MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Board of Aldermen.

The Board met last evening—John Clancy, Esq., President, in the chair.

THE WORKINGMEN.

The Industrial Association sent in a communication condemning the proceedings of the workingmen which had taken place in the Park and Tompkins square, and begging that every action in the power of the Common Council be exercised to give to the legitimate workingmen of New York employment.

THE CENTRAL PARK.

Alderman FULMER presented a resolution calling upon the Comptroller to draw his warrant in favor of the clerks and others employed by the Central Park Commissioners, at the same rate of compensation paid for the year 1856. Laid over under the rule.

A resolution was offered by the Alderman of the Fifth ward calling upon the Street Commissioner, Charles Devlin, to cause the Battery grounds and the new made ground to be put in perfect order for the occasion of the grand military parade on the 25th of November. Laid over under the rule.

THE CHANGE IN THE STEAMBOAT LANDINGS.

The report of the Committee on the East and North River Steamboat Landings was called from the table.

Alderman STEERS moved the adoption of the majority report.

Alderman WILSON hoped the minority report would be adopted. He said the proposed removal of the landings was an outrage on the commercial community, and he hoped the measure never would be adopted. The movement was made by a few owners of sunken lots on the outskirts of the city, with a view to enhance the value of their own grounds. He was convinced that the proposed change was illegal and that there was no necessity for it. He admitted that the ferry boat managers were careless, but the larger steamers navigated the river with safety; a few narrow escapes had occurred, but there had been no accident resulting in loss of life. As to the removal of the landings being the means of relieving the streets in the lower part of the city, he did not believe it; such a change would create greater confusion, because the freights would have to be carted to the lower part of the city, where the principal stores were located. Alderman W. contended in a long argument that there was no good reason assigned for the removal of these steamboat landings. He moved that the matter be laid over till the second meeting in December.

Alderman STEERS urged the majority report, and contended that the large steamers were not so easily managed on the crowded portion of the river as the ferry boats, and that it would be to the advantage of the shipping community to have the landings removed up town.

Alderman BLUNT, in opposing the report for the removal of the steamboat landings, said it was more than Congress could do, and he did not think that this Board should attempt any such thing. There was no law which could prevent passengers from landing at any pier on the river, except where the Legislature had set certain wharves apart for tow boats. There was no law to prevent any steamer from landing her passengers and goods at any pier that was unoccupied, and the Common Council could not compel steamboat owners to remove from piers and slips of which they had a lease. The only way the Common Council could remove the steamboat landings was to tear down the gates and piers, but according to the ordinances the piers were highways, and traffic on them could not be stopped. Large buildings were erected on the piers by men who had leases of them. Such exclusive rights should not be given, and if the Common Council did their duty there would be no necessity for the removal of the steamboat landings. He would vote for the minority report.

Alderman BANTA spoke in favor of the majority report, and thought that the city had power over these piers. He thought as far as the North river was concerned there was a necessity for removing the steamboat landings; a great deal of the produce brought by these steamers had to be removed up town, and it would save time and expense to have some of the landings in the upper part of the city.

Alderman HARRIS, one of the committee, opposed the moving of the landings, as contrary to law and as not required by necessity. Whenever the people find it for their interest to remove the landings it will be time enough to do so. He would vote for the minority report.

Alderman TUCKER advocated the movement of the landings up town, and if this Common Council did not pass the report to do so, he was satisfied that the next Board would. He had seen the crowded state of the lower part of the city, occasioned by the traffic from these steamboats, and the time had come when the business necessities of the city required the change in the landings which is suggested and advocated by the majority report. It will give all the relief to Broadway that is required, and he hoped the majority report would be adopted.

Alderman WILSON moved that the whole matter lay over until the second meeting in December. Motion to lay over was lost by a vote of 10 to 7.

Alderman CLANCY, who vacated the chair, said he supposed that with the exception of one or two objections the majority report would have been adopted. The power and authority of the Common Council had been questioned in this matter, and a great variety of opinions had been given, as to the water rights of the city. He went on at great length to give a history of the city charters, and contended that the Common Council had control over this very matter under their consideration; the city of New York had power to give these steamboats privilege to land at these piers, and if they had the power to grant they had the power to repeal; the Common Council never dies, and this body, as the successor of the Common Council which granted the privilege, had the power to repeal it. He (Alderman Clancy) then argued that the removal of these landings up town, would not be disadvantageous to business of the lower section of the city. It was impossible to calculate the advantages that would accrue to the whole city by the opportunity that would be thus afforded to the extension of its commerce, instead of confining it now to a "spent up Utica" of a certain portion of the metropolis; and if it be to the advantage of the city of New York that the removal of these steamboat landings should be accomplished, the Common Council, in obedience to its laws, should not oppose it. He contended that it was a great public convenience, and as such, he supported it; contending at the same time that the Common Council had the undoubted right to control the steamboat owners in this matter.

Alderman BLUNT again submitted his idea that the Board had neither the right to grant or take away the exclusive privilege of the use of the piers.

Alderman WILSON moved that all the papers connected with this matter, not heretofore printed, be printed in document form.

Alderman TUCKER hoped the matter would be acted upon this evening, and that it should not be delayed by waiting for the printing of the documents. Necessity demanded that these landings should be moved up town.

The motion to print was lost.

Alderman FULMER moved that the majority report be referred to the Counsel of the Corporation for his opinion as to the power of the Common Council to remove these steamboat landings. Lost.

On motion of Alderman MCSPEDON the whole matter was laid over until Monday next.

COMMUNICATION FROM MR. DEVLIN.

A communication was received from Mr. Devlin, claiming that he is Street Commissioner, and that Mr. Conover has no right or authority to send in the communication presented by him to the last meeting. The reading of the communication was suspended and was ordered to be printed on the minutes.

Alderman MCSPEDON offered a resolution to the effect that from Fifty-third to Ninety-second streets, in Second avenue, be macadamised under the direction of Mr. Charles Devlin, who is authorized to employ a suitable city surveyor for that purpose, and that the surveyor employ as many men as will be necessary. Laid over under the rules.

The matter of the new Post Office was made the special order for Thursday evening, to which time the Board adjourned.

Board of Councilmen.

This Board was in session last evening—the President, Jonas N. Phillips, Esq., presiding.

After the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved, Mr. Haswell presented the following report of the Special Committee on the Assize of Bread, to which is appended an ordinance to regulate its sale by weight. It was received and laid over:—

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ASSIZE OF BREAD.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the annexed resolution, asking for a consideration of the subject of an assize of bread, having given public notice of the meeting for the consideration of the subject, and having received and considered the suggestions of persons calculated to afford them information upon it, they have arrived at the conclusion embraced in the following report:—

The first point that presented itself for consideration was to determine how far it was within the legislative power of the Common Council to control the manufacture and sale of bread, and upon investigation it appeared that whilst the power of the Common Council over the price of bread by an ordinance of assize regulating its price by the cost of the materials thereof was of doubtful propriety, that its power to define the weight of loaves of bread and the marks thereon was as valid as that to enact existing ordinances regarding the sale of coal, flour, hay, &c., or of any ordinance having in view the protection of the public from imposition and false representations.

From the investigation of your committee it appeared that the following are the essential elements affecting the manufacture and sale of bread, with which the community are connected:—

First. That no ingredient other than a constituent of bread can be mixed with it, having the effect of lessening the cost of it to the manufacturer. The public estimate and consequent value of bread, however, may be increased by a resort to chemical and other agents, the admixture of which with the flour may affect its appearance and thereby enhance the estimate of its value.

Second. That the resort to chemical agents to produce that porous condition of the dough of bread required by health and taste, in an extreme degree, is readily recognized in such bread as presents the least weights for equal volume compared with others, the purpose of this resort being to produce false impressions, both as to the quality of the bread and its value in quantity.

Third. That in the absence of any ordinance or requirement of custom whereby a uniformity in the weight of bread in loaves is observed, there is no check upon the cupidity of one baker over another, other than the inconvenient and in most cases impracticable one for the requirements of general practice, of the consumer to weigh the loaves of the different bakers.

As an exponent of the practices of the bakers of this city, and as the reliance to be placed upon the attractive captions of "large bread," we submit the following record of several purchases of five cent loaves of bread, made for the purpose of comparison of weights—

Large bread	weighed	1	pound	1½	ounce.
do.	do.	1	"	1¾	"
do.	do.	1	"	2	"
Bread	do.	1	"	2½	"
do.	do.	1	"	5	"
do.	do.	1	"	3½	"
do.	do.	1	"	4	"
do.	do.	1	"	5½	"

—From which it appears that there is the wide difference of four ounces in seventeen and one-half in the weight of loaves of a like price, being a difference of no less than 22 88 per cent, the operation of which to the common consumer is, that in 81 4 loaves of bread from one baker, he would receive the same weight that he would in 100 from the other.

Reviewing, then, the elements presented, we submit the following ordinance for enactment, and solicit the attention and early action of the Board thereon:—

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE WEIGHT AND SALE OF BREAD.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Councilmen of the city of New York, That from and after the 15th day of December next, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to sell, barter or dispose of any wheaten, rye or oaten bread, or of any cake, dough or other manufactured breadstuff intended for human food, otherwise than by avoirdupois weight, or for prices or sums of money of the currency of the United States, or in loaves of the four several weights of not less than one sixth of a pound, one, two and four pounds respectively, and each loaf of bread shall have legibly stamped or impressed thereon in letters of not less than 1½ inches in length the initials of the manufacturer's name or firm, and the weight of the bread in figures 1, 2, or 4, according to the weight thereof, and all parcels of bread usually designated as rolls, being of the weight of one-sixth of a pound, shall have stamped or impressed thereon in letters not less than one inch in length, the initials of the manufacturer's name or firm.

Sec. 2. Be it ordained, &c., That it shall be the duty of every baker or dealer in any wheaten, rye or oaten bread to provide and keep in his bakery, store, shop, stand or vehicle for the sale or delivery of bread, proper and correct scales and weights or balances, and to weigh all bread or cake sold by him or her, in the presence of the purchaser, on delivery thereof, when required to do so by such purchaser or purchasers.

Sec. 3. Be it ordained, &c., That any person or persons who shall violate any of the provisions of the foregoing section, shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit and pay for every violation a fine of ten dollars.

Sec. 4. Be it ordained, &c., That it shall be lawful for the City Inspector, or any duly authorized agent of his, to weigh any bread offered for sale, and if it shall not be in accordance with the requirements of this ordinance, the same shall be forfeited and become the property of the Common Council of the city of New York; and it shall be his duty to seize upon the same and deliver it to the Commissioners of the Almshouse, to be by them appropriated for the use of their department.

Sec. 5. Be it ordained, &c., That all penalties for violation of this ordinance shall be sued for before a Special Sessions held by a police justice, and shall be recoverable upon three days' notice to the party charged with such violation of this ordinance, and that all penalties recovered shall be awarded, one-half to the informer of the violation, and one-half to the Commissioners of the Almshouse, for the public service.

A CHAMBER FOR THE SUPERVISORS.

A resolution presented by Mr. Franklin, that the Council chamber be divided into two rooms, as existed prior to its occupancy by the Council Board, in order that provision may be made for the Councilmen and Supervisors after the 1st of January, 1858, and that the work be commenced immediately after the 1st of January next, was laid over.

RELIEF FOR UNEMPLOYED FEMALES.

Mr. JONES presented a memorial of the Women's Protection Emigration Society, which stated that there were vast numbers of unemployed workingwomen in this city at the present time, who were in a state of extreme destitution and would be compelled to suffer still more before the winter season was over; that there were hundreds of honest and pure women who were anxious to leave the city but unable to do so; and that the interests of the city would be subserved by an appropriation of $5,000, to be used for the establishment and support of a temporary home for the extremely destitute and friendless and in forwarding the plan of their immediate emigration westward. The petition was referred to the Committee on Finance.

THE FOUNTAIN IN THE PARK.

Mr. HASWELL offered the following preamble and resolution, which was laid over:—

Whereas, the fountain in the City Hall Park is the rendezvous of persons who are evil disposed and rapidly becoming a nuisance to the neighborhood, and inasmuch as the same would be an ornament to one of our public squares, therefore be it—

Resolved, That the Croton Aqueduct Commissioners be and they are hereby directed to remove the fountain in the Park to the centre of Madison square.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE STREET COMMISSIONER.

A communication was received from D. D. Conover in reply to a resolution of the Board requesting an immediate report "if any work under contract or authorized to be done has been suspended, and for what reason." He submitted two schedules, the first setting forth the contracts and the names of the contractors who had suspended work, and the second the amount of work given out by the Street Department. He said that the time for its completion had expired, although the work was still progressing very slowly. He notified the surveyors and inspectors to report immediately the condition of the work under their charge, and any additional information which they transmitted would be given to the Common Council. It was laid over.

The Board then resolved itself into committee of the whole on the regular calendar, and recommended the passage of a number of routine papers to a third reading.

THE SUPERVISORS' BOOK.

The Board concurred with the Aldermen in requesting the Governors of the Almshouse to take into immediate consideration the expediency of quickly organizing an efficient corps of outdoor visiters for the suffering poor, so that prompt relief may be afforded in all cases where it may be needed.

On motion, the Board adjourned to Monday.

City Politics.

AMERICAN ALDERMANIC NOMINATIONS.

Eighth District.—The adjourned American Convention for the nomination of a candidate for Alderman in this district, met at the State House in Ludlow street, near Grand, last evening—H. K. Robinson, Esq., in the chair. Some considerable discussion arose as to the propriety of admitting certain parties as delegates to the Convention, whom it was claimed by their opponents had withdrawn from the American councils some time since, and were not at present members of the Order. Pending the discussion on this subject the Convention adjourned without proceeding to ballot, to meet at 187 Bowery, on Thursday evening, the 19th inst.

COUNCILMEN NOMINATIONS.

The Know Nothings of the Sixth Senatorial district, composed of the Ninth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Eighteenth wards, have chosen the following named persons as their candidates for City Councilmen:—James Webb, Ninth ward; John H. Brady, Fifteenth ward; James Hopper and James B. Demarest, Sixteenth ward; Seymour A. Bunce and James M. Cross, Eighteenth ward.

DEMOCRATIC CIVIL JUSTICE CONVENTIONS.

First District.—The Convention met at 110 Greenwich street, and unanimously nominated Thomas Stewart.

Second District.—In compliance with the recommendation of Tammany Hall, the delegates in the Second Judicial District, (consisting of the Fourth, Sixth and Fourteenth wards,) met at the Sixth Ward Hotel, in Centre street, last evening. Quite a contest for the nomination occurred between Mr. Charles Sweeney, a well known democratic lawyer of the Fourteenth ward, and Mr. Bartholomew O'Connor, the present incumbent; and although neither of these aspiring gentlemen were present, our reporter was informed by some one in the crowd that Mr. Thomas F. Meagher, who it appears is interested in Mr. O'Connor's election, was invited to go down stairs in a manner quite unbecoming one occupying his position. Mr. H. H. Howard acted as Chairman. On the informal ballot Mr. Sweeney received nine votes and Judge O'Connor six. This result seemed to take all parties by surprise, and the Convention broke up in a general row, to meet, we believe, on Thursday evening next, at the same hour and place. Lively scenes may be expected unless some compromise is made.

Fourth District.—The members of the Convention of the above district assembled at the corner of avenue A and Fourth street, and nominated Anthony Ekoff as Civil Justice. There were two other candidates, who had three and one votes respectively, the remaining eleven being for Mr. Ekoff, whose nomination was subsequently declared unanimous by the Convention.

Fifth District.—The members of the Convention of this district met at 126 Clinton street, for the purpose of nominating a Civil Justice. There were two candidates, and Charles K. Smith was elected by a majority of eight to seven. The election was subsequently declared unanimous.

Sixth District.—The Democratic Convention for the nomination of a Civil Justice for this district met last night at the corner of Thirty-second street and Fourth avenue. The ballots stood as follows:—

	Ballots								
	1st.	2d.	3d.	4th.	5th.	6th.	7th.	8th.	9th.
Robert Livingston	7	7	8	6	5	6	5	6	6
H. P. Carr	6	6	6	7	7	6	7	7	7
Theo. J. Fonda	3	4	3	2	3	3	3	3	2
Wm. E. Robinson	4	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Saml. Vanderheyden	—	—	1	4	4	5	3	3	5

After sitting to a late hour without making a nomination, the Convention adjourned till Friday next, at 7½ P. M.

The Unemployed.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF WORKINGMEN AND THE CENTRAL PARK COMMISSIONERS.

Tompkins square was again deserted yesterday, many of the workingmen having gone up to Central park early in the morning in anticipation of being set to work during the day, as it had generally been understood that several hundred would be set to work at that time. But few, however, out of the large number of applicants have as yet been taken on by the Commissioners, who intend taking on those who are most destitute and deserving first. The Workingmen's Executive Committee were in session at their headquarters, 297 Bowery, during the morning, yesterday, for the purpose of receiving the lists of workingmen from the several wards as taken by the sub-committees during Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The list, up to yesterday morning, comprised the names of about two thousand men.

At the meeting in the morning the subject pertaining to the manner of employing men on the Central park was up for discussion, when, on the suggestion of Messrs. Bowles, Beebe, Gurlman, McGuire and others, it was resolved that the committee should select the names of the most proper persons to be employed, first from the rolls in their possession, and not permit the Central Park Commissioners to exercise their own discretion in the selection of their men, as was at first proposed by them. It was claimed by them that the money for the improvement of the park had been appropriated by the Common Council on behalf of the petition of the workingmen, and therefore they maintained that it was due to them that they be permitted to exercise their own discretion in naming the most proper persons to be set to work, as they held that no persons not connected with the labor movement of the past week or two should be employed by the Commissioners. Mr. Bowles remarked if the Commissioners did not accede to their request he would be in favor of a again heading another labor movement and marching in bodies through the streets of the city, however much he might be personally opposed to rendering himself more conspicuous than he had already done.

After some discussion it was resolved that a private meeting of the committee be held at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of selecting such names as were deemed advisable to present to the Central Park Commissioners.

AFFAIRS IN KANSAS.

A Pro-Slavery Constitution Adopted.

THE CONVENTION REFUSES TO SUBMIT IT TO A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE—THE CONSTITUTION TO BE SENT TO CONGRESS.

[From the Chicago Tribune of Nov. 14.]

We have the proceedings of the Kansas Pro-Slavery Convention, in session to make a constitution, down to last Saturday night, November 7. Thursday, Friday and Saturday were consumed in a fierce debate as to the best method of forcing slavery upon the people of Kansas. There were two propositions before the Convention. 1st. To submit to the people only the slave clause, in this shape:—"Constitution with slavery," "Constitution without slavery." 2d. To send up the constitution to Congress without submitting it at all. The former is called the majority report, the latter the minority report. Calhoun, of Springfield, Illinois, stands chief sponsor for the former, and Jenkins, of Westport, Mo., a native of South Carolina, is put forward as a leader of the extremists.

The Douglas wing of the Convention wanted to submit the slave clause to the people, but not the body of the constitution. The plan is to force the people to vote for the instrument itself, whether they are for it or against it. This constitution legalizes all the laws passed by the bogus Legislature, including the black code, which punishes with death those who oppose slavery.

JOHN RANDOLPH, a blunt, outspoken pro-slavery delegate, representing Atchison county, in the course of debate on Friday, said that he was in favor of the minority report, because he considered the plan of the majority (Calhoun's) a swindle. He was opposed, from principle, to letting the abolitionists and black republicans vote down their constitution, as they would do if they had a chance. What he did he wanted to do openly; he was opposed to stabbing in the dark.

He was followed by MORLEY, of Riley county, who pitched into both reports. He denounced the proposition of the majority as a base attempt to swindle the people, and the minority report as a high handed outrage. He said the Douglasites wanted to slip poison into the free soilers' cup, while the Atchisonites were for blowing out their brains openly, and that was all the difference between them on the slavery question. He then offered a substitute, proposing to submit the whole constitution to all the legal voters, with a proviso requiring every voter to swear to support this constitution, if it should be ratified, the Nebraska bill and the Fugitive Slave law. His substitute was tabled by a large majority.

Col. JENKINS, fugleman for the ultraists, next spoke. He took the broad Southern democratic ground, and claimed that the Convention held the sovereignty, and should decide not to submit the constitution, or any part of it, to the people. He said the public good and the proper equilibrium between the free and slave States required that Kansas should come into the Union as a slave State. He knew it would be received if a slave constitution was sent up to Washington. He said that he had read a letter from President Buchanan to a prominent member of the pro-slavery party in Kansas, to the effect that "the constitution would be received in the form as sent up by the Convention."

Next followed WELLS, of Douglas county, who was opposed to both reports.

Gen. CALHOUN, of Springfield, Ill., made a long speech in favor of the majority report, and of only submitting the slavery clause to the people. He was opposed to giving the "Topekaites" a chance to "vote down our democratic constitution." The majority report would compel the abolitionists to vote for the constitution while they were voting down the slave clause, no matter how repugnant it might be to them. "In this way we have got them tight," said he, "and they can't help themselves." There are several provisions in the body of the instrument which sufficiently protect slave property, which, with the Dred Scott decision, is all that Southern gentlemen should ask. By this means Kansas will come into the Union as a democratic State, like Illinois.

A dozen other speeches were made.

The regular majority report was voted down by 25 to 17. A vote was then taken on the minority report, which provides for sending up the constitution to Congress with its pro-slavery clause, without submitting it to the people at all, which was lost—ayes 23, nays 25.

The Southern members then stormed and raged, and swore they would leave the Hall, never to come back. The Douglasites became alarmed. A motion to reconsider prevailed by ayes 28, nays 20. A motion was next made to table the minority report, which was lost on a tie vote—ayes 24, nays 24. The Southern members again stormed. The final vote was then taken on the adoption of the pro-slavery minority report, and resulted, ayes 26, nays 23. Carried. The ultras then followed up their victory by attempting to put the whole Constitution upon its final passage. After a fierce contest, the Convention adjourned at a late hour to meet at 9 A. M. Monday morning, November 9.

As the matter stood at adjournment, the fire eaters had achieved a signal triumph. A clause had been adopted in the constitution making Kansas forever a slave State, and this constitution was ordered to be sent to Congress without submission to the people in any shape, not even in the swindling form proposed by the Douglasites. We await our next news from that quarter with impatience. The people of Kansas are in a ferment. An explosion may take place at any moment. An extra session of the Legislature is talked of, and also a general convention of the free State party, to decide upon the best policy to pursue in reference to the bogus pro-slavery constitution. The affairs of Kansas are yet far from settled.

Action of the Convention—The Question of Slavery.

[Correspondence of the Chicago Tribune.]

LECOMPTON, KANSAS, Oct. 31, 1857.

The finishing stroke of this monstrous work of iniquity has at last been introduced in the shape of a schedule report. Black, infamous and cunning as have been the various frauds and treacheries perpetrated on the people, they no more come near equalling the scheme now proposed than the light of the moon does the full glare of the noonday's sun. Bitter and bloody as our past has been, the future will see a struggle more intense and desperate in preventing the final consummation of this hellish iniquity. I do not see any peaceful termination to this terrible drama, and for one I cannot bid the strife one moment's delay, if it must come ere our liberty is assured.

The Schedule Committee, consisting of Colonel Jenkins, of Marshall county, chairman; Henderson, of the Leavenworth *Journal;* Hamilton, of Fort Scott; Boling, of Lecompton; and Reid, of the Tecumseh *Note Book*, made reports. Henderson, Boling and Reid signed the majority report, while Jenkins and Hamilton brought in a minority report, apparently more ultra but not so dangerous in reality as the artful scheme now proposed.

This first report legalizes all the past acts of the Territorial Legislature and provides for the security of all vested rights and privileges granted by it. It declares that Legislature to be dead. The Governor, Secretary and other federal officers can remain until superseded by the action of this Convention. It sets aside the 21st day of December next for the submission of the slave clause alone to a vote of the people. By this they mean if we go into the election to entrap us. To fully understand the infernal ingenuity here displayed it is necessary to make some explanations. The ballots will be printed "Constitution with the slave article." If we vote we are thus compelled to vote for the constitution. Whether we do or do not, the constitution will be regarded as ratified and sent up to Congress to be received. It makes no difference as to the prohibition of slavery in Kansas if the slave article is ratified or not. Slavery under the Dred Scott decession and Silliman letter is regarded as existing already in the Territory, and this constitution being silent (should the slave article be stricken out) on the subject, will only give perfect license and free trade to the traffic in flesh and blood. It not being regulated by law it will only come under the general rights of property. This is the position assumed by General Calhoun and the Douglas wing of the Convention. As the executive has recognized this body as the legitimate framer of the constitution, and it is generally argued by the democracy that the Convention alone has a right to decide how and in what manner it shall be submitted, there can be no doubt on our mind that it will be received.

The slave article is merely a regulation prohibiting the emancipation of slaves without the consent of their owners, requiring them to be treated with humanity, &c., and its being voted down will not affect in the least the question of slavery in Kansas.

The report provides that there shall be no change in the constitution for a long term of years, nor without a vote of two-thirds of all the legal voters. It provides a regency for temporary purposes, and makes the President, John Calhoun, the regent of Kansas. He has the power to order an election for State officers and Legislature, and by proclamation convene the General Assembly of the State. He appoints all judges of election in all elections till their regulation by the Legislature; receives all returns, counts the votes, decides who is elected, and issues certificates.

By the adoption of this report Governor Walker is completely deposed, and the power thrown into the still more unscrupulous hands of Calhoun. It remains to be seen whether the federal officials will allow themselves to be decapitated in this summary manner. I think that Walker and Stanton both understood this game, and they will conveniently leave for Washington on business, at this juncture, and never return. It is well understood that Walker starts for the capital as soon as the Convention adjourns. The ostensible reason is his desire to use his personal influence in the removal of Judge Cato, but it is really to carry out the plan which was already fixed upon when he came to Kansas. Like Geary, he will be a victim to the oligarchy, but unlike him, the President will probably give him an ambassadorship or other fat office. Of one thing rest assured—Walker will be no obstacle in the progress of this work. If he really is in earnest in seeking the removal of Cato, and in preventing the reception of the constitution by Congress, as the free State Hunkers claim he is, his appointment will never be confirmed by the Senate, and he will get a long furlough from public life.

The minority report is signed by Jenkins add Hamilton, and the feature in which it differs from the other is simply that it provides in no manner or form for the submission of the constitution, or any part of it, to the people. In all other respects it is similar.

There was an animated debate upon its adoption, and an intense feeling of excitement prevailed. It is understood that Judge Elmore is responsible for the concoction of the infamous plan now before the Convention. This man, with all his pretended conservatism, is the most dangerous member of the Convention. His talent and learning give him great power, and he has used it well for the advancement of party purposes.

This morning an ordinance was submitted to the Convention relative to the public lands, which is one of the most unwarrantable usurpations of the legislative functions yet brought forward. It was a report embodying the main features of that portion of Governor Walker's inaugural relative to the public lands. It assumes that the State or Territory has a right to tax that part of the public domain that is occupied, and offers, in consideration of school, college, railroad and other grants, to remit that privilege. It specifies in what manner these grants shall be disposed of should Congress agree to the proposal. The railroad feature is the most objectionable, as it is purposely designed to cut off the main free State towns, and by the fixing of the line of travel &c., by this Convention, throws the management of it in their own hands. It provides for two trunk roads, provided that Congress grants alternate sections for twelve miles on each side of the road. One road is intended to be part of the Texas, Kansas and Nebraska route from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Galveston, Texas, proposed by Governor Geary last winter. The Kansas branch is to commence, as stated by this report, at a point designated on the northern line to a point on the southern, passing through Lecompton and avoiding nearly all the free State settlements. The other is to have its eastern terminus on the Missouri border, near Westport and Kansas City, (perhaps at the city of Oxford;) and avoiding Lawrence, run to Lecompton, and thence westward to Council Grove, an Indian trading post on the Kaw Reserve, where quite a pro-slavery settlement is already formed. This is the last settlement on the Santa Fe road, and will, for the present, be the western terminus. It is then intended to run it in such a manner as to form a junction with the southern route to the Pacific.

This is the plan proposed by these men, and if the constitution is received, these huge monopolies will be fastened on the people. By the routes thus laid out all Southern Kansas will be cut off from the benefit of railroads. In the debate on the subject it was avowed that the object was to secure the control of the roads themselves, and thus prevent the Yankees having the management of any principal line. One speaker said it was necessary, as a Yankee company had already bought the Pacific Road to Jefferson City, and intended to continue it through Southern Missouri and Southern Kansas, alluding to the proposed route from Jefferson City to Bates, Butler county, Mo., thence through Moneka, Hyatt, Burlington and the Neosho Valley to Emporia. Even were this body not objectionable on the score of a bastard paternity, such an interference with the functions of a Legislature would be a gross usurpation.

THE MORMON ATTACK.

Additional Intelligence from the Troops—How the Wagon Trains were Captured.

We have heretofore given accounts of the destruction of the government trains by the Mormons. Below we give particulars of these affairs, and describing the condition of the United States troops. The intelligence comes from the "Army of Utah" direct:—

[Correspondence of the Cincinnati Enquirer.]

CAMP ON SWEET WATER, Oct. 13, 1857.

An express has just reached us from Grand river bringing news to us as unexpected as it is important; and I avail myself of a halt to give you a succinct statement for the public. The Mormon problem is solved at last. They have seized upon the very first opportunity afforded them of perpetrating an act of war. On the night of the 5th inst., about ten o'clock, they seized and destroyed seventy-eight heavily laden wagons, containing government supplies for the army. The wagons and teams were the property of Messrs. Russell & Waddle, contractors. The trains were some forty miles distant from each other. This proves that there were more than one company of Mormons. My informant says that the notorious "Destroying Angel," Bill Hickman, commanded one, and —— Locksmith the other party, of about eighty men each. One train of twenty-six wagons was destroyed sixty-one miles west of us, and the other, of fifty-two wagons was taken near Green river, thirty miles west of Colonel Alexander's train. There were no soldiers with these trains, and the teamster offered no resistence. For their docility in this respect, the Mormons gave them one wagon and some provisions, with which to make their way back to the States, and burnt the residue. They profess to have between the Devil's Gate on this river, and the Mormon Ford on Green river, seven hundred men under arms.

On hearing of the loss of the trains, Colonel Alexander, who was encamped on Ham's Fork, sent Captain Marcy with four hundred men back to Green river, and enabled the teamsters to collect their cattle and take them on to headquarters. He also sent on a Frenchman to us. On the next day they ordered a Mr. Ficklin, of Captain MacGraw's party, to return and not advance, and assured him that they had two men of McGraw's party prisoners. These were men sent by McGraw on to Salt Lake to buy flour for his pasty.

Our express brought in his mocassin an order from Captain Marcy, which I have been permitted to read, ordering the train to halt until Colonel Smith came up. We have three or four trains, of twenty-six wagons each, up with Colonel Alexander—one a few miles in advance of us and two behind us, and the road is lined with merchants' and sutlers' goods for one hundred miles in our rear.

Col. Alexander has broken up his camp on Ham's Fork and changed his course for the Bear river route, and we are expected to collect and guard these trains to his camp near Soda Springs. There is yet plenty of provisions for us until spring, except forage. We have no corn, hay or oats for our animals, and must rely upon grass. This the devil saints may burn, unless the snow prevents it, and then our mules can profit little by it. Our force, rank and file, is about sixty-five men; but I am informed the teamsters will be armed to-morrow with rifles, and made to stand guard over their train by night. Our expressman believes we shall have to fight for our trains in a day or two more, and it may be so. If attacked, Col. Smith will fight to the last. There will be no surrender. Col. Chapman, an old veteran in war, Lieutenant Elwood and Kinsel and Judge Eckels, and Brown and Mr. McCormick, are with us, and will all use the rifle, if necessary. We shall do our duty. Will the people of the States do theirs? I believe they will send us men and supplies soon. California could give us soldiers even in winter.

I think the Mormons will attempt to emigrate in the spring to the Sandwich Islands or Vancouver. Let a close look out be kept for them.

This is no camp news. It is reliable, I believe. I regret I cannot write more particularly.

No civil appointee except Morel, Postmaster, and Judge Eckels of Indiana, have come on thus far, as yet. When Gen. Harney and Gov. Cummings will come, no one knows. We shall go on tomorrow, come what may; and with or without orders, if any party attacks Col. Smith, you will hear a good report of him and his gallant little band. He will fight.

A letter from Fort Laramie, Oct. 22, says:—

Brigham Young informed Col. Alexander, by express, that he must not advance further into the Territory. Col. Johnson is collecting the trains all together at the South Pass to escort them in. The 2nd dragoons will be here tomorrow.

The St. Louis *Republican* of the 11th has the following:—

Col. Johnson was last hears from two hundred and thirty miles beyond Fort Laramie, and snow was seven inches deep one hundred miles this side of where the express had left him. Owing to the slim supply of corn and the entire absence of grass the teams of the entire command and the horses of the 2d dragoons were failing rapidly.

News had reached Daramie that the Mormons had burnt three government trains (seventy-five wagons) near Great river, ninety miles behind Col. Alexander's command (the 10th infantry), which constituted the vanguard of the army. It was rumored that the 10th and 5th infantry and the batteries of artillery would go over and take possession of a Mormon village on Bear river for winter quarters.

It is said that the drogoons had a month's supply of corn, at half allowance, but not a particle of grass. With snow on the ground at that, it seems like madness for them to proceed beyond Laramie—certainly such a step could only be justified in view of the prospect of actual hostilities this winter, of which no one at this distance can judge.

There was probably never before any portion of our army subjected to such privations, and to whom the future presents such a gloomy picture as is the case at present with the army for Utah.

We doubt if Col. Johnston will be able, when his whole force is concentrated, to muster over one thousand men for duty. Such an army, so far from the base line, is too small to cope long with a vigorous resistance.

Meeting for the Relief of the Poor of Williamsburg.

A meeting of the citizens of the Eastern district was held last evening, at Washington Hall, corner of Fourth and South Seventh streets, to adopt measures for relieving the unemployed poor during the present winter. Owing, probably, to the unfavorable state of the weather, there were only about two hundred persons present; and Mr. Joseph H. Adams was appointed secretary.

After some conversation, a motion was made and adopted to appoint a committee to prepare a plan for effectually carrying out the objects of the meeting, and to report the same for action on Wednesday evening next. Messrs. George H. Andrews, Wm. H. Bulkley, George Field and George C. Hoyt were appointed such committee.

The resolution to adjourn was then rescinded, and a discussion arose, and suggestions were made as to the most feasible plan of affording the contemplated relief.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not consider that the object was so much to assist those who annually call upon the Superintendents of the Poor, but to assist those who have been reduced to want, perhaps for the first time, in consequence of the depression of the times, which had come on so sudden and unexpectedly. He supposed that it was the intention to appoint ward committees, whose duty it should be to search out this class of persons, and make their wants known. He said that this fall there were about 350 less female commuters at the ferry than formerly, owing undoubtedly to their having been thrown out of employment in New York.

Mr. GEORGE H. ANDREWS said that they could not well present any plan of operations until it was known whether they were to have large or small means. He invited all who had suggestions to make, to put them in writing, and forward them to Mr. Field for the action of the committee; and he also proposed that the meeting resolve themselves into a committee of the whole and solicit subscriptions to be handed in to the meeting on Wednesday evening.

Mr. WALL announced that the Fifth district police (Thirteenth and Fourteenth wards) had sent in a subscription amounting to $75.

The meeting was then adjourned to Wednesday evening, at which time the committee will present their report for relieving the poor, to be acted upon by the meeting.

MARITIME INTELLIGENCE.

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN RISES	6 49	MOON SETS	eve 4 57
SUN SETS	4 41	HIGH WATER	eve 9 33

Port of New York, November 16, 1857.

CLEARED.

Ship Columbia, Hutchinson, Liverpool—C H Marshall & Co.
Ship Fairfield, Hathaway, Charleston—Geo Bulkley.
Bark M B Harriman, Davis, Glasgow—Laytin & Hurlbut.
Bark Maraval, Griffing, West Indies—T Dwight.
Bark Restless, Lothrop, St Martha—Everett & Brown.
Brig Caroline, Whiteberry, Aspinwall—Panama Railroad Co.
Brig Poconocket, Teague, St Pierre, Mart—R P Buck & Co.
Brig Winthrop, Bearse, Savanilla, &c—Everett & Brown.
Brig River Belle (Br), Holmes, Arroya, PR—D R DeWolf.
Brig Triumph (Br), Atkinson, Monkton—P I Nevius & Son.
Brig S G Adams, Drisko, Norfolk—Brett, Son & Co.
Schr Viola, Treworgy, Cienfuegos—C & E J Peters.
Schr Alma (Br), Curry, Cornwallis—D R DeWolf.
Schr Passport, Hawkins, Indianola—J H Brower & Co.
Schr Mobile, Howe, Mobile—N H Brigham.
Schr J W Hughes, Howard, Newbern—Davis & Holmes.
Schr Leroy, Osborn, Norfolk—Sturges & Clearman.
Schr Horace, Gibbs, Franklin—Master.
Schr M Farnsworth, Everett, Gardiner—G L Hatch & Co.
Schr Cornelia, Russell, New Bedford—Master.
Schr Arab, Howard, Middleton—Demill & Co.
Steamer H B Beach, Ramsey, Baltimore.

ARRIVED.

Steamship City of Washington (Br), Petrie, Liverpool, Nov 4, with mdse and passeng