### THE GREAT FIRE IN CINCINNATI.

Total Destruction of Pike's Opera House -An Entire Block Destroyed-Adams Express Office, the "Enquirer" Office, and Other Large Establishments Destreyed - Immense Losses - Incidents Mand Accidents, Etc.

From the Cincinnati Evening Times, of Friday.

Che of the greatest colamitus our city has lately known is compared in the disaster which, under the cover of darkness, visited our city has right. Morehams and manufacturers may build and involt their capital, and the desarge on of their premises a sad loss and ad. Yet, but lew men engage in an enterprise involving the outlay of hundreds of thousanes of dollers, where the relatin is of an uncertain character, and to a great extent depends on conting notes which are as changeable as the wind. In the building of the opera house, we may well believe that Mr. Pike had in view the erceion of an ornament to our city, as well as a monument which would endear him to the memory of our people long after be had passed away.

He came to our city from New York about 1213, a stranger, and invested his means flust in the wholesale drygoods business, locating amuselt on Third street opposite the Henrie House. Not flustrat this commenturate with his energies, he scon after engaged in the distilling business, and from his profits in this trade he accumulated the vest means which made him one of our weathiest exizens.

From the beginning it seemed with Mr. Pike to be an object to make himself prominent among our people as one who came to identify himself with the interests of the city, and the result shows now far he has succeeded in accomplishing sach a result.

The building of the great Opens House was such One or the greatest columities our city has lately

interests of the city, and the result shows how far he has succeeded in accomplishing such a result.

The building of the great Opera House was such an undertaking as would have been entered upon by the fewest of horsons, even of the livelest business capacity. Yet it had long been a darling project of his, and unaided, he considered him, cil fully equal to the task. So it was begun. The immensity of the cessian was almost a secret to our people, until, at last, like the uncovering of some vast sinche, it burst upon their view, the most magnificent institution of the kind in the United States, and not, perhaps, having its superior in the world.

haps, having its superior in the world.

How far it has ever been made to pay an interest on the original cost—some three hunared and fitty thousand dollars—we are unable to say. We only know that it has always been pointed to by our citizens with pride, that it has always been among the first oblight of interest to keef for by stangard. the first objects of interest raked for by stangers, and — that it is gone, nothing but a mass of blackened walls now remaining to mark where it

Many persons may build large commercial esta-blishments, send up sione after store in the erection of almost printial dwellings, but it required S. N. Pike to build the Opera Houle. We have no heart-tion in Laying that it it was not for him Cincinnati would never have seen such an instrution. Even an organized as ociation would never for conturies to come have built; a with to much taste, and so apportioned if without resard to care or expense. How far he had succeeded in his autientations we know not. We can only say that the Queen City has lost its brightest archites ural or nament, and that blackness and asher merk where it stood.

ness and asher mark where it stood.

In person Mr. Pike is a delicately built man, of about lorty ye, s of are, and we believe was engaged in business in New York before his arrival at the West. His demanor is a ways of the quietest character, strictly unon-entations, and apparently seir-reliant to a degree reliant to a degree reliant for a mong men. In drees always in 12, but without display, he would scarcely be recognized, so young a unassuming, as being possible of those characteristics which fully distinguished him since he came into our midst. During the conflagra lon last night the equantinity of Mr. Pike never torsook him. He saw the beautiful labric se had erected melting away before the tartible element, but, like a philosopher, he smoked his eigar, apparently as unimpossioned a spectator as

looked upon the ceene.

looked upon the trene.

The Opera House is not the only evidence of the good fase of Mr. Pike in his adornment of our city. On Fourth street, below Smith, he built a row of elegant residences, of the latest style, the object of admiration to all who pess that way.

Notwithstanding the matter referred to above, the regular business engagements of Mr. Pike mover flagged. His large receiving establishment went on from day to day, and never a steamer left our whatves but care ed away his stock as a parcel of its freight. Up all the Western tivers with the landing of the steamers, out went some of "Pike's Best," or his 'Mranolia," and from that we may readily believe he made his immense fortune. He has the sympathic of the entire community in his great sympathics of the entire community in his great

Even es we write, at a late hour of the morning, the engines in the street, and the munitude attracted by the news which has reached from hill to mit, pours along the pavements and the rain. Stream all or stream goes cown upon the blistering debris, and the according stream floats away a tribute to the institution we shall rever know again.

## THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

There have been many theories advanced as to the prime cause of the explosion and fire. Several persons who were in attendance lest right at the performance of the spec acular drama of Midsummer Night's Dream, report that during the representa-tion of the last act of the play, there was, somewhere about the space, a strong coape of gas, which was perceptible through the ballet part of the act, and continuing till the curtain fell. The wast audience dispersed quie by at about half-past ten o'clock. After eleven 6'c ock, private watchman James Mo-Kinley, who was near the lar of the Opera House, heare as explosion not unlike the collapsing of a gas neter, or the concussion that would be naturally

gas meter, or the concussion that would be naturally produced by the sudden collision of gas and flame, in an epartment of preceribed or condensed limits.

The force of this explosion was so great that a most the entire rear of the Opera Home was blown out, and thrown completely across Baker street.

Watchman McKinley ran from where he then was to the corner of Forth and Wanut, where he turned in an alarm of fire from box 32; as immediately following the explosion flames were seen to rice up and spread their forked and furious tongues on all sides and tensor for a rear which could be on all sides, as if eager for a prey which could be easily devoured

easily devoured Michael Toohey, private watchman of the Opera Moure, reports that between the time the audience was districted and the explosion and conflagration, he went through the entire building and turned off the past. Evidently there was a teak in the gas somewhere, for, as we have already stated, this was discovered by tome of the audience during the performance of the last set of the play. The transfer of the last set of the play. formance of the last act of the play. The truth of the origin of the explosion will perhaps remain a mystery, as the flowes spread with such rapidity as to destroy all vertices or clue that might have led to a solution of the question.

# THE OPERA HOUSE,

The loss here is over a million of dollars, on which there is insurance of \$88,000. Nothing is left to the preprietor of all that magnificent property save the amoking rains, fire-covered grounds, and desolate

When Mr. Pike heard the alarm he was in his room in the Burnet House, fronting on Vine street. Looking out, he saw the flames rushing in a flood through roof, in the neighborhood of the chimney-stack, ile he was upon the street for a few minutes, some scounard picked his pocket of a valuable

He viewed the tremendous scene in which a million of his property was vanishing, from the roof of the Burnet. House, with more calminess than the ma-jority of the multitude of spectators. Whatever a darnicess spirit and an unwenried energy on his part can do, to repair his great loss, will certainly be done. Mr. Morris Simmonds, seling manager of the Opera House, pessed over the stage alor the sudience had retired, and there were no signs of fire. He had rearcely lest the building when, hearing a noise like the rushing of a mighty storm he ran back to the auditorium to find it a wairiwind of

The money and valuable papers contained in the and all that were tayed out of the immense wreck of the dramatic and operatic temple—a pittable saving in comparison with this loss to an individual and to the city.

## DESTRUCTION ON FOURTH STREET.

Among the fortunate, we can mention the firm of W. B. Chapp & Co., jeweilers. Yesterday they moved their stock from the old building, No 51 Fourth street, into the second story of Sprayue's but o'ng, and had the insurance policy transferred. Their old headquarters were lotally destroyed.

On the upper side of Fourth street, S. Wilson, clock manufacturer, had his stock damaged by fire and water to the extent of \$2000, but the loss is fully covered by insurance.

The roof of C. W. De'and's extensive dry goods

The roof of C. W. De'and's extensive dry goods establishment was slightly damaged by fire, and the stock of goods injured by water, but the maurance on the establishment covers all loss,

The Buckeye Billiard Saloon in the second story of Pike's Opera House was totally destroyed. Loss \$10,00. Partly insured.

Niblett & Atkinson, No. 81 West Fourth, lost all, amounting to \$18,000. Insured for \$10,000.

E. W., Carroll & Co., the well-known book pub-

lishers suffered heavily. Little of the stock was saved.

Loss amounts to \$120,030, on which there was an in urance of \$70,000. A. C. Peters & Co., Music Deafers, are heavy lo-ers. The r stock of music and musical instru-ments was consumed, and at present they are unable to estimate their datases. Among the articles lost were the plates for printing sheet music, which Mr. were the plates for printing sheet music which Mr. Peters had been gathering for the pass forty years. We may here mention that this firm will immediately resume business, having twoved their office to the establishment of W. C. Peters, on Fourth street, near Walbut. The insurance on this establishment amounts to \$50,000.

F. F. Haidy, boot and shoe dealer, has a stock on hand valued at \$15,000, the greatest part of which is injured by water. Insured for \$5000, which inlig covers all loss.

A. J. Clark's gent's furnishing restablishment damaged by water, loss slight; but on account of the absence of Mr. Clark, who is now hast, we can give no estimate of his loss or historice.

beence of Mr. Clark, who is now Last, we can give no estimate of his loss or nisurance.

S. N. Holmas & Co., wall paper dealers, occupied the building next the Opera House, on the east, well known as "Independence Hall," and formerly occupied by the No. 3 volunteer fire company. This building was well cleaned out by the flames. Mesors, Ho mes' stack was valued at \$40,000, on which there was an insurance of \$25.00. In the a cond story of this building was the piano room of D. H. Baldwin. The stock on hand consisted of twenty-two rianes, one of which only was saved. Mr. Baldwin can at present give no idea of his loss, but thinks the insurance on his stock will rearly cover the entire loss.

Adjoining this building in the rear were a number of stock coverned by a retirance of effect of thinks.

ber of shops occupied by artisans of different kinds, all of which to a great extent were slightly da-

J. C. Holland, show card writer, slightly da-J. C. Holland, show card writer, slightly da-mased. No insurance.

John Beajson, map and chart publisher, damaged by water. No insurance.

S. H. Pervin, advertising agent, loss slight.
Merrison & Crowther, sliver platers and en-gravers, were dan aged slightly, but will not be pro-vented from carrying on business. They were fully in used.

in ured.
Strauss, artist, in third story of Pike's building, lost a number of valuable paintings, valued at \$3000,

on which there was no insurance.

The fine Commercial College of Bryant, Stratton & De Han, in rac top story of Pike's building, lost all, amounting to about \$8500. Ko insurance.

Herpel, printer, bad a fine job printing establishment in the Ope a building, and was well supplied with previous of great value.

ment in the Ope a building, and was were applied with presses and printing materials of great value, amounting to \$8000. All lost No insurance.

The business office of the Daily National Union was in the second story of Pike's, and all the appartenances connected with it were consumed. We terances connected with it were consumed. We

In connection with the loss of the National Union business room we may mention that W. P. Brannan had some very valuable paintings banging in the

office, which were totally destroyed; as was also the me medallion made by Louis H. Reed.

The loss of J. W. Langley & Co, amounts to about \$5000, on which there was an insurance of \$3000.

William Lee, boot and since dealer on Vine street, loss slightly by moving his stock, but the amount is triffing. Summer & Co. and Philip Phillips & Co. lost their entire stock, we understand. The Adams Express Company succeeded in saving

their valuable booss and papers, and money safes. They have resumed business at No 118 West Fourth street, letween Vine and R ce streets. Business is totally suspended on the square between Vine and Walnut, and the police are there, busy preventing intruders from interioring with the number.

We may here mention that the Engine No. 4 was

we may here mention that the Engine No. 4 was the first to arrive at the scene of conflucration. Strowtridge & Gerisch, Lithographers, had all their stock consumed. Their less is estimated at \$10,000, on which there was no insurance. The "Do You Smile" Saloon, next west of the Opera House, was totally consumed; loss small and

Opera House, was totally consumed; loss small and not insured.

J. W. Lanley & Co., Tobacco dealers, were in the same building, and lost all their stock, which, we are informed, was fully insured.

John J. Wilson, Mechinist, occupied the third story of old "Independence Hall," in the rear, and had a stock of sewing machines and other light work on hand, all of which were consumed; not insured.

## "ENQUIRER" OFFICE.

The flames communicating to the Enquirer office ings through the rear, we are exact account of the progress of the devouring element—but the destriction of the establishment and building was speedy and complete—accust but the immense hellow shell formed by the still standing outer walls remains of what but vesterday was a metropolitan newspaper printing house. Much will still be saved, no doubt, by the preseworing exertions of the firemen, who are still playing upon the unsightly ruins in hopes of subduing the heat of the still burning embers and saving what valuable properly may be buried beneath.

Topmost upon the ruins of this establishment lies upon its edge, in a recling posture, the huse iron safe, strange to say, in a perfect state of preservation, and its contents unscattled. It is feared however, that the four cylinder Hoe press, if unwarped by the flames here beneath the burning mass of flooring and crushing weight of brick, is in so broken a condition as to render it utterly uccless hereaiter. The Enquirer office is insured at \$35,00, and had on hand \$50,000 worth or printed matter and printing materials, of which \$18,000 worth belonged to John Robinson's Circus. Four boxes of show-ulls were only vesterday delivered to Lipman's Circus

Company. The Enquirer building was owned by the publishers Measrs. Formen & McLean, though not the ground upon which it stood—the lease expiring some two years hence. Many of the printers and attaches of the office only saved themselves by a precipitate flight from the house—some of them leaving their shoes and other wearing apparel

## INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS.

At hall-pest eleven we were witnessing the per-formances at the Varieties, when the report of the explesion was heard, and as several of the audience looked up at the windows, the light was seen so plainly they imagined the fire was close by and made a rush for the door, at the same time calling fire. The cry was soon taken up by the house, and all made a rush for the exit, and what fol-lowed we can scarcely tell, as the breath was near being cashed out of us by the jam, but, fortu-nately, we succeeded in getting out, and hurrying to Fourth and Vine street, discovered that the opera House was all in flames in the rear, and the back waits blown out and across the street from the force of the explosion; the cause of which was variously stated.

Some said it was caused from the patent apparatus for making ges; that it exploded while some one was experimenting with it. Other reports were that while lighting one of the burners in the rear of the building the pipe leaked, and the flames running up it caused it to burst. But again, statements were made, which are better founded—that one of the gas pipes leaked, and on taking a light into the room an appropriate garden of the build. explosion ensued, blowing out the rear of the build-ing and setting everything in a blaze in a very few minutes. On our arriving on the ground scarcely twenty persons had collected, but they soon came in from every direction. The flames now roared in perfect fury, and mounted the root, which cracked and coiled up in picces, and tumbled in by cakes.

The engines now arrived on the spot and com menced working, but the Opera building was under too full her dway. A heavy from bar was now forced through the fleor into the lower story occupied by the Adam's Express Company, and as the clorks who slept there can their time was short, they immediately ran out the safes and money to the Bauk of the Ohio Valley. By this time thousands were in the vicinity, all gazing with wonder and amazement at the scene of destruction before them. As the walls in the rear fell they crashed in the buildings in

the rear and set them on fire also. They were a car-penter shop, blacksmith shop, and the Adams Ex-press Company's stable.

The roof and part of the walls of the Opera House The roof and part of the walls of the Opera House now fell in, filling the horizon with a dazzling column of his ht, sparks, and cinders. The multitude, at every fall of any walls, rushed tack on each other, as though they expected a brick was coming in their hats any minute, and as soon as the fright was over would again go so near that their lives were in danger. By this time the buildings to the west of the theatre were all in a blaze, and every few minutes lurid flames and columns of smoke would rise, followed by the crash of walls and an eddying pillar of sparks. The wing was blowing fresh from the southeparks. The wind was blowing fresh from the south-east, and the burning papers, cinders, and sparks were taken across Fourth street in myriads, and looged on the tops of a number of the buildings across Fourth street, and also Vine.

The Gazette office stood the shower of burning sparks and pieces of wood with great composure. The hors, shovel, and broom were kept at wors on the roof steady till the worst was over. The Burnet House roof was filled with spectators, and a large number of buckets, filled with water, stood around account of the root was a state of the process of the state of the stat ready for use. The top of the Post Office and several

the walls about to tale.

The specialors seeing this, shouted from one end to the other of the street for them to come out, which they finally acted on just in time. The roles of aper, type, etc. could be seen sowly but surely consumed. The flames were now razing on Third sitet, Baker street, Fourth, and Vine streets, and on both sides of the Sprague building, which was not the most intense heat but being built of double walls is withtood all. A window near the top of the house was opened, and from its stream of will read she but being built of the house was opened, and from its stream of will read she will she will she will she on the Engineer building. Walls now cracked and fell on all sides and as they did so a shout arose from the multitude.

At the time of the explosion a lot of fire works Note carried 1.0m the store room of 1 ke's on to the foot of the post office. A stack of trunks, baggage, etc., was piled up on the pavement on Vine street, taken from the buildings near by that were thought in danger. A fist light occurred in Baker street between two puguactous characters, and was settled by we policemen taking the gent emen off. We saw some of our friends who were working in the Laguirer office at the time the fire broke out, out foorgand looking on, some without their full suits of clothing. Some of the stores d'd well by getting out their own soe, and playing on the walls and

t their buildings litchers of water were brought into requisition on the building occupied as a gambling house on Third street; times were desperate, and that was the biggest game of chance that has yet been played there. The crowd were ver, caser on the house tops, and we heard of a joing man naving a narrow escape with his life. In his excerness to see an engine running past on the street, he stepped partly over the edge of the cornice in the dark and was snatched from death by a mend, who, fortunately,

snatched from death by a friend, who, fortunately, stood near by.

Soon after the fire began, 'he cornice of the Opera building save way, and it was reported two men were crushed under it, as a seneral rumnit and confusion prevailed, but subsequent information proved the report a canard. Aborder man is believed to be smothered under the rums. The one injured by the failing of the cornice was taken to Landy's pallery, and from there to Messrs Suire & Eckstein's drug store, and his wounds were there dressed by Dr. Museroft.

Museroft. He was delirous but gave his name as Jack Wilson, and his residence on nor h side George alrest, between Central avenue and John. His right foot was severely multimed, and his recovery is cosicered doubt ut, as he is also injured internally. John Morewood, fireman, of No. 14 fell through a floor of the Op ra Honse and was severely hurt. Mr. Peter Brogan had a leg fractured near the hip and it is considered by is in danger of not re-

Mr. Charles Bright was struck by a part of the wall, and had his skull frac ured badiy.

Many tell of different narrow escapes, but further
than the above we can as yet learn of no additional

About three o'clock this morning Captain Miller. the greatus fand ord of the Burnet House, ordered his acryants to prepare coffee and a unche in for the firemen and poice which was quickly done, and the mire may of the custodians of the public was made to rejoice ever the relish. Billy Wikkinson, the fa move, superintended the affair. It was an appro-priate and timely act, and is creditable to the house.

STATEMENT OF LO	15 th 14 to	
10	Losses, 1	Insurance.
S. N. Pike	000 000	\$38,000
	150,000	23,000
A. C. Tuter		
R. W. Chirol & Co	125 000	70,000
Summer & Co	40,000	20,000
Adoms Express Co	100,000	85,900
O. H. Harpel	15 000	
R. Strauss	8.000	
Breant, Stratton & De Hau	8,000	****
Buckeye fallurd Saloon	12 000	****
J. R. Hawley	2,500	****
A J. Clatk	5,000	****
Niblett & Atkieson	18,000	12,000
D H Balewin	5.500	5.500
S. Ho mes & Son	40,000	20,000
F P. Haldy	15,000	9,630
J R. Whatey	10.000	
J Langley	7.000	3.500
Philip Philips	20.000	7,000
	150.000	50,000
Enquirer	25 000	00,000
Other losses	20.000	111
Total8	1.751.000	6293,500
	CALL DE COLOR	

INSURANCE. The following recapitulation gives the amounts of policies in various companies on property de-Home Companies.

ш	110	me $too$	mpunics.	
	Enterprise. Unicinnati. American. Ohio Valley. Western. Nat.onal. Buckeye. Merch'u& Manui's	18 000 14,000 13 000 13,000 11,000 12 000 10,000 8,500	Mag: olfa. Citizens' Cintral. Glot 2. Hamiton County. Weshington. Peopie's. spatmen's. Franklin. Fremen's. Queen City.	5,000 5,000 2,600 12,000
		to Conse	ampanies.	
П	Contract to the contract of th		THE PARTY OF THE P	
	Norwier, Conn Corn Exch'e, N. Y. Delaware Mutual, Philadelphia Putnam. Hartford, Reg. ford Hersford,	5 000 5 000	Erevoort  Eina Bartford  Phoests, tartford, Continental N. Y. Enterprise, Phra. United F and M.	\$3.00 10,00 7,50 5,00 5,00
	Merchaute', Hartt.	5,000	Covington, Ky	5,000
	Charter Cak, Beitf. Springhe d. Mass.	10,009 6 000 4 C00	don	5 000 3 000
	Hampton	8,000	Total	827,060

# Philadelphia Trade Report.

MONDAY, March 26. - A sale of No. 1 Quercition Berk et 829 D ton.

There is some inquiry for prime Cloverseed, but common is not sought. Sales of 42500 bushels, at \$5 for common, up to \$5.25 for choice. In Timothy nothing doing. We quote at \$3 50. Fraxseed is seiling in a small way at \$2.70,22 75.

There is no improvement to notice in the Flour Market, and the only sales reported were a fe w hundred barrels at prices ranging from \$6.25 to \$7 for superfine; \$7@8 for extras; \$8 25@9 25 for Northwestern; \$8 50@10 50 for Pennsylvania and Ohio do. do.; and \$11@15 for sancy brands, according to quality. In Rye Fiour and Core Meal nothing doing. We quote the former at \$4.5.
There is serreely any prime Wheat offering, and

this is the only description wanted. Small sales of fair and choice red at \$2.21 @2.411 500 bushels at \$2: 2500 bushels Michigan white sold on private terms. twe is quiet, but pilets are steady at 85c. for Pennsylvania Corn comes forward slowly but there is not much demand. Sales of fellow at 69c in store, and 70c. affoat. Oats are in limited request, with sales of 2000 bushels Delaware at 49c. Whisky consales of 2000 bushels Delaware at 49c. Whisky continues very cull; "mall sales of refilled at \$2.25@2.25, and Ohio at \$2.28.

# Philadelphia Cattle Market.

MONDAY, March 26 .- The Cattle Market is more active this week, and prices rather better. About 1200 head arrived and sold at from 15j@16; cents for extra, the latter rate for choice; 14@15 cents for fair to good, and 10@18 cents # lb. for common, as to quality.

The fellowing are the particulars of the sa'es: -8. McFillen. Lancaster county, 15@16 James McFillen Lancaster county, 14@18; Ulman & Co. Lancaster co., 15@16. Mooney & Brother, Lanc. co., 74@7?, gross. Hape & Co., Lancaster county, 14@16. Shomberg & Co., Lancaster county, 14@16. Dryfoos & Bro., Lancaster county, 14@16. 18 "Dryloos & Bro Lancaster county, 142:16 55 "H. Charp, Lancaster county, 142:16 119 "Mooney & Smith, Lancaster co., 142:16. Hors continue scarce. About 1000 head sold at the different verse at from \$182:15 the 100 lbs. net Cows are unchanged. 200 head sold at from \$30 255 for Springers; and \$402:75 \$7, head for Milch Cows. Cows.

Sheep are in fair demand at about former rates.
6000 head sold at the Avenue Drove Yard at irom 7

@8 cents P lb., gross, as to quality.

perfect host of people were gazing on the institutions composed in the following resolutions:

and last playing at the Opera thome.

By this time the buildings in the rear were all in a blaze, and the Engirer building pronounced gone, but three or four firemen were sent into the bird story of that building to work with the hose; but the story of that building to work with the hose; but the fire was gaining rapidly in spite of their efferts, and the walls about to tall.

The special or seeing this, shouted from one end the street for them to come out, to the street for them to come out, the street for the street for them to come out, the street for the sists on Surrender and Emancipation, Etc.

> MR SEWARD TO MR. ADAMS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, February 7, 1805.—Ser:—It is a traism that in times of peace there are always instigators of war. So soom as a war begins, there are citizens who imputiontly de-mand negotiations for peace. The advocates for

mand negotiations for peace. The advocates for war, after an agitation longer or shorter, generally gain their learnal and though the war declared is not unirequently unnessary and unwise. So peace agitators, in time of war, utimately bring about an abandement of the conflict—sometimes without securing the advantages which were originally expected from the conflict.

The agitators for war is time of peace, and for peace in time of war, are not necessarily, or perhaps ordinarily, unpatrictic in their purposes and motives. Results alone determine whether they are wise or unwise. The treaty of peace concluded at Guadainpe Hidalgo was accured by an irregular negotiation under the ban of the foreign about negotimes which have been made to bring about negoefforts which have been made to bring about nego-tiations with a view to end our civil war are known to the whole world, because they have employed foreign as well as domestic agents; others, with whom you have had to deal confidentially, are known to yourself, although they have not publicly transpired. Other efforts have occurred here which are known only to the persons actually moving in them and to this Government. I am now to give you for your information an account of an affair of the same general character, which recently received much attention here, and which doubtiess will excite nouny abroad.

ow days ago. Francis P. Blair, Esq., of Maryland, obtained from the President a simple leave to a a s through our multiry lines without definite yiews known to the Government. Mr. Blair visited views known to the Government. Mr. Blair visited inchmond, and on his return he showed to the President a letter whie. Jefterson Davis had written to Mr. Blair, in which Davis wrote that Mr. Blair was at liberty to say to President Lincoln that Davis was now, as he had always been, willing to send Commissioners, it assured they would be received, or to receive any that should be sent; that he was not disposed to find opstuces in forms. He would send Commissioners to confer with the President, with a view to a restoration of peace between the we countries, if he could be sampled they would two countries, if he could be assured they would

The President thereupon, on the 18th of January, addressed a note to Mr. Blair in which the President, after acknowledging that he had read the note of hr. Davis, said he was, is, and always should be, while to receive any agent that Mr. Davis, or any other influentian be son, now actually resisting the authority of the Government, might send to contermiormally with the President with a view to the restoration of peace to the people of our common country. Mr. Blar visited Richmond with his jetter and then came back again to Washington. On the 26th instant, we were sovised from the camp of Lieu-tenan. General Grant that A exander H. Stevens, R. M. T. Hunter and John A. ampbell were apply-ing for Jeave to pass through the lines to Washington as Feace Commissioners, to confer with the President.

They were permitted by the Lieuterant-General to come to his headquart is, to await there the decision of the President. Major acket was sent down to meet the party from Richmond at General wrant's neacquarters. The Major was directed to deliver to them a copy of the President's letter to Mr. Blair, with a note to be addressed to them and signed by the Major, in which they were directly informed that, it they should be allowed its passour lines, they would be understood as coming for an informal con-terence upon the basis of the aforesaid letter of the 18th o January to Mr Bair. If they snould express their assent to this condition in writing, then Major Eckert was directed to give them sale conduct to Fortress Monroe, when a person coming from the President wou d meet them. It being thought probable, from a report of their conservation with Lieu-tenant-treneral Grant, that the Richmond party would in the manner prescribed accept the condition men ioned, the secretary of State was coarged by the President with the duty or representing this Government at the expected informal conference. The Secretary grayed at Fortrees Monroe on the night of the 1st day of February T Fortross Major Eckert me him on the moveing of the 2d of February with the information that the persons who had come from Richmond had not accepted in writing the condit on upon which he was a lo ved to give them conduct to Fortress Monroe. The Major had given the same information by telegraph to the tresident at Washinston. On receiving this infor-

mation, the Fresident prepared a telegram directing the Secretary to return to Washington. The Secretary was preparing, at the same moment, to do so, without waiting for instructions from the President. But at this juncture Liquid-nant-teneral Grant telegraphed to the Secretary of War, as well as to the Secretary of State, that the War, as well as to the Secretary of State, that the party from Rielmond had reconsidered and ac-cepted the conditions tendered them through Major Eckert, and General Grant urgently advise? the President to confer in person with the Richmond

Under these circumstances the Secretary, by the Differ these circumstances the Secretary, by the life deut's direction, remained at Fortress Monroe, and the fres dent joined him there on the night of the 2d of February. The Richmond party was be useful down the James river in a United States steam transport during the day, and the transport was anchored at Hampton Roads.

On the morning of the 3d the Fresident, attended

by the recreaser, received Mesus Stephens, Hurter and Campbell on board the United States seem transport River Queen, in Hampton Roads, the conference was altogether informat. There was no attendance of secretaries, c erks, or other witnesses. Nothing was written or read. The conversation, though earnest and free, was calm and courteous and kind on both sides. The Richmond party ap-proached the discussion rather indirectly and at no time did they either make categorical demands, or tender formal stipulations or absolute retusals. Nevertheless, during the conference, which lasted four hours, the several points at issue between the Government and the insurgents were distinctly raised and discussed fully, intelligently, and in an amiable spirit.

What the insurgent party seemed chiefly to favor was a postponement of the question or reparation upon which the war is waged, and a mutual direc-tion of the efforts of Government, as well as those of the insurgents, to some extrins a policy or scheme for a season, during which passion might be ex-pected to subside and the armies to be reduced and trade and insercourse between the people of both scrions resumed. It was suggested by them that through such postponement we might now have immediate peace, with some not very certain prospect of an ultimate satisfactory adjustment of fical relations between this Government and tutes, section, or people now engaged in conflict

This suggestion, though deliberately considered, was nevertheless regarded by the President as one of armistice or truce, and he announced that we can agree to no cessation or suspension of hostiles except on the basis of the disbandment of the insurgent forces and the restoration of the national au herity throughout all the States in the Union of claterally and in subordination to the proposition that was thus announced, the anti-slavery policy of the United States was reviewed in all the states and the states are states as the sta the United states was reviewed in bearings, and the President aunounced that he must not be expected to depart from the position he had heretoto essumed in his Proclamation of Emanapation and other documents, as these position cipation and other documents, as these positions were reiterated in his last annual message. It was turther declared by the Fresident hat the complete resteration of the national authority was an indispensable condition or any assent on our part to whatever form of peace might be proposed. The President assured the other party that while he must aftere to these positions, he would be prepared, so far as power is lodged with the Executive, to exercise liberality. cise liberality.

His power is limited by the Constitution. And

His power is limited by the Constitution. And when peace should be made, Congress must necessary act in regard to appropriations of money and to the admission of Representatives from the insurrectionary States. The Richmond party were then informed that Congress had, on the Sist uit, adopted, by a constitutional majority, a joint resolution, submitting to the several States the proposition to about his slavery throughout the Union, and that there is every reasen to expect that it will soon be accepted by three ioutins of the States, so as to become a part of the national organic law.

by three tourths of the States, so as to become a part of the national organic law.

This conference came to an end by mutual acquisescence, without procuring an agreement of views upon the several matters discussed or any of them. Nevertheless, it is perhaps of some importance that we have been able to submit our opinions and views directly to pror inent insurgents, and to hear them answer in a courteous and not untriencly manner. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

Charles Francis Adams, Esq., etc., etc.

WASHINGTON, March 26.

Printing of Fractional Currency. The sum of \$106,800 in the various denomina tions of fractional currency were printed last week by the Printing Division of the Treasury Department.

Shipments of Fractional Currency. The shipments of fractional currency last

week smounted to \$244,000, \$100,000 of which was forwarded to the Assistant Treasurer in New York, \$60,000 to the United States Deposit tory in Baltimore, and \$84,000 to the National banks throughout the country. National Currency Issued.

National currency was issued during last week to the amount of \$1,177,850, making the total

issued up to date \$262,816,370. Fractional Currency Redeemed. Fractional currency to the amount of \$432,500 was last week redeemed by the Treasury.

Internal Revenue Receipts. The receipts from this source on Saturday last were \$544,627.67, making the total amount re ceived since January 1st of the present year

\$63,865,767.10. Disbursements of the Treasury. The disbutsements of the Treasury Depart ment last week on account of the War Depart-

ment were \$7,789,702; of the Navy, \$4,033,779; and of the Interior, \$1,908,803. Billiards.

Phelan, Tieman and Carme are in town giving billiard exhibitions, to the admiration of all lovers of the game. The original and extraordinary performances of Carme are the theme of universal admiration among all the patrons of

Certificates of Indebtedness Issued. One hundred and six thousand dollars in certificates of indebtedness were issued last week. Conscience Money.

General Spinner, United States Treasurer, on Saturday received \$27.75 in "conscience money," from unknown sources.

Securities of National Banks. The total amount of securities held by the

United States Treasurer for the circulation of National Banks and for public funds in Government depositories, is \$351,961.300. Weights and Measures.

The Secretary of the Treasury, at the request of the Governor of North Carolina, on Saturday torwarded him a full set of United States standard weights and measures to replace those destroyed during the Rebellion.

### FROM BALTIMORE TO-DAY.

Grace Church on Fire—Sad Accident on the Chesapeake, Etc.

Special Despatch to the Evening Telegraph. BALTIMORE, March 26 .- Grace Protestant Episcopal Church, corner of Monument and Park streets, caught fire yesterday, and was near only slight.

Captain T. Taylor, Mr. Lewis Tulley, Lewis McCondler, and a colored man, were all drowned last Friday night, in the Chesapeake Bay, from the \*schooner Father and Son, by a boat capsizing. They were all of Accomac county, Va-We had a severe snow-storm yesterday, with intense gales, and it is now very-cold.

The statement I sent recently about the rumored failure of Mr. A. T. Stewart, of New York. I have since learned is entirely without foundation, and I hasten to correct the mistake.

## From Louisville.

Louisville, March 26 .- Four Italians were arrested this morning with \$14,000 in counterfeit bills of all descriptions in their possession.

From Fortress Monroe.

Saratoga sailed for New York yesterday. -One hundred and eleven valuable sheep, belonging to William M. Evarts, were drowned

FORTRESS MONROE, March 26 .- The steamship

### during the recent flood at Windsor, Vt. New Jersey M. E. Conference:

FIFTH DAY .- The Conference was called to order at 84 o'clock by Bishop Scott, and the devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. E. Post, in reading the Scriptures, singing. and prayer.

Minutes of last meeting were read and ap-

proved, after one or two amenements. The history of the educational progress con-nected with the Conference, was then taken

'At the last session of this Conference, Rev. Mr. Lewis, by resolution, was requested to pre-pare a paper containing a history of the Education and Centenary Funds, in their origin and investments, as also an account of the claims for annuity held by Dickinson College against the New Jersey Conference, to be presented at its next session." He proposed in the first place to furnish a history of the Educational Fund, in its origin and investments, with an account of the claims for an annuity held by the Dickinson College against the New Jersey Conference.

At the session of the Philadelphia Conference for 1833, measures were adopted in unison with the Baitamore Conference to accept proposals by trustees of Dickinson College, at Carliste, Pass which proposals were to transfer the college buildings, grounds, and all the appliances of the institution to forty trustees of the College appointed for and in behalf of the M. E. Church. During that year this transfer was effected, and there was a mutual agreement entered into, that the two conferences should be equal in conducting and sustaining the College, as well as in the advantages and responsibilities involved. This being done, an agent was ap-pointed to travel through the Conference and collect funds for the permanent endowment of the institution.

At the Conference of 1834 the agent reported subscriptions and collections amounting to \$5970.30, of which \$193.63 was cash. Following this a subscription was opened in the Conference room, when the preachers swelled the amount to \$18,600. At this same Conference a Board of seven Trustees was elected, to be entitled "Trustees of Education Fund of the Philadelphia Annual Conference of the M. E. Church," to take charge of all collections, subscriptions, bonds, etc., relating to education. These Trustees trees were subsequently incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and organized

accordingly.
At the session of the Philadelphia Conference for 1836 the General Conference was petitioned for a division of that body, and it was divided according to the form and manner laid down in

less and Education Fund of the present Philade phia. Annual Conference.

Resolved, That in case the Philadelphia Conference shall be divided, as resolved above, and in view of the last resolution, the Philadelphia Conference shall appoint three members at its first session after division, and the New Jersey Conference at its first session after division, shall also appoint three members which six members shall constitute a joint-committee to whom shall be referred the matters contained in the last resolution, that they may devise the basis and principles, both in equity and law, on which the privileyes, responsibilities, obligations, and patrogage of all the members now embraced in the Philadelphia Conference, and which may be created hereafter in each Conference to be created by the division, shall be really and properly secured to each person and parto interested and concerned, and report to each Conference at its subsequent session for their joint concurrence and confirmation.

Accordingly, at the first session of the New

Accordingly, at the first session of the New Jersey Conference, 1837, a committee of three was appointed to confer with a like committee of the Philadelphia Conference on all matters relating to Dickinson College, and report at the

next ensuing annual Conference.

The report of this Joint Committee was submitted to the Phsladelphia Conference in 1838, and amended, and at the session of the New Jersey Conference for the same year, the amendment was concurred in, and a committee of three appointed to carry it into effect, the report of the Committee as amended. There is no evidence on the face of the journal that the Committee ever reported.

At the Conference of 1839, Brothers Pethe-ridge and Pliman were appointed a committee to confer with a like committee of the Philadelphia Conference, on the division of the educa-tional fund. This committee reported to the ensuing Conference in 1840, that the amount due New Jersey Conference from the educational board of the Philadelphia Conference as its share of the fund for the endowment of Dickinson College to be \$2320.72.

## FINANCE AND COMMERCE

OFFICE OF THE EVENING TELEGRAPH,

Monday, March 26, 1866. The Stock Market opened very dull this morning, but prices continue steady. Government bonds are firmly held at full prices, with sales of 7:30: at 201. 1034 was bid for 5:20s; 1042 for 6s of 1881; and 992 for 10:40s. City loans are

without change; the new issue sold at 911@92, and old do. at 87‡. Railroad shares are less active. Reading sold at 50%, no change; Catawissa preferred at 29163 291, a slight advance; North Pennsylvania at 36, no change; Northern Central at 444, no change; and Lenigh Valley at 62@624, no change; 1183 was bid for Camden and Amboy; 55 for Pennsylvania Railroad; 29 for Lattle Schuylkill; 51 for Norristown; 54 for Minchill; 274 for Elmira

common; 39 for preferred dc.; 26 for Catawissa common; and 28 for Philadelphia and Erie. In City Passenger Railroad shares there is nothing doing. 70 was bid for Second and Third; 51½ for Tenth and Eleventh; 34 for Spruce and Pine; 50 for Chesnut and Walnut; 45 for Hestonville; 25 for Girard College; 14 for Ridge Avenue; and 27% for Union.

Avenue; and 27½ for Union.

In Canal shares there is very little movement.
Lehigh Navigation sold at 5½; 21 was bid for
Schuylkill Navigation common: 28½ for preterred do.; 114 for Morris Canal preferred; 13
for Susquehanna Canal; 35 for Delaware Division; and 58 for Wyoming Valley Canal.

Oil shares are very dull, with the exception of
Ocean, which continues everted.

sold at 61@61, the latter rate a slight advance; and Jersey Well at 1. Bank shares are in good demand. 206 was bid for North America; 140 for Philade phia; 124 for Farmers' and Mechanics'; 54 for cial; 90 for Northern Liberties; 28 for Mechanics'; 50 for Penn Township; 53 for Girard; 76

Ocean, which continues excited. 3100 shares

for Western; 31 for Manufacturers' and Mechanics'; 62 for City; and 56 for Union. PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES TO-DAY

Reported by De Haven & Bro., No. 40 S, Third street FIRST BOARD. 

PHILAD'A GOLD EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS. HARPER, DURNEY & Co. quote as follows:-

SECOND NATIONAL BANK OF PHILADELPHIA. -- In accordance with the provisions of the National Currency Act, and the Articles of Association of this Bank, it has been determined to increase the capital stock to \$300,000. Subscriptions to the proposed increase will be payable on or before the first day of May next, and will be re-

ceived in the manner provided for in the by-

laws of the bank. A number of unalloted shares

will remain to be sold, applications for which will be received from stockholders and others on or before May 1. The following is a statement of the resources:-Notes and bills discounted... \$216,192.50 United States loans..... 587,400-00 -8803.592·50 Legal Tender Notes and Cash. 898 996 38 Due from National Banks..... 108,279-88 Real estate furniture, and fixtures...... Experses and taxes.....

81 034,701 27 LIABILITIES. Capital stock. 25 850
Surplus fund. 25 850
Profit and loss. 21 855 21 855 28 Deposits..... 487,455-91 787 455 91 \$1,084 701 27

STOCKHOLDERS' PROPRIETARY INTEREST. 2500 sbares Capital Stock, par \$100 eacu. . \$250,000-00 Surplus fund accumulated in 21 months. . Profit and loss since last divi-

8801.004 47

Markets by Telegraph.

New York, March 26 -Cotton dull and nominal New York, March 26—Cotton dull and nominal at 89@40c. Flour has a declining tendency, 4700 bbis so d; State, \$6.70@8 10; Onto, \$8.10@11; Western. \$6.70@8 20; Southern unchanged and heavy, 800 bbis sold; Canadian drooping, 800 bbis, seld at \$7.70@11 25. Wheat dull and nominally in Luyers tayor, 7000 bushels sold; New Amber Michigan \$1.70. Corn dull and drooping. Beef steady. Fork dull; Mess, \$24.87@25. Lard heavy.

New York, March 26—stocks are dull. Chicago and Rock island. 117; Cumberland preferred, 48; Himois Central, 116; Michigan Southern, 81?; New York Central, 92?; Reading, 101); Hudson River, 109; Erie Railroad. 81?; Western Union 92?; United States Coupons 1862, 1082; ditto 1865. 104; Ten-fortigs, 91; Treasury Seventhirties, 100; for all the series. Gold, 125;