

HISTORIC CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND.

Charter, are matters familiar to the knowledge of most of us. Christmas seems to have been, historically speaking, a season in which statesmen and others who fought and exercised their bodies during the rest of the year, were liberated to what they should do next; a season in which kings who were going to war sat down and counted the cost, and in which any light work of state, whether for good or for evil, was taken in hand.

Winter was formerly a time when war ceased; opposed armies went into winter quarters; and the commanders on either side went home to enjoy themselves, and to get ready fresh means of attack for the next spring. Christmas was also a season when people in high places were likely, if at any time, to be off their guard; and we find, accordingly, that not a few of the state villains which have been recorded—those of the first and second classes, and of one sort and another—have had their denouement at or about Christmas.

As an example in support of the statement that any night, unwarlike work was done at this time, we mention that it was a fortnight before Christmas, in the year 1264, that Simon de Montfort sent out writs in the King's name, convoke the first English Parliament. He had done his active, out-of-door work for the year; and, as the King and the Prince of Wales were in his power, and the weather did not admit of his chasing any of his numerous rivals in the field, he stayed in London and thought over his next move. Happily the idea occurred to him that he might do it by writs, and he secured the nation in the enjoyment of those benefits which his power had won for it, the best way to do so would be to call the nation into council, and to strengthen his own power by drawing fresh aid from the commons.

Three days of twenty-eight years from this time that the remains of the great emperor, having been brought from St. Helena, were interred, with splendid honor and a nation's adoration, in the Hospital of the Invalids at Paris. "I request," he said in his will, "that my body may repose on the banks of the Seine, among the people whom I have loved so well."

—Victoria has another grandson. —The Dominion has 59,100 troops. —Pellard calls Mrs. Jeff. Davis "bravwy." —San Francisco has another squatter war. —The London Times now sells for three pence. —New York has at last a moral opera bouffe. —"Not for Joseph" is now rendered Not for Moses. —An asylum for insane murderers is now suggested. —Phillips thinks it is never too late to impeach. —Mr. and Mrs. Boncault are to retire from the stage. —Carlotia Patti has been singing at Versailles. —Parpa has got as far east as Cleveland, Ohio. —New Bedford has a "velocipede rink" in an attic. —Josh Billings is not appreciated at the West. —A \$10,000 sheep has died in Genesee county, New York. —The crown of laurel placed on Rossini's coffin was originally from trees growing at the tombs of Virgil and of Tasso. —Franz Abt received only nine dollars in Germany for his two most popular songs, and thinks he can make more by coming to this country, which he intends to do. —Some of the white men of Charleston have given Riley, the negro who has been so persecuted for voting the Democratic ticket, a purse of \$500. —An Ohio landlord dropped dead of apoplexy while chasing an overcoat thief. The latter remarked that it was the judgment of Heaven, and walked off with the coat.

RAILROAD LINES. 1868.—FOR NEW YORK.—THE CAMDEN AND AMBOY AND PHILADELPHIA RAILROAD. FROM PHILADELPHIA TO NEW YORK, AND WAY BACK. FROM WALNUT STREET WHARF. At 6:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Accommodation, 7:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 8:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 9:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 10:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 11:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 12:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 1:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 2:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 3:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 4:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 5:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 6:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 7:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 8:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 9:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 10:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 11:30 P. M., via Camden and Amboy Express, 12:30 A. M., via Camden and Amboy Express.

FURNISHING GOODS, SHIRTS, & SUITABLE ARTICLES

For Presentation to Gentlemen.

PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL RAILROAD

FALL TIME, TAKING EFFECT NOV. 21, 1868. The train of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad leaves Philadelphia at 7:30 A. M. for New York, and returns at 11:30 P. M.

CITY ORDINANCES.

AN ORDINANCE TO Make an Appropriation to the Department for Supplying the City with Water for the Purpose of Purchasing and Erecting Sewer Engines for the Twenty-fourth Ward Water Works.

PROPOSALS.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, Office No. 104 S. 15TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17, 1868. NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS. Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Chief Commissioner of Highways until 12 o'clock M., on MONDAY, 21st instant, for the construction of a sewer on the line of High Street, from Thompson to Master street.

PHILADELPHIA, GERMANTOWN, AND WEST CHESTER RAILROAD

PHILADELPHIA, GERMANTOWN, AND WEST CHESTER RAILROAD. FALL AND WINTER ARRANGEMENT. FROM PHILADELPHIA TO GERMANTOWN, AND WAY BACK. FROM WALNUT STREET WHARF.

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