matters of the resolution. He then moved to refer the resolution to the committee on public buildings; which was agreed to.

The bill to pay the January interest was then taken up for consideration, Mr. Bissell having the floor.

On motion of Mr. McCLERNAND, The House adjourned

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THURSDAY, Dec. 10.

Petitions were presented

By Mr. MURPHY, of Cook, from the citizens of Cook and Lake counties, praying for the location of a State road.

By the same, from James McKee, praying for damages and indemnity for property destroyed by the canal commissioners.

By Mr. ROSS, from sundry citizens of Peoria and Fulton counties.

By Mr. MUNSELL, from sundry citizens of Edgar, in relation to a State road.

By Mr. PECK, from the 1st Unitarian Society at Chicago.

By Mr. KELLY, a remonstrance to the petition from Edgar, and a petition from other citizens on the same subject.

By Mr. TROY, from sundry citizens of the State of Illinois, praying for an alteration in the road laws, so as to equalize the duties, &c.

All of which were appropriately referred.

Mr. TRUMBULL, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to amend the law relating to groceries; which was read a first time and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. PECK, from the committee on finance, reported a bill making certain appropriations; which was read a second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill providing for the payment of the January interest coming up for consideration,

Mr. BISSELL being entitled to the floor, spoke at some length in support of the amendment, which provided to pay no interest on bonds parted with contrary to law, and for which no consideration had been received.

Mr. PECK followed on the other side, in opposition to the proposition.

Mr. BROWN, of Vermilion, followed on the same side, and opposed that amendment. [The debate is deferred for want of space.]

Mr. WHITE then moved the previous question, which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to—ayes 46, nays 39.

The question was then taken on Mr. Lincoln's amendment, as amended by the addition of the above amendment, and it was *lost*—ayes 44, nays 44; so the amendments to the bill were rejected.

The question coming up on the passage of the bill itself, it was *lost*—ayes 23, nays 64; so the House rejected the bill.

Mr. HICKS on leave introduced a bill to provide for the payment of the January interest, which was read a first time and ordered to a second reading. [The bill creates a fund for the interest accruing,]

Mr. HICKS moved that the bill be printed.

Mr. McCLERNAND moved that it be laid on the table, and 150 copies be printed.

Mr. LINCOLN moved to refer the bill to the committee on finance.

Mr. McCLERNAND then moved to refer and print.

Mr. LINCOLN was opposed to the printing; he questioned if the bill was of sufficient importance.

The question was then taken separately on printing, and *lost*—ayes 38, nays 45.

Mr. DODGE then moved to print 100 copies, which question pending,

The House on motion of Mr. BAILEY, adjourned to 2 o'clock,

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

On motion of Mr. LINCOLN, the vote of the morning by which the interest bill was lost was set aside, on account of a mistake discovered in the count;—whereupon

The question being again taken on the bill to be engrossed for a third reading, was decided in the negative—ayes 30, nays 57; so the bill was rejected.

The question on printing 100 copies of Mr. Hick's bill was then taken, and *lost*.

A bill to vacate a part of the town plat of Bennett's addition to the town of Petersburg was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

An Act to amend the grocery law coming up at its second reading,

Mr. TRUMBULL briefly explained the nature of the bill.

Mr. CAVARLY moved its reference to a select committee. Mr. C. said he found no fault with the provisions of the bill, but he wished to render it still more effective by increasing the penalty after the first offence, and adding thereto on every successive offence. Mr. C. held that the moral sense of the community was opposed to the establishment of tippling houses.

Mr. DODGE thought the penalty in the bill sufficient to answer the ends proposed; he was not willing to break a man up altogether, by so heavy a fine, merely for selling a glass of whiskey.

Mr. KITCHELL was opposed to the bill because he was opposed to licenses altogether. He was against licensing wrong and making evil honorable by legislative sanctions. He thought if there was no license, and those who kept disorderly houses were punished for any disorder, it would be better.

The reference was then agreed to.

The bill to incorporate the town of Macomb coming up on its third reading,

Mr. BENTLEY moved to amend the bill by reserving to the Legislature a right to repeal or amend the Act if necessary.

On motion of Mr. WEBB, the bill and amendment was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Senate bills read a second time and referred.

An Act making school commissioners elective by the people.

An Act for the relief of the inhabitants of township 33, N. R. 3 E. 3d principal meridian.

An Act amending the corporation of Quincy.

An Act to incorporate Nauvoo city.

UNITED STATES SENATOR.

The resolution of the Senate to meet for the election of a United States Senator on Wednesday, the 16th inst. at 2 o'clock, was concurred in.

The resolution of the Senate to remain in session till 12 o'clock, until the bill to provide for the January interest could be passed, coming up for consideration,

Mr. WEBB moved to inform the Senate that they need not incommode themselves a longer period than till half past eleven o'clock; which was carried.

Mr. OLDS offered a preamble and resolution, that whereas a charge has been made that our former agents have received a bribe of one per cent on their bargains in the sale of State bonds, the Judiciary committee be instructed to enquire into the foundation for such charge, and report accordingly.

Mr. WOODSON proposed the following amendment—that the committee on the Judiciary inquire whether the bonds of the former Fund Commissioner have not been forfeited, &c.; which amendment was accepted by Mr. Olds as a modification to his resolution, and adopted.

Mr. BRADFORD offered a resolution for the amendment of the revenue laws; agreed to.

Mr. PARSONS offered a resolution to make guardians of minors account annually to the Probate Justice of the Peace; agreed to.

Mr. BROWN, of Sangamon, offered a resolution to abolish the present system of public printing, &c.; rejected.

On motion, the House then adjourned.

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FRIDAY, Dec. 11.

Mr. PECK, from the committee on finance, reported a bill providing for the payment of the January interest, with an amendment, being a substitute for the bill referred on yesterday. The bill being read,

Mr. TRUMBULL said, as it appeared to be of the same character as the bill rejected yesterday by the House, he thought it would be useless to take it up. He moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. LINCOLN said, the bill was precisely the same as that of yesterday, with the exception that it omitted the vexed and long debated question, whether to pay bonds in the hands of innocent holders. Mr. L. wished the two questions to be kept separate.

The motion to lay on the table was then put and *lost*—ayes 31, nays 40.

The question then being on receiving the bill reported by the committee,

Mr. *HARDIN* offered to amend by adding a section, setting apart a fund out of the taxes for the payment of future interest. *Mr.* Hardin said, the object he had in view was to make some permanent provision to meet this interest; he was for a permanent measure, and not for a mere temporary expedient. Judging from the votes already given, he thought such a bill as the committee had reported could not pass the House. Mr. H. here went into a calculation of the amount of State debt and interest falling due, and concluded by saying it would be impossible for him to vote for such a bill, without some kind of provision as that which his amendment proposed. This bill would double the whole interest to be paid, and not after all succeed in paying it. Without some provision of a permanent nature, we should only increase our debt and depreciate the value of our bonds. *Mr. H.* called upon the committee to know what was the end, aim and means they proposed.—Was is to go on hypothecating bonds again and again, with no means for the payment of them? *He* wished to see day-light before him. He had always been opposed to the system which had involved us in this difficulty, but he now felt the responsibility resting upon him in relation to the payment of the debt, notwithstanding his having been clear of participating in its creation.

Mr. LINCOLN would not take a wide range. The amendment brought up the question of raising means to redeem the hypothecated bonds. He wished to provide first for the immediate necessity of paying the January interest, and he was pledged, when that object was accomplished, to join in providing a permanent means to provide for meeting the interest hereafter. He had already offered a proposition similar to that of the gentleman from Morgan. Mr. L. objected to the particular measure of Mr. Hardin, as throwing difficulties in the way of meeting the ordinary demands of the State treasury.

Mr. HARDIN was willing to adopt any such judicious modification of his amendment, as would meet the object of providing a permanent measure, and avoid the difficulty pointed out.

Mr. PECK replied, as chairman of the finance committee, to the various objections raised against the bill reported. He professed to have no superior skill in matters of finance, but if this matter is of such importance as the gentleman has said it is, why with his great pretensions had he not proposed a measure suitable to the occasion? The session had been short, and the committee had not had time to do more than propose a measure for the immediate emergency. He knew the gentleman and his friends had their favorite measure, and wished to resort to the banks for relief. *Mr. P.* was not in favor of any such measure as that in which they centered all their hopes. In reference to the authors of the internal improvement system, that was a measure originating with both parties, and if any culpability exists both parties are equally responsible; the odium could not justly be thrown upon either political party. Mr. P. did not vote for the system any more than Mr. H., but he felt bound now that we were in this difficulty to do his utmost to provide for the honor and reputation of the State, that they at least might be safe. As to our bonds being below par, the bonds of the wealthiest nation in Europe had often been sold below par; the British consols, which were worth 100*l.* par, had been often sold for 66*l.* This was not now the time to go into the question of measures for ways and means to provide a permanent fund; we had only nineteen days before us when the payment would become due, those questions which would take some time to decide ought to be taken up afterwards, and then be acted on with due deliberation.

Mr. *HARDIN* then modified his amendment as was suggested by *Mr.* Lincoln, and handed it to the chair.

Mr. KITCHELL said he was opposed to this amendment; for the purpose of testing the sense of the *House*, he would move for a call of the House; which was ordered.

Mr. PARSONS wished briefly to explain why he could not go for the amendment of the honorable gentleman from Morgan. He wished this bill to pass; he would not be willing to pay interest on money which we had not received, but it was now too late to discuss that question, intricate and doubtful as it was. There were now only nineteen days for the Fund Commissioner to proceed to New York, to hypothecate the bonds and to pay the interest on the State debt. *However* anxious he might be, as an individual, that the State should not suffer by paying for money which by the conduct of Delafield we had been in part defrauded of, yet he felt himself imperiously called upon to act and vote in such a manner on this important occasion, as not to permit our credit to suffer and our character as a people to be injured by a failure to meet our engagements. He was not willing that we should fail one day—no, not even one hour, in paying the interest due. The Governor of this State called the Legislature together to prepare for this object; we have had a session of two weeks already, and what has been done? Has any measure been proposed? In a few days, if we do not act decisively in this matter, the credit of our State will suffer materially. We all know, said Mr. P., what an injury was inflicted on the credit of Pennsylvania for not paying her interest in time; and shall we let the time go by, and lose the opportunity by protracted debate and never-ending amendments? We are acting for future generations; they will look at the conduct of this House, and the course we adopt at this time will be thoroughly scrutinized. This is a sovereign and independent State, and shall her credit be ruined? Shall it go forth to the world that the State is bankrupt? *He* trusted in God it would not. He regretted to say, that in the view of our affairs much ignoble despair had been exhibited; we had heard the words "blighting, withering," &c. employed. He spurned such terms; he despised such a pitiful and desponding view of our condition. True we are in debt, but let us only reflect what are our resources! The State of Illinois, which by her position and unequalled advantages both of soil and climate was destined to become in a few years by the energy and industry of her inhabitants one of the greatest, wealthiest and most powerful of the nations of the world; will be able in a short time to pay the principal of her debt more easily than now she can the interest. He was not willing that she should be made to appear a bankrupt to the world; he would not have the day to go by, he would have the interest paid on the very hour it was due. He hoped, for the sake of accomplishing this end, that this amendment would not be adopted, and that the bill of the committee would pass the House. *Mr. P.* denied that the party with which he acted was responsible for having led to this debt. The people themselves were in favor of the system, and their representatives acted in accordance with their desires and instructions. It could not be charged on any particular party; it was enough that we are in debt and the interest must be paid in January next. The only question now before us is the providing means for immediate payment. It appeared to Mr. P. that the House should act speedily and energetically, and to let the Commissioner proceed without delay with the necessary bonds to New York and pay the amount of the interest due. He had no doubt, from the character of the Commissioner, that he would be able to hypothecate them on the best terms. Mr. P. represented a high-minded and honorable people, who would not consent for a moment that the State should be dishonored by a failure at this time, and her name be stigmatized as a bankrupt.

As to the debt which now presses on us, in a few years the people of this State will be able to pay it, our resources were vast, they were super-abundant; he was sorry to say that the stigma on our State was chiefly to be attributed to our own friends: people had made themselves busy in spreading doleful accounts that the State was ruined, that it was bankrupt, that we had an over whelming debt, were under desolating influences &c. He regretted this, it was weak, it was narrow policy, it was unbecoming as well as unfounded and untrue.

It was the working of excited and diseased imagination. The imagination exercises a strong influence over the human mind, said Mr. P. In many instances it is well known that a man in perfect health may be made really sick and be brought to deaths' door by repeated declarations working on his imagination, telling him that he is very sick. So it was now in a great measure with our State: we are even at this moment well able to pay every cent we owe; our resources are undiminished, our soil poures forth its riches, and yet notwithstanding that we are among them us flourishing people in the world, by repeated assertions of ruin blight, mildew, &c., an effect had been produced, much to be regretted, which was only predicated on the imagination. It was unworthy of men and of statesmen to fall into such error and to be influenced by despondency so produced. He hoped the Bill would pass.

Mr. ENGLISH was convinced that arguments and long speeches would never pay the debt. He had voted for some of these heretofore but he would now vote for a bill to pay for the interest due, without involving any other question tending to delay the measure. He believed the expense of the debates on the amendments proposed, would have paid the amount of the sum said to be due for interest on certain of the bonds. Mr E. then moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table. The motion was *lost*—ayes 34, nays 37.

Mr. CAVARLY was opposed to the amendment, because it imposed an additional tax more than was now imposed by law; it was a temporary expedient, and he could not yield his assent to it.

Mr. C. then proposed as a substitute, an amendment providing a different but permanent fund. This not being in order.

Mr. C. moved to lay Mr. Hardin's amendment on the table, which was decided in the affirmative Ayes 48, Noes 38.

Mr. CAVARLY then offered his amendment, setting aside the taxes to accrue on certain lands as a fund to meet the interest.

Mr. C. would not detain the House long: he had voted for every measure hitherto brought forward where there was any reasonable hope of doing something effectual to preserve our honor unsullied: but he held, that the bonds in order to insure confidence must be predicated on some permanent fund; so that having a foundation to rest upon, they might obtain credit, solidity and character. This he thought to be absolutely necessary. Carrying the pledged faith of the State and what was better still the pledged revenue of the State they would then be better than the bonds of any other state, whereas without such a measure they would sink to nothing!

Fourteen years ago, Mr. C. had the honor of a seat in this House: he then for the purpose of building County Courts had brought forward the measure which has ever since been acted upon, to turn a portion of the State Revenue to the counties, he now took the opportunity of recalling that revenue from the Counties which on his proposition had been diverted from the State Revenue and bringing it back again to the use of the State in its time of need. This was but just and fair: In withdrawing the land tax from the counties to the State we shall do justice to ourselves and sustain the credit of the State without adding a single additional tax to those already existing.

Mr. MURPHY of Cook thought the amendment offered to pledge the State Revenue arising from the land taxes as a fund to pay the interest semi-annually to be neither wise nor practicable. Mr. Murphy here went into a calculation tending to shew the impracticability of the plan proposed. Again how was this sum taken from State resources to be supplied? The State would be left in a condition incapable of going on without it.

M. McCLERNAND moved to reject the Report and Bill of the Committee: and took this occasion to explain the reasons of the vote he had given in the early part of the morning.

Mr. McC proceeded at some length to state various objections which held fatal against the bill.

Mr. CAVARLY replied to the remarks of Mr. Murphy of Cook upon the measure he had proposed.

Mr. HENDERSON was opposed to the proposition of the gentleman from Green: Mr. H. thought he had mistaken the law in relation to county and State Revenue, when he thought the revenue from real estate was greater than that from any other property. Mr. H. here entered into an explanation and statement of the different kinds of taxes in relation to this argument,

Some counties M. H. said did not go beyond the State tax: this proposition went to increase the tax ten cents on the hundred dollars: he thought it was not wise to leave the Counties in debt beyond all redemption: they ought to be fostered and cherished as well as the government itself.

Another objection which he had against this proposition was that it went upon a system of legislation which was unequal and unfair; it appeared to him both unwise and unjust. Mr. H, here referred to the Military bounty lands which had been taxed for twenty years to shew the unequal operation of the measure proposed. He hoped we should not go back to the time of 1838. If we must sustain the credit of the State, let it be by a direct or indirect tax: he denied that we possessed a magic power to make money; we must adopt the one or the other; he would go for either or both, but he could not give his assent to empty vain and idle expedients which could have no solid effect on sustaining the credit of Illinois. Let us shew to the world that we have made some sound arrangements to pay our debts. Mr. H would refer to Pennsylvania; as long as that State went on borrowing and her politicians had not the nerve to raise money by a tax, her bonds were almost worthless in the market. but no sooner did she use effectual means to raise a fund by a tax, her bonds rose in value and her credit was restored. If gentlemen wish to sustain the honor the character and credit of Illinois, they must go to some sound measure productive of the end desired: but as to the proposition which he had heard so far they were mere expedients making us pay double interest and had nothing in them which could inspire confidence among money holders or lenders. He would vote against every proposition which did not provide some sure foundation to go upon It appeared to *Mr.* H. that it would be both time and money lost to send a Commissioner on without some better and surer means of raising the necessary money; while he was up he would set the House right in reference to the Scrip said to have been issued by the Board of Public Works: the board had never authorised any issue, as might be seen on the face of the Scrip; the Commissioners never authorised the Scrip; the contractors drew the drafts; the Commissioners never authorised the scrip to be made. The whole amount of our present Revenue from all sources was $116,000 our Expenditures were $45,000 not including the interest on money borrowed, which alone amounts to a sum more than our Expenditure.

If therefore you take the Revenue of the State to pay the interest, and take a quarter of the revenue of the Counties how could the State meet her ordinary expenses? Must not all her various officers be paid? Pass this amendment, said Mr. *H.* and my word for it every man will resign, for can they remain and live upon wind? they are already as it is but poorly paid. Pass the amendment and it would not meet the end designed while it would throw the State and counties in a condition of insolvency. *He* would vote against the proposition.

Mr. KITCHELL said he could not support the amendment as it would hurt the counties, some of which were much in debt, his own among the number.

The questions on the amendment was then put and decided in the negative, Ayes 1. Noes 83, so the House rejected the amendment.

On motion of Mr. Murphy of Cook the House then adjourned.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The bill to vacate the town plat of the town of Lancaster, in Henry county, was passed.

The bill to erect a bridge across the Saline river was ordered to a second reading.

Mr KITCHELL on leave, introduced a resolution providing that the fund commissioner communicate to the House any information he may possess as to means of obtaining funds for the payment of the January interest, which was adopted.

Orders of the Day.

BILLS ON THEIR THIRD READING.

A bill declaring the town of Benton to be the county seat of Franklin county.

A bill for the relief of the inhabitants of town 33, N. R. 3. East of the 3. principal meridian.

A bill making partial appropriations (amended by Mr Bentley by including an appropriation of $100 to the copying clerks of the House and Senate.

The bill to amend the act of incorporation of Quincy city, was read a second time and referred to a select committee.

The bill to make school commissioners elective by the people, was read twice and referred to the committee on education.

The bill to reimburse the internal improvement fund advances made to the canal fund, was read twice, and on motion of Mr Turney, referred to the committee on internal improvement.

The bill to legalize the assessment of property in Peoria county for the year 1840, was read twice, and, on motion of Mr Moore, referred to the select committee, to which the St Clair county bill for the same object had been referred.

A bill to repeal the act incorporating the town of Juliet, was read a third time and passed.

The Senate bill providing means to pay the January interest was then taken up, and read a second time.

Mr KITCHELL moved to amend by providing that no interest be paid on bonds issued contrary to law, and on bonds for which the state had received no consideration.

On this amendment the yeas and nays were taken, when Mr Kitchell withdrew his amendment and offered another, the same in substance, with a slight verbal alteration.

Mr MURPHY, of Cook, moved to lay this amendment on the table; which motion was lost. Yeas 39, nays 43,

The question on the adoption of the amendment, was then put and carried. Yeas 41, nays 40.

The question occurring on ordering the bill as amended to a third reading, the bill was rejected; yeas 19, nays 39.

Mr BISSELL offered a resolution to go into the election of an Attorney General on Monday next, the 14th inst, which was disagreed to. Yeas 38, nays 39.

Mr HENDERSON offered a preamble and resolution pledging the House not to entertain any proposition tending to create, alter or abolish any state road whatever.

Mr WHEELER joined with the mover of the resolution in reprobating any legislation on the subject of roads, when the county commissioners had power sufficient over the matter: but as they had no power to vacate roads, and many are required to be vacated, he must oppose the resolution.

Mr HENDERSON said he was not aware the county commissioners had not the power to vacate roads, they ought to have it. The resolution was then, by agreement, laid on the table.

The report of the finance committee on the bill for the payment of the January interest, heretofore introduced by Mr Hicks, with a substitute, therefore offered as an amendment, by the committee, was on motion of Mr Trumbull, taken up for consideration.

The question being on the amendment by the committee, it was rejected.

Mr McCLERNAND moved to fill up the blank in the first section, by inserting 40 cents, thus setting aside 40 cents out of every $100 of taxes on lands becoming taxable after the year 1841.

On the suggestion of Messrs Hardin and Trumbull, 30 cents was moved to be inserted instead of 40.

Mt CAVARLY objected to the amount as still tending to cause an inequality in the imposition of taxes.

Mr HENDERSON stated that in some counties there would be no land taxable, and they therefore would pay none of this tax: it was thus unequal. This proposition was also against the provision of the Constitution, by which taxation is not to be on one species of property alone, but on all generally by valuation. He hoped the amendment would not prevail, being unjust and unequal.

Mr ENGLISH suggested that the question should now be taken on the bill itself, without settling the details and filling up the blanks; time might thus be saved, for it might happen that the House might reject the bill at last. Mr E therefore proposed first to test the sense of the House on the bill.

Mr PECK hoped that when it was seen how difficult and even impossible it was to agree on the mere details of such a bill as this, the House would see the necessity of saving both time and labor by rejecting a bill which it would take many weeks to discuss.

Mr McCLERNAND was constrained to express his disapproval of the course of the finance committee, in regard to their bill; it had pressed upon us as if it appeared to be the intention of the committee to gag the House on this question: but the pill they had persisted in administering was found too nauseous for the House to swallow. Mr McC continued his remarks at some length, in support of Mr Hick's bill.

Mr DOUGHERTY expected before this time some bill to have passed; he had been disappointed, and the time was now almost run to a close. Two months would not be sufficient to settle and agree upon the details of this bill, involving the question of taxing the people, and the best manner of making that taxation: this was an important question which could not be decided in less than two months; meantime to make the payment of the January interest depend on our agreement on details so minute and perplexing was to defeat the object now before us, to pay this interest. Mr D then said that he had no question in his mind but that the unsold lands in the State ought to belong to Illinois, with this security, or some other, we might raise the money by a loan from the Bank.

Mr KITCHELL, advocated the bill at some length.

Mr HARDIN after examining the bill, said he should vote against it; the blanks not being filled up if the bill passed it would be like the Indian's gun, which had neither stock, lock nor barrel, and had only the ram-rod; he would therefore move to lay it on the table. Mr H ridiculed the idea of passing a bill in which the state of Illinois sets apart no cents, nothing but a mere blank to pay the interest with! He asked how such blank promises would look in Wall-st?

Mr KITCHELL said he thought the bill was to be amended, and the blanks filled up, after being passed merely as a test.

Mr McCLERNAND replied at some length, and spoke against the proposed measure of obtaining relief from the Bank. Mr McC considered the Bank as most hostile to the credit and character of Illinois. The Bank had refused to cash the Auditor's warrants, thereby attempting to proclaim to the world that the state was bankrupt at home. He scouted the idea of resorting to the Bank. Mr McC then proceeded to explain the reasons of his opposition to the committee bill. He was against contracting a debt unless by the same act means were provided for its redemption. In that bill our bonds were to be advertised like the goods of a bankrupt.—

Mr McC had voted for the system of Internal Improvement by instructions from his constituents; his judgment had at all times wavered as to the prudence of contracting these debts. He was now willing and desirous to provide for the payment of the debt contracted.

Mr HARDIN said Mr. McC had missed the mark and hit his friend from Cook very severely. Mr. H. had been instructed as well as the member from Gallatin, by several primary assemblies, yet he had voted against contracting this debt.

As to increasing bank stock, Mr. H. had not even hinted at the subject, but he remembered the time when the gentleman from Gallatin brought in a bill for increasing bank stock. Mr. H. held that we ought to meet our debt, and foot the bill, and if gentlemen would do this, they would find that a resort must be had to bank stock; he would not however, being in a minority, propose any such measure. *Mr.* H. ridiculed the idea of the Democratic party having been for bank stock in 1837 and being opposed to it in 1840. The issue made appeared to him to be bank stock or direct taxation. Mr. H. would go for direct taxation, not for blank cents as the member from Gallatin proposes. Mr. H. answered the remarks as to the hostility of the bank in refusing to pay auditors warrants enquiring if the member from Gallatin would have this little monster, to cash the auditors warrants and so be guilty of aiding, assisting or bribing the Legislature as that gentleman would call it. *Mr.* H. then went on to show that the bank had been attacked, instead of being hostile as *Mr.* *Mc*C. had charged it. Mr. H. made these remarks without having any interest in the bank, he neither owed it a dollar nor owned one in it; he spoke from a sense of duty and justice Mr. H. proceeded to discuss the merits of the several bills, showing that this bill provides no means for the payment of the interest in July next. Mr. H. believed the majority did not intend to go for taxation, but raised a false issue between bank stook and direct taxation. Mr. H. called on Mr. McC. to come out and propose his plan.

Mr. McCLERNAND replied in a speech of some length, (which is deferred for want of room.)

Mr. HARDIN rejoined, and was followed by Mr. Peck in reply; Mr. Peck having concluded his remarks; it being now late the *House* adjourned.

CORRECTION.—In our report of the proceedings on Saturday the 5th inst., it was erroneously stated that Mr. Bailey was absent; that gentleman was present all the time. Mr West also was present; the mistake was purely accidental.

SATURDAY, Dec. 12.

Petitions were presented

By Mr. KITCHELL, from John Vanhart, a contractor on the rail road, praying for relief from ruin brought on him by depreciated scrip.

By the same, from some of his constituents, on the subject of State roads.

Mr. MINSHALL asked leave to offer a resolution providing, that whereas the election of officers on mere party considerations was injurious to the country, &c., and whereas no definite legislation can be had in time to meet the January interest by reason of the hostility of party, and whereas staying here is of no more use; therefore

Resolved, That we will adjourn on the 12th inst. *sine die*, and that each member will resign and a new election take place; and that the people be recommended to look to the candidates in reference to their State legislation, and not to the candidates for the office of President of the United States.

The *House* refused to receive the resolution.

The bill to provide for the payment of the January interest, introduced heretofore by Mr. Hicks, coming up for consideration,

Mr. TRUMBULL appealed to the House to pass the bill immediately, and make provision for the debts we legally owe. Mr. T. hoped those gentlemen who had depicted so strongly the fatal results of not sustaining the credit of the State, would join with him in support of this bill, and at all events provide for the payment of those debts about which there was no dispute. The question as to illegal contracts may be arranged hereafter.

Mr. HENDERSON moved an amendment to the first section of the bill, for the purpose of testing the question The amendment proposed to include personal property as well as real estate in bearing the burden of the payment.

Mr. H. thought this amendment was in harmony with the provision of the constitution. The provision of the bill was incompatible with the constitution; it taxed the land-holder exclusively, which was not taxing according to the value of property. since the money holder would altogether escape taxation. If there were no constitution, the measure would be unjust. Ought the tax to fall solely on the owners of the soil?—If so, the land owners must quit the country.

Mr. WEBB explained. *He* thought Mr. H. had mistaken the purport of the bill.

Mr. HENDERSON if mistaken remained so still. As to the bank bonus to be set apart, three years ago it had been set apart for internal improvement purposes, and it would be strange legislation to set it apart for other purposes. As to safety fund bonds, they could not be got ready by January. He only wished to test whether this house was willing to tax the owners of land, and let all other owners of other property go clear.

Mr. CAVARLY moved to amend the bill by striking the body out, and inserting that the Fund Commissioner be authorized to hypothecate bonds, &c. and that he pay over the money in discharge of the interest, &c.

On the suggestion of Mr. GRIDLEY, a communication from the Fund Commissioner, lying on the clerk's table, was then read It contained information in a letter from New York as to the great difficulty of raising money, and stating what it was hoped the Legislature would do, together with some strong laudatory commendations of the Fund Commissioner, and hopes expressed that the Legislature would keep him in office by re-electing him, &c., he having made such a favorable impression on the New York community! The Commissioner himself added some declarations of his own disinterestedness and integrity, of the difficulty of his office and his wish to resign, &c.

Mr. CAVARLY had presented this amendment, which presents the simple proposition to pay the interest unembarrassed with a multitude of other questions; they could be settled hereafter. His object was to obtain the immediate action of the house, leaving the legal question to be settled in the proper courts. No time was now to be lost, every moment was precious. *He* wished to settle one plain simple proposition, "will the Legislature of Illinois pay the interest due on her debt?" That was the proposition now to be decided.

Mr. KITCHELL hoped the amendment would not pass; the restraint to save us from fraud was evaded. The Fund Commissioner, under the discretion left to him to decide the legal question, would undoubtedly pay the interest on all the bonds.

Mr. DOUGHERTY supported the amendment; the only object was to pay the interest. The Commissioner is only instructed to pay what we owe, and not what we do not owe. What use was there of inserting in the bill useless provisions, which would not settle the question as to the legal doubts raised on some of the bonds? The only effect of the repudiating clause urged by some gentlemen, would be to proclaim to the world that we had been cheated, and some of the bonds were illegally parted with; it would have no other effect than that of poisoning our credit, it would not settle the question as to what were legal and what not. The present amendment proposes to leave the discretion to the Commissioner to pay our debts—our just debts only—leaving it to his discretion to do what is right.

Mr. DODGE hoped the amendment would pass; he would vote for almost any thing that had for its object the payment of the interest in due time. He was not inclined to be stubborn, he would yield his own views for the sake of saving the credit of the State of Illinois. He deprecated the pertinacity which, after many questions had been found impracticable, still persisted in bringing them up again. He hoped the house would unite and pass this or some equivalent measure without any more delay.

Mr. KITCHELL maintained, that having been swindled, we ought not to be afraid to proclaim it. *He* objected to the amendment, because it was a mere reiteration of the finance bill.

Mr. WEBB made some observations in favor of the amendment.

Mr. McCLERNAND was opposed to it for several reasons: 1st. Because it was too general and loose, giving power to the Commissioner without limitation, in relation to the bonds. 2d. Because it made him a judge to decide a question which the house had not been able to decide. 3d. Because it was the same bill which the house had already rejected in several forms. Mr. McC. replied to the objections of Mr. Henderson as to land tax and tax on personal property, showing that this bill raised no tax but only went to apply a tax already imposed by the revenue law. The argument, therefore, as to unequal taxation did not apply in this case, and fell to the ground.

Mr. LINCOLN had thought at first that some permanent provision ought to have been made for the bonds to be hypothecated. He was in favor of such a permanent fund, but he was soon convinced that if we connect with the question at this moment matters of finance, of revenue and taxation, nothing could be done. He was willing to go for the naked proposition, simply to pay the interest due. Mr. L. therefore, now proposed to adopt this amendment, without clogging it with revenue questions. *He* wished to see by a direct vote if the house would adopt the naked proposition. He for one was for it; if any details required amendment, it could be done hereafter.

The question on the amendment was taken by ayes and nays, and decided in the negative—ayes 41, nays 47.

Mr. TRUMBULL moved that the amendment of *Mr.* Henderson, making all property and not landed property alone liable, be laid upon the table; which motion was lost—ayes 35, nays 43.

Mr. WHITE moved the previous question; which was not assented to—ayes 38, nays 43.

The question being on Mr. Henderson's amendment,

Mr. TRUMBULL moved a substitute for the whole section in lieu of the amendment, providing that hereafter all the State's portion of the revenue to be derived from lands hereafter becoming taxable, be appropriated to the redemption of the bonds. Mr. Trumbull explained his proposition, shewing that it did not interfere with the counties.

Mr. MURPHY, of Perry, objected that this amendment would make the tax fall unequally; he suggested to modify it by making personal property subject to pay this interest as well as landed property.

Mr. TRUMBULL explained, that this amendment appropriated a part of a tax already imposed, leaving the tax on personal property to go for State uses; it imposed no new tax. The amendment was then agreed to.

Mr. McCLERNAND proposed to fill up the blank in section 6 with the number 7, so that no bond would be sold under 7 per cent.

Mr. KITCHELL moved to insert revenue in lieu of bonus.

After some remarks by Mr. McCLERNAND, and reply from Mr. K., the motion was *lost*.

Mr. PECK wished to know if it would be possible for the Governor to prepare these bonds in time; they were to be new bonds of a new character.

Mr McCLERNAND observed, that the bonds were already in existence; he had provided for that difficulty by retaining the old name of the bonds.

The question on the engrossment was then taken, and decided in the negative—ayes 36, nays 51; so the bill was rejected.

Mr. GILLESPIE asked leave to offer a joint resolution, that the House proceed to the election of a Fund Commissioner on this day evening; leave not granted.

The House then adjourned.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Mr. WOODSON on leave presented a resolution granting to the Education Convention now meeting in this city, the use of the Hall of the House of Representatives, which was adopted. Several Bills from the Senate were taken up and disposed of (for an account of which vide Senate Report)

Mr. KITCHELL from the Committee on the judiciary reported a bill to incorporate the town of Macomb without amendment.

Mr. BENTLEY moved to refer to a select committee.

Mr. KITCHELL briefly objected.

Mr. BAILEY stated that a petition for a charter had been drawn up by some citizens who were desirous of the city being incorporated, the bill passed the House last session and was left with the unfinished business. Mr. B. had traced out the papers and copied the charter, and he could state for the information of the House that there was nothing he could discover objectionable in it.

The bill was then passed.

The bill to incorporate the Mormon City of Nauvoo, was passed, after Mr. Kitchell stated to the House that there was an extraordinary clause in the bill authorizing the establishment of a Militia force, which however he considered harmless.

Mr. LOGAN from a select committee reported a bill for the relief of the heirs of Daniel Barrow, deceased, which was ordered to a second reading. On motion of Mr. Logan the bill was read a second time and referred to the committee on Judiciary.

Mr. WOODSON on leave introduced a bill abolishing the office of State House Commissioners which was read once and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. EDWARDS from a select committee to whom was referred resolutions relative to the adoption of the principles of Mr. Clays Land bill, and also of *Mr.* Calhouns, made a Report which was laid on the table.

Mr. HARDIN offered a joint Resolution for the election of a Fund Commissioner on Monday evening next at 3 o'clock.

Mr. PECK opposed the resolution he saw great difficulties if the matter of paying the interest was made to depend on the election of a Fund Commissioner, it would be better to appoint some officer immediately, the Auditor or Treasurer, to go on to New York.

Mr. HARDIN replied, he thought it would be better for the Fund Commissioner to resign that his successor might be appointed.

Mr. PECK replied, it would be indiscreet to entangle the measure with the election of a fund commissioner, every one was satisfied with the present incumbent, and willing to confide to him the present business having full confidence in his ability and integrity.

Mr. PECK moved to lay the resolution on the table which was negatived—ayes 41—noes 41.

Messrs. DODGE and McCLERNAND hoped the Resolution would not be adopted, they had the greatest confidence in the ability of the present fund commissioner.

Mr. McCLERNAND then moved to refer the resolution to the select committee.

Mr. DOUGHERTY supported the resolution, he thought as the present incumbent was to go out of office soon, he ought to know now whether he will be elected for another two years or not.

Mr. MURPHY of Perry was opposed to the resolution the officer would have nothing to do after the present negociation, he objected to the useless expenditure. The reference was then agreed to—ayes 45—noes 42.

Mr. LEARY offered the following resolution, that the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making the Statute Laws of Illinois as published by Stephen F. Gale evidence in the Courts of Justice of this State &c. which was adopted.

Mr. ROSS offered a resolution to consolidate the offices of county collector and Treasurer into one, and to make the same elective by the people, which was adopted and referred.

A resolution by the committee on lands to be discharged from the further consideration of the charges against the canal commissioners and to appoint a select committee to enquire into the same in Springfield.

Mr ARCHER advocated making the investigation immediately and in Springfield. Mr. Dodge urged the necessity of the investigation being made on the spot at Lockport.

Mr. MINSHALL had made up his mind that the investigation should be made immediately, and in Springfield.

Mr. LOGAN thought it absolutely necessary to go into an investigation immediately. We were here as guardians representing the people, to guard their rights, their liberties and their property.

What would be said of us if when charges serious had gone forth, we refused to have the inquiry made?

If they are not guilty let us clear them, if they are guilty let us condemn them; the people demanded the inquiry. He wished gentlemen to come up boldly and let this matter be now and immediately investigated. Mr. L. wanted to see the State righted and he would therefore support the resolution.

Mr. MURPHY of Cook opposed the resolution on the ground that the inquiry ought to be made at Lockport.

If it were made here he feared it would be a mere white-washing concern. How would three or four hundred men be kept here in Springfield all the session? how could members after their duties of the day go into an examination of a pile of documents as high as the Speaker's table? how could the jobs and works and roads of Lockport be transported here for examination.

Mr. ARCHER followed in favor of carrying on the inquiry in Springfield.

Mr. ROSS thought the enquiry useless; as it was, to be into reports of six years past, it was idle to chase down visionary reports: It would cause an unwarranted and lavish expenditure of money; the inquiry should only be made on definite and specific charges.

Mr. LEARY showed the impossibility of making any real investigation except on the spot.

Mr. WEBB advocated the investigation's being made immediately in Springfield.

Mr. BROWN of Ver. followed on the same side in a speech of considerable length. After an explanation between Messrs. Brown and Murphy of Cook,

On motion of Mr. McGinnis the House adjourned.

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MONDAY, Dec. 14.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Petitions were presented by

MR. KITCHELL from sundry citizens of Montgomery county in relation to roads.

MR. LOGAN from sundry citizens of Jackson county.

MR. CANADY from sundry citizens of Vermilion county.

MR. HARDIN from citizens of Morgan county, in relation to roads.

MR. DODGE from James M. Strode of Chicago praying for authority to erect a dam on a certain sinuous river.

MR. LEARY from sundry citizens of Chicago for relocating the Branch of——Bank at Chicago.

MR. WHEELER from sundry citizens of Hamilton county for a State Road all which were appropriately referred.

Reports were presented by Messrs. Leary, Denny and Moore from their respective Committees.

MR. ——from a Select Committee reported a bill making the clerks of circuit courts removeable at pleasure of the circuit Judges, and requiring said Clerks to give bond &c.

The question on ordering the bill to a second reading was taken by Ayes and Noes and decided in the negative. Ayes 33. Noes 48.

MR. THRELKELD offered a Resolution for the distribution of the common school fund according to the population, adopted

MR. DODGE offered a joint resolution for the election of an Attorney General on Tuesday at 2 o'clock, rejected Ayes 33 Noes 43.

The Resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the charges against the canal commissioners was taken up.

MR. ENGLISH moved to amend by inserting two members from each house, which was adopted by Mr. Archer as a modification of his resolution.

MR. PECK opposed the resolution as it would not satisfy the people if made there, the inquiry could not be complete unless made at Lockport where the numerous witnesses resided.

MR. WOODSON urged the necessity of the investigation, being had here and immediately. MR. W. urged that such heavy charges being made against honorable men, they ought to have an investigation immediately, and it ought not to be postponed to Lockport because the witnesses could not conveniently come here.

MR. MURPHY of Cook called for the reading of the original resolution, which was not read, not being in the Clerk's hands.

When Mr. M. saw the legal learning employed in favour of these gentlemen he thought there was an appearance of concert.

Mr M. was most anxious for an investigation, he did not wish for a mock one, but a real one in the place where it ought to be had, and where alone it could be had.

MR. LEARY repelled the idea that those who opposed the resolution were opposed to an investigation; if he was opposed to an inquiry he should then vote for the resolution, for it was tantamount to having no investigation. It would be easier and less expensive for three men to go to Lockport, than for three or four hundred men to come here to Springfield.

MR. DODGE followed on the same side; in reply to the allegation that there were no specific charges, he held that there should first be a tribunal established to investigate, before any charges were brought forward.

MR. ARCHER explained: he was anxious for an inquiry, he did not wish to be on any committee which might be appointed

MR. MUNSELL went for present investigation, here; if the inquiry were made at Lockport it might last for months and even years, whereas a committee here would be under the direct supervison of the house.

MR. PECK was not for delay, but for a speedy investigation, at the same time he believed the commissioners to be honorable and honest men; he had no suspicion that they were polluted with any monies having improperly gone into their pockets The enquiry he understood related only to the manner in which they had made contracts and performed the works.

MR. KITCHELL moved to lay the resolution on the table, that a suitable measure might be prepared as he thought the enquiry should be made at Lockport and immediately.

MR. DOUGHERTY opposed the motion; he was in favor of an immediate inquiry, the character of the State of Illinois was involved in the character of her public officers, therefore their characters ought to be protected until they were clearly proved to be undeserving.

MR. McCLERNAND was opposed to the resolution; 1st because the enquiry could be better made on the line of the canal than here; it would be more searching there; 2d because it would be more economical and would save a great expense; 3d because such an investigation so made on the spot would be more satisfactory to this House and to the people. He had formerly been Treasurer of the Work but his duties were confined to paying the drafts and checks drawn; his accounts were balanced and found to be all correct he had with him the certificates and receipts which established this; he invited the most searching scrutiny. He would go for the inquiry he thought the most effective, and if that failed he would vote in favor of any other mode of inquiry.

The motion to lay on the table was then put by yeas and nays and lost, Yeas 43, Noes 43.

On motion of Mr. Turney the House then adjourned.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The following bills were taken up and passed.

An act to vacate town plat of Livingston.

An act to vacate a part of town plat of Bennetts addition to town of Petersburg and for other purposes.

An act to repeal an act incorporating the town of Juliet.

An act to authorize the erection of a bridge across Saline River.

An act in relation to Charleston Seminary and Jonesboro' College.

An act to authorize Charles Sanburn a minor to execute a Deed.

Several bills on their second reading were severally referred.

An act to vacate the town plat of the town of Jefferson was on motion of Mr. Cavarly referred to the judiciary Committee with the following instruction.

"That the Committee bring in a Bill providing for the vacation of towns and the mode of perpetuating the Evidence thereof."

The Bill to amend the Grocery License Law coming up on its third reading,

Mr. BENNETT moved to amend the bill by striking out so much of the bill as repeals the 8th Section of the law regulating Groceries approved 2d March 1839.

Mr. CAVARLY supported the amendment, he was opposed to the bill as it now stood.

Mr. ORMSBEE moved to lay the amendment on the table, which was carried; he then moved to refer the bill to a special committee which was agreed to.

Mr HICKS on leave introduced a bill to provide for the payment of the January and July interest, which was read twice. (The Bill sets apart certain funds as a permanent Fund to meet the interest; and as to so much of Interest as it is disputed whether it should or should not be paid, the bill requires the amount to be deposited in some Bank until the question shall be judicially determined.

Mr. LINCOLN wished to know if there was any provision providing for the increase of the State Revenue; we had no funds to set aside out of that Revenue, which was not more than enough for present requirements. Mr. L explained how he had contrived that the measure he had proposed on a former occasion would not take away from the necessary supplies.

Mr. HARDIN stated that interest for only part of our debt was provided for: there was however the Canal debt and State House debt, to be pro-