XXXVIITH CONGRESS.

EXTRA SESSION.

SENATE.....WASHINGTON, July 23, 1861.

Mr. SUMNER (Rep., Mass.), from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported back the message in relation to the fisheries, which was postponed till the first Monday of next session.

Also, from the same Committee, a joint resolution that the President take such measures as seem best in relation to the World's Fair, in London. Laid over.

Mr. WILSON (Rep., Mass.), from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the bill to provide for the transportation of arms and munitions of war to the loyal citizens in the rebel States, and provide for the expense of organizing them in regiments, &c.

The bill makes an appropriation of $2,000,000. Passed.

Mr. SHERMAN (Rep., Ohio), from the Finance Committee, reported back the bill to refund duties on arms imported by States. Passed.

Mr. COWAN (Rep., Penn.), from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill to punish fraud in making contracts with the Government. Laid over.

The Senate went into executive session.

On the reopening of the doors, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BURNETT (Dem., Ky.) asked leave to offer a resolution calling on the Secretary of War to inform the House whether there be negroes in the Army of the United States who have been armed, and whether there are negroes, the property of any of the revolted States, who have been used by our army in throwing up breastworks or impediments; and if so, at what places, and the number of slaves employed.

Various objections were made to the introduction of the resolution from the Republican side.

On motion of Mr. BLAIR (Rep., Mo.), a committee of conference was ordered on the disagreeing amendments of the two Houses to the bill to increase the present military establishment.

Mr. PORTER (Rep., Ind.) reported a bill dividing Kentucky into two judicial districts and abolishing the present District Court; and as amended, on the motion of Mr. Blair of Missouri, abolishing the two District Courts in Missouri and creating one District Court in their stead.

In the course of the debate, Mr. CRITTENDEN (Dem., Ky.) opposed the bill, saying that it was an abuse of the power of Congress and an invasion of the Constitutional mode of removal of a judge, to effect such an object by the abolition of the Court, as now proposed.

The bill passed by Yeas, 79; Nays, 50.

The bill respecting bills of exchange and promissory notes was taken up, and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill providing additional revenue for defraying the expenses of the Government and maintaining the public credit, by the assessment of a direct tax and internal duties. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. BURNETT ineffectually again sought to introduce his resolution, to which at an early period of the day objections were made. He wished to know whether negroes were employed in the army. He desired to be informed from an official source. He had seen them in uniform, with rifles, bayonets, revolvers, and daggers at their side. Why not, then, request the Secretary of War to tell us how many of them are in the Federal army?

Mr. CURTIS asked whether the gentleman had seen any negroes except as servants? Had he seen them in squads or companies?

Mr. BURNETT replied that one of the best fighters he had ever known was a Kentucky negro, who went to the Valley of Mexico armed by the Federal Government. He did not belong to any company. Mr. Burnett further said, in reply to Mr. Curtis, that he had not seen negroes in armed squads.

Mr. CURTIS—Do you believe they accompanied the army in any capacity except as servants?

Mr. BURNETT—I do not know. The question with me is, they were armed like others, and had no business there.

Mr. LOVEJOY—Did not negroes aid Gen. Jackson in achieving the victory at New-Orleans?

Mr. BURNETT—I am aware of that.

Mr. LOVEJOY—I am for employing any muscle that can fight. [Laughter.] Adjourned.

CAMP CHAIR AND BEDSTEAD.

A most ingenious contrivance has been invented by P. L. Hardy, of No. 150 Prince street, which, when laid upon the ground, seems to be only a small and neat pile of sticks, but when picked up immediately becomes a most commodious chair or a most comfortable couch, at the option of the holder. Mr. Hardy has two pieces of furniture of this sort, differing in this, that one is an arm-chair, handsomely made, and possessing all the ease and comfort of the extending chair, while the other is a cheaper and of course simpler article, without arms, and with less power of extension and angles of inclination, but made on the same principle, and convertible at will into chair or couch. Neither of them, however, need any adjustment, for they adjust themselves by their own weight, falling into position by a turn of the hand of the holder. They consist of four frames, so hung together and so braced upon each other that they secure great strength, while they fall at a touch into graceful and easy but immovable forms, except by a reverse motion.

These chairs or couches are good for household use, would be a great convenience upon the piazza of a country-house, but are peculiarly adapted to the use of camps and hospitals. Light, cheap, taking up but little room, and easily transported, those without arms, which are the least expensive, will be an important acquisition, especially to army hospitals. Mr. Hardy has applied for a patent.

THE BEEF CONTRACT.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: The public owe you a debt of gratitude for your upright course with respect to Government contracts, but especially for the comments in your paper of yesterday on the Hugh Maher contract for beef on the hoof.

I was present at the opening of the bids on the 30th May last, and have retained a memorandum of the proposals, as well as a very distinct recollection of the manner in which the business was transacted, and may, at some future day, furnish you with some interesting particulars on the subject.

At present my object is to insist that justice be done to those bidders whose proposals were made in good faith, and who are still ready and willing to enter into formal contracts based upon their bids. Every one knew at the time of the opening of the proposals that Hugh Maher, "or any other man," could not deliver good cattle at $3.90 per hundred in Pennsylvania; and so certain was I that it would never be done, and so firm my conviction that nearly all the bids below six cents were made to drive away those bidders whose proposals were made in good faith, that on the 31st of May I served a formal notice on the Commissary to the effect that in the event of the failure of lower bidders to comply with the terms of the Government, I should be ready at any time to execute the contract with proper sureties, my object being to give the Department no excuse for either falling back upon a higher bid than mine, or of purchasing the beef of any party whose name is not in the list of bids opened on the 30th of May.

As the general public do not understand how this business is managed, I will explain it briefly. In the first place the Commissary advertised that until the 30th of May he would receive proposals for supplying beef on the hoof. A hundred persons, residing in various parts of the country, put in written proposals, a very few writing from their homes, but most of them going to Washington in person, and writing their proposals there, and dating them at whatever hotel they are stopping at. When these bids come to be opened the honest bidders find several parties have offered to furnish the article at what it costs in the Far West, and they return to their homes full of sympathy for the poor contractor whose ruinous bid shall be accepted. Anon, however, the honest Commissary finds that the lowest bidders do not furnish adequate security, and their proposals are therefore neglected. What shall he do in such a case? Why, being honest, he turns to his file of bids, and, selecting several of the lowest, addresses a notice to the parties to come forward and execute a contract. Where does he send this notice? Of course to the address he finds in the written proposals, which, nine times in ten, is "Willard's" or "Brown's," or some other hotel in Washington, where the letters remain a few days days and are then sent to the Post-Office, and thence, in due course, to the dead letter office, and never by any possibility reaching the parties. Well, what can this honest commissary do? He must give the contract to the lowest bidder that stands ready to enter into the contract in due form, and presently a party presents himself who proposed to deliver the cattle at, say, seven cents per pound, and signifies his willingness to make the contract, and does make it, and obtains seven cents per pound while there were fifty, perhaps, of equal responsibility, who offered to furnish the same goods at six cents, and all the time this seven-cent man is the copartner of the four-cent man, whose proposal drove away all intermediate bidders, and the Government is thus swindled out of one cent per pound upon the entire consumption of beef "during the war."

The Maher contract, however, could not be managed in this way, for the Commissary had notice of the waiting presence of a six-cent man. What was to be done in such an emergency as this? Why, Mr. Hugh Maher must make a contract at the price mentioned in his proposal, namely, $3.90 per hundred, and furnish cattle of so poor a quality that the soldiers will not eat it. A clamor is raised, the Commissary refuses to receive any more beef of the Maher kind, and is forced to buy it of Mr. Maher at one third at a high price, and thus the contract is given to a party whose name is not to be found in the list of bidders.

Mark my word and a will be the result of this matter unless the press insist that *whenever Hugh Maher fails* (as failed he virtually has already), *the contract shall be given to the next higher bidder, of those whose proposals were opened on the 30th May*, who stands ready to give the requisite security for a faithful performance. Any other course than this would render the whole contract system a farce, and the ceremony of advertising for "proposals" a useless waste of good money.

Having agents whose exclusive business it is to keep an eye on the cattle transactions in the army, I shall be able in a few days to state the precise quantities of beef that have been delivered *at the old price*, since the opening of the bids, and some other particulars of a rather startling kind. Meantime, should the charge of treason be brought against you for printing this communication, I hereby authorize you to give my name and address to any well-dressed, well-behaved person who may ask for it.

W. H. V.

LOCAL MILITARY MATTERS.

DEPARTURE OF TROOPS.

An order was received from the Secretary of War at the United States Quartermaster's office, Col. Tompkins, on Monday evening, directing the immediate transportation of three regiments. The first three regiments of the Sickles brigade being ready, and fully armed and equipped, the order to be ready was transmitted to them. By a previous order the 1st Regiment, Col. Sickles, was to have left on Monday, and Col. Tompkins sent down a steamboat at the proper time, but the regiment failed to get out, and the Kill van Kull returned. Yesterday morning she went down again, and the regiment then embarked. Several companies of recruits caused a delay until 5 p. m., when they came up on the double quick, preceded by a commissioned officer on horseback. The departure of Col. Sickles's Regiment was satisfactory to all parties, there being no disorderly manifestation whatever, and the soldiers in particular seemed to be cheerful.

It was quite an imposing sight to witness the march of three regiments to the steamboat landing, the Second and Third Regiments having turned out as complimentary escorts, in full battle array, with music, and streamers flying. Friends of the soldiers were constantly arriving though the hour was yet early. On the march everything was conducted strictly, but the 200 recruits, who caused the delay, took their own way of approaching the boat. They raised a cloud of dust, and came trotting swiftly along to the song of "Who Wouldn't be a Soldier!" There were many females to see the boat off.

FIRST REGIMENT.

Staff.—Colonel, Daniel E. Sickles; Lieutenant-Colonel, Wm. Dwight; Major, J. Egbert Farnam; Quartermaster, Lovell Purdy; Adjutant, O. H. Hart; Surgeon, Wm. H. Tingley; Chaplain, Charles H. Buckley; Assistant Surgeon, Harvey E. Brown; Sergeant Major, Wm. J. Kay; Quartermaster Sergeant, J. M. Drodger; Com. Sergeant, Henry Wilkes; Hospital Steward, B. T. Greff; Drum Major, W. H. Barclay; Second Fife Major, F. L. Relabow. Twenty-four musicians.

Company A—Captain, Joel M. Johnson; First Lieutenant, Thomas W. Bailey; Second Lieutenant, B. W. Harvey.

Company B—Captain, Daniel Mahoney; First Lieutenant, John Mitchell; Second Lieutenant, Philip Miles.

Company C—Captain, Wm. H. Howe; First Lieutenant, Jas. S. Coggswell; Second Lieutenant, W. H. Cornett.

Company D—Captain, Benj. Price; 1st Lieutenant, A. J. Petersen; 2d Lieut. Jas. W. McCauley.

Company E—Captain, Jacob Brunn; 1st Lieutenant, Jos. F. Denniston; 2d Lieutenant, Wm. T. Black.

Company F—Captain, Thos. Holt; 1st Lieutenant, George W. Sherman; 2d Lieutenant, Robert Blything.

Company G—Captain, Jos. Keller; 1st Lieutenant, D. W. Washburn; 2d Lieutenant, G. W. Hussey.

Company H—Capt. H. Bugbee; 1st Lieutenant, E. E. Dodge; 2d Lieutenant, H. Edleston.

Company I—Captain, E. J. Ayres; 1st Lieutenant, J. F. Nelli; 2d Lieutenant, J. C. Bogert.

Company K—Captain, F. T. R. Grnett; 1st Lieutenant, H. Rockafeller; 2d Lieutenant, Geo. Robinson.

The United States Quartermaster sent another steamboat down to the landing for the 1st Regiment, there being positive orders for both the 1st and 3d also to leave yesterday. Another boat was dispatched with orders to be on hand, at Staten Island, to take off the 3d Regiment, at 4 o'clock.

The 2d Regiment was still packing up at 7 o'clock, with the full intention, however, of marching before midnight. The steamboat Atlas was to take them to South Amboy, and there is little doubt but they are, by this time, in the neighborhood of Philadelphia. While the regiment was packing up, and bidding adieu, individually, to friends, the Atlas went away to get a fresh supply of coal. The officers of the 2d Regiment are:

Field and Staff.—Colonel, George B. Hall; Lieutenant-Colonel, Henry L. Potter; Major, Peter McDermot; Adjutant, James W. Powell, jr.; Quartermaster, James W. Powell; Surgeon, J. J. McGowan; Assistant-Surgeon, James Ash; Chaplain, Joseph H. Twitchell; Sergeant-Major, John O'Connell; Quartermaster-Sergeant, Michael C. Cowell; Hospital Steward, Heman Stecher. *Line*—Company A—Captain, John Poler; First Lieutenant, Patrick Nolan; Second Lieutenant, C. Ward.

Company B—Captain, T. B. Bradley; Second Lieutenant, Thomas J. Leigh.

Company C—Captain, John G. Brown; First Lieutenant, G. W. Thompson; Second Lieutenant, J. T. Mercer.

Company D—Capt. W. H. Greene; First Lieutenant, Mathew Hall; Second Lieutenant, J. W. Lowenstrout.

Company E—Captain, Owen Murphy; Second Lieutenant, Michael Redmond.

Company F—Captain, W. A. Donelson; First Lieutenant, H. F. Frost; Second Lieutenant, Alex. M. McCune.

Company G—Captain, E. W. Powers; First Lieutenant, Thomas Graham; Second Lieutenant, Geo. F. Young.

Company H—Captain, Thomas Rafferty; First Lieutenant, B. Franklin; Second Lieutenant, F. A. McAvoy.

Company I—Captain, O. C. Howard; First Lieutenant, — Elwood.

Company K—Captain, T. H. Glover; First Lieutenant, — Best; Second Lieutenant, — Laurier.

The 3d Regiment was also getting ready, and some companies had packed their small articles. Several companies from the 5th Regiment have been joined to the 3d, in order to have the most efficient men first sent off to the seat of war. At parade, at 5½ o'clock, the regiment showed off very finely, the movements being very neat and orderly. The officers are:

THIRD REGIMENT.

Staff—Colonel, Nelson Taylor; Lieutenant-Colonel, J. Moses; Major, W. O. Stevens; Adjutant, S. M. Doyle; Quartermaster, T. W. O. Fry; Surgeon, C. K. Irwin; Surgeon-Major, Samuel Bailey; Commissary, — Brooks; Chaplain, Rev. C. L. Norton; Quartermaster-Sergeant, — Grant; Hospital Steward, — Fincke.

Company A—Captain, Geo. Grechinck; 1st Lieutenant, C. Groslinger; 2d Lieutenant, E. B. Harnett.

Company B—Captain, J. M. Brown; 1st Lieutenant, B. Willard; 2d Lieutenant, S. Mason.

Company C—Captain, — Chadwick; 1st Lieutenant, H. B. Pettenger.

Company D—Capt. G. K. Abell; 1st Lieutenant, H. C. Heinman; 2d Lieutenant, J. H. Howard.

Company E—Captain, P. Barret; 1st Lieutenant, W. J. O'Neill, 2d Lieutenant, Wm. Toomey.

Company F—Captain, John Leonard; 1st Lieutenant, H. J. McConnell; 2d Lieutenant, John W. Holmes.

Company I—Captain, R. J. Johnson; 1st Lieutenant, J. P. Sanford; 2d Lieutenant, H. J. Winters.

Company K—Captain, J. S. Austin; 1st Lieutenant, W. P. Hall, jr.; 2d Lieutenant, M. McDonald.

The cavalry that were to have gone off yesterday are detained in consequence of not having been mustered into the service, this matter of routine being essential according to the Quartermaster's orders.

To-day (Wednesday) there is transportation provided for the 5th Regiment of Connecticut, and the Webster Regiment from Boston.

THE CLINTON RIFLES ACCEPTED.

Col. Page, commanding this corps, arrived here from Washington yesterday, bringing with him the order of the acceptance of his regiment, signed by the Secretary of War. The Government has placed the Quarantine buildings at the disposal of Col. Page, and the men will go into quarters there to day. The Government has also issued an order for the arming and equipping of the Clinton Rifles, which has the honor of being the first regiment accepted into the service under the new levy. Members of the regiment who have passes are requested to report themselves at the East Barracks, in the Park, at 12 noon. An officer of the Clinton Rifles will be in readiness to receive them.

THE SCOTT RIFLES.

A telegram from Washington received at the headquarters of this regiment yesterday, announces their full acceptance by the Government, and requisition for immediate service. The regiment goes at once into camp prior to its speedy departure for the seat of war.

The regiment has been heretofore liberally assisted by patriotic citizens, to whom the officers return their cordial thanks for their generous support. The officers meet this morning at headquarters, No. 19 Beekman street, at 9 o'clock a. m., where a full attendance is specially desired.

CONTINENTAL GUARD.

A recruiting-office for this regiment has been opened at No. 481 Canal street, in this city, under charge of Capt. J. C. Bloomfield. It is expected that the regiment will go into quarters this week.

The regiment will be under the command of Col. Perry, a graduate of West Point, who served in the Texan war, and was in command of the troop that captured Santa Anna at the battle of San Jacinto.

COL. WEBSTER'S REGIMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.

Col. Webster's regiment from Massachusetts will arrive here on Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock, at the foot of Fourteenth street, East River, per Fall River line. The Sons of Massachusetts will receive them and escort them through Broadway to Pier No. 2, North River, where they will embark for Washington. The Sons of Massachusetts will meet at the foot of Fourteenth street, E. R. The troops will not be detained in this city by flag presentations or speeches, the object of the Sons of Massachusetts being an exchange of civilities with these patriotic men, who are hurrying forward to the seat of war. They will breakfast at the Park Barracks.

Major Cobb's artillery and Col. Briggs's regiment will pass through the city in a day or two.

DURYEE'S ZOUAVES.

The third squad of recruits, 50 in number, went to Fortress Monroe from Lafayette Hall on Tuesday, to join Col. Duryee's regiment. This regiment will soon be full, and recruiting will be finished for it this week. The band engaged is unusually fine.

HONVED REGIMENT.

This regiment has the best prospects for a speedy organization. About two companies are enlisted, and four other companies, which intended to join other regiments not yet completed, offered to unite themselves with the Honvéd. Recruiting offices will now be established in several wards in the city, and it is confidently expected that this regiment will soon be completed and ready to march.

By the aid of influential parties, it was enabled to procure the preparatory expenses, but the effective organization can only be attained by a more liberal and generous contribution of our patriotic fellow-citizens. Information will be given at the headquarters, No. 397 Broadway.

WOUNDED AND DYING SOLDIERS.

The Army Committee of the N. Y. Young Men's Christian Association having undertaken to minister to the spiritual wants of the New-York soldiers wounded during the recent bloody conflict, request immediate communications from the friends of soldiers supposed to be among the sufferers. A deputation has already left for Washington. Others will be sent as the exigencies demand. Letters calling attention to individual cases, and specifying the regiment, company and other necessary particulars, should be addressed, at once, to the Army Committee, Box 1,219 Post-Office.

GILEAD B. NASH,
FRANK W. BALLARD,
STEPHEN H. TYNG, JR.,
F. HARWOOD VERNON,
Army Committee.

BROOKLYN MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The following telegraphic dispatch from the Hon. Moses F. Odell, Member of Congress from the 11th District, explains the nature of the injuries sustained by Col. Alfred M. Wood, of the 14th Brooklyn Regiment, in the battle of Bull's Run. It is gratifying to know that Col. Wood was not killed, as reported in the dispatches fro a Washington.

"WASHINGTON, July 22—3 p. m.

"Col. Wood had his horse shot from under him and was wounded in the leg, but not fatally, as reported. He is on his way to Washington in an ambulance. Say to the friends of the 14th that the wounded of the regiment will be cared for specially.

"M. F. ODELL."

The Brooklyn Phalanx, stationed at Fort Schuyler, has been mustered into the service for some weeks, but as yet have neither uniforms nor muskets. The men are badly in need of clothing, some having hardly enough to cover their nakedness. The regiment numbers nearly one thousand men, under command of Col. Julius W. Adams. Subscriptions for the regiment will be received by Conklin Brush, esq., President of the Mechanics' Bank, Brooklyn.

The 70th Regiment, Cavalry and Artillery, are awaiting orders to be called into active service. In view of recent events the officers anticipate orders to that effect. The services of this regiment have been offered to the Government on three different occasions.

PROFFERS HIS SERVICES.

Dr. Wm. W. Strew of Oyster Bay, L. I., Surgeon of the 6th Brigade, is now in the city, and proffers his services to go on as volunteer surgeon.

SLAVERS ON THEIR WAY HOME WITH NEGROES.

We have received reliable information from the African squadron, to the effect that the following vessels have shipped cargoes of negroes on board on the coast, and sailed with them for the Western hemisphere.

The Fairie, said to be of New York.

The Alexina, said to be owned by Crocker & Co., New-York.

The Storm King (an old name in the trade).

The brig Martha Post, of Saybrook, Conn., said to be owned by Post and others.

The Storm King is said to have succeeded in getting on board one of the most profitable cargoes of negroes ever shipped from the Congo River. She was neither boarded by a man-of-war, nor overhauled in any way. The Falmouth was reported to be getting a pretty large load of negroes.

At a time when these escapes are reported, it is annoying to read of the intended removal of our storehouse on the African station from St. Paul de Loanda to St. Helena. The old United States store-house was located, it will be remembered, at Porto Praya; but in consequence of the number of slavers eluding the vigilance of our cruisers off the mouth of the Congo, it was transferred to St. Paul, which is in the center of the slave-trader's track. The motive alleged to have induced the Commander-in-Chief to go to St. Helena is the brutal treatment of our storekeeper, Mr. Boune, by the Portuguese authorities. As all the men-of-war, but one, attached to the coast of Africa fleet, have been recalled, the dimensions of our future store-house, if, indeed, there be any need of such a thing at all, may be very limited.

The officers and crews of the different United States vessels were well, except the San Jacinto's, among whom there were a few cases of fever, not very serious in its nature, however. The steam gun-boat Mohican, which is now on her first cruise, was to leave for home on the 1st of June, and is almost due here just now.

[Commercial Advertiser.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

The Board of Supervisors met yesterday afternoon, the President, Mr. STEWART, in the chair.

A communication from the Mayor, vetoing the resolution proposing to pay A. R. Lawrence, jr., $511 62 for alleged services as counsel of Supervisors, was read, and laid over.

A communication from the Controller, giving a statement of the amount to be raised by taxes for the current year for county purposes, was received, ordered to be printed, and referred to Committee on Annual Taxes.

CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
CONTROLLER'S OFFICE, July 23, 1861.

Gentlemen of the Board of Supervisors of the County of New-York:

In compliance with the resolution adopted by your honorable body on the 9th of July instant, (see Journal, Vol. II, page 32), the Controller, without undertaking to determine the legal questions contained in the first of said resolutions, submits for your consideration a statement of the amount required to be raised by tax in the County of New-York for State, County, and City purposes, respectively, for the current year.

Tax for State Purposes.—In assembling to "ascertain what sum of money is by law imposed on the said county for the use of the State," reference is respectively made to the several acts of the State Legislature mentioned in the following circular from the State Comptroller; also to the correspondence with that functionary, contained in the County Budget for 1861—[See Supervisors' Doc. No. 14 of 1861, p. 113 to 118.]

STATE OF NEW-YORK, CONTROLLER'S OFFICE,
Albany, September 29, 1860.

HON. ROBERT T. HAWS, Controller of the City and County of New-York:

SIR: The Board of the Equalization of Taxes, in pursuance of chapter 312 of the Laws of 1859, have fixed the valuation of property in your county at the sum of $550,078,779, upon which a State tax of $2,103,535 21 must be levied for the current year, being 3 3-6 mills on the dollar, for the following purposes:

For schools, ¼ of a mill, per chap. 180, Laws of 1856,	$412,559 04
For Canals, ¼ of a mill, per chap. 271, Laws of 1857,	412,559 04
For Canals, ¼ of a mill, per chap. 213, Laws of 1860,	275,039 59
For Canals, ¼ of a mill, per chap. 348, Laws of 1860,	412,559 04
For General Purposes, 1¼ of a mill, per chap. 325, Laws of 1860,	618,838 63
Total	$2,103,535 21

Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] ROBERT DENNISTON, Controller.

It will be noticed that the taxes above mentioned are for the State fiscal year commencing October 1, 1860.

The fiscal year of this County as well as of the Corporation, commences with the calendar year on the 1st of January, and the laws relating to the assessment and collection of taxes in this County provide that the assessments shall be made, the taxes imposed, and the rolls or tax-books placed in the hands of the Receiver of Taxes for collection on or before the first day of September in each year.

Tax for County Purposes.—"The moneys necessary to defray the county charges of each county shall be levied on the taxable property in the several towns in such county in such manner as prescribed by law. "And in order to enable their respective County Treasurers to pay such contingent expenses as may come payable from time to time, the Boards of Supervisors of the several counties shall annually cause such sums to be raised in advance of their respective counties as they shall deem necessary for that purpose." [2 Rev Stat. L. 304, §11.]

It has not been the practice in this county to raise moneys by tax in advance of the year during which the same were to be expended. Prior to the year 1849 the accounts and business of the county were kept with the office of the city as one and the same in effect, and the power conferred in the charter of the latter, to borrow money in anticipation of the collection of the annual taxes, enabled the Controller to respond to all claims duly verified and audited, as the same were presented to him for settlement. On the separation of the business affairs of the County Government from those of the Corporation, such power could no longer be available for county purposes, and, in order to provide for the payment of current expenses, authority has been given in the county tax laws of the last two years to borrow money in anticipation of the taxes imposed for State and County purposes, as already stated.

Although the act of 1849 authorized the Board of Supervisors annually to examine and ascertain what sum should be by law imposed on the city for the public and necessary charges, and to cause the same to be raised and collected by tax, in the same manner as the contingent charges of the several counties of the State are levied and collected, it appears to have long been the practice, in applying to the Legislature for authority to raise money for objects not provided for by former laws, to ask that the amounts required to be raised for other purposes should be definitely stated. In respect to many items of expense which are now commonly considered as "necessary public charges" in this city and county, no laws can be found expressly authorizing or "imposing" them, or making it the duty of the Common Council or the Board of Supervisors to incur the same, and instead of making application for such authority, it has been customary to ask the Legislature to empower the Board of Supervisors to raise money for such purposes, and, this being obtained, to take it for granted that the expenditure of the same was thereby acquiesced in, if not expressly authorized.

The following are the "County purposes" for which moneys are by law required to be raised by tax this year and the amount which the Board of Supervisors, in and by their several ordinances making appropriations for this year, have designated to be necessary for said purposes respectively:

Year in which acts authorizing same were passed.	For what purpose.	Amounts appropriated by the Board of Supervisors.	
1823	Institution for the Blind		$1,400
1842	New-York State Lunatic Asylum		800
1851	New-York Juvenile Asylum*		42,500
1855	Asylum for Idiots		50
* See also the act chapter 309, of 1861.			
1857	Care and maintenance of Coles or Harlem (3d av.) Bridge		2,000
1858	Interest on Harlem Bridge Bonds		700
1859	Interest on Harlem Bridge Bonds		700
1860	Interest on Harlem Bridge Bonds	$2,700	
1860	Police Fund	1,329,150	
			$1,331,250
1861	Advertising	6,000	
1861	County Jail reconstruction	25,000	
1861	County contingencies	20,000	
1861	County House (new) construction of	50,000	
1861	Deficiencies in taxes	95,000	
1861	Election expenses	60,000	
1861	Harlem River survey of	1,100	
1861	Harlem Bridge (new) construction of	250,000	
1861	House for Detention of Witnesses, construction of	6,267	
1861	Incumbrances in harbor, removal of	7,500	
1861	Interest on loans	90,000	
1861	Lighting, cleaning, and supplies	18,000	
1861	Officers' and witnesses' fees	40,000	
1861	Printing, stationery and blank books	10,000	
1861	Police fund	300,000	
1861	Police—Contingent and law expenses	25,000	
1861	Rents	10,000	
1861	Repairs to books and maps in Register's Office	5,000	
1861	Salaries, Legislative Department	4,400	
1861	Salaries, Executive Department	66,250	
1861	Salaries, Judiciary	223,370	
1861	Supplies for the Police	20,140	
1861	Support of detained witnesses	8,000	
		$1,333,627	
Less amount of County revenues applicable to the above purposes as provided by law.		63,000—	1,270,627
Revised Statutes—Coroner's fees		20,000	
Revised Statutes—Repairs to County buildings and offices		5,000—	25,000
Total			$2,675,057

* See also the act Chap. 774 of 1857. No appropriation has as yet been made this year on this account.

The County Tax Law (Chap. 240) of 1861, contains the following provision, viz:

"Sec. 2. To provide for the deficiency in the actual product of the taxes imposed and levied for the purpose authorized by law, within the city and county of New-York, for and during the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty one, the said Board of Supervisors are authorized and required to impose and assess in the same manner that taxes for other purposes are levied, such sum in addition thereto as they shall deem necessary, not exceeding three per centum of the aggregate amount imposed and levied for the purposes aforesaid, the same to be collected as other taxes are by law collected."

Tax for City Purposes.—The following are the purposes for which moneys are by law required to be raised by tax this year, for and on account of the Corporation, and the amounts which the Common Council in and by their several ordinances making appropriations for this year, or the Legislature by law have designated to be necessary for said purposes respectively:

Year in which acts authorizing same passed.	For what purpose.	Amounts.	
1851	Public Building Stock No. 3—Redemption of	c$56,000 00	
1851	Interest on Pub. Bld'g Stk No. 3	15,000 00	
1851	Interest on N. Y. City Stocks for Docks and Slips	25,000 00	
			$96,000 00
1853	Int. on Cent. Park F'd Stk of '37	$183,965 00	
1853	Int. on Cent. Park F'd Stk of '98	36,465 00	
1853	Public Education Stock of 1673—Redemption of	4,657 36	
1853	Int. on Pub. Edu. Stock of 1673	7,700 00	
			232,787 36
1856	Public Stock for Rebuilding Tompkins Market	$17,000 00	
1856	Interest on do	9,050 00	
			26,050 00
1857	Interest on Central Park Improvement Fund Stock of 1857		125,000 00
1860	Alms-House Department $569,675		
	Less estimated receipts from Excise license fees 25,000		
		$564,875 00	
1860	Alms-House Build'gs & Rep'rs	79,500 00	
1860	Central Park, maintenance and government of	85,000 00	
1860	Interest on Central Park Improvement Fund Stock, 1876	280,000 00	
1860	Int. on Floating Debt Fund Stk	100,000 00	
1860	Laying out City N. of 155th st.	26,000 00	
1860	Salaries Unsafe Building Officers	13,400 00	
			1,026,775 00
1861	The City Tax Law (Chap. 293) of this year empowers and requires the raising by tax of "a sum not exceeding $2,790,386 42, on account of the Corporation of the City of New-York," for the purposes enumerated in said law		2,790,386 42
Revised Statutes—Common Schools for City appropriated		$1,200,000 00	
Less amount received from the State on this account		212,761 99	
			1,087,231 01
Total			$6,297,230 19

The City Tax law (Chap. 293) of 1861 contains the following:

"Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the said Board of Supervisors to include in any and every ordinance or resolution passed by them, imposing and levying taxes for any purpose or purposes authorized by law within the City and County of New-York, such sum in addition to the aggregate amount required for such purposes, as they shall deem necessary not exceeding 3 per cent of said aggregate amount, to provide for deficiencies in the actual product of the amount imposed and levied therefor."

In relation to the amount to be raised for "Central Park—Maintenance and government of," the Controller would remark that the act, Chap. 95 of the laws of 1860, provides as follows, viz:

§4. The said Board of Commissioners shall, on or before the 1st day of July in each year, transmit to the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of New-York, an estimate in writing of the amount of money, not exceeding in any one year the sum of $150,000, that will be required for the maintenance and government of the Central Park during the current year, and the said Board of Supervisors shall annually raise and collect by tax upon the estate, real and personal, subject to taxation, according to law, within said city and county, and to be collected in addition to the ordinary taxes, a sum of money equal to that specified in said estimate. The said sum of money shall be deposited and drawn in the manner provided by the third section of this act, and shall be applied by the said board to the payment of the expenses of the maintenance and government of the Central Park in said city.

The Controller has regarded this section as being intended to make adequate provision for the purpose specified not only for the present, but when the Park shall be fully completed. Assuming that one half of the Park is now in public use, it would seem equitable and proper that the same proportion of the maximum amount authorized for the whole Park, when completed, should be raised this year. The Common Council have, however, appropriated the sum of $89,000 for this purpose, and that amount is therefore included in the above statement.

The amount above stated as required to be raised for "Laying out the City north of One hundred and fifty-fifth street" is $20,000, which is the sum estimated by the Commissioners having charge of said work, to be necessary (see City Budget for 1861, page 146), and also appropriated by the Common Council for that purpose.

The act, chap. 291, passed April 7, 1860, provides as follows: "Sec. 4. The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of New-York shall raise, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to raise and cause to be raised annually, by tax on all lands in the City and County of New-York, to be collected in addition to the ordinary taxes yearly, such sum and sums of money as in their judgment, and in the judgment of a majority of said Commissioners, shall be necessary to defray the expenses necessary to carry on the work of the Commissioners contemplated by this act, during each year until such work shall be completed."

RECAPITULATION.

Statement showing the total amount resolved to be raised by tax for the use of the State and for city and county purposes in 1861.

For the use of the State:		
For Common Schools	$412,559 08	
Canals & general purposes	1,690,976 24—	2,103,535 32
For County purposes (including the Police):		
As per as stated on p —	2,675,057 00—	$4,783,092 32
For city purposes:		
Amount as stated on page —		6,297,230 19
Total		$11,080,322 51

Add such amount as shall be deemed necessary, not exceeding three per cent, to provide for deficiencies in the actual product of the amount imposed.

The preparation of a suitable Ordinance to levy and impose the tax is necessarily deferred until the Board of Supervisors shall have acted upon the Assessment Roll, and fixed the valuation of taxable property.

According to the return of the Commissioner of Taxes and Assessments (see Journal, Vol. II, page 4), the assessed valuation of property is as follows, viz.:

Real Estate	$406,355,605
Personal Estate	174,024,366
Total	$581,379,971

The Controller has been informed that several errors have been discovered in the footing of the Rolls, and until the same have been corrected, and the exact valuation is fixed, the precise rate of the tax cannot be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
ROBERT T. HAWS, Controller.

Mr. BURNY moved the following preambles and resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. Purdy:

Whereas, Intelligence has been received of the sudden death of Col. Wm. D. Kennedy, at the city of Washington, on the morning of the 23d inst., while engaged in the service of the United States to suppress the rebellion against the Government; and, *Whereas*, Many of the members of this Board were intimately acquainted with Col. Kennedy, and it is eminently proper that suitable expressions of respect and sympathy should be adopted; therefore,

Resolved, That this Board deeply deplore the loss of Col. Kennedy, who has thus finished his career of usefulness while defending his country's flag; and we tender to his widow and family the sincere sympathy in this their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect, a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased.

Brief addresses were made by Messrs. BURNY and PURDY, setting forth the nobleness of spirit by which Col. Kennedy had been prompted to abandon his home, his family, and a large circle of most intimate friends and acquaintances for the field of battle, in honor of his country's Government and laws.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The Board adjourned till Thursday at 12 o'clock.

CORRECTION.—The Mr. McLelan who was present at the Rev. Dr. Hoge's reception at Fifth-Avenue Hotel on Monday evening, was not William McClellan, who is not acquainted with Dr. Hoge, and has no sympathy with his sentiments.

RUN OVER.—Miss Louisa Worth of No. 123 Rivington street, was severely injured on Monday evening by being run over by a frightened horse attached to a wagon. Her skull was fractured, but it is thought that she will recover.

TWO DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE ARABIA AT HALIFAX.

SENTENCE OF MIRES AND SOLAR.

FRANCE AND SLAVERY.

Prince Napoleon Coming to America.

HALIFAX, Tuesday, July 23, 1861.

The Arabia, which left Liverpool, at 11 a. m., of the 13th, and Queenstown evening of the 14th, arrived at Halifax at 4 p. m. She brings £117,000 in specie, and 56 passengers for Boston.

The Bavaria arrived at South