AT THE TVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1866.

The Loss of the "New Ironsides." THE loss of the United States frigate New Ironsides is a national calamity. She was the best iron-clad in our navy, and one of the most formidable war versels in the world-She was associated with some of the most brilliant achievements of the late war, and

gained a world-wide reputation. The circumstances attending the destruction of this vessel would seem to reflect upon the naval authorities. It is evident that no sufficient preparation had been made to guard against just such a disaster as has now overtaken our best vessel. When the fire broke out there were no appliances at hand for subduing it, and the best that could be done was to batten down the hatchways, and send to this city for assistance. Before that arrived the vessel was a mass of flame, and it was only by the most strenuous exertions of the firemen that the fire was prevented from spreading to the neighboring vessels.

Congress, too, in the loss of this splendid and costly ship-of-war, may trace the workings of its short-sighted policy in regard to the League Island matter. Here are our iron-clad vessels-the very life of our navylaid up on private premises, and confided to the care of a handful of watchmen. Had League Island been accepted for a naval site, as all the interests of the country have ong demanded, this vessel could hardly have been lost. As matters now stand, it was by mere good luck that the Dictator and the Atlanta were not consumed also. We hope that this disaster will arouse Congress to the necessity of immediately making adequate provision or the wants of the navy, and that the naval authorities will meantime take measures for the more perfect protection of our iron-clads at League Island.

"Little Pleasantries"

THAT debatable ground for conflict of arms between the North and South-the city of Washington-has again witnessed a little melee between "distinguished gentlemen." The facts of the case are rather interesting. Dr. Sidney, of Mississippi, has been a staunch Unionist throughout the war. Judge Abel has been an intense secessionist since "reason held her sway in h's distracted globe." Some two years since a difficulty between these gentlemen resulted in a rencontre, in which pistol shots were exchanged, but "nebody hurt." After this slight exhibition of friendly relations, the parties did not meet until, on Tuesday last, they came face to face in the Capital grounds Immediately upon beholding the Doctor, the Judge advanced, and withant any previous provocation, saluted him Southerner!" Sidney, sugged, A. renegade adage that "Actions speak louder than words," preserved a sublime silence, and knocked the Judge down. One would have supposed that the Judge, when he made such an attack, would have naturally been prepared for such a catastrophe, and have armed himself for the emergency; but no such foresight was exhibited. No sooner was the form of his Honor picked up, than he peacefully departed, and in the afternoon sent a challenge, which, being accepted, was followed in the evening by a note of apology, in which the legal functionary stated that his salutation to Dr. Sidney was intended as 'a little pleasantry."

"Now, if you leave a man at two in the morning," says Dickens, "in the best possible humor, and meet him again at ten, and he, without provocation, calls you a serpent, it is natural to suppose that something has happened." The same logic applies to the present case. If you fight a duel with a man on a political difference, and the next time he meets you he advances, without a word of explanation, and calls you a "d-d renegade," it is natural to suppose that he desires another fight. But this logic has proved fallacious. An oath and an epithet of opprobrium is merely a "little pleasantry!"

We have our own theory in regard to the probabilities of the case. We cannot but think that the Judge did not expect the Doctor to resent the insult. Imbued with the idea that the supremacy of the South for courage was still an acknowledged fact, he thought that he could insult with impunity a man who had been true to his country. The rapid blow and the immediate acceptance of a challenge proved his mistake. It is seldom that we find a case in the code of honor in which the party who is struck, and who sends a challenge, is the one to apologize. A blow generally calls forth something more than a mere explanation. We should suppose that the notes which contained the "little pleasantry" gave a word of warning for the future. "Twice you have kicked me, sir; three times you have smacked my face; now beware of a sixth offense."

The despatch which tells us of the occurrence also adds that "the friends of the parthe are very indignant at the result," It is strange, for most riends design to act as seconds. The dramatist represents the unfortunate "Bob Acres" as begging his triend to give his love to his family, which is entirely dependent on him for support, and eagerly asking i im whether he does not think his duty demands that he should rise above passion, and live to maintain them. And the friend assuring bim that he will

give his exact words, and see that his family is made comfortable, is a very good lostance of the solicitude of friends for your bonor.

From this foolish instance we can draw a lesson. Let us advise our Southern neighbors to dispense with all "little pleasantries," and we hope that for its own good the South will acknowledge that all its course in regard to reconstruction is only a "little pleasantry," and with an apology rectify the errors of its way. If the South had a few more Judge Abels, it might have less courage, but it would certainly possess more common sense.

Manufacturing Popularity.

"PHILADELPHIA. December 16 .- The largest audence ever assembled in the Academy of Music was assembled last night to witness the performance of Ristori as 'Queen Elizabeth,' She was frequently builed with acciamations of delight. To morrow night she will perform in leborah, and on Tuesday repeat 'Mary Stuart.' Special despatch to the New York World.

-The above despatch is a fair specimen of how popularity is manufactured. In addition to its being on a subject in which the New York public can take no interest, it is false in its statement. The house on both occasions on which Elizabeth was played was good, and enly good. The stockholders' seats were empty, and the upper parts were thinly scatered with people. Madame Ristori has appeared five nights only, two of which have been good, the remaining three barely payng expenses. When she played Phædra the scene was fearfully dreary. About one-third of the audience was asleep, By means of these false despatches it is hoped to create a furor in New York. If the metropolis imitate the Quaker City, it will not go Ristori mad.

Howard on Steedman and Fullerton. THE report of General O. O. Howard, in relation to the published accusations of Generals Steedman and Fullerton, in the Freedmen's Bureau, has been made public. It is a scathing review of the course of these officers, and boldly lays the crime of suppressing and altering facts to their charge. He naturally observes that it seems strange that officers so long relieved from duty should have been selected to perform so important an investigation. The article utterly annihilates the attacks of the Inspectors, and places the Bureau in the true light-that of a protector of the weak and an administrator of justice. General Howard conclusively proves that the safety of the blacks and the peace of the Southern States alike demand its continuance.

Discussion Between Messrs. Wade and Sumner.

MESSES, WADE and SUMNER had some discussion in the Senate on Fr day, as to whether Congress was committed to the admission of Representatives from the so-called Southern States upon the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment—the former contending that it was, the latter that it was not, Practically, this question is not likely to amount to much, as the Southern Legislatures are refusing to adopt the amendment. Should they adopt it, however, during the present winter, there is no doubt but that their Representatives would be immediately admitted. The precedent set in the case of Tennessee would undoubtedly be followed.

JUDGE WORRELL, of New York, has issued others, as lowery Wealers, and orders them to be held to bail in \$3000 each. The complaint is made by one Odell, who has lost \$35,000 in his policy slips. It is strange that we never hear of complaints made by those who win from the bank. Probably none ever win. The Hon. M. C. need not fear imprisonment, as after the 4th of March it would be a breach of privilege. We think we can understand the feelings of the faro dealer when he franks letters. Probably the lines apply to him which say:-"He feels as high again

As a dozen nobler men When he signs himself 'the Honorable John.'"

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PHILADELP GIA.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The attention of the citizens of Pailadelphia is specially called to the following section of an ordinance decisring Public Nuisances:

Section To suffer or permit show to remain more than six working hours, after the same may cease to fall, on any payed A orkey or gatter or the city, in front of or adjoining any church, public building, house, store, shop, stable, or tenement of any kind or the adjoining side yaru thereof, o yacant lots: and the occupier or the owner of such premises, if unoccupied, shall be liable for the penalty hereinanter prescribed for such offense.

isble for the penalty berematter profiles.

PEFALTY TWO DOLLARS.

Measures will be taken to enforce a s'rict compliance to the above, and all efficers of the Police Department are hereby directed and required to prosecute all offenders sgainst the provisions of this Ordinance.

By order of the Mayor,

SAMUEL G. RUGGLES,

Chief of Police.

H. G. CLARK, High Constable.

IRON IN THE BLOOD THE necessity of a due proportion of iron in the blood is well known to all medical men; when it becomes reduced from any cause whatever, the who'e system suffers, the weakest part being first attacked, and a feeling of languor, lassitude, and "all geneness" pervades the system. The remedy is simply to supply the blood with the necessary quantity of iron. This can be done by

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FALL ANNOUNCEMENT-1866 SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS - NEW AND ATTRACTIVE STYLES-NEW PACTORY. MASON & HAMLIS CABINET ORGANS. MASON & HAMLIS PORTABLE ORGANS. PRICES. \$75 to \$1990 EACH.

Graiffled by the high appreciation of their Cabinet Organs, and the very wide demand for them throughout the country, and locreasing demand in Europe. MASON & HAMLIN have been stimulated in their efforts to secure the nightest excellence in every Depart-MENT OF THEIR WORK, and to GERATLY INCREASE THEIR PACILITIES FOR MANUFACTURE. They are now completing a large new building, terming an important addition to their manufactory, and rendering it much the largest of its class in the world, and giving them, with the aid of new machinery, facilities for producing toe best possible quality of work in such quantity as will enable them herea'ter they trust, to supply fully the demand for their instruments. They respectfully announce the introduction of SEVERAL NEW SITLES OF CABINET ORGANS rendering the variety very complete. and adapted to different tastes and uses; as, for the drawing-room, library, public hall church, school room, lodge, etc., and to the requirements of those who desire any degree of ornament, from the plainest to the most elaborate cases. The rapidly increasing use of these instruments in drawing rooms has especially encoursged the manufacture of a variety of very elegant styles, which will compare favorably in beauty of design and finish, with any pieces of furniture produced in the country.

It has always been the inflexible purpose of Mason & HAMLIN to secure the VERY BEST qualities of material and workmanship, and the nearest approach to persection possible in every department of their work, never allowing any sacrifice of excellence to economy of manufacture. They have also been carnest in their efforts for improvement, by unremitting experiments at their own factory, and a liberal policy in securing the use of all improvements in this class of instruments effected elsewhere The public are assured that no effort will be spared to maintain the extraordinary excellence of the Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organs and to render them more than ever worthy the reputation they have obtained as THE BEST INSTRUMENTS OF THEIR CLASS IN THE WORLD.

As ev dence of the character and standing of the instruments of their make. Mason & Hamlin have the gratification of referring to the fact that within a few years they have been awarded FIFTY-TWO GOLD OR SILVER MEDALS, or other highest premiums, for substantial improvements effected by them, and for the superiority of their Cabinet Organs to all other instruments of the class. Their instruments have also been honored with an amount and degree of approval from the musical profession altogether unprecedented. A arge majority or the most eminent organists, plantsts, composers, directors, and teachers in the country have given public testimony to their high appreciation of the improvem hts effected by Mason & Hamlin, and to the marked superiority of their Cabinet Organs to all other instruments of this general class. As loose statements are often made by manu acturers respecting such matters, Mason & Hamlin invite attention to their circulars, containing this testimony in full. They also cornestly solicit the most critical examination and comparts no their Cabinet Organs The more intelligent and search ing these may be, the more confidence they will have in the result. They invite attention especially to the CHARACTER AND QUALITIES OF TONE in their Organs, which DIFFER MATERIALLY from those of any other reed

NEW SERIES OF ORGANS. THE MASON & HAMLIN PORTABLE ORGANS. In order to meet the demand for low priced instruments, Mason & Hamlin have commenced the manufacture of a new series of Grgans, the design or which is to furnish really good instruments in the most economical form, and at the lowest prices possible. They are smaller in rize and more compact than the Cabinet Organs, and hence will be known as THE MASON & HAMLIN PORTABLE ORGANS. The cases which are all of walnut are very plainty, though neatly and taste-fully finished; and in various details, such as ivory keys, pedal coverings music desks, hinges, etc. otc. not affecting he practical us fulness or durability of the instruments, less expensive materials and workmanship are employed than in the Cabinet Organs. This sconomy of manufacture is not, however, allowed extend to the working parts of the instruments, which are all made with that scrupulous care and thoroughness for which the Mason & Hamiin Cabinet Organs are

It should be observed that the principles upon which the manufacture of low-priced instruments. The plan commonly is to make as much show as possible in externals, and to slight the interior parts or the instrument, which are not seen In the Portable Organs It is chiefly upon the externals-upon those parts which are seen, and which are not essential to the musical capacity of the instrument—that the saving is effected, and not upon the more important interior.

In that ilquid purity and smoothness of tone by which the Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organs are distinguished, and for which they have become so celebrated, and in some other respects, the Portable Organs cannot claim to be fully equal to them. The ascessity for adopting different and smaller cases, bellows, etc., renders the attainment of this impossible. Yet it is confidently believed that in quality of tones the Portable Organs approach nearer to the Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organs than do any other reed instruments. In power, quickness of action, and other excellences. they are worthy of highest praise. Each one is turnished with the Automatic Beliows Swell, two Blow Pedals, Combination Valves, and such other or the patented improvements of Mason & Hamiin as are applicable to them.

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