

INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

APPORTIONMENT BILL.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 29.

On Thursday last, Mr. Dumont from the committee on that subject, reported the following apportionment bill, which was read three several times and passed by a very large majority.

SENATORIAL DISTRICTS.

* Knox, Davis and Martin 1; Lawrence 1; Greene and Owen 1; Vigo, Sullivan and Clay 1; Putnam 1; Parke 1; Vermillion and Warren 1; Clinton and Carroll 1; Fountain 1; Montgomery 1; Tippecanoe 1; Harrison 1; Perry, Crawford and Spencer 1; Warrick, Vanderburgh and Posey 1; Gibson, Pike and Dubois 1; Orange 1; Monroe 1; Johnson 1; Morgan 1; Hendricks 1; Shelby 1; Marion 1; Hancock and Madison 1; Hamilton and Boone 1; Cass, Miami and Fulton 1; Allen, Huntington, Wells, Adams, Grant and Wabash 1; Elkhart, Lagrange, Steuben, De Kalb and Noble 1; Delaware and Randolph 1; Union and Fayette 1; Henry 1; St. Joseph, Marshall, Kosciusko and Stark 1; Laporte, Porter, Newton, White, Jasper and Pulaski 1; Rush 1; Franklin 1; Dearborn 1; Decatur 1; Switzerland 1; Jackson and Scott 1; Wayne 2; Ripley 1; Bartholomew and Jennings 1; Jefferson 1; Clark 1; Floyd 1; Washington 1.

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS.

Rush 3, Dearborn 4, Wayne 4, Lawrence 2, Parke 3, Fountain 2, Tippecanoe 3, Henry 3, Union 2, Shelby 1, Marion 2, Harrison 2, Franklin 2, Jefferson 2, Washington 2, Clark 2, Vermillion 2, Bartholomew 2, Owen, Green, Warren, Clinton, Carroll, Monroe, Johnson, Morgan, Hendricks, Hancock, Hamilton, Madison, Boone, Allen, Elkhart, Delaware, Randolph, St. Joseph, Laporte, Decatur, Ripley, Switzerland, Orange, Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Gibson, Cass, Floyd, Jackson, Scott, Jennings, and Clay, one each.

1836 Knox, Davis and Martin 1 each; 1837 Knox 2, Davis and Martin 1 each; 1838 Knox, Davis and Martin 1 each; 1837 Knox 2, Davis and Martin 1; 1840 Davis, Martin and Knox 1 each; Sullivan and Vigo to elect 2 until 1840 and in that year Vigo elects 3 and Sullivan 1; Putnam and Montgomery elect 2 each and one additional representative alternately, commencing with Putnam; 1836 Crawford, Perry and Spencer 1 each; Pike and Dubois 1 jointly; 1837 Perry, Spencer and Pike 1 each, Dubois and Crawford 1 jointly; 1838 Perry, Spencer and Crawford 1 each, Dubois and Pike 1 jointly; 1839 Perry and Spencer 1 jointly, Pike, Dubois and Crawford 1 each; 1840 Crawford, Perry and Spencer 1 each, Pike and Dubois 1 jointly; Huntington, Adams and Wells 1 jointly; Grant and Wabash 1 jointly; Lagrange, Steuben, De Kalb and Noble 1 jointly; Marshall, Kosciusko and Stark 1 jointly; Porter and Newton 1 jointly; White, Jasper and Pulaski 1 jointly; Miami and Fulton 1 jointly. Jefferson shall elect one additional representative in the years 1836, '39 and '40. Washington one additional representative in 1838. Clark one additional representative in 1839.

In the afternoon of the same day the bill was reported to the House of Representatives, where, after being amended so as to provide for one additional senator in the district connected with Allen, it was passed without a call for the yeas and nays. A concurrence of the Senate in this amendment is all that is necessary to dispose of that heretofore difficult subject.—*Journal*.

LEGISLATIVE.

On the subject of internal improvements, sundry resolutions containing instructions to the committee have been adopted in the House of Representatives, and so far as developments have yet been made there would seem to be but little opposition to a general system of internal improvements. The committee of the House of Representatives have been in session on the subject, and we learn that their proceedings, so far, have been very harmonious and unanimous. We are informed that it has been determined to constitute a Board of Internal Improvements, consisting of nine members, to be appointed by the Governor, subject to the approval or rejection of the Senate, and to be removed by joint resolution of both Houses. We have not understood what works the committee purpose to recommend to state patronage, but presume a good many will be embraced, as the sum proposed to be borrowed will be something like twelve millions of dollars. A bill on this subject will probably be reported in the House of Representatives on Monday or Tuesday next.

POSTSCRIPT.—Since the above was written we are informed that there was no disagreement of opinion as to the propriety of continuing the Wabash and

Eric Canal, and authorizing a speedy commencement of the White river and White water canals.

Mr. Vawter, chairman of the committee on roads, yesterday, reported a bill, providing for a loan, for twenty years, at 5 per cent. per annum, in anticipation of the three per cent. fund, of \$500,000 dollars, to be divided equally between the several counties, which will give about 6000 dollars to each county. The report accompanying the bill we shall give at length hereafter. The bill was twice read when Mr. Vawter moved that it be committed to a committee of the whole House and made the special order of the day for Monday next. Mr. Davis moved to lay it on the table. After a desultory debate of some length, in which Messrs. Vawter, Davis, Evans, Smith of Ripley, Ray, and Johnson participated, Mr. Davis withdrew his motion to lay on the table. Mr. Vawter then modified his motion so as to make it the order of the day for next Monday week. Mr. Ray moved to refer the bill to the committee on canals and internal improvements, urged it on the ground that the committee might so connect it with the internal improvement bill as to provide for the improvement of roads in those parts of the state which cannot be accommodated by the canals and railroads. The bill was finally committed to a committee of the whole House and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

The whole of yesterday afternoon in the House was occupied in the consideration of the case of Mr. Nave. The papers in the case having been read, Mr. Nave was permitted to make his defense, when William Quarles, Esq., in his behalf, addressed the House between two and three hours; and, not being able to complete his argument, the House adjourned. The case will probably be resumed and finished this morning.—*Indiana Journal*.

STATE BANK.

Amongst the Legislative documents, which, for the want of room, we are as yet unable to lay before our readers, is the interesting Report of Mr. Merrill, President of the State Bank of Indiana. By this document it appears, that "after paying all expenses of organizing, and incurred in managing the Bank and branches, and making a reservation of \$35,179 35 cents for the surplus fund, a dividend of three per cent on the capital paid in, was declared at the November session of the State Board. The sum of \$15,000 accruing to the State has been paid over to the Sinking Fund, and \$2,000, the tax on individual stock, set apart as a portion of the permanent fund for common schools."

By a calculation made in the report from the best available data, notes and bills have been discounted, in the different branches, for 722 farmers, 339 merchants, druggists, and grocers, 272 mechanics, 134 produce and cattle dealers, 87 manufacturers, millers and distillers, 121 persons of different professions, 27 innkeepers, and 236 whose employment was unknown to the officers of the branches. The loans from all the branches, on the 21st November, were \$1,310,965 51; the paper in circulation \$1,393,035 00; the specie in the vaults \$797,811 97—and the cash on hand, bank notes and specie \$1,369,845 64; and that "the circulation obtained by the paper, and the specie on hand, are such as have not often appeared in the operations of banking." The President enters into an interesting detail of the operations of the Bank, and urges many useful and practical suggestions with regard to the interests and trade of the country. It appears that the individual deposits in all the branches, for the last half year, have been, at the end of each month, as follows, viz: June \$272,907 42; July \$306,673 99; October \$323,407 94; and November \$379,543 00. "These accounts," says the President, "do not include the deposits made by the Government, and are larger in proportion to the capital than those of any country banks in the United States, or than most of the city banks. By the 109th section of the charter, the State reserves the power of investing its education and other funds in the bank, so as to "make them more productive," and by the 21st section the bank may receive deposits on such terms and conditions as may be agreed, yet by the present charter the funds of the State not subscribed as stock cannot be made productive nor can the deposits, as they are now made, be profitable to the Depositor or an object of much consequence to the Bank. But if something like a Savings Fund institution could be grafted on the branches, if they were encouraged to pay a small interest on deposits that were left for fixed periods, and if these could be used in the purchase of business paper or other safe transactions, many of the wants and necessities which increase

business requires would be supplied by means that are now without use or benefit. All experience is in favor of the happy influence of Savings Banks. They promote industry and economy—they encourage to action and enterprise—and as the tendency of money is to flow to places of business, may not an amendment to the charter be devised in this respect that will add not less to the interest of the State than to the comfort and prosperity of individuals?"

Indiana Democrat.

INCIDENTS OF THE FIRE.

NEW YORK, DEC. 10.

In one of the stores consumed on Wednesday night, was a large quantity of saltpeter, which, while it was burning, kept up a succession of violent explosions resembling an artillery salute, though with a much less powerful report. We mention this fact chiefly for the benefit of the Bostonians, who have never yet settled the question whether a certain vessel at the head of Central wharf could have exploded as it did, by the mere force of saltpeter.

One of the largest firms who were burnt out, removed their goods, or a large part of them, to the store of a friend, which it was quite probable would ultimately share the same fate. They then went at midnight, and hired a new store, where by five o'clock in the morning their goods were safely deposited. Early on Thursday, while the fire was yet raging, they contracted for the immediate building of their own store, so that in about twelve hours after they were burned out, they had all their arrangements made for repairing the damage. Yesterday men were engaged in removing the rubbish, preparatory to a new erection. The firm to which we allude, is Arthur Tappan & Co.

We were incorrect yesterday in saying that not a building remained within the limits of the fire. There is one, the brick store of Mr. Benson, dealer in copper, tin, &c. It stands erect in the midst of surrounding desolation.

It is thoroughly fire-proof, with walls sixteen inches thick. It would be natural to ascribe its safety to this fact, were it not that four other stores belonging to the same owners, and built in the same manner, have shared the common fate of those around them.

The number of stores and dwellings destroyed may probably be set down at about five hundred and fifty, the value of which, independently of any of the contents, may be estimated not unreasonably at three millions of dollars.

In all these stores were deposited goods and merchandise, varying in value perhaps from ten to one hundred thousand dollars. Of this amount a portion more or less considerable will be saved, but still the absolute loss is very formidable, though undoubtedly much below the exaggerated amount surmised in some of the papers. At this season, happily, both the dry goods merchants and grocers have comparatively little stock on hand—and although large insurances are made in order to cover possible loss, in many such cases, the amount to be actually demanded will be much less than the policy. We have heard with a few minutes of three such instances, where one party was insured for one hundred thousand dollars, and will not claim more than twenty thousand, and two others of twenty thousand dollars each, where in one case five and the other three thousand only will be asked. If there be allowed \$20,000 for the actual average loss, over and above what was saved from the flames, on the contents of each building destroyed, the aggregate would be eleven millions of dollars, to which add for the buildings three millions, and we have a loss of fourteen millions. We have little doubt that this amount will rather exceed, than fall short of, the actual loss.

New York American.

We paid another visit to the scene of the recent conflagration last evening, and walked thoroughly over the ruins, thinking of Carthage and Pompeii. The fire was by no means extinguished, and was smoking through hills of brick in one place, and blazing in another, in all directions. In all places where the heat would allow of labor, people were at work in digging for such remains of property as might be found worth preserving. Near the site of the late Franklin market, a cargo of indigo, which we had observed in a blaze on Thursday, was yet burning in bright flame. The heap was, however, much reduced, and laborers were endeavoring to save a portion of the remainder. Along the line of South street, particularly where cotton had been stored, the fires were yet burning with considerable energy. From the ruins of one store, the owners had shovelled out upon the pavement perhaps a thousand bushels of coffee, mixed, of course, with sand and rubbish, but it is presumed that considerable will be saved

ed. We saw them taking out from below masses of bricks mingled with fire, a number of bags of coffee uninjured. Near to this, and thoroughly on fire, we were pointed to the cargo of tea, which arrived up in the Paris, but a few days before the fire. The importer resides in Salem; and it was supposed that he would realize a fortune from this single voyage. The fortune has disappeared in a night. But it is vain to continue the enumeration. On every hand, at every step, they were pulling bales and pieces of goods from among the rubbish; blankets, silks, linens, calicoes, every thing, some ruined by water, some by fire, some by being trampled in the mud; some half burnt, and many yet on fire, and blazing up as brought forth to the air. But we doubt not that some valuable merchandise will yet be recovered from the cellars and basements of many of the stores that have been destroyed.—*N. Y. Commercial Adv.*

The N. Y. Commercial, giving an account of the great fire in that city, says:—

"The most revolting circumstance attending the calamity, was the infamous extent of plunder. Nearly a hundred scoundrels were seized in the very act of stealing valuable articles, even when the alarm and danger were at the highest, and yesterday about two hundred more were arrested for having articles in their possession, stolen from the scene of the conflagration. Notwithstanding the vigilance exerted to prevent these spoliations, the army of plunderers was so numerous, and they displayed so much boldness and dexterity, that a large amount of property was carried off. The rooms of the police office are crowded with goods of almost every conceivable description, taken from theives who had been detected and brought up; probably ten thousand dollars worth of goods has in this way been transferred to the custody of the police.

"The devastated portion of the city was the general resort, throughout the whole of yesterday, for all the rogues and abandoned characters of the metropolis; they hovered about like birds of prey, watching their opportunity for plunder; and we are ashamed to say that among them were numbers of women, not less active in this evil doing than their competitors of the other sex. Many of them were seized, having concealed about their persons valuable silks, shawls, laces, and other costly articles of convenient bulk for hiding and carrying away."

We are happy to learn by the New York Star of the 18th inst. that the loss sustained at the conflagration in New York, is not so great as was at first represented. The Star estimates the loss at not over fifteen millions; a large portion of the merchandise consumed belonged to foreigners. The loss (says the Star) on French goods generally, will fall heavily on the Lyons manufacturers, as an immense amount destroyed was on consignment. Large sums were insured in other cities.—*Cin. Repub.*

PRIVATE LOSS....PUBLIC MONEY.

Immediately upon the receipt at Philadelphia of the intelligence of the terrible conflagration at New-York, a meeting was held by the sympathizing citizens, to consider of the best way to assist the sufferers.—Among other things, a resolution was passed recommending that Congress be petitioned to make a loan of ten millions of dollars to the city of New-York, or to those of its citizens who suffered loss of property by the conflagration.—We are surprised to observe that this resolution is meeting with the general approbation of the press; not that we see anything very objectionable in the resolution itself, or in the fact of the Philadelphians thus manifesting their sympathy; but because the recommendation is obviously the work of the excitement of the moment, and is calculated to delude the sufferers with hopes which it is clear can never be realized. Let Congress make an appropriation in this instance, and it will soon have applications of a similar kind enough to consume a goodly portion of its time. The loss in this case is certainly appalling, and the consequent suffering will be immense. The sympathy of the whole country must be awakened, and timely aid be rendered the afflicted; but this must be altogether a work of individual exertion and munificence. It is folly, it strikes us, to talk of petitioning Congress in a matter of this kind. Let public meetings be held throughout the union, and those who have means will certainly be far from niggardly in drawing upon their purses in such a cause.—*Cin. Mirror.*

Frankfort Argus.

More than a hundred thousand dollars a month have been received at the land offices of Chicago and Quincy, in Illinois, in payment for lands taken at the minimum price of \$125 per acre, since the public sales in the summer. There is an immense tide of emigration settling into that as well as the other states of the west.

In Rochester, New York, there are 21 flour mills, with 96 runs of stones now in operation. These mills cost \$540,000. They consume daily 20,000 bushels of wheat making 5000 barrels of flour. The annual value of flour manufactured there amounts to three millions of dollars.

We learn from the Natchez Courier, that such is the flood there, that the planters are gathering their corn in skiffs, that the mud bridge over Old river has been carried away, and the water is running through the streets of Alexandria. The damage is immense, but not so great as was at first thought.

supposed by those making the lowest estimates soon after its occurrence. We have seen a letter of a late date from a most intelligent source, which says:

"The great loss by the fire in this city, falls on the stockholders of the Fire Insurance Companies. The merchants were generally insured, and they will get all their pay. The Real Estate owner can sell his lot for as much as lot and store would have brought, with but few exceptions."

With the energy and enterprise of the New York merchants, that part which was destroyed by the fire will, we doubt not, in a few months, be rebuilt with increased splendor and convenience; and with their industry added, their losses so repaired.—*Globe.*

LATER FROM TEXAS.

The last accounts from camp, received by express at Brazoria, on the 11th, state on the morning of the 6th, an attack was made on the town of St. Antonio, by the Texian army, headed by Capt. Milam, and after a hard fight of 18 hours, succeeded in getting possession of three stone houses, from which position they had silenced two or three of the enemy's cannon, commanding important points; and when the express left at 4 o'clock on the 6th, the fight still continued. The loss of the enemy could not be ascertained, but during the first 12 hours of the fight, they carried off all the dead, and when the courier left, seventeen dead bodies could be counted around one of the guns that was silenced.—*N. O. Bulletin.*

FROM MEXICO.

By private advices, says the New Orleans Bee, of the 19th ult. we learn that Mr. Daniel Pope, the American consul at Mexico, has lately had his house violated by the government troops under command of Martinez, under the pretence of searching for the collector of customs; although Mr. Pope, strenuously deprecated and opposed this arbitrary act. He has been obliged to return to his country. The Mexicans seem resolved to have a rupture with the government or the people of the United States.

We learn also that the ships sailing from Vera Cruz to Tampico are not permitted to carry letters or journals—which is very prejudicial to the merchants. This order is now rendered general. Editors are forbidden to treat on current circumstances; and all intercourse is prohibited as far as possible, to give information of the real state of things in the Mexican struggles. The state of Tamaulipas is under the ban of centralism; and intercourse strictly prohibited with it—so that it is in a state of blockade. The Americans resident throughout Mexico are subjected to daily vexations and dangers; and many of them have been shamefully assassinated by the agents of Santa Anna, who has his fiendlike myrmidons in all quarters.

The Mexican journals intimate directly that several of the inferior chief towns have boldly declared against centralism, and resolved to support federalism. Pueblo and Moralia have joined the federal standard.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Christmas day, the middle span of the bridge over the Kentucky river, at this place, gave way, and fell to the water, a distance of about 60 feet, carrying with it two wood wagons with their teams and black drivers, together with two or three other persons. The wagons were mashed to pieces, and the drivers, and all the horses except one, were killed. The rest miraculously escaped. The bridge had just been repaired from a previous wreck, and had only been in use a few days. Its loss will be seriously felt by the community at large.

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