Bedford Inquirer.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1870

HOW IT WAS DONE.

Gold at 112 is good news to almost every one, except the gold gamblers. Every intelligent citizen will agree that this desirable condition of our financial affairs has been brought about by the policy of, not only promptly paying the interest, but also rapidly reducing the principal of our national debt. The most rampant free-trader will admit this without hesitation, and applaud the policy as the best that could possibly have been adopted. But while he is applauding the policy he forgets that he has been all the while opposing the principal upon which that policy was based. The immense revenue necessary to carry out the policy of paying off the debt, could only be obtained by levying heavy taxes upon our manufactures, and those manufactures could only be sustained under heavy taxation by a high protective duty upon similar manufactures imported. The tariff in itself could not have sufficiently protected our manufactures if the gold premium had not also acted as an incidental protection. Under the combind favorable influence and protection of the two, our manufactures, particularly of iron and woolen goods were enabled to bear an extraordinary taxation, and from them was derived a very large proportion of the internal revenue by which we were enabled to redeem our national credit. The free-trader rejoicing in the prospective early return of specie payment forgets that he has always bitterly opposed the very policy by which we have so admirably sustained our finances. Without that protection to our manufactures, the immense revenues could never have been obtained and we could neither have subdued the rebellion nor have paid our debt. Free-traders to day are advocating their old doctrines and endeavoring to destroy this bulwark of our national finances. Abolish our protective tariff to-day, as the free-traders ask, and in one year the revenue would so fall off that we would not be able next year to pay the interest on our debt, much less to pay $20,000,000 of the principal as we have done the past year. Now if protection gave us strength and prosperity in time of war, if it also enabled us to restore our finances from a condition of comparative bankruptcy to one of prosperity in the short space of a few years, why are we called upon to abolish it now? That which enables us to pay our debt and restore our credit should not be abandoned without good cause. It has been the source of our safety in the darkest hours of our country's trial and if continued will enable us rapidly to pay off our debt and make our people rich, prosperous and happy.

DON'T KNOW THEIR OWN PLATFORM.—The Democratic members of Congress were caught napping on Monday the 28th ult., in a way that does them little credit as men of intelligence and principle. Mr. Spink of Dacota, a Republican, offered a resolution in favor of a tariff for revenue on foreign imports that will incidentally protect domestic manufacturers, and, without impairing the revenue, impose the least burdens upon and best promote and encourage the great industrial interests of the country. An effort was made to table the resolution but defeated. It was then passed by a vote of 107 to 48. It afforded a good deal of merriment when it was announced that the resolution was a plank of the Democratic platform of 1868. The whole thing was a joke, and the cops were quite chagrined at the awkward predicament in which they had placed themselves. Their knowledge of the Tariff question must be of a very extraordinary character. Do they oppose measures upon principle or only because Republicans advocate them? We did certainly hope to see intelligence enough, and independence enough among Democratic Congressmen to recognize a plank of their own party platform, and vote for it even if it was offered by a Republican.

CIVIL SERVICE.—Mr. Juckes has again introduced a Civil Service bill into the House of Representatives. It proposes to appoint a committee to hold office for a specified term, whose duty it shall be to examine all incumbents in office, and all applicants. The only objection to a Civil Service bill seems to be that it will spoil the patronage of Congressmen ambitious of renomination. We sincerely hope that our Congressmen will redeem their characters in this respect and show themselves as earnest in serving the country as they are in advancing their own personal and party interests, and give us a Civil Service bill. It is high time we abandon the Democratic programme of rotation in office and appoint men for fitness and not for favor. Let us have the bill forced to a vote and a call of the yeas and nays. We like to see the black sheep marked.

THE SALE OF CADETSHIPS still continues one of the chief topics of interest in Congress. Delinquent Congressmen feeling their guilt have attempted to escape the consequences of their guilt by resigning. Golladay of Kentucky has just attempted this dodge, but the Governor has refused to accept his resignation, and demands that he establish his innocence before the House, while the House refuses to permit him to retain his seat, and the speaker declares he is no longer a member. We think he should be permitted to return to his seat and then be ignominiously expelled. That would effectually settle his status.

THE NATIONAL DEBT was reduced six millions, five hundred thousand dollars during the month of February. The good work goes steadily on, in spite of copperhead cries of corruption. The people don't see the extravagance, but they can understand that paying debts is a commendable work, and are consequently quite satisfied with Grant and his administration as long as they pay off the debt at the rate of from $90,000,000 to $100,000,000 yer year.

AN election for State officers took place in New Hampshire on Tuesday. The Copperheads despairing of success in an open contest, organized a temperance and a labor reform ticket, hoping with the two to defeat the regular Republican nominee. As we go to press there is, as yet, no news of the result, but it is believed the copperhead ruse will fail to win.

STILL DOWNWARD.—Gold closed in New York on Monday at 112¼ with a downward tendency. Many of the business men of the city seriously contemplate the resumption of specie payments in their regular transactions. It is quite possible that within a month or two we may see the glitter and hear the jingle of gold and silver in our daily business transactions.

THE rebellious subjects of Queen Victoria, in the Red River region, have inaugurated hostilities by capturing fifty seven men out of a party of two hundred Canadians, English and half breeds sent out by the British government for the purpose of quelling the insurrection.

WHAT A YEAR HAS DONE.

We like to keep the fact before the people that the administration of President Grant has been true to its promises, prudent in its policy, and faithful in the performance of its manifold duties.

One year ago this day, at noon, says the Pittsburgh *Gazette* of the 4th inst., President Grant was inaugurated at the Capitol. One-fourth of his official term has now expired. Let us see what his administration has done, in the faithful execution of its great trust!

It has paid off eighty-eight millions of dollars of the public debt.

It has largely increased the public revenues, without adding new forms of taxation.

It has largely decreased the public expenditures, without detriment to the National interests in any department.

It has advanced the value of our depreciated currency from 132 to 115, bridging over one full half of its margin below the par of coin.

It has brought up the market value of our bonded debt from 86@88 to 97@par, and even a premium in gold.

It has conducted the finances of the government and people, from their former condition of qualified bankruptcy, to the very verge of a general specie resumption, and this without any crisis or marked public or private distress.

It has completed the radical reconstruction of all the Southern State Governments on Republican principles, finally and happily tranquilizing the peoples lately in armed rebellion against the Federal authority.

It has restored the full Southern representation in Congress, with two exceptions which now await only a technical approval.

It has assisted in the final establishment of that great, cardinal, underlying principle on which alone free republican institutions can stand—the absolute equality of all men—citizens of the republic—in personal and political rights.

It enters upon its second year, enjoying the increased confidence of the American people, and the enhanced respect of the civilized world.

The problems of a year ago are become certainties to day, and the promises of the beginning are seen to be already redeemed.

Let the future be judged by the past!

TENNESSEE seems to be unreconstructed still. A regular reign of terror exists over the whole State, murders and outrages of various kinds being of daily occurrence; and the officers of the rebel-copperhead state government take no cognizance of them. In this strait Senator Brownlow asks to have her remanded to a provisional government again. The *Tribune* says:

"Things have come to such a melancholy pass in Tennessee that the loyal Republicans of that State have been fairly driven into action. Two large meetings of loyal men were held in Nashville on the 16th ult. to consider the position of public affairs—the assassination of unoffending citizens by the Ku-Klux, the oppressive action of the Legislature and Convention, and the abolition of the Free Common Schools. "We are," says the Tennessee Loyalists, "completely at the mercy of Rebel hate and Rebel violence. We have absolutely no way to defend our lives from any drunken scoundrel that from malice or mere wantonness may see fit to waylay us." These men say that they *cannot* help themselves. They "must have help from outside." The National arm should put down the Ku Klux, by simple, speedy, and summary methods. The Fourteenth Amendment should be applied to the present Legislature and the Convention—in the former it would leave a quorum, but it would bring that quorum to its senses. As for the Convention, it is unlawful *ab initio*, unlawfully called, and made up of disqualified men, its doings being really null and void. If nothing else will do, Congress should put the State under territorial rule. These Republicans say, that practically they have no newspapers to plead their cause in the State. Not one of the Nashville daily journals so much as mentioned these meetings, nor were they alluded to in the Associated Press dispatches.

THE United States Corvette Oneida was run into and sunk by the British Steamer Bombay, a few days ago, near Yokohoma, Japan. Fifty-six persons were saved out of from 160 to 166 who were on board.

THE efforts of the copperheads to identify Gen. Grant with the Gold panic of last September have proved a miserable failure. They are only another evidence of copperhead malignity.

THE Red River insurgents have established a provisional government, elected a President and framed a bill or rights. They seem likely to give John Bull considerable trouble before he gets them peacified.

THE feeling in favor of annexation to the United States is steadily increasing in Mexico. The better class of the people regard it as their only hope of peace and safety.

THE nomination of Judge Strong for the Supreme Bench was confirmed by the United States Senate on Tuesday the 1st inst.

THE Dominican Republic has pronounced in favor of annexation to the United States by an overwhelming majority.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Pa., March 4, 1870.

THE STATE TREASURY

is still the main subject of discussion in the Senate. From present appearances it is very doubtful whether any final legislation of importance will be had on the subject the present winter. There is a tendency among certain Senators, to embarrass the House bill by amendment, and thus create a difference between the two bodies that will eventually result in the defeat of this measure. The bill has been up in the Senate nearly every day during the last week, and has been very animatedly discussed, but no vote has been taken in a way to indicate the sentiment of the Senate. It is generally acknowledged that some legislation of character is needed, but the views of Senators differ so widely, and each one holds so tenaciously to his own that there will be much difficulty in reconciling the conflicting ideas, and so much so as to render the passage of any bill on the subject a matter of much doubt.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

has come to a sudden halt in their investigation into the affairs of the State Treasury. The Treasurer elect, Mr. Irwin, appeared before the committee on Wednesday evening last. He presented to the committee a paper from the Auditor General giving the balance in the Treasury as $1,135,194, 92, at the close of Irwin's term of office, which was charged to Mr. Mackey, by which charge or transfer Irwin's accounts were closed. He also presented a written statement, signed by himself, that during his administration not a single dollar of the public money was lost, and that all the affairs of his office was closed up to the entire satisfaction of the auditing department of the State. He defied any one to make any charge against him of malfeasance in office, and to substantiate it with competent testimony. Whenever that occurred he would be ready to meet and refute it, but until then he did not recognize the right of the committee of the Senate, or of any tribunal in the land, to call him as a witness and examine him upon any question connected with his personal or official integrity. The committee unanimously requested Mr. Irwin to be sworn and examined, but he peremptorily declined, and bidding those present good evening left the room. This flank movement by General Irwin was quite unexpected on the part of the committee and at once put a stop to futher proceedings that night. Ex-State Senators Kemble, Moore and McGrath have however been summoned to appear before the committee, and it remains to be seen whether they will act as sensible as General Irwin, or aid in prolonging an investigation that is generaly regarded as the most stupid kind of a farce.

PROTECTION OF MINERS.

The bill for the better ventilation of mines and the protection of the lives of miners, passed the House during the week, and is now a law. The bill, as passed, was framed in accordance with the wishes of the Miners' Association, and grants them all the legislative protection they have asked. The measure was vigorously opposed by certain operators, and Hon. W. W. Ketchum, of Luzerne county, has been in Harrisburg for sometime to either secure its defeat or have it amended so as not to accomplish the end desired. The law is very complete in its provisions for the thorough ventilation of mines, and requires the protection of miners in such a way as to render a repetition of disasters like that of Avondale among the impossibilities.

THE GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILL

has passed the House, and is now in the hands of the Finance Committee of the Senate. A great pressure is being brought to bear upon that Committee, as well as upon the members of the Senate, to make some very material modifications, and Legislative delegations, from nearly every section of the State, have been very plenty in Harrisburg during the past week. Until the bill is finally disposed of it is almost impossible to conjecture what its provisions will be when it becomes a law.

LEGAL RATE OF INTEREST.

The Senate has defeated the bill to make the legal rate of interest in this State seven per cent. Although an effort will probably be made to reconsider this action, there is not much chance for the bill to pass both branches of the Legislature. The proposition has been before the Legislature each session for a number of years, but has uniformly met with the same fate.

HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.

The first two volumes of this work have been published, but the Legislature has as yet failed to make any provision for their distribution. The State Historian is hard at work on the third volume and will have it issued within a few months. He estimates that a fourth volume will complete the history. A joint committee of the two Houses has been appointed to make some provisions for distributing the work, and their report will be looked for with considerable interest.

THE DIAMOND AND WATT

contested election case in the Senate is still dragging along without much prospect of an early termination. A large mass of testimony has been taken, tending to prove such irregularities in conducting the election in certain wards that it is likely the entire vote in several Democratic precincts will be thrown out. Watt, the Republican, feels quite confident of retaining his seat.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT

does not appear very near at hand. A large number of important measures are before the Legislature, which to dispose of finally will in all likelihood prolong the session well into April.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

The following bills were up during the past week:

One by Mr. Buffington, that any election officer who shall refuse to receive and count the vote of any citizen in his district on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and punished by fine and imprisonment.

One by Mr. Dailey, incorporating the Orion Club of Philadelphia. Mr. Dailey, asked that the bill be laid on the table.

This was objected to by Mr. Creitz, of Lehigh, and the bill, at the request of Mr. Dailey, was referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Mr. Adams presented the following: "That if any *obligor*, mortgagee or other person liable for the payment of any bond, mortgage, interest coupon or debt of any description not made payable by the express terms of the contract in gold or silver coin, and incurred prior to February 26, 1862 shall tender in payment thereof, when and after the same may be due and payable, the full amount of any such debt or liability in legal tender notes issued by the authority of the United States, and the creditor or person to whom the same is payable shall refuse or decline to accept such legal-tender notes in payment thereof, either before or after suit brought for the recovry of any such debt at law or in equity, the plantiff in such suit shall not be entitled to judgment or damage exceeding the amount of such debt with interest thereon to the date of such tender; but such judgment shall bear interest only at the rate of three per cent, per annum, and no execution shall issue thereon until all the liabilities and debts of the United States shall be made payable in gold and silver coin by act of Congress. Provided, however, that this act shall expire on the first day of July, A. D. 1872."

Senate bill for the election of Attorney General and Secretary of the Commonwealth was killed.

Senate bill authorizing married women to sell their property when deserted by their husbands. Passed.

Senate bill repealing the five hundred dollars licence for foreign insurance companies, and taxing them three and one-half per cent. Passed.

Senate bill authorizing judges to commit persons guilty of perjury. Passed.

House bill exempting sewing machines used by and in families, from execution. Passed.

Senate supplement to the Sunday liquor law, authorizing the court, at its discretion, to inflict a fine of from twenty five to one hundred dollars, or to imprisonment, was passed to a second reading by 16 yeas to 13 nays, and was then laid over for the present.

Senate bill exempting bequests for charitable and rellicious purposes from taxation, was called up and sustained by Mr. Connell in an eloquent speech, but was lost by 17 to 9.

Senate bill exempting mortgages and other securities from taxation except for State purposes all ov this Commonwealth, was amended to take effect next November, and passed. Adjourned.

House bill authorizing the Govenor to issue commissions to officers of the late war was defeated.

Senate bill authorizing husband and wife to testify in divorce cases was passed.

Senate bill authorizing corporations to capitalize their earnings was passed to a third reading and laid over. Adjourned.

GOLD 113¼.—Gold reached 113¼ for the first time on the 9th of July, 1862, and rose no higher than 119½ between that day and the 9th day of August following, when it fell to 112½. After that it continued to advance, and on the last day of 1862 it reached 133¾. Gold reached its highest point in New York on the 10th of July, 1864, when it sold at 285. A higher price than this is said to have been reached, but this is the highest regularly recorded at the New York Gold Exchange, and no one will dispute that this was high enough.

Yesterday gold closed at 113¼, the point reached July 9, 1862. Six months before this there was no premium on gold, and we predict that within that space of time in the future it will command no premium over greenbacks, or, in other words, that the desired day of specie payment will arrive on or before the 4th of September, 1870.—*Phil'a. Day.*

XLIst CONGRESS-SECOND SESSION.

During the past week the Funding and Tariff bills have been under discussion every day, but no action has yet been taken. Among the other business brought up, we notice the following: When the funding bill was taken up in the Senate on the 28th ult., after the reading of the substitute reported by the committee, Mr. Sherman addressed the Senate on the provision of the bill. He said the great question was whether the present state of the national debt was such as to justify the Government in the task of attempting to reduce the interest by the system of funding pre-cribed in the present measure. He proceeds to explain the difficulties of the present funding laws, and went over the course which led to the adoption of the financial policy of the Government which the existance of the war compelled the country to assume.

Mr. Sherman referred to the attempt in 1866, and again in 1867, to fund the debt, and the defeat of those projects. The time is now at hand when this funding must be done. The difference between paper and gold is only fifteen to twenty per cent., and at present our bonds are a premium. He proceeded to explain the provisions of the bill and comment upon the advantages to accrue from funding the debt at a lower rate of interest. He argued at length upon the policy of exempting all bonds proposed to be issued under this act from taxation. In regard to the manner of the negotiation of these bonds, that must be left to the best discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Sherman hoped that the negotiation of these bonds abroad would lead to the establishment of an international currency, so much to be desired. In regard to setting apart a sinking fund of $150,000,000 annually for the payment of interest, and for the reduction of the principal of the public debt. Mr. Sherman said this provision might pay off every dollar of the public debt in twenty-five or thirty years. He read from the statistics of the Treasury Department, to show that during the past three years we have paid three times as much of the public debt as we stipulated to pay. He read also from the statistics to show that the expenses of the last year of Johnson's administration, as compared with the first year of Grant's administration, was most favorable and creditable to the latter, and a demonstration to the superior financial ability of the present administration.

In the House on the 1st inst., a vote was taken on Mr. Marshal's amendment to Mr. Hooper's substitute for Mr. Beck's bill, extending the time for the withdrawal of distilled spirits to three years from date of entry. The amendment was not agreed to—yeas, 84; nays, 86.

Mr. Hoopers' substitute, imposing one cent per month on each bonded proof gallon of spirits, which spirits shall remain in the warehouse any time over one year, was agreed to—yeas, 80; nays, 22.

Mr. Washburn, of Wisconsin, moved to lay the bill on the table. Not agreed to—yeas, 52; nays, 104.

The bill was then passed by yeas, 78; nays 56.

Mr. Haight submitted a resolution asking the President to communicate any facts in his possession relative to the attack of General Sheridan on the Piegan Indians. Objection was made, and the resolution was dropped.

Mr. Logan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted a report in the case of Hon. John T. Deweese, charged with selling cadetships. The committee were convinced that he had been influenced in making appointments of cadets to the Naval Academy by pecuniary considerations. They, therefore, recommend the adoption of a resolution declaring Mr. Deweese unworthy of a seat in this House, and condemning his conduct as unworthy of a representative of the people.

The testimony of Mr. Bean, of this city, whose son has been appointed a cadet at Annapolis, was read. He had not paid Mr. Deweese any money directly for the appointment, but his son Frank had paid Mr. Deweese the sum of $500. The latter had paid the money back to young Bean since the commencement of this investigation. Deweese, in his statement before the committee, said he did not know that he was doing wrong when he took the money, and that as soon as he heard that such action was improper he refunded the money. In addition to this, Mr. Deweese said he had promptly resigned his seat as soon as he discovered that he was unworthy of occupying it. As an evidence that he was not influenced by mercenary motives in the matter, he stated that he had plenty of money, and that he had given $12,000 to aid in the last Presidential canvass in North Carolina and the South.

Mr. Logan said that since it had been decided in the case of Mr. Whittemore that members could resign at pleasure to escape expulsion, the only course remaining was to call the previous question on the resolution of censure.

Mr. Woodward demanded the yeas and nays, and the resolution was adopted—yeas, 170; nays, none.

Mr. Logan asked the House for instructions relative to the further prosecution of the investigation. The original resolution includes the members of former Congresses. This carries the investigation back to 1842, when the law relative to cadet appointments first went into effect. The committee had taken testimony against members of the last and former Congresses, but waited further instructions before reporting in their cases.

Mr. Woodward thought the investigation should include the members of former congresses, and all persons connected with these transactions—not so much as a personal matter, but as bearing upon legislation proposed to be had in this Congress relative to the Annapolis and West Point Academies.

Mr. Garfield offered a resolution of instruction to the committee to investigate the case of any member of the Forty-first Congress, or any person holding an executive or judicial position under the United States Government, provided that nothing contained in this resolution shall prevent the investigation and report on the cases already before the committee.

The vote was first taken on the proviso, and it was agreed to by yeas 82; nays, 35.

SENATE.—March 3.—Mr. Trumbull moved the immediate consideration of the bill to change the judicial districts of the United States.

The bill was taken up and read. It provides that the judicial districts shall be constituted as follows:

First District—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

Second District—New York.

Third District—Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia.

Fourth District—Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas.

Fifth District—North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Tennessee.

Sixth District—Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and West Virginia.

Seventh District—Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Eighth District—Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri.

Ninth District—California, Oregon, and Nevada.

On motion of Mr. Sargent the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Indian Appropriation bill. After an hour spent therein the committee rose and reported the bill and amendments to the House and they were then passed.

About three million one hundred and eighty eight thousand dollars are appropriated by the bill.

On motion of Mr. Schenck, the House went into Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the tariff bill.

THE NEW TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.—Lord Shaftesbury has written a letter to a London cotemporary on the subject of a proposed translation of the Scriptures, under the authority of the Bishops of the English Episcopal Church. The great objection to the proposal is that the new translation would be received with suspicion, or openly rejected, by sects outside the Episcopal Church. Lord Shaftesbury says: "The English Bible, as altered by the Bishops, will cease to be the Bible, not only of the Nonconformists, but of the Scotch and Irish Presbyterian Churches; it would cease to be the Bible of our brethern in the United States of America, and every Protestant speaking the English language over the entire surface of the globe." In the face of opposition such as this letter foreshadows—and it must be remembered that Lord Shaftesbury has a very powerful party at his back—it is scarcely probable that the new translation will be attempted.

COLONEL BAKER'S EXPIDITION.

The Experiences of Frontiersmen.

The Central City, Colorado, *Register* say: "The down East version of Colonel Baker's raid, as reported in the telegrams, is quite a different one from that published by the Montana papers. The latter says that this band of Indians had made numerous raids upon the stock of the settlers; that a demand had been made that either the stock or the plunderers should be given up; that this demand had been made several times; that no attention had been paid to it, and having no ambition to "suffer and be strong," they determined to break that camp up, which they did most effectually. From our experience in this country we have most faith in the Montana version. The Commission speak of the "sickening details" of the fight. As they give them they are so, but it is just possible that some interested party has made them up to clinch an argument that lacked the necessary backbone. It is also rather a "sickening feeling" when a ranchman wakes up in the morning to find every hoof of stock, for which he has perhaps endured solitude and deprivation to accumulate, run off by the lazy redskins, who find it easier to steal than hunt. It is also "sickening" to see the mutilated bodies of whole families brought into the settlement for burial, to have an innocent boy of only a few summers pierced full of arrows near his mother's door, or to find a herder shot in his tracks. But the genuine, simon pure philanthropist, of the Vincent Collyer type, makes little account of all this. The frontiersmen are tresspassers, and must expect to endure theft and murder without giving a blow in return. The millenium may be at hand dowe East, but we feel no symptoms of it here.

Reduction of Wages.—Why Strikes' are Failures.

The New York *Star* which is an organ of the working people says that it is a fact apparent to all who have watched the course of our markets, that the prices of many commodities, following the downward course of the gold premium, are being reduced. It is also apparant that this is making itself felt in the wages of labor. During the past season there has been less for the laboring classes to do than formerly, and large numbers of mechanics have been and are constantly being thrown out of employment. In the building trade nothing like the present stagnation has been experienced for at least seven years past, and thousands of men, whose services have hitherto been in active demand, are now vainly seeking work. This has caused a glut in the labor market, and employers are everywhere reducing wages, intelligence of which is brought us by our exchanges from nearly every section of the country. The labor strikes at present, particularly in this city, are, with hardly an exception, to prevent a decrease of pay, while last season they were generally to secure increased pay. The mechanic who last summer was not content with what he was receiving but struck for a more righteous compensation, is now quite satisfied if his wages are not reduced. There is no disguising the fact that the condition of affairs renders it morally impossible that a reduction of wages can be prevented in many of the trades, so many idle hands being ready and anxious to step into the places of strikers, so that, as a result, it is found that many of the strikes this season are failures.

CHICAGO.

Wisconsin Legislature—Projected Pacific Hotel—The Winnipeg Insurgents—Capture of Two Hundredred Canadians and Indians by Riell.

CHICAGO, March 5.—The Committees on State Affairs in both Houses of the Wisconsin Legislature to-day reported unanimously against the proposition to remove the Capital from Madison to Milwaukee.

Prominent Washington hotel men are here negotiating for the lesseeship of the projected Pacific Hotel, which is to cover an acre and a half at a cost of one million dollars, and be completed in 1872.

A letter from Pembina, of February 21, brings news from Fort Garry that Major Boulton and Dr. Schultz, with two hundred Canadians and Indians, took possession of the Lower Stone Fort as the base of operations against Riell. Boulton becoming scared, however, left Schultz there, and with fifty men retreated, but was overtaken by a party of Riell's cavalry and surrendered to them without a shot. Boulton was taken to Winnipeg, tried by court-martial and sentenced to be executed. On the 21st inst., Riell captured Wm. Gaudy, a scout of Schultz's and executed him at Fort Garry. Six or seven other prisoners, Boulton men, will probably share the same fate. Schultz's band was also captured, but Schultz made his escape. Riell has now a force of 600 men and is complete master of the situation.

The Infallibility Dogma.

A correspondent of the London *Times*, writing from Marseilles, brings before the public a curious document relating to the status of the Pope as established by the Council of Basle at its second session in 1432. Conceding that Œcumenical Councils are presided over by the Holy Ghost, as claimed, what becomes of the infallibility dogma, after the following pronunciamento by the Council above referred to? It was directed to Eugenius IV.: Eugenius should beware of troubling the Holy Spirit, but rather as a good Father should unite himself to the Catholic Church, as represented by the Council (in accordance with the Canons of the Holy Council of Constance and of Pope Martin V. of happy memory.) Experience has bitterly taught us that the Pope, though head of the church, can err, while the body of the church has always persevered in its infallibility, and has condemned and deposed Popes convicted of error in matters both of faith and morals. On the contrary, the Pope has never condemned, excommunicated or deposed the rest of the church. We have also an authority in the words of Jesus Christ, "If your brother has spoken against you, tell it to the church, and if he hears not the church, let him be to you as a heathen and a publican." (Matthew 18.) These words include all men, Both St. Peter and his successors, and that St. Peter was so included, St. Paul gives us an evident proof when he resisted this Apostle; and so, also, if Popes resist, they can be deposed and excommunicated.

CANARD.

Extraordinary Sensation—Death of Napoleon—Reign of the Prince Imperial—How it Was Done.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *World* has an extraordinary sensation in its Paris letter of February 21, published to day. According to the gossip of the French salons the Emperor Napoleon III, died on the 9th of September last under the knife of the Surgeon, Ricord, and in his place there reigns the Prince Imperial as Napoleon III., while Empress Eugenie is Regent. The story runs that a near relative of the Emperor, though not in the line of succession, and bearing a close resemblance, appears in place of Napoleon on the few occasions on which he is supposed to appear in public. The correspondent says the plan originated with the late Emperor who feared European complications, and that before his death he received a promise from England, and it is believed from Russia, that they would aid in maintaining the Prince on the throne. The letter gives various reasons for crediting the story, and says it explains the recent remarkable change of policy on the part of the French Government. Nevertheless it appears very like an easily constructed canard.

A NEGRO KILLED FOR TEN CENTS.—A few days ago, a negro named Pryor Hinton, living on Mr. Albert Raney's farm, in Prince George county, Virginia, was shot and killed by a negro named Thomas Taylor. It appears that the deceased man owed Taylor the sum of ten cents, and on Saturday morning Taylor, accompanied by a colored friend, went to see him about it, and to collect the debt. While together a dispute arose between Hinton and Taylor, during which the latter fired upon the former with a shot-gun he had in his hand, and so badly wounded him that he died shortly afterwards—living long enough to tell the circumstances of the shooting. Taylor and his friend were arrested and lodged in jail to await trial for murder.

CORNELIUS VANDERBILT holds $7,000,000 of the bonds of the Harlem Railroad.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

A FRENCH chemist says that thirty pounds of flesh, thirty-two pounds of blood and sixty-two pounds of bone contain as much nitrogen as one thousand pounds of farm manure; and hence that the carcass of a dead horse is worth more than a ton of the best farm yard manure for the purpose of vegetation.

The *Journal of Health* objects to the common practice of putting an open vessel of water on the stove to prevent the air of the room from getting too dry. It says that by thus filling the air with steam it is made far less salubrious, and also renders the person breathing it extremely liable to take cold. Pure air admitted from without is better than filling the room with vapor of water.

SANTA FE, march 5.—A gentleman who has just returned from Chihuahua, Mexico, reports that there is great excitement in that and the other border States of Mexico, and that the feeling in favor of the overthrow of President Juarez is strong. Many of the best citizens favor annexation to the United States. The United States District Court adjourned to-day.

THE terrible pass to which affairs have been brought in New York city must be apparent to the dullest comprehension, when even Captain Isaiah Rynders, the Democratic "wheel horse," can say this: "There's no chance for an honest man in New York politics any longer. Why, I took a thief up the river not eight months ago, and I came down to the city hall the other day, and I found that same thief there, and he had more to say about things than I had."

CONGRESSMEN ROBBED.—Washington, March 5.—A party of burglars broke into Mrs. Cushing's boarding house here last night and first robbed the apartments of Senator Morrill, of Maine, of $460, which sum was taken from his vest hanging on the bed post. They next entered the room of Congressman Ferris, of New York, where they got $75 in money, a gold watch, and all of Mrs. Ferris' jewelry. They next entered the room of Congressman Peters, of Maine, but he awoke and struck a light, which alarmed the robbers and they fled.

THE SPEAKER of the Ohio House recently presented to that body a communication from citizens of Zanesville, asking "That females in this State be allowed all the rights and privileges, including the ballot now granted to male citizens; that females shall be liable to military and road duty; and that, if women shall refuse to provide for the support of their husbands and families, it shall be considered sufficient ground for divorce, the husband to be allowed alimony out of the estate of his wife."

ALL the virtues are not embodied in a monk's habit. Down in Cincinnati a few days since a devout Franciscan friar was provoked to indulge in the custom of doffing his monkish robe, and having a time "with the boys" in the lager beer saloons. The fact being brought home to him, his fellow monks found that the jovial brother had been spreeing at the expense of the monastic treasure, which he systematically robbed. The Franciscans thought his conduct "eccentric." It looked like it.

A CENTURY ago seven vessels loaded with bullion coming from America foundered in a small harbor on the the frontier of Spain. Fabulous tales have been told of the value of their cargoes, but as yet no attempt has been made to recover them, owing to the great expense and consequent risk of failure. An expedition has, however, been organized in Paris and fitted out with electric apparatus, diving bells, and every known contrivance for recovering sunken treasure. Half the treasure, if recovered, goes to the Spanish government.

TREASURY EXPENDITURES.—The expenditures of the Treasury Department for February were:

Civil and Miscellaneous	$5,412,441
War	3,862,757
Navy	1,579,662
Pensions	5,250,000
Indian	293,227
Total	$16,298,498

The above does not include the expenditures on account of principal and interest of the public debt.

CONGRESSIONAL EXPENDITURES.—The present Congress, for a beginning, has spent a sizeable pile of money in their investigations. The Committee on Elections has spent $26,416 65; the Ways and Means Committee, $5,772 52; Foreign Affairs, $6,807 30; Judiciary, $3,584 08; Special Committee to investigate the decline of American commerce, $2,000; Committee on Ninth Census, $3,143 18, amounting in the gross to $47,723 13. Twenty-six thousand of this amount has been paid. An appropriation is required to meet the balance. The contested elections are not half disposed of.

TOO GREAT caution cannot be used by the holders of coupon bonds of the United States. They are virtually bank notes, and if lost, cannot be stopped. Treasurer Spinner was recently applied to to know whether he would cancel certain five-twenty bonds and issue new ones in their stead. His answer states: "The law has not conferred upon the department any authority to grant relief in such cases. The bonds and coupons both being payable to bearer, and trasferable by a bona fide delivery to an innocent purchaser, payment of originals cannot legally be stopped or refused, even though Congress should authorize the issue of new bonds in their stead."

NEW STYLE OPERA CLOAKS.—The new models of *sortie du bal*, or opera cloaks, are mostly double circulars or bourmous. A tasteful model is of white cashmere, lined with quilted crise colored silk. There is a small hood, lined in the same manner, and gathered up with a ruby-colored silk cord and tassel. A rich Oriental border, embroidered in silks of various colors, follows the whole outline of the mantle, with a fringe of small round balls corresponding in tints to the pattern of the border. Very wide, pointed sleeves are trimmed in the same style. Another very elegant model is a double circular, the upper part of which is black velvet, and the under part black cashmere; both are slit open in the middle of the back. The sleeves are ample. The velvet part is trimmed with a double row of gold braid, dotted with gold; the cashmere part with a deep border of gold braidwork and a black and gold fringe. The sleeves are of cashmere, and trimmed like the under part.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 17.—It is generally thought that the reduction of interests by the banks here and elsewhere on the continent will create an improved demand for the United States securities.

VIENNA, Feb. 23.—The birthday of Washington was splendidly celebrated in this city last evening by a banquet given by Mr. Jay, the American Minister. A great many celebrities were present, including Baron von Beust, the Prime Minister of Austria. Mr. Jay toasted the European sovereigns. Baron von Beust replied in the English language. He said the close and undisturbed relations between the United States and Austria was a matter of congratulation. Union and freedom was the motto of both countries. Union alone promoted progress, and freedom alone gave peace. In concluding his remarks he gave the sentiment, "The memory of George Washington—the champion of Freedom and Peace." Other speeches were made both in the English and German languages and the guests did not separate until a late hour.

ON Wednesday of last week, a sad case of drowning occurred in Bridgehampton, Long Island, bereaving an industrious family of their only off-pring. Two little girls, aged six and eight years, daughters of Daniel Cronin, in company with a male playmate named Howard, went out upon a pond to slide, the water forming which had collected in an excavation on the road side some six feet deep. While enjoying the slide the ice broke, and the two little girls were submerged. Young Howard, with commendable bravery, endeavored to rescue them, and would have been successful, but for the sudden breaking of the ice, which also submerged him, but, succeeding in regaining the ground, he ran to the house of the Cronins, and informed their mother of the sad circumstance. She, frantic with fear, rushed madly to the spot, only to behold the lifeless forms of her children. The ice not being strong enough to bear her, she plunged into the water and forced her way through and succeeded in bringing the little ones to the bank, but not without receiving severe bruises and being cut about the body by the ice. The water was up to her neck, and it was feared that she would also perish in the water. She is now confined to her bed, and may not probably recover from the effects of the shock and the loss of her only children.

A YOUNG BOY in Illinois, a few days ago, laid a train of powder through the kitchen and then fired it, "just to scare ma." He was dressed in a pair of suspenders when the smoke cleared away.

IN GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan, there is a Newfoundland dog that is in the habit of picking up the daily paper as soon as delivered by the carrier boy and carrying it direct to his master. The other day the carrier failed, for some reason or other, to leave the paper as usual, and the faithful dog, after smelling around for it until satisfied that it had not come, started off on the jump, and, going about two blocks, found a neighbor's paper on the step of his house; he immediately took it in his mouth and carried it to his master.

SUDDEN BLANCHING OF THE HAIR.—In the East Indian rebellion, Colonel Franks, after an engagement near the village of Chamba, took many prisoners, one of whom, a Bengalee, aged 54, was conducted before the authorities to undergo certain interrogations. The changes which this man's appearance underwent are recorded by Surgeon Major Famy. The prisoner, for the first time, seemed to realize the danger of his situation, when he found himself stripped, and surrounded with soldiers. He trembled violently, terror and despair being depicted on his countenance; and when replying to questions addressed to him, he appeared absolutely stupified by fear. "Then, under our eyes," continued the narrator, Mr. Famy, "and in the space of some half an hour, his hair which we had seen to be of a brilliant black, became gray on every part of his head. The sergeant who had charge of the prisoner cried out "he is turning gray," and called our attention to this singular phenomenon, of which I thus, with many other persons, was enabled to observe the completion through all its phases."

SUICIDE OF A GIRL FOR LOVE.—The Peoria, Illinois, *Transcript* of February 12, says: "We have the following particulars of a horrible suicide which was committed a few miles south of Pontiac, on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, on Saturday afternoon last: A girl by the name of Lucinda North, aged about sixteen, living near that place, has been for some time keeping company with a man whom her father opposed. On Friday they had a quarrel over the matter, in which her father whipped her and finally turned her out of doors, and told her if she married the man in question he would kill her and her husband. On Saturday afternoon the engineer of the train going north discovered her a short distance ahead of the train in the act of throwing her bonnet, shawl and muff into the ditch. She then deliberately laid down inside the rails, with her head on one of them, and beckoned the engineer to come on. He was unable to stop the engine, and the train passed over her literally grinding her to pieces. The only way by which she was identified was by her hat and shawl. Our correspondent adds that she was a nice little girl, who had worked in his family, and left some two