"Which shall it be? Which shall it be?" I looked at John-John looked at me, (Dear, patient John, who loves me yet, As well as though my locks were jet), And when I found that I must speak, My voice seemed strangely low and weak; "Tell me again what Robert said!" And then I listening bent my head: "This is his letter:-

'I will give A house and laud while you shall live. If, in return, from out your seven, One child to me for aye is given."

I looked at John's old garments worn, I thought of all that John had borne Of poverty, and work, and care, Which I, though willing, could not share; I thought of seven mouths to feed, Of seven little children's need, And then of this. "Come, John," said I,

"We'll choose among them as they lie Asleep;" so, walking hand in hand, Dear John and I surveyed our band, First to the cradle lightly stepped, Where Lilian the baby slept. A glory 'gainst the pillow white; Softly the father stooped to lay His rough hand down in loving way, When dream or whisper made her stir, And huskily he said:- "Not her, not her." We stooped beside the trundle-bed, And one long ray of lamplight shed Athwart the boyish faces there, In sleep so pitiful and fair; I saw on Jamie's rough, red cheek, A tear undried. Ere John could speak, "He's but a baby, too," said I, And kissed him as we hurried by. Pale, patient Robbie's angel face Still in his sleep bore suffering's trace. 'No, for a thousand crowns, not him, He whispered, while our eyes were dim; Poor Dick! bad Dick! our wayward son, Turbulent, reckless, idle one-Could he be spared? "Nay, He who gave Bid us befriend him to the grave; Only a mother's heart can be Patient enough for such as he. And so," said John, "I would not dare To send him from her bedside prayer." Then stole we softly up above And knelt by Mary, child of love, 'Perhaps for her 'twould better be. I said to John. Quite silently He lifted up a curl that lay Across her cheek in wilful way, And shook his head, "Nay, love, not thee." The while my heart beat audibly, Only one more, our eldest lad, Trusty and truthful, good and glad— So like his father. "No, John, no— I can not, will not, let him go. And so we wrote, in courteous way, We could not drive one child away; And afterward toil lighter seemed, Thinking of that of which we dreamed, Happy in truth that not one face We missed from its accustomed place: Thankful to work for all the seven, Trusting the rest to One in heaven!

## THE PATENT OFFICE.

Report of the Commissioner of Patents for 1869-The American and Foreign Systems

The report of Hon. Samuel S. Fisher. Commissioner of Patents, has been just issued. It is a long and carefully prepared paper. We make from it the accompanying

The receipts and expenditures for the year, and the condition of the balance in the treasury, standing to the credit of the patent fund at its close, are shown in the following statements:-

statements:—	
No. 1.—Statement of the number of Patents of for and granted.	pplied
Number of applications for patents during the	
	19,271
Number of patents issued, including reissues	201-12
Number of patents issued, including ressues	10 000
and designs	13,986
Number of applications for extensions of pa-	400
tenta	153
Number of patents extended	108
Number of caveats filed during the year	8,624
Number of patents expired during the year	2,053
Number of patents allowed but not issued for	11.4.0.1.55
want of final fee	997
Of the patents granted there were to	
citizens of the United States 13,442	
Subjects of Great Britain	
Subjects of the French Empire 91	
Dublects or the Elemen Township of the Control of t	
Subjects of other foreign Governments 159	
and the same of th	13,986
No. 2.—Statement of money received during the 1869.	te year
Amount received for applications, caveats,	
etc	2,700.65
Amount received for copies and for re-	.,
Amount received for copies and for re-	0.445-16
cording assignments 6	O'ARRO TO
ena ena	3,145-81
A MINING A PRESENT OF STREET, THE CONTRACT OF STREET, AND ADDRESS OF	
No. 3 Statement of expenditures from the Pate	nt Office
fund for 1869.	

No. 4 - Statement of the money on hand. Amount to the credit of the Patent Fund, January 1, 1869. \$324,330 57 Excess of receipts over expenditures during the year 1869. 206,715 07

Cash paid for salaries and for miscel-

Leaving a balance on the 1st of January, \$531,045-64 1870, of. \$531,045-64
No. 5 Statement showing the business of the Office for

LAST	ty-three yes	rs, fron	1884	to 1569, me	
	Applica-				Cush ex-
	tions filed,		inmed.		pended.
				829,239-06	<b>\$</b> 33,506:98
			520	42,123 54	37,462.10
	** * ***	4444	425	37,260-60	34,543 51
1840		228	473	38,056-51	39,020 67
1841		312	495	40,413 01	52,666 87
1842		392	517	36,505-63	31,24148
1843		315	531	80,315-81	30,776 95
1844	1045	830	509	42,569*26	36,244.73
1845	1246	452	502	51,076-14	39,395 05
1846		448	619	50,264.16	46,158-71
1847	1531	558	272	64,111 19	41,878 35
1848	1628	607	660	07,576.60	53,905.84
1849		595	1070	80,752:78	77,746:44
1850		602	995	86,997-95	89,100 95
1951		760	869	95,738.61	98,916:93
1852		996	1020	112,656 34	95,916.91
1863		901	958	191,527-45	132,869 83
1854		868	1902	168,789 84	186,146 32
1856	12 12 22 22	906	2024	216,459-35	179,540.33
1856	E	1024	2502	199,588 02	199,981.02
1857	CILCO CLUC	1010	2910	196,182 01	211,582 09
1858		943	2710	208,716:16	193, 193, 74
1859	The second secon		4588	245,942 15	210,278-41
1860		1084	4819	256,052:59	252,820.80
1861		700	3340	187,854*44	221,491 91
1862	F 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7		3591	215,754 99	182,810-39
1863	CARLES AND ADDRESS.		4170	195,593-29	189,414.14
1864				240,919-98	220,868 00
	10,664		6616	848,791-84	274,199-34
	15,269		9480	495,665.38	361,724-29
1000	21,276		13015	640,581-92	639, 263 32
	24,420			681,565'86	
					486,430 78
	19,271		1,700,000,000	693,145.81	
16 -	will Alexander	100 000	we dive	The second by the second	POWDING TO

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4000 50

It will thus be seen that, with average receipts and expenditures not greatly varying from those of the past year, the net income of the office will be about \$200,000 per annum; and that there is now standing to the credit of the patent fund a balance of over \$530,000.

THE AMERICAN SYSTEM. Letters patent for invention in this country are in the nature of a contract between the public and the original and first inventor, as a compensation for his time, ingenuity, and expense in perfecting the invention and

reducing it to practice; for the communicause it freely when the exclusive right of the

patentee expires. An invention is property of the highest order. Whatever may be said of the right which man may acquire in the soil, by his occupancy of it, or in the materials with which he works, or in the profits of his bar-ter, it would seem to be a self-evident proposition that he is the owner of that which he creates; and that when his ideas, no longer vague or dreamy speculations, have taken useful form and been reduced to practice, not the abstract ideas, but the concrete and embodied principles, are his own, to dispose of

As it is impossible to pay for useful inventions in money, we pay in time, which the inventor must turn into money if he can.

To insure the fairness of this transaction. under the patent laws of the United States, an examination is made into the novelty of the invention prior to the granting of the This investigation includes patent. an examination of the patents already granted, of the applications rejected, of the foreign patents, printed copies of which are furnished to us, and of the textbooks and cyclopadias. In making the examination, reliance is placed for the most part upon the drawings; the text and models being resorted to only where the drawings are obscure and need further explanation.

As nearly 100,000 patents have been granted, and 50,000 applications have been rejected, in this country alone, it is manifest that this examination is not an easy task. It would be impossible to make it without a careful classification of the subjects of invention, and without the assistance of trained and skilful examiners.

BEGISTRATION SYSTEM

The patent system in vogue in Europe is substantially one of registration. Patents are granted upon the application of the inventor, without examination into the novelty or utility of the invention. The responsibility is thrown upon him of so forming his specifi cation and claims that they will bear the test of subsequent investigation. This he does at his peril; and if he attempts to make any preliminary examination into the state of the art, he can do it only by the aid of solicitors, whose charges are far greater than fees for a similar service would be if the work were done by sworn officers. But, although no examination is made, the patent fees abroad exceed those which the inventor pays in this country. This will appear from the following

Countries,		Duration of patent.		Fors,
United States	****			\$35
Great Britain	WEST.	14 years.		875
France		15 years.		300
Russia		10 years.		450
Italy				250
Bavaria		15 years.		115
Austria				350
Belgium		20 years.		420
Prussia		15 years.		100
	FEM	TALE COPYISTS		
Dulou to In	I 4	1000 much of	the o	married and

Prior to July 1, 1869, much of the copy of the office was done by females. About 65 were employed, who worked at their own homes, and who were paid at the rate of 10 cents per 100 words for the amount actually copied. By an act approved March 3, 1869, provision was made for 53 female copyists at an annual salary of \$700. As it was obvious that this force must labor within the office, in order to secure proper discipline and efficient work, six rooms were provided in the Patent Office building for the entire number. These rooms and clerks were placed under the charge of an efficient female superintendent. It soon became evident that although the number of copyists was reduced, there were still more than sufficient to do the work originally performed by the larger number. Additional work was therefore assigned to them from other divisions, and the force of male clerks was correspondingly reduced. Accurate time-tables have been kept since July 1, 1869, of the attendance of these ladies, and a eareful record has been made of their work.

The result of the experience of six months is that the attendance is nearly as good and the work is fully equal in quantity and quality to that of male clerks performing correspond-ing duties. The salaries of these ladies were originally fixed at \$700 only, instead of \$900. This, it is presumed, was an oversight, as they have labored as faithfully, and until November 15, 1869, one hour per day longer, than the female clerks of any other department. I know of no reason why their pay should not be equal to that of male clerks of like grades, except that there are, as nearly as can be ascertained, 25 applications for position by women to one from men. This divi-sion is the largest in the bureau and is under excellent discipline, yet the superintendent of it, because a female, has with difficulty been enabled to secure the pay of a first-class clerk. I recommend that the pay of the female clerks be raised to at least \$900 per annum; that they be paid at that rate from the beginning of the present fiscal year; and that permanent provision be made for a female superintendent, at a salary of at least \$1400 per annum.

COPYRIGHTS. Congress omitted, at its last session, to make any appropriation for the care of the copright books and records.

I am persuaded that the time has come when a radical change should be made in the system of registering copyrights. This is now done in the Clerk's offices of the various District Courts. It is so imperfectly done that copyrights are proverbially worthless. They are usually invalid from a failure to comply with the essential formalities; because no officer is interested to see that these formalities are complied with. The clerks omit in many cases to send their records to this office, and to transmit the books. Many of the latter are never received at all. Meanwhile Congress has been called upon from year to year to make appropriations from the funds in the treasury for the care of these books and papers. It is submitted, since mail facilities are now so cheap and abundant, that the work of registration could be done much more thoroughly in the Patent Office, and that the fees for that service (about \$3500 per annum) would pay all the expenses of the necessary clerical force, and for the custody of the books. If it were the business of a division in this office to do this work, correspondence could be maintained with authors and publishers, and copyrights could be perfected. I also ask that the Patent Office be permitted to display and use as books of reference, under proper restrictions, the books, especially those of a legal, mechanical, and scientific character, which are deposited by the authors and pub-lishers under the law. These have been hitherto of no value whatever, except as vouchers.

-The Council of the British Royal Academy has been occupied of late in devising and effect-ing reforms in its schools. These reforms, as we understand, tend in the right direction, and whereby he receives the exclusive privilege of exercising his invention for a limited time, as a compensation for his time invention. opportunities for the students, are matters which are no longer to be merely talked about. Foreign Literary Items.

—It is stated that Mr. Logan, the sub-collector of Malabar, has collected about 700 ancient Sanskrit MSS, in Surat. -The widow of Belzoni, the Egyptologist, has died at the age of eighty eight. She had a pen-sion of 4200 per annum from Government. -The Imperial Press at Vienna has issued Hassan's abridged Grammar of the Vulgar Arab auguage, with especial reference to the

Lorenzi, of the Library of St. Mark. Sig. Lorenzi, of the Library of St. Mark, has published the first volume of "Monumenti per servire alia Storia del Palazzo Ducale di Venezia, ovvero Serie di Atti Pubblici dal 1253 al 1797." The volume contains documents down to the year 1600. The minor poems of William Lander, play-

Egyptian dislect.

writer, poet, and minister of the Gospel, referring mainly to that year of famine and plague in Scotland, 1568, are to be edited for the Early English Text Society by Mr. Furnivall, from Mr. S. Christie-Miller's unique origi-

-M. Paulin Paris has sent to press the secon part of his "Romans de la Table Ronde mis en Nouveau Language," being the Lancelot of the Lake, in continuation of the Joseph of Ari-mathea, the Saint Graal and Merlin. The third portion is to be the Tristan.

Count Riant has discovered in the library it Copenhagen an unpublished account of the taking of Constantinople by the Latins: "Li Estoires di Chisus qui Conquisent Constanti-noble, de Robert de Clari en Aminols, Chevalier. The Revue Bibliographique assures us that this parrative is as important as that of Villehar

Fragments of a hitherto unknown metrical version of "Reynard the Fox," the La Valliere copy of an Italian "Plutarch" (the first book printed at Aquila, A. D. 1482)—a Wynkyn de Worde (Capgrave's "Nova Legenda Anglia"), containing the suppressed Life of Thomas a Becket, A. D. 1516—and the first edition of J. de Voragine's "Legende dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed process of the containing the suppressed process of the containing the suppressed process of the containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed process of the country of the containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce, "A. D. 1476, containing the suppressed dorce," A. D. taining n any singular passages not to be found in any subsequent edition—are to be sold during the present month in England.

-An elaborate work on the vulgar speech of the porth and centre of France, by M. J. Baumgarten, is in course of publication in Parls. It comprises also the Vulgar Tongue and latest Coinages of Paris, the Pronunciation of the Dialect, and Historical Notices of the Pronun-ciation of the Language of Literature, a point hitherto little touched on by French writers.

The Revue des Questions Historiques informs as of the publication at Faenza of twelve letters of Torquato Tasso not included in the collection of Chevaller Guasti; but one only was hitherto unprinted. Signor Panizza, of Trent, has edited four unpublished letters of Bernardo Tasso of considerable length. Appended is a memoir presented by Bernardo to the Constable Montmorency, and dated 1553, which advocates an attack on the kingdom of Naples.

-Professor See, of Paris, recently delivered at the Hospital de la Charite a lecture on tobacco. He pointed out that the proportion of nicotine varies according to the kind of tobacco. Thus, that produced in Germany and Alsace contains from seven to three per cent. of nico-tine, while that from Havana and Maryland has only two per cent. In small doses nicotine aids respiration, and does not affect the heart, but in larger quantities the Professor showed that it produces convulsion of the respiratory museles, an accelerated and intermitting pulse, and a tremulous condition of the muscles

-A rich mine of wealth will shortly be made available, for it scarcely can be said to have been so heretofore, by the labors of the keepers of the archives of France, in the arrangement of the documents and the publication of catalogues and indexes. The printing of the third volume of the Inventory of the Seals is just completed. and photographers are now at work collecting the elements of a volume of plates which is to complete the work. The descriptive catalogue of the "Musce des Archives" has been published down to the year 1789, and the cpochs of the Revolution and of the first Empire are now in the press. The first volume of the "Arrets du Conseil d'Etat" is being proceeded with as rapidly as possible. The documents are being arranged with care; the old registers have been repaired, and the collection of ancient parchments known as Accords, which had been rolled or folded, have all been set in order and made more easy for reference. This rearrangement of the records proceeds pari passu with their removal into the fine rooms of the new buildings recently creeted in the Rue des Quatre Fils.

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INSURANCE	COMP.		OF	NORTH
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CAPITALASSETSLosses paid since of Receipts of Premin Interest from inves	rganization			23,000,000 00
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Arthur G. Coffi Samuel W. Jon John A. Brown Charles Tayler	es,	Fran Edw Edw	ard H. 7	larke,

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Bonds.

25,000 Pennsylvania Hailroad Second mortgage Six per Cent.
Bonds.

25,000 Western Pennsylvania Railroad Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds (Pennsylvania

20,000-00 4,270-90 12,500 Pennsylvania Railroad Com-pany, 220 shares stock.... 5,000 North Pennsylvania Rail-road Company, 100 snares stock

road Company, 100
stock
10,000 Philadelphia and Southern
Mail Steamship Company, 80 shares stock
246,900 Loans on Bond and Mortgage, first liens on City
Properties. \$1,231,400 Par.

Market value, \$1,265,270-00 Cost, \$1,215,622-27. Bills Receivable for Insurances made... 323,700 75 Balances due at Agencies:—
Premiums on Marine Policies, Accrued
Interest, and other debts due the Com-65,097-95

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169,291.14

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Assets Jan. 1, '69, \$2,677,372'13 ACCRUED SURPLUS. 1,083,528-70
PREMIUMS 1,193,848-48 UNSETTLED CLAIMS, INCOME FOR 1869,

Losses paid since 1829, over \$5,500,000 Perpetual and Temporary Policies on Liberal Terms.
The Company also issues Policies on Rents of Buildings of all kinds, Ground Rents, and Mortgages.

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George Fales.

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THEODORE M. REGER. Assistant Secretary.

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nith,
lles, John W. Everman,
West, Mordecai Buzby. CHARLES RICHARDSON, Presiden WILLIAM H. RHAWN, Vice-President

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This Company, favorably known to the community for over forty years, continues to insure against loss or damage by fire on Public or Private Buildings, jeither permanently or for a limited time. Also on Furniture, Stocks of Goods, and Merchandise generally, on liberal terms.

Their Capital, together with a large Surplus Fund, is invested in the most careful manner, which enables them to offer to the insured an andoubted security in the case of loss.

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Daniel Smith, Jr.,
Alexander Benson,
Lasac Hazleburst,
Thomas Robins,
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Lasac Hazl Daniel Haddock, Jr. Daniel Haddock, Jr. DANIEL SMITH, JR., President. WM. G. CROWELL, Secretary.

THE ENTERPRISE INSURANCE CO. OF

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The sale of Revenue Stamps is still continued at the Old-Established Agencies.

The stock comprises every denomination printed by the Government, and having at all times a large supply, we are enabled to fill and forward (by Mail or Express) all orders immediately upon receipt, a matter of great importance.

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Vice-President, WILLIAM C. LONGSTRISTH,
Actuary, ROWLAND PARRY.
The advantages offered by this Company are un-

PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS FOR STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, January 10, 1870.;

Sealed Proposals will be received until 3 P. M. on the 1st day of MARCH, 1870, for furnishing all the "Stamped Envelopes" and "Newspaper Wrappers" which this Department may require during a period of four years, commencing 1st of July, 1870, VIE. :- STAMPED ENVELOPES.

No. 1. Note size, 2% by 4% inches, of white paper.
No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1-16 by 5% inches, of white, buff, canary, or cream-colored paper, or in such proportion of either as may be required.
No. 3. Full letter size (ungummed on flap, for the same colors as

circulars), 3% by 5% inches, of the same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 4. Full letter size, 3½ by 5½ inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 5. Extra letter size (ungummed on flap, for

circulars), 316 by 616 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of No. 6. Extra letter size, 5% by 6% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the

Proportion of each.

No. 7. Official size, 8% by 8% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the

Proportion of each.

No. 8. Extra official size, 4½ by 9½ inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS, NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS,
6% by 9% inches, of buff or manilla paper.
All the above envelopes and wrappers to be embossed with postage stamps of such denominations, styles, and colors, and to bear such printing on the face, and to be made in the most thorough manner, of paper of approved quality, manufactured specially for the purpose, with such water marks or other devices to prevent imitation as the Postmaster-General may direct.

vices to prevent imitation as the Postmaster-General may direct.

The envelopes to be thoroughly and perfectly gummed, the gumming on the flap of each (except for circulars) to be put on not less than half an inch in width the entire length. The wrappers to be gummed not less than three-fourths of an inch in width across the end.

All envelopes and wrappers must be banded in parcels of twenty-five, and packed in strong pasteboard or straw boxes, each to contain not less than two hundred and lifty of the letter or extra letter size, and one hundred each of the official or extra official size, separately. The newspaper wrappers to be packed in boxes to contain not less than two hundred and fifty each. The boxes are to be wrapped and sealed, or securely fastened in strong manilla paper, so as to safely bear transportation by mail for delivery to postmasters. When two thousand or more envelopes are required to fill the order of a postmaster, the straw or pasteboard boxes containing the lopes are required to fill the order of a postmaster, the straw or pasteboard boxes containing the same must be packed in strong wooden cases, well strapped with hoop-iron, and addressed; but when less than two thousand are required, proper labels of direction, to be furnished by at agent of the Department, most be placed upon each package by the contractor. Wooden cases, containing envelopes or wrappers to be transported by water routes, must be provided with suitable water-proofing. The whole to be done under the inspection and direction of an agent of the Department.

Department.

The envelopes and wrappers must be furnished and delivered with all reasonable despatch, complete in all respects, ready for use, and in such quantities as may be required to fill the daily orders of postmasters; the deliveries to be made either at the Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., or at the office of an agent duly authorized to inspect and receive the same; the place of delivery to be at the option of the Postmaster-General, and the cost of delivering as well as all expense of packing, addressing, labeling, and water-proofing, to be paid by the contractor.

Bidders are notified that the Department will re-

the contractor.

Bidders are notified that the Department will require, as a condition of the contract , that the envelopes and wrappers shall be manufactured and stored in such manner as to ensure security against less by fire or theft. The manufactory must at all times be subject to the inspection of an agent of the Department, who will require the stipulations of the contract to be faithfully observed.

Contract to be faithfully observed.

The dies for embossing the postage stamps on the envelopes and wrappers are to be executed to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General, in the best style, and they are to be provided, renewed, and kept in order at the expense of the contractor. The department reserves the right of requiring new dies for any stamps, or denominations of stamps not now used, and any changes of dies or colors shall be made without extra charge.

Specimens of the stamped envelopes and wrappers now in use may be seen at any of the principal post offices, but these specimens are not to be regarded as the style and quality fixed by the department as a standard for the new contract; bidders are therefore invited to submit samples of other and different qualities and styles, including the paper proposed as well as the manufactured envelopes, wrappers, and boxes, and make their bids accordingly.

The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose

accordingly.

The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose proposal, although it be not the lowest, is considered most advantageous to the Department, taking into account the prices, quality of the samples, workmanship, and the sufficiency and ability of the bidder to manufacture and deliver the ability of the bidder to manufacture and deliver the envelopes and wrappers in accordance with the terms of this advertisement; and no proposal will be considered unless accompanied by a smilicient and satisfactory guarantee. The Postmaster-General also reserves the right to reject any and all bids, if in his judgment the interests of the Government require it.

require it.

Before closing a contract the successful bidder may be required to prepare new dies, and submit impressions thereof. The USE OF THE PRESENT DIES

may be required to prepare new dies, and submit impressions thereof. The USE OF THE PRESENT DIES MAY OR MAY NOT BE CONTINUED.

Bonds, with approved and sufficient sureties, in the sum of \$200,000, will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, as required by the seventeenth section of the act of Congress, approved the 26th of August, 1842, and payments under said contract will be made quarterly, after proper adjustment of accounts.

The Postmaster-General reserves to himself the right to annul the contract whenever the same, or any part thereof, is offered for sale for the purpose of speculation; and under no circumstances will a transfer of the contract be allowed or sanctisned to any party who shall be, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, less able to fulfill the conditions thereof than the original contractor. The right is also reserved to annul the contract for a failure to perform faithfully any of its stipulations. The number of envelopes of different sizes, and of wrappers issued to Postmasters during the fiscal year ended June 50, 1869, was as follows, viz.:—

No. 1. Note size—1.178,000.

No. 2. Ordinary letter size; (not heretofore used).

No. 3. Full letter size, (ungummed, for circulars)

No. 3. Full letter size, (ungummed, for circulars)

4,150,000. No. 4. Full letter size—67,867,500. No. 5. Extra letter size, (ungummed, for circulars)

-343,500.
No. 6. Extra letter size—4,204,500.
No. 7. Official size—604,650.
No. 8. Extra official size—1700.
Wrappers—3,595,250.
Bids alionid be securely enveloped and sealed, marked "Proposals for Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers," and addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C. Postmaster-G JOHN A. J. CRESWELL, Postmaster General

OLOTHS, CASSIMERES, ETC. JAMES & HUBER. Successors to JAMES & LEE.

1-11 codtM1

No. 11 North SECOND Street,

Sign of the Golden Lamb, Are now closing out their entire stock of

Winter Goods. Consisting of CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VEST-

INGS, etc., of the best makes and finest texture, which they are selling far below importers' prices, preparatory to the reception of their SPRING STOCK 3 98 mws

TOHN FARNUM & CO., COMMISSION MER. Chants and Manufacturers of Conestoga Tick

PROPOSALS.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE ERECTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17, 1870. SEALED PROPOSALS will be received for the

following work and materials required in the execution of the WALNUT Street portion of the PUBLIC BUILDINGS, to wit:-For all the excavations, including the trenches for the foundations. The price to be stated per ouble yard, which is to cover all digging, hauling away the surplus earth, and cutting down and re-

moving whatever trees may come in the way of the excavations, without extra measurement or allow-For taking down the terrace wall, cleaning the bricks, and piling them up adjacent to the buildings,

taking down the iron railings, the gate piers, the coping of the wall and the steps, and depositing them on the grounds, and removing all the rubbish occasioned by the same. The price for this portion of the work to be stated in gross. For concreting the entire foundation of the buildings with small broken stone, and cement, mortar, and grout, in conformity with the specifications.

lateral dimensions to conform to the plans. The price to be stated per cubic foot, and to include all materials and labor. For furnishing and delivering large-size building stone, the price to be stated per perch of 22 cubis feet, measured in the walls. Also, for select building stone, averaging 2 by 5 feet, and from 12 to 18 inches thick; the price for the same to be stated per

The depth of the concrete to be three feet, and the

cubic foot, delivered on the ground. For building all the cellar walls, and the outside walls of the basement story, as high as the level line of the payement, according to the plans and specifications. The price to be stated per perch of 92 cubic feet, laid in the walls, without extra measurement, and to include all labor and all materials except stone.

best and the lowest bidder or bidders, who will be required to give approved security for the faithful performance of the same. The plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Architect, Mr. JOHN MCARTHUR, JR.,

The contract or contracts will be awarded to the

No. 205 S. SIXTH Street. The proposals to be scaled and endorsed "Proposais for Public Buildings," and addressed to JAMES V. WATSON, Chairman of the Committee on Contracts, and to be left at the office of the Commissioners of Public Buildings, in the new Court House, SIXTH Street, below Chesnut, on the 14th day of February next ensuing, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock A. M., at which time the bids will be opened, in the presence of such bidders as may

wish to attend. By order of the Committee on Contracts. 1 19 wfm 11t H. C. PUGH, Secretary.

HARDING'S EDITIONS

THE HOLY BIBLE.

FAMILY, PULPIT, AND PHOTOGRAPH BIBLES.

WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS.

ALSO, PRESENTATION BIBLES FOR CHURCHES.

> CLERGYMEN, SOCIETIES AND

New and superb assortment, bound in Rich Levant Turkey Morocco, Paneled and Ornamental Designs, equal to the London and Oxford editions, at less than half their prices. No. 326 CHESNUT Street.

STRENGTH, BEAUTY, CHEAPNESS COMBINED! HARDING'S PATENT CHAIN-BACK

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS.

For Wedding, Holiday, or Birthday Presents, these

Albums are particularly adapted. The book trade and dealers in fancy articles will find the most extensive assortment of Photograph Albums in the country, and superior to any heretofore made. For great strength, durability, and cheapness, Harding's Patent Chain-back Albums are unrivalled. Purchasers will find it greatly to their advantage to examine these new lines of goods be-

fore making up their orders for stock. Also, a large and splendid assortment of new styles of Photograph Albums made in the usual manner.

No. 326 CHESNUT Street, Philadelphia.

OFFICE OF THE

CUMBERLAND COAL AND IRON COMPANY, NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

A special meeting of the Stockholders of the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company has been called by the President and Directors of said Company, to be held at its office, No. 90 BROADWAY, corner Wall street, in the city of New York, on the 19th day of

February, 1870, at 12 o'clock M.

The objects of said meeting are:-To accept, as an increase of the powers of the Company, and as an amendment to its charter, the provision contained the charter of the Consolidation Coal Company of Maryland, which renders it lawful for all bodies corporate to become subscribers for and owners of the capital stock of the last-named company; also, to consider and act upon the question of a consolidation with the last-named company and other companies having coal lands in Allegheny county, Md.; to arrange the terms of such consolidation and the manner of carrying the same into effect, and to authorize the Directors to effect the same; to authorize the Board of Directors of this Company to subscribe in its behalf for \$5,000,000 of the capital stock of said Consolidation Coal Company of Maryland, and to agree with that company upon the terms and conditions upon which such subscription shall be mado, and to convey and transfer to the last-named Company in free payment for the amount of stock which may be so subscribed for, such portion of the lands and other properties of this Company, including its railroad, as may be agreed upon. And generally, to pass upon all questions which may arise touching such proposed consolidation, or transfer of property, or subscription for stocks, and the disposition to be made of the stock subscribed for, and if deemed expedient, to authorize a lease of the properties of this Company or any part thereof, and to make all alterations in the by-laws which said meet-

ing may deem necessary or proper. Notice is hereby given that, for the purpose of holding a stockholders' meeting of the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company on the 19th day of February next, the transfer books will close on SATURDAY, Jan. 29, 1870, at 2 o'clock P. M.

By order of the Board of Directors. J. RICHARDS, Secretary. 120 tF18 New York, Jan. 18, 1870.

day nights only