SUICIDAL.

Charles Dickens' Sister-in-law Takes an Overdose of Morphine.

The Chicago *Republican* of Sunday last says:—"Among the many gifts possessed by Charles Dickens as a wondrous delineator of the various phases of humanity, the one of all others in which he particularly excels is, perhaps, the portrayal of scenes in which the wearied soul of some tired earth wanderer breaks from its mortal fastenings and floats to its rest. The lifting of old 'Betsy Higden' 'as high as heaven,' the beautiful, touching style in which the death of 'Little Nell' is depicted, and the thrilling manner in which 'Sidney Carton' is represented as freely giving his young life to save the husband of the woman he loved, are all notable instances of the great novelist's descriptive powers in the line mentioned. It is stated that he never wholly invents any of his characters or scenes; that they are all merely altered representatives of people that actually exist, of events that have really transpired. If such is the case, there is a possibility that had Mr. Dickens been suddenly dropped into Chicago Christmas morning he might have found all the materials ready at hand for an excellent story in his own peculiar vein, without having to go very far outside of his own family. The incident in question would hardly have furnished him the requisite points for a Christmas carol, a favorite theme of his just at this season of the year, for no less a subject than the death, under very peculiar circumstances, of his brother's widow, would have here claimed the attention of his fertile fancy and facile pen. At the time of Mr. Dickens' late trip to this country it was generally announced through the public journals that he had a sister-in-law residing, in reduced circumstances, in Chicago, and although the assertion was often denied by the greater portion of the Eastern press, it was still a fact, and when the distinguished literary visitor turned his face towards England again, almost the only blot upon his conduct in America was his steady ignoring of his Chicago relative, and his persistent refusal to visit her. Mrs. Augustus N. Dickens has resided with her three daughters for the past two years at No. 568 North Clark street, and although not living in an absolute condition of penury, it has been well known that she has not had the necessary means to sustain herself in the position she held in society prior to her husband's decease. For over eight months she has suffered severely from acute neuralgic pains in the head, and has been in the habit of taking large doses of morphine to produce her required amount of sleep. Last Thursday she was observed to be in great depression of spirits, and in the evening requested one of her friends, a Mrs. Barnet, to step to a drug store and procure some morphine for her, claiming to be in great distress from her old malady. The drug was obtained, and on retiring it seems that she swallowed a much greater quantity of it than usual, for at about 11 o'clock the next morning she was found lying dead in her bed. The body was discovered by Mr. Barnet, husband of the lady already mentioned. He entered the house through the back way, at the request of Mrs. Dickens' children, who had just returned from spending the night with some of their young friends, and being unable to get into their home through the front door, had applied to Mr. Barnet for assistance. An inquest was held upon the remains yesterday forenoon by Coroner Cleves, and a verdict rendered to the effect that the deceased came to her death by an overdose of morphine administered by her own hand."

GOLD COIN.

The Amount Now in This Country.

The *Commercial and Financial Chronicle* shows that Senator Morton's estimate of the gold now in the United States is far too high. The Senator thought that the amount had actually largely increased since 1860, and might be now as high as $572,000,000; certainly above $400,000,000. The *Chronicle*, assuming that travellers in Europe have taken out as much as emigrants have brought in, and leaving out the circulation in the Pacific States, as of no use to the backs or the people of the Atlantic States, makes the following estimate:—

"Gold in Atlantic States in 1861	$165,000,000	
Product of mines for 8 years ending June 30, 1868	485,000,000	
Imports of specie for 8 y'rs ending June 30, 1868	141,900,000	
Total supply, 8 years		$791,900,000
Exports of specie last 8 y'rs	$548,100,000	
Sent from South during the war	15,000,000	
Total loss in 8 years		563,100,000
Stock in 1868		$428,800,000

"It would thus appear that the present stock of the precious metals in the Atlantic States is close upon $230,000,000. It is not to be supposed, however, that all this exists in the form of coin, nor even of coin and bars. A certain portion of the supply of gold and silver has been taken for commercial purposes. That form of consumption has been largely increased within late years, under the high duties on jewelry and plate, and perhaps could not be safely estimated at less than $10,000,000 per annum. Assuming this to be a full estimate, and deducting only $70,000,000 from the foregoing balance, we should have about $160,000,000 as the present stock of coin and bullion in the Atlantic States."

If there is so much gold in the country, where is it? It is difficult to account for much more than half of even that sum.—*N. Y. Post.*

MUNIFICENT BEQUESTS.

The Will of the Late James Arnold, of New Bedford.

We have already announced the death of Mr. James Arnold, a prominent citizen of New Bedford, Massachusetts, and have noted some of his large bequests for public charities and other purposes. The Taunton *Daily Gazette* says:—

"Mr. Arnold was remarkable for his energy, liberality, and probity as a merchant, and possessed a princely fortune, the result of his honorable exertions, from which he bestowed bountifully at every call of charity. Mr. Arnold did not seek political position, the only office he held being that of one of the executive council during Governor Briggs' administration."

The will of Mr. James Arnold was made public on Friday, and the New Bedford *Mercury* contains a full list of its liberal provisions and bequests, from which we copy. The estate is valued at over $1,500,000, and is disposed of as follows:—The valuable estate in Providence is devised to his relatives in that city. His beautiful homestead is given to Hon. W. J. Rotch, on payment of $20,000. To the New Bedford Port Society, $6000; to the New Bedford Women's Reform and Relief Association, $2000; to Mrs. Abby Hunt, John J. Dixwell, Francis E. Parker, and Rev. Charles T. Brooks, $12,500 each; to Rev. Orville Dewey, Miss Mary Dewey, Rev. John Weiss, Rev. William J. Potter, Rev. John H. Morrison, Rev. Christopher Hussey, Mrs. Lydia M. Greene, Mrs. Harriet Savage, and Mrs. Helen Prescott, $6250 each; to W. G. Taber, Robert Taber, Henry A. Taber, Mrs. Hetty Smith, and Mrs. Sarah Chandler, $5000 each; to Rev. M. G. Thomas, Mrs. Robert C. Pitman, and Miss Mary Kent, $2000 each; to his gardener, Wellwood Young, $1500; to his coachman, C. E. Bacon, $1000; to his body servant, Charles Carter, $500; to his cook, $300; to two servants, $250 and $200. Of the balance, estimated at $1,200,000, one-fifteenth is made a trust fund, in the control of George B. Emerson, John J. Dixwell, and Francis E. Parker, of Boston, for the promotion of agricultural and horticultural improvements, or other philanthropical purposes; two twenty-fifths are made a trust fund, in the control of William J. Rotch, Henry Taber, and Oliver Prescott, for the benefit of the deserving poor of New Bedford. The remainder is given to the Rotch family and other relatives of decedent's wife.

About $80,000 was included in the special bequests, and nearly $100,000 more to the poor and needy of New Bedford.

The Grave of Houston.

The editor of the Palestine (Texas) *Advocate* has recently visited the cemetery at Huntsville, and says of the grave of Sam Houston:—

"To the shame of the State of Texas, there is not a stone at the grave to mark the place where the father and savior of Texas sleeps. It is a burning shame and disgrace on the State, and one we hope will no longer be suffered to remain. Let the convention or the legislature appropriate enough, and that too without stint, to erect a suitable monument to his memory. Should they fail to do this, let a public contribution be taken up at every election precinct at the first election held in the State for the purpose of erecting the monument."

THE FRANKING SWINDLE.

A Card from the Hon. W. S. Lincoln.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune:

Sir:—In your issue of the 25th you say:—"Among the public documents sent free through the mails under the printed frank of the Hon. W. S. Lincoln, of Owego, N. Y., are the circulars of a book-publishing concern in this city. If this petty bit of swindling is perpetrated without Mr. Lincoln's knowledge, we think he owes it to himself to say so."

In reply I do say most emphatically that the first I ever heard of this firm, or any other firm, using my fac-simile, was when in November last I received through the dead letter office a large package of the circulars of Dimmick & Co., No. 39 Nassau street, New York, sent out in envelopes on which was printed my fac-simile frank. I at once wrote the Postmaster at New York city and the First Assistant Postmaster-General, advising them that the same was a forgery, and asking that the guilty parties be arrested and punished.

I found also that an attorney was using this forged frank in sending out his circulars, and I reported his case also to the same officials.

I know nothing of any of these parties, never having heard of them but by these circulars.

I learn at the Post Office Department that the frank of other members and Senators has been used in the same manner to advertise lottery schemes; and these several cases show clearly the impropriety of using a *fac-simile* stamp in franking, although such stamp has been long in use in all the departments and by the postmasters of large cities.

The Post Office Committee of the House of Representatives has instructed its chairman to report a bill prohibiting the use of such stamp, and it is hoped this mode of swindling will be ended.

The only way to make the Post Office Department self-sustaining is to abolish franking entirely, and compel all persons to pay their own postage.

To take the privilege away from Senators and members of Congress, and pay them a fixed sum of money in lieu thereof, would be simply taking money out of the Treasury and paying it to the Post Office Department, and the Government would be poorer the exact amount thus paid, for no reduction would be made in the expenses of transporting the mails. Very much of the mail matter now sent free is sent because it is free, and an allowance of money would not probably be used as freely as the frank is.

During the last canvass several million speeches were transmitted through the mails free. These speeches were purchased and paid paid for by the members who sent them, and would not have been sent if they had been subjected to postage. Their going did not increase the expenses of the department one cent, nor would such expenses have been any less had they not been sent. Respectfully yours,

W. S. LINCOLN.

Washington, Dec. 26, 1868.

General Grant's Railroad Policy.

It is worth while to explode another of the sensation despatches, which described Grant as pitching into the policy of issuing bonds to the Pacific Railroad companies. By a letter received here to-day from Senator Pomeroy, of Kansas, it appears that Pomeroy himself is the Senator who had the conversation with Grant at the same time that Mr. Ames had the talk. Senator Pomeroy states that during that conversation Grant never uttered a word hostile to the Pacific Railroad interests, and that he merely spoke generally of the necessity for economy in the administration of the Government. It may be safely stated that this is about the whole truth of the story, which was designedly exaggerated and magnified to accomplish a certain purpose.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Volcanic Action.

Professor Palmieri, of Naples, has communicated the following to the journals of that city:—The cooling of the lava of Vesuvius having been the signal for an eruption of Ætna, many persons will probably desire to know what the former is doing while Mongibello is on fire. These two volcanoes, which have nearly always existed independent, appear lately to have established some sort of unison. On the night of the 26th of November the last current of molten fluid descended from the first-named mountain, and on the 27th a majestic and dazzling crest appeared on the Sicilian one. The ten cones of eruption of Vesuvius instantly lost their frightful activity; but the small crater which had been formed about half way up the great cone still emits much smoke; at night there are luminous reflections. The summit of the elevation where the small cone of 1868 was situated has disappeared, and that of 1867, which has lowered considerably, still allows much smoke to escape, accompanied by some noise. The heat is intense in all the higher steaming crevices.

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CHOICE ARTICLES FOR HOLIDAYS.—AT the Bijou Furnishing Store, No. 58 N. SIXTH Street, below Arch, may be found a superb assortment of Fancy Scarfs, Neckties, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Hosiery, etc., which are offered at very low prices. Mr. RICHARD EAYRE, the proprietor, has excellent taste in the selection of his stock.
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CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

The Inauguration of the New Democratic Regime.

At noon on Friday next, the 1st day of January, 1869, Daniel M. Fox, Esq., will be inaugurated Mayor of the city of Philadelphia, as the successor of the Hon. Morton McMichael. At the meeting of Councils held on December 21, in accordance with a concurrent resolution previously passed, a joint special committee of five from each branch was appointed to make arrangements for the inauguration ceremonies. The committee consists of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. King, Plumly, Jones, Hodgdon, and Fox, of Select Council; and Messrs. Hetzell, Campbell, Harrison, J. C. Martin, and W. B. Hanna, of Common Council—6 Republicans and 4 Democrats.

Daniel M. Fox, Esq.,

the new Mayor, was born in June, 1819, in the old district of the Northern Liberties, and has dwelt in that portion of the city all his life. He comes of a noble line, that is, according to American estimation, for his grandfather, David Miller, was one of those heroic patriots of Revolutionary days who fought and bled for independence. Of his youth we say nothing. On reaching manhood he selected the profession of a conveyancer, has steadfastly adhered to it, and in its practice has attained considerable fame and success. He has held several public positions—School Director, member of the Board of Health, director or trustee of Girard College, and member of Select Council. In these various positions he conducted himself with unimpeachable integrity and fidelity, giving satisfaction first to his immediate constituents and then to the citizens at large. The cause of general education ranks him as one of its earliest, most strenuous, and most powerful supporters. He has ever believed in education for the masses, rightly judging that, as ignorance is the mother of crime, enlightenment prevents it. His long residence in our city must necessarily have made him thoroughly acquainted with our affairs, taught him our municipal wants, pointed out our municipal abuses, and guided him to the proper measures for their alleviation. As mentioned, having had some experience in public life, he has turned it to some profit—has acquired an easy, pleasant, fluent way of speaking, and drilled himself to that suave demeanor so taking with the masses. Unquestionably, he naturally possesses a kind heart—a grace manifested in almost his every action and word. To the poor he has always been a warm and ready friend, and this fact alone should commend him to favorable consideration. In private life his character has been unblemished. While recognizing the many necessary evils of a great city, the very purity of his own morals gives the assurance that, so far as may be, he will soften the repulsive features they publicly display; and by inaugurating one or two needed reforms, do away with many of those nuisances about which our citizens loudly and justly complain. In all his previous relations and transactions he could be relied upon for punctuality and probity, qualities which have reacted upon himself to the effect of amassing him a handsome competency.

In 1862 Mr. Fox was the Democratic candidate for the Mayoralty against Alexander Henry, and again in 1865, against our present Mayor, his Honor Morton McMichael. In 1862, although Mr. Henry was then already seated, and consequently, according to all common-sense experience, stood far the better chance, having under his control, were he disposed to use them, the various city departments, and being withal a very popular man, Mr. Fox ran up to the average vote of his ticket. In 1865 he gained a thousand votes on the average of all the city and county candidates except Major Weaver, running ahead of Linton, the Democratic candidate for Surveyor-General, and General Davis, the Democratic candidate for Auditor-General—the last of whom was regarded as a pet of the soldiers.

In the October election of this year he, for the third time, was the Democratic nominee for the Mayoralty, being opposed to General Hector Tyndale, the Republican candidate. The vote stood as follows:—

For Fox	61,517
For Tyndale	59,679
Majority for Fox	1,838

It will be remembered that contests have been entered in the case of Mr. Fox, in common with all the other Democratic candidates who received certificates of election. These contests are now pending, making but very slow progress, and will, in all probability, consume months before a final determination. What their issue will be, let time disclose.

The New City Councils.

On Monday next, at noon, the new City Councils meet for organization. The following is a list of the members of the Select Branch, with their addresses, Democrats being printed in *italics*, and new members indicated by an asterisk:—

Ward.
1. Thomas A. Barlow, No. 1332 S. Fifth street.
2. *Dr. C. E. Kamerly*, S. W. corner Third and Federal streets.
3. **John C. McCall*, No. 112 Fl'zwater street.
4. *Henry Marcus*, No. 720 South street.
5. **John Cochran*, No. 209 S. Sixth street.
6. *Patrick Duffy*, S. E. corner Fifth and Vine streets.
7. John A. Shermer, N. E. corner Eighth and South streets.
8. Alexander L. Hodgdon, No. 1015 Spruce street.
9. William S. Stokley, No. 1222 Filbert street.
10. A. H. Franciscus, No. 1529 Arch, or 513 Market street.
11. *Samuel G. King*, No. 352 N. Second street.
12. *George W. Plumly*, No. 209 N. Fourth street.
13. Alex. M. Fox, No. 888 N. Sixth street.
14. David Cramer, Nos. 1113 and 1125 Brown street.
15. John J. Kersey, No. 1920 Green street.
16. *James W. Hopkins*, No. 925 N. Sixth street.
17. *Joseph H. Hookey*, No. 1245 N. Second street.
18. William Bumm, Race street wharf, Delaware avenue.
19. James Ritchie, No. 1624 American street, above Oxford.
20. *Charles H. Harkness, No. 1412 N. Fifteenth street.
21. Charles Thomson Jones, No. 131 South Fifth street.
22. William F. Smith, No. 631 Chesnut street.
23. Edward A. Shallcross, No. 723 Arch street.
24. Samuel W. Cattell, No. 3947 Market street.
25. *James McCutcheon*, corner of Ann and Amber streets.
26. Robert Armstrong, No. 1416 Christian st.
27. *Hugh McIlvain, No. 3221 Chesnut street.
28. *William L. Morison*, Falls of Schuylkill.

Republicans, 17; Democrats, 11.

The members of the Common branch are as follows:—

Ward.
1. William Calhoun, No. 1528 South Sixth st.
   *Daniel M. Blackburn, No 728 Morris street.
2. **Geraldus B Stockdale*, No. 307 Wharton st.
   **Isaac Griffiths* No 439 Wharton street.
   **Thomas Hamilton*, South Fourth street.
3. **William H Fagen*, No. 723 Arch street.
   **George H. Nickels*, No. 410 German street.
4. **Wm. Mountain*, Shippen street, above Third street.
   **David J. McClain*, Shippen street, above Eleventh street.
5. **James F. Dillon*, No. 323 South street.
6. **Alexander M. Grant* No. 42 North Second street.
7. John Bardsley, No. 2110 Lombard street.
   John V. Creeley, No. 425 South Fifteenth, or No. 735 Walnut street.
8. John C. Martin, No. 248 S. Eighth street.
   *John Rice, No. 129 S. Seventh street.
9. John Farelra, No 718 Arch street.
   *Walter Allison, No. 24 S. Eighteenth street.
10. William B. Hanna, No. 204 S. Fifth, or No. 243 N. Twentieth street.
    *George W. Hall, No. 250 N. Eleventh street.
11. *Anthony Campbell*, No. 446 N. Front street.
12. **Wm. T. Ladner*, No. 531 Dillwyn street.
13. Abraham Kline, No. 917 Green, or Nos. 215 and 217 N. Third street.
    John L. Shoemaker, No. 621 Vine, or 325 N. Sixth street.
14. Henry C. Oram, No. 1210 Spring Garden, or Fifteenth and Hamilton.
    *Ellwood W. Leighton, No. 1324 Coates st.
15. George W. Smith, No. 603 N. Eighteenth, or No. 42 N. Third street.
    Robert M. Evans, No. 46 N. Water street.
    *Henry Huhn, No. 811 N. Sixteenth street.
    Richard M. Shields, No. 1511 Spring Garden street.
16. *John Hay*, No. 8 N. Water street.
    George J. Hetzell, No. 155 Dock street.
17. *John J. Stuhl*, No. 309 Girard avenue.
    **John Canning*, S. E. cor. Thompson and Cadwalader streets.
19. Daniel W. Stockham, Norris and Claiborne streets.
    Samuel F. Gwinner, No. 610 Richmond, or No. 619 Walnut street.
    Daniel P. Ray, No. 112 N. Third, or No. 1114 Palmer street.
19. Nicholas Shane, No. 2143 N. Fifth street.
    Charles A. Souder, No. 1812 N. Front, or No. 244 N. Delaware avenue.
    *Daniel Currie, No. 123 Oxford street.
    *William F. Miller, No. 203 N Third street.
20. Henry C. Harrison, No. 934 Franklin, or No. 527 Master street.
    Joseph F. Marcer, No. 915 N. Twelfth, or No. 624 Walnut street.
    *William S. Allen, No. 1439 Marshall street.
    *James Jenner, No. 2063 Ridge avenue.
21. *James Bowker, No. 4347 Main street, Manayunk.
22. Louis Wagner, No. 204 S. Fourth street.
    Jabez Gates, Germantown avenue and Bringhurst street.
23. Samuel C. Willits, Holmesburg P. O.
    Amos R. Ellis, Frankford P. O.
24. *Samuel P. Huhn*, No. 3729 Market, or N. W. cor. Forty-first and Haverford streets.
    Isaac W. Vanhouten, Race street, below Thirty-third.
25. *Charles Judge*, No. 1508 Edgemont street.
26. George A. Shisler, Rope Ferry road, below Passyunk road.
    James S. Stewart, No 1524 Shippen street.
    *John B. Parker, Broad and Federal streets.
27. *James M. Sellers, No. 224 S. Fourth, or No. 500 S. Forty-second street, W. P.
28. George W. Myers, No. 1818 N. Twentieth street, near Berks.

Republicans, 46; Democrats, 18.

The following is a general summary of the two branches:—

	Select Branch.	Common Branch.	Joint Ballot.
Republicans	17	40	57
Democrats	11	18	29
Republican majority	6	22	28
Total	28	58	86

The following are the names of the Republican nominees for officers of Councils, all of them being renominations:—

Select Council.

President—William S. Stokley, of the Ninth ward.

Clerks—Benjamin H. Haines and Robert Bethel.

Messenger—Mortimer Johnson.

Common Council.

President—Joseph F. Marcer, of the Twentieth Ward.

Clerks—John Eckstein and Abraham Stewart.

Messengers—James Zimmerman and Gavin Neilson.

SALE OF STOCKS AND REAL ESTATE.—At noon to-day the following stocks and real estate were sold by Messrs. M. Thomas & Sons, at the Merchants' Exchange:—

500 shares Story Farm Oil Co	¼ ct.
500 shares Royal Petroleum Co	1¼ c's.
10 shares Pennsylvania Horticultural Society	$10
11 shares Philadelphia and Southern Mail Steamship Co	$56
$30 scrip Continental Insurance Co., 1865	45 per ct.
$25 scrip Continental Insurance Co., 1866	4 per ct.
$25 scrip North American Fire Insurance Co., of New York 1864 and 1865	12 per ct.
$700 Salem Coal Co. 7 per cent. First Mortgage Loan	15 per ct.
100 shares Commonwealth Oil Co	¾ ct.
500 shares Old Burning Springs Oil Co	6 cts.
3 0 shares The Eureka Oil Co	¼ ct.
160 shares Lawrence Salt and Coal Co	⅝ ct.
50 shares Oak Hall Oil Co	1 cts.
4 shares Mercantile Library Co	$7 50
100 shares Consolidation National Bank	$44
20,000 shares East Sandy and Hall's Run Petroleum Co	1-100.
5000 shares Oil City Petroleum and Refining Co., Venango county	3 cts.
All that mortgage for $3337, secured by 130 7 acres of land in Bethel township, Fulton county, Pa	$50
1250 shares Philadelphia and Boston Mining Company	12 cts.
1000 shares Cald Well Oil Co	5 cts.
864 shares Philadelphia and Youghenny Coal Company	10 cts.
1500 shares Æ na Oil Co	2 cts.
1667 shares Branson Island Oil Co	⅛c.
2656 shares Winslow Oil Co	⅛c.
OFFICE, No 907—Genteel Brick Dwelling	$1475
ARCH, No. 731—Modern Residence	$21,000
FRONT (north), No. 347—Brick Dwelling	$3300
ARCH, No 2?6—Store and Dwelling	$5050
GROUND RENTS—$68 a year each	$910 each
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY—39 Acres of Land	$15
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY—94½ Acres of Land	$18
TEXAS—408 Acres of Land	$185

ARRESTED.—Edward Jackson was arrested yesterday by Chief Lamon and Detectives Taggart and Smith, on the charge of being implicated in the robbery of the store of the Dunseith Bros, No. 1019 Walnut street, on Christmas night. Some of the goods were recovered.

A RETORT.

Mr. James Fisk, Jr., Tells Why He Incarcerated Mr. Bowles.

AT HOME, BOSTON, MASS.—CHRISTMAS DAY.

On the 28th of November last, "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass." published an editorial, headed "The New Hero of Wall street." It was devoted to a bitter, abusive, untruthful, and unprovoked attack on my origin, vocation, habits, personal appearance and family afflictions. For example, with a reckless disregard of truth and railroad possibilities, Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass., said:—"But Fisk has probably ruined the Erie Railway while piling up a fortune for himself. The multiplication of its stock has been fearful! From $30,000,000 of nominal capital a year ago it has now been raised to $60,000,000 or $70,000,000, and what there is to show for the difference beyond some worthless securities of the Hartford or Erie road, it is now impossible to say." Were it not consistent with my well known good nature and forgiving disposition, I should unhesitatingly pronounce "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass.," an abandoned falsifier or a fool, on that single statement. Further on, the Springfield *Republican* has asserted its capacity for wholesale slander by the following astounding calumny on the bench and bar of New York: "Nothing so audacious—nothing more gigantic in the way of real swindling has ever been perpetrated in this country—and yet it may be that Mr. Fisk and his associates have done nothing that they cannot legally justify, at least in the New York courts, several of which they seem wholly to own. Mr. Fisk's operations are said to be under the legal guidance of both David Dudley Field and Charles O'Conor, and now both Judge Barnard of the State, and Judge Blatchford of the United States Court, back up and help on his proceedings." The alleged indifference of the New York city authorities to the incarceration of "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Massachusetts," was not, you will see, entirely unjustifiable. Culpable as I am in selling "silks, poplins, and velvets by the yard," the generous nature of "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Massachusetts," is not finally and utterly turned against me until he ascertains that I am guilty of having a father who is unhappily an inmate of a lunatic asylum. This sours all the milk of human kindness in the breast of the Springfield moralist, and he prophetically consigns me to a "madhouse or a State prison." Under the circumstances, Messrs. Editors, don't you think I had cause to feel vexed with "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass.?" In order to protect my rights I appealed to the law, which is the highest expression of human wisdom for the good government of mankind. If any error has been committed, those who made the law committed it. I regret that the wife of "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass.," was disturbed or even annoyed by her husband's temporary absence. As for the sympathy of the sycophantic horde of office-seekers and small-beer editors who clamored around the jail gates for their comrade's release, their abuse I expected, and am indifferent to. Mr. Bowles proposed the game himself and I bowled him over the first innings. I think it will be generally conceded that I have as much right to defend my personal character as any newspaper has to attack it. At all events I shall do so with the most undinching determination until it is proved to the contrary. Mr. Bowles need not fear but that I will bring him to a trial before a judicial tribunal, and then "let justice be done though the Heavens fall." And these are a few of the reasons, Messrs. Editors, why I arrested and locked up "Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass." Your obedient servant,

JAMES FISK, JR.

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9 1mws8m Open Evening.

THIRD EDITION

BOSTON.

The Reception of Speaker Colfax at the Hub.

A Fire and Loss of Life at Chicago.

Fire and Loss of Life.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—This morning a fire broke out in the house No. 49 Franklin street, in this city, which originated from the careless use of kerosene. Three men and a woman escaped from the windows of the fourth story to the roof of a two story building, and escaped with slight injury. Wallace and Louis Card, brothers, joined hands and leaped headlong into the street. One was instantly killed, and the other died in fifteen minutes afterwards.

Crime.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Thomas Eagan was arrested last night in Jersey City for stabbing and inflicting several severe wounds on Patrick H. Feary. Eagen claimed that he was first assaulted by Feary with a knife.

A German sailor, named John Passkill, was stabbed to the heart and instantly killed, early this morning, at a dance-house on Grand street, Hoboken. Arniel Housemann, Gustaff Sindermann, Christopher Glade, John Stubber, Fritz Glade, John Hopde, Clausse Junge, Jacob Schmidt, and others, were arrested as participants in the assault. Clausse Junge was identified by a woman as the one who stuck the fatal blow.

This Afternoon's Quotations.

By Atlantic Cable.

LONDON, Dec. 29—P. M.—Consols 92½, for both money and account; United States five-twenties, 74½. American stocks easier, but not lower.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The Bourse closed quiet last evening. Rentes, 69f. 77c.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 29—P. M.—Cotton firm; middling uplands, 10½c.; middling Orleans, 11d. Breadstuffs unchanged; Lard, 65s.; Turpentine, 27s.; common rosin, 5s. 6d. Tallow, 48s. 3d.

HAVRE, Dec. 29.—Cotton buoyant on the spot, 124f.; afloat, 123f.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The steamer Atalanta arrived on Sunday.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 29.—Arrived yesterday, steamer City of Paris.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 29—2 P. M.—Yarns and fabrics at Manchester are firmer.

Wheat is firmer, but not higher; No. 2 red Western, 9s. 10d.@10s. Corn, 38s. 3d.@38s. 6d. Peas are easier, but not lower.

Ship News.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—Arrived steamship Tarifa from Liverpool, and reports, on 19th inst., in lat. 41 50, long. 46 35 encountered a heavy gale from the northwest, breaking her rudder-head. At 4 P. M., on the 20th, in lat. 41 26, long. 50 17, carried her rudder chains, and from that hour until her arrival here her steering apparatus has consisted solely of spars. The hull and cargo are uninjured.

The Mill Murder Case.

[*Continued from second edition.*]

Question. Having experimented with pokers, trying to fracture skulls, state whether it is possible, in your opinion, to do it without bending the poker?

Objected to, and objection sustained.

Q. Have you experimented with a similar poker upon a human skull, with a view of ascertaining if it were possible to fracture it without bending the poker, and in your answer state the proportionate thickness of the skull experimented upon with the aggregate human skull.

Objected to, and objection sustained.

(A leaden dipsy was handed to the witness.)

Witness—Having read Dr. Shapleigh's testimony, I think the wounds could have been inflicted on Mrs. Hill's head with a similar instrument.

Cross-examined—All the wounds might have been inflicted by such a weapon, but this weapon would also have been misshapen; this wound in the temple bone could not have been inflicted without bending the instrument, because the material is soft and would have shown cuts from the contact with the sharp bones; it is possible to have inflicted that wound with the angle of the poker; it is also possible to drive the tongue of the poker into the temporal bone; there is authority in Gross' Book of Surgery for the fact that a penetrating wound can be made in the temporal bone with a poker; but the tongue would make a clean hole; if, after the table of the bone has been broken, and the blows are continued on the same point, the fracture would be comminuted; if after that the body has been thrown out of a window and falls upon that side of the forehead it might increase the comminuted fracture, but I should rather think it would run a fissure from this wound across the skull; there is no more reason that by repeated blows with a dipsy a wound extending into the brain could be made than that it could be made by that poker; but I do not think it would make a wound whose length and depth could be measured; if it were to strike a fragment of bone and drive it in, such a wound might have been inflicted; the cuts upon the scalp might have been made with a dipsy; the more the dipsy was struck upon the skull the more it would become flattened; it could not make an incised would of the skin only, for it would crush the skull, nor could an incised wound have been made by this poker; the temporal bone is the weakest point of the skull; I cannot say that the skin at that point is thinner than upon the parts; if that poker had been used upon the skull it would not of necessity have shown blood; unless the branch of a large artery is opened a contused wound bleeds less than an incised wound; I think it almost impossible that these wounds could have been inflicted with this poker without the poker having blood upon it; the woollen cap on her head soaked blood rapidly; so I think the question of blood upon the poker depends upon the rapidity of the blows and soaking; because a skull is thick it is not necessarily strong; an old skull is weaker than a young one, because there is more earthy material in it; there is in the books authority for the fracture of a skull with the fist and ordinary walking stick; I would very readily imagine that a blow with a bottle would fracture a skull; I should say this was a death from shock and hemorrhage; it is death from direct injury, of course, when the brain is penetrated; when there has been loss of blood, that which last flows will coagulate most rapidly; blood does not, as a rule, coagulate in the human body until four or five hours after death; but it may commence within fifteen minutes; if a cut is made in a body dead but fifteen minutes it would bleed, unless all the blood in the body was coagulated; yesterday I saw a body bleed from the head three days after death; it is a rule that blood remains fluid in the head longer than any other part of the body; on Christmas day I saw a body bleed nineteen hours after death; it is not the rule that blood coagulates fifteen minutes after death; the rule is that it begins to coagulate within five hours; blood will coagulate in the open air in from one to thirty minutes; the coagulation of blood upon the surface of the wound will retard the flow; twenty-one pounds of blood have been taken from a decapitated body; if the blood is partly fluid and partly clotted, stepping into it might throw it up two feet; this of course denends upon the degree of coagulation, the weight of the person stepping and the manner of the stepping; I do not think a person could step in the blood without getting blood upon the boots; I found blood upon the shank of the prisoner's boot, and, perhaps, a spot upon the sole; I think it possible blood might have been thrown perpendicularly up by stepping into it; there are spots upon the coat-sleeve which are not of coagulated blood; there were hundred of spots of blood upon the sleeve; the spots on the pants, upon the vest, and sprinkled spots upon the coat-sleeve might have got there by carrying in the body from the yard; I cannot tell whether these spots upon the shirt were diluted with water; I do not think a microscope would have enabled me to tell that; diluted blood does not leave well-defined, thick, glossy spots; there are well-defined spots upon this coat; I account for the spots by the falling back of the head into the blood, and by the trickling of blood on the hair into that already on the ground.

Here the Court took a recess until 3 o'clock.

—Two school-boys in Enghein, Belgium, recently had an affray, and one disembowelled the orher with a pocket-knife.

FOURTH EDITION

WASHINGTON.

Accepting the Situation—The Ex-Rebels of Virginia Favoring Negro Suffrage—Frauds in the Patent Office.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatch to The Evening Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—It is stated that

Prominent Ex-Rebels

of Virginia, such as John D. Baldwin and Governor Letcher, have determined to accept the inevitable and go for negro suffrage. For this sacrifice of their former opinions they will ask that all ex-Rebels be enfranchised. In other words, they are

For Greeley's Platform

of universal suffrage and general amnesty. It is proposed that the Conservative State Executive Committee of Virginia designate two gentlemen from each Congressional Committee, to meet in Richmond about the middle of January, to frame a new constitution, of which this universal suffrage will be a prominent feature. The movement meets with much favor among prominent Virginians. But as the whole matter belongs to Congress, anything Letcher and his friends may do will not amount to much. There is

A Speck of War

between Secretary Browning and the Commissioner of Patents, Mr. Foote, growing out of the fraudulent contracts with the Patent Office. It appears that a contract was made for stationery before Judge Foote came in, and subsequently discovering it to be a fraud upon the department, he refused to recognize it. Browning, who is suspected of being a party to the fraud, favors the contractors and is against Foote. The latter proposes appealing to Congress, and Browning will probably suffer the disgrace of another expose, in addition to those already on record. As

The Next Census of the United States

will be taken in 1870, it is probable some legislation, with an appropriation, will be made by Congress either this winter or in the spring. In view of this taking of the census, the scramble for U. S. Marshal when Grant comes in will be very great.

The numbering of people is done under the supervision of the United States Marshals, who will of course have considerable patronage under their control. Some of the sharp politicians, in view of this, are already on the look-out for these places.

Thad. Stevens' Bill

for dividing up Texas into three States is still in the Reconstruction Committee, and amid the press of other business has nearly been forgotten. Parties are now here from Texas, however, who intend stirring the matter up as soon as Congress reassembles. They represent that Texas can never be thoroughly reconstructed unless it is div