

The Columbian.

GEORGE H. MOORE, EDITOR.

BLOOMSBURG, SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1866.

THE MESHOPPEN POST-OFFICE.

We have been furnished by a gentleman of Wyoming County with the facts in relation to a recent case of post-office appointment in that county, which are as follows:

Captain Philo M. Burr, a young man of twenty-four years of age, and a gallant soldier of the war, has been appointed postmaster at Meshoppen, a town ten miles above Tunkhannock, upon the east bank of the river. Captain Burr enlisted as private, without bounty, early in the war, in Company B, Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served his term of three years, when he re-enlisted, and continued to serve until honorably discharged, on the twelfth of July, 1865, after the close of the war. In the meantime he had risen, by merit and gallant service, from the position of private, through successive grades of promotion, to the rank of captain, to which he was appointed on the first of June, 1865. When the Presidential election of 1865 took place he was in service at Morris Island, South Carolina, and supported Lincoln and Johnson.

Meshoppen Township contains two hundred and sixty-nine taxables, as certified from the commissioner's office recently; and of these taxables two hundred and three are qualified voters of the district.

In the contest upon Captain Burr's appointment the voice of the people interested was strongly pronounced. Of the qualified voters and electors one hundred and eighteen signed petitions in favor of Captain Burr, and thirteen others did not sign for either side. Five of the signers had previously signed for the opposite party under misconception. There were also seventeen additional names for Captain Burr of new settlers and workmen, whose names were not on the previous official return of taxables, and a like additional number of young men, etc., not on the tax-list, but interested in the office. Finally there were forty additional names of citizens and voters of Meshoppen and Auburn Townships, who get mail-matter at the Meshoppen post-office.

Upon this strong endorsement by the people Captain Burr was appointed in place of O. H. Loomis, who had held the office since 1861, or for five years. Loomis was drafted during the war, and went to Troy with a substitute, but in some way, not known to the public, got himself exempted. Being able-bodied and of proper age, the cause of his exemption remains a mystery. In other words, like his friend William Burgess, of the Wyoming Republican (who took occasion recently to abuse the COLUMBIAN), he is a draft-sneak of the worst type, and very naturally is opposed to giving up his office, after five years of enjoyment, to a gallant soldier who has fought as a volunteer through the whole war.

Upon Captain Burr's appointment being announced Loomis and Postmaster Osterhout went on to Washington, and enlisting Mr. Congressman Mercur in their cause, had the appointment suspended at the Post-Office Department. Burr and his friends then appealed to the President and had the whole case laid before him, and the President, in conformity with his announced policy of appointing meritorious soldiers to office, in proper cases, ordered that Burr's appointment should stand good, and his commission be forwarded to him.

The post-office has been called Sterlingville for some years to gratify the vanity of a family, of Radical proclivities, named Sterling; being changed, with this object, from Meshoppen, which is the proper name of the village and township as well as the creek which empties into the river at that place. The old and proper name is now restored and family vanity disregarded.

We are glad to record this case of just reward to a soldier and of inglorious defeat to the selfish men who opposed him.

A BLAST FROM TOWANDA.

The Bradford Reporter, the home organ of Congressman Mercur, recently indulged itself in an article abusive of Robert F. Clark, Esq., upon the occasion of his nomination for Assessor, and the article was republished, as a sweet morsel of literature, by the Republican of this place. It is not possible for the Reporter to injure Mr. Clark in his reputation or standing in the community by the utmost exertion of its malice and powers; but the occasion invites a statement of facts well known throughout this Congressional district, and which should have imposed silence, or at least civility, upon the Reporter, and upon the men who inspire it. According to our information, from respectable sources, the men of the Towanda clique should be the last men to indulge in vituperation of our neighbor.

In 1862, in consequence of the nomination of George Landon for Congress, a split took place in the Republican party in Bradford, which resulted in Mr. Tracy's election. A short time before the election was to take place it was ascertained that not only would Landon be largely defeated in the district, but that the regular Republican ticket of Bradford County, including, we believe, two members of the Legislature, Sheriff, etc., would be defeated with him. Then the appeal was made to Mr. Clark to stand forward and save the Republican party of Bradford. In an evil hour, but prompted by the most honorable and unselfish motives, he responded to this appeal. Landon was withdrawn, and he was named in his stead. He canvassed the district, expending time and money to avert as much as possible of disaster from the Wilnot and Mercur organization. At the time and under the circumstances his election in the district was impossible, as was well under-

stood both by him and by those who invited him to the performance of an expensive and ungracious task. But the local result desired in Bradford was secured. The whole Republican ticket there was saved; one member of the Legislature, we believe, by one hundred and ninety-eight votes, and the other candidates upon the ticket by majorities of a few hundred, in a county which has usually given from three to four thousand Republican majority. The task was performed, the work was done, the result secured, and joy and exultation filled the breasts of the Towanda politicians. They were rescued from deadly peril, and their grasp upon patronage and power at home was retained. They were profuse in their acknowledgments to our neighbor for invaluable service rendered, and volunteered their promise to support him for the next Congressional nomination, when it was hoped that changed circumstances would insure success in the district.

Two eventful years passed by and 1864 arrived, when Mr. Mercur desired the nomination, and had his claims pressed with an ardor characteristic of his school. Mr. Clark did not seek the nomination, but attended the district conference, presided over it, and voted for Mercur, who was nominated. Our neighbor then canvassed the district as a speaker, undergoing the labor and expense incident to such service, and contributed, to the extent of his power, to the success of Mercur and of the party with which he was identified.

Thus, upon two signal occasions, he prepared the way for that exhibition of ingratitude and of indecent malignity which has characterized the recent conduct of Mercur toward him, and inspired the assault of the Bradford Reporter. The former has expended a large portion of his time and efforts, since January, in opposing Mr. Clark's nomination and confirmation to the office of Assessor, for which he was named without his knowledge. A sense of obligation to others is oppressive to base minds, and tends to awaken their resentment. In this case, therefore, it need not be a matter of wonder that ingratitude and malignity have characterized the opposition to Mr. Clark.

As to the Bradford Reporter, its incapacity to injure is not equal to its will; and in doing the foul work of its masters, it only exposes their moral deformity, as well as its own.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 29, 1866.

AN evening paper a few days since chronicled the death by suicide of a young man who, in brighter days, had been loved and admired for his urbanity and warm social gifts, united to correct moral principle. He was the support of his aged mother and her sister. Unwisely, in the early part of the war, they decided to go to Richmond, to be with the only daughter of the mother, who, with her family, were residents of that city. Living through that fearful struggle, where the innocent suffered privation alike with the guilty, they returned to Washington, their life-long home.

Failing to procure employment, and standing almost alone, when his only brother, after several days' absence, was discovered prostrate by delirium tremens, after spending the night, worn, weary, and enfeebled by illness, in a moment of despair the young man cut asunder the tie of life below to enter the presence of Him who seeth not as man seeth. We looked at the serene countenance, and saw standing with mournful look the colored attendant to whom he had been kind as a brother; that unrecorded kindness here was remembered and accepted by the recording angel.

How often would the unspoken word of kindness and cheer be the mental tonic leading to success and fortune! The spark of fire or simple lever of force overturns the firmest foundation, while days of toil are needed to reconstruct and make symmetrical the social or architectural fabric.

A recent reunion at the marriage of a lovely young lady had only the touching sadness of memory to add to its holy ceremony. A respected Virginia family were divided, its members being in both armies. Their their houses and purses were open to our soldiers, and the tenderest care given, while those in the army faithfully performed their duties. The youngest son hoped to escape being drafted, and left to obtain employment in Virginia, where a more ruthless conscription sent him into the Rebel army. Taken prisoner, and in close confinement in the Old Capitol one year, and not allowed to receive even the slightest luxury from friends, he was sentenced to be shot, when he made his escape. His older brother, while gathering corn in the field, was taken and confined with less rigor in the same place, and afterward sent to Albany.

The church was crowded with friends to witness the ceremony, and as the youthful party entered the church, a thrill of gratitude rose like incense that all were spared, and that the one who had been as a brother was the groomsmen.

The unwritten story of the war has many a touching memory shrouded in hearts that have known the keenest anxiety, and in the country's hour of triumph let the funeral shaft be twined with the clematis and ivy, and not the nightshade and hellebore.

JARED INGERSOLL, of Philadelphia, has pleaded guilty of purloining books from the Mercantile Library of that city. He further admitted that he had robbed other libraries. The books taken were sold for waste paper. The librarian, who detected him putting books under his coat, testifies that during the last seven years over ten thousand dollars worth of books had been lost in this manner.

NEW YORK CITY is to have an equestrian statue of General Scott, at the expense of William B. Astor.

GENERAL PRESS DESPATCHES.

From Washington.

THE Commissioner of Pensions has just issued instructions and forms to be observed in applying for army and navy pensions, under the act of June sixth, 1866. The highest grades of pensions (twenty-five, twenty, and fifteen dollars a month, according to extreme or partial disability) will be allowed only to those disabled since the fourth day of March, 1861, and will date only from the sixth day of June, 1866.

There have been previous statements relative to the delivery by the Treasury Department of the bonds belonging to the banks of New Orleans and other parties to the State Auditor, in whose charge they were at the time of their capture by General Sheridan, during the latter part of the war. All that have been identified, amounting to over four millions, have been transferred by the Department to the parties owning them. There yet remain in the keeping of the Treasury between two and three hundred thousand dollars' worth of those bonds awaiting their proper owners. There is in possession of the Treasury a large box of Confederate notes, representing a past value of one hundred thousand dollars in Confederate funds, which are under advisement as to their disposition. The probability is that they will be destroyed, as they are of no account whatever except, perhaps, as relics.

Congress having appropriated fifty thousand dollars to procure a temporary building for the State Department, it is probable that what is known as the Cass Building, on Vermont Avenue, east of Lafayette Square, will be leased for the purpose.

Representative Washburne, of Illinois, on Saturday last presented to the House testimony in the case of George N. Carleton, late Special Agent and Acting Surveyor of Customs at Memphis, designated a depository to receive payment of money. The papers show a defalcation to the amount of five hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and that he gave certificates for the 7-30 loan, which were negotiated through the Commercial Bank of Memphis for the benefit of Parkman and Co., or Parkman, Brooks, and Co., who drew the proceeds out of the bank. This subject is to be further investigated by the Committee on Banks and Banking.

The receipts of internal revenue on Saturday were four hundred and eighty-three thousand three hundred and twenty-eight dollars and seventy-three cents; for the week ending yesterday three million nine hundred and twenty-four thousand nine hundred and twenty-three dollars and sixty-five cents. The aggregate for the fiscal year promises to reach, without doubt, the round sum of three hundred and ten million, and of revenue from all sources, five hundred and forty million dollars.

The President has approved the bill for the disposal of the public lands for homestead actual settlement in the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Florida, and also the bill appropriating three hundred and sixty-eight thousand five hundred dollars to reimburse the State of West Virginia for moneys expended in enrolling, equipping, and paying the military forces to aid in suppressing the Rebellion.

The President on Monday sent to the House a message in answer to a resolution calling for information in regard to the arrest and imprisonment in Ireland of American citizens, including a report from the Secretary of State upon the subject. The latter says: He has the honor to submit a list of the names of all aged citizens of the United States who, according to the information in the Department, have been arrested since the recent suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in that country. Pursuant to the instructions of the Department, the United States Minister at London, and Consuls of the United States in Ireland, have made such representation to the British authorities, in regard to the cases of persons, that they have been released, except two who were held for trial upon grounds supposed to be sufficient by the judicial authorities. It is believed, however, that in consequence of the aforesaid representations even the two persons referred to, one of whom is a Colonel Burke, have been set at liberty before the present time. The following are the names of those held in arrest in Dublin: Maurice McGrath; Lieutenant-Colonel John W. Byron, late Major Eighth New York Volunteers; George Archdeacon; Michael O'Bierle, late Captain Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers; Timothy D. McEniff; John Fournier; Burke Kirnan; McDonald; James Bible, Captain United States Army; John H. Gleason; Joseph Gleason; Bernard McDermit; Michael O'Brien; Michael Duffy; Daniel J. Maykins; James Smith, of Ohio; John A. Comerford, of Massachusetts; Frank Leslie; William Malters, native of Pennsylvania; Edward Morley, native of Pennsylvania; Cornelius Healy; Thomas Hynes. Held in arrest at Belfast: Captain O'Byrne, John Dunn, Held at Cork: John McInerney, native of Ohio; James Daniels. Held at Tipperary: Thomas E. Blackwell.

Governors Swann, Cox, and Morton are understood to be in no haste in convening their respective Legislatures to act on the Constitutional Amendments, and to have signified the same to the President. Tennessee men now here doubt whether Governor Brownlow can get a quorum together in any reasonable time.

Sir Frederick W. A. Bruce, the British Minister to this Government, by an official note of the twenty-fourth instant addressed to the Secretary of State, announced that the Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have agreed that the possession of a license issued by Canada to fish shall entitle the holder, during the season of 1866, to fish in the waters of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, as well as in those of Canada; the holder of a license from the Government of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, if any such shall be issued, being entitled to fish in Canadian waters. This notification is supplemental to one issued early in June, in which it was stated that R. Potter, Esq. (P. Fortier, Esq., is the correct name), commanding the Government naval vessel *La Canadienne*, employed in protecting the fisheries, was authorized to issue fishery licenses on the payment of fifty cents per ton measurement of the vessel to which they were granted, to remain in force during the season, and conferring the same rights, so far as the Canadian fisheries were concerned, as were conferred by the Reciprocity Treaty on United States fishermen.

The prize-money on account of the capture of the steamer *Pet* by the United States ship *Montgomery*, amounting to about sixty thousand dollars, will be ready for distribution by the Fourth-Auditor about the first of August.

Charges are said to have been presented at the State Department affecting the private conduct of ex-Major-General Kilpatrick, Minister to Chili. It is announced that the Secretary of State will immediately investigate the charges, which, if found to be based on facts, will cause the speedy recall of General Kilpatrick.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' National Union of this city have passed resolutions of thanks to the Military Committee of the House for their efforts in procuring the passage of the Army Bill which contains the provision for the organization of the Veteran Reserve feature in the army. The House is so overwhelmingly in favor of this feature in the Army Bill that there is no doubt it will be forced eventually upon the Senate, and the general impression now is that the bill that will ultimately pass will be the Senate Army Bill last reported, with the House Veteran Reserve feature incorporated therein.

A bill to incorporate the Metropolitan Club of this city has been introduced in the Senate. General Grant and Attorney-General Speed are among the incorporators named.

The President has approved the River and Harbor Appropriation Bill, and the joint resolution to pay the State of Vermont, not exceeding sixteen thousand four hundred dollars, the sum expended for the protection of the frontier against the invasion from Canada in 1864.

The Senate Chamber is so badly ventilated that Senators are compelled occasionally to leave their seats and take positions in the doorways and passages for a breath of fresh air. The atmosphere in the Chamber was so oppressive and offensive on Tuesday that it induced a motion from Mr. Brown, of Missouri, that the architect of the Capitol be required to report some plan for better ventilation. The resolution was agreed to.

The Freedmen's Bureau Bill kept a bare quorum in their seats. It went through the Senate, after the accustomed Democratic opposition, without the Yeas and Nays. It differs in essential particulars from the form in which it passed the House. A Committee of Conference will probably be called for to settle disputed points.

Fresh developments are coming to light in connection with the Memphis swindle. It turns out that some seven or eight hundred thousand dollars in 7-30 notes, which were sent to Carlton some time toward the close of last year, for disposal on account of the Government, have also been embezzled and employed in cotton speculation. The whole is to be fully investigated in a day or two by the Banking and Currency Committee.

The Fourth-Auditor estimates that it will require upward of twenty millions of dollars to settle the claims for prize-money, back-pay, and naval officers' accounts now on file in his bureau. The passage of the bill equalizing soldiers' and sailors' bounties will require an addition to the clerical force of the Second-Auditor's Bureau of from two hundred and fifty to three hundred clerks. The claims now on file arising from the war will take the present force four years to settle; and if the Equalization Bill be passed, several years more would be required to get through with the additional claims.

It is reported that the reorganization of the Interior Department, in conformity with the pending bill for that purpose, has already commenced, and that forty-three clerks will be discharged from the Pension Bureau alone on the first of July.

The House Military Committee have accepted Mr. Batchelder's invitation to visit the battle-field of Gettysburg with him, and will leave here on Thursday.

The Senate in Executive Session on Tuesday confirmed the following nominations:

- To be Consuls—George W. Bowie, of California, at Canton; Charles Mueller, of Ohio, at Amsterdam; David H. Strother, of West Virginia, at Buenos Ayres; W. P. Atwell, of Wisconsin, at Maracibo; George S. Dodge, of Vermont, at Bremen.
- To be Collectors of Internal Revenue—N. P. Knapp, for the Tenth Collection District of Illinois; W. H. Markle, of Greensburg, for the Twenty-first District of Pennsylvania; and Owen L. Mann, for the First District of Illinois.
- To be Assessors of Internal Revenue—Robert F. Clark, for the Thirteenth District of Pennsylvania; and Thomas Orton, for the Sixth District of Pennsylvania.
- To be Deputy Postmasters—Edward H. Shelby, at Rome, New York; Moses Wood, at Clinton, New York; Charles H. Hopkins, at Utica, New York; Daniel Mow, at Lafayette, Indiana; William A. Hugh, at Berlin Green, Wisconsin.

A FARMER was struck by lightning near Madisonville, Kentucky, last week and instantly killed. He was stripped naked, except the wrist-band of shirt on his left arm. Fragments of his clothing were scattered to the distance of thirty yards; the pieces mostly in little squares, some not over half an inch. The upper were cut smooth from the soles of his boots, large thick heel of left boot cut in two; opening in left temple, also on back of head; skull broken, but not crushed.

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE.

THE first volume of the diplomatic correspondence submitted with the President's annual message last December has just been issued. It covers six hundred pages, and relates altogether to Great Britain and the United States.

The correspondence begins as far back as November twenty-fifth, 1864, and ends November, 1865. The long time which has elapsed since the documents were sent to Congress has deprived them of much of their interest.

Many of the questions in controversy between the two Governments, growing out of the late civil war, are discussed at length, and the subject of Rebel privateers occupies much space in the correspondence. The Secretary of State kept Minister Adams well posted on the condition of affairs, while the latter advised the former of everything that could possibly prove of public interest. The discussions between Mr. Adams and Earl Russell, and the instructions to Mr. Adams from the Secretary of State, cannot fail to form an important part of diplomatic history, while they afford an insight into the policy of the respective Governments.

Mr. Adams, in numerous letters, refers to the violations of the neutrality laws, and among other cases, mentions that the United States steamer *Sara Jacinto* was wrecked upon a desolate bay of the Bahamas. Her officers and crew found shelter at Nassau until relief could be obtained from the United States. The wreckers, who had recovered certain portions of the movables of the vessel, presented their claim for salvage, the payment of which they required in coin. Nassau being considered the most convenient point for settling this claim, the steamer *Honduras* proceeded thither for the purpose of procuring the coin with which to adjust the transaction. The Consul of the United States, in compliance with the terms of her Majesty's proclamation, solicited permission for her to enter. That permission was at once refused by the Governor, on the ground that it was not a case within the exceptions provided by the proclamation. Mr. Adams says there was no single day during the month in which this incident happened that thirty-five vessels engaged in breaking the blockade were not to be seen parading their contraband flags in that port. Neither had its hospitality been restricted to that hybrid class of British ships running as illegal ventures on joint account with the insurgent authorities in the United States. To the remonstrance of Mr. Adams Earl Russell replied that American merchants, when neutrals, have availed themselves of similar chances of profit, but that Her Majesty's Government will feel bound to prevent to the utmost of their power the violation of Her Majesty's rights, and of Her Majesty's declared neutrality. Mr. Adams, in reply, deeply regretted that he was constrained to say that every well meant effort of Her Majesty's Government to put down this extraordinary state of things, down to April, 1865, had proved almost entirely fruitless.

Mr. Adams, on the fifteenth of June, 1865, in writing to Acting Secretary of State Hunter, says the immense interest manifested in the fate of Jeff Davis is one of the phenomena of this remarkable era, and adds: "Carefully disavowing the indulgence of the slightest acrimony or feeling toward Mr. Davis or any of his associates, I have expressed the hope that the ends of justice might be satisfied with the least possible effusion of human blood. We have had enough of slaughter, and of public and private misery. Especially had a severe retribution already been visited upon these misguided people, who had, by their wanton obstinacy, brought it all upon the country. If even Mr. Davis could be disgraced, and then suffered to sink into oblivion without seriously impairing the force of the example in view of later generations, I should be perfectly content. If Mr. Davis, having under all the safeguards of our laws, undergone a trial for his offence, should be proved guilty, condemned, and sentenced to suffer the last penalty, the responsibility of interposition would then devolve upon the President. I had no doubt that he would meet it with the dignity and impartiality that became his office. Neither was I disposed to believe that, whatever it might be, his decision, if given in the manner indicated, would be attended by any of the evil consequences to the reputation of our country all over civilized Europe which seemed to be a matter of so much concern to our enemies, not less than our friends."

Mr. Seward, in replying to this letter, says he had read with pleasure Mr. Adams's remarks upon the question what penalty ought to be imposed upon Jeff Davis, which question is so universally and so earnestly discussed in Europe. He adds: "Your sentiments are deemed just and wise." This volume contains the correspondence, etc., relative to the assassination of President Lincoln, and Mr. Adams transmits to Mr. Seward very many addresses and resolutions on the subject from all parts of the Kingdom, saying, "the interest in this matter is all but universal."

Mr. Seward, under date of September fifth, 1865, wrote to Mr. Adams: "Sir, I have to inform you, by direction of the President, that he will neither make promises nor grant either passports or permits for return to Rebels now abroad. Applications for pardons will be considered only when the persons making them are residing in the United States, and in many cases there must be an unreserved, not a conditional appeal to the mercy and the magnanimity of the Government."

Mr. Adams, in a letter dated September last, speaks of his excursion to Ireland, and while alluding to the recent organization of the Fenians says: "I have never anticipated any difficulty that would prove serious. The disaffected class may be large, but it is poor, unarmed, and generally wanting in the elements of moral power. Any resort to

violence could end only in the slaughter of thousands without the possibility of attaining a single object. The effort would be merely to play into the hands of their opponents. A far more dangerous policy would be to keep up and assiduously extend the secret disaffection which might, perhaps, be done by the aid of American sympathy, until the procrustian of unbusiness should weary the Government into radical measures to remove a constant danger, by promoting the transportation of the disaffected poor at the public expense. In England few persons consider a serious insurrection a possibility. In Ireland few have ever out of their minds, conscious of the existence of the evil and hopeless of any system of remedy. Instead of thanking America for the relief which emigration gives them, they are disposed to quarrel with her because she creates in the people a desire to go."

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

HIS OBJECTIONS TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

THE President sent, on the twenty-second instant, the following message to the Senate and House of Representatives:

I submit to Congress a report of the Secretary of State, to whom was referred the concurrent resolution of the eighteenth instant, respecting a submission to the Legislatures of the States of an additional article to the Constitution of the United States. It will seem from this report that the Secretary of State had, on the sixteenth instant, transmitted to the Governors of the several States certified copies of the joint resolution passed on the thirteenth instant, proposing an amendment to the Constitution. Even in ordinary times, a question of amending the Constitution must be justly regarded as of paramount importance. This importance is at the present time enhanced by the fact that the joint resolution was not submitted by the two Houses for the approval of the President; and that of the thirty-six States which constitute the Union, eleven are excluded from representation in either House of Congress, although, with the single exception of Texas, they have been entirely restored to all their functions as States, in conformity with the organic law of the land, and have appeared at the National Capital, by Senators and Representatives, who have applied for and have been refused admission to the vacant seats. Nor have the sovereign people of the nation been afforded an opportunity of expressing their views upon the important question which the amendment involves. Grave doubts, therefore, may naturally and justly arise as to whether the action of Congress is in harmony with the sentiment of the people, and whether State Legislatures, elected without reference to such an issue, should be called upon by Congress to decide respecting the ratification of the proposed amendment. Waiving the question as to the constitutional validity of the proceedings of Congress upon the joint resolution proposing the amendment, or as to the merits of the article which it submits through the Executive Department to the Legislatures of the States, I deem it proper to observe that the steps taken by the Secretary of State, as detailed in the accompanying report, are to be considered as purely ministerial, and in no sense whatever committing the Executive to an approval or recommendation of the amendment to the State Legislatures or to the people; on the contrary, a proper appreciation of the letter and spirit of the Constitution, as well as of the interests of national order, harmony, and union, and a deference for an enlightened public judgment, may, at this time, well suggest a doubt whether any amendment to the Constitution ought to be proposed by Congress, and pressed upon the Legislatures of the several States for final decision, until after the admission of such loyal Senators and Representatives of the now unrepresented States as have been, or as may hereafter be chosen, in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States.

ANDREW JOHNSON, SECRETARY SEWARD'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 29, 1866.

To the President:

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the concurrent resolution of the two Houses of Congress of the eighteenth instant, in the following words: "That the President of the United States be requested to transmit forthwith to the Executives of the several States of the United States, copies of the articles of amendment proposed by Congress to the State Legislatures to amend the Constitution of the United States, passed June thirteenth, 1866, respecting citizenship, the basis of representation, disqualification for office, and validity of the public debt of the United States, and to the end that the said States may proceed to act upon the said article of amendment, and that he request the Executive of each State that may ratify said amendment to transmit to the Secretary of State a certified copy of such ratification," has the honor to submit the following report, namely: That on the sixteenth instant Hon. Amasa Cobb, of the Committee of the House of Representatives on Enrolled Bills, brought to this Department and deposited therein said enrolled resolution of the two Houses of Congress, which was thereupon received by the Secretary of State and deposited among the rolls of the Department, a copy of which is herewith annexed. Thereupon the Secretary of State, on the sixteenth instant, in conformity with the proceeding which was adopted by him in 1865, in regard to the then proposed and afterward adopted Congressional amendment to the Constitution of the United States concerning the prohibition of slavery, transmitted certified copies of the annexed resolution to the Governors of the several States, together with a certified and circular letter. A copy of

both of these communications is herewith annexed.

Respectfully submitted, (Signed) WILLIAM H. SEWARD, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, June 29, 1866.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, June 29, 1866. To His Excellency the Governor of the State of N. H.—I have the honor to transmit attested copy of a resolution of the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire proposing to the Legislatures of the several States a fourth article of the Constitution of the United States, decisions of the several Legislatures upon the subject are required by the Constitution to be communicated to this Department. An acknowledgment of the receipt of this communication is requested of your Excellency's obedient servant. (Signed) WILLIAM H. SEWARD. The accompanying paper is the certificate of a true copy of the concurrent resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution.

WAR.

NEGOTIATIONS are at end and has begun. Long as it was protracted it comes at last so suddenly that it is not to be admired the rapidity and despatch with which Prussia displays at the crisis which have given her a signal advantage in the first military movement. The vote of the Federal Diet to the Prussian forces removed the last impediment to the part of Prussia, as there was nothing more to be gained by diplomacy. Bismarck instantly drew the sword. The Diet voted on the sixteenth. On the fifteenth the Prussian army had entered Saxony and overran and possessed, and dissolved the Austrian vote in the Diet is disavowed. Prussia will henceforth treat Saxony as a conquered province, whose resources of men and money and supplies are to be absolutely at her disposal. It is the same with the other German States in the North. They fall to pieces by their geographical situation, such of them as rejected the opportunity to become her allies can have no hope of escaping the utmost rigors of hostile military occupation.

But the chief military interest of news centres in Saxony. The position of neither the Prussian nor Austrian troops are so clearly known as to enable us to say certainly to which Dresden is to fall. The telegrams we reprint in our foreign news are confused, and cannot be taken as a guide. They assume that Benedek, the Austrian commander, will seize Dresden; but two armies are about equidistant to that city, and if there be a chance the Prussians to get possession of Saxony itself, they will try hard to do so. Congress is all for Austria, and put her railways at Benedek's disposal while the Prussians must trust to their own resources; but as Prussia has a day's start of her enemy, it is not certain she may not reach Dresden. The possession of Dresden, to which side it may fall, will be a most important advantage. Just south of the city lies the ground which the wars of Frederick made famous, and which since has been reckoned an important position. An army once established there it could not be dislodged without a campaign. If Prussia gets it she will have her grip on the neck of Saxony, and that ill-fated kingdom may have more cause to repent its unpopularity toward Austria than it must be admitted, however, that probabilities point to the seizure and permanent occupation of this region by the Austrian forces.

From Italy we have the news that Cialdini was expected to cross the Po the fourteenth, with eighty thousand men, and we presume there is no doubt that military plans had been prepared on between Italy and Prussia that the first shot fired on the Saxon-Silesian frontier was echoed by a reported movement of an Italian detachment into Hungary. The strength of her army to meet antagonism on the North, Austria is manifestly weak against Italy, and for nothing more than a defensive campaign in Venetia at present. If much defensive tactics will avail against the enthusiasm and impetuous courage and overwhelming numbers of the Italian army, we shall be likely to see very soon. It is scarcely worth while to speculate on the few hints we get of the opening campaign. The one certain is that a great European war is to be fought, and that its results lie beyond all foresight. Already the German Confederation disappears from the scene of Prussia, and left dependent on the fortune of war for the ultimate position of its component States. Remaining Italy and Prussia against Austria and such of the minor German States as may be able to control, the balance of forces is so even that the future of Europe may be said to lie in the hands of the generals who command the opposing armies.—New York Tribune.

AMBROSE A. BUTTS, of Auburn, Ohio, recently lifted a dead weight of three thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven and three fourths pounds, which was the greatest lifting feat on record. He has been practising at intervals during the last six years. Dr. Winslow, for several years past considered the strongest man in the world, at last accounts he lifted only twenty-six hundred pounds. DESPATCHES received from Colorado state that the mining season is opening with better promise than at any time during the last three years, especially the Gulch Bar and Pincer diggings mining is pushed on with remarkable activity. THE latest news from San Domingo confirms the reports of the fall of President Haeg and his departure from the island. The Government has passed temporarily at least, into the hands of triumvirate.