

The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, DEC. 8.

In the U. S. Senate, yesterday, when the Senators from "West Virginia" appeared, Mr. Davis, raised the question of the right of the gentlemen to take seats in the body. He held that there was constitutionally and legally no such State as West Virginia, and therefore there could be no Senators from such State. He had no design, however, to cause delay with this matter. His object was simply to put on the record his objections in regard to the State of West Virginia. He did not believe that Virginia was like the polypus, that could be separated into several segments, and yet each live and have a distinct being. He believed the old State to be intact, and that this whole thing was a flagrant violation of the Constitution. He therefore desired to have the yeas and nays taken on the question of the admission of the alleged Senators from West Virginia. After some debate a motion of Mr. Davis, as a test question, that the gentleman from West Virginia be sworn in, was carried—yeas 45, nays 5.

In addition to the Arlington estate, the real estate of Dr. Lewis, L. B. Taylor, Dr. Fairfax, Wm. H. Fowle, Mrs. M. C. Hunter, Elizabeth Dundas' estate, Fire Ins. Co., Misses Heiberts, R. S. Huck, Wm. H. Irwin, Jenkins & Landin, E. W. Kincheloe, Geo. Kephart, S. Kemper, Virginia Locomotive & Car Manufacturing Co., and B. W. Hunter, all in this city and county, is advertised by John Hawxhurst, W. J. Boreman, and G. F. Watson, "Commissioners" to be sold on the 5th day of January next, "for unpaid taxes."

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says: "On account of the sickness of President Lincoln, the judges of the Supreme Court of the U. S. did not call on him in a body as is their custom at the commencement of each Congress. They sent their cards to the Vice-President, and to no other official Senators, who by etiquette now rank Cabinet Ministers, leave their cards with the judges of the Supreme Court."

The U. S. Supreme Court met in Washington yesterday, all the Justices thereof being present. The only business transacted was the announcement that the Court had elected D. W. Middleton, Esq., (long the Assistant Clerk.) to be the Clerk of the Court, vice Mr. Wm. Carroll, deceased. The Court then adjourned for the day.

The seizures of property, real and personal, under the U. S. Confiscation, belonging to persons in the Confederate service, from Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Elizabeth City County, are said to be numerous.

The Washington Star says that the late arrests of U. S. government employees, in Alexandria, were deemed necessary only after thorough preliminary investigation of the official conduct of those arrested.

Seven persons were killed and eight badly scalded on the Steamboat Isaac Newton, on the Hudson river, at the late disaster to that boat.

A heavy frost last night, and a very heavy fog this morning.

U. S. CONGRESS.—The first session of the thirty-eighth Congress of the U. S., commenced in Washington yesterday. In the Senate, after the usual religious exercises, the credentials of the Senators elect from West Virginia, California and Missouri were presented, and after some debate on the legal claims of the representatives of West Virginia, all were qualified. Notice was given that a bill would be introduced to repeal the three hundred dollar commutation feature of the enrollment act of the last session, and to amend so as to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the army fifty per cent. In the House of Representatives the Clerk called the roll of the members as authorized by one of the acts of last session, omitting the names of the representatives from Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Missouri, Kansas and Oregon, their credentials not showing what was, in the opinion of the Clerk, designed by the law, which required each member to be "elected according to the laws of their respective States and of the United States." On motion the decision of the Clerk was overruled and the names of the representatives placed on the roll. The election for speaker then took place, resulting in the election of Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana, he receiving one hundred and one votes out of one hundred and eighty-one cast. Mr. Colfax, assuming the chair, made a speech, declaring himself "in favor of crushing out the rebellion by all the means within the power of the Government." Notice was given that a bill will be introduced reviving the grade of Lieut. Gen. in the army, and also to cause a gold medal to be struck and presented to Gen. Grant; also a notice of the introduction of a bill to punish slaveholders, and also one giving notice to Great Britain for the termination of the reciprocity treaty.

Recommendation by the President of the U. S.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1863.—Reliable information being received that the insurgent force is retreating from East Tennessee under circumstances rendering it probable that the Union forces cannot hereafter be dislodged from that important position; and, esteeming this to be of high national consequence, I recommend that all loyal people do, on receipt of this, informally assemble at their places of worship and render special homage and gratitude to Almighty God for this great advancement of the national cause.

A LINCOLN.

It will be seen that the correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing from the Army of the Potomac, states that General Meagher, who was with the army as a visitor to his old brigade, was captured, in citizen's clothes, near Mine Run, during the recent engagement, and is now in the hands of the Confederates.

The Boston Courier truly says that "principles are worth nothing which have to be abandoned in times of trial. That is just the time they ought to be held with a death grip; but the weak knees and hearts of little faith are sure to be manifested in the times when men's souls are tried.

The stores and places of business of those who advertise in the Alexandria Gazette, are well supplied in view of the near approach of Christmas and New Year's day."

In the Department of Washington \$8,000,000 of quartermaster and commissary stores have been captured by the Confederates.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The following additional news by the Columbia we gather from the New York papers:

The Memorial Diplomatique says that fifteen of the twenty powers invited to be present at the European Congress have given an affirmative reply to the invitation. The London Morning Post announces that the English government is about, with regret, to decline giving its adherence. The Paris correspondent of the London Times asserts that the believers in the Congress grow fewer every day. The argument in the case of the Alexandria is concluded. The government will take time to consider its judgment. Active warlike preparations are progressing in Denmark. Eleven thousand soldiers have been called out, and six war vessels are being fitted out. The Polish question still looks threatening. The Poles continue to be very active. The arrests in Warsaw were numerous.

General Ewing the Federal commander of the Department of Kansas, has issued an order discharging from service "all scouts, spies and detectives lately employed from headquarters of the district of the border or of the frontier." Hereafter, whenever any civilian shall make an arrest, or seize property, he must, when called on, exhibit his authority from the General Commanding, or of some officer acting under his order, and give the claimant a memorandum describing the property. No seizure of property for "disloyal acts or practices" will hereafter be made except where such property is being used, or is about to be used, by persons in arms against the U. S. or when such seizure is specially ordered from headquarters.

Gold in New York yesterday 151.

MARRIED.

On Thursday, Nov. 26th, at the residence of the bride's father (John M. Latimer) by the Rev. Leonard J. Mills, JOHN SEDWICK, of Calvert county, and Miss ALICE V. LATIMER, of Charles county, Md.

DIED.

On Saturday, Nov. 28th, at Edgehill, the residence of Dr. John H. Reester, in Charles County, Md., CATHARINE M. CLAGETT, daughter of the late Horatio Clagett, of this place.

Of Consumption, in Charles County, Md., at the residence of her brother (Jos. R. Hunt) on the 11th ult., Mrs. ROSELLA THOMPSON, about 48 years of age.

On Monday, the 23d ult., Mrs. JOHN BOSWELL, aged 78 years, of Charles County, Md.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—The undersigned, having taken out letters of administration on the estate of William Devaughn, deceased, hereby gives notice to all parties, having claims against said estate, to present them properly authenticated for settlement, and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment.

JAMES H. DEVAUGHN,
Administrator.

dec 8—w4w

NOTICE.

A SMALL AND WELL SELECTED STOCK OF GROCERIES, SHOP FIXTURES, HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN FURNITURE, &c., FOR SALE. Also the STORE FOR RENT. Call at 129, corner Duke and St. Asaph streets.

If the above GOODS are not sold at private sale by Tuesday, the 15th December, they will be offered for sale at Public Auction, on that day, on the premises. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock. dec 8—6t

LOST—From an amoulanee, between Fairfax Seminary and Alexandria, a BLACK GUTTA PERCHA WALKING CANE, the handle terminating in a dog's head. The finder will receive its full value by leaving it at Bell's book store, 61 King street, or with the Chaplain of Fairfax Seminary Hospital. dec 7—3t*