

News of the Week.

THE EXECUTIVE.

President's Message.—On Friday, June 22d, the President transmitted a message to Congress, announcing that the Secretary of State had, on the 16th instant, transmitted to the Governors of the several States certified copies of the joint resolution passed on the 13th instant, proposing an amendment to the Constitution. The remainder of the message, which we give below, shows how obstinately the President adheres to his purpose to thwart the loyal sentiment of the country, and prematurely to restore the rebel States to all their rights in the Union. "Even in ordinary times a question of amending the Constitution must be justly regarded as of paramount importance. This importance is at the present time enhanced by the fact that the joint resolution was not submitted by the two Houses for the approval of the President, and that of the thirty-six States which constitute the Union, eleven are excluded from representation in either House of Congress, although, with the single exception of Texas, they have been entirely restored to all their functions as States in conformity with an organic law of the land, and have appeared at the National Capital by Senators and Representatives, who have applied for, and have been refused admission to, the vacant seats. Nor have the sovereign people of the nation been afforded an opportunity of expressing their views upon the important questions which the amendment involves. Grave doubts, therefore, may naturally and justly arise as to whether the action of Congress is in harmony with the sentiment of the people, whether the State Legislatures, elected without reference to an issue, should be called upon by Congress to decide respecting the ratification of the proposed amendment. Waiving the question as to the Constitutional validity of the proceedings of Congress upon the joint resolution proposing the amendment, or as to the merit of the article which it submits, through the Executive Department, to the Legislatures of the States, I deem it proper to observe that the steps taken by the Secretary of State, as detailed in the accompanying report, are to be considered as purely ministerial, and in no sense whatever committing the Executive to an approval or recommendation of the amendment to the State Legislatures or to the people; on the contrary, a proper appreciation of the letter and spirit of the Constitution, as well as of the interest of national order, harmony and union, and a deference for an enlightened public judgment, may, at this time, well suggest a doubt whether any amendment to the Constitution ought to be proposed by Congress and pressed upon the Legislatures of the several States for final decision until after the admission of such loyal Senators and Representatives of the now unrepresented States as have been or may hereafter be chosen in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 22, 1866. Dick Turner, ex-keeper of Libby Prison, has been released from confinement.

CONGRESS.

Senate.—June 26.—The bill to amend and continue in force the Freedmen's Bureau was taken up, and after some factious opposition was passed. It now goes back to the House for concurrence in the amendments. A joint resolution was passed authorizing the Cleveland and Pittsburgh and the Cleveland and Toledo Railroads to connect their lines. June 27.—A bill to repeal an act to retrocede Alexandria to the State of Virginia, was reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia. The object of this bill is to annex Alexandria to the District. June 28.—A resolution was adopted looking to the reorganization of the Postal, Treasury and Interior Departments. A joint resolution regulating the payment of State war claims was introduced and referred. The bill regulating the occupation of mineral lands was passed. The District Suffrage bill was postponed. The Niagara Ship Canal bill was considered. The Tax bill having been returned from the House, the Senate insisted on its amendments, and a Committee of Conference was appointed. June 29.—The Telegraph bill, giving the right of way to telegraph companies, was passed with the following proviso: The United States may, at any time after the expiration of five years from the date of the passage of this act, for postal, military or other purposes, purchase all the telegraph lines, property and effects of any or all of said companies, at an appraised value, to be ascertained by five competent disinterested persons. June 30.—A Committee of Conference with the House on the Freedmen's Bureau was appointed. The Indian Appropriation bill was considered. House.—June 26.—Many bills of little importance were passed. The Senate amendments to the Internal Revenue bill were referred to the Committee of Ways and Means. June 27.—The Senate bill for the prevention of smuggling was passed. From the Committee on Ways and Means the amendments to the Tax bill were reported back. Considerable debate ensued. The amendments reducing the tax on smoking tobacco, taxing the State bank notes ten per centum, and allowing apothecaries to sell liquors on physicians' prescriptions without taking out a retail license, were adopted. The amendments in relation to the income tax, reducing the tax on cotton, allowing street railroads and gas companies to charge tax on passengers and consumers; and increasing the tax on ready-made clothing, were rejected, and a conference committee was requested. The bill to regulate the elective franchise in the District of Columbia was called up and debated. June 28.—A bill discontinuing land offices, etc., was passed. The report in the case of Boyd vs. Kelson, of Missouri, declaring Mr. Kelson entitled to his seat, was adopted. The Senate amendments to the Bureau bill were rejected and a conference asked. June 29.—The Civil Appropriation bill was reported and made the special order for Tuesday, July 10. The Tariff bill was considered. June 30.—The Homestead Act was extended to citizens in New Mexico and Arizona. The Tariff bill was considered.

THE STATES.

Pennsylvania.—The Supreme Court has given a verdict in favor of the contract between the Catawissa and Atlantic and Great Western Railroads, some time ago entered by an inferior court. It is ruled that there is no right to question the corporate existence of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad Company; that the Catawissa lease is a good and legal contract; that the agreement of October 31, 1860, remains in force and passes to the lessees; and that the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad does connect the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad with the Catawissa Railroad, notwithstanding the change of gauge. Maryland.—Judge King, of Baltimore, has decided that no title can be acquired to property by being won in a raffle. The same rule applies to lottery tickets and every species of gambling.

New York.—State.—A man in Troy, while digging a well lately, shoveled out \$3000 in gold and a lot of spoons. City.—An association called the Metropolitan Temperance Association has been formed in New York, to aid the authorities in carrying out the provisions of the Excise law.—The number of immigrants arriving at this port, during the week ending on Friday, was 6033. Total from the 1st of January to date, 119,603, against 70,404 corresponding season last year.—280 injunctions against the operations of the Excise law have been granted by city judges.

New Jersey.—The workers in the clay pits at Woodbridge having struck for increased wages and forcibly prevented other workmen from taking their places, thirteen of their ringleaders have been sent to jail.—There have been a few cases of cholera at Elizabeth.

Massachusetts.—The statue of Hon. Edward Everett has been completed in clay by Mr. Story, and it will be ready for dedication in May. It is to be cast in bronze at Munich; but should the impending war prove of long continuance, the arrangements now made may, possibly be interfered with.—The other day some workmen, while preparing large stones for the door-sills of the new banking-house in Springfield, discovered a living frog in the centre of an immense block of marble, walled about with solid stone on all sides. The stone had been taken from a quarry near Springfield, ten feet below the surface.

Connecticut.—The Constitutional Amendment was ratified by the State Senate, June 26, and by the House on the 27th. A hundred guns were fired on the green in honor of the occasion. Connecticut is the first State to ratify the amendment.

Delaware.—Population of Wilmington.—A census of Wilmington has just been completed. The entire population, exclusive of Brandywine village, is 25,019—whites 22,692; colored, 2327; families, 4746; dwellings, 4309. The population, including Brandywine village, is nearly 30,000. There are 53 families more than there are dwellings in Wilmington.

Michigan.—General Cass left an estate valued at more than a million of dollars. He also left four children.—Major Lewis Cass, Mrs. Henry Ledyard, Madame Von Limburg, wife of the Minister of the Netherlands, and Mrs. Canfield.

Iowa.—A well-attested case of trichiniasis has been reported in Linn county, Iowa. A family of nine persons had eaten of trichinosis ham, which had not been cooked at all; they all sickened, and six of them died. A post-mortem examination exposed trichinina, and portions of the tissues containing them were sent to and examined by many surgeons.

Missouri.—The case of General Blair against a judge of election in St. Louis, for refusing to receive his vote without taking the prescribed oath, and which has been some time in litigation, has been decided against the general.

Tennessee.—A United States soldier, while on guard at Memphis, was insulted and threatened with violence by some white ruffians, whereupon he shot one through the head, instantly killing him. The military authorities have decided that the soldier was justifiable in shooting him.

Florida.—General Seymour has issued an order which virtually establishes martial law over the counties in Florida, in consequence, of the alleged acts of the civil authorities having failed to prevent crimes being committed upon the persons of loyal citizens and soldiers.

Mississippi.—Northern men and Southern Union men complain of bad treatment and want more soldiers.—Within the past month, five freedmen were waylaid and murdered; and so great is the alarm and consternation among the colored people, that they refuse to go to the plantations to labor.

Oregon.—The Union party have elected their Governor and a majority of the Legislature.—The Territories.—The Democrats have a majority of eight members in the Nebraska Legislature. One hundred majority was given for the State Constitution.

THE CITY.—The police made a descent upon a building in Harmony court, June 27, and captured sixteen persons upon the charge of dealing in lottery tickets.—The select Councils has voted the sum of \$5000 to a commission to examine various sources, with a view to obtaining a supply of water.—The necessary consent of Councils was obtained June 28, to construct the Schuylkill River Railway from Twenty-third and Pine to Fairmount, and an amicable adjustment of differences between that Company and the Hestonville effected, so that it is expected work will be immediately resumed, and the new road put in running order by the 10th of July.

Financial.—The Government Financial year closed on Saturday. Total receipts \$552,675,000, exceeding Secretary Fessenden's estimate \$156,000,000, and Secretary McCulloch's recent estimate \$36,000,000.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Loyal Georgian.—In a recent special, The Press stated that "General Tillson had suppressed the Loyal Georgian at Augusta, Georgia. I was mistaken. He telegraphs to General Howard that such is not the fact, but that the Georgian is still published. The rumor doubtless originated because the Georgian severely and fearlessly condemned General Tillson, for preventing the teachers of the colored schools and their scholars at Augusta from doing honor to the memory of the Union dead buried in the cemetery near that city. The Georgian of the 9th of May contains these sentences, and shows that Gen. Tillson made a great blunder in supposing he was doing good to the cause of humanity by acting upon the belief that it would be insulting to the tender susceptibilities of the families of the dead rebels in and around Augusta, if the true friends of the dead Union heroes paid the same grateful tributes to their memory that were so ostentatiously displayed by the relatives and friends of their dead enemies." The editor, J. E. Bryant, was arrested June 12th, by civil authority for attempting to defraud negroes out of money, borrowed of them when he (Bryant) was an officer of the Government. He was released on bail, a colored man becoming his surety. More recent intelligence shows that General Tillson has acted with the greatest tyranny in his attempts to control and crush the Loyal Georgian, a newspaper conducted with power and ability in the interests of the colored men. Nothing but the fearless and conscientious course of Captain Bryant, the editor of the paper, has thus far retarded the designs of this military agent of Andrew Johnson. Recent letters state that threats have been made to assassinate Mr. Bryant, because he will not desert in his course, and because he boldly exposes the wickedness of Tillson and his associates. The colored people are against Tillson in a body, while the recent rebels are unanimously in his favor. General Saxton certifies unconditionally to the integrity of purpose and high-souled patriotism of Captain Bryant.

The Monitor Michtonomah.—Despatches have been received at the Navy Department announcing the arrival of the monitor Michtonomah and the accompanying vessels at Queenstown, Ireland. The passage was made in ten days and eighteen hours, and the average run per day was one hundred and sixty-eight miles. The progress was uniform, and the heavy weather did not appear to affect the monitor, either in speed or steadiness, for while the other vessels lurched and were checked by heavy seas, the iron-clad kept on her voyage comparatively unimpeded.

Prof. Agassiz.—Despatches from Captain Taylor, of the U. S. steamer Susquehanna, announce the arrival of Professor Agassiz and lady at Rio, having completed the exploration of the valley of the Amazon. The Emperor of Brazil placed a Government steamer at the disposal of the Professor, and gave him every facility.

In 1861, (the last census,) there was in London one inhabitant for every 1220 square feet covered by the city, while in Paris there was one to every 500 square feet.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.—The action of the American Government towards the Fenians gives general satisfaction. The London Times warmly eulogizes the Washington Government, and says it would be impossible to exaggerate the good faith and friendliness, sincerity, and the regard for mutual obligations which have prompted these energetic and decisive measures. The American Government has acted in a manner which even exceeds anything that could reasonably have been expected from the most friendly nation.

The article then expresses gratification that such distinguished officers as Grant and Meade should have been sent to the scene, and says these energetic acts of genuine friendship will be long and cordially remembered.—The Fenians are almost entitled to thanks for having given the Americans an occasion for displaying their friendliness and good feeling.—The Atlantic cable is finished, and the Great Eastern leaves Sheerness June 30th.—Canada spent \$1,100,000, in consequence of the Fenian raid.

Austria, Prussia, and Italy.—The Federal Diet having on the 14th of June by a vote of 9 to 6 agreed to the Austrian proposal for the mobilization of the Federal Army, Prussia, agreeably to previous notice, carried out the threat to consider it as an act of hostility on the part of those States which supported it, and on the following day commenced the war by sending troops into Saxony and Hanover. The Saxons treasury, valuables and provisions have been transported for security to Bohemia. It is stated that over three hundred commercial bills are protested daily in Berlin and Prussia.

The cholera is said to be spreading on the Continent.

THE EUROPEAN WAR.

Dates to the 20th show that Prussia declared war against Austria, June 13th. Her movements were most vigorous and formidable, her forces seemed to be everywhere at the same moment. They had entered Saxony and occupied Dresden on the 17th. They also occupied Hanover and Cassel. An engagement between the Prussians and the Hessians took place near Frankfort, when the latter were badly beaten.

June 17th, the Prussians were within two miles of Leipzig. An Austrian patrol crossed the Silesian frontier, June 17th, and fired on Prussian patrol.

Mexico.—New Orleans despatches of June 21st, say the Imperialists have lost or abandoned most of their important cities in the interior, and it was the general opinion that the Empire would not last long. Maximilian was in great financial distress. Tampico was surrounded, and closely invested by a strong Liberal force. The Liberals were very active in the neighborhood of Matamoros. Official intelligence from the Liberal General Escobedo, dated June 16th, has been received, giving the details of his important victory over the Imperialists, near Camargo, on the same day. The wagons captured are over 270, and the value of the merchandise nearly \$2,000,000. The merchandise belonged to French and Austrian houses at Matamoros, and is therefore a lawful prize. General Escobedo captured 1200 prisoners, of whom 400 were Austrians. Only a part of the enemy's cavalry escaped. All the artillery and ammunition were captured.

Paraguay and Brazil.—May 2, the Brazilians pushed a reconnaissance toward the Paraguayan fort Humaita, when the Paraguayans made a sortie from the fort, and by a bold and sudden dash gave the Allies a severe blow; but reinforcements arriving, they finally regained the field. The Allies lost four guns and 2000 men killed and captured. This contest was fought with great desperation by both sides.

Who appreciates the fact that there is any great importance attached to such a commodity as a Pill? It is generally supposed that anybody can make them, as all can take them. But visit the laboratory of Dr. J. C. Ayer, and you will be disabused of the idea, that it is a trifle to make any medicine and adapt it to the wants of millions of men—so adjust it to their needs, and so cure their complaints, as to make them their constant customers in all the zones. Physicians find it requires some skill to adapt their doses to a single patient; ask them if it is not an intricate problem to adjust a purgative pill to the necessities of untold numbers, so that it shall benefit them nearly? Dr. Ayer's laboratory supplies 60,000 doses of his Pills per diem; or 19,000,000 a year. Think of that! Esculapius! Well may it whiten the head of any man to administer to that amount of suffering, and especially when, as is here evident, everything is done with the extreme nicety and care.—Randolph (Vt.) Statesman.

Ayer's Ague Cure, FOR THE SPEEDY CURE OF Intermittent Fever, or Fever and Ague, Remittent Fever, Biliousness, Malaria, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, Hysteria, Blindness, Toothache, Catarrh, Asthma, Palpitation, Affection of the Spleen, Hysteria, Pain in the Bowels, Colic, Paralysis, and Derangement of the Stomach, all which, when originated in this class of cases, will be cured by the use of this class of compounds, but it is the case of a more serious nature, and thus cures them all alike. It is not only a cure for the ague, but it is a cure for the ague, and the patient when cured is left as healthy as if he had never had the disease. It is a cure for any other cure for Chills and Fever. It is true of this, and its importance to those afflicted with the complaint, cannot be over-estimated. It is a cure for the ague, and it may be truthfully said to be a certain remedy. One Dealer complains that it is a good medicine to sell, because it cures a whole neighborhood. Prepared by DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass., and sold by Druggists generally.

NEW PUBLICATIONS. PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE, No. 1324 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

BOWEN'S DAILY MEDITATIONS. 12mo., 42 pp. \$1.75. Tinted paper, gilt edges, \$2.50. The author, Rev. George Bowen, grew up in New York City, a skeptic, but, "by a remarkable chain of providences," was led to Christ, and has been for eighteen years a missionary in India.

He became one of the most earnest and single-hearted Christians we have ever known. The Bible was his book, and he searched it constantly, prayerfully, for hidden treasures. If he had met you on Broadway, he would stop you a moment to tell of some new beauty or sweetness he had discovered in the Divine word. Such a man's meditations are as water fresh from the fountain. They are deeply spiritual, and adapted to quicken the faith and love of the reader.—Herald and Recorder, Cincinnati.

Rev. William R. Williams, D.D., of New York, (Baptist), says, "It is a book of rare merit, marked by deep piety, insight into Scripture, original genius, and uncompromising directness. I know of no book of its class equal to it." In this opinion heartily concurs the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D.D., who knew the author well while a student in the Union Theological Seminary.

Rev. E. E. Adams, D.D., of Philadelphia, and many others well qualified to judge, have commended the book in the strongest manner, and particularly for its freshness and originality.

LEAVES OF CONSOLATION. Selected and edited by Mrs. H. Dwight Williams. 12mo., 360 pp. \$1.50. Tinted paper, gilt edges, \$2.25. This volume will be welcomed into many stricken and sorrowing households. It is composed of judicious selections from the choicest literature in our language, adapted to the desponding and desolate, who, in times of bereavement, love to linger among the "graves of their household," and dwell upon the state of the departed. The aim of the compiler is to induce some to make a good and wise use of afflictive dispensations, and see the hand of God in them, and to feel that "the Judge of all the earth will do right." To many sorrowing souls this will be a precious balm.—Presbyterian Banner, Pittsburg.

SOCIAL HYMN AND TUNE BOOK. 16mo., 510 pp. THE FIFTH EDITION is in press. (2500 each edition.) SOCIAL HYMNS. Just issued. 18mo., 336 pp. This is the same as the "Social Hymn and Tune Book," with the omission of the tunes, and is published in corresponding styles of binding. Muslin, 75 cents; Sheep, 90 cents; Flexible, \$1.10.

NEW SABBATH-SCHOOL BOOKS. DUTCH TILES; Or, Loving Words about the Saviour. 18mo., 171 pp., 19 original illustrations. 90 cents. WHAT TO DO. For the Little Folks. 18mo., 113 pp., 6 original illustrations. 60 cents. BLACK STEVE; Or, The Strange Warning. 18mo., 85 pp., 2 original illustrations. 40 cents. NIFF, AND OTHER TALES. 18mo., 84 pp., 3 illustrations. 40 cents.

Teachers' Jewels. A series of little books containing true narratives of those who have been redeemed through the instrumentality of the Sabbath-school. They are intended to encourage teachers in their labor of love. 25 cents. J. C. GARRIGUES & CO., Publishers of the SUNDAY-SCHOOL TIMES, and dealers in Sabbath-School Books and Periodicals, 148 South-Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 1063-3.

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Rev. William R. Williams, D.D., of New York, (Baptist), says, "It is a book of rare merit, marked by deep piety, insight into Scripture, original genius, and uncompromising directness. I know of no book of its class equal to it." In this opinion heartily concurs the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D.D., who knew the author well while a student in the Union Theological Seminary.

Rev. E. E. Adams, D.D., of Philadelphia, and many others well qualified to judge, have commended the book in the strongest manner, and particularly for its freshness and originality.

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