### UNEQUAL TAXATION. The Neglect to Tax Personal Property, and City Controller Hancock, in his annual re-port, calls the attention of Connells to the subject of the taxation of personal property. The value of personal property in the city, accord-

ing to the returns of the assessors for 1871, is Furniture \$5,916,550
Horses and Cattle \$,023,653
Carriages \$652,577

Total.....\$8,592,786 After stating these figures, the Controller

"The State of Pennsylvania compels the city to pay tax on an amount equal to more than ten times the sum returned by the assessors, and the difference, instead of being paid by tax on personal effects, is charged and collected against real estate. Personal property under the present order is in reality a source of expense, because the city has to pay the State over ten times as much as she receives from that source. If personal property could be made to bear its just share for its protection, etc., real estate would be correspondingly relieved, and the rent paying community be exonerated from a sum more than their just share. A better concert of action on the part of the assessors would probably go far toward remedying the defect."

To show the gross inequality of taxation in this city, as compared with other cities, we append a statement showing the proportion of real and personal estate assessed for taxation in New York, Boston, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia, in the year 1868, the latest date for which the returns from all the four cities are accessible: -

 New York
 \*\*Real Estate\*
 Personal.
 Total.

 Boston
 281,635,869
 295,937,990
 493,573,700

 Ciocinnati
 64,799,604
 61,583,925
 131,383,529

 Philadelphia
 445,137,222
 7,767,687
 463,904,989

From this it will be seen that in New York city nearly one-third of the property assessed for taxation in 1868 was personal property, while in Boston and Cincinnati the proportion was nearly one-half. In Philadelphia the value of personal property assessed was so insignificant as to amount practically to nothing. In 1866 the valuation of personal estate in Cincinnati exceeded that of the real estate, the former being \$66,454,662, and the latter \$67,218,101. In 1869, the valuation of personal property in Boston had increased to \$217.459,700.

#### HELP FOR WORKING WOMEN. The Work of the Women's Christian Assecia-

tion, and How it is Progressing. The "Women's Christian Association," having for its object the establishing of comfortable boarding-houses for the working girls of this city, held its regular monthly meeting yesterday afternoon at No. 1210 Chesnut street. At a recent meeting the ladies, roused by an eloquent appeal from one of the Vice-Presidents, determined upon the immediate purchase of a house. A fine property, eligibly located, has been secured, and, as prompt payment is required, untiring efforts have been made to secure the necessary funds. As the result, over five thousand dollars were paid into the treasury at the meeting yesterday. A large balance yet remains to be collected, but past success encourages and strengthens hopes for the future.

A public meeting in behalf of this worthy en-terprise will be held this (Thursday) evening at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Nineteenth and Walrut streets, at which addresses will be de-livered by the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., Rev. Dr. Beadle. Rev. Mr. Jaggar, William Bucknell, Esq., Charles E. Lex, Esq., and Thane Miller, the blind orator of Cincinnati. Success has thus far crowned the efforts of the energetic ladies engaged in this noble enterprise, and the manufacturers, storekeepers, and merchants should not fail to aid them in their labors of

VISITING SIR KNIGHTS. - Maryland Commandery, No. 1, Masonic Knights Templar, of Baltimore, Md , arrived in this city about half past 1 o'clock this afternoon, and were received by Mary Commandery, No. 36, of Philadelphia. The visiting Sir Knights were at once escorted to the Continental Hotel, where apartments have been secured for them. This evening the visitors will attend the meeting of Mary Com-mandery, at the asylum, in Masonic Hall, and after appropriate knightly ceremonies and courtesies, they will be escorted by Mary Commandery to the Continental, where a grand banquet will be given in their honor. On Friday morning the Baltimore Sir Knights will be escorted to Independence Hall, where a welcome will be extended to them by Mayor Fox; after which they will be taken by a committee of Mary Commandery to the United States Mint, Fairmount Park, and other places of interest. In the afternoon a dinner will be given to the visitors at the Falls of Schuvlktll, and they will return to Baltimore on Saturday morning.

ALDERMANIC FINES AND PENALTIES .- During 1870 the amount of fines and penalties paid into the City Treasury by the different aldermen of the city reached the enormous aggregate of \$3903.90. It would be exceedingly interesting to the public to know precisely what proportion this paltry sum bears to the amount which should have been paid over to the City Treasurer by the aldermen in accordance with the terms of the law. Only sixteen aldermen condescended to make any payments into the City Treasury, the amount paid by each of these being as follows:-

Thomas Dallas....\$404.00 William R. Heins. \$125.00 Samuel Lutz..... 169-50 J. P. Thompson... Chas. M. Carpenter 250-00 T. Stearne Lewis Godbou... 480-00 Thos. Randall ... Andrew Morrow .. 297-00 William Nelil ... Sak uel P. Jones... So oo A. H. Shoemaker. Wm. S. Toland... 101 50 C. Myers..... 

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS .- This afternoon, Select and Common Councils will meet in joint convention, for the purpose of electing heads of departments. The caucus nominations, which will undoubtedly be ratified, are as follows:-Chief Commissioner of Highways-Mahlon H. Dickinson.

Assistants-Hiram Horter and William Rit-

Chief Engineer Water Department-Frederick Graeff. Commissioner of City Property-Jonathan H.

Pugb. Superintendent of City Railroads - John

All these gentlemen, with the exception of William Rittenhouse, now fill the offices for which they are again nominated.

A BOARDING-HOUSE THIEF. - About two weeks ago a young man called at the residence No. 228 North Twelfth street and engaged board. He gave his name as J. D. Hendricks, and refreseuted that he was employed by the firm of James, Kent, Santee & Co., on North Third street. He was neatly dressed, and gave every indication of being a perfect gentleman. remained on the premises about a week and then suddenly left. About the same time a frock overcoat, other articles of wearing apparel, and \$70 in cash belonging to William Lloyd and P. Gallaber, boarders in the house, disappeared Efforts are now being made by the police to ferret out the thief and bring him to justice. The statement that he was connected with the above-mentioned firm was found to be false.

SHOOTING AFFAIR IN A BEER SALOON .-Last night four men entered the beer saloon of Mr. Mack, on Race street, above Thirteenth, and partook of a number of drinks, running up a bill of \$1.15. When this amount had been reached the proprietor was fearful lest the parties would incur additional expenses, and then leave without paying. So he demanded of them pay for the drinks. One of the men took umorage at this, and drawing a revolver, fired the ball from the weapon, striking the bar-tender in the fleshy part of the leg, and demolishing a looking glass which stood back of the bar. The entire party then ran and escaped. As some of them are known to the proprietor, warrants will issue for their arrest.

SLIGHT FIRE .- About half-past 4 o'clock this morning a slight fire occurred at the iron railing manufactory of William Chance, northwest corner of Front and Oxford streats. The flames were assessed and extinguished by two or the Tenth district police

### CURLEY HARRIS.

How They Went For Him in a Lecemotive. Upon one of our inside pages to-day we briefly chronicle the arrest of "Carley" Harris, who some time ago, with the aid of Jimmy Elliott and "Brummagem" Bill, now happily in the cells of Cherry Hill, so successfully "put a head" on Hughey Pougherty, the minstrel. He was captured in Pittsburg. About 9 o'clock last night the Mayor received a telegram from that city, which informed him that 'Curley" had already taken out a writ of habeas corpus, and that this morning at 10 o'clock it would be heard before the court; and more, that if there was not some person present to show that he was legally detained a prisoner, he would in all

Probability be liberated.

Now, "Curley" was too precious a rascal to let slip when once within the meshes of the law, and the Mayor was sorely distressed what course to pursue. Finally he summoned his Chief, and ordered him to take the earliest train for Pittsburg, and if, when he reached Altoona, there seemed no possibility of arriving at Pittsburg in time for the hearing by the ordinary means, to charter a locomotive for his express use. This Chief Mulholland did, leaving at 10 o'clock last night. Between Altoona and Pittsburg he made faster time than he ever dreamed of, and to the joy of the Mayor, not to omit his own satisfacion, arrived in time, and had the pleasure of bearing the Pittsburgian judge remand "Carley" into the custody of the Philadelphia authorities.

Detective Gordon accompanied the Chief. DEATH OF COLONEL MESSCHERT.—Yesterday morning Colonel H. Messchert, formerly a resident of Philadelphia, and very well known in (this vicinity, died at his residence in Douglassville, Berks county, Pa. At the time of his death he was in the sixty-third year of his age. He was born in Germantown, Philadelphia, and was educated in this city. He pursued the study of the law, and was admitted to the bar after his course of study had been completed. He, however, did not practise to any extent, but devoted himself mostly to business, and afterwards to the care of a large estate. He was quite a wealthy man, his estate being now valued at something like two millions of dollars. His former family mausion was No. 1224 Chesnut street, but about three years ago this, together with other adjoining property, was altered into a fine store. He then removed to Berks county. He was the owner of consid-

erable Eighth street property also.

Luring the war Colonel Messchert was one of the strongest of Union men, and he then gained, in connection with the volunteer movement the military title which has since clung to him The cause of his death was dropsy. He had been complaining of his health for six months or so past, but the malady was not considered dangerous until within a short time. He leaves a wife and one sen, who is at present a mem-ber of the Philadelphia bar.

THE WATER DEPARTMENT .- According to the official report of the City Controller for 1870. the receipts of the department for supplying the city with water were as follows:-

Rents of 1889,	
Penalties added	2,553 05 
Rents of 1870	
Penalties	14,845.45
Fractional	47,755-15
Delinquent rents	17,319.00
Penalties	1,831-39
	802,510°S
Water pipe	118,869.79
Frederick Graeff	4,320.41

Total.....\$947,095-95

STEALING, AND RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS .-For some time past the Green and Coates Streets Passenger Railway Company has missed a number of articles, principally brass bearing-boxes. Yesterday Lieutenant Jacoby and Officer McGuigan arrested Edward Collins, an employe of the company, for the theft. This he acknowledged, and stated that he had sold the boxes to Francis Kernan, the proprietor of a junk shop at No. 2338 Spring Garden street. Kernan at first promptly denied receiving the goods, but when brought before Alderman Alexander, face to face with his accuser, he admitted what he had before gainsaid. Collins and Kernan were each held in \$1000 ball to answer.

THE DISCOUNT allowed for the prompt payment of city taxes is very large, and the aggregate shows what a strong inducement there is for the people to pay their taxes into the treasury at as early a date as possible. Previous to September 1, 1870, the date at which discount for prompt payment ceased for last year, the gross amount of taxes which were paid was \$6,251,701.39, on which was allowed a discount of \$401,120 95, reducing the net receipts by the city to \$5,850,580 44. After September 1st, penalties were added, amounting, previous to the end of the year, to \$17,397.53 on an assessment of \$791.263, making the net receipts for this period \$808,660:52.

AN IMPORTANT CHARITY,-This evening, in Holy Trinity Church, there will be held an important meeting to complete the work of esta blishing the first of several proposed "homes" for the friendless working girls of our city, the object being to surround them with such moral influences as will save them from the temptations and perils of city life. Several of our most eminent citizens, both of the clergy and laity, are to make addresses. The movement is under the auspices of the "Women's Christian Association." All our public-spirited and charitable men and women will be interested to advance so good a work.

MURDEROUS CONDUCT. - Yesterday John Mason, residing at Hurst and Lisbon streets, committed a violent assault and battery on his sister-in-law, after which he locked her up in a closet, and then went for a razor. Returning, he opened the door, and made several thrusts at her with the weapon, but she managed to run by him and escape. The abused one then appeared before Alderman Carpenter, and sued out a warrant for the arrest of Mason, who was subsequently taken into custody and sent to prison for trial.

MORE TROUBLE FROM THE STRIKERS .- Yesterday we gave the details of the strike and the threatened riot of the laborers engaged on the ew track of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Company. This morning Mayor Fox received this despatch: -

"The strikers are marching up and down the road and will not let the men go to work." He has sent out a strong force of officers to maintain the peace and disperse the Milesian

CLOTHING IDENTIFIED. -The property found in the possession of John Howard, whose arrest is recorded in another part of this paper, was this morning identified by Mrs. Watson, who resides at No. 526 North Twelfth street. Her residence was entered yesterday afternoon, during her absence, and robbed of clothing to the value of about \$100. An entrance was

effected through a cellar window. IDENTIFIED .- William Hamilton, who was arrested in this city with a handsome set of silvernounted harness in his possessson, was to-day sent to West Chester for trial. The harness has been identified by Mr. William Darlington, of that place, from whom it had been stolen. Hamilton is represented to be a terror to the residents of West Chester.

UNPROVOKED ASSAULT .- Thomas H. Bedford (colored) was arrested last night for having committed an upprovoked assault and battery upon Mrs. Cooney and daughter, as they were leaving the church on Sixth street, above Lombard. He had a hearing before Alderman Carpenter, and was held in \$300 bail for trial.

ASSAULTING AN OFFICER .- Bernard Connelly was arrested last night upon the charge of having committed a violent assault and battery upon Sergeant Fisher at Fourth and George streets. The prisoner was arraigned before Alderman Shoemaker this morning, and was held in \$600 ball for trial.

FELL DEAD .- William White, conductor of car No. 35 of the Second and Third Streets line, fell dead on his car while at the seathern toominus of the road.

Missing.—Frederick Handwerker, aged 16 years left his home at Howard and Dauphin streets on the 18th of November last, and has not like been heard of. He is about five feet yearnches in height, dark complexion, straight out short, and has the letters F. H. marked or is right arm. His parents are in great diswill lead to his recovery will be thankfully re-

ceived by the Mayor. DEAD INFANT .- This morning a dead infant was found on Thompson street, below Eighth

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

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Robbins Divorce Case Court of Common Ptens-Judge Peirce. The Court this morning resumed the trial of this unhappy case, the following additional witnesses being examined on benalf of the respondent:— Susan Templeton sworn—I resided at Fanny Smith's house in 1865: I never saw Mrs. Rabbins there in my life; I never saw either of the parties until i came to court; Robert Hamilton's child did not come there to live until the year 1866; Robert Hamilton I never saw there until the day of Mis Fanny's funeral, some time last year: the only time I ever saw Maria Carev there was in the spring of 1864, when she helped to clean house; the front of the house was not painted until 1867. William J. Kelly sworn—On last Monday morning I drove from Third street and Girard avenue to Val-ley Green and back to No. 1313 Wood street; the

ley Green and tack to No. 1313 Wood street; the time was two hours and forty minutes.

Mrs. Sarah J. Robbins recalled—I remember having received a letter from Judge Brewster in February, 1866; I replied to it myself; I composed it without assistance, and conferred with no counsel in reference to it; I had no communication with Mr. Fetter or Judge Brewster with reference to that letter or the reply to it; I showed the reply to my father, mother, and sisters; In December last I first learned that I was charged with having been at No. 1682 Wood street.

Charles D. Robbins recalled and recross-examined—When I broke up my establishment at T went eth

and Green, after the separation, I went to reside at No. 1732 Vine street, where I have reside I ever since, except in the summer months of the last two years; in September, 1869, I roomed at Nos. 308 and 310 New street.

It was here offered to show that Mr. Robbins had, from the time of or shortly before the separation been paying attentions to another lady of character from which it would be argued purposes of mar-riage upon his part with the person referred to. After argument the Court permitted the examina-

Witness resumed-I never resided at No. 133 Vine street; Mr. E. H. Shourds resides there; his family consists of his mother, wife, and sister; his sister's name is Mary Jane, sometimes called Me lie Shourds; I first became acquainted with Miss Shourds about seven years ago at her mother's house in Race street, above Second; I did not visit Miss Shourds at her house in 1864; my first visit there was to a company at the invitation of her brother; I paid her no other visit near that time; I went to see her brother; I do not know Miss Hobensack; I do not remember visiting Miss Shourds at 10% o'clock in the evening during the fall of 1869; I do not call to the evening during the fall of 1869; I did not call to see her; I probably called to see her brother, and don't know who let me in: I never visited Miss shourds particularly; I visited the family quite frequently; my wife did not visit there; Mr. David Shourds used to visit my own house; I never, previens to this separation, accompanied Miss Shourds to any place of amusement; I do not remember walking alone with her in the street; my visits to Mr. Shourds' house were more frequent after the separation than before: I have, since the separation separation than before; I have, since the separation accompanied Miss Shourds to places of amusement. I do not think I went to the theatre with Miss Shourds the evening after the decree of divorce was entered in this case; I have a number of times slace then met her in the street and walked with her; since the separation I have visited her house very regularly, almost every day for two or three years; teok my dinner there every day, but not supper or breakfast; I have taken supper there, and I have taken breakfast there; I have slept there on I think; I never had a room in that house; I do not know of any room in that house called Mr. Robbins' room; I have had my clothing there during the summer months of 1869 and 1870; I was not residing at No. 130 Race street in September, 1869; my visits were frequent there then, every day; I went both day and evening; I would generally remain until nine o'clock; I may have been later; I don't think I stayed there all night in September, 1869; my children were in New York after the first week when the school commenced; in the first week of September my daughter was with Mr. D. H. Shourds No 133 Race street, and my son was with Mr. Benjami Shourds; my son has lived at No. 133 Race street when home from school; dur vacation By children were part during art of time with their grandparents and part of the time with Mr. Shourds; in the month of March, 1866,H took Miss Shourds to Conshehocken, in the cars; I believe she had a bundle; we went to a cinner party at Mr. G. W. Jacoby's; in the mouth of March, 1870, I resided at No. 1783 Vine street; never resided at No. 133 Race street; I sometime took tea there at that time: I very frequently, about this time, would leave my store and proceed direct to No. 183 Race street; this was almost a daily o currence; I spend most of my evenings there now I never made any presents to Miss Shourds; never presented her with a set of furs; I never gave her money except for purchases for my children; my daughter is at school at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Manhattanville, New York; I think Miss Shourds has visited her there, not at my request, but with my knowledge; I can't tell how often; I

THE

never accompanied her there: I went with Miss Shourds to New York on one occasion; I think in 1869; she went on to visit a lady who had charge of

my children in New York: Miss Shourds stopped at this lady's house; I do no: know whether I stopped

there or at the Metropolitan Hotel; I have stopped over night at this lady's house, when Miss Shourd

was there, not more than once ar twice, once after the decree of divorce in this case was reversed.

ANNUAL BALL,

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

FEBRUARY 13, 1871.

CARDS OF ADMISSION, FIVE DOLLARS.

To be had at the CONTINENTAL HOTEL NEWS STAND, TRENWITH'S, No. 614 CHES-NUT Street, and GILLINGHMM'S, corner of FIFTH and LOCUST.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR THE COURT OF PHILADELPHIA. now, to wit, October 22, 1870, HERBERT REYNOLI'S having filed his petition playing the court to direct satisfaction to be entered of record on a certain mortgage, of premises at Bridestur, made and executed by HACHEL DOUGLAS I HICHARD HAYES and BARBARA his wife, date the 25th day of February, A. D. 1804, and recorded at Philadelphia in Mortgage Book E P, No. 7, page 585, etc., for the sum of \$10,000, to secure the pay-ment of an annuity of \$086 61 to the said BARBARA BAYES during her life, and up to the day of her death; that said annultant has been dead for more than forty years, and that payment of all moneys due upon said mortgage has been made, that the mort-gages are both dead, and their legal representativ a cannot be found, and that no satisfaction has ever

cannot be found, and that no satisfaction has ever been entered upon said mortgage.

It is ordered that publication be made once a week for four weeks of notice to all parties claiming any interest therein, to appear and make their cojection, if any they have, to the granting of the prayer of said petition. on or before the E.EVENTH DAY OF MARCH, A. D, 1871, at 11 o'clock A. M.

JOHN SHALLCROSS,

Attorney for Petitioner.

## FOURTH EDITION

# ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Highly-important Correspondence.

Letter of Minister Thornton. Reply of Secretary Fish.

A Joint High Commission.

Prospects of Amicable Adjustment

The Canadian Fisheries

FROM WASHINGTON. Cerrespondence in the Alabama Claims.

Desnatch to the Associated Press. WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.-The President sent to the Senate to-day a brief message, enclosing the following correspondence: -

SIR EDWARD THORNTON TO MR. FISH.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.-Sir: In compliance with an instruction which I have received from Earl Granville I have the honor to state that her Majesty's Government deem it of importance to the good relations which they are ever anxious should subsist and be strengthened between the United States and Great Britain that a friendly and complete understanding should be come to between the two Governments as to the extent of the rights which belong to the citizens of the United States and her Majesty's subjects respectively, with reference to the fisheries on the coasts of her Majesty's possessions in North America, and as to any other questions between them which affect the relations of the United States towards those possessions. As the consideration of these matters would, however, involve investigations of a somewhat complicated nature, and as it is very desirable that they should be thoroughly examined, I am directed by Lord Granville to propose to the Government of the United States the appointment of a joint high commission, which shall be composed of members to be named by each Government, which shall hold its sessions at Washington, and shall treat of and discuss the mode of settling the different questions which have arisen out of the fisheries as well as those which affect the relations of the United States towards Her Majesty's possessions in North America. I am confident that this proposal will be met by your Government in the same cordial spirit of friendship which induced Her Majesty's Government to tender it, and I cannot doubt that in that case the result will not fail to contribute to the maintenance of the good relations between the two countries which I am convinced the Government of the United States as well as that of her Majesty equally have at

heart. I have the honor to be, with the highest

consideration, sir, your most obedient and hum-

ble servant, EDWARD THORNTON. To the Honorable Hamilton Fish. MR. FISH TO SIR EDWARD THORNTON. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1871.-Sir-I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of January 26, in which you inform me, in compliance with instructions from Earl Granville, that her Majesty's Government deemed it of importance to the good relations which they are ever anxious should subsist and be strengthened between the United States and Great Britain. that a friendly and complete understanding should be come to between the two Governments as to the extent of the rights which belong to the citizens of the United States and her Majesty's subjects respectively, with reference to the fisheries on the coasts of her Majesty's possessions in North America, and as to any other questions between them which affect the relations of the United States towards these possessions; and further, that as the consideration of these questions would involve investigations of a somewhat complicated nature, and as it is very desirable that they should be tho oughly examined, you are directed Lord Granville to propose to the Government of the United States the apshall be composed of membors to be named by each Government, shall hold its session at Washington, and shall treat of and discuss the mode of settling the different questions which have arisen out of the fisheries as well as those which A M E R I C U S C L U B 'S affect the relations of the United States towards her Majesty's possessions in North America. I have laid your note before the President, who instructs me to say that he shares with her Majesty's Government the appreciation of the importance of a friendly and complete understanding between the two Governments with reference

the subjects specially suggested for the consideration of the proposed joint high commission; and he fully recognizes the friendly spirit which has prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed high commission would fail to establish the permanent relations and the sincere, substantial and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail. He thinks that the removal of the differences which arcse during the Rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels which have given rise to the claims generically known as the Alabama claims, will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and and amicable relations between the two governments. He directs me to say that should her Mujesty's Government accept this view of this matter and assent that this subject also may be treated of by the proposed high commission may thus be put in the way of a final and amicable settlement. This Government will, with much pleasure,

appoint high commissioners on the part of the United States, to meet those who may be appointed on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, and will spare no efforts to secure at the earliest practicable moment a just and amicable arrangement of the questions which now unfortupately stand in the way of an entire and abiding friendship between the two nations.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your very obedient servant. HAMILTON FISH

Sir Edward Thornton, K. C. B., etc., etc.

SIB EDWARD THORNTON TO MR. FISH. WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1871 .- Sir: I have the bonor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 20th ult., and to offer you my slucere and cordial thanks for the friendly and conciliatory spirit which pervades it. With reference to that part of it in which you state the President thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the Rebellion in the United States, and which have expired since it, in growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels which have given rise to the claims generally known as the Alabama claims, wil also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. I have the honor to inform you that I have submitted to Earl Granville the opinion thus expressed by the President of the United States, the friendliness of which I beg you to believe I fully appreciate. I am now authorized by his lordship to state that it would give her Majesty's Government great satisfaction if the claims, commonly known by the name of the "Alabama Claims," were submitted to the consideration of the same high commission by which her Majesty's Government have proposed that the questions relating to the British possessions in North America should be discussed, provided that all other claims both of British subjects and citizens of the United States, arising out of acts committed during the recent civil war in

the name of the President your above-mentioned with regard to the Alabama claims, convince me that the Government of the United States will consider it of importance that these causes of dispute between the two countries should also and at the same time be done away with, and that you will enable me to convey to my Government the assent of the President to the addition which they thus propose to the duties of the high commission, and which cannot fail to make it more certain that its labors will lead to the removal of all differences between the two

this country, are similarly referred to the same

commission. The expressions made use of

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient, humble ser-EDWARD THORNTON.

The Hon. Hamilton Fish, etc. MR. FISH TO SIR EDWARD THORNTON. DEPARTMENT OF STATS, WASHINGTON, Feb. 3, 1871 .- Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 1st instant, in which you inform me you are authorized by Earl Granville to state that it would give her Majesty's Government great satisfaction if the claims commonly known by the name of the "Alabama Claims" were submitted to the coasideration of the same high commission by which her Majesty's Government have proposed that the questions re-lating to the British possessions in North America should be discussed, provided all other claims, both of British subjects and citizens of the United States, arising out of ac's committed during the recent civil war in this country are similarly referred to the same commission. I have laid your note before the President, and he has directed me to express the satisfaction with which he has received the intelligence that Earl Granville has authorized you to state that her Majesty's Government has accepted the views of this Government as to the disposition to be made of the so-called Alabama claims. He also directs me to say, with reference to the remainder of your note, that if there be other and further claims of British subjects or of American citizens growing out of acts committed during the recent civil war in this country, he assents to the propriety of their reference to the same high commission, but he suggests that the high commissioners shall consider only such claims of this descriptions as may be presented by the governments of the respective claimants at an early day to be agreed upon by the commissioners. I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir your obedient servant,

HAMILTON FISH. Sir Edward Thornton, K. C. B., etc., etc. The United States Commissioners.

Despatch to the Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 9. - The President has appointed as commissioners on the part of the United States, Secretary Fish, General Schenck, Justice Nelson, E. R. Hoar, and Senator Williams, The British Government has also appointed a commission, which will leave England next Saturday. The commission will meet in Washington, and all questions between the two Governments will be referred to them for settlement. The Senate has confirmed the commissioners on the part of the United States.

Collector Appointed in the First Pennsylvania District.

Special Despatch to The Evening Telegraph. WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The President has nominated John B. Kenney to be Collector of Internal Revenue for the First District of Pennsylvania, and W. J. Poliock for the Second District.

The San Domingo Commission. No information about the Tennessee has as yet been received at the Navy Department from Admiral Lee, who reported yesterday at Havana two days from San Domingo. The Department expect to hear from him at Key West. The absence of information increases the anxiety about the vessel. The Secretary of the Navy is of opinion that the Tennessee has been disabled in her machinery and has been compelled to use

FROM EUROPE.

The Queen's Speech.

Continued from the Third Edition. "It has been with concern that I have found myself unable to accredit myself an ambassator in a formal manner to the Government of Defense which has existed in France since the revolution of September, but neither the harmony nor the efficiency of the correspondence of the two States has been in the slightest degree impaired. The King of Prussia has accepted the title of Emperor of Germany at the instance of the chief authorities of the nation. I have offered my congratulations on an evert which bears testimony to the solidity and independence of Germany, and which I trust may be found conducive to the stability of the European system. I have endeavored, in correspondence will other powers of Europe, to uphold the san tity o treaties and to remove any misapprehension as the binding character of their obligations.
Of was agreed by the powers which had been par-

ties to the treaty of 1856 that a conference should meet in London. This conference has now been for some time engaged in its lators, and I conidentify trust that the result of its deliberations will be to uphold both the principles of public right and the general policy of the treaty and at the same time by the provisions of some of its conditions in fair and conciliatory spirit, to exhibit a cordial co operation among the powers with regard to the Levant. Ship News.

London, Feb. 9.—The steamship City of London, from New York, arrived at Queenstown to-day.

FROM NEW YORK.

The New Hamburg Bridge ALBANY, Feb. 9.—The Senate has directed an investigation into the condition of the bridge at New Hamburg, where the accident occurred. Ship News.

New Your, Peb. 9. Ar lyed, steamer No yada, from Liverpool.

CONGRESS.

FORTY-FIRST TERM - THIRD SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Mr. Vickers, from the Committee on Commerce, reported adversely the bill to secure the payment of wages to seamen in case of

Upon the completion of the morning orders, Mr.
Trumbull moved to take up the bill specifying a
form of eath to be taken by Mr. Miller as a Senator from Georgia.

Mr. Edmunds said the bill would lead to debate, and hoped it would not be taken up, and that the appropriation bills would now be considered.

Mr. Trumbell thought it due to the State of Georgian.

gia and the party claiming a seat, that this question should be settled at once in view of the delay which had already occurred in the admission of that State. It was a ready thoroughly understood in the Senate.

Mr. Davis made the point of order that Mr. Trumbull's motion was entitled to instant consideration, because the admission of a Senator was a question

of privelege.

The Vice-President overruled the point, upon the ground that the question was not as to the admission of a Senator, but upon preliminary legislation specifying an eath to be taken by a Senator, to which the signature of the President would be remired.

The morning hour here expired, and the bill relat-ing to mixed schools in the District came up as unished business. Mr. Cole moved to postpone the bill so as to take up the appropriation bills. A vote being taken upon a division of the motion, the first part, to postpone the unfinished business, was agreed to.

A rising vote showed a majority opposed to promr. Cole called for the ayes and nays on the

Mr. Sherman expressed his surprise that the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee (Mr. Trumbul) should antagonize a question of removing the disabilities of one individual against important appropriation bills, particularly as that Senator had sserted that he would not vote for any individual Mr. Trumball explained that this was not a disability bill.

Mr. Miller labored under no disabilities, but could pot take the test oath, and it was necessary that the modified oath should be prescribed for him. Mr. A. G. Thurman contended that if the Appro-

priation bills were to be passed, the State of Georgia, which paid a part of the taxes, was entitled to have her representatives in the Senate to watch her Mr. Edmunds replied that if Georgia wanted to

be represented she should elect men who were not disqualified from office.

After further discussion, it was agreed that the case of Mr. Miller should be considered on Monday

Mr. Richard H. Whiteley, member elect from the Second district of Georgia, presented himself and took the oath of office. Mr. Hooper moved to go into Committee of the Whole on the general calendar, with the object of reaching the bill to repeal the income tax.

Mr. Washburn, of Wiscansin gave notice that he would move in committee to take up the Naval Appropriation bill. The Speaker stated that it would be in order for the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. Washburn) to move that the committee proceed to the consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill, and that it would be the duty of the chairman to recognize

him for that purpose.

If the committee refused that motion it would then be the cuty of the committee to take up the calendar and proceed with it scriatim. He also stated that it would not be the right of a member to de-mand the reading of bills in extenso, as the laying of them aside could work them no minry. Mr. Hooper moved that all general debate in committee end in one minute.

Mr. Dawes appealed to Mr. Hooper not to persist in his attempt to get at the Income Tax bill. It could not be reached in that way. He should let the

regular appropriation bills be proceeded with. (Calls The yeas and mays were called on the motion to limit debate to one minute, and it was agreed to— yeas, 108; nays, 85. The question was then taken to go into committee on the general calendar, in order to take up the bill

to repeal the income tax, and resulted yeas, 103; nays, 107. So the House refused to go into com-The vote was regarded as a test question of the sentiment of the House in regard to the repeal of the income tax. There was a great amount of excitement among members after the roll-call, and before the announcement changing of the votes affected the result one way or the other. The announcement of the result was

greeted with applause and laughter, and it was several minutes before order was restored.

[Note,—Several of the Pennsylvania members request the reporter to state that they voted "No" because the bill to repeal the income tax was so far down on the calendar that is their opinion it could not be reached. Among these bills was a bill to reduce the duties on imports, a bill to abolish the duty on coal, a bill to authorize the issue of con-vertible bonds, and a bill to reduce the duties on imported salt. Besides this, the bill itself could have been smenced by adding or attaching any tariff bill that might have been offered ]

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill to remove the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Mr. Archer, a member of the Naval Committee, opposed the bill. Or e of the objections to it was that in the deed conveying a large portion of the yard to the Government, there was a clause providing that in case of its ever ceasing to be used for the purpose of a nsvy yard the property should revert to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty New York.

A part of the property proposed to be sold did not belong to the Government, but to the Marine Hospi-tal, the funds of which are contributed by the sallors, twenty cents a week being deducted from the wages of every person in the navy. Another objection was the great importance of the yard itself, Such a dry dock as it possessed could not be built within ten years, or for less than five million dollars.

Mr. Potter opposed the bill, unless provision were made for the establishment of a new yard in the vicinity of New York. "As to having the work of the Government done at private shipyard", his answer to that was that all the great private shipyards, with the Morgan Iron Works, the Aliance Iron Works, and all the other great machine shops of New York, were closed, Congress having legislated away their business. It would be little short of insanity to remove the Navy Yard from Brooklyn and place it at New London, leaving the great city of the country without any means to rely upon for works of offen

The debate was further continued by Mr. Starkweather and Mr. Scoffeld in support of the bill, and by Messrs. Calkin. Schumaker, and Wood against it, and by Mr. Ketchum in support of his substitute for the appointment of a commission to inquire into the propriety of removing the Brooklyn navy yard and establishing a new one in the State of New York.

Mr. Starkweather opposed the appointment of a commission, which would be restricted to the locality in which some of the commission or their rela-

tives might be interested. Mr. Ketchum medified his substitute by striking out the names of the commissioners and leaving the appointment of the commission to the President.

## OUR CENTENARY.

New Jersey Comes to Aid our Project. New Jersey passed, with hardly any opposi-tios, a resolution indorsing the claims of Philadelphia in regard to the holding of the grand celebration which is to mark the hundredth year of our existence as a free and independent nation. But with this she was not content, and so has appointed a distinguished committee to visit us, and confer with our Councils in regard to the projected anniversary. This afternoon this committee will arrive and be taken in charge by the Centennial Committee of Councils, of which Mr. John L. Shoemaker is chairman; and they will undoubtedly be treated, as they deserve to be, with distinguished honor. The gentlemen comprising this committee come from both branches of the Legislature. Their names are as follows: -

Edward Bettle, President,
H. S. Little,
J. W. Taylor,
J. H. Nixon,
k. B. Edsail.

A. P. Condit, Speaker,
Wm. H. Barton,
J. F. Sauxay,
W. A. House,
A. H. Patterson,
A. C. Candeld, EXPLOSION AND ACCIDENT. - About 8 o'clock

last evening a coal oil lamp exploded at the residence of Mrs. Hanberger, on Ireland street, between Hanover and Palmer. A daughter of Mrs. Han erger, aged 17 months, was severely burned about the face and hands.

## FINE STATIONERY

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