is to be extended and perfected under any tariff. I am sure that this will be promoted more by a thriving manufacture than by a high duty on Wool; but I feel confident that no essential change in the duties will be made at this Session. H. G.

BUSINESS AND PROSPECTS IN CONGRESS

Editorial Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 8, 1856.

I think the House will insist on closing the preliminary debate on the Kansas contest in the course of the coming week—probably by Thursday. The argument is in fact already exhausted, and the speeches hereafter made must in the main be either irrelevant or superfluous. Mr. J. H. CAMPBELL of Pa. is to speak for the right on Monday, and will speak well. Mr. CRAWFORD of Georgia has the floor ahead of him, and of course will follow in the footsteps of Oliver, Cullen and Percy Walker. The resolve may be pressed to a vote on Tuesday, but I think it hardly will so soon.

I cannot think the House will refuse the Committee of Elections the largest liberty in investigating a case so important, but I will not be too sanguine. I can glean no comfort from the intimations of the South Americans—even those of them who live in Free States. Dr. Valk, I am informed, will vote against sending for persons and papers; from the others I have not heard. I count on three Democratic votes from Pennsylvania, unless Mr. Packer should be absent, as he often is; and I hope Messrs. Edwards, Dunn, Scott and Moore will vote for the fullest investigation. I expect to find every Southern vote recorded not only against the power to send for persons and papers, but in favor of Phelps's resolutions of instruction, (should they be pressed,) which virtually command the Committee on Elections not to inquire in any way into the alleged frauds and outrages at the Legislative Election last March, whereby the Territory was subjugated by Missouri invaders. But I cannot believe these resolves will pass.

Gov. REEDER is here, desiring, and expecting opportunity to vindicate, in a speech to the House, his right to sit as Delegate for Kansas, and to repel the foul calumnies showered upon him personally by those who know no other way to divert attention from the wrongs heaped on Kansas. He does not expect to be permitted to speak on this preliminary question, though he is very willing to do so. He says that, if the question to be decided by the House concerns his personal consistency merely or mainly, he is willing to meet the issue thus tendered, though he does not see how that should involve the rights of the People of Kansas.

Whenever this preliminary Kansas question is disposed of, the Chairman of the Ways and Means will naturally seek to get the House again into Committee with a view to the distribution and reference of the President's Annual Message. Congress being now in the fourth month of its first Session, the leader of the House is understood to think it about time the Message were apportioned and the Committee at work thereon; and that seems to me a very rational opinion.

The new claim set up by the Senate of power to originate Appropriation bills is likely to meet a stern resistance in the House. Whenever such a bill, having originated in the Senate, shall reach the House, I understand that the Chairman of the Ways and Means will move that it do lie on the table, and bring the House to a direct vote thereon. Should this motion fail, the bill goes of course to the Ways and Means Committee, and *there* it will be laid on the table very promptly, very certainly and very conclusively. There does not seem to be a chance that an Appropriation bill originated in the Senate will pass the present House.

—I hear all manner of stories here of monstrous jobs concocted or in preparation which it is expected to "put through" Congress by some railroad process understood only by the initiated. I judge that at least half these tales are fabulous. Washington is a scandalous place, and every one who has, or seeks to have, his arm in the Treasury, fancies that nobody can be here for any other purpose than his own. We have recently had a deputation of Pennsylvanians impelled hither by an alarming rumor that Congress was about to take the duty off Railroad Iron or (what is the same thing) allow several years' credit thereon. I have seen or heard nothing here that looked like the success of any such project. The Pennsylvanians had been told that all the New-York delegation were committed to that Railroad scheme, when I am confident that no five of them have favored it in any way, and no ten could be any how induced to do so. Gen. WEBB, who has been extensively reported an agent of the Railroad combination, assures me that he never did and never will favor any attempt to reduce our present Iron duties in any way, but he would very gladly help put them back to the rates of 1842 if he could. Since that is not now practicable, he will stand by the present duties to the last, and he believes this is the true way to obtain cheap Iron and encourage Railroads, present and prospective. I presume others, whose names are whispered from mouth to ear as those of agents of the Railroad combination to get the duties off their Iron are likewise misrepresented. No man can tell what a session may bring forth, but I see no present danger of the passage of any measure affecting the duties on Iron. H. G.

KANSAS AT NEW-HAVEN.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

NEW-HAVEN, Friday, March 7, 1856.

Knowing that the readers of THE TRIBUNE are interested in all movements made toward making Kansas a Free State, I take pleasure in informing you that at this very moment there are a large number of individuals in the prime of life, full of enthusiasm, and entertaining feelings commensurate with the importance of *immediate action* in this project, convened in this city for organizing a company, to be on the ground as soon as possible, each taking with him a *Sharp* friend. Some of these men are being assisted by those who are precluded from going by adverse circumstances. The latter class have raised from $6,000 to $10,000 already for this purpose and for the general cause, beside much more which necessarily does not come to the eyes of the public. The Kansas meetings which have been held in this city and vicinity have not been for naught. The seed which has been sown in the hearts of the people by thus meeting and striking hands together, with an interchange of sentiments, has already taken root. Indeed, I am informed that forty-two men, representing the most desirable professions and trades, accompanied by fifty-six women and children, have pledged themselves to go, and the number is being rapidly augmented. Headed, as they are, by Charles B. Lines, a well known individual in this community for his self-sacrificing efforts for the good of the public, full of energy and peculiarly qualified to discharge the duties incumbent upon this post, success cannot fail to crown their efforts. C. P. R.

We learn by telegraphic dispatch from Boston that a large number of residents of New Hampshire, who have been in Boston on business the past week, left for home yesterday for the purpose of voting at the State election to-day.

A man named Hunter has been fined $1,000, and forfeited six slaves at New Orleans, for selling them in such a manner as to separate mother and child, contrary to the laws of Louisiana.

[Elizabeth, (N. C.) Dem., March 4.

THE LATEST NEWS,

RECEIVED BY

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

The Magnetic Telegraph Co.'s office, No. 5 Hanover st. and 121 Broadway

KANSAS IN THE HOUSE.

Editorial Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The Kansas debate in the House to-day was continued by Mr. Crawford of Ga. and Mr. Smith of Ala. for Whitfield and Slavery, and by Mr. Campbell and Mr. Kunkel of Penn. for Reeder and Freedom. The speech of the latter was one of great power and eloquence, and fairly electrified the right side of the House. It is pronounced the best yet made on either side. Mr. Stephens of Ga. opens to-morrow, and Mr. Kelsey of N. Y. will probably follow. The debate draws visibly near its close, and absent members wishing to vote on the question must hasten to Washington. The previous question may be called to-morrow but will probably not be sustained until Thursday.

Hamilton Fish signed the call for the Anti-Nebraska meeting of Congressmen to-morrow night. I think nothing will then be done except to consult and compare views; but some decisive action may be taken at a subsequent meeting. H. G.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 10, 1856.

According to documents sent to the Senate to-day, the instructions to Com. McCauley, commander of the home squadron, issued in April last, after the Spanish frigate Ferrolona had fired into the United States steamer El Dorado, were to the effect that in case of a similar outrage committed on a vessel rightfully bearing our flag, he must promptly interpose and resist the exercise of the assumed right of visitation and repel the interference by force; the Executive taking the ground that the conduct of the authorities of Cuba in hailing and searching our vessels cannot rest on the plea of territorial jurisdiction over the high seas in the vicinity of the Island of Cuba, this Government denying the existence of any state of facts to warrant the exercise of belligerent rights. The matter was promptly brought to the attention of the Spanish authorities by the State Department.

The Committee on Elections in the House have prepared a report adverse to the claims of Mr. Foulke, who applied for admission as the representative of the VIIIth Congressional District of Illinois. The report denies that he was duly elected, and recommends that the seat be declared vacant.

Government received no dispatches of particular importance by the Arica.

The boats on the Potomac, connecting Washington with the Southern Railroad, now run regularly two trips per day. The boats leave immediately after the arrival of the northern trains, morning and evening.

XXXIVTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

SENATE....WASHINGTON, March 10, 1856.

The Senate considered the bill appropriating $3,000,000 for increasing the armaments and munitions of war, and for the manufacture and alteration of small arms, in accordance with the recent recommendation of the President.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading by a vote of 22 against 12.

The following are the Yeas and Nays:—

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Bigler, Bright, Cass, Clay, Crittenden, Fish, Guyer, Hunter, Iverson, Johnson, Jones (Iowa), Mallory, Pugh, Reid, Sebastian, Slidell, Stewart, Toucey, Trumbull, Weller, Yulee.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Bell (Tenn.), Collamer, Fessenden, Foot, Hale, Harlan, Houston, Seward, Sumner, Wade and Wilson.

Mr. CRITTENDEN wished to know how recent improvements are to be applied to arms in the States.

Mr. WELLER replied that it is proposed to call them in. There are about 300,000 muskets in the States which are to be rifled, supplied with new locks and Maynard's primers, which alterations will make them most efficient weapons. This alteration will cost $3 each.

Mr. BELL (Tenn.) did not think the exigency had arisen for such an appropriation. He did not wish to have it go abroad that the little speck of war had stimulated such proceedings. Beside, the object of the expenditure was not sufficiently stated to accord with the doctrines of the fathers of the Republic.

Mr. WELLER was willing to make the bill more specific. He did not apprehend war, but while the Treasury is full it is well to make preparations for any emergency which may arise.

Mr. SEWARD would vote for the bill, if amended so as to make definite appropriations for specific purposes.

The vote ordering the bill to be engrossed was reconsidered, when Mr. Weller moved an amendment in accordance with Mr. Seward's suggestion.

Mr. HUNTER spoke in favor of increasing the national defenses, so as to be prepared for attacks from every quarter.

Mr. CASS said England has suffered so much in the war with Russia that it is not at all unlikely she may try to retrieve her reputation by a war on the Western Hemisphere. Mr. Cass addressed the Senate relative to the aggressions and audacity of the English Government, quoting from *The London Times'* recent article against this country, and making thereon a sarcastic, running commentary. He did not see how the Central American controversy could be referred to arbitration. It was not a question of boundary or indemnity, but a mere question about the meaning of a word. No arbitrator, whether understanding the English language or not, could tell us what the word "*occupy*" means better than we know already.

Mr. HALE said he could not believe in the propriety of the national armories. He could see no more necessity of having national arms manufactured in national machine shops than of having naval uniforms made in national tailor shops, nor did he admit the necessity of such an increase of the efficiency of the army at this time. Alluding to Mr. Cass's quotations from *The London Times*, he said little dependence was to be placed on foreign newspapers. He read an extract from *The London Telegraph*, which represented Mr. Seward and Mr. Foot as being extremely belligerant, and another from *La Patrie*, Louis Napoleon's organ, which represented Mr. Banks, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as a black man, saying that in the double capacity of a colored man and Abolitionist, he had inspired profound disgust on the minds of the Southern members. [The reading of these extracts occasioned excessive laughter.]

Mr. IVERSON defended the bill, and thought there was imminent danger of a war with England. He did not believe the Administration or the American people were in favor of arbitration on the Central American question. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. WHEELER offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Post-Office Committee to inquire into the expediency of erecting public buildings in Boston, Philadelphia, Charleston and New-York, suitable for Post-Offices and for United States Courtrooms, in accordance with the suggestions in the President's Message.

Mr. CAMPBELL of Ohio reported consulate, diplomatic and army appropriation bills.

Mr. CRAWFORD addressed the House to show that it was improper that the Committee on Elections be empowered to send for persons and papers in the Kansas case. Mr. Crawford argued that Mr. Reeder represents a revolutionary movement, outside of the regularly established Government of Kansas.

Mr. CAMPBELL (Pa.) adverted to the resolution of the Committee, accusing those on the other side of an intention to stifle such investigation as was necessary to a proper understanding of the question.

Mr. SMITH (Ala.) contended that the Committee on Elections had abandoned the issue raised by Gov. Reeder, and called on the House to give them power to contest the legality of the election of every Member of the Kansas Legislature, thus sheltering their real purposes behind the shadow of one man, who had proved himself an arch agitator, and by various speculations committed such enormities as to induce the Executive to remove him from his high position.

Mr. KUNKEL advocated the resolution to send for persons and papers, and during his remarks said that notwithstanding intimidations, emigrants from Pennsylvania will still continue to settle in Kansas, and, if the time comes when an invading force from Missouri shall interfere with their rights, it will be found that they will maintain their rights to death.

Mr. OLIVER of Missouri, in behalf of the people of that State, said that if emigrants from the East go to Kansas for the purpose of controlling the elections, in open defiance of the principles of the Nebraska-Kansas bill and prejudicial to the institution of Slavery in Missouri, strife, contention, and perhaps bloodshed, would be the result. The people of Missouri are conscious of their rights, and have nerve enough to maintain them.

Mr. KUNKEL—In Pennsylvania we form no Emigrant Aid Societies; people go to Kansas of their own accord, and have a right to go.

Mr. OLIVER—Was not a society of that kind formed here by Members of Congress before the Kansas bill was passed?

Mr. KUNKEL—I am not here to say whether such societies were framed in Massachusetts or elsewhere.

Mr. OLIVER—Does not the gentleman know that Massachusetts chartered a company for controlling the institutions of Kansas, with a capital of five millions of dollars?

Mr. KUNKEL—I know nothing about it. Settlers are there now, and others on their way, notwithstanding the violence in Kansas. Freemen are not easily frightened. He could tell the gentleman that there are no men on earth who will more firmly maintain their rights than Pennsylvanians, or if necessary sell their lives more dearly. He (Oliver) must not involve them in illegal acts.

Mr. OLIVER explained, and said that whenever it was seen that the elections and institutions of Kansas were controlled by *bona fide* settlers, he, and every man in the South, were willing to abide by the will of the majority, though it might be against the institution of Slavery; that is the position of his constituents and the whole South. If troubles ensue, they will be mainly attributable to the intermeddling of the Emigrant Aid Societies at the East.

A message was then received from the President, asking an appropriation of $300,000 for the suppression of hostilities in Oregon. Adjourned.

SACO CHARTER ELECTION.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

SACO, Maine, Monday, March 10, 1856.

Mr. Somes, the Anti-Administration candidate, was elected Mayor of Saco to-day by over one hundred majority.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

NORFOLK, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The Express train from here to-day for Weldon, went through a curve on the bridge near Marnaretville, killing Messrs. Adams & Co.'s Express Messenger, Mr. Dougherty, Mail Agent, and Charles Neal, a boy. The engineer and several of the passengers were severely injured. The train after the accident took fire and was entirely destroyed.

HON. EDWARD EVERETT AND DR. KANE.

RICHMOND, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The Hon. Edward Everett and Dr. Kane arrived here to-day. The City Government have tendered the hospitalities of the city to both. President Pierce is expected here to-morrow to attend Mr. Everett's oration.

THE DISPUTED GOVERNORSHIP.

MADISON, Wis., Saturday, March 8, 1856.

The Legislature to-day received a message from Mr. Barstow, the acting Governor, transmitting a copy of a notice which had been served upon the Supreme Court by the counsel of Mr. Barstow in the contested election case. The notice protests against the action of the Court, denies its jurisdiction over the case, and recommends that it discharge its legitimate functions and not arrogate the prerogatives of the Legislature. Finally, the counsel give notice that they take leave of the Court and its unwarrantable proceedings.

The Governor, in his message, states that he deems it his duty to repel, with all the power of the Executive department, any infringement upon his rights. He declares the proceedings of the Court a dangerous assumption of power, and asks that action be taken on the matter by the Legislature.

The message was referred to a special committee of five.

The decision of the Court will probably be rendered on Monday.

The Democratic members of the Legislature held a meeting last evening, and determined to sustain Mr. Barstow.

MINISTER WHEELER—NICARAUGUA.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 10, 1856.

Col. Wheeler, United States Minister at Nicaragua, notwithstanding his perseverance in the endeavor to convince the State Department that he was justifiable in recognizing the new Government, has failed to satisfy the Secretary of State of the propriety of his course. Mr. Marcy places little or no confidence in the testimonials—the signatures—which Col. Wheeler has transmitted to him in this connection; justification of the conduct of an officer resting, according to usage, more on the official statement of facts than the indorsement of private individuals.

It has heretofore been stated that Col. Wheeler was specifically instructed not to recognize the new Government of Nicaragua, but he acted in advance of their receipt—a precipitancy on his part which is emphatically condemned by our Government. The recent instructions are explicit, and he is required to adhere to them strictly. In the unsettled condition of affairs in Central America, his functions will for the present be confined to an oversight of our interests in that quarter, as it is well known he has no official intercourse with the Nicaraguan Government.

The destination of the new steamer Merrimack (now at Norfolk) is not determined, although she will go on a cruise for six months. It is in contemplation to send her to Annapolis for a few days, that Members of Congress may examine the vessel, which, so far, has given the highest satisfaction to the Executive Department.

The bill recently introduced into the House by Mr. Wheeler, relative to witnesses detained for United States Courts in New-York, provides that instead of being confined in prison as now, they shall be comfortably accommodated at the Navy Yard or at the nearest fort. The subject was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

BANGOR (MAINE) MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

BANGOR, Me., Monday, March 10, 1856.

At the municipal election in this city, to-day, Mr. H. Bowman, the Republican candidate for Mayor, received 1,144 votes, and Leonard March, Opposition, 1,121. The Republican ticket was elected in five of the seven wards.

STEAMBOAT COLLISION.

LOUISVILLE, Saturday, March 8, 1856.

On Saturday morning the steamer E. Howard came in collision near Troy, Indiana, with the steamer Henry Lewis, from Cincinnati for New-Orleans. The latter boat sunk and several lives were lost. The Howard was but slightly damaged.

All the cabin passengers of the Lewis were saved through her hurricane deck, but twenty of the hands and deck passengers were drowned. The boat and cargo are supposed to be a total loss. Insured.

The weather here is very cold. One inch of snow fell yesterday.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

TORONTO, Saturday, March 8, 1856.

The Legislative Council of Canada has passed to a second reading a bill to permit money to be loaned by all parties, except banks, at any rate of interest which may be agreed upon, said interest to be recoverable in the courts of law.

FROM TEXAS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Monday, March 10, 1856.

By the arrival of the steamer Charles Morgan from Galveston, we learn that in the Municipal Election in that city the Democrats were successful.

Indian depredations continue without abatement on the frontier.

STRIKE OF LABORERS IN BOSTON.

BOSTON, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The stevedores in this city, numbering about 1,200 men, mostly Irish, are on a strike, refusing to assist in unloading vessels where steam or horse-power is employed. The movement causes great inconvenience to consignees and ship-owners.

THE WEATHER.

ALBANY, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The thermometer in this city ranged from zero to 7 deg. below zero this morning.

BOSTON, Monday, March 10, 1856.

At sunrise this morning the thermometer in this city stood at zero.

At White River Junction, Vt., the mercury was 26 deg. below zero.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The mercury at daylight this morning had fallen to zero.

BUFFALO, Monday, March 10, 1856.

Yesterday and to-day were the coldest days of the season that we have had here. The thermometer this morning stood at 15 degrees below zero. At Cleveland it was 16 degrees below.

MONTREAL, Monday, March 10, 1856.

The mercury stood at 12 dgs. below zero in this city this morning. Railway travel is much interrupted.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

ALBANY, Monday, March 10.

Senate not in session, having adjourned over until this evening.

ASSEMBLY.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. HANCHETT to charter the Educational Association of Deansville.

Mr. COLE, by bill, to construct a bridge over Black River at Teffany's Landing.

Also, to amend the act to provide payment for labor and materials furnished for canals.

Mr. CASE—For the relief of Oliver Brown.

Also, for the relief of Eliza Coan and others.

Also, for the relief of Avery M. Starkweather.

Also, for the relief of James Sealey.

Mr. B. SMITH—Relative to taxes on Incorporated Companies.

Also, to amend the Act to prevent animals running at large in Richmond County.

Also, for the preservation of fish in Croton River.

Also, in relation to the sale of lands in the City of New-York for taxes, Croton-water rents, and the redemption thereof.

Mr. GRAY—Relative to the equalization of the State tax.

Mr. HOYLE—By bill, for the relief of Nathan Turner.

Mr. MORGAN—To confirm and legalize the resolution of the Common Council of New-York providing for widening Battery-place.

Mr. SPINOLA—To extend Flatbush avenue.

Also, to legalize the action of the Supervisors of New-York.

Also, relative to Fort Plain Water Works Co.

Also, to amend the charter of the village of Nundal.

Mr. SHEA—To print 1,500 copies of the report of the Select Committee on the subject of water rights in the Black River. Adopted.

Mr. DIXON—To print 1,500 copies of the Adjutant General's Report. Adopted.

Also, to print 100 extra copies of the report of the Commissioners to superintend the completion of the Natural History of New-York. Adopted.

Mr. G. A. DUDLEY—By bill, to levy a tax on dogs in Ulster County.

Mr. DENNISTON moved to refer the report of the Commissioners to superintend the completion of the Natural History of the State to a Select Committee of five. Carried.

Mr. E. T. WOOD had leave of absence for two days.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

Mr. MATTESON gave notice of a motion to make the Prohibitory Law Repeal bill a special order by a majority vote.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

LIABILITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Mr. PECK brought in a bill to limit the liability of married women on contracts made by them during coverture and for other purposes. It provides:

SECTION 1. No married woman shall be liable on any note, bond, covenant, contract, or promise made her during coverture to any greater extent or for any farther amount than the true cash value of the consideration actually received by her in services performed for her, or in money paid to her, or in property transferred and delivered to her for making such note, bond, covenant, obligation, contract, or promise.

SEC. 2. Nor shall her separate property or estate be charged, either at law or in equity, by reason of her making during coverture any such note, bond, covenant, obligation, contract or promise, to any greater extent or for any further amount than the true cash value of the consideration actually received by her in services performed for her, or in money paid to her, or in property transferred and delivered to her for making such note, bond, covenant, obligation, contract, or promise.

SEC. 3. No judgment shall be entered upon the confession of a married woman without action.

SEC. 4. No woman can bond herself or create a separate lien or charge on her separate property or estate as indorser or surety for her husband, or for any other person; and all promises and agreements made by any woman during coverture by which she shall promise or agree to answer for the debt, default or miscarriage of her husband, or for any other person, shall be void.

SEC. 5. Married women may be sued during coverture with their husband on any note, bond, covenant, obligation, contract, or promise on which they shall be liable, according to the provisions of this Act; and such suits may be brought in courts of Justices of the Peace, where the demand shall not exceed $100, and in the Supreme Court where the demand shall not exceed $50.

SEC. 6. In such actions, if judgment shall be recovered by the plaintiff, the same shall be rendered solely against the wife, and in the usual form judgments are given against male persons; and such judgments shall only bind the separate estate of the wife, but the same may be docketed as other judgments are, so as to become a lien on her real estate.

SEC. 7. Such judgments against the wife may be collected out of her separate property or estate by execution in the usual form issued on such judgments.

SEC. 8. Such judgments may be enforced against the wife by proceedings supplementary to execution until her separate estate and property shall be exhausted, saving what shall be exempted as is hereinafter provided.

SEC. 9. The wearing apparel and jewels of the wife shall not be liable to seizure or sale to satisfy any judgment hereinafter rendered against her, or that effect her separate property or estate.

SEC. 10. In addition to the wearing apparel and jewels of the wife, she may retain and keep of her separate estate either money or property, at her option, not exceeding in amount or value $200, which shall not be taken or applied in satisfaction of any judgment hereafter recovered against her or against her separate estate.

SEC. 11. The separate property of the wife shall be liable, subject to the exemptions aforesaid, to satisfy all judgments recovered against her and her husband for wrongs committed by her before or during coverture.

SEC. 12. The apparel, jewels, money and property exempt according to the provisions of this Act, shall remain exempt in the hands of the wife after the death of her husband.

SEC. 13. No form or manner in which a married woman shall agree or bind herself, shall prevent inquiry as to the consideration received by her for thus agreeing or binding herself. And no promise or agreement shall bind a married woman, unless it be fair and equitable as against her rights and interests.

JURORS IN JUSTICES COURTS.

Mr. COLE brought in a bill to amend the Revised Statutes with regard to Jurors in Justices Courts, which provides that whenever it shall appear to the satisfaction of a Justice by affidavit or otherwise, that any person duly summoned to appear before him in any cause, shall have refused or neglected without just cause to attend as a juror, he may issue an attachment to compel attendance, and the same proceedings and fines applied to witnesses shall apply to the juror; and the officer's fees shall be paid by the juror, unless he show reasonable cause for his omission to attend.

Mr. J. B. CLARK—To amend the Charter of the Chemung Railroad Company.

Mr. REEVE—To extend the legislative powers of Supervisors to the erection and division of towns and counties.

Mr. ABBOTT—For the relief of the Hammond, Russia and Antwerp Railroad Company.

Mr. HOBBS—To confirm the election of Corporation Officers in the Village of Malone.

Mr. SPINOLA—In relation to Jurors and Commissioners of Jurors in the City of Brooklyn.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. NORTHUP—That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to report a bill to establish a Court of Claims.

Mr. B. BAILEY moved, as a substitute, that the Committee report upon the propriety of establishing such a Court.

Mr. WOODS moved that the Committee to investigate the Insurance Frauds shall consist of five instead of three. He thought it eminently proper that some member from the southern section of the State should be placed on the Committee. Lost.

Mr. FOOT sustained the motion, hoping the Committee would be allowed a clerk, as it was essential that all matters transpiring before this Committee should be preserved.

The motion was carried; and if they deem it necessary, they report a bill establishing such a Court, to have sole jurisdiction of all disputed claims against the State.

Mr. NORTHUP accepted the amendment, and the resolution was adopted.

THE NEW-YORK TAX BILL.

Mr. REED moved that the Committee having charge of the New-York Tax bill be empowered to employ a clerk to take testimony in the investigation. Mr. R. said this was a very important matter, and it would require the examination of a great many witnesses. The bill was composed of a great number of items, all of which will have to be examined into. He was satisfied that the tax-payers of New-York will not be satisfied with anything less than a thorough investigation of all the items.

Mr. ANTHON moved a resolution calling upon the Attorney-General for information regarding proceedings in the case of Henry E. Davies vs. E. D. Cowles. Laid over.

Mr. RAY moved a resolution that Insurance Companies shall be made responsible in the same manner that Banking Corporations are, by a pledge of real estate. Lost.

Mr. B. BAILEY moved to amend the rule so that bills on the General Orders may be taken up by a majority vote instead of two thirds as required.

Debate was had, in which it transpired that the object was to get forward the bill to repeal the Prohibitory law.

Mr. FOOT stated that it would be wholly unnecessary for the House to take action on the Prohibitory law until the decision of the Court of Appeals was ascertained. It would be time lost. The Court was to meet on the 25th inst., and he had understood from members of the Court that they would meet for consultation three days before the day set apart for opening the Court, and that by that means, in all probability, a decision would be rendered by the 25th.

The proposition of Mr. Bailey was, after debate, negatived.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The House went into Committee, and resumed the consideration of the bill to extend the contracts of Chas. Watson for Sing Sing Prison convict labor.

Without coming to a vote on any question, progress was reported.

Mr. WOODS moved that the Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the bill.

Mr. DUGANNE moved to postpone the consideration of the subject indefinitely. Accepted by Mr. WOODS, but negatived by the House.

The Committee had leave to take up the bill again.

The House then took recess to 3½ p. m.

FIRES.

Yesterday afternoon a fire occurred in the tenement house No. 52 Amity street. But little damage was done.

Last night a fire occurred on a coal boat lying at the foot of Christopher street. It was soon subdued. Damage slight.

About 12½ o'clock p. m. on Monday a fire broke out in the dwelling-house No. 53 Willett street. The flames were soon extinguished, and before much damage to the premises was sustained.

LATER FROM SOUTH FLORIDA.

MORE INDIAN MURDERS.

MOVEMENT TO EXTERMINATE THE SAVAGES.

The needless hostilities into which the Indians of South Florida have been driven still continue, and, as will be seen by the subjoined correspondence, have now resulted in new murders on their part. It seems that the only result of this petty war must be the extermination of the few Indians who remain, and who are engaged in defending themselves and taking vengeance after their fashion:

"FORT MYERS, Monday, Feb. 25, 1856.

"Napoleon B. Hudson and James Martin were engaged in furnishing oysters and fruit for this post, having been absent an unusual length of time, (two weeks) and fears being entertained of their safety, Capt. Pratt (who is temporarily in command of Fort Myers, Col. Brown having gone to Tampa on business,) sent Lieut. Langdon of the First Artillery with a party in search of them. They went to the fishing grounds at Mathlo-chee, which is fifteen miles from Fort Mackenzie, at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee, in a direction south from Sinabel Island, and then proceeded a mile and a half, when they found Hudson's schooner beached on the eastern shore and the bodies of Hudson and Martin lying on the deck.

"Lieut. Langdon said he judged by all appearances they had been attacked at night, while anchored in the bay, and that the Indians came upon them in canoes. After killing the men they set Martin's boat on fire, and Hudson's schooner was slightly scorched by the flames. The Indians then carried off the sails, and everything which could be of the least use to them, and let the boat drift ashore. The bodies were very much decomposed, and the massacre must have taken place some time ago.

"Lieut. Hartsuff (the hero of the battle of the Big Cypress) goes to-morrow—with two non-commissioned officers and thirteen men, furnished with boats, arms, &c.—to make a thorough scout for Indians or their traces, and also to bury the bodies of poor Martin and Hudson. Hudson's negro Sam, who was with him, is missing, as is also another man named Brown, who went down the coast near there about a month ago, and has not since been heard from.

"This dreadful affair shows that the Indians are ever on the alert for the unprotected and unarmed, while they elude the utmost vigilance of any parties sent in search of them. They are busily engaged in raising volunteers in Tampa, and are also getting up a company of boatmen to operate with Capt. Pratt of the 2d artillery, at Malco River, about sixty miles further down the coast.

"Major McKinstrey, Assistant Quartermaster, is ordered to Tampa, and Capt. Hancock is ordered here in his place."

FROM BOSTON.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

BOSTON, Friday, March 7, 1856.

Do you observe my date? I had not intended writing to you this week; I thought I had the same sufficient reason for not attempting a letter that the cherubs who came to hear St. Cecilia play and sing had for not sitting down when she courteously waved them to chairs—

"They could n't sit down, for they had n't *de quoi*"—

the lack, to wit, of the essential wherewithal. But happening to look at the date of the morning's paper, I thought the anniversary of the Seventh of March speech ought not to pass by without a word of remembrance. If Mr. Webster's friends won't observe it as a Feast-day, we will try to keep its memory fresh in men's minds. Poor Mr. Webster! He set his all on the hazard of that die, and the luck went against him. He gave the slaveholders all he had—his *prestige*, his dialectic skill, his rhetoric, his honor, his reputation—all. They took it as their due, and when the day came when he hoped to receive his penny for having worked well, if he did come in at the eleventh hour, they turned him away empty, and trampled the life out of his heart. And the crown which had lured him on, and which he had "filed "his mind" to clutch, dropped easily and naturally on the baby-brow of Frank Pierce

Do you know it is believed hereabouts that the electric telegraph was the fatal, innocent cause of that speech and of all the woes that it brought on its maker and the Whig party? I do not vouch for the truth of the report, but "*men sayne*," as old Mandeville hath it, that on the eve of that speech Mr. Webster telegraphed to a friend here, stating that he proposed speaking on the bill, and wishing to know how far it would do for him to go. This friend, taking it for granted that he intended speak against the compromise, returned for answer that he couldn't go too far, and that he might rely on being backed up by Boston in anything he said. Mr. Webster, supposing that this was an answer to his own state of mind, went on and made the speech, which was at first received with as much astonishment by State street as by the rest of mankind. But as he had taken the leap they all jumped in after him most loyally, and, as it is said happens to some other animals when they take to swimming, they succeeded effectually in cutting their own political throats. You know how the Boston Whigs stood by Mr. Webster, and how they have been killed as dead as he was. They seemed then to be as intensely alive as the green bay tree of the Psalmist, and they have vanished away like unto it. They literally followed their leader to the death, many of them. Although Mr. Webster had most solemnly averred that he knew of no other safety for the Union but the united Whig party, yet at the wave of his dying hand they turned and rent it, and fulfilled his dying wishes by doing their best to defeat Gen. Scott and elect Frank Pierce! And verily they have had their reward in having a renegade Whig, whom they despised, made Governor over their heads last year, and in being forced to help re-elect him this year to secure the defeat of the principles they had themselves claimed as their own when the seed of the Compromises blossomed into the repeal of the Missouri Act. But enough of them. They have died by their own hands and by Mr. Webster's. We can afford to forget them now.

I believe I told you in my last letter of the tilt which was had in the Music Hall here by Mr. Everett, accompanied by his trusty squire, Doctor Holmes, on his dapple of a muse, in honor and on behalf of that peerless Dulcinea the American Union—a distressed damsel whose virtue and good name seem never able to stand their ground without continual clamor being kept up for the one and incessant championship maintained for the other. Well, last Saturday evening the Music Hall was the scene of a different kind of service, and one in which harmony was the prevailing and uniting element. It was a musical celebration in honor of Beethoven, on the occasion of the inauguration of the bronze statue of the great compaser, which the country owes to the genius of Crawford and to the liberality of Mr. Charles C. Perkins. The statue stood in the center of the platform, covered with a vail glittering with golden stars. The platform was most elegantly adorned with natural flowers in the greatest profusion, and all the ornamentation of the Hall was done in the best taste. The large and beautiful room was entirely filled by a full-dressed audience, and the effect was gay and brilliant in the extreme. Mr. W. W. Story, himself a sculptor as well as a poet, gave the word for the unvailing of the statue, and then recited a poem of great elegance and grace, which was received with unbounded applause. The effect of the unvailing of the statue of course was not so striking as it would have been had it been then seen by the audience for the first time. Still, though it had been on exhibition at the Athenæum Gallery for many months, and though all present were familiar with it, its majestic presence when it appeared standing in its proper place, by itself, called forth a genuine and fresh enthusiasm. The Master stands with the score of the Ninth Choral Symphony in his hand, and it is the moment of creative inspiration which the genius of the sculptor has seized upon to fix forever in bronze. It is an admirable work of art, and most valuable as an addition to the moderate collection of such treasures that our country yet possesses.

The other services of the evening consisted in the performance of portions of Beethoven's works. The three first movements of the Ninth Choral Symphony were given—the last being omitted from the want of a sufficient choral force. Pieces from the opera of Fidelio followed, and at the close Mr. Perkins performed the piano accompaniment of that airy Fantasia for the piano, orchestra and chorus, which breathes the very soul of joy and gladness appropriate to such an occasion. Mr. Perkins was received with the loudest applause, and again called forward to receive the acknowledgments of the audience. This gentleman deserves the thanks of all lovers of music and of art for having afforded them both the gratification of such a memorial of such a man. This munificence is well worthy of the imitation of other men of fortune, and his liberality in placing it where it can be a source of general pleasure, is worthy of all commendation. I do not know whether he parted with his property in the statue by this ceremony or not, but I apprehend that he has given the public a pledge by this public inauguration, that it will never be withdrawn from the general admiration. It should be remembered, too, that Mr. Crawford declined receiving any compensation for the model of the statue, so that this magnificent addition to our fine arts is the joint offering, to the country of native genius, taste, and wealth.

We are most sincerely sorry hereabouts for Cassius Clay's pecuniary troubles. Such a man ought to be free from all such vexations. Why need he go dabbling in hogs? "*Quæ diable est-il faire dans ce galère?*" The swinish multitude with which his vocation should be to deal grow on two legs instead of four. I am a Jew, a Turk now in my abhorrence of pork; but I shall have a hog as John Randolph did a sheep if Clay has come to harm by the unclean beast. It will give the many enemies he has achieved great cause of rejoicing. But there is an indomitable spirit in the man that will breast misfortune as gallantly as he has personal danger and bitter calumny, and I have strong faith that he will come out strong, as well as clear, from this ordeal, as he has from former ones. BURKE.

BURTON'S THEATER.

Though the biting wind outside tells us somewhat sharply that Spring still delays to smile away a too lingering Winter, we may be said to be now about the Mid-Summer of the dramatic world, when its life is at its prime. Audiences have grown in the past week to their proper dimensions, the theaters mark with some novelty the completeness of their gathered strength, and the Italian Opera starts again from its temporary repose to full day. Mr. Burton, ever prompt in catching the spirit of the hour, produced last night a new Comedy and an Extravaganza, which, if not altogether new, comes to this generation of New-Yorkers with a face of pleasant freshness.

"Helping Hands," the new comedy, is of course from the pen of the popular heroes of the day, Tom Taylor and Charles Reade. If to have the children of their brain impart delight and win admiration from the private theater of Windsor Castle, where "Still Waters Run Deep," was within the last few weeks commanded, to the Theater of Honolulu, where, we see by our files, it was performed before King Ka-me-ha-me-ha and his friend Yankee Sullivan, be not fame, in what mortal soil does it deign to grow? Here again we have two flowers from the same luxuriant garden springing up in rapid succession to lure the town. The hero of last night's piece is an old German musician, reduced to poverty by blindness, with no other blessing than a precious, devoted daughter, and a Stradamius violin. His love for this violin is the principle of the drama. Rent being overdue, as us