News of the Week.

THE EXECUTIVE.

The Postal Service.—During the whole time that the rebel States were beyond our military lines, the management of the United States postal department paid expenses, and States postal department paid expenses, and showed a surplus. No sooner do they come back to us again, and have to be provided for by our national government, than the Department begins to be a losing concern. Thus the annual report of the Postmaster General shows that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1866, the receipts of the Department were \$14,386,986, and the expenditures \$15,352,079, showing a deficiency of \$965,093. —The public debt on the 1st of \$965,093. —The public debt on the stoff the month was \$2,684,995,875. The cash in the Treasury amounted to \$135,364,637, of which \$95,168,816 was coin.

XXXIXth CONGRESS.—Second Session.

Senate.—Dec. 4.—By unanimous consent, a resolution of inquiry into the advertising patronage of the Executive was pressed. A resolution in regard to the withdrawal of French troops from Mexico was passed for immediate consideration, but was referred back to the committee. The Senate also refused to pass the House bill restricting the

President's power to grant pardons and sent it to committee. Adjourned.

Dec. 5.—Mr. Wadden Ohio, introduced a bill for the admission and sebraska into the Union. The various standing committees were then chosen. In the new arrangement of the committees, Messrs. Cowan, Doolittle and Dixon lose their chairmanships. The bill depriving the President of the power of pardon under the amnesty claim was referred to the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Sumner's resolutions on reconstruction were ordered to be printed. House resolution reviving the Reconstruction Committee was concurred in.

Dec. 6.—The House bill, depriving the President of the amnesty power, was reported favorably by the Judiciary Committee, and Mr. Trumbull asked its immediate consideration. This was objected to by Mr. Hendricks, of Me., and the bill went over. Mr. Wilson, of Mass., gave notice that next week he would call up the joint resolution prohibiting military organizations in the rebel

Dec. 10.—The Committee on Retrenchment reported a bill to regulate the tenure of certain civil officers, appointees of the President; made the order for Thursday. The Elective Franchise in the District was taken up. The Committee on the District reported a substitute, restricting the right of suffrage to loyal persons and making it otherwise universal. Mr. Willey, of West Virginia, proposed another substitute, allowing rebels to vote, and introducing the qualifications of ability to read and write and payment of taxes. The clause allowing rebels to vote was stricken out without debate. Finally, the whole proposition of Mr. Willey was rejected by 40 to 1; and after further debate

on the Committee's substitute, the Senate adjourned. House.—Dec. 4.—The bill amendatory of the Bank and Currency Act was postponed to the third Tuesday in December. The Committee on Military Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the additional bounty act. A resolution was adopted, 119 to 32, affirming, in response to that portion of the President's message which relates to those communities that have claimed to be the Confederate States of America, that this house find in the many acts of disloyalty that have transpired in those communities since the last adjournment, as well as in what has since transpired at the North, additional reasons for the adoption of the constitutional amendments, before considering the propriety of giving to those communities congressional representation. Resolutions were adopted looking to the es-

tablishment of territorial governments among the seceded States; reappointing the Joint Committee on Reconstruction; inquiring of the Postmaster General and the President, in regard to removals from office by the President; calling for information on the present status of Mexican affairs, &c., were passed. In the course of a personal explanation Mr. Boutwell said, he had good reason to believe as early as May last the executive department of this government had knowledge of where Suratt was. He had not said at the caucus on Saturday pight nor had he said any. Saturday night, nor had he said any-where, nor would he say now, that the government had been at fault in not procuring Suratt's arrest; but when he left Washington in July last he did expect that very soon the country would hear that the arrest of Suratt had been made, and when week after week and month after month passed and no word came of the arrest having been made he said in a public speech what he said now again, that he had good reason to believe that the government had long had knowledge of the whereabouts of Suratt. He now desired to say, further, that the correspondence in relation to the matter had been called for, and on its appearance the country would see whether the executive department had in fact had that knowledge for so long a time or not, and they would see also whether the government had taken such means as were necessary or advisable to procure the early arrest of Suratt. Upon that point he had no information whatever, and if upon the publica. tion of the correspondence it should appear that he had been mistaken, no person in the House or in the country would be more ready to retract what he had said. He would take this occasion to say a word aside from the matter of Suratt. While he was opposed to the President and his policy, he would make no war upon either that he did not consider fair and legitimate. He would not attempt, either in the House or elsewhere, either to misrepresent or abuse the President; but what he did mean to attempt and perform to the extent of his ability was to ascertain whether the President of the United States had been true in his great office. To that inquiry he intended to bring. as other members would bring, a judicial done on the ground that the lives and promind. If upon inquiry it should appear that perty of the American residents might be the President had been true, no representative, no citizen, would more readily or more cheerfully recognize the fact; but if on the other hand it should appear that the President had been false to his trust, he (the speaker) as a citizen and a representative would endeavor to perform faithfully his

reconsider the vote recommitting, on the 11th of June last, the bill regulating appointments to and removals from office, and read a written argument in support of the bill. The motion was carried, and some amendments affixing penalties for violation of the act were offered. The bill and amendments were made the social order for Thursday. Dec. 6.-Mr. Eliot, of Massachusetts, offered a resolution, which was adopted, providing for a committee of three to investigate the New Orleans riots. The Judiciary Committee were directed to inquire into the expediency of a law to more effectually punish bribery at elections, and to make persons who purchase votes ineligible to office. A committee was appointed to investigate the murder of three U. S. soldiers in South Carolina on the 5th of October, 1865. The Judiciary Committee were instructed to report a bill excluding ex-rebels from suffrage

Dec. 5.-Mr. Williams, of Pa., moved to

whole duty to the country.

in the District of Columbia. A bill of last session, in relation to the Territory of Utah, was called up for the purpose of reference. It is a very important measure. Under the simple title of a bill to provide for the selection of the selectio which Brigham Young claims possession of ands, water-courses, etc., belonging to the United States.

Dec. 10.—The Committee on Pensions were instructed to inquire whether pensioners whose names were stricken from the rolls on account of participation in the rebellion have been restored, and by whose authority. The President was requested to furnish a list of the names of Rebels pardoned by him since April 15th, 1865, with the reasons therefor, and the names of the parties on whose solicitation the pardons were granted. The Committee of Ways and Means were instructed to inquire into the propriety of reducing or abolishing the internal revenue ax on manufactures. A resolution was offered declaring that the proposition that the war debt of the country should be extinguished by the generation that contracted it, was not sustained by the principles of economy. A motion to table it was lost, and it was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means. The bill to fix the times for the regular meeting of Congress, on the 4th day of March in each year, was taken up and passed -yeas 127, nays 30.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Dec. 4.—Rome.—The evacuation of the city by the French troops has commenced.
Dec. 5.—Alexandria.—John H. Suratt is
now in the custody of Mr. Hale, the American Consul at this place.—Dublin.—Many of the leaders of the Fenian organization were arrested in this city last night and during yesterday.—Florence.—Signor Vegezzi has declined the mission to Rome, a deputation will be sent in his place.

Dec. 6.—London.—Two more regiments

of troops and a company of engineers have been ordered to leave immediately for Ireland. The Board of Admiralty have ordered three iron-clads of the home fleet to sail for the Irish cost.—Dublin.—Frequent arrests of Fenians continue to be made by the Government officers, who are unceasing in their vigilance and prompt in taking action in all suspected cases. The Governor of the city prison here has telegraphed to London, asking to have a military guard assigned him.—Paris.—The representatives of the United States Government have commenced legal actions in the civil courts against several parties in France, who furnished ships and material to the Southern Inshed snips and material to the Southern Confederacy during the late war in the United States. The Patrie of this morning announces that the French troops in Mexico will all have returned to France before the end of February, 1867.—Marseilles.—Despatches received here to-day, from Candia state that the insurgents had blown up a convent, and that 2000 Turks had lost their lives by the explosion. ives by the explosion.

Dec. 7.-Liverpool.-All the depots of arms in this city have been placed under armed guards, the excited state of the feeling among the Irish population rendering these — Dublin.— The precautions necessary. Grand Lodge of Orangemen has held a meeting, and issued an earnest call for all members the Order to support the government in its endeavor to keep the peace.—Paris. The French officers held their farewell interview with the Pope yesterday. -Pesth. -The Hungarian Diet has agreed to the address to

the Emperor of Austria proposed by M. Deak, the leader of the Hungarian party.

P. C. S.—London.—The Fenian troubles in Reland are evidently assuming still more alarming proportions, as it is reported here to-day that in addition to the troops already despatched to that island two cavalry regiments have been ordered to leave immediately for the scene of disturbance -- Edinburgh.—In spite of the repeated denials which have been made on all sides, The Scotsman to-day reiterates the statement that there has been trouble in the British Cabinet, and insists that Mr. Disraeli, the Chancellor of the Exchequor, had threated to resign his post unless the Government accepted a Reform bill, liberal in its provisions. The Scotsman, however, adds that Lord Derby yielded to the cogent demand thus made for a more liberal policy on the part of his ad-ministration, and by this action a ministerial crisis was averted.—Paris.—La France newspaper this morning asserts that Maximilian has telegraphed to some of the physicians attending to the Empress Carlotta to meet him at Gibraltra by the middle of December. — Rome. — Another one of the French regiments left this city to-day on its return to France.—St. Petersburg.—An Imperial ukase has been issued, declaring all the relations of Russia with the Pope of Rome abrogated, and annulling all the special laws of the Empire which have heretofore been made in accordance with such relations.—Despatches from Candia state that the Cretans are submitting to the power of the Turks, all means of further resistance

having been exhausted. having been exhausted.

Dec. 10.—London.—The Times, in an editorial this morning, says that the Fenians have been fairly checkmated, and that it would be madness on their part to attempt rebellion. Cardinal Cullen has issued a pastoral address, urging the Irish people to obedience to law, and avoidance of all secret societies. Arrests still continue to be made, and more artillery will leave for Ireland soon.

FOREIGN.

Mexico. - The city of Matamoras was occupied, Nov. 26th, by United States troops under General Sedgwick. The next morning Escobedo's forces attacked the city, but were repulsed by Canales, after which General Sedgwick withdrew his forces outside the city. Gen. Sedgwick's action was contrary to the orders of General Sheridan, but was done on the ground that the lives and proprotected. Gen. Sedgwick has been removed by Gen. Sheridan.

On the 30th of November, subsequent to the reception of Gen. Sheridan's despatches, Gen. Sedgwick appointed J. L. Sheridan, a civilian, a Commissioner, and demanded the surrender of Canales and his troops of war to the United States. Canales replied that he would rather surrender to Escobedo, and did so, Gen. Sedgwick agreeing. The two Mexican chiefs then joined their forces, amounting to 4000, for operations against the

common enemy. Minister Bigelow's reply to Mr. Seward's cipher despatch to the French Emperor was received Dec. 4. It is as follows:—"In answer to a verbal communication the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Moustier, writes me to-day that 'France has not changed her resolution, but that on military considerations she has deemed it expedient to substitute one comprehensive evacuation for an evacuation in separate parts. All of our troops will leave Mexico in the month of March.

simple title of a bill to provide for the selection of grand and petit jurors, it proposes really to abolish polygamy. Among other things, it prohibits the solemnization of matrimony by Mormon priests, and commits that office to the Judges of the United States Court in the District. It also annuls a number of laws of the Territory, under a number of laws of the Territory, under the Brigham Young claims passession of and other objectionable movements our will be allowed to have his own way. Indirectly it is hinted that Napoleon's action in and other objectionable movements, our pledge of neutrality was broken, and the compact therefore is withdrawn, rendered

Napoleon having changed the time for the evacuation of the French troops from Mexican soil, and the ports of Mexico being still Napoleon having changed the time for the evacuation of the French troops from Mexican soil, and the ports of Mexico being still blockaded by France, a question has arisen whether the United States man-of-war can land Gen. Sherman and Minister Gampbell. It is asserted that the probabilities are that the vessel will remain in Mexican waters until advices reach there from our own and the French Governments.

Uniform with our volumes of units served, author.

This work opens in New England, but is associated with a period of English history involving political and religious questions, in which Americans are deepling it is invely historical interest, and in the highly life, its lively historical interest.

The Distillers in trouble again. It looks as if there was going to be no end to the distillery seizures for defrauding the revenue. In a single day no fewer than fifty small concerns have been pounced upon in Collector Wood's district, (Brooklyn), all charged with manufacturing whisky and selling it without paying the tax;

"Ecce Homo" has reached its twelfth thousand in England, and the demand still continues. The author's name is not yet known; but if he prefers profit to fame, he is probably satisfied, for it is announced that his publishers have already paid him \$30,000.

A MERCANTILE TRIUMPH.

No invention of a similar labor-saving characteristics ter ever resulted in the same practical benefits to the people, or has come into such general use as that wonderfully simple piece of mechanism—the Sewing Machine. What could we do without it? Where would we now find hands enough to accomplish the labor which these busy little workers are doing? These are questions which determine the usefulness of an invention, and by them we may guage the importance of Sewing Machines. The history of this discovery is full of interest. As early as 1836, an ingenious and prolific inventor, named Walter Hunt, of New York, invented the first machine that was of any practical value for sewing. Being of a rather indolent disposition, and disinclined to undertake the labor of introducing so novel an invention into general use, he neglected to patent his discovery, and sold the right to manufacture such machines to a Mr. Arrowsmith, who, however, neglected to test the practical value of his purchase or to secure it by a patent.

Six years elapsed before any further action was taken toward the introduction of Sewing machines, and then, on the 12th of February, 1842, the first America patent was granted to John J. Greenough, of Washington.

The next recorded attempt at an application of the idea was made and patented by Benjamin W. Bean, of New York. In the same year (1843) a Sewing Machine was patented by Geo. R. Corlies, of Greenwich, N. Y., but no one seems to know much about it; an evidence that its practical value was small. These abortive attempts had the effect, however, of calling the attention of inventors to the subject of Sewing Machines, and on the 10th of September, 1846, Elias Howe, Jr., of Cambridge, Mass., patented the first Sewing Machine capable of being improved so as to be adapted to general use.

Although the machine patented by Mr. Howe would now be considered worthless, if com pared with the more recent inventions of others, yet he stands at the door of the Sewing Machine business, as it were, and levies a tax of one dollar on each finished machine in which the principles he invented are used. A fortune closely approaching two million of dollars has thus been accummulated by Mr. Howe—a very fair return, considering the fact that the Howe Machine has been left far behind by those whose subsequent inventions have effected a revolution in the manufacture of clothing shirts, caps, boots, shoes, embroidery, and ouse-furnishing goods.

The utility of a Sewing Machine for family use depends upon its adaptability to the greatest variety of work; and this article would be incomplete, if, after tracing the rise and progress of the idea, we should fail to point out, from among the many varieties, the one that comes nearest to perfection and combines the greatest number of useful qualities. For certain kinds of work there may be machines more peculiarly adapted than others; but for all the number less requirements of a family, we unhesitatingly pronounce the smoothly, silently, and swiftly running Grover & Baker Machine the best.

One great advantage is, that the thread i drawn direct from the spools, and requires no previous winding on shuttles; and the simplicity of all its parts and the easy adjustment of needle, thread and work, make it more readily comprehensible to the learner than any we have yet seen. Another important fact is, that they perform, without an alteration of the adjustment, a much greater variety of work than is possible on others. We might thus enumerate quality after quality in our own way, but we think we do the inventors and makers full justice, and at the same time relate our experience in terms which there is no mistaking, when we say that the Grover & Baker Machine may be chosen as the best, simplest, and most reliable Sewing Machine in the market.

The trade in these necessities, which have now become so indispensable, is assuming gigantic proportions. Grover & Baker alone send many thousands to foreign markets, and this popularity abroad is an evidence of their merit and superiority. American Sewing Machines are used all over the world, and, like American pianos, have furnished the principles which have been adopted by a great majority of foreign manufacturers.—New York Citizen.

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