

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1864

ARRIVES AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION. We understand that Gov. Smith will have a public reception at the Executive mansion this evening, commencing at 8 o'clock, and each Friday evening hereafter at the same hour.

CONFERRING STATES CONGRESS. In the Senate the proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Minnigerode, of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Phelps, of Miss., rose to a personal explanation. In some of the morning papers the title of day had been incorrectly reported. The bill did not propose to authorize the President to suspend the writ of habeas corpus, but to make the suspension the result of direct legislative enactment.

Mr. Phelps introduced a bill declaring all persons owing military service to the Confederate States, and who voluntarily depart beyond the boundaries thereof without the written permission of the President, with intent to abandon the same, alien enemies, and subjecting such persons in all respects to the laws in relation to the same. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Henry, of Tenn., introduced a bill to declare certain persons alien enemies, and to sequester their estates. This bill also relates to persons who leave, or attempt to leave, the country to avoid military service.

On motion of Mr. Clay, of Ala., joint resolutions of the Legislature of Alabama relative to the enforcement of the conscript laws, were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Johnson, of Arkansas, from a special committee appointed at the last session, submitted a report on the importance of having accurate reports of the Senate debated, accompanied by a resolution providing for the employment of one or more stenographers to report the debates. The report and resolution were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Semmes, from the Finance Committee, reported back, with the recommendation that it pass, the bill to authorize the issue of certain bonds for payment to the Alabama and Florida Railroad. Put upon the calendar.

Mr. Semmes also reported back a bill to authorize the issue to the Secretary of the Navy of one million dollars of eight percent bonds, in place of an equal amount sent abroad by him and not disposed of there, when evidence shall be produced that the bonds sent abroad had been cancelled. The bill was passed.

Mr. Semmes, from the same committee, reported, with an amendment, the House bill authorizing the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, to be located west of the Mississippi. Placed on the calendar.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in response to a resolution calling for information in regard to the confiscated credits of alien enemies.

Also, a communication from the Secretary of the Provisional Government of the State of Kentucky, announcing the re-election of the Confederate States Senate of the Hon. Wm. E. Simms, for the term of six years.

On motion of Mr. Sparrow, the Senate resolved into secret session.

The House was opened at 11 o'clock with prayer by Rev. Dr. Read.

The Speaker announced as the unfinished business of yesterday the resolution introduced by Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, that the House take a recess at 4 o'clock each day until 7 o'clock, until the bills reported from the Committee on Currency are disposed of.

A motion was made to suspend the rules to allow the resolution to be considered; and on this motion the yeas and noes were called, with the following result—yeas 37, noes 50. So the House refused to consider the resolution.

Mr. Lyons, of Va., asked a suspension of the rules to allow him to introduce a resolution that the House meet at 10 o'clock and sit until 4 o'clock, until the currency question is disposed of. The yeas and noes were again called and resulted—yeas 37, noes 50. So the motion was lost, two-thirds being required.

Mr. Harty, of Ark., asked a suspension of the rules to allow him to report from the Committee on Indian Affairs the bill referred to it from the Committee of Ways and Means, to provide for the appropriation of \$100,000 for the benefit of the Cherokee Indians. The rules were suspended, and the bill taken up and passed by a vote of 66 to 11. Mr. Chilton, of Alabama, voting in the negative.

The Chair laid before the House a joint resolution of the Senate, tendering the thanks of Congress to Major Von Borck. Also, Senate bill to declare the meaning of an act to lay taxes for the common defence, &c. Both of which were appropriately referred.

The unfinished business—the bill to provide for placing in the service persons claiming to be citizens of the United States—was taken up, and Mr. De Jarnette, of Virginia, addressed the House in opposition to it until the expiration of the morning hour.

Mr. Fouts, of Tenn., moved a postponement of the special order to allow him to introduce a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of three to inquire into the charge of corruption against a member of the House contained in a paragraph in the Examiner, of this morning. The motion prevailed, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, of Ala., moved to postpone the special order to allow him to introduce a resolution that when the House adjourns to-day, it adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock A. M. to-morrow. The resolution was adopted.

The House then went into secret session for the consideration of the currency bill.

FROM GENERAL LEE'S ARMY.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

Jan. 6th, 1864.

Standing on the threshold of the new year, I am deeply imbued with love for our cause, and deeply anxious to contribute according to our humble means whatever we lie in our power to insure its final success. We have determined, after much reflection, to present the following views, suggested by a sense of our duty, taken in connection with our present position. The general question is, how shall this be accomplished? My answer is ready at hand. Bring back the absentees, whom I will readily receive, and who will do us good service. I have recently conversed with the commanders of three different brigades on this subject, and they all agreed that the best way to bring back the absentees is to give them a full and complete amnesty. I have recently conversed with the commanders of three different brigades on this subject, and they all agreed that the best way to bring back the absentees is to give them a full and complete amnesty.

There are three classes of absentees: first, a deficiency of men; secondly, a deficiency of food; and thirdly, a deficiency of clothing. To remedy these deficiencies, we must have a full and complete amnesty. I have recently conversed with the commanders of three different brigades on this subject, and they all agreed that the best way to bring back the absentees is to give them a full and complete amnesty.

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LOCAL MATTERS.

Charge of Perjury.—Yesterday there were three parties before C. S. Commissioner Sunde, E. Robman, F. Maltch, and John P. Reed, butchers in the Second Market, who were charged with perjury, having made false statements to the C. S. Assessor of the gross receipts upon which they were liable. Robman returned \$8,000 as his gross receipts. The Government officer was prepared to show that he had received \$7,400 for green hides alone. Maltch returned \$8,000, when he had received \$3,000 for green hides. Reed returned \$10,000, and had received \$11,113 for hides. During the progress of the examination Mr. James Kelsey, the assessor, was not satisfied that he had ever taken the oath of office prescribed by law, and if he had not he was not authorized to administer the oath to the prisoners, and therefore they had committed no perjury. In order to examine authorities the Commissioner adjourned the investigation till this morning.

We regret to learn that there are other parties connected with the markets who have made false returns, and who will certainly be arrested if they do not make the proper corrections in due time. The Government officers have unerring data to guide them, but they do not wish to see persons imprisoned and raised unless they persist in their crimes.

Among the merchants on Broad street, particularly those who have left—the officers have found very many food transactions, and are preparing to have the returns for the quarter past corrected. In one case a merchant returned his gross sales at \$19,800, when his books of another firm show that he purchased from the Government for \$12,000, but after being cautioned against a false statement increased it to \$33,000.

Such attempts to defraud the Government ought to be punished with severity, for the money thus acquired can be of little value if our own people aid in bankrupting and breaking it down.

A Dash on Gamblers.—On Wednesday night last officers Bell and Jenkins, of the day police, and Lieuts. Baptist and Conson, of the night watch, effected an entrance into a gambling house kept by Henry Hangerford and Benjamin Degrote, and besides capturing the parties seized a faro table, one silver dealing box, a large number of checks, some few pairs of cards, and \$300 or \$400 in money. Henry Hangerford, who had been so long a faro being dealt, but the "drappings" were all in readiness for customers who might enter. Besides the white man, four colored men were present, being employed in the house and all were tried in the morning. Hangerford and Degrote gave bail in \$1,000 each to appear before the Mayor at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

When the case was called by His Honor, Hangerford appeared, but Degrote failing to answer the examination was continued till Saturday next.

Under a late law persons convicted of playing faro bank or like games are liable to receive thirty-nine stripes, and to fine and imprisonment. What the evidence will bring forth remains to be seen. The gamblers implicated captured will be confiscated and destroyed.

Fire.—The alarm of fire yesterday morning was caused by the partial burning of the large brick house on 13th street, near Cary. The roof took fire from some defect in the chimney, and the flames being blown from the chimney and rafter spread rapidly. Soon after the alarm was given the fire brigade, with a portion of its apparatus, reached the scene, and the flames being blown from the chimney and rafter spread rapidly. Soon after the alarm was given the fire brigade, with a portion of its apparatus, reached the scene, and the flames being blown from the chimney and rafter spread rapidly.

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THE RISE-REMAN FIGURE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The London papers, in speaking of the prize fight between Heenan and King, say that King is a quarter of an inch taller than Heenan, and that Heenan is a quarter of an inch shorter than Heenan. Heenan declares that he received more severe treatment at the hands of Sayers than he did from King in his appearance after the fight is described.

His face was considerably disfigured, and there was a cut on the forehead, which required a stitch. There were no bruises about the body of any consequence, but the heart was very feeble, and the pulse scarcely perceptible. On the evening after the fight he was very weak, and rather above 100. The tongue was healthy, but over the apex there was a dullness, with evident signs of congestion.

It is said that Heenan's training was too long. The money has been handed over to King. Heenan has not appeared in public since his defeat. He is said to be paid \$500 per week for a night's appearance in fighting costume.

(From the London Telegraph, Dec. 15.)

Refinement of the campaign, and the more Republican impetuosity to secure for all ranks the distinctions granted in Europe only to the aristocracy, are the two main points of view with which the most important commander. The carriage with which he led his regiment, and which he carried with him, was a double-deck loaded with strippers, and with "cut papers" to mark the game, the backers find their piles of treasury notes melting away as fast before the eyes of the victor.

If the present law does not put an end to "faro" then no law can, and the best plan would be to license gaming houses, make the gaming houses pay a tax, and keep young men from flocking to them and squandering their means.

The present law, if it can be enforced, is sufficiently severe in the punishment prescribed, but the difficulty of its enforcement is very great.

Advice tilters had better be left in the hands of the Mayor, who is paid to attend to them, and whose plans sometimes miscarry because of the interference of other justices during their incipient stages. Satisfactory gaming houses are being kept in this city, in defiance of the law of the State, the police have been at work for some time, endeavoring to get at their keepers. Last Wednesday night the officers entered a house and captured and carried two men, charged with the keeping; but before the Mayor could finish his inquiries and get such witnesses as he needed, another justice is applied to, and the parties are being kept in \$1000 each, and one of them fails to appear when called. Other justices may have equal powers with the Mayor, but for the good of the city and the enforcement of the law, and the public safety, promoting or best regulations and let the head of the police attend to his own business. A rigid enforcement of the gaming law is more to be desired now than ever, because the secrecy with which gaming is conducted is far more dangerous.

Battery No. 2.—In our notice of the burning of Mr. Styl's barn, near No. 2 battery, we forgot to mention that the sentinels at the battery knew nothing of the fire till long after it had occurred. Col. Atkinson directed Major James O. Hensley, in command, to investigate the matter, which that officer seems to have done thoroughly, and reports: "The sentinels on duty on the night of the fire had better hold their hands for the future and let the head of the police attend to his own business. A rigid enforcement of the gaming law is more to be desired now than ever, because the secrecy with which gaming is conducted is far more dangerous."

Dividend Notices.—The Board of Directors have declared a dividend of five per cent upon the capital stock of this company, payable to the holders, or to their legal representatives, on and after the 1st inst. The transfer books will be closed on the 21st inst. W. W. YARLINGTON, Treas.

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