Board was nevertheless light. There was but little inquiry for Railroad shares and nothing was done in them. They were however steady at about yesterday's figures, Northern Central closing at $14 bid, $15 asked, and Baltimore and Ohio at $58 bid, $59 asked regular way. For Railroad bonds there was some demand and sales were made of $1,000 Baltimore and Ohio 1885's at 80, yesterday's price, and $5,000 Northwestern Virginia unendorsed third mortgage bonds at 19¾. For Northern Central 1885's 47 was bid, and 50 asked, and Baltimore and Ohio bonds closed at 85 bid for 1867's; 81 bid for 1875's; and 80 bid, 80½ asked for 1885's. City 6's improved to-day ¼. Sales were made of $1,700 1890's at 95¾@96, and they closed steady at 96 bid, 96½ asked. We note sales to-day of 4 shares Bank of Baltimore at $98, and 10 shares Western Bank at $20¼, but this embraced all the transactions in Bank stocks at the Board. For the Mining stocks there was a fair inquiry, and they were generally quite firm to-day. Sales were made of 200 shares Gardner Hill at $2.95, 300 shares Springfield at $2, and 650 shares Guilford at 75 cts.

In New York to-day stocks were very strong, and everything on the list improved materially. Virginia 6's advanced $1½; Missouri 6's $1; Tennessee bonds $1¾; North Carolina bonds ½; Canton ½; Erie ¾; New York Central $1; Reading, $1½; Cleveland and Toledo $1¾; Michigan Southern ½; Michigan Southern guaranteed $1¾; Rock Island $1⅞; Harlem ½; and Galena and Chicago $1½.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD
TUESDAY, February 12, 1861.

$1500 Balt. 6's,	'90—96	10 shs. Western Bk—	20¼
187 " "	'90—95¾	200 shs. Gardner Hill Mining Co..	—2.95
1000 B. & O. R.R. bds.	'85—80	650 shs. Guilford M. Co.	—.75
5000 N. W. Va. RR. 2d m. bds.,	—19¾	300 shs. Springfield Mining Co.	— 2
4 shs. Bk of Balt.	—98		

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	75¾	00
Missouri 6's	66¼	66½
Tennessee bonds	71	00
North Carolina bonds	77½	00
Canton Company	14½	00
Erie Railroad	33¾	33
New York Central Railroad	78	78¾
Reading Railroad	43¾	44
Panama Railroad	00	00
Cleveland and Toledo Railroad	34	00
Michigan Southern Railroad	16	00
Harlem Railroad	00	16¾
Galena and Chicago	00	72¾
Michigan Southern, guaranteed	23¾	00
Rock Island Railroad	57¾	00

firm. steady.

The New York *Tribune* of this morning says:

The Stock market this morning was not very active, but the feeling was generally strong, although a little tendency to weakness was shown at the close of the each Board, under the hammering of the bears, who offered their options with great freedom. Of the time transactions it will be noticed that an unusual proportion was sellers' options. The business appeared to be mainly confined to street operations, the regular commission houses having but few orders. After the Board the market became stronger with a good demand for Stocks, of which 3,000 to 5,000 shares were sold, prices ranging as the printed list. At the Second Board the demand was quite active for the leading fancies, with a general advance. The reports from the Virginia and Tennessee elections gave great encouragement to the bulls, and combined with positive assurances from high authority at Washington that political matters were in a fair train for amicable settlement, hundreds of bulls in free buyers, and alarmed the shorts, who were privately taking considerable lots of stock while openly offering sellers' options. The market closes with every appearance of a further advance, unless some unforeseen event shou occur to change the tone. Nearly every description shows an advance during the day, and ours at the last moment were made, in some cases, higher than the annexed quotations. In State stocks there is an improved feeling, but the improvement is checked by the untimely bank legislation of Illinois. Railroad bonds are firm, but with moderate transactions.

There is a largely increased business in Treasury Notes, which are taken by individuals and banks in the absence of a sufficient supply of first-class commercial paper and loans. The list prices are still firm, but, in fact, the other descriptions to net the buyer about 10¼ per cent. interest. The amount on the market has been much reduced. The descriptions used for paying duties at the Custom House sell at ⅛@¼ per cent. discount. Paper of strictly the first class is growing every day less plenty, and goes freely at 7@8 per cent. We hear of some transactions as low as 6 per cent. Other descriptions have a very wide range, from 10 per cent. to 3 per cent. per month. On demand the supply of capital is very abundant at 6@7 per cent.

The following is a comparative statement of the condition of the banks of New York City Feb. 2 and Feb. 9:

	Feb. 2.		Feb. 9.		
Loans	$121,967,924	$120,388,050	Dec..	$1,579,874	
Specie	31,054,909	34,635,645	Inc..	3,630,736	
Circulation	8,099,376	8,361,305	Inc..	261,928	
Deposits	87,879,743	88,988,631	Inc..	1,106,888	

The weekly statement of the Philadelphia Banks presents the following aggregates, as compared with those of the previous week:

	Feb. 4.	Feb. 11.	
Capital Stock	$11,807,585	$11,807,815	Inc. 230
Loans	25,801,952	25,430,202	Dec. 371,750
Specie	4,538,054	4,747,185	Inc. 209,131
Due from other Banks.	2,104,849	1,992,323	Dec. 112,521
Due to other Banks...	2,699,627	2,654,700	Dec. 44,927
Deposits	15,295,453	15,649,298	Inc. 236,015
Circulation	2,778,318	2,825,952	Inc. 47,634

The position of the market for American Securities in London is thus noticed by Messrs. D. Bell, Son & Co.:—The business done during the week ending 2d inst. was very limited; and although it is true that buyers are at present holding back, it is equally true that stocks are not pressed on the market for sale.

U. S. 5 per cent., '74	85@ 87	
Kentucky 6's '68–'72	88@ —	
Maryland 5's	90@ 92	
Massachusetts State 5's	101@103	
Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock	80@ 82	
do 5 per cent. bonds	82@ 84	
Virginia 6 per cent. bonds	70@ 75	
do 5 per cent sterling bonds, '88	70@ 75	
Illinois Central 7 per cent. bonds, 1st mt'g, '75	84@ 86	
do 6 per cent., do '75	85@ 87	
Michigan Central 8's, '60	90@ 98	
New York Central 6's, '63	85@ 87	
do 7's, '64	90@ 92	
N. J. and Erie 7's, 1st mortgage, '67	90@ 92	
do 2d mortgage, '79	87@ 89	
do 3d mortgage, '83	76@ 78	
Panama 7 per cent. 1st mortgage, '65	100@100¾	
Pennsylvania Central 6's, '80	87@ 89	

The return from the Bank of England, for the week ending the 23d January, gives the following results, when compared with the previous week:

Public deposits	£2,948,877	Increase..	£292,118
Other deposits	13,120,293	Decrease..	1,093,663
Rest	3,260,261	Increase..	25,080
On the other side of the account:			
Gov't securities	£8,847,470	Decrease..	336,291
Other securities	20,236,060	Decrease..	887,518
Notes unemployed	5,228,300	Increase..	146,675

The amount of notes in circulation is £20,036,150, being a decrease of £363,650, and the stock of bullion in both departments is £11,521,580, showing a decrease of £255,783, when compared with the preceding return.

The Bullion market since our last has maintained the same firm character as then reported, no alteration having taken place in quotations.

The market for British securities has exhibited a better tone since our last, and although there have been fluctuations indicative of the existence of a nervous feeling, nevertheless the tendency has been towards improvement.

The following table will show the fluctuations in Consols since the 13th inst.:

	For Money.		For Account.	
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.
Jan. 18,	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾
Sat. 19,	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾
Mon. 21,	91¼	91¾	91¾	91¾
Tues. 22,	91¼	91¼	91½	91¾
Wed. 23,	91¼	91½	91½	91¾
Thurs. 24,	91¼	91¾	91½	91¾
Fri. 25,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Mon. 28,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Tues. 29,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Wed. 30,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Thurs. 31,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Fri. 1,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Sat. 2,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Mon. 4,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Tues. 5,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Wed. 6,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Thurs. 7,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Fri. 8,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Sat. 9,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Mon. 11,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾
Tues. 12,	91⅜	91⅜	91½	91¾

The market for foreign securities has become more active since our last, but there continues an absence of any striking feature to report.

BALTIMORE MARKETS.

TUESDAY, Feb. 12.

COFFEE.—There has been but little done to-day in Coffee, the only sale we have heard of being one of 100 bags Rio at 12½ cts. Coffee is wanted but the stock here is generally of undesirable quality, and the sales are restricted in consequence. We quote Rio as before at 11¾@11¾ cts. for low grades; 12@12¼ cts. for fair; 12½@12¾ cts. for prime. Laguayra is nominally at 14@15 cts.; and Java at 16@17½ cts. We note the arrival here to-day of the brigs "Mount Vernon" and "Montticello" from Rio, each with a cargo of 3,400 bags Coffee, which increases the stock here to about 12,000 bags.

FRUIT.—Some 4,000 boxes Oranges, and 600 boxes Lemons, the cargo of the brig "Ida," which arrived here yesterday from Palermo, were offered for sale to-day at auction, but sales were made of only 100 boxes Lemons at $3.25, and 1,000 boxes Oranges at from $1.65 to $2.05 per box, the balance of the cargo being with drawn. This is the first cargo of Mediterranean Fruit that has been received here or some months.

FLOUR.—There has been some movement to day in Flour, but the market for it was heavy again, and both Super and Extra sold at a decline on previous sales. The sales to-day embraced 200 bbls. Ohio Super at $5, 200 bbls. Howard Street do. at $5.12½, 500 bbls. Howard Street customers' extra at $5.25, and 200 bbls. do. Extra at $5.50 per bbl., making a total of 1,100 bbls. Nothing was done in City Mills Flour. Super could have been had at $5, and some lots were we heard offering at a still lower price. Ohio Super could have been bought at the close at $5, but the Howard Street do. holders were generally asking $5.12½ per bbl. Extra Flour is dull and lower. We quote Ohio Super at $5, Howard Street at $5.50@5.62½; and City Mills at $6@6.25 for regular shipping, and $7@$7.50 per bbl. for fancy brands.

FAMILY FLOUR.—Family Flour is still selling at the following rater, viz: $8.75 for Welch's, $8 for the best brands of Baltimore ground, and $6.50@7 per bbl. for Ohio and Howard Street.

RYE FLOUR AND CORN MEAL.—We quote Rye Flour to-day dull at $4.12½, and Corn Meal at $3.25 for Baltimore, and $3.37½@3.50 per bbl. for Brandywine.

GRAIN.—Grain was in moderate request and supply again to-day the offerings at the Corn Exchange embracing some 6,000 bushels Wheat, 15,000 bushels Corn, 150 bushels Rye, and 1,000 bushels Oats. There was however but little activity in any description, and the feeling in the market was rather heavy. The sales of Wheat embraced some 1,700 bushels fair to good red at 120@125 cts., but for a lot of 1,200 bushels strictly prime 129 cts. was the understand offered, and about 3,000 bushels white at 130@140 cts. for medium to fair, 145@155 cts. for good to prime, and 160 cts. for choice, the latter figure being paid for a lot of 700 bushels. Corn sold to-day at 64@65 cts. for new white, that at the latter figure being strictly prime, 56@60 cts. for new yellow, and 62@63 cts. for old do. The demand for it was however limited, and only a part of the receipts was sold. There was very little done in Rye or Oats. We quote Rye as before at 70 cts. for Pennsylvania, and Oats at 30@32 cts. for Virginia and Maryland, and 33@35 cts. for Pennsylvania.

MOLASSES.—We are not advised of any transactions to-day in Molasses. There is some inquiry for New Orleans, but there is very little demand for foreign. New Orleans is held at 34@36 cts., and we quote Foreign as follows, viz: at 25@28 cts. for new crop Cuba; 16@20 cts. for old do.; 18@20 cts. for English Island; and 24@26 cts. for Porto Rico.

PROVISIONS.—There has been comparatively little inquiry to-day for Provisions, and with the exception of a few small sales of Bacon there has been nothing done in them. The market although quiet is however unchanged in its general condition and we quote Bacon as before at 8¼@8¾ cts. for Shoulders, 10¼@10½ cts. for Sides, the last named figures being the rates at which the jobbers are filling orders, and Bulk Meat at 7¾ cts. for Shoulders 9¾@9⅞ cts. for Sides, and 9@9½ cts. for Hams. We still quote Lard at 10¼@10½ cts. for Western in bbls. and tierces, Mess Pork at $18, Prime do. at $14, Rump do. at $13.25@13.50, and Beef at $12.50 for Baltimore No. 1, and $16 per bbl. for do. Mess.

RICE.—There is very little doing in Rice, but it is unchanged in price, and we still quote it as ranging from 3¾ to 4¾ cts. for fair to prime. We note the receipt here to-day of 345 tierces from Charleston, S. C.

SALT.—There is very little doing in Salt, but we still quote Liverpool at 90@95 cts. for Ground Alum, 150@155 cts. for Marshall's and Jeffrey & Darcy's fine, and 175@180 cts. per sack for Ashton's do., these figures being for lots from store, and Turks Island Salt at 15@16 cts. afloat, and 20 cts. per bushel from store

SUGARS.—There has been but little inquiry to-day for Sugars, and so far as we have heard no sales have been made. They close however steady at our previous quotations, viz: $5@5.37½ for common to good refining Cuba and English Island; $5.50@6 for grocery grades Cuba; $5.50@6.75 for common to prime Porto Rico; $4.75@5.50 for inferior to good common New Orleans; and $6@7.25 for good to prime do. Prime New Orleans Sugars are wanted, but there are very few here.

SEEDS.—The market for Cloverseed continues heavy. Sales were made on Change of 150 bushels good at $5, and of 30 bushels do. at $4.87½, this figure being a decline of 12½ cts. on any previous sale, but for strictly prime lots holders still ask $5.12½ per bushel of 64 lbs. We quote Timothy Seed as before at $2.25@2.50, and Flaxseed at $1.25@1.35 per bushel.

WHISKEY.—There has been a pretty good demand for Whiskey to-day, and we note sales of 50 bbls. Country at 17 cts., 150 bbls. City at 18 cts., and 250 bbls. Ohio also at 18 cts.

See Fourth Page.
FOR DOMESTIC MARKETS,
FOR SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Report of the House Select Committee in Reference to the Abstraction of the Indian Trust Bonds from the Interior Department.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The report of the Select Committee of which Mr. Morris, of Illinois, is Chairman, gives a detailed account of the facts relative to the abstraction of the Indian Trust Bonds. Thirty or forty witnesses were examined, including ex-Secretaries Floyd and Thompson.—The latter is exonerated from any complicity in the theft, but he, as well as the former Secretaries of the Interior, are censured for the insufficient manner in which the bonds have been held in that Department, there being no adequate responsibility attached to the custodian. According to Mr. Russell's own evidence, he did not know at first where the bonds of which he obtained possession came from. Mr. Byerly was an agent for the negotiation or sale of the bonds, and Mr. Lea was an intermediate party between Russell and Bailey.

It was also ascertained that Secretary Floyd gave acceptances to the amount of nearly seven millions, or from two to three millions more than Messrs. Russell, Majors & Co. ever earned, while these contractors received all the money due them. The acceptances were given on the strength of their contract.

Senator Benjamin was an important witness.—About a year ago, he could not exactly fix the time, he received a letter from Messrs. Duncan, Sherman & Co., asking him to ascertain whether Secretary Floyd's acceptances were good.

Mr. Benjamin called on the President, who said he knew nothing about them or any law authorizing their issue. Mr. Benjamin next called on Mr. Floyd, who said the acceptances were in accordance with the usage of the Department, and were given conditionally as to the arrival of trains from one point to another. Mr. Benjamin reminded him of the impropriety of such proceedings, and Mr. Floyd said he would sign no more, but notwithstanding, from April to December, he gave acceptances to the amount of $2,163,000. The last batch was given on the 13th of December, the day that Bailey delivered up the last supply of bonds.

The Committee have ascertained that many of these acceptances are still out. Two hundred and sixty thousand dollars' worth of them are in the hands of one or two parties alone, but which are worthless. The Committee make no recommendations, and merely report the facts.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONY OF SENATOR BENJAMIN—BUCHANAN NOTIFIED OF GOV. FLOYD'S SYSTEM OF ISSUING ACCEPTANCES.

Mr. Benjamin, who promptly appeared at the request of the Committee, and testified with commendable and commendable frankness, states that during the first session of the present Congress, some twelve or eighteen months ago, he was written to by the attorney of Duncan, Sherman & Co., of New York, and his opinion requested as to the legality of acceptances issued by Gov. Floyd to Russell, Majors & Waddell.

It was mentioned in the letter that these "drafts," as they were then called, were offered for negotiation with the assurance that they were issued with the approbation of the President and Attorney General. *Mr. Benjamin visited the President and submitted the inquiry to him. The President replied that he knew nothing about the matter, that they had been issued without any knowledge on his, that he did not know by virtue of what law they had been issued, but that he* (Mr. Benjamin) *might rely, if Gov. Floyd had issued them, he had issued them properly, and that he had better apply to him* (Gov. Floyd) *to ascertain by virtue of what law he was acting.*

INTERVIEW WITH GOV. FLOYD.

In pursuance of this suggestion, Mr. Benjamin called on Gov. Floyd, and was informed by him that the matter had not been submitted to the Attorney General, as was stated; that the drafts were issued in pursuance of a long established custom of the office; that he was not aware of any law actually authorizing their issue; that he would inquire into it; that the acceptances were issued to Russell, Majors & Waddell only after he had assured him that the trains for transportation which they had contracted to send from St. Louis to Utah, had actually started on their way; that the payments were to be made under the contract in instalments as the trains arrived at different points; and that, having received intelligence of the actual departure of the trains, he had accepted, in advance of their arrival the intermediate point, having a certainty that they would arrive.

"I suggested to him," says Mr. Benjamin, "that I thought he was acting imprudently; that if any accident should happen to these trains by attacks by Indians, or any other cause, and they should fail to arrive, it would be impossible for him to pay the acceptances upon intelligence of that fact, and that would give good reasons for commentaries and investigations which would be injurious to him, and I urged him to discontinue the practice. Two days afterward I received a note from him informing me that he was obliged for the frank statement I had made to him, and that upon reflection he had determined he would accept no more."

GOV. FLOYD CONTINUES HIS OLD HABIT.

It has been shown that, contrary to the assertion of Governor Floyd, no practice of issuing acceptances had ever prevailed in the War Department previous to his introduction by himself; that he issued these acceptances indiscriminately, and without reference to instalments, or the arrival or departure of trains, and without regard to money which was due.

One would naturally expect to find that Governor Floyd, having been admonished by one whose position and legal learning gave authority to his advice, having confessed the illegality of his proceedings, and expressed a determination to make no further acceptances, would have proceeded thereafter with great caution and circumspection, even if he did not entirely discontinue his previous policy. It appears, however, that—supposing the note to Mr. Benjamin, before referred to, to have been written a year ago—there have been issued by Governor Floyd, since that time, acceptances to the amount of $2,163,000, viz: in April $400,000; in May, 250,000; June, $350,000; July, $95,000; August, $235,000; September, $125,000; October, $270,000. To this amount must be added the $798,000 of unconditional acceptances, of which there is no register, and the grand total is as above stated.

Having had his error and its consequences distinctly pointed out—having expressed his intention to refrain in future from the commission of similar acts, he still persists in his former course, and actually issued an acceptance for $135,000 at a date so late as the 13th of December, 1860.

Whether this manifest contempt of counsel, disobedience of law and violation of a solemn promise, can be reconciled with purity of private motives and faithfulness to public trusts, is for the House to determine. It is the opinion of your committee that they cannot.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW LEGISLATION.

Your committee have now reported, so far as ascertained, all the material facts connected with the abstraction of bonds from the Interior Department, and with a series of transactions unprecedented in their character, and remarkable for alternate exhibitions of friendship and folly.

As one of the results of the examination they have made, they submit a bill to provide for the more certain and effectual punishment of crimes, such as those that have been brought to their notice, and also amendatory of the second section of the act of Congress, approved January 24th, 1857, entitled, "An act more effectually to enforce the attendance of witnesses on the summons of either House of Congress, and to compel them to disclose testimony."

They also beg leave to suggest that the fluctuation of the stock market, and the delay and uncertainty in the collection of the interest on the bonds, seem to demand some further legislation in regard to the Indian Trust Fund, as a measure of obvious justice and humanity to the Indians.

All of which is respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee. J. N. MORRIS, Chairman.

Fatal Termination of a Sleigh Ride—Seven Persons Drowned.

CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—Seven persons were drowned yesterday, while attempting to cross a small stream in Mercer county, in this State, in a sleigh. The party consisted of an old man named Mintz, Mrs. Mary Hughes, and two children, Mrs. Elizabeth Hodson and two children, and Mrs. Bargo and two children, Mr. Mintz saved himself and one of Mrs. Hodson's children by swimming. Mrs. Hodson remained in the sleigh, holding her other child for an hour and a half on the sideboard, until assistance came. Both were taken out alive, but the mother died shortly after.

Burning of a Cotton Steamer on the Mississippi—Five Lives Lost.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 11.—The steamer Charmer, bound from Vicksburg to New Orleans, with 3,800 bales cotton, was burned to the water's edge when ten miles below Donaldsonville. Five lives are supposed to have been lost. It is believed that the fire originated abaft.

Loss of a Baltimore Vessel.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 12.—The pilot boat W. G. Leitch has just reached the city, and brought up a seaman who was picked up by a skiff at sea. He says he belonged to the brig James Madison, of Baltimore, which sailed from Attakanas on the 2d of February, and was wrecked on the Stone Breakers, the captain and crew, excepting himself, being all lost.

Railroad Accident—Marine Disaster.

NORFOLK, Feb. 12.—Last night an engine and three empty cars ran into the Southern branch of the Elizabeth river, the draw being open and the engineer being deceived by the signal. No one in the train was seriously hurt.

The schooner Grace Caroline, of New Haven, was wrecked at Smith's Point on the 7th. The crew have arrived here.

Arrest of the Late State Treasurer of Michigan.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, Feb. 11.—John McKinney, the late State Treasurer, who is charged with the embezzlement of moneys from the State, was arrested at Lansing to-day, and held in $25,000 bail to appear for examination.

Arrival of the North Star from California.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—The steamer North Star, from Aspinwall on the 4th, arrived here this evening, bringing 150 passengers and $1,000,000 in specie.

St. Louis Money Market.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 11.—Exchange on New York has advanced 2c. on the week, quoting on Saturday at 7 per cent. premium, in exchange for Missouri paper.

THE ROMANCE OF A CELESTIAL KITCHEN.—Charles Dickens, in his weekly paper, is telling curious and cruel stories about Chinese cookery. When anxious to cook a lamb in the highest style of art, the Chinese, it is said, build a low mud wall, inclosing a space two or three feet across, and another wall outside, forming a circus of about two feet wide, in which they set pots containing wine, vinegar, soy-sauce and so forth. In the inner space they light a good fire, and in the circus the meal is prepared, put a live lamb. The lamb naturally becomes thirsty from the great heat of the fire, and drinks what he finds as he runs backward and forward in search of means of escape. When the drinks are all swallowed and dried into the animal's flesh, the lamb becomes exhausted, falls down dead, and in a very short time is completely roasted. Turtle may be prepared, according to the same authority, by placing it over the fire in a pot of water, in the lid of which there is a hole large enough to allow the turtle to put out his head. As the water becomes hot, the turtle naturally thrusts his head out to get at the cooler air, when he is fed with spiced wine and soy-sauce, which he drinks readily as a relief from the heat. This goes on as long as he has strength to keep his head up, and as the turtle does not part with life easily, he seldom fails to go on stuffing himself till he is cooked.

Mrs. Burch, of Junius, Seneca county, N. Y. died on the 16th ult., at the advanced age of 112 years.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS WHO SUPERINTENDED THE ERECTION OF THE NEW JAIL.—Last evening his Honor Mayor Brown submitted to the City Council the report of the Commissioners who superintended the erection of the new Jail. The report reviews the work from its commencement up to the delivery of the building to the city. There are no new features in the report, and the statistics connected with the erection have heretofore been published. The close of the report is devoted to a reference to the Report of the Committee on Police and Jail, recently presented in the First Branch by the chairman, Mr. Phelps. In this connection the report says:

The Commissioners have noticed with surprise and regret in the daily papers of Monday last, a statement of a report made on the new jail, to the Council, from your Joint Standing Committee of Police and Jail. In it are the most sweeping charges against the contractors who performed the work on the jail, and against the commissioners who superintended it, and made to by your committee *ex parte*—without, we think, giving the matter that fair consideration which a sense of justice to citizens, grossly assailed by the inferences and conclusions of your committee, so imperatively demanded. We were not even invited by your committee to visit the jail with them, to explain the character of the contract, or the quality of the work; with no opportunity to go before your committee on the subject, the first notice we received of the displeasure of your committee was the report assailing not only our capacity, but our integrity.

Your Committee of Police have given judgment on the subject, and gone to the public with certain propositions, stated as facts, and with inferences and insinuations the most gross and unfair. Under these circumstances the commissioners most respectfully pray your honorable body, by every principle of justice to citizens who consider themselves wronged, that you will appoint a joint special committee, to whom the report of your Committee on Police and Jail shall be referred, with instructions to enter a complete investigation as to the truth of the charges, and the justice of the inferences and insinuations contained therein, as well as to examine into the whole matter of our connection with the building of the jail, and the manner we have performed our duty in the premises. If you will do us this justice, we pledge ourselves that so far as we are concerned, the fullest and freest inquiry shall be facilitated.

Respectfully submitted,
ROBERT SULLIVAN,
ALEX MCCOMAS,
WILLIAM E. BEALE,
EDWARD H. LANDIS,
JAMES H. WOODS.

INHUMAN TREATMENT.—Yesterday about noon a negro girl, about nine years of age, who gave the name of Martha Ann Neale, was found by a policeman sitting in an alley near the intersection of Wolf and Fayette streets, crying bitterly. On inquiring she stated that she had been beaten badly by her master, and could not live with him. The policeman took her to the Eastern district police station, when in a short time a man named Benjamin Stokes, an ex-police officer, made his appearance and demanded her as his property, stating that she had been bound to him. Justice Griffin examined the person of the girl and found that she had been whipped in a most inhuman manner. In many places the skin was cut open, and the flesh laid bare. He ordered the arrest of Stokes and held him to bail for Court.

REORGANIZATION OF THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S DEPARTMENT.—The ordinance reported by Mr. Boulden, chairman of the Committee on Highways, in the Second Branch of the City Council, reorganizing the City Commissioner's Department, was passed in the First Branch last evening. The ordinance abolishes the offices of City Commissioner and Port Warden, and creates a board of commissioners, three in number, who shall perform the duties incumbent upon the present City Commissioner and the Port Warden. The salary of the commissioners is fixed at $1,200 each, and that of the messenger at $900. The commissioners are required to give bonds in the sum of $5,000 each, for the faithful discharge of their duties.

PROPERTY SALES.—Yesterday, Col. Samuel H. Gover, auctioneer, sold on the premises, a lot of ground situated on the north side of West Lombard street, having a front of 11 feet and a depth of 121 feet to a 20 feet alley. Improved by a three story brick dwelling, and subject to a ground rent of $85, and an incumbrance of $1,200. Purchased by Hugh Gelston for $520. Also a lot of ground situated on George street, near Brune, with a front of 62 feet 6 inches, and a depth of 131 feet 9 inches to Brune alley. Improved by a one-story and-a-half brick cottage, and a three-story brick dwelling, and subject to an annual ground rent of $140.62½. Purchased by F. A. Waesche for $2,200.

BURGLARY.—Sometime during Monday night the dwelling of Mr. James C. Trisco, on Fremont street extended, was entered by burglars, and robbed of a lot of clothing and jewelry valued at about $70, and also $170 in money which had been left in a sideboard drawer in the dining-room. The thieves also helped themselves freely from the larder. Entrance was effected by cutting out the slats of the rear window shutter and pushing down the fastening. A gold watch left upon the mantlepiece of the dining-room escaped observation. The robbery was not discovered until the morning, when the family came down stairs.

BUTTER THIEF.—Yesterday morning a man named Thomas Quinn was arrested on the charge of stealing two rolls of butter, the property of Daniel Edwards. The butter was in a wagon in front of Edwards' premises, corner of Spring and Holland streets, and while the owner was absent Quinn stole the butter and was making off with it when Edwards followed and overtook him. A struggle ensued, but policeman McElwee arrived, and the accused was handed over to him. He was taken to the Eastern police station and Justice Griffin committed him to jail for court. Quinn is well known to the police annals as an old offender.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT.—Sergeant Auld yesterday morning arrested a man named Theodore Meyer, keeper of a boarding-house at the corner of Broadway and Thames street, on the charge of committing a violent assault on a boarder named Nittman. It appeared before the magistrate that Nittman was in arrears for one week's board, and Meyer took this manner of cancelling the account. Justice Griffin held the accused in bail for court. The assault was of a very violent character and was committed while Nittman was in his bed.

MARINE DISASTER.—Messrs. Friend, Ricketts & Co., owners of the schooner Isabel, heretofore reported missing, have received a letter from her commander, Capt. Nulburn, from Liverpool, informing them that the vessel sprung a leak while on her passage from the Guano Islands for this city, and he was compelled to abandon her, and the hands were saved by the ship North America, Capt. Lincoln, of Boston, and conveyed to Liverpool, where they arrived safe. The letter gives no particulars of the disaster.

THE NEW WATER WORKS.—It will be seen by reference to the advertising columns, that the Water Engineer gives notice that a few days ago the new reservoir will be turned into the pipes lying in the Western section of the city, on the 22d inst. Persons are notified to have their water fixtures prepared for its reception. The force of the water will be much greater than at present, and much inconvenience will be experienced by those whose fixtures are not strong enough to resist the force.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DROWNING.—Yesterday morning, a little boy named Samuel Walstrom, about nine years of age, while playing on the Ferry Wharf, Locust Point, fell into the water; a gentleman named Thomas Stokes saw the boy fall and immediately jumped into a boat and succeeded in rescuing the child. He was carried to the house of his grandfather, Mr. Jacob Shreck, in a very exhausted condition, where he was restored by the use of proper remedies.

ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning a Mrs. Widener, living on Fayette street, east of Pine, was injured considerably by falling from a porch in the rear of her house. At the time of the accident, she was descending the steps leading into the yard, when she made a misstep and fell to the ground, breaking her right arm and sustaining other injuries. Dr. Hoffman was called in and treated her case.

LENT.—Lent commences to-day. Religious services will be held at the Catholic and Episcopal churches in this place, during the season, at appointed days and hours.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, February 12.

FIRST BRANCH.—Present, JOHN C. BLACKBURN, Esq., and all the members.——Mr. BLANCHARD presented a petition from William D. Dushane, asking permission to keep a livery stable on the east side of Howard street, near Richmond; referred.——Mr. NICHOLAS presented a petition from Joseph H. Beam and others, adverse to granting the petition of John Horst, for permission to continue in use a frame shed on his premises on Bank street; referred.——Mr. ALLEN, of the Joint Select Committee on the Accounts of the Health Commissioner, presented a report stating that they have examined the account and found them all correct and properly vouched for; adopted.——The PRESIDENT presented a communication from James N. Muller, stating that he never had any interest, direct or indirect, or profit, under either the State or municipal government, and therefore the notice that he was one of the committee for building the new jail is incorrect. Laid on the table.——Mr. BOULDEN called up the ordinance reorganizing the department of Commissioner of Streets. The ordinance was perfected and passed.——A resolution adverse to the petition of Henry Miller was received from the Second Branch and concurred in.——A communication was received from his Honor the Mayor, enclosing a report from the Building Commissioners of the new jail; laid on the table. Adjourned.

SECOND BRANCH.—Branch met.—Present, CHAS. J. BAKER, Esq., President, and all the members except Mr. Miller.——Mr. ROBB presented the petition of H. J. Rieman and others, asking the repeal of the ordinance for the widening and opening of Arch street, between Baltimore and Fayette streets; referred to the Committee on Highways.——The PRESIDENT laid before the Branch a communication from John Cushing, Esq., President of the Board of Fire Commissioners, in reply to a resolution of enquiry, in which he states that the Board are desirous of conducting the Department upon the most economical principles—at the same time having in view its efficiency as far as practicable, for all demands that may be made upon it. After careful deliberation, the Board cannot see where a reduction of the estimate of expenses for the department can be made. The responsibility of the management of the department is thrown upon the Board, and they have reason to believe that the public are satisfied thus far, and it is to be hoped may be continued; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.——The vote on the passage of the resolution instructing the Comptroller to advertise for proposals for constructing suitable piling, &c., from Herring Bar to the platform or wharf of the Marine Hospital, was re-considered, and the resolution as amended and passed.——A resolution directing the City Auditor to execute certain deeds to J. Shaaf Stocket, Trustee, requiring to correct the descriptions of a lot of ground formerly conveyed by John J. Barry, Collector, to Romulus J. Griffith, was received from the First Branch, read a second time and concurred in.——Adjourned.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL of France had a children's party the other day at the Tuileries Palace. The orchestra was composed of children, all in exceedingly pretty costumes, and the Prince insisted on dancing with the lad who played the flute. Mdlle. Walewska was attired to represent a Butterfly, and the Prince danced several times with her. Mdlle. Minetta Vimercati, daughter of the Director of the Hunting Establishment of King Victor Emanuel, was in the costume of a Spanish girl, and the son of Mdme. Bizot as a postillion of the time of Louis XV. The Princess Mathilde, when the Prince arrived, said with a smile—'Good day, my child! Give me—*ta patte!*' (your paw.) The Prince looked at the Princess with surprise, but after a moment's reflection stepped back, and presented most gaily his—foot!

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 23d, says: "The Emperor is no doubt preparing his speech for February 4. It is remarked that he has frequent interviews with MM. de Morney and de Persigny, no other persons being present. The deputies are fast arriving in Paris, and there is no doubt that the Corps Legislatif will be fully attended at the opening of this exciting session.'

THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

THE SOUTHERN CONGRESS.

The Questions Pending between the Several Seceding States and the General Government Assumed by the Southern Confederacy.

MONTGOMERY, Feb. 12.—The Congress of the Confederated States of America met again this morning, pursuant to adjournment. Various standing committees were announced.

The President received and read a despatch from the Louisiana State Convention cordially approving the selection of Messrs. Davis and Stephens, as President and Vice President of the Provisional Government.

Designs for the seal and flag of the Confederacy were submitted and referred.

A resolution was offered that, until otherwise provided, the several officers of Customs be continued in office; referred. A resolution was offered that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be requested to inquire into the propriety and necessity, as so