LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

PROCEEDINGS IN BOTH HOUSES.

New School Buildings—Stations and Engine-houses—Effort to Secure Work at the Navy Yard—General Relief Bills—Resolution Indorsing the Board of Public Works.

THE COUNCIL.

The Council met at 5 o'clock; Mr. Wm. Stickney, president, in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. G. A. Hall.

Council bill No. 8, to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors without license, was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Police.

Council bill No. 10, for the relief of Dr. J. F. Hartigan, was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Browne presented the petition of Benj. Stinmy and others, of the county, praying to be relieved from onerous taxation on account of improvements; which was read and referred to the Committee on Washington, Georgetown and County Affairs.

House concurrent resolution directing the Governor, President of the Council and Speaker of the House to wait upon the Secretary of the Navy and request the building in this city of one of the new war vessels authorized by Congress was concurred in.

Mr. Baker offered the following, which was laid over temporarily:

Whereas, in pursuance of an act of the Legislative Assembly, approved August 19, 1871, entitled "An act authorizing the District of Columbia to create a debt for special improvements," &c., extensive improvements have been made, the expenditures for which are chargeable, under act of Congress, to the cities of Washington and Georgetown and to the county of Washington, according to the extent of and in proportion to the cost of the local improvements for the benefit of each respectively; Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works be, and they are hereby, requested to cause an Assessment to be made of the cost of the aforesaid improvements, and to furnish for the information of the Council a statement of the respective amounts for which said cities of Washington and Georgetown and the county of Washington are liable under existing laws.

The resolution was laid over.

Mr. Cross introduced a bill for the erection of a new school building in the Second school district, which was read a first time.

Mr. Browne introduced a bill to regulate shows of whatever nature in the sale of seats, which was read a first time.

Mr. Browne said that the new code had been referred to the committee of which he was chairman, and he thought that considerable matter could be taken out of it that was unnecessary to inflict upon the patience of the Council to sit and hear it read. The committee would meet at an early day, when prompt action would be taken in the matter.

Mr. Cross introduced a bill to establish a normal school in the District of Columbia; which was read a first time.

Mr. Brooks presented a petition from the assessors of the District, asking pay for services rendered during the session of the Court of Appeals in the year 1872; which was read a first time.

Mr. Buker introduced a bill for the relief of Mr. Wm. Russell, Mrs. Henrietta Brown, D. C. Forney, W. H. Burr, Maria A. Myers, Dr. F. Howard, J. O. Johnson and J. H. Wheeler for assessments erroneously paid; which was read a first time.

On motion of Mr. Brown, at 6:10 o'clock, the Council adjourned until Monday, at 5 p. m.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House was called to order by the Speaker, and the chaplain being absent prayer was dispensed with.

The Journal of the previous meeting was read, corrected and approved.

Mr. Wall introduced the petition of D. Genan; which was read and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Brewer introduced a bill instructing the Joint Committee on Police to select a site for the erection of a new station-house in the First police precinct, and the erection thereon of a station-house. The bill appropriates $15,000. Referred to the Committee on Police.

Mr. Shepherd introduced a bill for the erection of a new house for steam engine No. 5 in Georgetown. The bill appropriates $16,000 for the purpose, and provides that the site shall be selected by the board of fire commissioners, subject to the approval of the joint Committee on Fire Department. It further provides for the sale at auction of the site and material of the old engine-house. Read and referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

Mr. Campbell presented a petition of the trustees of the Evangelical church. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also petition, preamble and bill for the relief of the Women's Christian Association. It appropriates $5,000. Read and referred to the Committee on Charities and Corrections.

Mr. Talifero introduced a bill for the relief of the watchman of the west wing of the City Hall. Read and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Carroll submitted concurrent resolution providing that the Governor, president of the Council and House be requested to call upon the Secretary of the Navy and urge upon him the propriety of having one of the new ships built at the Washington navy yard. Adopted.

Mr. Vermillion introduced the following:

Whereas statements having been made by several of the New York daily papers that the present House of Delegates of the District of Columbia has been organized in antagonism to the Board of Public Works, and as such reports are without foundation, and intended to injure the financial status of the District: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we entertain nothing but the kindest feelings toward the board, and desire to act in harmony with them in their laudable efforts.

He asked for the present consideration of the resolution, but Mr. Smoot objected.

Mr. Campbell thought the resolution a harmless one, and could see no special object in its introduction. He believed all the members desired to be in harmony with all the co-ordinate branches of the government. In the discharge of his duty to his constituents, and with the sacred obligation of his oath of office upon him, he would fully criticise when he believed it his duty. He thus far officially knew no action of the board deserving severe censure, but much to commend. He preferred to await the receipt of the report of the Board of Public Works, when he should avail himself of an early opportunity to submit some remarks thereon.

Mr. Shepherd moved the suspension of the rules; which was agreed to by a vote of 16 to 8.

The question being on the passage of the resolution, Mr. Brown asked to be excused from voting.

The request was not granted, and the gentleman voted "no."

The following is the vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Carroll, Chase, Cox, Dyer, Herbert, Hoover, McKnight, Murray, Shepherd, Stickney, Talifero, Trimble, Urell, Vermillion, Wall, and the Speaker 15.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, Brewer, Brown, Clagett, Long and Smoot—8.

Mr. Brown introduced an act appropriating $900 to fill and grade a lot in Anacostia, to be used for school purposes. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Trimble introduced a resolution for the purchase of copies of "Barclay's Digest" for the use of members. Passed.

Mr. McKnight moved that six copies of the newly-published edition of the laws of the District, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be furnished each member of the House.

Mr. Shepherd moved to amend so that no additional expense be entailed upon the House."

Mr. Trimble moved to lay the motion on the table. Agreed to.

Mr. Shepherd introduced a bill directing the purchase of a series of "United States Statutes at Large" for the use of the House of Delegates.

Mr. McKnight moved to lay on the table. Not agreed to, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Berry introduced a bill providing a code of laws for the District of Columbia. The bill provides that the report of the commission to codify the laws be approved and ratified. Referred to the Committee on Law and Judiciary.

Also, petition of the Potomac Insurance Company, of Georgetown. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A message from the Governor was received, transmitting and favorably commending a communication from the Board of Fire Commissioners, calling attention to the urgent necessity for the erection of a new house for engine company No. 3. Read, ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

Also, a message transmitting an account of expenditures for the survey of the harbor. Referred to the Committee on Expenditures.

Mr. Shepherd, from the Committee on Fire Department, reported favorably bill No. 14, for the establishment of a new steam engine company and truck company. Read a second time and laid over.

Mr. Shepherd, from the special committee appointed to apportion and distribute the several portions of the Governor's message among the committees, reported, and the report was adopted and the committee discharged.

On motion of Mr. McKnight the House, at 6:30, adjourned until Monday, at 5 p. m.

Robberies of the Congressional Library.

For some time past books have been mysteriously disappearing from the Congressional Library, and where they went was the subject of much comment, until finally Mr. Ainsworth R. Spofford, the librarian, believed that he had traced them to one of the employees named Geo. W. Scheele, residing at No. 522 Tenth street northwest. A search warrant was procured and placed in the hands of Detectives McElfresh and Sargent, who went to the house of the accused, and there found about four hundred volumes belonging to the library, many of them rare and valuable works. Scheele was arrested at the Capitol and brought to police headquarters, where he was detained until this morning, and then brought before Judge Snell. He claims that he had no intention of purloining the books, but expected to return them. It is strange, however, that instead of carrying out his intention he continued adding to the number he had already taken away.

Arrest of a Burglar.

Yesterday morning, between one and two o'clock, Sergeant Sickles noticed a suspicious man leaving the residence of Mr. Kelcher, No. 477 Missouri avenue, and on going up to him found that he was wearing three overcoats and carrying a large jar of fine preserves. He gave his name as Henry Johnson, and endeavored to escape from the officer, but did not succeed. He pleaded guilty in the Police Court, and was sent to jail to await the action of the grand jury. On being searched, a large stone was found in his possession, evidently intended for use as a weapon. Before being sent to jail he was taken for use in the gallery.

Champion Billiard Players

of the world at Messrs. Miller & Jones' this evening. The Dion Brothers, the celebrated Canadian player will give an exhibition at Messrs. Miller & Jones' room this evening, at 7 o'clock. The patrons of the room and the public generally are cordially invited.

For the Ch'dren.

Shoes of all styles and kinds, French kid, patent leather, kid foxed, buff, pearl, bronze, black and red, in button and lace, at T. S. Gartrell's, 200 Seventh street, corner of I.

THIRD AUDITOR'S OFFICE.

The Division of Files.

Not the least interesting portion of the Third Auditor's office, Treasury Department, is the division of files, under the charge of Mr. A. W. Rowell, chief clerk, with four assistant clerks, Messrs. H. S. Boynton, William Pope, O. H. Ross and J. G. Floyd.

This department was organized in March, 1817, and from that day to this it has been the receptacle for all the papers naturally pertaining to the office of the Third Auditor, an office now most ably and acceptably filled by Gen. Allan G. Rutherford.

THE OLDEST DOCUMENTS

are those relating to the war of 1812. For over sixty years they have been handled and rehandled by two generations of clerks, and are still in quite a remarkable state of preservation; but what is more remarkable, the ink with which they were written has not faded. If the patent inks of the present day last as well as revolutionary ink, it will be sufficient for all practical purposes.

THE DIVISION

now occupies three rooms. The first one is directly over the portico of the Treasury, fronting Fifteenth street. It is more than two hundred feet long and about fifteen feet wide. The next one is parallel with that, but higher up and of the same dimensions. Both are without light or ventilation, except the little permitted through small and occasional skylights. Of course, the alcoves are all lighted by gas. The floors and shelving are all of pine, and should a fire accidentally break out in that department it would be next to impossible to subdue it.

By General Rutherford's direction fire extinguishers are kept in the rooms, and the utmost precaution is used against such a calamity. A destruction of those records would result in an almost incalculable loss to the Government.

There are more than 400,000 different settlements and millions on millions of vouchers. A rough estimate of the calculation of their weight places it at fully one hundred and twenty-five tons, and the lineal measurement of the shelving would stretch out

MORE THAN FOUR MILES.

The third room is in the loft of the north front of the Treasury, and has neither light nor ventilation. All the work in there is done by gaslight, and, like the other two, this room is filled with the same highly inflammable material.

All this demonstrates the necessity of some fire-proof security for these valuable papers. There is not room now in the Treasury building for the construction of fire-proof rooms for this special purpose, but it is hoped that during the next session of Congress provision will be wisely made for the preservation of those records. Then again the rooms are very cold in winter, and insufferably hot in summer. Just now

THE GREATEST NUMBER

of papers being filed in the division relate to pensions, and thousands of these papers were received last year, and the number will increase with this. On the other hand quartermasters' and commissaries' accounts are on the decrease. The law requires the preservation of all papers, and requiring this, it ought to make provision for their protection. The settlements of the Southern claims commission are also filed there.

The system of Mr. Rowell's office seems nearly perfect, and any rule, any paper desired, out of the many millions on file, can be found without the slightest difficulty, for they are all appropriately labeled and bound in wood. There are no patent file-holders in the office, experience proving that the old-fashioned way is the best and most convenient.

LOCAL NOTES.

Go to George W. Driver's new sample rooms and see a man.

A fine property, on Louisiana avenue, opposite the City Hall, will come to the hammer Monday afternoon.

Messrs. Latimer & Cleary will sell a carriage horse in front of their auction rooms this morning at 12 o'clock.

Mrs. McLosky will please call at Prince' Bazaar. Those two dollar clocks have arrived guaranteed for one year, as I promised.

The finest whiskies, by the bottle, to be obtained in this city, consisting of Old Crow, Monongahela, Robinson County, Overholt and Cabinet Whiskies, from $1 to $1.50 per bottle, at Geo. W. Driver's new sample rooms, corner Pennsylvania avenue and Four-and-a-half street.

Spelling matches in the Grammar and Intermediate public schools were held yesterday in the Jefferson school building, and also those of the Secondary schools in the Franklin, Seaton, Wallach and Jefferson buildings. The decision will be announced in a few days.

The Old Barrel Business.

The following letter was read before the Board of Health last night, greatly to the amusement of the members and others:

GEORGETOWN, D. C., April 28, 1873, A. D.

To the President of the Board of Health:

Dear Sir: We take the pleasure of asking you why the board did not look over that Bill that we put Before the board over one year ago We have wainted for your opinion And have got no answer yet. And now we are goin to tell you why and it is on the old Barrel Business in a Nuisance First Because were often i see an old barrel in a yard and no body knows But what them people has had the small pox and has got Well and has pitched them out clothes in that old Barrel and afterwards that Barrel is sold for 15 or 20 cents to the wagon And is carried to the shops And is done up and sold to the millers who pack flour in them and is shipped to the City again and then sold to some family who eats the flour and gets the small pox from it and then the whole family are taken sick and dies and sometimes the Barrell is made dog houses of and after the dog dies the Barrell goes through the same process all kinds of manure & filth goes in them We ask the Board to make a Law to stop the old Barrell Business for good. Use the old Barrel Business as