OBITUARY.

Ex-Governor John Seldon Roans. of Arkansas, died on the 8th instant, after a long illness, at als home near Pine Bluf, Jefferson county, in that State. He was elected Governor of Arkansas on the Democratic ticket in 1848, He served in the Mexican war, attaining the rank of Colonel. During the Rebellion he was an officer in the Confederate army, and was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General. Mr. Benjamin B. Wiffin,

a brother of the late J. H. Wiffin, the translator of "Tasso," dled recently at Mount Pleasant, near Woourn, Bedfordshire, England.

Mr. Wiffin was well known as a Spanish scholar, his special line of study being the history of the Reformation in Span. He was instrumental in reprinting a number of the works of the early Spanish reformers, two of which he edited. These were the "Epistola Consolatoris" of Juan Perez, and the "Alfalecto Christiano" of Juan de Valdes, the latter work owing its discovery to him, having latter work owing its discovery to him, having been unknown to bibliographers for over three centuries until he brought it to light, and translated it, about six years ago. He was also the author of a "Life of Valdes," contributed to the late translation of "The Hundred and Ten Considerations" of that unique writer. Like his brother, Mr. Wifflin was in his earlier years a frequent contributor to the fugitive poetry of his day, although he cannot be said to have been a poet.

The Great Museums of the World. Protessor Agassiz, in a letter to the Boston

Transcript, replying to some criticisms made by a correspondent of that paper, says:-In the second place, I am called to account for having stated that the Jardin des Plantes and the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge are the only institutions in the world where instruction is given in connection with the collections. I think no one of my hearers can have failed to understand that I was speaking not of institutions of learning generally, but of great museums. Of course, I am aware that there are many universities, colleges, and even high schools, where courses of lectures are given in connection with collections; this is indeed rather the rule than the exception in all European schools. But special collections collections, intended for instruction, and limited to what is needed for general study, ought not to be confounded with museums organized with a view to the advancement of science, and destined to educate scientific men. We have such an elementary collection for the use of the general students within the Museum itself. Such collections ought to be put up in our normal and high schools.

But the great museums of the world, de-

voted exclusively to the advancement of science, words exclusively to the advancement of science, such as the Jardin des Plantes, the British Museum, the Museum at Leyden, the Frankfort Museum, and those of Vienna and St. Petersburg, are not educational institutions. On the other hand, the great universities, such as Oxford and Cambridge in England; Paris, Montpeller, Strasburg, etc., in Frence; Gottingen, Heidelburg, Vienna, at a large in Campany are not burg, Vienna, etc. etc., in Germany are not connected with great museums. The museums at Berlin and Munich existed there before the foundation of the Universities of those cities. The same is true in this country. Neither the Smithsonian In-stitution, nor the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, nor the Boston Natural History Society, have any provision for public instruction, and I am not aware that any of our colleges has a first-class museum connected with it. Mr. Peabody's liberal donations are no doubt at this moment leading to the erection of several, and I trust this discussion will suggest the

importance of making our scientific collections more generally useful for study.

But at present this is not the case. The Smithsonian Institution in Washington and the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge are the only ones open daily to the public, with the sole reservation of the time necessary for

the maintenance of order and nestness.

To the great museums enumerated above I hope the Cambridge Museum will be added as soon as its treasures can be opened to the public. Meanwhile I repeat the statement made considerately in the first instance, that of these first-class museums, the Jardin des Plantes and the museum at Cambridge are the only ones which are organized as educational establishments, and whose course of instruction, free of charge, is open to the public. L. Agassiz.

Our Territorial Acquisitions. From the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.

There is reason to believe that the old couplet. "No pent-up Utica contracts our powers," But the whole boundless Continent is ours,"

is in a fair way of literal realization by the United States Government. Since we began our national career there has been pursued by us a steady policy of territorial acquisition. The idea has come to be a favorite one not only with each and every Administration, but als with each and every citizen of the "Universal Yankee Nation," as we are pleased to call our-

The following list will show how far we have already gone in this direction:

First. The purchase of Louisiana and the Mississippi Valley, in 1803, from France, for \$15,060,000. Second. The purchase of Florida, iu 1819, from

Spain, for \$3,000,000. Thrid The annexation of Texas in 1845.
Fourth. The purchase of California, New Mexico, and Utah, from Mexico, for \$15,000,000, in 1848. Fifth. The purchase of Arizona from Mexico,

for \$10,000,000, in 1854. Sixth. The purchase of the immense Russian possessions, running down on the Pacific Coast from the North Pole to ufty-four North latitade, at which line it strikes the British posses

Without pausing to take breath after this last feat or territorial deglaration, we are already gravely meditating the method and propriety of taking the title of what little territory there is left on the continent that "fines us," and of giving the bird of treedom an opportunity of flapping his wings over an entire continent without trespassing upon neighbors. The Senate lad hardly ratified the treaty with Russia, when it was announced that Mr. Seward was negotiating for the Northwestern British Possessions, to apply in part payment of our Alabama claims, and in final settlement of our old "nity-four-forty-or-nght" dispute. Simultaneously we are treated with serious prognos-tications of the speedy fate of the new Canadian Confederacy, and are gravely told that the inevitable destiny of that country is to be blended with our own States under the Stars

The Musical Powers of the Chinese. The following interesting particulars have been received in England from a gentleman in Hong Kong, who is engaged in teaching a tonic

sol-in singing-class there:—
"I believe this to be almost the first attempt to teach the reading of music to this wonderful people. The Chinese themselves have no tunes and no idea of music. Their instruments can produce but two or three tones, and their singing is screeching in talsetto to no kind of tune. The conventional terms of 'nigh' and 'low' are utterly unknown to them. Why, they ask, should a shrill note be up' and a grave note be 'down?' Their voices are barsh to a painful degree, and their talent for flattening wonder ful. They must never be asked to go above D, and after half an hour's singing lose all comand after half an hour's singing lose all command of their voices. They also incline to bawl." But, notwithstanding all these hindrances, the experiment seems to be succeeding. The tonic sol-fa method seems adapted for the Chinese as well as the English. The writer continues:—"If the new tone set before them be an easy one, it is positively sung the first time without an error; if a difficult one, two or three trials may be required." The class has been formed into a choir for Union Church. Dr. Legge, of the London Missionary Society, has printed them some tunes in Chinese tonic sol-in, and the result is that 'the service of song is improving.'"

-The two Abbotts, Jacob and John S. C. have published about two hundred volumes of juvenile books.

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In consequence of the magnitude of this sale, the Gallery will be closed for two days previous to the exhibition. The sale will be without reserve, and the last important one for the spring of 1867.

4 201

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The goods will be ready for examination on Monday, April 22, as above.

[4 15 64]

GRAND SALE OF FRENCH BRONZE FIGURES, ELEGANT CLOCKS, ITALIAN MARBLE STATUARY, CLASSICAL VASES, ETC. ETC.
The importation of Messrs, Viti Bros. (late Vito Viti & Sons), to take piace at Scott's Art Gallery, No. 1020 Chesnut street, on Wednesday, May I, at 10% o'clock A. M., and will be continued in the evening at 7½ o'clock. The collection will be ready for examination two days previous to sale, (420 %). BY THOMAS BIRCH & SON, NO. 1110 CHES

PEREMPTORY SALE OF A COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS BY EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN ART ISTS.

On Wednesday Evening,
At so'clock, at the Art Gallery, No. 1110 Chesnut street, will be sold a collection of over one hundred Oil Paintings by American and European artists,
Catalogues will be ready on Monday, when the paintings will be open for exhibition.

[4 19 4]

Sale at No. 1110 Chesnut street.

ELEGANT HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, CARPETS, MIRRORS, PIANO FORTES, MELODEONS, PLATED WARE, CHINA, ETC.
On Friday Moraing,
At 9 o'clock, at the Auction Store, No. 1110 Chesnut street, will be sold a large assortment of superb
Furniture, from families deciling housekeeping,
comprising parlor, chamber, dining-room, and
kitchen Furniture.

[4 23 34

LARGE SALE OF COTTON AND WOOLLEN MACHINERY, STEAM ENGINE, ETC. On Tuesday, April 30th, at 10 o'clock. Catalogues can be had at the Auction Store. [4 23 64

PANCOAST & WARNOCK, AUCTIONEERS LARGE: POSITIVE, SPECIAL SALE OF 400
CASES STRAW GOODS, by catalogue, on a credit,
On Friday Morning,
April 25, commencing at 10 o'clock, comprising a
large and general assortment of newest springshaped Bonnets and Hats, for ladies, misses, and
children. [4 24 2t

C. C. MACKEY, AUCTIONEER office No. 421 COMMERCE Street. 221st

PROPOSALS. DROPOSALS FOR FRESH BEEF,-

FRANKFORD ARSENAL PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 17, 1867.

Sealed Proposals, in duplicate, will be received by the undersigned until 12 M. April 27, 1867, at this office, for furnishing the troops stationed at Frankford Arsenal with FRESH BEEF.

stationed at Frankford Arsenal with
FRESH BEEF,
of a good and marketable quality, in equal proportions of fore and hind-quarter meat (necks, shanks, and kidney tallow to be excluded), in such quantities as may be from time to time required, and on such days as shall be designated by the commanding officer.
The contract to be subject to the approval of The contract to be subject to the approval of the Commissary-General of Subsistence, and to remain in force for six months, or such less time as he may direct, commencing on the ist day of May, 1567. Upon acceptance of the offer, security and bond in the sum of six hundred deliars will be bond in the sum of six hundred dollars will be required for the faithful performance of the

contract.

Bids must be endorsed "Proposals for Beef."

GEORGE D. RAMSAY, JR.,

4 17 wfm5t

Bvt. Capt. U. S. A., A, C. S. SALE OF POWDER

BUREAU OF OBDNANCE,
NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, April 22, 1867.
There will be sold at Public Auction, to the
highest bidders, in the office of the Inspector of
Ordnance, at the NAVY YARD, BOSTON,
Massachusetts, at noon on THURSDAY, the
ninth (9th) day of May, 1867, fifteen hundred
(1500) barrels of POWDER, composed of rifle
cannon, musket, and ordinary cannon powder. cannon, musket, and ordinary cannon powder, and eighteen hundred (1800) pounds compressed

These powders will be sold by sample, and in lots to suit purchasers. Terms, one-half cash in Government funds, and the remainder within ten days afterwards, during which time the powders must be re-moved from the magazine, otherwise they will revert to the Government. H. A. WISE, Chief of Bureau.

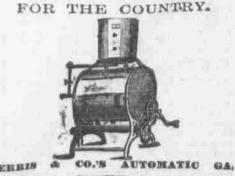
4 24 13t

O FFICE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COM. PANY.

PHILADELPHIA, February 4, 1887.

Proposals will be received at the Office of the Pennsylvania Raliroad Company, Philadelphia, until the first day of May, 1887, inclusive (unless a satisfactory proposal should be received and accepted previously), from responsible parties desiring to contract with said Company for the establishment of a direct Line of Steamships between Philadelphia and Liverpeol. Blank forms of proposals, with detailed informa-ion, will be furnished upon application to 27 to 1 EDMUND SMITH, Secretary.

CAS LIGHT



MACHINES

CHURCHES, ETC., FURNISHING FROM TEN TO SIX HUNDRED LIGHTS, AS MAY BE REQUIRED. LIGHTS, AS MAY BE REQUIRED.

This, machine is guaranteed; does not get out for order, and, the time to manage it is about five minutes a week.

The simplicity of this apparatus, its entire reedom from danger, the cheapness and quality of the lighs over all others, has gained for it the favorable opinion of those acquainted with its merits. The names of those saving used them for the last three years will be given by calling at our OFFICE

NO. 105 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, Where the machines can be seen in operation.
FERRIS & CO., Box 431 P. O.
Send for a Pamphlet.

FERRIS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCES, MILLS, HOTELS