his admiration of the letter of the Secretary of State. He thought that in this matter the Secretary of State had been almost as fortunate as Capt. Ingraham, and that as his rescue of Koszta would forever remain a proud act in our naval history, so he believed that the letter of the Secretary of State would be regarded as inaugurating a new era in American diplomacy. He made these remarks that he might not be considered as having evaded a direct expression of opinion upon the sentiments of that letter.

The resolution as originally introduced was simply a vote of thanks to Capt. Ingraham, and the officers and men under his command, for their gallant conduct in asserting and protecting the right of American citizenship, native and adopted. When the resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs their desire was to respond at once to a proposition which expressed, as the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PHILLIPS) had said, the sentiment of the national heart. The committee considered that the resolution contained two objects: first, it was designed to compliment, in just and proper terms, Capt. Ingraham; and, secondly, to nationalize an act which, as far as an individual act could, had reflected so much credit upon our country. The committee had not before them the President's message, nor the correspondence of the Secretary of State, nor the correspondence called for in the resolution which he had asked consent to offer. They considered, however, that as the gentleman from New York (Mr. DEAN) had disclaimed all party purposes in introducing the resolution, and as the name of Mr. Marcy was not mentioned nor the President referred to in it, it should be what the gentleman from Alabama wished it to be, a response to that great national heart which had been stirred, as the gentleman had told them, to its utmost depth. They thought they could best give this response by a prompt and unanimous reply to the resolution, and therefore brought before the House a resolution framed in such manner as to receive the unanimous approbation of a committee composed of both Whigs and Democrats.

Mr. P. then contended that the substitute reported by the committee was more complimentary to Capt. Ingraham than the original resolution, and instanced the only cases in which the thanks of Congress had been given to officers of the navy, viz. in 1804 to Capt. Preble; in 1813 to Capts. Perry and Elliott; and in 1814 to Capt. Macdonough.

Although he had spoken his approval of the letter of the Secretary of State, yet he did not admit that it contained any new principle. He believed its merit was in the forcible statement, on a highly proper occasion, of a great principle of international law which had been permitted to slumber too long in our law books. He concurred with the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BAYLY) that it was time this sentiment should be distinctly announced. In his (Mr. P.'s) opinion this Government had acquiesced long enough in the European interpretation of the laws of nations. For the last fifty years these laws had been too much construed to suit the interests of particular dynasties. They were, at the present time, but little more than conventional in character, for the protection of existing institutions in Europe, and interpreted always against the rights of the individual and in behalf of the Government.

He thought the time had come for this country to declare its independence of a code which was so framed as to justify tyranny in almost all its forms—of a code which had in a great measure become simply a screen for the commission of national crimes. He believed that if we should declare our independence of it, the act would be attended with moral results almost equal with those that attended the establishment of our colonial independence.

In conclusion, he highly lauded the conduct of Capt. Ingraham, and declared that the rescue of Koszta, with all its bearings, with all the inferences and with all the consequences foreign nations might draw from it, should be endorsed as it stood.

Mr. DISNEY said that, when this resolution was before the House the other day, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HILLYER) remarked that the world would not only pay attention to the passage of the resolution itself, but would also examine the various grounds urged in favor of it before the House. He considered that there was much truth in this remark, and had it not been that during this discussion some opinions had been expressed from which he dissented, he should not have participated in the debate.

He believed it was conceded on all hands that the thanks of Congress were justly due Capt. Ingraham for his gallant conduct; and the only difference of opinion, as he understood it, was as regarded the reasons upon which his act was based. He believed that every gentleman was prepared to go to the extent of the resolution reported by the committee; and in its examination he must confess that he could perceive no distinctive difference between it and the one suggested by the gentleman from Alabama, (Mr. PHILLIPS.) The one under consideration proposed the thanks of Congress to Capt. Ingraham for his judicious and gallant conduct in extending the protection of the American flag to Martin Koszta under the facts of the case, without any limitation. Nay, more: it went further, for it declared that the seizure of Koszta was illegal. What more could gentlemen ask? He repeated, he saw no substantial difference between the resolution as it now stood and the amendment suggested by the gentleman from Alabama, (Mr. PHILLIPS.)

Mr. D. then at length expressed his views on the letter of Mr. Marcy, which he declared contained principles to which he could not yield his assent.

Mr. PRESTON followed, and advocated the substitute reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs. He did not believe it was open to the criticisms of the gentleman from Alabama, who desired it more definitive, nor open to the many criticisms levelled at it by the gentleman from Ohio, who had just taken his seat. The resolution was a sort of Baltimore platform, upon which every member of the House could stand without committing himself to any particular principle.

He then argued in justification of the seizure of Koszta, and hoped that this country would stand up to the doctrine asserted by the Secretacy of State so long as our statutes should remain as they were. He, as a Whig, was glad the Secretary had written this letter, which he believed to be in accordance with American law, and had no doubt that it would hold out a hope to the alien amongst us which would make him feel prouder and more secure as he should go to foreign lands; and the readiness with which Austria, notwithstanding the preliminary difficulties which embarrassed this question, yielded to it, showed that America had not asked too much. As we had gone thus far, our course should be onward. We should take no step backward from the position we had taken, but should firmly maintain it against all the Powers of the world.

Mr. CLINGMAN demanded the previous question; which was seconded.

Mr. DEAN, taking advantage of the privilege allowed the member reporting the measure under consideration to close the debate thereon, next addressed the House in favor of the substitute for the resolution originally introduced by him. He said that he offered the resolution the very day that the President's message was sent to the House, in which the President informed them that, after mature deliberation, the Government had approved the conduct of Captain Ingraham. He was anxious that the same mail that carried forth this declaration to all parts of the country should also bear the tidings that the Congress of the United States, another branch of the Government, had also approved his conduct as emphatically as the President. He cared not in what particular language that information was conveyed to the world. The people, in looking at this vote of thanks and this presentation of a medal, would regard the fact, and not the particular phraseology. They would not dispute about the words, but would see that their Representatives in Congress assembled had deliberately approved of that which they themselves had so emphatically endorsed.

He desired to say that the object of this resolution was not merely to pay a personal compliment to Capt. Ingraham, although that was included. That compliment had been paid not only by this Government, but by all the world. We must do something more. We are to declare a principle, and to say, in approving of his conduct, that we approve it in the light of its surrounding circumstances. We had now reached an elevated position among the family of nations. We had now the power to take our own position, and it was time that we should have something to say in reference to international law. By this resolution we had taken a new departure, we had declared new principles, and it was proper that these principles should be carried out to their results.

Mr. D. then contended that the resolution contained three distinct propositions: first, the right of a man to expatriate himself, and to chose his own place of residence; second, the right of this Government to afford protection to such persons as choose to come here and adopt it as their place of residence; and, third, the approval by Congress of the act of Capt. Ingraham, and of Secretary Marcy in sustaining him. He hoped that if any gentleman was not prepared to assume these positions, he would vote against the resolution. He believed the time had come when we must take them. The Government had already adopted them. In conclusion, he replied to objections urged against the substitute.

Mr. CUMMING, in the course of Mr. DEAN's remarks, explained that he intended to vote for the resolution, though he could not consider for one moment that this compliment should go forth to the world as an exposition of a great principle, as the gentleman had called it.

The question was then taken on the motion heretofore made to commit the resolution to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and it was disagreed to: Yeas 30, nays 153.

The question then recurred on the amendment of Mr. PHILLIPS, accepted by Mr. BARRY in lieu of the one submitted by him when the subject was last under consideration, and it was rejected.

The question was then taken on the substitute proposed by the committee, as published under our editorial head of Thursday, and it was agreed to.

The resolution as thus amended was then read the third time and passed: Yeas 174, nays 9.

PRINTING OF THE CENSUS.

Mr. STANTON, of Kentucky, from the Committee on Printing, to which was referred various resolutions for printing extra copies of the returns of the seventh census, made a report thereon, accompanied by a resolution providing for the printing of fifty thousand copies of a compendium of the census, embracing certain specified statistics.

A brief debate ensued, when, without taking the question on the resolution,

The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1854.

IN SENATE.

The PRESIDENT of the Senate laid before the body a communication from the Secretary of War, made in compliance with a resolution of the 4th instant, calling for the report of the commissioners who examined the different sites for a military asylum in the West; which, on motion of Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, was ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

[The report of Gen. Twiggs and Surgeon Gen. Lawson, dated the 4th May, 1853, says that "Harrodsburg Springs is manifestly the most desirable place, and withal comparatively the cheapest that has been examined; the ground, buildings, and other improvements, all in excellent repair, being offered at fifty or seventy-five per cent. less than they cost, and a hundred per cent. less than we could at this time prepare a new place, giving the same amount of splendid accommodations for the purposes of the Western Military Asylum."

The report of Gen. Jesup, dated Cincinnati, Ohio, April 20, 1853, says: "The improvements at the Harrodsburg Springs surpass those at any other watering place which I have ever seen in any other part of the United States. The country is proverbially healthy, and, were the place a little more accessible, it would be in all respects a most eligible position for an asylum." Gen. J. says, however, that $22,000 is the utmost value of the same for any purpose of the Government, and goes on further to state that, if they decide to place a branch asylum in the State of Ohio, he would prefer North Bend, the residence of the late Gen. Harrison; and recommends that, if a majority of the board decide that the establishment should be north of the river, one or two hundred acres of Gen. Harrison's farm be purchased, and the work be commenced as soon as means will admit. He concludes his report by saying that, being well acquainted with the "Yellow Springs," he did not visit them, as from his own knowledge of the same he would unhesitatingly report against them; that, if they go as far north, the public owns a much better place, viz. Rock Island, on the Mississippi, where a large town is growing up on each side of it, with quarters enough to begin with; and, were they to establish a branch asylum there, they might combine with it a large establishment of land transports for the army, such as wagons, ambulances, travelling forges, &c., as well as clothing and tents.]

MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS.

The following memorials and petitions were presented and appropriately referred:

By Mr. COOPER: From Charles Morgan, of New York, President of the Accessory Transit Company, asking that the company may be authorized by special enactment to hold titles to any steamers or ships that may be necessary to enable said company to transport passengers and freight between the ports of the Atlantic and those of the Pacific Ocean.

By Mr. BRIGHT: From citizens of Georgetown, asking an appropriation for the purchase of a site and the erection of a custom-house for the District of Columbia.

[The memorialists say that the receipts from customs at Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, have amounted in the last five years to $883,400 and a fraction, and that, notwithstanding the amount has been so large, the Government has failed to accommodate the District with a custom-house or any other building suitable for that purpose. They give the gross revenue received, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853, at the districts of Delaware and Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, by way of contrast; that of Delaware amounts to $750 69, that of Georgetown to $21,375 47.]

By Mr. HAMLIN: From citizens of Belfast, Maine, asking an appropriation for the erection of a custom-house at that port, on the ground that the custom-house records and the moneys collected for the United States are necessarily kept in a building having no peculiar protection from fire, and are consequently liable to injury and loss.

By Mr. DODGE, of Iowa: From citizens of Iowa, asking a donation of land to aid in the construction of the Fort Madison, West Point, Keosauqua, and Bloomfield Railroad.

By Mr. DODGE, of Wisconsin: From the commissioners appointed by the State to locate and select saline lands in that State, asking the relinquishment to the State for the benefit of the University of Wisconsin of certain sal springs and lands.

By Mr. WALKER: From the La Cross and Milwaukie Railroad Company, asking a grant of land to aid in the construction of the railroad.

By Mr. CHASE: From citizens of New York, asking that slavery and the slave trade may be prohibited in the territories of the United States.

Mr. C. said this petition contained many names well known to the Senate, among whom were John Jay, grandson of the illustrious John Jay, and John P. Hale, formerly of this Hall. The petition ought to go to the Committee on Territories; but, as he was well aware that committee would report against it, he would let it lie on the table, and take some future occasion to call it up and move its reference to a select committee. The petition was laid on the table.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. GWIN, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred the bill for the relief of M. K. Warrington and C. St. J. Chubb, executors of Capt. Lewis Warrington, reported back the same without amendment.

Also, from the same committee, a bill for the relief of the widows of officers and seamen of the United States schooner Grampus, who were lost in that vessel near the coast of the United States.

Mr. Allen, from the Committee on Pensions, made adverse reports in writing on the petitions of Alexander Waugn, Wm. Bonner, and Catherine M. Weaver.

Also, from the same committee, a bill for the relief of Moses Olmstead.

Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Commerce, to which was referred the bill to provide for the establishment of a marine hospital at St. Marks, in the State of Florida, reported back the same without amendment, and recommended its passage.

Also, from the same committee, a bill making Brunswick, in the State of Georgia, a port of entry, and for other purposes.

Mr. MALLORY, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of Sam. Mickum.

Also, from the same committee, a bill for the relief of Thomas Pember.

Mr. FISH, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of the captors of the frigate Philadelphia.

Also, from the same, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the memorial of Wm. Ballard; which was also agreed to.

RESOLUTION AGREED TO.

On motion by Mr. BELL,

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the Senate, if in his judgment not incompatible with the public interest, copies of the correspondence between the Legation of the United States and the Government of Chili in relation to the impressment or forcible abduction of four seamen from the United States whale ship Addison, in the port of Valparaiso, in October, 1850. And also in the case of Wm. A. Stewart, an American citizen who was imprisoned at Valparaiso on a charge of murder, and, on conviction, was released by the Chilian authorities.

HOUSE BILLS REFERRED.

The following bills from the House of Representatives were read and referred to appropriate committees:

A joint resolution of thanks of Congress and the presentation of a medal to Capt. Duncan N. Ingraham.

An act for the relief of Lewis B. Willis, late a paymaster in the army of the United States.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of Isaac P. Simonton.

An act for the relief of Wm. Blake.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a letter from the Secretary of the Navy in answer to the resolution of the House of the 3d January, calling for "the correspondence and various orders which have been issued during the past year to officers of the navy commanding vessels or squadrons on the Atlantic coast of British North America, for the purpose of protecting the rights of fishing and navigation secured to citizens of the United States under the treaties with Great Britain." Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Also, a communication from the Post Office Department, transmitting a report of fines imposed, deductions from pay of contractors, names of delinquent contractors, &c. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

PRINTING OF THE CENSUS.

The House then resumed the consideration of the following resolution, reported yesterday by Mr. STANTON, of Kentucky, from the Committee on Printing:

Resolved, That there be printed for the use of the House of Representatives, by the public printer of the House, fifty thousand copies of a Compendium of the Seventh Census, to be arranged by the Superintendent of the Census, embracing the population by towns and counties; the ratio tables of population; tables of nativities, births, marriages, and deaths; of the deaf, dumb, blind, insane, and idiotic; of schools and colleges; of aggregates of occupations; of churches; of newspapers and libraries; and of agricultural products, with illustrative notes and comparative tables: *Provided*, The said Compendium shall be printed in royal octavo form, and not exceed four hundred pages.

Mr. MEACHAM moved to increase the number of copies to be printed to one hundred thousand, stating that the object he had in view was to give this document to all the people of the land. These statistics had been collected at the expense of the people, at a cost of some million and a half of dollars. They had now been gathered into one great reservoir, and his impression was that they should be distributed in such manner as would make them accessible to every man in the country. Although the number of voters was now probably over four millions, yet these statistics could be made accessible to them all by being deposited in some well known places in the various States and Territories.

Mr. EASTMAN opposed the resolution, on the ground that the volume of statistics last published was full of errors, and instanced the returns from his own district as proof of the correctness of this assertion. He was unwilling that such errors should be disseminated throughout the land, and, according to the old adage, if we could not have too much of a good thing, we could not have too little of a bad thing.

Mr. BISSELL admitted that it was very likely that there were errors in the census report, and to expect that such a document would ever be issued in this or any other country without errors was in his opinion absurd. His own opinion was that this was as correct a document as they had ever had or need ever expect to get. It contained statistics of this country which laid at the foundation of its greatness, its prosperity, and its glory; and he desired every man who was in the habit of priding himself upon these things, who gloried in the prosperity of his country, to be able to give a reason for the faith that was in him. He wished the document condensed in such form as would bring it within the comprehension of all men of ordinary understanding, and then liberally distributed throughout the country in every town, hamlet, and neighborhood. He was sure the country, which sometimes had good reason to complain of the extravagance of printing, would not complain of such a course.

Mr. STRAUB desired to know if it was contemplated to insert in the work now proposed to be published the mineral productions of the country? These were entirely omitted in the last work, and if it was not now contemplated to insert them, he for one could not support the resolution.

Mr. SKELTON advocated the amendment proposed by Mr. MEACHAM, believing that this was a document which should be printed and circulated to the largest extent throughout the country. While he was opposed to extravagance in the expenditures of the Government; while he was opposed to the distribution of books to members in any shape or form, yet he was in favor of disseminating among the people the largest amount of intelligence consistent with the public interest. It was a mistaken opinion to suppose that an expenditure of thirty or sixty thousand dollars by the Government for the purpose of disseminating information and intelligence among the masses of the people was a bad one. He believed such an expenditure would be returned in the way of the prosperity of the country an hundred fold.

Mr. FLORENCE also spoke in favor of the amendment, and embraced the occasion to explain that severe indisposition prevented him from attending the House yesterday. He stated that had he been present he would have voted with the majority on the resolution complimentary to Capt. Ingraham.

Mr. HAMILTON moved to lay the resolution on the table; which was negatived.

The amendment of Mr. MEACHAM was then agreed to, under the operation of the previous question, by a vote of 114 yeas to 64 nays, and the resolution, as thus amended, adopted.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. HENDRICKS, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, reported the following bills, which were severally read twice and committed:

A bill for the relief of Henry N. Halstead.

A bill for the relief of Benjamin Hammond, of the State of New York.

A bill for the relief of Henry J. Snow, of Rome, of the State of New York.

A bill for the relief of Charles Staples.

Also, from the same committee, made adverse reports on the petitions of Bela Sprague, of New York, of Dudley F. Holt, of Anthony Walton Bayard, of Samuel C. Dickinson, and of Lieut. Edward Springer.

Mr. SUTART, of Ohio, from the same committee, reported the following bills, which were severelly read twice and committed:

A bill for the relief of Lemuel Hudson.

A bill for the relief Harriet Leavenworth, widow of the late Brevet Brig. Gen. Leavenworth.

A bill for the relief of George S. Claflin.

A bill for relief of James F. Green.

Also, from the same committee, made adverse reports on the petitions of Margaret C. Hanson, of Joshua Lewis, of John Gallagher, of Fielding G. Brown, of the daughters of Gen. Solomon Van Rensselaer, deceased, of Josiah Martin, of Elijah Armstrong, of the legal representatives of Samuel J. Smith, deceased, and of R. R. Platt.

Mr. EDMANDS, from the same committee, reported the following bills, which were read twice and committed:

A bill for the relief of Thomas Frazer.

A bill for the relief of Cornelius H. Latham.

A bill for the relief of Samuel W. Brady.

Also, from the same committee, made adverse reports on the petitions of Cotton Murry, of the widow of Wm. Flora, of Jacob Sailor, of James Shorey, of Levi M. Roberts, of Holly Guile, of Cephas Chase, and of Reuben Cahoon.

Mr. VAIL, from the same committee, made adverse reports on the petitions of Henry Miller, of the heirs of Robert Henry Dyer, of Abraham Pettengill, of Daniel Hager, jr., of Parkison Mitchell, and of Robt. Stevenson.

Mr. TWEED, from the same committee, made adverse reports on the petitions of Aaron Tucker, of Maine; of George Babcock, of Michigan; of Thomas B. Harvey, and of John Baird.

Mr. HOUSTON, from the Committee of Ways and Means, to which was referred the bill of the Senate to regulate the disbursement of the contingent fund of the Senate, and for other purposes, reported the same back with sundry amendments.

A debate of considerable length ensued, (involving mainly the question whether it was proper for the House to interfere with the Senate in the administration of its contingent fund and the mode of paying its members,) when the question was taken, and the various amendments severally concurred in.

The bill was then read the third time and passed: Yeas 113, nays 52.

The House then adjourned.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1854.

Mr. DRUM asked the unanimous consent of the House to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing by law the Secretary of the Navy to equip and maintain three public vessels at the harbors of Boston, New York, and Norfolk, respectively, which shall, in case of disaster to the commercial marine of the country, or of other exigencies requiring aid from the Navy Department, be at all times in a condition to act promptly under the orders of the Department.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, objected.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Fridays and Saturdays being set apart for the consideration of private business, the House proceeded to consider private bills from the Senate on the Speaker's table, when the following were severally read twice and referred to appropriate committees:

A bill for the relief of Joseph Mitchell.

A joint resolution for the relief of George R. C. Floyd, late Secretary of Wisconsin Territory, and sureties.

A bill for the relief of Priscilla C. Simonds.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. MACE, from the Committee of Claims, to which was referred Senate bill for the relief of Joseph Girard, reported the same back without amendment, and it was committed.

Mr. GIDDINGS, from the same committee, made an adverse report on the petition of Capt. Francis Allyn and the owners of the ship "Cadmus."

Mr. FULLER, from the Committee on Commerce, to which was referred Senate bill changing the name of the American-built steamer "Falcon" to that of Queen City," reported the same back without amendment, and it was read the third time and passed.

Mr. MORRISON, from the same committee, made an adverse report on the petition of the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company of Baltimore.

CALIFORNIA LAND BOARD.

Mr. LATHAM, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred Senate bill to continue in force the act entitled "An act to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California, and for other purposes," reported the same back without amendment.

Mr. L. asked that the bill might now be put on its passage. He explained that the act creating the California land board was passed by Congress in the spring of 1851, but the commission itself was never organized until some time in January, 1852. By the spring of that year there were between eight hundred and nine hundred claims filed by persons in California, involving something over eleven millions of acres of land within the limits of that State. The commission had been in continued session from that time up to the present period, and had disposed of about three hundred cases. Some two hundred had been argued and submittted to the board, and as yet remained undecided. The bill before the House simply provided for the continuance of the commission for one year, in order that it might complete the business already before it. A large number of cases had gone to the United States District Court and had come to the Supreme Court of the country. It was essential that this bill should be passed before the 20th of this month, as the next steamer for California sailed at that time, and would not arrive there, even if it should have the best of weather, until some time early in March, on the 3d day of which month the commission by law expired. If the bill should take the ordinary course of legislation, it would be impossible to reach it before the sailing of the next steamer; and the result would be that the commission would have expired and a great loss would have ensued both to the country and the claimants who had already filed their claims.

There being no objection to the present consideration of the bill, it was read the third time and passed.

HOMESTEAD BILL.

Mr. COBB, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred House bill to encourage agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and all other branches of industry, by granting every man who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land out of the public domain, upon condition of occupancy and cultivation of the same for the period therein specified, and to graduate and reduce the price of the public lands, reported the same back with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, in which that part of the bill relating to graduating and reducing the price of the public lands is omitted.

Mr. COBB desired to make one suggestion before the bill should pass out of his hands. It was an important measure, one in which the whole country felt a deep interest. Now, the question was, should its friends put it in a condition in which Congress could act upon it, or should they permit it to go on the calendar, where it never could or would be reached? He desired to make this suggestion: that this bill should be made the special order for the second Tuesday in February next and be printed, in order that every member might then be able to examine the subject and make his own conclusions as to the propriety of its passage. He hoped there would be no objection to the course he had proposed.

Mr. CLINGMAN objected.

The bill and amendments were then referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. C., from the Committee on Public Lands, then also reported a bill to reduce and graduate the price of the public lands; which was read twice and committed.

RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP TO CHILDREN.

Mr. CUTTING, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to secure the rights of citizenship to children of citizens of the United States born out of the limits thereof; which was read twice.

Mr. C. said that the bill was evidently necessary in order to correct a lamentable defect in the laws as they now existed. He was convinced that the sense of justice, the sympathies of the House, its patriotic sentiment, would at once concur with him in saying that the bill deserved the immediate action of the House. He explained the legislation that was necessary for the protection of children of citizens of the United States born out of its limits, and in conclusion earnestly appealed to the House to allow the bill to be now acted on.

The bill was thereupon read the third time and passed.

OTHER REPORTS.

Mr. STANTON, of Tennessee, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill for the relief of Robert G. Ward; which was read twice and committed.

Also, from the same committee, to which was referred House bill to amend an act entitled "An act to divide the State of Arkansas into two judicial districts," approved March 3d, 1851, reported the same back with an amendment.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill read the third time and passed.

Also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the Senate concerning the district courts of the United States in California, reported the same back without amendment.

A brief debate ensued, and pending the question on the third reading of the bill, (the morning hour having expired)—

Mr. HILLYER moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar; which was negatived: Ayes 67, noes 90.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. ORR, of South Carolina, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the President's annual message to Congress.

Mr. EWING addressed the committee on that part of the President's message referring to rivers and harbors, and which recommends the levy of tonnage duties upon domestic commerce for river and harbor improvements, in lieu of the present system of appropriation upon the part of the Federal Government for such purposes. He contended that the system suggested by the President was one of at least doubtful constitutionality, and that the President, and a distinguished Senator (Mr. DOUGLAS) who advocated during the last Congress the same plan, in their apprehension about the unconstitutionality of certain appropriations under the existing system, had proposed, in their unnecessary retreat from the influence of these apprehensions, a measure still more open to objections of unconstitutionality. He also argued to show that the system heretofore pursued was not of doubtful constitutionality, but that it was, notwithstanding the declaration of the Senator to whom he had referred that he desired to introduce no innovation into the legislation of the country, a new, unjust, and intolerable system of taxation, against which he must apprehend the section of country from which he came would revolt.

Mr. KEITT then obtained the floor, when

The committee rose.

On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, the House then proceeded to consider the business on the Speaker's table.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The SPEAKER stated that the first business in order was the further consideration of the bill of the Senate prescribing the manner of appointing the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, (which provides that immediately after the passage thereof the said officer shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;) the question being on the following substitute offered by Mr. ORR, upon which was pending the demand for the previous question:

"That hereafter, as the office of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury shall be vacated, the appointment of his successor shall be made by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate."

The previous question was seconded, and under the operation thereof the amendment was agreed to: Yeas 96, nays 70.

After two ineffectual attempts to adjourn, the bill was read the third time and disagreed to, by the following vote: Yeas 70, nays 107.

Mr. MACDONALD moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and also moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Mr. STANTON, of Tennessee, demanded the yeas and nays on the motion; which were ordered.

Mr. McMULLEN moved that the House adjourn; which was negatived: Ayes 71, noes 82.

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, moved that there be a call of the House, stating that he desired a full vote.

The yeas and nays were demanded and ordered on this motion, when—

Mr. STANTON, of Tennessee, moved that the House adjourn, which was not agreed to: Ayes 77, noes 79.

The question was then taken on the motion that there be a call of the House, and it was decided in the negative: Yeas 32, nays 128.

Mr. SAPP moved that the House adjourn; which motion was disagreed to.

The question was then taken on the motion to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, and it was decided in the affirmative: Yeas 106, nays 30.

The House then adjourned until Monday next, for the purpose, as was stated, of enabling the Doorkeeper to adjust the gas fixtures about the hall, so as to make it tolerable and healthful.

SENSIBLE HOGS.—Some years ago I made a visit in the Bay of Fundy, and, finding a cozy place there quite to my mind, I spent a week or more in that vicinity. Whilst there I had occasion to notice the movements of sundry hogs who came down to the beach at low tide to feed upon the clams which abound in the sand. You are aware that the tide rises thirty or forty feet in that part of the country. The consequence is that it must come and recede very rapidly; so swift indeed does it rise that cattle unacquainted with the state of things not unfrequently get overtaken by the water and are drowned. The old hogs in those parts, however, get accustomed to the tide. They find out not only that it "waits for no man," but that it waits for no hog. One day while I was on the beach I saw a regiment of hogs as busy as they could be rooting for clams and feasting on them. Watching them carefully, I could not help noticing that several of their number ever and anon placed one ear in the attitude of listening. They would remain in that position a moment or two, and then go on digging clams. At length one cunning old fellow, after listening an instant, uttered that well-known note of alarm, and off he and the whole regiment ran at the top of their speed out of the reach of the tide. When I placed my ear near the ground, as the hogs did, I discovered what they discovered, and what I did not know before, the roar of the tide coming in, and I found it necessary to retreat about as speedily as they had done. What do you think of that reader?

[*Youth's Cabinet.*

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

It is stated in the Charleston papers that clay adapted for the manufacture of porcelain is abundant at Graniteville, on the Charleston and Hamburg Railroad, and that, in view of encouraging a new branch of industry, the Graniteville Company have granted the exclusive privilege of using the clay on their extensive property to the Porcelain Manufacturing Company of Bennington, (Vt.) upon the condition that it shall be worked upon the spot. This condition has been accepted, and operations will be commenced in the spring.

The Hon. THOMAS GREENLEAF died on Thursday, at his residence in Quincy, (Mass.) at the age of 86 years. He was a graduate at Harvard College in the year 1784, and for upwards of six years has been the only survivor of his class.

The recent snow storm extended as far south as Selma, (Ala.) as appears by a paragraph in the Sentinel, published at that place. As it extended north to Boston and Portland, and west to Chicago, this was decidedly the most wide-spread and national storm we have had for years.

The butchers of Pittsburg "struck" last week against the high rents demanded for stalls in the Diamond market-house of that city, and refuse to occupy the stalls or permit others to do so.

A fire in Ogdensburg (N. Y.) on Thursday last entirely destroyed a wooden block of ten stores. Loss $20,700.

The Collins mail-steamer Pacific left New York on Saturday for Liverpool with sixty-one passengers and $271,000 in specie.

The New York Commercial Advertiser of Saturday evening says: "We find telegraphed from New York to the Rochester Union a statement that Mr. Edwin Croswell suffered a severe attack of paralysis on Wednesday night, and that his illness is alarming. We have not heard of this."

The next steamer from New York for Bremen will be on Saturday, the 28th of January.

The new ocean steamship Nashville is to take the place of the Humboldt on the New York and Havre line. She is of 1,800 tons burden, and will depart from New York for Havre on Saturday next.

A man in Wisconsin who recently inserted a long advertisement in the papers, offering his farm for sale, closed it in the following sublimely ridiculous style: "The surrounding country is the most beautiful the God of nature ever made. The scenery is celestial, divine; also, two wagons to sell and a yoke of steers."

The schooner Lucy Ann, Shannon, from Philadelphia for this city, (Washington,) with coal, was sunk on the 25th of December, off Cape Henry, bearing W. S. W. thirty-five miles. Vessel and cargo total loss. The crew took to the boats, and were picked up by schooner Washington, Capt. Morris, of Suffolk, Virginia, with great risk of life.

What is called the "woman's bill" has been defeated in the Georgia Legislature. The Columbia Times says "it was simply a bill to prevent a thriftless husband from spending his wife's property without her consent."

The second track on the New Haven railroad will be completed in a few days, when there will be a double line of rail on the whole route from Boston to the city of New York.

The fifty-four liquor cases (says the Providence Post) which have come before the Court of Common Pleas, Judge Staples, at the present term, have been disposed of as follows: Fifty-two have fallen through without going to the jury, generally from defects in the warrants, or from informalities in the proceedings of the Justices' Court, before which the same were first brought, and two convictions, in both of which an appeal has been taken to the Supreme Court, upon exception to the ruling of the Judge.

The Albion College building, Albion, Michigan, took fire on the morning of January 4, while the students were at breakfast, and was totally destroyed. The contents were mostly saved. Loss estimated at $15,000.

On Sunday morning a part of the dock belonging to the Poughkeepsie Iron Works slid into the river, carrying with it some 300 tons of coal, a portion of the machinery for a new stack, and other property. The loss is estimated at $40,000.

A Sunbury paper says the castiron outlet lock in the Philadelphia and Sunbury Railroad Company's basin at that place is nearly completed. It is the only lock of this kind that has ever been built, and is quite a novelty.

Willard D. Benson, residing in New Orleans, on retiring to bed on the night of the 26th ultimo, felt slightly indisposed, and took a heavy dose of morphine. In the morning, when the servant went to his room, he was dead. The deceased was an exemplary young man, and much esteemed by a large circle of acquaintances.

When the magnificent palace at Somerset Square, London, was in progress of erection a watch fell from the pocket of a mason on the roof, and lodged between two stones near the third story window, and yet remains distinctly visible, but beyond reach.

DARING ROBBERY.—On New Year's day, while the Rev. J. Martin was preaching in the Lutheran Church at Johnstown, Pa., his dwelling was robbed of $1,000 in gold and silver, belonging to his sister-in-law, and a quantity of silver ware, all of which were subsequently found concealed near the town. Three boys were arrested on the charge of committing the robbery, upon whom three gold watches were found.

STEAMBOAT COLLISION AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The steamers Pearl and Natchez lately came in collision near Baton Rouge, (La.) by which the Pearl was instantly sunk, and it is supposed that some eight or ten lives were lost. Among the lost are Capt. Stanley and Robert Sullivan.

HANDSOME PRESENT.—Rev. W. R. STRICKLAND, pastor of the Union Chapel, M. E. Church, in Cincinnati, lately performed a marriage for a couple, and received in return for his services from the bridegroom the neat sum of $50 in gold, and from the bride a deed to a city lot valued at $2,500.

EXPORT OF SPECIE.—The large quantity of three tons of specie left New Orleans on the 4th instant on board the steamboat John L. Avery. It was shipped from the Mint in that city, and is to be taken to that of Philadelphia.

Henry Silverthorn and five colored men were drowned near Newbern, N. C., by the upsetting of a boat during the late gale.

The supporters of the Maine law are preparing to unite in a grand demonstration, to take place at Philadelphia on the 20th instant.

The people of Maysville, Ky., by a majority of 14, have declared against the issuing of licenses for the sale of liquors.

A young man named Stephen Hague, lately returned from California, was killed in an affray in Allegheny city, Pa., on Monday, by E. Hosach.

JOHN B. ROBERTSON has been elected District Judge at New Orleans, vice Judge LARUE, resigned.

A few days ago sixteen car loads of live hogs arrived at Lynchburg, over the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

There are eighty-three newspapers in Michigan, the aggregate circulation of which is over three millions and a quarter.

The taxable property of the State of Texas has increased one hundred per cent. in the last three years. It is now stated at $99,155,114.

A slight shock of an earthquake was felt in Memphis on the 18th instant, between the hours of six and seven o'clock. It lasted but a few moments.

An establishment for the manufacture of oil from the cotton seed has been started in New Orleans. It is asserted that the oil burns with great brilliancy, and is peculiarly fitted for machinery on account of not gumming or drying. If the oil is really valuable, the manufacture will soon become an important one, for the quantity of raw material is unbounded.

The Cunard mail steamer *Africa* sailed from New York for Liverpool on Wednesday with ninety-eight passengers and $999,628 in specie.

Difficulty occasioned by the reverberation of sound in the new Capitol of Nashville has been remedied by spreading a thick layer of sand dust on the floor, covering it with a heavy carpet, and curtaining the windows with heavy curtains. The Ohio Constitutional Convention remedied a similar defect in College Hall, Cincinnati, by covering the walls with canvass.

F. E. VOLZ, Whig, was elected Mayor of Pittsburg on Monday last. Mr. ADAMS, of the same politics, was chosen Mayor of Alleghany.

EXTENDING THE AREA OF FREEDOM.—A private letter from California, received from an entirely reliable source, informs us that the greatest excitement exists among the people concerning the late revolution or invasion of Lower California. Recruiting troops for the reinforcement of Col. Walker's command was going on actively and openly. Our correspondent further states that he was present, by invitation, at a meeting of at least a thousand persons, early in December, who had enlisted under Gen. Flores for a proposed expedition to Ecuador; and that three times that number of men might be obtained in three weeks. From this and other information we are assured that the United States officers in California are purposely ignorant of these movements. They are the only persons who are.—*Albany Argus.*

Telegraphic Correspondence.

Additional by the Baltic.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 13.—Papers by the overland India mail state that the Shah of Persia had left Teheran with thirty thousand cavalry, one thousand cannon, and three thousand camel loads of ammunition, to co-operate with the Russians. The Shah was also urging Dost Mohammed to side with Persia and Russia.

It was stated positively that the Jagondit, a Russian ninety-gun ship, was destroyed in the battle of Sinope. She was attacked by a Turkish frigate and both blew up. The aid-de-camp of the Turkish Admiral had died from his wounds, and