

The Columbian.

GEORGE H. MOORE, EDITOR. BLOOMSBURG, SATURDAY, DEC. 15, 1866.

WHIPPING IN SCHOOLS.

The woman-whipping school case, which has reflected so much disgrace directly upon Cambridge, and indirectly upon Massachusetts, is likely to result in good, after all, in the adoption of a rule forbidding corporal punishment in the Cambridge schools, and by a vote of the citizens condemning the shameful proceeding of the school committee which justified the brutality of the woman-whipping master, and his female accomplices. At a meeting of the Republicans of Cambridge, last evening, to nominate officers for the ensuing municipal year, Dr. Wyman introduced a resolution declaring that, in the opinion of the meeting, corporal punishment of girls should be abolished in the schools. Mayor Merrill opposed the resolution on the ground that it would look like a rebuke to the school committee. He deprecated the idea of changing the board; he defended their action. He did not think the conduct of the master judicious, but he thought the master had only done his duty. It appeared by the explanation of Mr. Foster, father of the girl who was whipped, that Mayor Merrill was the man who voted against a public hearing before the school committee.

Dr. Wyman, in advocating the resolution, spoke of the schools of Prussia as having abolished corporal punishment for more than twenty-five years, with beneficial results, and he thought the plan ought to be adopted here. He spoke of the peculiar physiological development of the female sex as being totally at variance with the law of force. They require the law of love to govern them. The code of morals was far more effective than physical force. Mr. John N. Barbour, an old anti-slavery man, fully justified the whipping of white school girls, and the action of the school committee on the subject. But at this point in the meeting Professor Agassiz stepped forward and gave his opinion upon the whipping of scholars. He said he had been a citizen of Cambridge for twenty years. He was an American citizen. He could not sit still without saying a word on this matter. He believed in the opinion expressed by the first gentleman who spoke. He had been a teacher since he was fourteen years of age—some forty years—and he never struck a blow. He believed that the fault was mainly with the teacher whenever corporal punishment was resorted to. He was in favor of increasing the number of schools, and also the number of teachers, as he thought it impossible for one man to control so large a body of scholars as are gathered in the public schools of Cambridge.

Ex-Governor Washburn disclaimed all connection with any party, and would vote for any man who would stand by the petition which he had the honor of signing some time ago, that corporal punishment, so far as girls were concerned, should be abolished in the public schools. It was not with him a personal matter; he knew nothing of the parties concerned in the late whipping case; it was with him a matter of greater importance. Discipline was a means, not an end. There is no need of whipping girls to make them behave. He reiterated the statement expressed by the previous speaker that in five cases out of seven the fault was with the teacher rather than the scholar. If there is a necessity for punishment it is the right and duty of the school committee to remove the refractory scholar. Whipping is a positive evil. It blunts the intellect, and the scholars lose all self-respect. He alluded to the progress which had been made in the discipline of criminals and the treatment of the insane. In old times it was thought impossible to have our schools taught by females—that the boys would overpower them in the matter of discipline. But the result of the progress thus far made shows that a large majority of the teachers in the public schools were females.

Continuing his remarks, Professor Washburn declared his conviction that the application of corporal punishment was prolific of evil. It could not be used on young children without blunting their sensibilities, and lessening their confidence in their teachers, and every one else; and no girl of ten years old or upward could be whipped without hardening or breaking her heart. Joshua Coffin, of Newburyport, immortalized by Whittier, and a school teacher for forty years, was rough in exterior and rough in manner, but he had a heart as soft as a girl's, and a clear head. The speaker remembered him at a teacher's meeting, where the subject of corporal punishment was under discussion.

A KEY of one of the large record safes in the State House of Columbus, Ohio, having been lost, a hole was punched through the back with a crowbar lately. The rear wall of the safe was found to consist of two thin sheets of iron, with a layer of rotten bark between.

CHARLES H. SWEETSER has withdrawn from the Round Table, and leaves it on the hands of Messrs. Gardner and Sedley. In his valedictory he says he "has a natural feeling of pain in thus detaching himself from the Round Table, with whose career he has been associated from its beginning."

Mrs. DOCTOR MARY WALKER, who created no little excitement in New York a few months since, is just now the sensation in London. An English journal has this paragraph: "Doctor Mary Walker visited Middlesex Hospital on Saturday, and was conducted through the establishment. The students were somewhat surprised at her appearance, for it seems that she has not only donned the M.D., but the breeches as well. She wears a low-crowned plain felt hat, a dark plush coat, not quite reaching to the knees, and black cloth trousers."

reported that he presented himself at a primary school and spread terror among the little children by giving the teacher a long, hard ruler, bidding her use it upon refractory scholars—"use it until the blood comes if they do not submit."—Boston Commercial, November 27.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

This entertaining fortnightly for December fifteenth publishes a variety of interesting matter. Mrs. Edwards concludes "Archie Lovell," a story not exceeded in interest by Trollope's "Clayrings," continued here. J. W. Wall writes about the "Environ of Berlin," and H. A. DeLille gives us an interesting sketch of "Napoleon the Third," portraying his character in a most entertaining manner. "The Currency of the United States," by George A. Potter, will be found to be a well-written article, and one which is instructive as well. "An Old Story," by Mrs. R. H. Davis, are pleasant reading. "From Pig to Pork," plain as its title, is an article that cannot be passed by. Eugene Benson writes on "The Woman Question" in a superior style. "Maccaroni," by George Wakeman, is yet another of the good things which are served up in this magazine, not forgetting "Nebula," by the Editor. The poetry is "Scen Once," by John Weiss, and "Christmas," by Phoebe Cary. We would suggest that eight numbers of the *Galaxy* makes rather a large book, and that four volumes in the year would be a better division, besides being a more natural one.

As an opening to the New Year *Peterson's Magazine* prints "The Lullaby," a steel-plate engraving; a colored fashion-plate; "Au Revoir," another steel-plate engraving, pattern for a hand screen, printed in colors; fashion cuts in endless numbers; and a variety of minor illustrations too numerous for mention. The literary matter in this number is good, and is not the least addition to the many attractions contained in this Magazine.

The *Lady's Book* for January is already at hand and is a perfect beauty. Its contents are: "The First Party," a very superior steel engraving. A steel plate title-page, containing several handsome pictures; colored fashion-plate; brides and bridesmaids; a fancy slipper, printed in colors; "On the Wissahickon," a skating scene, printed in colors; "Spending a Penny," a handsome engraving for the juveniles; latest Paris fashions; novelties; "Work Department," containing a variety of fancy work for ladies; drawing lessons, etc. The literary matter in the January number is by the best magazine writers in the country. Marion Harland, Mary Janvrin, Sophia de Launier, S. Annie Frost, Mrs. Dennison, S. A. Emory, and others contribute articles that make this number rank as the best ever issued. The price of the *Lady's Book* is three dollars, with a reduction to clubs.

HENRY J. RAYMOND.

We shall never forget the wild enthusiasm that spontaneously greeted the patriotic words which we quote below when, in the Philadelphia August Convention, they fell from the lips of Henry J. Raymond, as he was reading the "Address to the People of the United States." So thrilled was that great audience with the power and justness of the noble utterance that by unanimous request Mr. Raymond repeated the declaration, and with an emphasis which clearly indicated that he too felt the inspiration which his own well-chosen words had produced. Here they are, referring to the "Amendment":

"And the ten millions of Americans who live in the South would be unworthy citizens of a free country, degenerate sons of a heroic ancestry, unfit ever to become the guardians of the rights and liberties bequeathed to us by the fathers and founders of the Republic, if they could accept, with uncomplaining submissiveness, the humiliations thus sought to be imposed upon them."

Now Mr. Raymond is urging these very "ten millions of Americans" to submit to the very "humiliation" which, according to his own well-expressed words, would make them "unworthy citizens of a free country!" "Consistency, thou art a jewel!"—National Republican.

The Sultan of Turkey is building a hot-house at an expense of one hundred thousand dollars.

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EUROPEAN NEWS.

News by the Cable to Wednesday, December 12.

British Claims for Damages Against the United States.

Fenian Troubles in Ireland on the Increase.

A Greek Fire Manufactory Discovered in Dublin.

MILITARY AND NAVAL REORGANIZATION IN FRANCE.

Russian Schemes of Intervention in Eastern Affairs.

ENGLAND.

BRITISH CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

LONDON, Wednesday, December 12. In the Commission to adjust the *Alabama* claims, the claims of this country against the United States, for losses of British subjects by depredations, etc., during the war, will be brought prominently forward.

THE SEIZURE OF THE BOLIVAR.

LONDON, Wednesday, December 12. A strict guard has been placed over the steamer *Bolivar*, which was seized in the Medway on suspicion of being a Fenian cruiser. No access to the shore is allowed those on board. The captain and mate of the vessel, who did not join the crew, say that the vessel was for the Government of Columbia.

LATER.—The Minister of the United States of Columbia has made a demand upon the government for the restoration of the steamer *Bolivar*, and it is probable that she will be given up to her owners without further delay.

THE FENIAN AGITATION ON THE INCREASE.

LONDON, Wednesday, November 12. The Fenian troubles in Ireland are increasing. Another regiment has been ordered and will soon proceed to Ireland. A factory for the preparation of Greek fire has been discovered by the police in Dublin.

THE REBEL CRUISE.

LONDON, Wednesday, December 12. In the *Rappahannock* case, the claimants against the United States have been ordered to file an amended answer.

FRANCE.

REORGANIZATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY.

PARIS, Wednesday, December 12. It is now said that the Imperial Commission will agree upon a similar plan to that adopted by Denmark for the reorganization of both the army and the fleet.

THE EAST.

RUSSIAN PLAN FOR A CONFERENCE ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

LONDON, Wednesday, December 12. It is rumored here and on the Continent that the Emperor of Russia has proposed to the Great Powers that they hold a conference to take into consideration the position of the Christian subjects of the Sublime Porte.

A COMPLICATED DIVORCE CASE.

A SUIT has been commenced in the Wayne Circuit Court which, if tried with all the evidence, documentary and otherwise, will not only prove interesting to all who are imbued with a morbid curiosity, but will test the validity of a divorce granted in a different State from that in which the divorced parties were married and for a long time resident. The case is substantially as follows: The parties were married several years ago, and resided in this county; but the husband being of a jealous disposition, they never lived happily together. He has accused her of being criminally intimate with a man residing in the neighborhood, and charged that one night he caught the individual escaping from her bed-room window. Of the truth or falsity of this accusation we know nothing; but he "made a note on't," and left her to get along in the world as best she might. The husband removed into another State, subsequently applied for a divorce on the ground of adultery, and obtained a decree by default—the wife putting in no defense. He then got married again, evidently to a companion more suited to his taste. The first wife preferred a charge of bigamy against him, and the last grand jury of this county indicted him for the offence. It does not, however, appear that anything further was done about this matter—at least the case has never gone to trial. She has now applied for a divorce on the ground of adultery with the second wife, and may obtain a bill by default, in which event there will be no trial in the case. If the bigamy case should be tried, it will be the means of ascertaining whether a man can take up a residence in another State and obtain a divorce, which is too frequently the result now-a-days of a brokerage system which is so extensively carried on, especially in the State of Indiana.—Detroit Tribune.

The wound which Garibaldi received at Aspromonte, and which had reopened from the fatigue of the last campaign, is now becoming closed again, and the General looks forward to soon resuming his agricultural labors.

HURD AND HUGHTON announce for speedy publication Lord Macaulay's orations and poems, with the report and notes on the Indian Penal Code, in the style of their edition of the history. Also "Charles Wesley, seen in his finer and less familiar Poems," edited by Frederic M. Bird; "Antonius," a dramatic poem, by J. C. Heywood, and "Venetian Life," by W. D. Howells—second edition, enlarged.

GENERAL PRESS DISPATCHES.

From Washington. MAXIMILIAN AND THE MISSION TO MEXICO.

THE United States Consulate at Vera Cruz reports to the State Department that Maximilian was to leave Orizaba on the twenty-eighth of November for the City of Mexico; and that the United States Mission was likely to be regarded in a friendly manner by the French in that Republic.

CHANGE IN THE TIME OF THE MEETING OF CONGRESS.

The principal business of the House on Monday was the passage of the bill creating another session of Congress by a vote of ayes, 124; noes, 23. This bill organizes the Fortieth Congress on the fourth of March, and makes the second session commence January first, 1868, and the third on the first Monday after the first Tuesday of November in the same year. As a consequence, should the bill also pass the Senate, the question of the organization of the next House will enter largely into the business of the present House.

THE COMMITTEE ON FRAUDS.

The Select Committee on Frauds on the Revenue, of which Mr. Darling is Chairman, will pursue its labors in Washington some time, and then, if necessary, proceed elsewhere to investigate the frauds in regard to whiskey.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE NEW ORLEANS RIOTS.

The Committee, of which Mr. Elliot, of Massachusetts, is to be Chairman, to investigate the New Orleans riots, will proceed to that city to conduct its labors, but will not leave, probably, for a week or ten days.

PETITION FOR THE IMPEACHMENT OF THE PRESIDENT.

The first petition for the impeachment of the President in Congress comes from one hundred and fifty-two citizens of Stark County, Ohio, and was presented in the House on Monday by Mr. Eckley, of that State. The memorial is in printed form, and is a duplicate of that which has been circulated in the Northern States during the past two months. The memorialists charge upon Mr. Johnson usurpation of rights and abuse of power devolved upon him; selling pardons; neglect to execute laws; abuse of power in appointments and removals; inciting the people to disobey laws, etc.

THE PROJECT FOR SUPPLANNING THE GOVERNMENTS AT THE SOUTH, AND MAKING TERRITORIES OF THE STATES, IS ASSUMING SHAPE, and there is no doubt but what the measure will be pushed forward and through without delay.

THE CASE OF JEFF. DAVIS.

There is the best authority for saying that the President has positively determined not to interfere in the case of Jeff. Davis, by ordering his release on parole, but that he will remain where he is until arrangements can be made for his trial some time during the ensuing Spring.

APPROPRIATION ASKED FOR.

Mr. Stevens, from the Committee on Appropriations, has been instructed to report a bill to cover deficiencies amounting to about two million and a half of dollars. It contains the appropriation asked for by Secretary Seward to enable him to prosecute the cases now pending before the tribunals of England and France, growing out of the late Rebellion. Mr. Stevens will probably put the bill on its passage as soon as it is printed.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The House Military Committee on Tuesday authorized a bill to be reported conferring upon the President power to confer brevet rank on officers in the Regular Army who have distinguished themselves in the volunteer service. Under the present law no such authority exists. The Committee also had under consideration the bounty question. The bill passed at the last session is not regarded by the Committee as satisfactory to the soldiers or just in its provisions. It is proposed, therefore, to frame a new bill, with a view of remedying that crude and ill-considered measure, which was hurried through during the last hours of the session.

THE MINISTER TO LISBON.

An amendment was adopted at the last session to the Diplomatic Appropriation Bill, striking out the appropriation for paying the Minister to Lisbon, which was intended as a rebuke to Mr. Harvey, who held that position. Mr. Harvey is still at his post, occupying the position, but draws no salary. The Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate have under consideration the question of recommending the appropriation for keeping up said mission. Mr. Seward is very anxious that the salary should be restored, and Mr. Harvey allowed to remain. Mr. Sumner, who is Chairman of the Committee, is favorable to it.

THE CURRENCY.

It is ascertained that the members of the Senate Finance Committee, and the Ways and Means Committee of the House, are so evenly balanced upon the important question of inflation and contraction that it is very doubtful as yet what will be proposed in either Committee, though there seems to be but little doubt but that Mr. McCulloch's recommendation will very nearly be concurred in. In its present form Mr. Boutwell's bill for the sale of Government gold does not appear to meet the approval of the Committee of Ways and Means, and it will therefore be amended before being reported to the House; if, indeed, it is reported at all.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

The House did a variety of business on Tuesday, but completed nothing of moment except the passage of a bill regulating the duties of the Clerk of the

House, which was reported by Mr. Wilson, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. This bill is the same as the old law, except that it provides that the Clerk, in making up the roll of members in each Congress, shall place thereon only the names of persons claiming seats from States which were represented in the next preceding Congress. It further provides that if the Clerk shall from any cause be disabled from performing the duties devolved upon him by this act, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall assume them; and in case of his disability they shall be performed by the Doorkeeper. A violation of the provisions of the act is to be deemed a felony. Another bill from the Judiciary Committee providing against counting illegal electoral votes was reported, but allowed to go over until Wednesday and be printed. It involves a very important question, and will be extensively discussed.

TREASON AND EX POST FACTO LAWS. A brief discussion of some interest took place on Tuesday on a strange proposition reported by Mr. Lawrence, of Ohio, to repeal the statute of limitation in trials for treason, and providing that any man guilty of treason may be tried anywhere and at any time. Mr. Lawrence, whose intentions are always a good deal stronger than his judgment or his logic, gave the very conclusive reason for his bill that unless it should be passed we cannot hang Jeff. Davis. Several members took legal exception to Mr. Lawrence's position, but Mr. Stevens went still further; he said he would rather see every traitor in the country escape than see one of them hung by a law passed after his offence and for the purpose of hanging him. He denounced such legislation as utterly unjustifiable and discreditable. Moreover, there ought to be a statute of limitations especially for cases of treason, which would always be regarded as in part political offences. Legislation on such offences should be for healing public evils and not for keeping them open indefinitely, and the healing influence of time should always be allowed. Mr. Stevens said that he did not believe Davis could be tried for treason, nor that he had been guilty of treason. His offence was that of a belligerent, not of a traitor. He had not opposed the efforts made to bring him to trial, but he had not favored them; but he was utterly opposed to any legislation of the kind proposed, which should make the mode, time, or place of trial different from what they were when the offence was committed. His remarks were heard with general attention. The bill went over.

MR. STEVENS'S PLAN TO DISQUALIFY FROM HOLDING OFFICE. One of Mr. Stevens's favorite catchwords received a summary quietus on Tuesday. He proposed that any man nominated by the President and rejected by the Senate shall be disqualified for holding any office for a year. Mr. Hale, of New York, in a few well-directed humorous remarks, completely extinguished it. He insisted that it put in the President's hands the power to put a brand on any man, and even to disqualify Mr. Stevens himself for any office in the United States by nominating him for Commander-in-Chief of the army or for Chaplain in the navy, as the Senate would be very likely to reject him. Nobody but Ashley, of Ohio, Hotchkiss, of New York, and sixteen others voted for Mr. Stevens's proposition.

NO INCREASE OF NATIONAL BANK CURRENCY.

I learn from the best authority that a majority of the Committee on Banks and Currency are opposed to any increase of National Bank currency and they propose to remedy what is deemed an unjust distribution of national currency in the North, and furnish the South what is required by a *pro rata* reduction as now furnished to the existing banks.

DISPATCH FROM GENERAL SHERIDAN.

A dispatch was received by General Grant on Wednesday from General Sheridan, dated at New Orleans, on Tuesday. General Sheridan says: "Telegraphed you last evening of the good condition of affairs on the Rio Grande. The act of General Sudwig gave rise to no complications. In fact, General Escobedo called on me to ask me not to hold him responsible for it. The Canales faction having been submerged, I was enabled to release General Ortega upon Escobedo promising that he would look out for him. There is not a city or State in Mexico which takes issue against Juarez's government. On my return I met General Sherman at Brazos, Sautiga, and was en route with Mr. Campbell for Matamoros."

NEW NATIONAL CURRENCY ACT.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency finished a new bill amendatory of the National Currency Act on Wednesday, which will be offered as a substitute for the one now before the House. Its principal features are as follows:

First. Redemption in New York.

Second. Reduction of the circulation of existing banks to the amount of thirty-one millions, by scaling down the circulation of all banks whose capital exceeds three million dollars and limiting the total circulation of any one bank to one million dollars.

Third. Distributing thirty millions of this circulation equally among State Banks yet to be converted into National Banks, and to new banks in States that have heretofore secured the least rateable proportion of circulation.

Fourth. Fuller and more complete returns to the Comptroller of the Currency.

Fifth. More power to the Comptroller to close up defaulting banks.

Sixth. Severe punishment for counterfeiting.

THE FAILURE TO ARREST SERRATT IN CANADA.

With reference to the failure of this Government to take measures for the

arrest of the conspirator Serratt while he was on British soil, I can state upon excellent authority that it was deemed impracticable to do so, because of the almost certain probability that English public sentiment, as well as English enforcement of the extradition treaty, would regard Serratt's crime as a political one, and that therefore his arrest on British soil would result not only in a failure to secure the assassin, but in his own advantage by being made the subject of protection by Great Britain, whose example other European governments would not have been slow to follow.

THE HOUSE INQUIRY RELATIVE TO PARDONS.

To respond in a reasonable time to the resolution of the House requiring a statement of the pardons issued, the names of those who recommend them, etc., it will become necessary to make an appropriation to enable the Attorney-General to employ eight or ten clerks in his office. Even then it is estimated that these eight or ten extra clerks would find employment for about a month. Some of the cases are voluminous, and the petition of Albert Pike is cited as an illustration of this fact. Mr. Pike is a Mason, high up in the Order, and his pardon is recommended by most of the leading Masonic Lodges of the country, and is signed by the officers and members of the several Lodges.

THE PHILADELPHIA APPOINTMENTS.

Senator Trumbull, evidently under the impression that the facts in regard to the appointment of the Philadelphia Federal officers were such as would require overhauling in the Senate, introduced a resolution in that body, which was passed on Wednesday afternoon, that the President be requested to inform the Senate whether any person appointed to an office required by law to be filled by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who was commissioned, during the recess of the Senate, previous to the assembling of the present Congress, to fill a vacancy, has been continued in such office, and permitted to discharge its functions either by the granting of a new Commission or otherwise since the end of the Senate on the twenty-eighth day of July last, without the submission of the name of such person to the Senate for its confirmation; and particularly whether a Surgeon or Naval Officer of the Port of Philadelphia has thus been continued in office without the consent of the Senate; and, if any such officer has performed the duties of that office, whether he has received any salary or compensation therefor. Upon inquiry of the Treasury Department I learn that the facts as to the Philadelphia appointments do not fit the propositions embraced in the resolution, nor is there in the Treasury Department a single instance of the character sought to be brought to light by Senator Trumbull. What the showing in the other Departments may be I cannot say upon the best information, but I understand that so far as the President is concerned, no appointments have been made under circumstances identical or similar to those set forth in the resolution. If any such appointments have been made, they have been made upon a misunderstanding of the condition of the particular case or cases. The reply of the President to the resolution will be in the negative, especially as to the Philadelphia officers named.

CONFESSION OF BOTA, THE MURDERER.

We publish the confession of Peter Bota, the wife murderer, who was hanged at Williamsport recently, as it may be of some interest to the citizens of Bloomsburg. "Confession.—My wife Phoebe and I lived unhappily together. She had four husbands besides me. The people at Harrisburg told me that she killed her husbands. This they told me after we were married. Shortly after we got to house-keeping, near Mountoursville, Phoebe gave me a tumbler of something that looked like blood; she told me to drink it, that it was soda-water; of course I didn't do it. I told her, do you think I am green? Isaid, soda-water is white, this is red. My children lived with us. I have only two children; they are my first wife. My oldest is a boy, named after me, Peter Bota. He was ten years old last October. The other is a girl, named Amanda, aged seven years last October. (Here the prisoner, in speak of his children, cried like a child and exclaimed, "Oh! my children!") I lived with my second wife nearly three months. Phoebe all the time wanted to get the papers (deed) of the house. She said she believed the papers were in possession of Mary, my first wife, in Williamsport. I told her the papers were safe. By and by you will find them. This conversation occurred on the morning of Sunday, the fourth of March last, at the breakfast table. My little son asked me to let him go to Williamsport to see his mother. I said, oh, my little boy, the road is too muddy. My wife said I had better leave him go, as he could get the papers from my first wife. Mary hadn't the papers at all. (Here the prisoner gave way to tears.) I was sick at this time. She grabbed me by the shirt and neck with one hand, in the other she had the small hatchet—the smallest of the two produced in court. I took hold of the handle of the hatchet, where the water bucket stood; there was a larger hatchet on the bench; I took hold of it and said now let me be, or I will hit you on the head. She made no answer—only frothed at the mouth. "I then hit her with the pole of the hatchet, not intending to kill her. She still held me by the throat. I could not stand this. She said if I did not tell her where the papers were she would cut my head through. I thought she was in earnest. I thought she would kill me. I then turned the sharp edge of the hatchet, and cut her on the top of the head. I felt weak; I struck her

again with all my might, making a deep cut on the left side of the head. I thought if I didn't kill her she would kill me. But I didn't want to kill her. I was making application for a divorce from her at this time. When she fell to the floor I was very much scared. It was Sunday; I did not want it said we had a quarrel on Sunday. I then went to Mrs. Lawson's and told her my wife fell down stairs and killed herself.

"There was not dead when I went to Mrs. Lawson's. But I knew she would not live long. She didn't live two minutes after I struck her the second blow. After leaving Mrs. Lawson's, I started for the doctor; on the road I met Esquire Crawford. I told him the same story, that my wife had fallen down stairs and killed herself. But I knew right away he didn't believe me. I say again I am sorry I killed her. "My parents both died when I was a child. My father was a soldier three years under Napoleon. I have a brother living in this country. "I will die happy in the Roman Catholic faith. I am prepared to die."

ANOTHER BOND ROBBERY.

ANOTHER large robbery of Government securities was successfully perpetrated in New York last Monday morning. The Royal Insurance Company, of No. 76 Wall Street, was victimized in this instance. It appears that during the forenoon two well-dressed, respectable-looking young men called at the office and asked to see the agent of the Company. They were at once shown into an inner room, where the agent, Mr. M'Donald, was at the time engaged. Adjoining this room is the large vault, in which are kept the books and documents belonging to the Company. At the time the young men were there, there was also in the vault a tin box containing the Company's securities, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in Government bonds. One of the young men at once engaged Mr. M'Donald in conversation, stating that he desired to obtain a policy of insurance on his life. While Mr. M'Donald was explaining the matter to him the accomplice of the young man stealthily entered the vault, secured the tin box, and hastily took his departure with the booty. The other one soon afterward left, without the object of the visit having been suspected. When the loss of the bonds was eventually discovered, the bold thieves were far beyond reach. The police authorities were at once notified, and from the description given of the thieves by Mr. M'Donald, it is thought their arrest will be speedily secured. The securities stolen had only been brought from bank a short time previous to the robbery, and it is believed that the thieves had their eyes upon the box from the time it was taken from the bank until they had secured possession of it. A reward of ten thousand dollars has been offered for the recovery of the bonds.

A NEW TEXTILE.

The last discovery which comes to us from Nevada is agricultural rather than mineral, but very important. It is of a new textile, such as was eagerly sought when the Rebellion broke out, but unsuccessfully. The plant now discovered has its home in the Humboldt Valley, where it grows in large quantities, and can, of course, be made to grow more thrifflly by cultivation, while, if it has the values which are ascribed to it, it will soon be removed to other fields, and propagated among regular crops. The plant is said by the discoverers to be superior to any textile now in use. Though styled hemp, it is so called on account of its closer similarity to that than to any other growth. It has a stronger and firmer fibre than the proper hemp, and a much longer staple. In proportion to the wood, too, the fibre is much more abundant. It can be more easily separated than flax or hemp, and can be stripped clean from the stalk without preparation. Nevada lies between thirty-seven and forty-two degrees north. This corresponds with the latitude of Northern California, of San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Indianapolis, Columbus, and Philadelphia. The Humboldt River, along which the new hemp grows, runs from the mountains of that name westward, through a mountainous country. If, therefore, experiment proves what is now claimed for this textile, it can be prolonged in its cultivation from its original habitation to our own doors, and will enhance the value of the hemp harvest in those States where it is now an important feature.—Philadelphia Gazette.

FREAKS OF A LUNATIC.

The London *Weekly Times* of November sevenths says: "A young lady was put in a train to go alone to London. As the train was on the point of starting, a gentleman rushed up and got in. At this her friends, who were seeing her off, were rather annoyed, but thought it did not much signify. Shortly after the train had started the gentleman jumped up and exclaimed: 'This carriage is too heavy, it must be lightened,' and straightway his carpet-bag disappeared out of the window. He sits still for a few minutes, when he begins again, and at this time his coat and waistcoat follow his bag. After a little while he said: 'Let us pray for the Duke of Gloucester.' Down they go, the poor girl, only seventeen, too frightened to do any thing but obey. When this was done, they prayed for the Duke of York, and then for another—in fact through a whole string of dukes. The train then set down, the young lady frightened out of her senses. After a few minutes, she begins again: 'It won't do; it can't stand it; the train is too heavy. Either you or I must get out! I don't want to, so you must go!' The girl, in despair, says: 'But we have no prayer for the Duke of Northumberland.' 'Ah! no more we have!' Down the train stopped at a station, and the young lady called the guard, who discovered that the gentleman was a lunatic escaped from Hemwell."