THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-FHILADELPHIA, MONDAY. DECEMBER 5, 1870.

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country through which a navigable fiver passes have a natural right to enjoy the may gation of that river to and into the sea, even though passing through the territories of another power. This right does not exclude the coequal right of the sovereign possessing the territory through which the river debouches into the sea to make such regulations relative to the police of the navigation as may be reasonably precessary. but those regulations as may be reasonably necessary : but those regula-tions should be framed in a liberal spirit of comity, and should not impose needless burdens upon the commerce which has the right of transit. It has commerce which has the right of trainit. It has been found in practice more advantageous to ar-range these regulations by mutual agreement. The United States are ready to make any reasonable arrangement as to the police of the St. Lawrence, which may be suggedted by Great Britain. If the claim made by Mr. Clay was just when the popula-tion of States bendering on the before which tion of States bordering on the lakes was only 3,400,000, it now derives greater force and equity from the increased population, weath, production and tonnage of the States on the Canadian frontier. Since Mr. Clay advanced his ar-gument in behalt of our right, the principle for which he contended has been frequently and by various nations, recognized by law or by treaty, and has been extended to several other great rivers. By the treaty concluded at Mayence, in rivers. By the treaty concluded at Mayence, in 1830, the river was declared free from the point where it is first navigable into the sea. By the convention between Spain and Portugal, con-cluded in 1855, the navigation of the Datro throughout its whole extent, was made free for the subjects of both crowns. In 1853 the Argentine Confederation by treaty, threw open the free navigation of the Parana and the university to the merchant was dealer of all estimates

In 1853 the Argentine Confederation by treaty, threw open the free navigation of the Parana and Uruguay to the merchant vessels of all nations. In 1856 the Crimean war was closed by a treaty, which provided for the free navigation of the Danube. In 1858 Bolivia, by treaty, declared that it regarded the rivers Amazon and La Piata, in accordance with fixed principles of national law, as highways or channels, opened by hature for the connerce of all nations. In 1850 the Paragary wa made free by treaty, and in December, 1856, th Emperor of Brazil, by Imperial decree, declared the Amazon to be open to the frontier of Brazil to the merchant ships of all nations. The greatest living British authority on this subject, while as serting the abstract right of the British claim says "it seems difficult to deny, first, that in so doing she exercises harshly an extreme and hard law secondly, that her conduct with respect to the navigation of the St. Lawrence is in glaring and discreditable meansistency with her conduct with respect to the anyigation of the Missispip. On the ground that she possessed a small domain in which the Mississippi took its rise, she invised on the right to navigate the entire volume of its waters; on the ground that she possesses both banks of the right to navigate the entire volume of its waters; on the ground that she possesses both banks of the St. Lawrence where it disembogues itself into the sea, she denies to the United States the right of navigation through about one-half of the waters of Lakes Ontario, Erie, Hudson and Superior, and the whole of Lake Michigan, through which the river flows, are the property of the United

The whole nation is interested in securing cheap. transportation from the agricultural States of the West to the Atlantic scaboard. To the entizens of those States it secures a greater return for their labor. To the inhabitants of the seaboard it affords cheaper food: to the nation an increase in the annual surplus of wealth. It is to be hoped that the Government of Great Britain will see the justice of abandoning the narrow and inconsistent claim to which her Canadian Provinces have anged her adherence. Our depressed commerce is a subject to which I called your special atten-tion at the last session, and suggested that we will in the future have to look more to the countries south of us, and to China and Japan for its revival. Our representatives to all these governments have exerted their influence to encourage trade be-tween the United States and the countries to

which they are accredited. But the fact exists that the carrying is done al-most entirely in foreign bottoms, and while this state of affairs exists we cannot control our due share of the commerce of the world. That between the Pacific States and China and Japan is about all the carrying trade now conducted in American

Vessels. I would recommend a liberal policy toward that line of American steamers, one that will insure its success and even increased usefulness. The cost of building iron vessels, the only ones that can compete with foreign ships in the carrying trade, is so much greater in the United States than in countries, that without some assistance from the government they cannot be successfully built here. There will be several propositions laid before Congress in the course of

pariment building is an old structure, not fre-prosf, and entirely inadequate in dimensions to dat pre-sent wants. Many incusands of dolars are now paid ansually for rent of private buildings to accommodate various burdans of the Department. I recommend an sppropriation for a new War Department build-ing suited to the present and growing wants of the mation. The report of the Secretary of War shows a very satisfactory reduction in the expenses of the army for the last facal year. For dealis, year are referred to his accompanying report. The expenses of the Navy for the whole of the last year, i. e. from December 1, 1869, the date of the last re-port—are less than \$19,000,000, or shout \$1,000,000 less than they were the previous year. The ex-penses since the commencement of this fiscal year-i. a. since July 1—show for the fire months a de-crease of over \$2,400,000 from those of the corres-ponding months of hist year. The estimates for the current year are \$20,633,317, with \$255,100 additional for neccessary and permanent improve-

those for next year are \$20,653,517, with \$35,100 additional for necessary and permanent improve-ments. These estimates are made closely for the mere maintenance of the navai establishment, as it now is without much in the nature of permänent improvement. The spropriations made for the last and current years were evidently intended by Congress, and are sufficient, only to keep the navy on its present fooding by the repairing and refitting of our old ships. This policy must of course gradually but surely destroy the navy, and it is in itself for from econonical, as each year that it is pursued, the ne-cessity for new repairs in ships and navy yards pe-comes more imperative and more costly, and our current expenses are anonally increased for the mere repair of ships, many of which must soon be-

mere repair of ships, many of which must soon be-come unsafe and useless. I hope during the present session of Congress to be able to submit to it a plan by which naval vessels can be built and repairs made, with great saving can be built and repairs made, with great saving upon the present cost. It can hardly be wise states-manship in a government which represents a coun-try with over live thousand miles of const-lines on both oceans, exclusive of Alaska, and contaning forty millions of progressive people, with relations of every nature with almost every foreign country, to rest with such inadequate means of enforcing any foreign policy, either of protection or refress. Separated by the ocean from the nations of the Eastern continent, our navy is our only means of direct protection to our clitzens abroad, or for the enforcement of any foreign policy. The accompanying report of the Postmaster-Gene-ral shows a most satisfactory working of that de-pariment. With the adoption of the recommenda-tions contained therein, particularly those relating

partment. With the adoption of the recommenda-tions contained therein, particularly those relating to a reform in the franking privilege and the adop-tion of the correspondence cards, a s-if-sustaining postal system may speedily be looked for, and at no distant day a further reduction of the rate of postage be stained. I recommend authorization by Congress to the Postmaster-General and Attor-ney-General to issue all commissions to efficiels ap-nointed through their respective departments. At

ney-General to issue all commissions to efficials ap-pointed through their respective departments. At present these commissions, where appoint nonts are Presidential, are issued by the Sate Department. The law in all the departments of Gov-ernment, except those of the Post Office and of Justice, authorized each to issue its own commissions. Always favoring practical reforms, I respectfully call your attention to one abuse of long standing which I would like to to see remedied by this Congress. It is a reform in the civil service of the country. I would have it go beyond the mere fixing of the tenure of office of clerks and employes who do not require clerks and employes who do not require ', the advice and consent of the Senate," To make their appointments complete I would have it govern not the tenure but the manner of making all ap-pointments. There is no duty which so much embarrasses the Executive and heads of departments nor is there any such arduous and thank-less labor imposed on Senators and Representatives, less labor imposed on Senators and Representatives, as that of finding places for constituents. The pres-ent system does not secure the best men, and often not even fit men for public place. The elevation and purification of the civil service of the Govern-ment will be halled with approval by the waole people of the United States. Reform in the management of Indian afters has received the special attention of the adminis-tration from its inauguration to the present day. The experiment of making its missionary work was tried with a few agencies given to the denomination tried with a few agencies given to the denomination of Friends, and has been found to work most ad-vantageously. All agencies and superintendents not so disposed of were given to officers of the army. The act of Cengress reducing the army renders army officers ineligible for civil positions. Indian agencies being civil officer, i deemed it my duty to give all the agencies to such religious denominations as had heretofore esta-blished missionaries among the Indians, and per-

haps to some other denominations who would undertake the work on the same terms-*i.e.* as a missionary work.

of its expenditures. The work of the Census Burean has been energe-tically presected. The preliminary report, con-taining much information of special value and inta-rest, will be ready for delivery during the present session.

The remaining volumes willbe completed with all The remaining volumes willbe completed with all the despatch consistent with perfect accuracy in arranging and classifying the returns. We shall thus at no distant day be furnished with an authentic record of our condition and resources. It will, I doubt not, attest the growing prosperity of the country, atthough during the decade which has just closed it was so severely tried by the great war waged to maintain its integrity, and to secure and perpetuate our free institutions. During the last fiscal year the sum paid to pensioners, including the cost of disburse-ment, was \$27,780,811 11, and 1765 bounty land war-rants were issued at its close; 193,686 names were on ment, was \$27,780,911 11, and 1755 bounty land war-rants were insued at its close; 195,686 names were on the pension rolls. The labors of the Pension Office have been directed to the severe scrutiny of the evidence submitted in favor of new claims, and to the discovery of fictitious claims which have been heretofore allowed. The appra-priation for the employment of special agents for the investigation of frauds has been judiciously used, and the results obtained have been of unquestion-able benefit to the service. The subjects of educa-tion and agriculture are of great interest to the suc-cess of our republican institutions, happiness and grandeur as a nation. In the interest of one a bureau has been established in the Interior Depari-ment the Bureau of Education; and is the interest of the other a separate department, that of agriculment the Bureau of Education; and in the interest of the other a separate department, that of agricul-ture. I believe great general good is to flow from the operations of both these bureaus, if properly fostered I cannot commend to your careful conside-ration too highly the reports of the Commissioners of Ecucation and of Agriculture, nor urge too strongly such liberal legislation as to secure their efficiency. In conclusion I would sum up the policy of the admin-istration to be a thorough enforcement of every law conclusion I would sum up the policy of the admin-istration to be a thorough enforcement of every law, a faithful collection of every tax provided for, econo-my in the disbursement of the same, prompt pay-ment of every debt of the nation, a reduction of taxes as rapidly as the requirements of the country will admit. Reductions of taxation and tariff to be so stranged as to afford the relief to the greatest num-her; buyet and fair designs with all other machine ber; honest and fair dealings with all other people; to the end that war, with all its blighting conse-quences, may be avolated; but without surreadering any right or obligation due to us. A reform in our treatment of the Indians, and in the whole civil service of the country; and finally, in secaring a pure, untrammelled ballot, that every may entitled to yete may do so just once at each election, without fear of molestation or proscription on account of his political faith, color, or nativity. U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 5, 1870.

CONGRESS.

FORTY-FIRST TERM - THIRD SESSION.

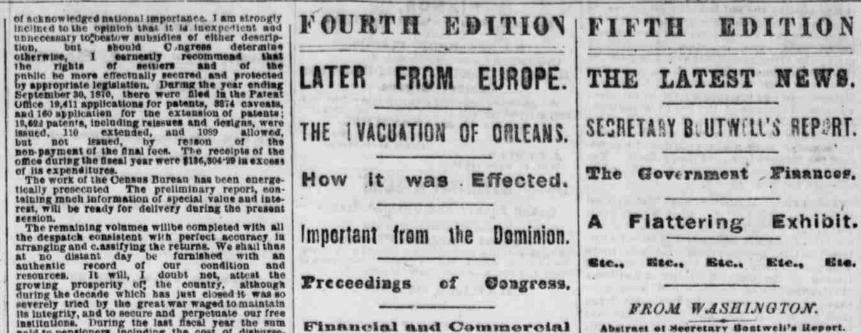
Senate.

Continued from Second Edition. WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 .- By Ar. Williams, bills explaratory of the act admitting the State of Oregon into the Union, and amendatory of the organic act

of the Territory of Idaho. By Mr. Pratt, to provide for the appointment of Clerks of Circuit and District Courts of the District of indiana, and to define their powers and dulles. By Mr. Keilogg, for the removal of political dis-

abilities By Mr. Casserly, for the repeal of all laws for the

By Mr. Sumner, bill to terminate the fabrication of United States notes, fractional currence, to strengthen the reserves of the national banks, and to provide the return to specie payments. The bill provides that the fabrication of United States notes shall cease immediately to pay out or reissue asy fractional currency of denominations less than twenty-ave cents, after June 30, or denominations of 25 cents after September 30; or of 50 cents after December 31, 1871, at which dates all fractional currency in the Freasury shall be cancelled and destroyed. Section 3 pro-vides that the Treasurer of the United States shall retain the interest upon all bands held by hi as as security for the circulation of any bank, and issue therefor special gold certificates of deposit without interest which may be held by the respective banks in whose favor they are issued as part of their legal reserves until the resumption of specie payment. Section 4 requires that when a national bank withdraws its bonds held as security for circulation, all substitute bonds shall be four per shall be cancelled and destroyed. Section 3 pr national cank withdraws its bonds held as security for circulation, all substitute bonds shall be four per cent. bonds authorized by act of July 14, 1876. The remaining sections require the withdrawal of all bonds bringing other than coin interest, and the substitution in their place of coin interest, and the bonds within sixty days, and increase the amounts of five per cent, and four and a bail per cent, bonds authorized by act of July 14, 1870, to five hundred millions of each class. millions of each class. Mr. Cole introduced bills as follows :- To abolish carriage charges in the mints: to amend the act of July 14, 1870, by repealing sections which lowered the duty on brandy and prepared oplum; also a joint resolution defining the rights of set lers upon the public lands, and joint resolution relating to gold notes and United States notes. The later provides that after June 30, 1871, such notes shall be receivable at their face value for duties on imports.



Etc., Etc., Stc., Etc.

FROM EUROPE.

How De Paladines' Army Left Orleans. Touns, Dec. 5 .- An official communication announces that General, D'Aarelles, on the night of December 3, advised the Government of the necessity of evacuating Orleans and retreating to the left bank of the Loire. The Government, however, was of opinion that it would be better to hold firm at Orleans, but General D'Aurelles reiterating his views of the necessity for a retreat. The Government decided to act accordingly, but at noon on the 4th of December General de Paladines telegraphed to the Government that he had changed his opinion and would hold Orleans. Thereupon Gambetta started to go to Orleans, but when near La Chapelle his train was fired upon by the Prussian eavalry and Gambetta returned to Tours, where he found a despatch from General Pelliere, announcing that the enemy had demanded the evacuation of Orleans under threat that they would bombard the place, and that Pelliere had agreed, in the name of General D'A. Palladines, to comply with the demand. Accordingly the marine batteries were spiked, the powder destroyed, and at midnight the Prussians occupled Orleans. Despatches from the chief of the Corps d'Armee announces that the retreat was made in good order, but no despatches have been received from General Paladines.

Sharp Fighting by the Garibaldians. LYONS, Dec. 4.-There was sharp fighting all

ful, and are following up their advantage with

The Spanish Crown.

FLORENCE, Dec. 4 .- The Dake of Aosta has

formally accepted the crown of Spain, tendered

to him by a deputation from the Government,

the Regency, and National Cortez.

activity and spirit.

day yesterday, between Autun and Arnay-le-Due, tetween a portion of Garibaidi's command and the Prussians. The Garibaldians were success-

collection of an income tax or any tax of that

A Flattering Exhibit. Btc., Btc., Etc., Etc. FROM WASHINGTON. Abstract of Secretary Boatwell's Report.

Abstract of Secretary Boatwell's Report. Density is the Associated Pres. Washington, Dec. 5. —The Secretary of the Trea-mary states that the Bhancial condition has improved principles and the Bhancial Condition has a surplus principle to the payment of the present year, \$115,101,450; state receipts for the remaining three-quarters principles and the same period were \$203,-to the first quarter of the same period were \$203,-to the the proble debt, including, however, the state of the proble debt, including, however, the state year, the Secretary has included \$21,500,000, the required also the sum of \$4,555,913, being the principle also the sum of \$4,555,914, being the

ment. The Secretary estimates the recelpts for the year ending June 12 at \$320,418,000; the expenditures, \$269,653,519; according to which there will be a sur-plus applicable to the payment of the principal of the public debt, in addition to payments made on that account through the sinking fund, of \$10,778,650. An analysis of the expenditures develops facts tending to sustain the opinion that the balance will be coa-identity leaves, then means from the forgeting ment. siderably larger than appears from the foregoing estimates.

It may reasonably be anticipated that the total re-duction of the public debt during the next fiscal duction of the public debt during the next liscal year, including payments on account of sinking fund, will be about \$50,000,000. The war in Europe has rendered it impracticable to refund the national debt, as authorized by the act approved July 14, 1870. A portion of the paper has been manifactured, and the preparation of plates has been so far advanced that whenever a favorable opportunity arises the loan may be offered and the bonds delivered without delay. Incommend as the war in Europe and consedelay. Inassuch as the war in Europe, and conse-quent demand for money, make it doubtfal whether the four and four and a balf per cent. bonds will be taken, it seems to me wise to author-ize the issue of three hundred millions additional bonds, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent. The interest can be paid quarterly without iscon-venience, and the Secretary therefore respectfully

recommends that the loan act be so modified that the payment of interest may be quarterly instead of semi-annually. Should these recommendations be approved by Congress, it is of great importance that approved by Congress, it is of great importance that an act authorizing the changes be passed without delay. Complaints are made that hational bank bills are worn to such an extent as to be no longer fit for circulation, and at no more new banks are to be organized, the Secretary recommends that an appropriation be made, and authority be given for the issue of new bills upon such paper and in such form as may be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury. The Secretary asks the attention of Congress to a bill prepared in the department, and submitted at the last session, relative to the minus and the coinage system of the country. He states with re-gard to the question of the revival of American commerce that, without undertaking to specify Graaville and Gortschakeff. LONDON, Dec. 5.-Earl Granville's reply to Prince Gortschakoff's last letter is published.

Feck, Van Tiump, Mergao, Weiker, Moore, Eingham, Ambier, Urson, and Garfield; from Kentocky, Winchester and Jones; from Tennessee, Stokes, Tillman, Prosser, Harkins, and Smith; from Indiana, Nibiack, Julian, Cobarn, Orth, Typer, Shanks, Williams, and Peckard; from Itimols, Kidd, Paras-worth, Burchard, Hawley, Ingersoll, Cook, Callom, McGreely, Burc, Hay, Crebs, and Logan; from Missouri, Mils, Finkeinburg, Boyd, Bardett, Yan Hors, and Asper; from Arkanss, none; from Missouri, Mils, Finkeinburg, Boyd, Bardett, Yan Hors, and Asper; from Arkanss, none; from Missouri, Mils, Finkeinburg, Boyd, Bardett, Yan Hors, and Asper; from Arkanss, none; from Missouri, Mils, Finkeinburg, Boyd, Bardett, Yan Hors, Acama, Stoughton, Blair, Terry, Conger, and Strickind; frem Florida, Hamilton; from Fexas, Whittemore, Conner, Clark, and Degener; from Iows, McCreary, Allison, Loughrdze, Palmer, and Pomeroy; from Wisconsin, Praine, Atwood, Cobb, Eldridge, Sawyer, and Washburn; from Minne-rons, Axteil, Sargent, and Johason; from Minne-rons, Wikinson and Wilson; from Oregon, Smith; from Kanssa, Clarke; from West Virginia, McGrew, and Witcher; frem Nevada, Fitch; from Natoraska, The member answered to their names. Er-cosca were mide for Mesars Kerr, of Indians, and Callins, of New York, detained at home by severe inter.

Califins, of New York, detailed at none of sever illness. On motion of Mr. Schenck a committee was ap-pointed to join a like committee on the part of the Scates and inform him that Congress was in seasion and ready to receive any communication he might deem proper to make. Mesars. Schenck, Allison, and Foller were appointed such committee on the part of the Honse. I. H. Synher was sworn in as member from the

J. H. Sypher was sworn in as member from the First district of Louisiana; Joseph Dixon, from the Second district of North Carolina; R. S. W. Dake, after an unsuccessful effort on the part of Mesars. Schenck and Platt to have his credentials referred

Schenck and Flatt to have his credentials referred to the Committee of Elections, was called upon to take the oath as member from the Fifth district of Virginia, but was not present. The Hense then, at 1 o'clock, took a recess till 145, awaiting the reception of the President's message. The recess having expired, Mr. Duke, member elect from Virginia, presented himself and took the ceth of collice oath of office.

The President's message to Congress was then delivered, and Mr. Pherson, the Clerk of the House, proceeded to read it.

proceeded to read if. The Message was ordered to be printed. The Treasury report was then ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means. A bill to supply an omission in the last Indian appro-priation bill was reported by Mr. Dawes and passed, and the House then at taree o'clock adjourned.

Scenes at the Opening of Congress. Special Despatch to The Evening Telegraph. WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—There was nothing of an unwaual or exciting character about the opening proceedings of the session to-day. The attendance of Senators and members was very fall, and every budy series and members was very fall, and every biologistics and memours was very fan, and every body scenned ready for business. There was the neual hand-shaking and greeting in both houses. Members who are re-elected congratulated each other on their good fortune, while those who were defeated in the recent canvass condoled with their

defeated in the recent canvass condoled with their fellows who met a similar fate. On all sides there was the utmost good feeling. In the Senate Carl Schurz seemed to be the lion of the hour, being warmly welcomed by both Repub-licans and Democrats. In the House Schenek was an object of much attention. Public carlosity was stoused about the successor to Whittemore, of south Carolina. Everybody asked "Where is the negro?" But he did not prevent himself. The raileries of both houses were of course crowded by ladies and gentlemen anxious to witaess the opening proceedings and hear the President's Message. The House was called to order promptily as none, and the Clerk proceeded to call the roll to ascertain if a quorum was present. The noise and

at noon, and the Clerk proceeded to call the roll to ascertain if a quorum was present. The noise and confusion were so great that he could not hear the responses, and the Spesker was compelled to stop frequently and demand order. The indications are, judging from the chairmen of the several leading committees, that nothing will be done to-day or for some days, excent perhaps the introduction of appropriation bills. Mr. Dawes says he will bring in one or two bills at once, so as to get under way before the holidays. It is understood that General Butler has prepared several important bills, which he will throw upon the House soon, carrying out the ideas contained in his late war speech.

CITY INTELLIGENCE. REAL ESTATE.

Properties Sold by the Sheriff.

The monthly sale of properties by Sheriff Lyle was held on Saturday last, and was largely attended. Among other properties disposed of were the follow-ing, for the prices respectively named:— Dwelling and lot of ground, situate on the west side of Fifth street, at the distance of seveny-seven feet north from Prime, containing in front 16 feet

the present session looking to a remedy for this evil, even if it should be at some cost to the na-tional Treasury. I hope such encouragement will

tional Treasury. I hope such encouragement will be given as will secure American shipping on the high seas and American shipbuilding at home. The condition of the archives at the Departments of State calls for the early action of Congless. The building now rented by that department is a frail structure, at an inconvenient distance from the Executive Mausion, and from the other de-martments. It ill advantat ta murray for which partments. It is ill adapted to purposes for which it is used; has not capacity to accommodate the archives, and is not fire-proof. Its remote situation, its slender construction, and the absence of a supply of water in the neigh-

borhood, leaves but little hope of safety for either the building or its contents in case of the accident of a fire. Its destruction would involve the loss of the rolls containing the original acts and reso-lutions of Congress, of the historic records of the revolution, and of the confederation of the whole series of diplomatic and consular archives since the adoption of the Constitution, and of the many other valuable records and papers left with that department when it was the principal depository of the governmental archives. I recommend an appropriation for the construction of a bailding for the Department of State. I recommend to your consideration the propriety of transferring to the Department of the Interior to which they seem more appropriately belong all powers and duties in relation to the territories with which the De partment of State is now charged by law or usa and from the Interior Department to the Wir De partment, the Pension Bureau, so far as it regu-lates the payment of soldier's pensions, I would further recommend that the payment of naval pensions be transferred to one of the bureaus of the Navy Department. The estimates for the expenses of the government for the next fiscal year are \$18,244,346 01 less than for the current one, but exceed the appropriations for the present year for the same mems \$8,371,127,56. In this estimate, however, is included \$22,348,278,37 for public works heretoforc begun under Congressional pro-visions, and of which only so much is asked as Congress may choose to give. The appropriation for the same works for the present fiscal year was \$11,984,518:08. The average value of gold as compared with national currency for the whole of the year 1869 was about 134, and for eleven mouths of 870 the same relative value has been about 115. The approach to a specie basis is very gratifying, but the fact cannot be denied that the instability of the value of our currency is prejudicial to our prosperity, and tends to keep up prices to the detriment of trade. The evils of a depreciate i detriment of trade. The evils of a depreciate i and fluctuating currency are so great that now, when the premium on gold has fallen so much, it would seem that the time has arrived when by wise and prodent legislation Congress should look to a policy which must place our currency at par with gold at no distant day. The tax collected from the people has been re-duced more than \$20,000,000 per annum. By steadiness in our present course there is no reason why, in a flow short years, the national tax gatherer why, in a few short years, the national tax gatherer may not disappear from the door of the citizen. almost entirely with the revenue stamps dis-bursed by postmasters in every community, a tax upon liquors of all sorts and tobacco in all its upon liquors of all sorts and tobacco in all its forms, and by a wise adjustment of the tariff, which will put a duty only upon those ar-ticles which we could dispense with, known as luxuries, and or, those which we use more of than produce. Revenue enough may be raised after four y-ars of peace and consequent re-inc-tion of indebtedness, to fulfill our obligations. A further reduction of expenses, in addition to a re-duction of indeptedness, to fulfill our obligations. A duction of interest account, may be relied on to make this practicable. Revenue reform, if it means this has my hearty support. If it implies a collection of all the income for the support of the government, for the payment of the principal and interest of the public debt, pensions, &c. by direct-ly taxing the people, then I am against revenue re-form, and confidently believe the people are with me. If it incaus failure to provide the necessary me. If it means this years of the provide the necessary means to defray all the expenses of the government and thereby repadation of the public debt and pea-sions, then I am athis more opposed to such kind of revenue reform. Revenue reform has not been defined by any of its advocates, to my knowledge, but seems to be accepted as something while its to supply every man's wan's without any east or effort on his part. A true revenue reform cannot be made in a day, but must be the work of national legislation and of time. As soon as the revenue can be dispensed with, all duty should be re-moved from coffee, tea, and other articles of ani-versal use not produced by ourselves. The necessities of the country compel us to col-lect revenue from our imports. An army of as-sessors and collectors is not a pleasant signt to the citizen, but that on a tariff for revenue is neces-tary. Such a tariff, so far as it acts as an encou-ragement to home production, afford semployment to labor at living wages in contrast to the parpar-iants.

to labor at living wages in contrast to the paripa-labor of the Old World, and also in the develop

anon of home resources under the act of Congress of the 15th day of July, 1870. The army has gradually been reduced, so that on the first day of January, 1871, the number of com-missioned officers and men will not exceed the pumber contemplated by that law. The War Da-

The societies selected are allowed to name the own agents, subject to the approval of the Executive, and are expected to watch over them and aid them as missionaries to Christianize and civilize the Indians, and to train them in the arts of peace. The Government watches over the official acts of these agents and requires of them as strict an accountability as if they were appointed in any other manner. I entertain the confident hope that the policy now pursued will in a few years bring all the Indians upon reservations, where they will live in houses have school houses and churches, and will be pursuing peaceful and self-sustaining avocations, and where they may be visited by the law-abiding white man with the same impunity that he now visits the civilized white settlements. I call your special attention to the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for full infor-

buring the last fiscal year 8,095,413 scres of public land were disposed of. of this quantity 3,695,910-05 scres were taken under the homestead law, and 2,159,515-51 acres sole for cash. The remainder was located with military warrants, colleges, or Indian scrip, or applied in satisfaction of grants to railroads, or for other par-poses. The catries under the Homestead law during the last year covered 961,545 acres more than those during the preceding year.

Surveys have been vigorously prosecuted to the full extent of the means applicable to the purpose. The quantity of land in market will amply supply the present demand. The claim of the settler under the Homestead or the Pre-emption laws is not, nowever, limited to lands subject to sale at private entry. Any unappropriated surveyed public land may, to a limited amount, be acquired under the former laws, if the party entitled to enter under them will comply with the requirements they pre-

them will comply with the requirements they pre-scribe in regord to residence and cultivation. The actual settler's preference right of purchase is even broader, and extends to lands which were unsurveyed at the time of his settlement. His right was formerly confined within much narrower limits, and at one period of our history was conferred ouly by special statutes. They were enabled from time to time to legalize what was then regarded as an un-authorized intrusion upon the national domain. The opinion that the public lands should be regarded chiefly as a source of revenue is no longer main-tained. The rapid settlement and successful culti-vation of them are now justly considered of more importance to our well-being than is the fand which the sale of them would produce. The remore importance to our well-being than is the fund which the sale of them would produce. The re-markable growth and prosperity of our new States and Territories attest the wisdom of the legislation which invites the tiller of the soil to secure a per-manent home on terms within the reach of all. The pioneer who incurs the dangers and privations of a frontier life and thus aids in laying the foundation of new common-wealths, renders a signal service to his country, and is entitled to its special favor and protection. These laws secure that object, and largely promote the general welfare. They should therefore be chetished as a perm ment feature of our land system. Good faith requires us to give full effect to existing Good faith requires us to give full effect to existing grants. The time-honored and baneficent policy of setting sport certain sections of public land for edu-cational purposes in the new States should be con-tinued. When ample provision shall have been made for these objects i submit as a question worthy of serious consideration, whether the real-due of our national domain should not be wholly disposed public the provision of the homoster disposed of under the provisions of the homestead and preemption laws?

disposed of under the provisions of the homestead and preemption is was? In addition to the swamp and overdowed lands granted to the States in which they are situated the lands taken under the Agricultural College acts and for internal improvement purposes under the act of September, 18st, and the acts supalemental thereto, there had been conveyed up to the close of the last fiscal year, by patent or other equivalent evi-dence of title, to States and corporations 27,836,257 63-100 acres for railways, cuwels, and wagon roads. It is estimates that an additional quantity of 174,-175,528 acres is still due under grants for like uses. The policy of thus adding the States in balid-ing works of internal improvement was inaugurated more than forty years since in the grants to indiana and like entry of the Wabah with those of fake Eric, and the waters of the Himots with those of Lake Michigan. It was fol-lowed with some modifications of the Hillmots Central Railways, routeen States and subdry dor-porations have received similar subsidies, in con-nection with railways completed, or in process of construction. As the reserved sections are rated at the dauble minimum, the sale of the mater and sub-tice and the subsidies in each or the states and with a call ways completed, or in process of construction. As the reserved sections are rated at nection with rallways completed, or in process of construction. As the reserved sections are rated at the dauble minimum, the sale of them at the en-hanced price has thus in many instances indemnified the Treasury for the granten bonds. The construction of some of these thoroughfares has undoubtedly given a vigorous impulse to the development of our re-sources and the setrlement of the more distant per-tions of the country. It may, however, be well in-sisted that much of our legislation in this regard has been characterized by indiscriminate and pro-fuse interative. The United States should not loan their credit in ald of any enterprise undertaken by States or corporations, nor grant interative.

Resolutions were introduced, and temporarily laid

aside, as follows:-By Mr. Fenton, requesting the President to com-municate all the correspondence between the United States Minister at Paris and the Secretary of State since the breaking out of the war between France and Prussis, so far as the same relates to political subjects and matters connecred with said war, as well as to the question of the protection of subjects of the North German Confederation with which the United States Legation in Paris has been charged

Hy Mr. Corbett-For information as to probable cost of improvement of Umpqua and Willamette

rivers, above Oregon city in Oregon. By Mr. Summer-For information concerning the condition and financial management of the colored schools of Washington and Georgetown, D. C., and as to the extent to which the educational needs of the colored population are provided for.

[Constinued in later editions.]

SUNDAY Rows.-Last evening a dozen or so o fellows indulged in a general figni at Fitzenih and Wood streets. Policeman Nichols, of the Eighth district, ran to the spot and succeeded in arresting district, ran to the spot and succeeded in arresting William II. Hunter. This individual proved to be decidedly refractory, and assaulted the policeman. The crowd also took sides with the prisoner, and struck his captor with slones and boards. Nichols heid on to his man and got him to the station, where Alderman Massey gave him a hearing and held him in \$600 for trial. Another row took place about the same time, at Toronty third and Hare structs. Policeman Mas

Twenty-third and Hare streets. Policeman Mc-Grane appeared on the scene, and was immediately set upon and bady beaten. During the meles, McGrane draw his revolver and fired it. This at-tracted the attention of other policemen, who suc-ceeded in arresting George and William H. Balley and George Meore, who were bound over by Alderman Pancoast.

WIDOWED AND CHILDLESS,-Information is wanted WIDOWED AND CHILDLESS.—Information is wanted by Mary Green of her son, John Green, about nice-teen years of age, who was apprenticed to Rees C. Hines, of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, and left him in the spring of 1867, going first to Chambersburg, and finally to Philadelphia, where he is believed to have worked as a machinist. Mrs. Green is a widow, and he her only son. She is nearly blind and very poor, having been compelled to walk over a hun-dred miles before she reached the city, subsisting entirely on charity. Information concerning his whereab.nits should be sent to David Roach, acting High Constable, Central Station.

Maxie Source Central Station. WANTED Source GEESE.—The residents on Cedar street, near the Eighteenth District Station, yester-day noticed some suspicious movements by two young fellows named John Megargee and John Schnidt. They seemed to want to get at some geese which were in one of the yards. The police were notified, and on repairing to the rear of the dweilings found the pair secreted in some weeds. Megargee had a slung-shot and Schmidt had a stone tied in a handkerchief, and a two bushel bag around his body and beneath his clothing. These circum-stances being decidedly suspicious, they were com-mitted by Aderman Nell.

FIRES -Yesterday afternoon a frame stable situ-ated on the Almshouse property, on Darby road, below Thirty-seventh street, was slightly damaged by fire. A few minutes prior to the discovery of the fames three lads were noticed running from the building, and it is supposed that they kindled the fire.

At a few minutes of 2 o'clock this morning an niarm of fire was created by the burning of a shed in the rear of No. 729 Bainbridge street.

THE "STAR" COURSE OF LECTURES.—The second of the supplementary series of the "Star" course of lectures will be delivered to-morrow evening by John G. Saxe, Esq., who will discourse upon "Love." Mr. Saxe is too well known as a humorist to need any special recommendation, and a crowded Louse may be expected to-morrow evening.

It is dated November 29. The British Minister says there is nothing for him to add to his previous appeal to international law. He is aware that suggestions for a congress of powers to settle this and other questions have been made, but not adopted, and he is also aware that in the contingency of the possession of the principalities by Austria, Russia could question the provisions of the treaty of 1856.

He is, however, ignorant of such a purpose, and therefore that question could not be introduced, and he trusts that all obstacles to the continuance of peaceful relations will be removed. If Russia has formed an opinion as to her right, but does not intend to act without consulting the other powers, the controversy is already partially closed.

Earl Granville concludes by accepting Russia's invitation to a conference, but without admitting the foregone conclusion as to the

result. The French Abandon Champigny. VERSAILLES, Dec. 5 .- The French have been

driven from Chevilly, and have abandoned Champigny-sur-Marne. They are now massing near Creteil. The cold is intense. The troops suffer severely.

FROM THE DOMINION.

Slave Marriages.

Blave Marriages. TORONTO, Ontario, Dec. 5.—A case involving the legality of slave marriages in international law was argued before a full court of judges here on Satur-day, the main question turning on thevalidity or other-wise of a marriage celebrated between two slaves some fifty years ago in Virginia, and the legitimacy or illegitimacy of the issue of such marriage. The arguments on both sides were very lengthy, and the court reserved its declsion. The loss by the collision of two freight trains on the Grand Trank Railway on Friday is estimated at over \$200,000. on Friday is estimated at over \$200,000

FROM WASHINGTON.

House Absentees.

Special Despatch to The Roening Te'egraph. WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 .- The following is a list Washinoros, Dec. a. - Ine following is a list of the absentees in the House on call of roll: -Morrill (Me.), Peters, Els, Ames Calkins, Van Wyck, Ward, Hotchkiss, Moore, Haight, Cleveland, Van Anken, Glüllan, Hambleton, Dockery, Lash, Hoge, Buck, Bradley, Hays, Sherwood, Harris, and Rice.

Revenue Reform.

Several propositions have been introduced in the Senate already showing a determination to sholish the income tax, and also in favor of general am-

The House has taken a recess until 2 o'clock.

The Porter Affair. Special Despatch to The Beening Telegraph. WARHINGTON, I ec. 5.—Admiral Porter has written a letter to the President explanatory of the letter recently published in the New York papers. In this letter it is understood Porter admits having written the letter attributed to him just after the capture of the denies and intertion of software the letter attributed to him just after the capture of Fort Fisher. He denies any intention of reffecting upon the President, and says the letter was written in the heat of the moment, and under great excite-ment. The letter will probably be made public to-morrow. It is thought the President will not take any notice of Porter's Fort Fisher letter, and that he will send to the Senate at once Porter's name for the position of Adairal.

New York Money and Stock Manket.

New York Money and Stock Maniet. NEW YORE, Dec. 5.—Stocks steady. Money 6 37 per cent. Gold, 111. 5-208, 1862, coupon, 107%; do. 1964, do., 1063/; do. 1865, do. 1067; do. 1865, new, 1063/; do. 1867, 1093/; do. 1868, 1093/; 10-408, 1063/; Virginia 6s, new, 633/; Miasouri 6s, 923/; Canton Co., 673/; Cumbariand preferred, 80; N. Y. Central and Hudson River, 913/; Erie, 243/; Reading, 1013/; Adams Express Co., 65; Miohi-gan Central, 1903/; Michigan Southern, 923/; Illinois Central, 1843/; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 1043/; Chicago and Rock Island, 1103/; Pittsburg and Fort Wayne, 943/; Western Union Telegraph, 44%.

New York Produce Market.

New York Preduce Market. New York, Dec. 5.—Cotton dull and nominal; sales of 2500 bales uplands at 15% d.; Orleans at 15% c. Flour steady and witaout decided change; sales of 11,000 barrels. Wheat firm; sales of 61,000 bushels new spring at \$1.3664157; red Western at \$1.4563145; white Michigan at \$1.56. Cora heavy and decining; sales of 99,000 bushels new mixed Western at 776379c. Oats quiet; sales of 55,000 bushels Ohio at 64655% c.; Western at 6163620. Beef quiet. Pork steady. Lard quiet, Whisky quiet at 90% c.

merce that. without undertaking to the means by which it is to be accomplished, he cannot oversiste the importance of such legislation as will secure that revival. Me recommends the inas will secure that revival. Me recommends the in-crease of permanent appropriations for collecting the revenue from customs to the sum of \$2,603,000, and also such alteration of the law as will provide for one principal appraiser at each port where there are now two, with equal power. The supervising architect of the Treasury states that the expenditure authorized by law for the con-struction of the part discrete by law for the con-

struction of the post office at New York will be in-adequate, upless the character of the work is changed from the original design. It seems to be due to New York for general and apparent reasons and in consideration of the fact that the most eligible and in consideration of the lack that are most engine site has been secured by the co-operation and, in some degree, at the expense of the city, that the building should not only be a fire-proof structure, but also of such design and workmanship as to rank among the best public buildings of the

The Secretary renews the recommendations for an appropriation for steam revenue cutters, marine hospitals, and transferring David's Island from the War to the Treasury Department, and for a marine hospital. He calls attention to the inadequacy and incompily of the salaries of officers of the Treasury. inequality of the salaries of officers of the Freasury Department. In his annual report of December last he advised the continuance of the existing system of taxation as an essential condition to the success of

the proposed loan. The circumstance that war was declared between France and Prussia simultaneously with the passage of the Loan bill put it out of the power of the de-partment to make the negotiation, as had been expected. The large revenues, however, of the Gov-ernment continuing without material abatement until the present time, the improved credit of the country has enabled the Tressury Department, by weekly purchases, to reduce the amount of surplus bonds offered for sale, and contributed to depreciate

the market value of gold. He also expressed the opinion that the settled policy of the country should contemplate a reveaue sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the Gov-

sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the Gov-ernment, pay interest on the public debt, and from twenty-five to fifty millions of dollars of the principal annually. The reduction of the public debt since the fifth of June last has been so great as to render it certain that the total reduction for the present fiscal year will exceed sixty millions of dollars. He says in conclusion that the financial prospect, al-though highly favorable, is not such as to warrant important changes in the revenue system at the preimportant changes in the revenue system at the pre-

Sent seesion. But should the result during the coming year most his expectations, it will be possible at the December session of the Forly-second Congress to make a very material reduction in the revenues without impair-ing the ability of the Government to make satisfactory payments of the public debt.

Interest on Pacific Railroad Bonds.

Interest on Pricine Railroad Bonds. Despaich to the Associated Press. WAREINGTON, Dec. 5.—Attorney-General Aker-man heard, on Saturday aftraoon, the argument by James H Storra, of New York, counsel of the Central Pacific Hailroad Company, upon the ques-tion of the obligation of the company to pay the interest on the bonds issued by the United States in ald of const acting its railroad. He took the ground that the company is not under any obligation to pay interest on these bonds until their maturity, excent interest on these bonds antii their maturity, except from specific sources of revenue expressiv set aside for that purpose, and asserted that the United States will be a great gainer, not only by saving in freights and in carrying the mails, but in the enhanced value of public lands and in the increase of taxable momenty. That is the sheat of but in the enhanced value of public lands and in the increase of taxable property. That by the act of 1864, amending the act of 1862. Congress provided that only one-half instead of the whele of the som-penrations for services rendered for the Government by the companies should be required to be applied to the payment of those bonds, principal and in-tercst, and that the law so stands at the present.

Congress.

House of Representatives. Continued from the Second Edition.

Hense of Representatives.
Continued from the Second Edition.
The following-named members were present:-From Maine, Messers. Lynch, Biains, and Hater, from New Hampshire, Stevens and Benton; fron chuscis, Books, Moar, Washburg, and Dawes; from Rhode Island, Jenckes and Dixon; from Connecti-ent, Strong, Kellogg, Starkweather, and Barnan; from New York, Reeves, Schumacher, Siocan, Fox, Morris, S. S. Cox, Brooks, Wood, Poter, Ketchan, Grisweld, Tasmer, Perriss, Sanford, Knapp, Ladid, Churchill, McCarthy, Cowles, Kelsey, Bernet, and Sheldon; from New Jersey, Bird and Hill; from Pennsyivania, Randall, O'Nell, Mrers, Kelley, Tar-tor, Stiles, Townissend, Getz, Dickey, Oake, Woot-ward, Mercur, Packer, Haldeman, Ceama, Merrell, Arnatirong, Scofield, Covode, Negley, Pheips, and Donley; from Delaware, Biggs; from Maryland, Arceker, Swas, Hamill, and Stone; from Maryland, Arceker, Swas, Hamill, and Stone; from Maryland, Arceker, Swas, Hamill, and Stone; from Maryland, Arter, Swas, Hamill, and Stone; from Chail, Store, Swas, from Basiewer, Maryland, Store, Store, Laker, Law, from Basiewer, Maryland, Winans, Beatty, Dic

and in depth 50 feet, yearly ground rent of \$40 re-served. Price \$2100.

Dwelling and lot of graund, north side of Chris tian street, 219 feet east of Broad, ground rent reserved. Price \$1600.

served. Price \$1600. Dwelling and lot of ground, south side of Kates street, at the distance of 212 feet east from Broad, 16 feet front and 47 feet deep, ground rent re-served. Price \$1025. Dwelling and lot of ground, north side of Caris-tian street, at the distance of 228 feet east of Broad, 16 feet front and 50 feet deep, ground rent reserved. Price \$1600.

Price \$1600.

Dwelling and lot of ground, south side of Kates street, at the distance of 228 fect east of Broad, 16 feet front and 47 feet deep, ground reut reserved. Price \$1025.

Price \$1025. Tract of land, with two-story frame dwelling, barn and ont-buildings thereon, situate in the Twenty-third ward, containing 17 acres and 4 perches. Sold as the property of Frederick Linde. Price \$4000 perches. S Price \$4400.

perches. Sold as the property of Frederick Linde. Price \$4400. Three-story brick dwelling, with two story brick and frame kitchen and lot of ground, situate on the north side of Green street, at the distance of 59 fect east from Twenty-fourth street, in the Pifteenth ward, containing in front on Green street 25 feet and in depth 154 feet. Price \$6000. Two dwellings and lot of ground on the southeast corner of Franklin and Apple streets. Price \$5500. Lot of ground, with the two-story frame and three-story brick dwellings thereon, situate on the south side of Cherry street, between Seventh and Bighth streets, containing in front 19 feet and in depth 67 feet, subject to a ground-rent of \$30, and lot of ground, with thestreet, between Arch and Cherry streets, subject to a ground-rent. Sold as he property of Charles Donnelly. Price \$2550. Lot of ground with three-story brick building fronting on Second street, south of Thompson, and three-story brick fronting on Palethory atreet, back. Sold as the property of Christian Stenner. Price \$200. Two three-story brick dwellings on the west side

Two three-story brick dwellings on the west side of Fourth streat, north of Master street. Sold as the property of Patrick Beagen. Prices-\$2300 for one and \$2500 for the other. Two-story brick dwelling, northeast corner of Sollary and Adams streats in Frenchard Price

Sellers and Adams streets, in Frankford. Price

Brick messuage and lot of ground, situate on the southerly side of Main street, Manayunk, extending along Main street 81 feet to the ground of the

along Main street 81 feet to the ground of the Schuyikili Navigation Co. Price \$3000. Three-story brick and lot of ground, southeast corner of Tenth and Grant streets, 15 feet front and 59 feet deep, subject to a ground rent. Price \$1550. Lot of ground with two-story brick building and frame sheds thereon, situate on the southwardly side of York street, at the distance of 72 feet west from Talip street, in the Ninetcenth ward, subject o a ground rent. Price \$1920. BOARD OF SUBJECT. A stated meeting of the

BOARD OF SURVEYS.—A stated meeting of the Board of Surveys was held this morning at the survey Department, South Fifth street, st which sewers were authorized to be constructed as fol-lows:—One on Dation street, from Oxford street, 189 feet, and on Oxford street from Eighth to Darien; one on Second street from Reed to Dickerson; one on Fifth street from Oxford to Columbia avenue; and one on Market street from Forty-sixin to Fifty. Bith streets, All, with the exception of the last one, are to be built at private expense.

CHARGED WITH ROBBERY.-Richard Bunting, while intoxicated on Saturday evening, was robued of \$450 on Coates street wharf. The police of the Saventh district have arrested John Smith and Joseph Baker on the charge of being implicated. Alderman Beitler heid them for a further hearing.

A THISP CAUGHT.-Henry Beimer, on Saturday evening, estered Kolo's notion store, on Second street, below Brown, and picked up two shirts and then started off at full till. Sergeant Donnelly saw the feilow travelling with the shirts and intercepted him at Coates street. Alderman Toland subse-quently sent him below.

DOALD.
400 sh Read b5&1. 51
200 do b30.51 1-16
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100 sh Penna R. 560, 62
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