

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

A motion was adopted striking out the word "girls" in the resolution, and it was passed. In nominating a board of school committee, all the old board but four were rejected. Among those dropped is a clergyman, of whom it is

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.

As an opening to the New Year Peterson 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 number; 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. GENEVIA LADY'S BOOK, Philadelphia: L. A. Godley, North-west corner Sixth and Chestnut Sts.

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.

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. 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.

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 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.

THE REBEL CRUISE.

London, Wednesday, December 12. In the Rappahannock case, the claims 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 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.

HUBB 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 Consul 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.

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.

MR. STEVENS'S PLAN TO DISQUALIFY FROM HOLDING OFFICE.

One of Mr. Stevens's favorite catches 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.

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 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.

TIBERON 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.

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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 Suedwig 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 Matamoras."

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. Severer 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 attempted 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.

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.

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 thrifflily 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.

CONFESSON 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 Mountourville, 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."

FREAKS OF A LUNATIC.

The London Weekly Times of November seventeenth 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. They then set down, the young lady frightened out of her senses. After a few minutes, she begins again: 'It won't do; 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 was discovered that the gentleman was a lunatic, escaped from Hemwell."