THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 7362. MORNING EDITION----THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1853. PRICE TWO CENTS.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS.

Passage of the Deficiency Bill by the Senate, and Post Office Bill by the House.

Senatorial Onslaught Against the Census Superintendent.

Debate in the House upon the Extraordinary Manner of Transacting Business.

INTERESTING FROM ALBANY.

New Proposition for Completing the Canals.

The Mechanics Strike at Baltimore, &c., &c., &c.

THIRTY-SECOND CONGRESS.
SECOND SESSION.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1853.

CANAL AROUND THE OHIO FALLS.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the report of the board of officers appointed to survey for a canal around the Falls of the Ohio.

PASSAGE OF THE DEFICIENCY BILL—THE PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL, ETC.

Mr. HUNTER (dem.) of Va., moved to take up the Deficiency bill.

Mr. BRIGHT, (dem.) of Ind., said he hoped a half hour would be given to other business. He supposed the Senator made the motion as a matter of duty, and would take its being voted down kindly.

Mr. HUNTER said the Senator should speak for himself. He wanted his motion to be carried.

Mr. Hunter's motion was agreed to—ayes 21, noes 12.

The question pending was on the motion of Mr. Walker, to strike out the provision increasing the salary of the Superintendent of the Census from $2,500 to $3,000, from the time of the establishment of that office, in 1850.

Mr. DOWNS, (dem.) of La., said the matter was a very small one, and he could not understand why there was so much noise made on every occasion when this Census Superintendent came before the Senate. Ten times the amount of increase had been expended in debating the matter.

Mr JAMES, (dem.) of R. I., concurred entirely with the Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. WALKER, (dem.) of Wis., said this man, Mr. Kennedy, stood before the Senate pertinaciously determined not to abide by the oft-repeated decision of the Senate and of the House as to his salary. The Senate had three times decided that his salary was $2,500, and yet he had perpetually been insisting that it was $3,000. Would the Senate now back out? The amount already appropriated for the census was over $200,000; and an additional sum was asked for this year, besides allowing him the $3,000 he had been so pertinaciously pursuing since he had been in office. In the items of the account revised by the head of the Census Office, of the expenses of his trip to Europe, were two amounting to nearly $400, for his passage in the steamer to and from Liverpool, which items were returned and certified to by Mr. Kennedy as sums actually paid by him, when, in fact, he had never paid a cent for passage money either way—he being allowed a free passage. No voucher had ever been rendered for these items for the voucher had been refused by the company, because they could give none. The whole trip to Europe was useless, and was wholly unauthorized or sanctioned by any law. The large expense of the census so far was attributable, doubtless to the employment of the large number of clerks to enable the Superintendent to complete his history, which was to be published for his pecuniary benefit, by Lippincott, Grambo & Co. The census of 1840, on which thirteen clerks were employed, was made one of the serious charges under which the administration of Mr. Van Buren broke down. Yet, what was the expense of that compared with the present, under the charge of this clerk, who seemed so disposed to get money for himself? Yet this immaculate Kennedy, with his one hundred and ninety clerks, and the enormous sum of over $200,000, was unable to complete it without further appropriations. Were this man's accounts in a court of justice, and one item had had been thus proven to have been fraudulent, the whole would have been looked upon with suspicion. His friends had better not press the immaculate character of Kennedy, or perhaps other charges might be produced to destroy it.

Mr. RUSK, (dem.) of Texas, opposed the increase of a salary in a deficiency bill.

Mr. DAVIS, (whig) of Mass., said he knew this was a small matter, and had been frequently before the Senate; but it always came there by means of the importunities of this individual to have, by some manner or other, a salary which had been refused him. It was to the manner in which it was sought to obtain the end that he objected. In the first place, this person was secretary to the Census Board, at a salary of $3,000. When the census bill was passed, the salary of the superintending clerk was fixed at $2,500. He was appointed to that post. Upon the supplemental census bill Mr. Kennedy obtained a provision, which passed unnoticed, under which, as Secretary of the Board and clerk of the census, his salary might be construed at $3,000. He demanded the $3,000. The department sustained him; but the Comptroller of the Treasury would not pass the accounts, because there was no law under which he was entitled to it. These facts coming to the knowledge of the Senate, a joint resolution was introduced at the last session declaring that under no law could any person be allowed any compensation as Secretary of the Census Board, thus confining the individual to his salary as clerk of the census. This resolution passed the Senate, but remained unacted on in the House. The Secretary of the Interior, under the singular impression that the neglect of the House to act on the resolution was a rejection of the construction of the Senate, ordered the disbursing clerk to pay Mr. Kennedy at the rate of $3,000. The disbursing clerk, who had been a faithful officer for twenty years, said there was no law for such an allowance, and refused to pay it. He was dismissed for his refusal, and another appointed, who yielded obedience. This individual had, therefore, been paid this $3,000 a year, and this provision in the bill was to cover up and sanction the unauthorized payment made by the order of the Secretary. One of the very first acts of this House, at this session, was to pass the resolution of the Senate, explaining this very subject. He objected to the manner in which this was attempted to be accomplished. Had this officer come forward, and, in a candid and open manner, stated that his salary was inadequate to the duties he had to perform, there would have been a disposition to treat the application with respect. But that has not been his course; he has pursued every other means but this to obtain his increased salary. He did not consider this man as meriting an increase of salary. It had been intimated that he had a bias on this subject. Take the facts as he had stated them, and was there not sufficient in them in which every one might honestly rest his opposition? A select committee had made a report on the census returns, which report this clerk had criticised in almost libellous terms, and laid his criticisms on the tables of Senators. Moreover, he had gone into the public press, and had made the most slanderous assaults upon several Senators who had made opposition on a former occasion to his movements.

Mr. HUNTER expressed an earnest hope that a vote would be taken.

Mr. DOWNS said he prepared the supplemental act spoken of, and under which it was stated that this person might have drawn two salaries. He justified the removal of the disbursing clerk for refusing to pay the $3,000 then allowed by law, for at that time the explanatory resolution had not passed both Houses.

Mr. RUSK moved the postponement of this bill, with a view to take up the Pacific Railroad bill. He would regard the vote on his motion as a test vote on that bill.

Mr. HUNTER said he did not see why the appropriation bills should be postponed because the money items were debated, and to take up another bill which would also be debated. Unless the appropriation bills were now considered, they would be deferred to the last hour, when they would be arranged by Conference Committees.

Mr. BUTLER, (dem.) of S. C., said he knew no bills which should be debated more than those appropriating money.

Mr. DODGE, (dem.) of Iowa, said he would regard this as a test vote on the Railroad bill, and he would stand by the senator from Texas in getting that bill through even to the death or total exclusion of the appropriation bills, if necessary.

Mr. BORLAND, (dem.) of Ark., thought the Railroad bill should pass, and ought to be taken up now.

The question was taken, and the motion was rejected by—Yeas 24, nays 25, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Bell, Borland, Bradbury, Chase, Clarke, Davis, Dodge of Wis., Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Fitzgerald, Gwin, James, Jones of Iowa, Jones of Tenn., Pratt, Rusk, Sebastian, Smith, Sumner, Underwood, Wade, Walker and Weller—24.

NAYS—Messrs. Bayard, Bright, Brodhead, Brooke, Butler, Cooper, Dawson, Desaussiere, Downs, Felch, Fitzpatrick, Hale, Hamlin, Hunter, Mallory, Mason, Miller, Morris, Pettit, Phelps, Seward, Soulé, Spruance, Toucey—25.

Mr. HOUSTON, (dem.) of Texas, said it was bad policy to increase the salaries of clerks disproportionate to their services, particularly when the individual did not deserve it. He did not think this officer's mission to Europe had commended him to the favorable consideration of the Senate. Some time since there was a World's Fair in London, and though there was no law for it, it was considered highly desirable that the Department of the Interior should be represented there. Mr. Kennedy was selected as the representative, and he applied to the Comptroller for a warrant for $2,500 to bear the expenses of his mission, which was refused, unless an order was produced. He promised to produce the order, but was not seen by the officer of the treasury until after he had returned from Europe. Then he rendered his account for $1,750 expenses. He had previously obtained the money on the order of the Secretary of the Interior. He presented no vouchers other than the memoranda of his expenses. The Comptroller refused to pass the same to his credit. No vouchers have yet been presented. The Comptroller thought he would wait for vouchers, and wrote to Mr. Collins, of the New York and Liverpool Steamship Company, to know if he would not give a voucher on the two items for passage from New York to Liverpool and from Liverpool back to New York—amounting to about $400. Mr. Collins answered that he could give no such vouchers, as nothing had been charged for those passages, it being represented that Mr. Kennedy was going on government business. The account of expenses furnished by Mr. Kennedy was certified to by him as expenses necessarily incurred by him on his trip, and as falling much short of his actual outlay. It was not, however, sworn to. Yet here were two important items of the account which were fraudulent on their face. A Mr. Mason, who at the same time travelled farther than Mr. Kennedy, returned as his expenses $800, and another person returned as his expenses $600. He then entered into a critical examination of other items in the bill, and commented upon them with considerable severity.

The question was then taken, and the amendment was agreed to by yeas 36—nays not counted.

Mr. BORLAND moved to amend the provision making appropriation for the continuance of the capitol extension, by providing that none of the money should be expended till after the 1st of April next, in order that the investigation now going on may be finished.

The subject of frauds, &c., in the work, was further debated, after which the amendment was agreed to.

Other amendments were submitted and agreed to, and the bill was then passed.

THE TEHUANTEPEC QUESTION.

The Senate then took up the resolutions of the Committee on Foreign Relations on the subject of the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

Mr. BROOKE, (whig) of Miss., resumed and concluded his remarks in favor of the resolution, in reply to Messrs. Seward and Hale.

Mr. GWIN, (dem.) of Cal., moved, as a test question, that the resolutions be laid on the table, pending which the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1853.

PASSAGE OF THE POST OFFICE BILL.

The House took up the Post Office Appropriation bill when Mr. OLDS (dem.), of S. C., moved an amendment proposing to change the compensation of the deputy postmasters. This was ruled out of order, and the bill was passed.

THE RECIPROCITY BILL.

The SPEAKER announced the next business to be the bill heretofore reported from the Committee on Commerce, to establish reciprocal trade with the British North American colonies, upon certain conditions—the question being on recommitting the bill to that committee.

Mr. SEYMOUR (dem.), of N. Y., said a desire had been manifested that the consideration of the subject should not come on to-day, inasmuch as the report was laid on the tables of the members only yesterday, and as the bill itself is important in detail; he was willing to accede to the wishes of gentlemen provided the bill will not lose its priority during the morning hour.

Mr. JONES, (dem.) of Tenn., thought that under the circumstances the bill was reported, the gentlemen should consent to let the bill go to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. SEYMOUR said the bill was reported by unanimous consent. When he stated he should call it up at an early day, if it should be the pleasure of the House, he had made the usual motion to recommit the bill, to keep it from going to the Speaker's table, and had moved that its consideration be postponed until Thursday. He now moved its consideration stand over, without prejudice to its priority, until to-morrow. Agreed to.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union on the

CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. BAYLY, (dem.) of Va., remarked that it had been his intention to say something as to the condition of our foreign affairs, not, however, what should or ought not to be done in any contemplated contingency, nor still less, to say what we would not submit to in certain contingencies, because he knew from the history of the country that such a declaration beforehand has led to embarrassment and no good; but he had desired, so far as his information went, and he believed he had accurate information, to let the House and country know as near as might be, the precise condition of our foreign affairs. However, as the Chairman of Ways and Means had changed the order of taking up the Indian and navy bills, owing to the absence of the chairman of the one, and the sickness of the other, he (Mr. Bayly) did not rise to submit the remarks he desired. In the course of the debate yesterday, it was stated that the cause of delay in the public business was owing in a great measure to the inefficiency of gentlemen at the head of the leading committees, although he knew the allusion of the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Stephens) was not designed for him personally. Yet, as he was at the head of the most important committee—that of Foreign Affairs—the country might not so understand it. Although that committee is of very great importance, yet, as far as the ordinary legislation of Congress is concerned, it has perhaps less connection with the business than any other. There are but few bills to report or act upon. He desired to say, in justice to the committee over which he was proud to preside, that there has never been one day on which their docket has not been cleared. One of the causes of the advancement of business is the diligence and promptitude of that committee. Everybody knows that the French Spoliation bill, which lies at the bottom of the huge mass on the Speaker's table, is the main bar to the getting at other bills which have there accumulated. The fault is not in the rules, which are good and wise, and easily understood, but in the members. Instead of letting business come up in its order, a suspension of the rules is invoked every day, to act upon particular measures, a rule which was only adopted to meet emergencies and carry bills of pressing importance, the delay in passing which might produce public mischief. It was due to the former Speaker of the House (Mr. Cobb) to say, that during the time he presided, there was not such a large accumulated mass of business as there is now. The only matter before the Committee of Foreign Affairs is that of reciprocity, which will be reported to-morrow morning. The subject was only brought to their notice a few days since. This disposed of, there would be nothing on their docket, and nothing belonging to them, on the calendar, except the French Spoliation bill.

Mr. NABORS, (dem.) of Miss., said he was deeply impressed with the reflection yesterday, that the very first speech he ever had the honor to hear from the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Venable) was made notoriously out of order. However, by the courtesy of the committee, the gentleman was permitted to speak an hour. And the first speech he (Mr. Nabors) desired to make, was in reply, and if made at all, it must be made out of order. A gentleman who undertakes to lecture the House should be satisfied that he comes forward with clean hands. If he and the other members occupied as much time as the gentleman, there would not be a chance to take a single vote. (Laughter.) The gentleman made a speech against fillibustering and Cuba, and yesterday one against the rules. He was surprised the gentleman did not notice one prolific source of delay in business, and that is, making precisely such speeches as the gentleman has made. It would be recollected the gentleman recently said he acquiesced in the Compromise measures, in obedience to the views of North Carolina. Now, it was known the gentleman opposed those measures for the reason that they would restrict the area of slavery; and yet, in his speech about Cuba, he said he was against its acquisition, because it would increase the area of slavery. (Laughter.)

Mr. VENABLE, (dem.) of N. C., rose to reply.

Mr. GIDDINGS, (free soil,) of Ohio, rose to a question of order, and asked whether, under the Baltimore platform, the gentlemen over the way have a right to agitate. (Laughter.)

Mr. VENABLE said he had objected to the compromise measures, because they limited slavery on our own territory, and he objected to filibustering and plundering Cuba, because we have no right to extend the area of slavery in anybody else's territory.

Mr. NABORS resumed—The speeches of the gentleman are in print, and any one who has an interest that way, can examine them. He further replied to Mr. Venable, saying among other things, one of the causes of delay in business was making speeches about which members knew nothing. Such was the case yesterday, the gentleman having admitted he knew nothing about the rules.

Mr. HOUSTON defended the Committee of Ways and Means from the charge of delaying business, and showed how bills had been obstructed heretofore. From 1795 to the present time, in nineteen cases out of twenty the general appropriation bills have not been passed before the 3d of March during the short session. The delay in transacting business has arisen, in part, from the laudable desire of gentlemen to procure action upon the railroad bills, the French Spoliation bill, and others, but not observing the order of business. He had been told by gentlemen that the appropriation bills shall not be passed unless the Speaker's table be cleared. The general debate now ceased.

Mr. BRENTON, (whig,) of Ia., moved an amendment, to dispense with the present per diem of members, and instead give them annually a salary of two thousand dollars.

The CHAIRMAN declared it out of order.

Various amendments of little or no public importance, were made, when the committee rose.

MARBLE STATUES OF THE PRESIDENTS.

Mr. BROWN, (dem.) of Miss., asked leave to introduce a joint resolution, authorizing the Secretary of State to contract with American sculptors for marble statues of all the Presidents, commencing with Washington.

Objections were made, and the House adjourned.

The Strike in Baltimore, &c.

THE MECHANICS STILL FIRM—ANOTHER TURN-OUT—OPPOSITION MANIFESTOES, ETC.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 16, 1853.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad mechanics still refuse to go to work, the directors having only conceded $1 per week additional pay to each, whilst their demand is fifteen per cent advance on their former salaries. The President of the Road has called another meeting of the board to-morrow, to endeavor to settle the difficulties. The engineers and brakemen threaten to stop again if the mechanics do not get their demands. The President promises to use his exertions to obtain the full demands of the men.

The strikers have issued a strong reply to the address of the employers, and declare their determination not to yield.

The employés at the Gas Works struck to day for fifteen per cent advance, which was immediately accorded to them.

The mechanics of Washington have tendered $200 weekly to support the strikers.

Affairs in Albany.

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS—ACTION ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO NEW YORKERS.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

ALBANY, Feb. 16, 1853.

Mr. Vanderbilt's proposition to amend the constitution in order to obtain funds for the completion of the canals, is regarded as a counterpart of the nine million bill. From the manner in which it was received in the Senate, it is evident that it will meet with opposition from high sources. It does not pledge the faith of the State.

The bill making a new state office, to be called Superintendent of Railroads, elicited considerable debate, but was not decided.

It is agreed to divide the Eighteenth ward of New York, and a proposition has been submitted to divide the Seventeenth also.

The Police bill will pass in nearly its original shape.

A petition was presented complaining of the practice of giving free railroad tickets to members of the Legislature. A law is asked to make it bribery to give or receive such tickets. The petition called out Mr. Burroughs, who denounced the practice in strong terms. Mr. O'Keefe contended that it was not bribery to be invited to ride in cars. The subject was referred to the Judiciary Committee, where it will sleep to the end of the session.

The members of both Houses transacted business with becoming dignity. During the whole day not a scene of disturbance occurred. This argues well for the future.

Governor Marcy is expected home every day. W.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

ALBANY, Feb. 16, 1853.

THE CANAL ENLARGEMENT QUESTION.

Mr. VANDERBILT (dem.) presented a paper containing resolutions embodying certain amendments to the constitution providing for the enlargement of the canals. He asked consent to refer them to a select committee of five, part of which should be the Canal Committee.

Mr. WRIGHT (whig) intimated that the Champlain Canal was not embraced in the resolutions.

Mr. Vanderbilt's motion prevailed, by ayes 25, nays 1 (Mr. Cornell).

The following is a copy of Mr. Vanderbilt's proposition:—

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That the following amendment be proposed to the Constitution of the State, that the same be referred to the Legislature to be chosen at the next general election of Senators, and be published for three months previous to making such choice, in conformity with section one of article thirteen of the Constitution:

Strike out the third section of article seven, and insert the following instead thereof:

Sec. 3. After paying expenses of collection, superintendence and ordinary repairs, and the sum of one million seven hundred thousand dollars appropriated by the first section of the said article seven, for the payment of the principal and interest of the existing canal debt, and the sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars in each fiscal year, as a sinking fund to pay the principal and interest of the debts in the second section of said article mentioned, the remainder of the revenues of the canals shall be applied in such manner as the Legislature shall direct, to the completion of the Erie canal enlargement, to the enlargement of the Oswego canal, to the enlargement of the Cayuga and Seneca canals, and to the completion of the Genesee Valley and Black River canals, and to the payment of the moneys which shall have been received into the Treasury for canal revenue certificates under chapter 483 of the laws of 1851, and the interest stipulated in said certificates, until the said enlargements shall have been completed and the said canals finished, and the expense thereof, with interest, paid.

And when the said objects shall have been accomplished, the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars shall be appropriated and set apart out of the surplus revenues, in each fiscal year, as a sinking fund, to pay the interest and redeem the principal of the general fund debt, and of the other debts specified in the second section of said article seven, until the whole shall be fully paid; and instead of providing for the appropriation and setting apart of the said sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars annually at the time specified in said second section, loans may be authorized, when necessary, to extend the time for the payment of any of said debts, with the interest, until the said remainders of the canal revenues shall be sufficient for that purpose, which remainders, as herein provided, shall be sacredly applied to the purpose of paying the interest and extinguishing the principal of all loans that may be so made; and when the said object shall have been accomplished, the remainder of the canal revenues, after paying the expenses of collection, superintendence and repairs, shall be paid into the treasury of the State, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, for the expenses of government, and for any other purposes authorized by the constitution.

For the purpose of completing the said enlargement of the canals, and the finishing of the said other canals as herein mentioned, and for the purpose of repaying the said sum of money so received into the Treasury, with the interest, the Legislature may anticipate the remainder of the canal revenues, by borrowing a sum not exceeding fifteen millions of dollars, in portions of not more than three millions of dollars in any one year, and the sole and exclusive credit of the remainders so pledged, and expressly disavowing any obligation to impose a tax upon the people of this State, or to apply any funds or revenues of the State, other than the said remainders, to the payment of any part of the principal or interest of any sums so borrowed.

The proceeds of all such loans shall be severally and exclusively applied to the purposes for which said remainder is hereby pledged.

And the said enlargement of said canals shall be made and completed, and the others of said canals, herein mentioned, shall be finished, within six years after the adoption of this amendment by the people of this State, without imposing any direct tax for the same, or any sort thereof.

I deem it necessary that the foregoing amendment be made to the constitution, or some similar amendment, to enlarge the canals, and hereby submit it.

JOHN VANDERBILT.

EDUCATION IN NEW YORK—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Mr. CONGER (dem.) reported a bill relative to the education of children in New York city.

Mr. BEEKMAN (whig) a bill to establish a Western lunatic asylum.

SUBSTITUTE FOR THE PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

Mr. BABCOCK (whig) asked leave to present his substitute for the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad bill.

Mr. BENNETT (dem.) objected.

THE REGULATION OF RAILROADS.

The Committee of the Whole considered the bill to provide for the better supervision and regulation of railroads, the details of which were examined at length, and the committee reported progress.

The Senate then adjourned.

Assembly.

ALBANY, Feb. 16, 1853.

PETITIONS—RAILROAD TRAVELLING.

Among the immense number of temperance and other petitions presented, was one asking for the enactment of a law making it a penal offence for members of the Legislature, State Officers and Judges, to receive free tickets on railroads.

Mr. BURROUGHS, (Ind. dem.) of Orleans, moved that the petition be referred to a select committee.

Mr. A. C. HALL (dem.) of Oneida, moved that it be laid on the table.

Mr. GARDNER, (dem.) of Sullivan, moved that the petition be rejected.

Mr. BURROUGHS called for the ayes and noes.

The resolution of Mr. GARDNER was lost, by ayes 22, noes 79.

The resolution of Mr. A. C. HALL was lost, by ayes 45, nays 52.

Mr. CHAMPLIN, (dem.) of Alleghany, moved the reference of the petition to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. PETERS, (whig) of Genesee, hoped the subject would be investigated and reported on.

Mr. BURROUGHS said there were precedents old and musty, new and good, for referring all such subjects to a favorable select committee. This was a universal custom.

Mr. O'KEEFE, (dem.) of New York, said—I must candidly confess that I do not see the importance of the subject now under consideration, as my friend from Orleans does. Without imputing any unworthy motives to the gentleman who presented the petition, I must characterize it as a gross and unwarrantable invasion of our private rights, and a palpable violation of our *per se* privileges. After the motion to lay on the table has been lost, I must either vote to refer it to a select committee, or to the Committee on the Judiciary. I am opposed to a select committee, sir, because there are no facts to investigate. They are plainly and nakedly stated in the petition itself, and as plainly and nakedly accuse members of being susceptible of corruption and bribery, because they receive free passes by compliment, and courtesy from some of the railroad companies. Are not the parties who give us these tickets private corporators, and do they not give them as an act of personal courtesy merely? Sir, it is monstrous that a man, even if he be a legislator, cannot receive an act of kindness without being open to the charge of corruption. For one, by voting for a committee of investigation, I will not admit the charge even of susceptibility, and shall vote to have this matter referred to the standing Committee on the Judiciary of this House, because they have been selected, not only on account of their legal learning, but on account of their plain, common sense, and, I may say it, conservative views on these out of the way and irregular matters.

Mr. CHAMPLIN said he would scorn any gift contaminated with the odor of bribery, but there was nothing of the kind here.

The petition was then referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS, ETC.

Mr. PATTERSON reported by bill to authorize the New York Central College to sell real estate. Also, adverse to a bill in regard to free schools. Also, in favor of a survey of the State, and supplying school districts with county and State maps.

CORPORATIONS, ETC.

Mr. WEEKS reported to amend law in regard to incorporations. Also, to amend law in relation to joint stock associations.

WILLIAMSBURG WATER COMPANY.

Mr. HENDRICKS reported to amend charter of Williamsburg Water Company.

ELECTION FRAUDS.

Mr. HADLEY reported favorable to the bill for the suppression of bribery at elections.

THE EIGHTEENTH WARD.

Mr. ST. JOHN, from the select committee, reported to divide the Eighteenth ward in New York.

THE MILITIA LAW.

Mr. TEMPLE, on leave, called up a Senate resolution requiring the codification of the militia law. Concurred in.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. CLAPP to elect the Auditor of the Canal Department by the people.

By Mr. GALE for a penny savings bank in New York.

Nothing else of interest transpired prior to adjournment.

Fatal Fight between two Sailors, &c.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 16—8 P. M.

A man named Robert Redmond, a sailor, just discharged from the frigate Raritan, was killed in a fight with a shipmate, at Portsmouth, on Friday last. The murderer, it is supposed, escaped to Baltimore.

New Orleans papers of Thursday are received, but we find nothing of importance in them.

Another Fatal Railroad Accident.

ROCHESTER, Feb. 16, 1853.

Charles Hodges, a brakeman on the Syracuse and Rochester Railroad, was instantly killed last night, from his head striking against a bridge.

Ship Henry Pratt Sunk.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 16, 1853.

The ship Henry Pratt, lately arrived from Palermo was yesterday afternoon sunk at her wharf in Southwark, by a block of marble falling through her decks into the hold, in consequence of the breaking of the slings. The block passed down end foremost, crushing its way through both decks, and starting her planks, caused her to settle down in a very short time. She lies in eight feet water at low tide. All her cargo is out, except about 150 tons of marble. The block that fell weighed five tons. The vessel is owned at the eastward.

Departure of the Canada.

BOSTON, Feb. 16, 1853.

The R. M. steamship Canada, Capt. Stone, sailed at noon to-day for Liverpool, via Halifax. She takes out $217,000 in American gold.

The Southern Steamers.

SAVANNAH, Feb. 15, 1853.

The steamship Florida, Captain Woodhull, has arrived at her wharf in this city, in fifty-seven and a half hours from New York.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 15, 1853.

The steamship James Adger, from New York, arrived at the bar at six o'clock, and at her wharf in this city at nine o'clock on Monday night.

City Intelligence.

INTERESTING LECTURE BEFORE THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—A lecture will be delivered this evening, at eight o'clock, before the Mechanics' Institute, by Mr. Alexander Jones, on the subject of free education and industrial free schools.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday a very unpleasant change in the weather took place. At an early hour in the morning, the wind changed from the west to the east; in a few hours after, the rain begun to descend rapidly, and continued to do so all day without intermission. This rain will be the means of giving the sidewalks a good washing, which has latterly been very much needed. The thermometer at the HERALD office ranged from 50 to 55 deg. above zero.

POSTPONED.—The lecture to be delivered last evening, at Metropolitan Hall, by Rev. Mr. Fitch, on "California," was postponed on account of the very severe state of the weather.

MISS BACON commences, by invitation, her course of Historical Lessons in Brooklyn this evening. See advertisement.

THE CULPRIT SULLIVAN.—Deputy Sheriff Gilmore yesterday conveyed James Sullivan from the city prison to State prison at Sing Sing, there to remain during his natural life. Sullivan, it will be remembered, was to have been executed with Joseph Clark, but through the clemency of the Governor his sentence was commuted.

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT—LIFE PRESERVERS.—We have always maintained that it is the duty of government to see that steamboats engaged in passenger traffic, were furnished with a life preserving apparatus, sufficient to save all on board, in case of accident by collision or fire, regardless of expense to the companies to which they belong. As the new steamboat law comes into operation, we trust that the executive will remember our maxim, that the preservation of the lives of the traveling public is of the first importance. We are led to these remarks by the inspection of a simple article, called the "Nautilus," or "Self-inflating Life Preserver," forwarded to our office by Mr. John W. Bennett, late keeper of the Minot's Rock Light House, Mass., which can be put in use in a moment by drawing the ends apart and inserting a plug. Upon drawing it around the body, it fully inflates, and is capable of sustaining two persons in the water with safety. The "Life Preserver" has been examined, and is strongly recommended by the President of the Board of Underwriters, the Chairman of the Humane Society, Marine Inspector, and the leading ship owners of Boston, with other gentlemen of like standing in New Bedford, Cleveland, Racine, Kenosha, and other places. The Nautilus appears to be very worthy of patronage. We have also seen very strong testimonials, written after actual experiment, of the "Stanton Life Boat," patented by Colonel Stanton, of the United States army.

FIRES.—About half-past two o'clock P. M., on Monday, flames were discovered issuing from the dwelling house of Mr. Mildeburgher, No. 106 Waverley place, near Washington square, and were not extinguished until property to the amount of $500 was destroyed. The fire originated in the attic floor, from some defect in the stove pipe, and to this floor alone the fire was confined. The roof was very much damaged, a great portion of it being burned off. The house next door, No. 108, was somewhat damaged by water. If it had not been for the strenuous efforts of the fire department—who were promptly on the ground—the entire building would no doubt have been destroyed.

At 8½ o'clock, on Sunday evening, a fire broke out in a three story frame house in Thirty-sixth street, near Ninth avenue, belonging to Henry O'Farrell, but was quickly extinguished with a few pails of water. The fire originated in a closet on the third floor.

ACCIDENT FROM BURNING FLUID.—Another of these accidents, which we have so often to record, happened on Sunday evening, at the house No. 546 Houston street. It appears that Mrs. Bucknell, who occupies the house, set fire to a dress which was hanging up in her bedroom, and in attempting to extinguish the flames she upset the lamp, which immediately exploded, burning her hands and face in a very severe manner. The room also took fire, but it was quickly extinguished by the occupants.

EXCURSION OF ENGINE COMPANY NO. 8 TO WASHINGTON.—The members of this company will proceed on an excursion to Washington, on the 28th instant, stopping at Philadelphia and Baltimore on the way. Their principal object in visiting Washington is to be present at the Presidential inauguration, on the 4th of March.

ACCIDENTS.—On Monday, a man named William Schacher fell into the vault in front of the new building, corner of Vesey and Church streets, severely injuring himself. He was conveyed to his residence by the police of the Third district.

James McAvoy, employed as a porter in the store of T. T. Kelley, 224 Front street, fell from the third story of the building, through the hatchway, to the ground floor, and was seriously injured. He was conveyed, by order of Mr. Kelley, to his residence.

ACCIDENT.—About 9 o'clock on Tuesday evening, a man, named John Henry, fell from the window of a house in Washington street, and was severely injured. Dr. De Forrest was immediately sent for, and dressed his wounds.

BURSTING OF CROTON WATER PIPES.—During Tuesday night no less than three Croton water pipes burst in different stores in the lower part of the city. The stores of Mr. Griffin, No. 118 Nassau street, Mr. Aubery, in the same street, and the store No. 105 Wall street, were all flooded from the bursting of these pipes.

Coroner's Inquests.

MELANCHOLY DEATH FROM INTEMPERANCE.—Coroner Hilton held an inquest on Tuesday evening, at the house No. 38 Hamilton street, upon the body of a woman named Rose Carroll, who died in her bed suddenly, about six o'clock in the morning. Mathew Carroll, husband of the deceased, deposed to the fact that he came home about one o'clock in the morning; I was in liquor; I went to bed soon, and was sick; the deceased held up my head; she had her hand under it when I went to sleep; she had made a bed upon the floor for me; I awoke about six o'clock this morning and found her lying on her left side upon the floor, with her head near mine; her face was cold; I called her, and she did not answer; I then got up and went out, and upon returning in ten or fifteen minutes, I opened one of the shutters; upon looking at the deceased, I thought her in a fit similar to what I had seen her in before; she was in the habit of getting intoxicated occasionally; when in such a state, she was accustomed to have fits; I have seen her have them ten or twelve times; she drank three or four glasses of brandy yesterday; I did not notice her to be intoxicated; I had been drinking pretty freely myself. The witness then described his raising up the body and finding his wife dead. Other testimony corroborative of this was given. Dr. Witherell made a *post-mortem* examination of the body; in my opinion the deceased died of congestion of the brain, produced by intemperance. Verdict accordingly. The deceased was twenty-three years of age, and a native of Ireland.

SUDDEN DEATH IN THE CITY PRISON—INTEMPERANCE.—Coroner Wilhelm held an inquest, yesterday afternoon, at the Tombs, upon the body of Daniel Camerdy, who died there suddenly on Tuesday evening. It appeared in evidence that deceased had been repeatedly committed for drunkenness. About four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon he was sent in intoxicated; he was placed in a bunk in one of the cells. In a short time he fell out, and was put in again. At five o'clock, the day men reported the man dead; however, it was found that he still breathed, and after exertion to recover him, he died about eleven o'clock at night. Doctor Covil made an examination of the body and expressed the opinion that deceased came to his death by apoplexy, produced by intemperance. Verdict accordingly. Deceased was a native of this city, and about thirty-nine years of age.

DEATH IN THE CITY HOSPITAL.—Coroner Hilton will hold an inquest this morning, at the City Hospital, upon the body of a woman named Anne Wolfe, who died there yesterday from the effect of injuries which she received either by falling or jumping from the window of a house in Eleventh street, a short time since.

MOVEMENTS OF PRESIDENT PIERCE.

HIS ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK, &c., &c., &c.

Our New Hampshire Correspondence.

CONCORD, Feb. 14, 1853.

Departure of General Pierce—The New Cabinet Definitely and Unchangeably Formed—Nobody but General Pierce and the Members themselves know its Composition—Has Senator Hunter Declined?—Where is Ex-Governor Marcy?—Trouble Among the Buckeye Democracy in Ohio—Chance for a Speculation—Snow Storm—News from Washington.

General Pierce, accompanied by his Secretary, Sidney Webster, Esq., will leave town this afternoon, for Boston, by the same train which carries this letter. General P. will probably arrive in New York on Wednesday. He expects to reach Washington somewhere from the 18th to the 24th inst.—on Tuesday or Wednesday of next week, most probably. After reaching Boston, Mrs. Pierce, who is now there, at the residence of the late Amos Lawrence, will finally determine whether to accompany him further or not. At any rate, she will probably not proceed beyond Philadelphia until after the inauguration. Gen. Pierce desires to make the journey in as private and quiet a manner as possible. He leaves here with the best wishes of the great mass of his fellow citizens, that his health and strength may be spared to administer the affairs of this great nation during his term of office. He would be escorted out of town by a large delegation of his fellow citizens, had he not expressed his wishes to the contrary. In view of his recent domestic affliction, it is to be hoped that he may be allowed to proceed to the seat of government quietly, and free from personal importunity. Office-seekers should bear in mind that they will gain little by presenting their applications to him at this time. This is a great country, and contains "a great many beebles," as the Dutchman said. Its new President cannot attend to all of them at once.

General Pierce starts for Washington with his cabinet definitely and unchangeably formed. I state this upon good authority. The New Hamphire *Patriot* of to-morrow will bear out the statement. The cabinet is as fixed as the laws of the Medes and and Persians. I learn, also, that General Pierce has communicated the names of the cabinet to no person in this town—not even to his most intimate friends. No one but the distinguished gentlemen selected, either here or elsewhere, probably know who will compose it. As the HERALD's correspondents from this place have frequently predicted, the seal will not most likely be broken until the 4th of March. The newspaper rumors that General Pierce has written letters to Washington announcing the names of certain cabinet members to be, as well as a similar statement that he has advised Major Lally of his intentions, have no foundation.

It is confidently asserted here that Senator Clemens, of Alabama, has not been appointed in the cabinet, and has not desired to be. One or two bets of beavers can be obtained among some of the wiseacres, that General Cushing is not to take the State Department, nor Commodore Stockton the navy. My previous inquiry, whether Senator Hunter has really refused that place, has not yet been definitely answered from Washington. It is also worthy of remark that ex-Governor Marcy is enjoying the mild weather of a Cuban winter with a *sang froid* unprecedented for one of your New York politicians, considering the near approach of the Ides of March. What does it mean? The "hards" and "softs" also appear to have become suddenly tranquil, thanks to that oyster supper at the Eagle Hotel, in this town, and the firs rate notice given it in the HERALD. In the mean time, the Buckeye democracy of the Buckeye Stat seem to be at sixes and sevens about the Postmaste Generalship. Had they begun their quarrel a littl earlier, it might have been fatal to Ohio, and may have been as it is. All things considered, the composition of the new cabinet is an enigma. It bids fair to astonish the natives when made public, as much as the nomination of General Pierce did the Seward & Co. whigs. What is the New York market price of "Fluid Extract of Valerian," "Watts' Nervous Antidote," and "Galvanic Necklaces?" There is now a chance for a speculation in these articles among the anxious seats.

Yesterday, about six inches of dry snow fell here—wind east. To day, with a pretty strong north-west wind, it has become itinerant. On the hills, I learn, it is badly drifted. The cars were but slightly det