THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

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FIRST EDITION

FALL OF THIONVILLE.

The Town and its History.

Vicissitudes of Fortune.

General Sherman's Army Report.

Our Military Strength.

THIONVILLE.

Its Fall—The Last Point on the Line of the Moselle in German Hands.

In common with Metz, the fortress of Thionville was invested by the German forces immediately after the defeat of Frossard at Forbach, although it was not for some time after Bazaine had been shut up in the former place that Thionville was completely hemmed in by the invading army. During the siege the French made several desperate sorties, and now and then attempted to interfere with the operations of the German army investing Metz. But all their efforts were futile, and since the fall of Metz the capitulation of Thionville has been merely a question of time. About the 13th of the present month the Germans commenced to press the siege with greater earnestness than before, the town was bombarded and the condition of the besieged rendered precarious by the breaking out of fires in consequence of the bombardment. The fire of the Germans since that date has apparently been steadily maintained, and the formal surrender took place yesterday morning, the report stating that the town had been burning for three days.

The fall of Thionville is an event of signal importance. The town is situated on the left bank of the Moselle, seventeen miles due north of Metz and ten miles southwest of Sierck, which stands just on the old French frontier near the dividing line between Rhenish Prussia and the neutral territory of Luxemburg. Thionville was the northern point of the French defensive line of the Moselle, and its fall places that river entirely in possession of the Germans. The capture of Thionville places in German hands all the territory claimed as a rectification of the frontiers, with the exception of Bitche, a small fortress on the border near Rhenish Bavaria; Phalsburg, in the Vosges Mountains, 25 miles northwest of Strasburg; and Belfort, the extreme southern point of the original frontier line of the French, which is situated on the southern spur of the same mountain ridge, about 43 miles W. N. W. of Basle, in Switzerland.

The Fortified Town of Thionville

was the capital of the arrondissement of the same name, in the Department of the Moselle, and had in 1856 a population of about 10,500, besides the ordinary garrison of 2000 men. It is directly on the line of the railroad running north from Frouard, a point on the Paris and Strasburg Railroad, through Pont-a-Mousson and Metz, and thence to Luxemburg, in neutral territory. It is also the southeastern terminus of the railroad running through Montmedy and Mezieres, parallel with the Luxemburg and Belgian frontier. Previous to the war, it had a large trade in timber, grain, coal, and iron, the furnaces and forges in its immediate vicinity producing the latter commodity to the value of about $2,500,000 per year.

The History of Thionville.

It was to Thionville, says the historian Fredegaire, that Pepin the Little, in 753, sent his grandson Charles, at the age of twelve years, to visit Pope Etienne II. Charlemagne loved to stay at Thionville. He there passed the winter, after he had beaten the Saxons. He rested there after the conquest of Lombardy. He there celebrated the feasts of "Noel and Paques," to relieve the grief caused by the death of his Queen, Hildegarde. He there called an assemblage of the chiefs of the nation to submit to them the will which divided his estates among his three sons. Thionville took the part of the Count of Luxemburg under the sovereignty of the Emperors, when that battle occurred between Ebange and Uckange, where the slaughter was such, says the historian Bertels, that the blood of the combatants, running into the Teusch and thence into the Moselle, reddened this river as far as Thionville. Perhaps no city has changed masters as often as this one. It belonged to the Saxons in 1443, the Duke of Bourgogne in 1514, ten years later to Ladislas V, King of Hungary and Bohemia, to the Dukes of Bourgogne from 1467 to 1477, to the Imperial House of Hapsburg up to 1599, to the Kings of Spain up to 1643, and at last to France, of which it originally formed a part.

In 1792, Thionville was bombarded and then besieged in due form by the Austrians and Prussians. It was commanded by General Wimpffen, and the defense which he made has become one of the most memorable in the history of France. The town was invested by a strong force on the 23d of August, but on being summoned to surrender General Wimpffen responded:—"Burn the town, if you please; but you cannot burn the ramparts." The garrison was a weak one, but it was heartily supported by the citizens. General Wimpffen having received intimations of an intended assault by the besieging forces, made a sortie on the 16th of September, cut the working parties of the enemy to pieces, penetrated into their very camp, and then retired under the guns of the fortifications. The siege was then turned into a mere blockade, the besiegers entrenching themselves and the French becoming the assailants. General Wimpffen gave the enemy no peace, harassing them continually, and on the 21st of September made a furious assault upon their outworks, broke up their magazines, and returned to the town with a large amount of booty. Despairing of the reduction of the place, the besiegers next attempted to bribe the heroic French commander to surrender, to which Wimpffen responded:—"All right, gentlemen, I accept; only please make your offer in writing, and get it attested by a notary public." Failing again, the enemy abandoned their hopeless task, and raised the siege on the 16th of October.

In 1814 General Hugo, commanding the place, bravely sustained the attack of a Prussian army corps, and forced them to retire with considerable losses.

The Fortifications of Thionville.

During the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, Thionville was the best fortified place in the Luxemburg country. One sees there yet the tower Aux Puces, which serves as a magazine, some houses built against the castle preserving traces of the old wall. The shape of the place is an irregular heptagon, with half-moons, countergards, and lunettes. The actual fortifications are those of Vaubau and of Cormontaigne, which have preserved the bastions, rebuilt of brick, anterior to 1643. The town is inclosed by regularly laid out works with six bastions and ravelins, and covered by ten advanced lunettes. The river is bridged here, and forms an island in the centre, which is strongly fortified. The bridge is also defended by a strong bridge-head, with three bastions and two ravelins. Commanding elevations on either side of the river invite the enemy's batteries.

After running the gauntlet of political change for centuries, Thionville now passes again under German sway, and its vicissitudes are doubtless at an end.

THE ARMY.

Report of General Sherman—The Military Divisions—Strength of the Regular Army—The New Tactics.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The following is the full text of the annual report of the General of the Army, to be submitted to Congress at the approaching session. It is important as showing the present location of officers and troops, the strength of the army in officers and men, the operation of the new law for the reduction of the army, the present condition of the investigation on the subject of small arms, and the opinions and recommendations of General Sherman and Major-General Halleck on the question, always more or less in doubt, as to the relation lawfully existing between the military and civil authorities:—

THE MILITARY DIVISIONS.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 10, 1870.—General:—Since my annual report of Nov. 20, 1869, several changes have occurred in the distribution of the army, incident to the restoration of the States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas, and to the gradual reduction of the force. The geographical territory of the United States is now divided into ten departments, and these are grouped into four military divisions.

The Military Division of the East is commanded by Major-General George G. Meade, and is composed of the Department of the East, Brigadier-General I. McDowell; and the Department of the Lakes, Brigadier-General P. St. George Cooke.

The Military Division of the South is commanded by Major-General H. W. Halleck, and is composed of the Department of the South, Brigadier-General A. H. Terry, and the Department of Texas, Colonel J. J. Reynolds.

The Military Division of the Missouri is commanded by Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan, and is composed of the Department of Dakota, Major-General W. S. Hancock; Department of the Platte, Brigadier-General C. C. Augur; and the Department of the Missouri, Brigadier-General John Pope.

The Military Division of the Pacific is commanded by Major-General John M. Schofield, and is composed of the Department of the Columbia, Brigadier-General E. R. S. Canby; the Department of California, Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord; and the Department of Arizona, Colonel Geo. Stoneman.

This sub-division of the country is found to be well adapted to the use of our military forces in the diversified sections and the interests committed to their charge, and the general officers in command are all well qualified for their respective duties. I inclose herewith the annual report of all these commanders except of General Sheridan, who is absent in Europe, and of Colonel Stoneman, who is in that remote Territory, Arizona, with which our communication is difficult, and his report has not yet been received, but will be submitted as soon as possible. To these reports I must refer you for the actual distribution of the troops and the details of the year's work.

THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.

According to the latest returns, the regular army is composed of 2488 officers and 34,870 enlisted men. Under the operation of the act approved July 15, 1870, the number of officers is rapidly decreasing, so that by the 1st of January it will reach the legal standard, 2277.

Of enlisted men the present number is made up as follows:—Ten regiments of cavalry, 9892; five regiments of artillery, 4300; 25 regiments of infantry, 16,986; total troops of the line, 31,178. In addition to which are five companies of engineer troops, 560; permanent recruiting parties and recruits, 1629; enlisted men of ordnance, 706; West Point detachment, 261; signal detachment, 32; hospital stewards, 333; ordnance sergeants, 121—3692; making a grand total of 34,870. By the same act this number must be reduced by the 1st of July, 1871, to the limit of 30,000. As a matter of course, I desire that the reduction should fall as lightly as possible on the troops of the line, for if the companies of cavalry and infantry, which occupy the remote posts, are too small, department commanders will be forced to break up many of the smaller posts, and to use two companies where one now suffices. If the non-combatant class be kept to the present standard of 3692 men, there will be left for the line only 26,308, which, divided up among the 430 companies which compose the present organization, will allow but 60 men to a company. The universal experience is, that the constant loss by death, discharge, desertion, etc., especially in the more remote and dangerous districts, will reduce the actual number present for duty to about two-thirds of the prescribed limit, or will bring the companies down to about 40 men, which is too small for efficient service. I believe that on a fair representation Congress will make direct provision for the engineers, ordnance, signal detachment, and hospital stewards. This would make the limit of 30,000 to apply only to the troops of the line, and their necessary recruiting parties.

RELATIONS OF THE CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

In the examination of the reports herewith inclosed I invite your attention to that recommendation of General Halleck which refers to the use of troops in assisting the civil authorities in maintaining peace, collecting the revenues, etc., which has become so common of late. The duties of the soldiery in this connection are not prescribed so clearly by statute that the officers can understand their rights and duties, and the civil agents and authorities often expect more than can be rightly or lawfully done I think the soldiers ought not to be expected to make individual arrests, or to do any sort of violence, except in their organized capacity as a *posse comitatus*, duly summoned by the United States Marshal, and acting in his personal presence. Yet, if it is deemed lawful and proper that the soldiers should do more than this, I concur with General Halleck that Congress should so enact in clear and distinct terms.

DISCIPLINE OF THE TROOPS.

During the past year the department commanders have given great attention to the instruction and discipline of their troops, and as our force becomes less and less I deem it important that they should receive every encouragement, for we know that the volunteers, when called into active service, expect to learn the routine of service from the regular army. In this connection, Colonel J. J. Reynolds, in Texas, objects, and with good reason, that he is forced to use his men a great portion of their time as laborers on public buildings, roads, and at other work which disqualifies them as soldiers, beside preventing them from scouting on the frontier as much as would otherwise be the case. As a matter of course, soldiers must labor in taking care of themselves, and of their necessary supplies, but to build permanent works or roads, in which they have but a partial interest, is a kind of labor that ought not to be imposed on our reduced establishment. I would advise the Secretary of War to prescribe some plain rule, drawing a clear distinction between these two kinds of labor, and to publish it to the army in orders or regulations, so that it would enter into the contract of enlistment, and soldiers would not, as they frequently do, plead this cause as a justification of desertion. During the past year the troops have been well supplied in all respects, and have been paid regularly every two months. General Augur's recommendation that the troops be paid at shorter intervals is worthy of every consideration, for it is known that pay-day, coming so seldom, is apt to be considered a sort of holiday, and not unfrequently results in disorders, such as recently occurred at Provo City, which reflect upon the usual good fame of the army.

SMALL ARMS—THE NEW TACTICS.

The Board of Officers assembled at St. Louis, Mo. (by virtue of General Orders Nos. 60 and 72 of 1869), has reported that their labors have been substantially concluded, and although not yet in possession of the text, I desire to express my opinion of the importance of their work. This board, composed of officers of great experience, was required to report on the best small arms and equipments for the army, and also to prepare a system of tactics for all arms of service. Their conclusion on the first branch of the subject has heretofore been laid before the Secretary of War, who has ordered a supply of the arms recommended by the board to be distributed to the army for further practical tests; but I observe that the Chief of Ordnance, in his annual report, advises that another 50,000 of the Springfield musket should be altered according to the ordnance pattern, the one now in general use by our infantry. This would imply a selection of that form of musket, before the practical tests already in progress are completed. The recommendation of the board was strongly in favor of the Remington system, and I concur with it entirely, and therefore suggest to the Secretary that he await the result of the tests he has already ordered before incurring the expense of the alteration of the second 50,000. All officers agree that the present musket is an admirable weapon, but the breech block is not suited to a carbine, and it is entirely out of the question for the pistol, whereas the Remington system is equally suited to all, so that we could have identically the same calibre and cartridge for all arms, a matter of infinite importance in action, and especially so for our troops, who are often detached from their own baggage for months, and come in for a resupply of ammunition at posts where they often find no cartridges suited to their special weapons. The Remington is already adopted by the navy, and this is an additional reason for its adoption in the army, for in combined operations both arms and ammunition could be mutually interchanged.

Prior to our civil war we naturally looked for a system of tactics to the experience of European armies, and, as actually occurred, we had the infantry tactics of one nation, cavalry of another, and artillery of a mixed sort, so that there was no just harmony between them. There is no good reason why the same general rules of command and signals should not be uniform for all arms of the service, and this board has proceeded on this theory. Until the text is received, properly corrected and ready for the printer, I shall forbear any comments, further than to say that the time is most opportune for the adoption of an improved system of tactics for all arms of the service, and, before any steps are taken for their adoption, I recommend that some compensation be given to General Upton for the use that has been made of his system of infantry tactics that has been heretofore adopted and used by the infantry.

In conclusion, I would merely renew a former recommendation, that reasonable annual appropriations be asked for barracks, both to replace the unhealthy casemates of our sea-coast forts and to shelter from the weather the men whom the national necessities force us to station in the dreary and inhospitable regions of the interior of the continent.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,
W. T. SHERMAN, General.
General W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Report of General Pope—The Indians—The New Policy—Raids.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The report of General Pope, which will accompany that of General Sheridan, is dated at the Headquarters of the Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, October 31, 1870, and states that he assumed command May 3, 1870.

INDIAN RAIDS.

He details at considerable length the several raids of the Indians on working parties on the Kansas Pacific Railroad and elsewhere, and on settlers in his department. He speaks in severe terms of the gross carelessness of the working parties along the railroad, and attributes the raids to the fact that they were often distributed along forty miles of the road, without arms or preparation of any kind. He says their defenseless condition, and the utter neglect of every precaution which experience should have taught them was essential to their safety, offered an irresistible temptation to the Indians. He thinks it hardly necessary to say to the Division Commander that a large part of these Indian raids and murders is due to this extreme recklessness and disregard of common-sense and every-day experience on the part of the whites. It is not possible to correct these things, nor can it be expected that troops will be found at all times, and at every point of this vast frontier, where irresponsible and reckless white people choose to appear. He fears that the troubles with the Apaches in New Mexico are likely to continue, and he doubts, from the character of these Indians, whether they can be brought to live upon a reservation at all, unless, indeed, they be furnished with everything they covet.

THE NEW INDIAN POLICY.

The report refers at some length to the relations between the army and the Indian Bureau, and says the relations between the army and the Indian agents were established by the Government, and that so long as both parties literally observe them there need be no conflict or controversy. It may be safely doubted, however, he says, whether such a relation is best for such Indians as the Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Kiowas, and Comanches. The country assigned to these Indians as reservations is of immense extent and quite unsettled. The reservations of the Kiowas and Comanches is very near the frontier settlements of Texas, upon which these Indians have been accustomed to depredate for years. The military authorities, having no jurisdiction whatever within the reservation, are powerless to prevent an organization of the Indians for hostile movements, or to arrest such movement until the parties concerned have passed beyond the limits of the reservation. In other words, the Indians on these reservations may hold council after council, devising means and determining plans for raids upon the settlements north and south, and may accumulate everything needful for them, and may march off from their encampment on hostile expeditions, and yet the military authorities at hand in the neighborhood, fully possessed of all the facts, and knowing well the active persons concerned in organizing the raid, can neither arrest these persons nor in any manner interfere with the expedition until it shall have passed beyond the limits of the reservation. Having in this manner prepared everything for the raid, and having the choice of any of the numerous exposed points of the settlements north and south to attack, their first move must be successful, and occasion severe injury to the places and people attacked. It is only then that troops can be used, and they generally too late to accomplish anything except fruitless pursuits. In very many cases such expeditions could be wholly prevented by arresting for the time the active persons engaged in getting them up, or by seizing and keeping for a while the ponies of the tribes or tribes concerned. It seems to me that such obvious and peaceful means of entirely frustrating hostile expeditions of Indians, attended with such destruction and such nameless horrors, ought to be in the power of the military to use. At present the military forces can do nothing until after hostilities begin, and then it is generally too late to do much good. I merely present this statement of the case without urging anything. I think the common sense of it need not even be emphasized. I believe it proper to set forth in some detail the position of the military authorities in relation to these Indian reservations, as all depredations committed by Indians are charged to want of proper action, or the inefficiency of the military, and the commanders of military posts in or near any of these reservations are invariably held responsible by public opinion for the conduct of the Indians, over whom they have no jurisdiction nor control whatever. Upon being closely pursued the Indians retreat to their reservations, where the military cannot touch them. I regret to notice that this feeling has been manifested by the military authorities of Texas, of course in ignorance of these facts. I could wish that the War Department would publish some general orders setting forth fully the exact relations between the military authorities and the Indians and their agents, in order that military commanders, at least, might be spared misapprehension and unjust censures from the members of their own arm of the public service.

THE RAIDS MADE BY THE KIOWAS AND COMANCHES.

Under present treaties all the Comanches, Kiowas, Cheyennes, and Arapahoes are bound to live upon reservations laid out for them in the southern part of the department. The Cheyennes and Arapahoes along the waters of the Canadian; the Kiowas and Comanches between the Canadian and Red rivers. So long as the Indians remain on these reservations they are solely under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department. When they go beyond, it becomes the duty of the military to compel their return. The Arapahoes have almost to a man been peaceful during this year. The Cheyennes, as a body, have, I believe, also been peaceful. The Kiowas have been altogether the worst Indians we have had to deal with. I think it almost certain that near all, if not quite all, of the depredations and murders committed south of the Arkansas river, since May 1, are to be charged to this tribe. They are now, as they have been for twenty-five years past, the most faithless, cruel, and untrustworthy of all the Indians of the Plains. The Comanches have joined them, however, in the depredations committed in Texas, which these Indians can never be made to understand, is embraced in any treaties with the settlements. In danger from the Cheyennes and Arapahoes are the settlements of Western and Southwestern Kansas, along the Arkansas river, the Kansas Pacific Railroad, the Saline, Solomon, and Republican rivers. The eastern settlements of Colorado and New Mexico may also be said to be exposed to these Indians, though not so much. The Utes, occupying a large part of Colorado and Northern New Mexico, have always been peaceful, and, unless molested and wronged, are likely to remain so. Much the same thing may now be said of the Navajoes. The Apaches, occupying all Southern New Mexico, on both sides of the Rio Grande, as also Arizona, are the most squalid, cowardly, and thieving Indians I know on the frontier. They are divided into numerous small bands, recognize no general authority, and most of their warlike operations consist in the murder of an unprotected herder or two, and the theft of their herds of sheep. Very small, unarmed, or careless parties of travellers are no doubt in some danger in the country occupied by these Indians.

The completion of the Kansas Pacific Railroad to Denver is referred to as being of great service and economy to the Government, and safety to immigrants. General Pope favors the concentration of troops in larger bodies and breaking up of many small posts, as being more economical and beneficial. He proposes in New Mexico alone, where there are ten posts, to reduce the number to four. He recommends that the large and valuable reservation at Harker, now surrounded by settlements, be sold, and if possible, the proceeds applied to building quarters for its garrison at Hays. It contains 10,240 acres, and is worth $5 per acre.

—A strange case of insanity was recently developed at Chicago. A young milliner was found closely wrapped in bed-clothes fervently praying for deliverance from the world, after having fasted for several days.

SECOND EDITION

WAR NEWS BY CABLE.

Movements of the Prussians

Circular from Jules Favre.

The Eastern Question.

Gortschakoff and Granville.

FROM EUROPE.

Skirmish and French Success.

LONDON, November 26.—Advices from Tours have been received up to last evening. Gambetta returned from Tours on Friday.

On Thursday two French battalions attacked a force of 1500 Prussians who were entrenched at that point and had three cannon. The Prussians were routed and pursued as far as Quesnel.

French Desertions.

BERLIN, Nov. 26.—Reports have been received here from time to time announcing that large classes of citizens, and in some cases regular troops of the garrison at Paris, have come to the Prussian outposts and offered to surrender, but were invariably turned back. These reports have latterly been confirmed by despatches from the German headquarters at Versailles.

All Quiet at Paris.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—Advices have been received from Paris by balloon up to Thursday at noon. They represent the situation as favorable and the public *morale* satisfactory. The guns of the besiegers are all quiet.

Details of the

Movements of the Prussian Army

operating against Garibaldi have been received to-day. After their repulse at Neutz they pillaged Citeaux and concentrated at Dijon. A force of twenty thousand Prussians occupied Belisme, in the department of the Eure et Loire, on Tuesday night, the 22d, but retired towards Noguet le Rotron on Thursday.

Another Circular from Jules Favre.

Jules Favre has issued another circular, bearing date November 21, giving his version of the late armistice negotiations and the reasons of the sudden rupture. He says in giving plenary powers to M. Thiers he thought the principle of revictualling Paris had already been conceded.

London and the Eastern Question.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—There are no new developments on the Eastern question to-day. The feeling at the stock market is much improved.

Prince Gortschakoff's Note.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—Prince Gortschakoff's reply to Earl Granville's note, which was read in the Cabinet session last evening, does not withdraw Russia's claim to a modification of the treaty of Paris, and repeats the reference to a violations of the treaty by other European powers.

He meets Lord Granville's complaint that Russia desired to repudiate the treaty without first appealing to the other powers, by expressing doubt whether such an appeal would have been successful.

The morning papers say that the Ministry will stand firm.

This Morning's Quotations.

LONDON, Nov. 26—11·30 A. M.—Consols, 92¾ for both money and account. American securities quiet; U. S. 5-20s of 1862, 87⅞; of 1865, old, 87⅛; of 1867, 89⅜; 10-40s, 86⅛. Railways steady; Erie, 20⅛; Illinois Central, 110; Great Western, 28.

LONDON, Nov. 26—11·30 A. M.—Linseed cakes, £10 7d.@£10 10d. per ton. Tallow, 44s. Calcutta Linseed, 59s. @59s. 9d.

This Afternoon's Quotations.

LONDON, Nov. 26—2 P. M.—Consols closed at 92¾ for both money and account. American securities quiet. 5-20s of 1862, 87⅞; of 1865, old, 87⅛; of 1867, 89⅜; 10-40s, 86⅛. Stocks quiet. Erie Railroad, 20⅛; Illinois Central, 170; Great Western, 28.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 26—2 P. M.—Cotton closed with a downward tendency; middling uplands, 9⅛@9¼d.; middling Orleans, 9⅜@9½d. The sales to-day have been 10,000 bales, including 10,000 for export and speculation. The shipments of cotton from Bombay to the 25th were 6000 bales. Bacon, 45s. for Cumberland cut.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

The Peru Budget—An Astonishing Exhibit.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—The Arizona arrived to-day from Aspinwall, with news to November 18. The news is generally meagre. She brings Peru dates to the 27th of October. The budget had been presented, and for the first time in the history of Peru there is a surplus in the Treasury. Business is looking up, and the condition of affairs everywhere is satisfactory.

There is some yellow fever at Lima. Owing to the presence of German ships in the ports of Peru and the expected arrival of French cruisers, President Balta has issued a neutrality proclamation.

A New Line of Steamers

has been established between Buenos Ayres, Valparaiso, and Callao. The cattle disease is prevalent in Chili, Peru, etc.

French Cruisers

had captured some German vessels near Valparaiso. The troubles with Indians had ceased in Chili.

Mining News.

The new mines at Caracales are ascertained to be fabulously rich, and preparations are being made to work them.

Bolivia was Quiet.

Congress had adjourned. New railroads were in course of construction. On the 28th of October was commemorated at Callao the

Great Earthquake

and wave which destroyed the city in 1746. The image of the Saviour which was carried was the same used by the survivors of that catastrophe.

FROM THE WEST.

Fire in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—The loss in Mitchell's building, which was burned yesterday, is about $25,000, insured as follows:—Independent of Boston, $5000; Ætna of Hartford, $5000; Springfield of Springfield, $5000; Astor of New York, $5000; Germania of New York, $5000. The loss of the St. Louis Printing Company is $8000, and the losses of John S. Thompson and other occupants of the building will swell the amount to $40,000. The *Times* office, adjoining on the south, was slightly damaged.

Gored to Death.

Henry Keyer was gored to death by a wild Texan steer yesterday afternoon, while the animal was being driven through the streets.

Case of Criminal Neglect.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 26.—The Coroner's jury in the case of Mrs. Hesing, who was killed by the caving in of a well, returned a verdict yesterday, in which the death of the woman is attributed to the criminal neglect of Edward Lopp.

FROM BALTIMORE.

Arrival of the Steamer Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 26.—The steamship Baltimore, from Bremen November 9, arrived at her wharf this morning. Captain Voeckler reports that in the North Sea he passed through a fleet of fourteen sail of French men-of-war. One gave chase and pursued the Baltimore for several hours, but the latter being the fastest vessel, soon left the Frenchman far astern. The Baltimore came ound the north coast of Scotland.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

EVENING TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
Saturday, Nov. 26, 1870.

There is the usual demand for money to-day, both on business and speculative account, but the bulk of the loans appear to be connected with active operations at the Stock Board. Both at the banks and on the street we notice a disposition to enlarge the circle of operations, owing in part to some improvement in the supply of loanable funds, and partly to the return of confidence in the stability of the market.

The political excitement in Europe aroused the fears of lenders of approaching monetary disturbance, and the favorable turn of affairs during the past two or three days has produced a corresponding change of policy. Money to-day is abundant and offered freely on call and discount at rates hitherto current.

Gold is quiet and the tendency of the premium is slightly downward. The sales ranged from 111¾@112, closing at the lower figure.

Government bonds are dull but quite steady at about yesterday's quotations.

At the Stock Board a fair amount of business was transacted at full prices. Sales of City 6s, new bonds, at 102¾ and Lehigh gold loan at 89¼.

Reading Railroad was quiet, with sales at 51 b. o. Pennsylvania advanced, selling at 59⅜@59½. Camden and Amboy changed hands at 115, Lehigh Valley at 59⅛, and Oil Creek and Alleghany at 46. 37⅝ b. o. was bid for Catawissa preferred, and 26½ for Philadelphia and Erie.

In Canal shares there were sales of Lehigh at 32½@32⅝, the latter b. o., and Morris at 28.

The balance of the list was steady but quiet. Sales of Manufacturers' Bank at 30¼; and Mechanics' at 31½. Second and Third Streets Railway at 55, and Central Transportation at 50.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES.
Reported by De Haven & Bro., No. 40 S. Third street.

FIRST BOARD.

$5800 City 6s N. ls.	102¾	40 sh Read...s5wn.	51
$100 Cam & 6s '83.c	92¼	2090 do.....b60.	51
$300 C & A m 6s,'89	94	200 sh Leh N....b30.	32¼
$2000 do..........	94½	100 do.....b60.	32⅜
$7000 Leh 6s gold l..	89¼	100 sh Leh V R....	59⅛
60 sh C & A R..ls.	115	5 sh Cent Trans...	50
176 sh Penna R..ls.	59⅜	20 sh Manuf Bk...	30¼
499 do......ls.	59⅜	8 sh Mech Bank..	31½
115 do......ls.	59½	28 sh 2d & 3d St..	55
200 sh O C& A R ls.	46	11 sh Mor Cl.s5wn.	28

MESSRS. WILLIAM PAINTER & CO., No. 36 S. Third street, report the following quotations:—U. S. 6s of 1881, 113¾@113½; 5-20s of 1862, 107⅛@107⅝; do. 1864, 106⅞@107; do. 1865, 107@107½; do., July, 1865, 109⅛@109⅜; do., July, 1867, 109⅛@109⅜; do. July, 1868, 109⅛@109¼; 5s, 10-40, 106⅛@106⅝; U. S. Pacific RR. Cy. 6s, 110¼@111. Gold, 111⅞@111⅞. Market steady.

MESSRS. DE HAVEN & BROTHER, No. 40 S. Third street, Philadelphia, report the following quotations:—U. S. 6s of 1881, 113½@113¾; do. 1862, 107⅜@107⅝; do. 1864, 106⅞@107; do. 1865, 106⅞@107⅛; do. 1865, new, 109@109¼; do. 1867, do. 109⅛@109⅜; do. 1868, do. 109⅛@109¼; 10-40s, 106⅜@106⅝. U. S. 30 Year 6 per cent. Currency, 110¾@111; Gold, 111¾@112; Silver, 105@107; Union Pacific Railroad 1st Mort. Bonds, 810@820; Central Pacific Railroad, 900@910; Union Pacific Land Grant Bonds, 710@725.

NARR & LADNER, Brokers, report this morning Gold quotations as follows:—

10·00 A. M...........	112	11·10 A. M..........	111⅞
10·10 "	111⅞	11·13 "	111¾
10·11 "	112	11·40 "	111⅞
10·35 "	111⅞	12·00 M............	111¾
11·00 "	111¾	12·23 P. M.........	111⅞

Philadelphia Trade Report.

SATURDAY, Nov. 26.—Bark—In the absence of sales we quote No. 1 Quercitron at $26 ₩ ton for common brands.

Seeds—Cloverseed is in demand, and 2@300 bushels sold at $6·25@6·40. Timothy may be quoted at $4·75. Flaxseed cannot be quoted at over $2.

The Flour market is quiet at yesterday's quotations. The demand is confined to the wants of the home consumers, whose purchases foot up 700 barrels, including superfine at $4·50@4·75; extras at $5@5·50; Iowa and Wisconsin extra family at $5·75@6·25; Minnesota do. do. at $6·25@6·50; Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio do. do. at $6·25@7; 800 bushels Ohio and 800 bushels Quaker City Mills sold on private terms. Rye Flour may be quoted at $5@5·12½. In Corn Meal no sales were reported.

The demand for Wheat is quite limited; prices, however, remain without change. Sales of 2000 bushels at $1·40@143 for Indiana red; $1·25@1·30 for Delaware do.; and $1·60 for white. Rye is steady at 93c. for Western and Pennsylvania. Corn is in firm request at former rates. Sales of 5000 bushels at 88@90c. for old yellow; 78@80c. for new yellow and Western mixed; and 75c. for new white. Oats are dull at 53@55c. for Pennsylvania and Western.

In Barley and Malt nothing doing.

Whisky is firm at 90@91c. for Western iron-bound.

New York Money and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—Stocks steady. Money 4@5 per cent. Gold, 110¾. 5-20s, 1862, coupon, 107¼; do. 1864, do., 106⅞; do. 1865, do. 107; do. 1865, new, 109¼; do. 1867, 109¼; do. 1868, 109⅝; 10-40s, 106½; Virginia 6s, new, 63; Missouri 6s, 91¾; Canton Co., 67; Cumberland preferred, 30; N. Y. Central and Hudson River, 92⅞; Erie, 24¼; Reading, 101¾; Adams Express Co., 64¾; Michigan Central, 120¾; Michigan Southern, 93⅜; Illinois Central, 135; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 106¼; Chicago and Rock Island, 111¾; Pittsburg and Fort Wayne, 94; Western Union Telegraph, 43¾.

LATEST SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

For additional Marine News see Inside Pages.

(By Telegraph.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—Arrived, steamship Australia, from Glasgow.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.......NOVEMBER 26

STATE OF THERMOMETER AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

7 A. M.........44 | 11 A. M.......47 | 2 P. M.......52

CLEARED THIS MORNING.

Steamship Whirlwind, Sherman, Providence, D. S. Stetson & Co.
Steamer Panther, Mills, Washington, D. C., J. C. Scott & Sons.
Steamer Tacony, Nichols, New York, W. M. Baird & Co.
Schr Thos. Clyde, Cain, Boston, J. C. Scott & Sons.
Schr Jennie N. Huddell, Cramer, Key West, do.
Schr Trade Wind, Corson, Savannah, do.

ARRIVED THIS MORNING.

Steamship Yazoo, Catharine, from New Orleans via Havana, 4 days and 7 hours, with mdse. to Philadelphia and Southern Mail Steamship Co.
Steamship Empire, Holmes, 60 hours from Charleston, S. C., with mdse. to Souder & Adams.
Steamship Aries, Wiley, 48 hours from Boston, with mdse. to H. Winsor & Co.
Steamer R. Willing, Cundiff, 13 hours from Baltimore, with mdse. and passengers to A. Groves, Jr.
Schr Mary and Frances, McCandless, from Richmond, Va., with paving-stone to Richmond Granite Company.
Schr D. C. Genther, Bryan, from Rappahannock, with spokes to Collins & Co.
Schr Chas. McShain, McShain, fm Richmond, Va.

ASHORE.

A despatch to the underwriters says:—Br. bark Elgin, from London for Philadelphia, went ashore last night on Cape Henlopen. Messrs. E. J. Morris & Co. have contracted to get her off.

MEMORANDA.

Br. steamers City of Brooklyn, Brooks, and Rainton, Reed, for Liverpool; and Anglia, Craig, for Glasgow, cleared at New York yesterday.
Steamers Virginia, Bristol, S. F. Phelps, Fannie, and Venus, all for Philadelphia, cleared at New York yesterday.
Steamers Java, Cook, and Palmyra, from New York for Liverpool, arrived at Queenstown yesterday, and proceeded.
Steamer Saxon, Boggs, hence, at Boston yesterday.
Steamer City of Galveston, Eldridge, from New York, at Galveston 23d inst.
Steamer Gen. Sedgwick, Nichols, for New York, sailed from Galveston 23d inst.
Steamer De Soto, Morton, from New York, at New Orleans 19th inst.
Steamer St. Louis, Whitehead, from New York, at New Orleans 21st inst.
Steamer Zodiac, Harksen, for New York, sailed from Savannah 22d inst.
Schr Westmoreland, Wright, hence for Fairhaven, at New York yesterday.
Schrs Louisa F. Smith, Creed, from Boston; M. V. Cook, Falkenburg, from New Bedford; Emma Graham, Smith, from Fall River; and M. D. Cranmer, Cranmer, fm Providence, all for Philadelphia, passed Hell Gate yesterday.
Schr Jennie T. Wylley, Wylley, hence, at Savannah 22d inst.

THE FIRE QUESTION.

The Volunteer System.

How it Originated—Extinguishing Fires in the Early Days of the City.

Its Present Extent.

The Companies Composing the Department, their Organization and Present Strength.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

The public is considerably concerned as to th fate of the effort which is being now made to revolutionize the present system of extinguishing fires in this city. Many attempts to this end have been made in recent years, but all have failed for the want of the support of a majority of the members of Councils, who argued that, in addition to the expensive nature of the change, the citizens did not demand it. Latterly, public sentiment has grown so strong over the misbehavior of those who run to fires, the unnecessary damage inflicted upon burning buildings by the flooding of water consequent upon so many companies being in service, and the number of incendiary fires started by rival companies, that a movement has at last been put on foot which promises a radical change. The bill introduced into Councils several days ago for a Paid Department has met with such decided favor in the community that there is scarcely a doubt that it will pass, unless the opposition succeed by parliamentary tactics in delaying final action until after the expiration of the term of the Councils now in power.

Our Early Fire System.

In connection with the proposed change in our system of extinguishing fires, that in vogue in the early days of the city becomes interesting. Watson, in his "Annals of Philadelphia," devotes an interesting chapter to the subject, from which we glean the following facts:—

In 1683 William Penn spoke of a fire in the city, by which the newly-arrived Germans were sufferers, and proposed a subscription for their relief.

Samuel Preston, the Mayor, in 1711 sent a message to the Board of Council, in which he says that he "has frequently had in consideration the many providences this city has met with, in that fires, that have so often happened, have done so little damage." He thought that it was the duty of citizens to use all possible means to prevent and extinguish fires in the future by providing buckets, hooks, engines, etc. The Board of Council considered the message and decided that "such instruments should be provided." The manner of providing them was referred to the next Council. Fire engines were then but a new thing in England itself, being only invented in 1663. The action of the board shows that the colonies were not long in adopting new inventions, and that the subject of providing protection against fires was considered in a very early day.

It seems that the apparatus was then immediately ordered, for in 1724 we find the Grand Jury recommending that the fire engine should be repaired and that the city ladders and buckets should be kept in order.

The custom at fires then and until a much more recent date was for the citizens to form in lines, one line to pass full buckets of water and the other to return empty ones. The water was taken from the most convenient source of supply, and was passed not to the fire, but to the engine, which then pumped it upon the fire. The engine was pumped by hand and at first discharged the water through a stationary nozzle on the top. Later a flexible hose and pipe were added, and still later a supply hose, to do away with the lines of people. At large fires it was customary for both men and women to help in these lines, the men passing the full buckets and the women the empty ones. The water was poured into a receptacle in the engine, from which it was sucked by the pump. If the water did not come fast enough to meet the requirements of the pump, the cry was raised by those nearest the engine, "Pass on the water!" when the buckets would have to be handled more lively. Great numbers of people would thus necessarily have to work to subdue a fire. The working of the engines alone required a number of men, and these would have to be relieved by fresh men at intervals. The system of hand engines supplied by buckets is still in vogue in many country towns.

In 1730 a fire broke out in a store near what was known as Mr. Fishbourne's wharf. This consumed all the stores there, damaged several houses on that side of the street, then crossed over and destroyed the fine house of Jonathan Dickinson and two others toward Walnut street. The total loss was about £5000. The locality of the fire was for twenty years afterwards called Dickinson's burnt buildings. The site was afterwards that of the Ross buildings in Front street, east side, south of Walnut. This fire proved that the Fire Department was not in a very effective condition, and a subscription was immediately started to supply the town with everything necessary for the extinguishing of fires. In the language of the subscription paper relating to the Dickinson fire, "it was then thought that if the people had had good engines the fire might have been put down." This was one of the greatest fires which took place during that epoch of the city's history.

In the same year the City Councils procured a more complete set of apparatus. In their minutes we find that "Thomas Oldman produced a leather fire bucket as a sample, whereupon they agreed to pay him nine shillings apiece

[Continued on the Second Page.]