Tabula Rasa.

TIME SPEAKS.

Hist, mortals! I am Time
In every clime
Ye know me by the scythe I bear
Ye know me by the front I wear.
Since man first set his foot upon this earth,
Lo! I have marked each puny birth;
And I have doled the sum of passing years
In patience and in tears
Such as an old man weeps
When he his lone watch keeps
O'er what, perchance, had better not have been,
So full it seems of want and woe and sin.

The gift of years is mine:
Ambassador divine,
I hold for you my subtle glass;
I give each year, and watch it pass.
Oh, that ye knew their sweet and priceless worth,
There years of heavenly birth!
Oh, that ye might receive them thus! But no,
Weakly ye let them go,
Madly you soil the page,
In every hour and age,
Until I fain would cry for Justice' sword,
And spread the wrath of an offended Lord.

Once more the hour-glass' re!
Another year
Is slipping through my trembling hands,
That fain would stay the fluttering sands,
Save that I know its worth to you who live,
The boon that Mercy deigns to give.
I beg you now to hear Time's patient prayer;
Behold the scroll is white,
Thereon inscribe such deeds
That when the old man reads,
His voice may cry at last, "Let vengeance cease:
Their hearts are turned to Joy and Love and Peace."

—*Harper's Weekly.*

"AT HOME."

A STORY OF NEW YEAR'S DAY.

"Come into the library—do, father—
I want the dear girls. What a pic-
ture they make!"

Mr. Bell downtown was a man
to be respected as a rich, successful
merchant, much feared as an over-
grown financier; uptown, in his own
house, he was just "father." Mrs.
Bell, a comely, stout, blonde matron,
had let her whole soul overflow on the
little bald head of her first baby. Suc-
cessive babies brought more outpour-
ing of inexhaustible affection and in-
dulgence. She was content as a brood-
ing dove to be only "mother," and
that Mr. Bell could ask greater glory
or honor than to be "father," why, the
idea was absurd. So absurd that it
never came into his mind. On tiptoe
he obeyed his wife's injunction and
looked in at the library door.

"What are they doing?" he asked, in
a whisper.

"Directing envelopes for the New
Year's cards—the invitations to call,
you know."

They were certainly pretty, those
three girls, with their slender forms
thrown into graceful, unrestrained at-
titudes, as they sat about the library
table eagerly talking and busily writ-
ing. They were respectively nineteen,
eighteen and sixteen years old; and
called respectively Jo or Josie for Jo-
sephine, Sissy for Cecilia, and Tiny for
Christina. These were their home pet
names, to be sure, but following a cus-
tom that obtains nowadays, they chose
to be known by these diminutives out-
side in the fashionable world. The
great society paper described them as
"three sweet maids shading in styles of
beauty from Miss Josie's brunette bril-
liancy, through Miss Sissy's brown-
haired, blue-eyed bewilderment, to Miss
Tiny's moonlight blondeness." The
description was considered accurate as
well as extremely poetical, and Mrs.
Bell had asked the reporter to lunch.

Josie read off names from a list, the
other two sisters wrote, and a fourth
—a mite called Poppet—neatly piled
up envelopes.

"Let's see," said Josie—"the A's,
B's, C's—all done down to the M's.
Morse, Morris, McIntyre, Mumford—"

Sissy, who was biting her pen-handle
in deep reflection, and had turned up
her blue eyes to the ceiling until she
looked like the saint whose name she
bore, interrupted just here with,

"Jo, didn't we meet a Montgomery
somewhere?"

"Montgomery? No. Yes; there
was somebody of that name, it seems
to me, at Saratoga."

"I remember," exclaimed Tiny,
getting upon her knees in the chair
like a child, and stretching well across
the table, "somebody, I've forgotten
who, brought him up to us one day on
the piazza, and said he was an agree-
able man who lounged about the
office and seemed to have no friends."

"Oh, ye—s," said Josie, with uncer-
tainty; "and I think he spoke of being
at the Windsor, in New York. Direct
him an envelope, Sissy."

"But, Josie, asked Tiny, "do we
know him?"

"Nonsense, child; people aren't so
exact at New Year's. And we must
have a lot of calls. Three girls of us!
why, less than two or three hundred
calls would be a disgrace."

"Of course," said Sissy, with a
sense of the gravest responsibility; "and
to secure that number we must send
out at least twice as many invitations.
There, 'Mr. Montgomery, Windsor
Hotel.' It may not find him, but
there's a chance, and every one counts."
She threw the directed envelope among
the others that were ready to be
stamped and mailed.

"Well, my pets," Mr. Bell asked, as
he came in and looked down at the
pretty group in fond pride, "where are
all these cards to be sent?"

"Oh, papa," exclaimed Jo, "now
just run away—we're so busy."

"Now, papa"—and Sissy jumped up
and kissed him—"do be a docile parent,
there's a dear."

"Yes, and don't disturb us," added
Miss Tiny, clapping her hand over a
pile of envelopes to protect them from
scrutiny.

Mr. Bell looked amused, patted their
heads all arouxd, and observed, in a
mildly speculative way, as he saw about
one-quarter of the number to be sent,
"It seems to me there are a great
many."

"It's all right, papa; we know the
customs of society," came the reassur-
ing chorus.

"We know the cuthtomth of thothiety
perfectly," echoed in a shrill solo from
Poppet, who at present lisps, being
minus one milk-tooth in front, but
who will shortly be known to the
newspapers as "the piquant Miss
Poppet Bell."

Then all the girls jump up and make
a dash at papa, and in a few moments
a handsome old gentleman, very merry
and very proud of his handsome and
merry girls, makes a feint of having
been ejected with great violence from
the library, and the door is closed and
locked on the inside.

Mr. Bell can hardly stop laughing
to say to his wife, "I suppose you
know all about the cards sent out?"

"Oh, no," she answers, placidly; "I
leave social matters to the girls.
They're great favorites, father, and
very attractive. The number of
friends they have is astonishing. It's
all right."

By force of example, Mr. Bell echoes,
cheerfully, "Oh, yes, it's all right."

On New Year's day there was a very
rainbow of girls in the Bell drawing-
room. Such filmy, dainty-hued dresses,
such bright cheeks and eyes, such a be-
wildering tangle of glossy hair never
before shimmered around a prosperous,
beaming old father. Mr. Bell was so
apt to be late downtown, or deeply
absorbed in business schemes, or "seeing
a man" in the library during the
evening, that he had seldom met his
daughters in grand toilet, and had
never realized what radiant creatures
they were, and that uptown he was
chiefly known as "the Bell girls'
father." He himself, in full dress and
a light overcoat, was complimented by
his eldest daughter as "just too sweet
for anything." Then he jumped into
the carriage, consulted a formidable
list, and began the day's work.

The first caller at the house was old
Mr. Crump—"nobody at all, you know;
just a friend of mamma's ages ago,
when she was young," as Sissy re-
marked.

"Ah," exclaimed Mrs. Bell, with rap-
ture, as she was entertaining him, "my
dear girls are quite leaders of society."

"Yes, madame," answered the ridicu-
lous old party; "and we live in the
only country in the world where a
mother can make such a boast of chil-
dren in their teens."

"I know it," responded the mother,
with a sigh of pious contentment,
"and I'm devoutly grateful for our
free institutions."

"Free and easy institutions," Mr.
Crump suggested; then pinching Pop-
pet's cheek, he asked: "Well, small
child, and what do you do on New
Year's day?"

"Oh, I retheive all day long. It ith
quite tirethome," said Poppet, gravely.

Crump, as he gave a hasty farewell
nod, made some strange noise under
his breath. Josie thought it was a
groan, but Tiny, who stood nearest,
said: "It was a swear, an awful
swear."

"I think," said Poppet, "he ith
dreffully poky and hathn't any thyle."

The early calls were mostly from
very young men, solemn under a sense
of juvenility, or hilarious and kindly
patronizing toward elder people.

At 11 o'clock Josie whispered to
Sissy: "What a bore! I hate boys!"

By noon old married men and the
heads of families hurried in, paid
elaborate compliments, declared that
Mrs. Bell hadn't grown a day older in
twenty years; then made off, checking
against the name "Bell" in a busi-
ness-like way just at the carriage
door.

"At last!" exclaimed Josie about 1
o'clock—"at last the marriageable men
are coming."

They came by dozens—men who led
the german, men who drove their own
"four-in-hands," men who lounged
about clubs, men who had "seen life"
in Paris, and watched talkative young
girls with a sinister interest.

Rather late in the afternoon Mrs.
Bell became so pleased with a tall,
handsome, dark-haired man of about
thirty-five, who spoke in a mellow
voice and with an English inflection,
that she contrived to whisper to Josie,
"What's his name?"

"I'm sure I don't know, mamma,"
answered the young lady, gayly.
"There are dozens here whose faces
even I can't recall."

"Oh, yes," Sissy chimed in with a
languid smile, "we sent so many cards,
you know."

Mrs. Bell, who had begun to feel he
would make an ideal son-in-law, said
to the gentleman, with a proper pre-
amble, "It is unpardonable, but we
have really forgotten your name."

"Montgomery," he suavely replied.
"Your card came to my hotel—the
Windsor."

"Oh, yes, certainly, of course. The
girls sent out a great many. Pleasant
custom, isn't it?"

"Charming custom," answered Mr.
Montgomery, "so—convenient—that is,
I mean so—so cordial." His eyes were
fixed in a horrible stare directly over
Mrs. Bell's shoulder, and he hurriedly
offered his arm. "My dear madame"
(he stammered dreadfully), "will you
permit me to admire" (he jerked out
the words) "the works of art in the
next room?"

Mrs. Bell turned about to see at
what he was staring in that ghastly
way, and found standing behind her
nothing worse than a short, stout man
of forty or so, with a florid countenance,
and a pleasant smile upon it, who was
waiting to pay his New Year's compli-
ment. That duly received, she took
Mr. Montgomery's proffered arm, and
went into the next room to view a
large oil painting. The stout gentle-
men followed them, and cheerfully
offered the remark, "Fine picture."
Mr. Montgomery dashed off to a corner
where there was a piece of statuary.
The stout man dashed off to the corner
also, and gave the opinion, "Fine
statue."

"Poppet," whispered Mrs. Bell,
beckoning the child to her, "go and
ask Josie this gentleman's name."

Meanwhile he was delivering quite a
little lecture on art. "The wonderful
permanency of works in marble renders
them of value to the historian; they
are, so to speak, petrified history," he
said, blandly.

Poppet came running back, and
said, in capital imitation of her
elders, "We really can't thay who
everybody ith."

Mr. Montgomery's attention seemed
fixed on a fine etching that hung near
the open door, and he went toward it.
The stout person performed a sort of
quadrille figure in front of him all the
way, and stationed himself on the
threshold. Montgomery attempted to
cross that threshold; a fat hand met
his advancing shoulder, and the words,
"Oh, no!" very gently spoken, met
his ear.

The words were evidently softer
than the grasp; for at the moment the
three girls and a train of callers were
passing through to the dining-room,
where a collation was spread, and Mr.
Montgomery staggered back, violently
propelled by that plump hand. The
rude stout man seemed about to speak
with great vehemence, but he looked
into the faces of the three young girls
in succession, and down into Poppet's
innocent, wide-opened eyes, then
laughed, and said, "Why, ladies, here's
a fortunate meeting; this gentleman
has forgotten me, but I know him."
Montgomery looked something like an
upright corpse. "I've been looking
for him a long time. Why, Charles"
and he put out his hand—"don't you
remember—" Montgomery was still
uncanny to see. "Don't you remember
—your brother Jack?"

Then the stout man seized the
younger one's hand, wrung it, and
laughed again in the heartiest way
imaginable. The newly found Charles
stepped forward, looked about wildly,
then finally ejaculated, "Jack! oh, yes,
Jack!"

"Your brother Jack."

"Yes. How d'ye do?"

Mrs. Bell murmured in happy sym-
pathy, "How fortunate! what a de-
lightful meeting!" and the girls chir-
ruped like little birds about the won-
derful scene, while the brothers spoke
quietly apart.

From that moment hearty Mr. Jack's
devotion to his newly found relative
knew no bounds. Arm in arm they
went to the refreshment table. Charles
had a singularly small appetite, but
Jack ate enough for both, and re-
marked with solicitude, "Charlie was
never very strong—always liable to
turn pale and break down—eh, old boy,
weren't you?"

"Yes, oh, ye—yes," answered Charles.

"Why," exclaimed Sissy, "it's quite
wonderful! "How did you know your
brother was here?"

"Why," said Jack, still holding
Charlie's arm, "I traced him to the
Windsor, and seeing your card in his
room, followed here on the chance of
finding him, and also" (this with a
gallant bow) "of paying my respects to
some American ladies."

It was about 6 o'clock, and the
calling had fallen off as the wretched
victims of the day's pleasure took the
usual dinner-time for a breathing space
before the evening's rush and hurry.
In fact, not a visitor remained except
the happy reunited brothers, and Jack
proposed, "Now, Charlie, let us go."

Charles refused flatly, and asked per-
mission to see the conservatory—a
fragrant little bower at the extreme
end of the long vista of connecting
rooms. The ladies assented, and the
cheerful brother Jack followed close.

"Charming!" exclaimed the fasci-
nating man. "Such roses I've rarely
seen. There's a fine variety;" and step-
ping lightly on a shelf full of pots he
leaned toward the window to catch a
crimson bud that was nodding its fra-
grance from near the sash. A moment
more and he reached the flower; then
there was a tremendous blow, a crash
of glass, a dreadful thunder of falling
flower pots, screams, a wild confusion,
and Mr. Charles Montgomery had
jumped through the window as nim-
bly, if not as quietly, as a cat. The
frightened women hardly realized what
had happened before the devoted
brother Jack, with more crash of flower
pots and glass, had jumped after him
through the same opening. A balcony
was outside the window, and there
was a terrible trampling and struggle
there.

"Help! help! come here!" Mrs
Bell shrieked, for the three men-ser-
vants who were in the house. They
came running, and in great excitement.
There were racing and chasing in the
yard, and a great scuffling at a gate
that led out into the street (the house
being on a corner); then came several
pistol-shots in quick succession. At
the firing all the servants ran down the
basement stairs, one brave fellow ex-
claiming:

"Don't yer be scared, missus; I's
gwine ter fetch de kitchen poker."

Then in through the splintered sash
came Charles Montgomery, and after
him, much breathed, the loving
brother Jack, a smoking pistol in his
hand and a dreadful oath on his lips.
Round and round the drawing-room
rushed the pursued and the pursuer
The brave servant showed a woolly
head and two white eyes over the top
step of the basement stairs, and shout-
ed: "I done got de poker," then disap-
peared in safety.

Jack shrieked: "Give up! give up,
I tell you!" Then, as the desperate
man fled toward the frightened women
for refuge, called out: "Lie down on
the floor, ladies; I'm going to fire."

Down on the floor they dropped, toi-
lets and all; fire he did, and Mrs.
Bell yelled loud enough to bring in
twenty gens-d'armes if she had been
in Paris. There were more fierce
oaths, there was more pursuit, then the
wildest, maddest struggle of all near
the front door, followed by a dull
blow, a heavy fall, and—silence.

At this moment a latch-key turned
and Mr. Bell came cheerfully into his
home.

On the marble floor of the hall lay a
tall man senseless and bleeding. Over
him stood a short, florid man wiping
the perspiration from his forehead and
putting up a pistol. An exclamation
of alarm and horror escaped the mas-
ter of the house.

Jack hurried to say, "I suppose you
are Mr. Bell?"

"I am—and—and—" he assumed a
threatening attitude.

"Father!" shrieked Mrs. Bell and
the girls, and a bunch of white faces
looked out from the back parlor door.
Mr. Bell rushed to the messenger
alarm-box and gave the signal for the
police.

"Now, now keep cool and I'll ex-
plain," said Jack, pleasantly. "This
genteel person who had an invitation
to call on you is a fugitive from jus-
tice. He's nothing less than a—
Never mind; I'm sorry to frighten
these ladies, and I tried every device,
even to calling myself his long-lost
brother, to get my man quietly out of
your house and arrest him in the street.
I've feeling for the domestic sancities.
I've daughters of my own. You see,
he's been hiding for several years and
now, thinking pursuit was over, came
out quite boldly under a new name."

Two policemen appeared at the door.

"Tell the chief of police—his house
is close by," said the cool party—"that
Jack Trapper, of the London force, has
taken the man in the Carter case, and
ask the chief to step here if he will."

While Mr. Bell was slowly taking
in the strange proceedings, that high
official arrived, greeted Jack familiarly
as "Mr. Trapper," and at once had
Montgomery, who had opened his eyes
with the hunted look of a wild beast,
carried out by four officers.

Mr. Jack Trapper followed, only
turning at the door to bow politely and
remark: "I'm very sorry, ladies—I
have a family myself—but it all came
from that card. My prisoner is charged
with—murder."

The scared women turned to the
chief of police, who confirmed the
statement, added that the man, beyond
doubt, was guilty, promised to keep the
affair out of the papers, and also po-
litely withdrew.

"Great Heaven!" exclaimed Mr.
Bell to his wife, "how did you come to
know the wretch?"

"I—I didn't know him," she stam-
mered.

"We—we met him for just a few
minutes on the piazza at Saratoga,"
Josie explained, in a trembling voice,
"and—and—well, you know, it's quite
a fashion to send out New Year's cards
so—so freely."

Mr. Bell opened his lips, for the
strongest invective that uptown had
ever heard from them, but he mas-
tered himself, and only ordered, in
tones of thunder: "Go to bed, every
one of you! Go!"

A very washed-out rainbow of girls
crept up to their several rooms and
sobbed themselves to sleep.

"I find," said the roused father to
his wife, "that fashion and society
don't guide and protect young girls.
For the future we'll govern our daugh-
ters, not be governed by them."

These things took place last year.
This year the three beauties are spoken
of as "Mr. Bell's daughters" not "the
Bell girls." Also, the few men who
have invitations for New Year's day,
directed in the bold business hand
familiar to Mr. Bell's correspondents,
think themselves rather lucky.

Poppet, by the way, stays in the
nursery this year, and says, with
proper dignity, "I don't rethieve."

No Deluge in the Cyclopedia.

Many years ago a new encyclopedia
was to be published in England. "The
Deluge" was one of the topics to be
described as a specialty, and it was as-
signed to an eminent scientific man.
He treated the theme with all the free-
dom of modern science, and the revis-
ers found his article so far out of the
orthodox range of opinion that they
feared to use it. Announcement was
therefore made that a description of
the deluge would be found under the
heading "Noah," to be issued later
on. The subject was then assigned to
another writer. But he, too, was
of scientific leanings, and his re-
marks on Noah and the deluge
were too bold and free for the
committee on revision and were
quietly discarded. A second an-
nouncement was made that the long
expected essays on the deluge and
Noah would be embraced under a later
heading, and measures were taken
that the subject should be treated
this time in a dull, orthodox and un-
true, but eminently safe manner. But
the third essay was no more satisfac-
tory than its predecessors; for the
writer, despite all the instruction and
caution he had received from the re-
vision committee, insisted upon being
original and new. Four attempts in
all were thus made to have the theme
written up from the committee's
standpoint, but without success. Fi-
nally the encyclopedia came out with-
out one word, from its first page to
its last, about the deluge.—*Rev. Robert Collyer.*

The devil never tempted a man
whom he found judiciously employed.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Eastern and Middle States.

R. PORTER LEE, late president of the First National bank of Buffalo, N. Y., convicted at the United States circuit court at Syracuse of embezzlement, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

A large and enthusiastic meeting in New York—held for the purpose of arousing more fully public interest in the erection upon Bedloe's Island, New York harbor, of a pedestal for the statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World," presented to the American people by the people of France—was presided over by William M. Evarts and addressed by well-known orators.

GENERAL DANIEL TYLER, oldest living graduate of the West Point military academy, died a few days ago in New York, aged eighty-three years.

While workmen at Plattsburg, N. Y., were lowering from a derrick-car a heavy stone the derrick-car was overturned into the river, and dragged with it the tender of an engine. William Hefferman, master mason, was instantly killed, two others were seriously injured, and a mason named Murray was reported missing and supposed to be under the tender in the river.

MYERS, American amateur champion, was defeated by George, English champion, in a three-quarter-mile running race at New York; and on the same day, on the same ground, Yale defeated Princeton at football winning the college championship.

The inhabitants of North Newport, Me., were startled by hearing three pistol shots in rapid succession, and shortly afterward a horse and carryall ran into the dooryard of John Dodge. In the carriage Miss Nellie Prilay, of North Newport, lay dying with a bullet hole in her left temple. Charles Cole fell well jumped from the carriage and dropped before reaching the door; he had a bullet hole in his right temple. They were carried into Mr. Dodge's house, and both soon expired. Crowell had called at the school house in St. Albans that afternoon, where Miss Prilay was teaching, to take her to her home in Newport.

One of the recent curious happenings in Brooklyn was the arrest of a husband for kissing his wife upon the complaint of her irate spouse.

HENRY C. MURPHY, president of the board of trustees of the Brooklyn bridge, and a prominent citizen of Brooklyn, died a few days since, aged seventy-two years. Mr. Murphy had been a member of Congress, United States minister to Holland under Pierce, and State senator. He had also written a number of historical volumes.

The provisions of the new penal code relating to Sabbath-breaking were rigorously enforced in New York and Brooklyn on the first Sunday that the law went into effect, and in consequence an unusual quietness prevailed all day throughout the metropolis. In New York the police made over 100 arrests, mainly of bootblacks, drivers, barbers and cigar dealers, but the great majority of arrested persons were discharged by the justice without fine. The sale of newspapers was also greatly affected. The enforcement of the law created great excitement, some amusement and much comment, principally of an adverse character.

The steamer H. Folger, of Cape Vincent, N. Y., has been wrecked in Lake Ontario. The captain and crew of eight men were lost.

The special train conveying Mrs. Langtry, the English beauty, to Boston at the conclusion of her theatrical engagement in New York, struck a wagon at Thompsonville, Conn., and killed two boys in the vehicle.

Among the twelve hundred gentlemen present at the reception given to Governor-elect Cleveland by the Manhattan club in New York were General Hancock, Governor-elect Waller, of Connecticut, and many leading Democrats from various States. An address was made by the recipient of the reception.

A sensation has been caused in Philadelphia by the arrest of an organized gang of grave robbers that has for nearly twenty years been despoiling Lebanon cemetery. Three men—two white and one colored—were arrested while driving a wagon containing five bodies to a medical college. It is asserted so many bodies have been taken from the cemetery for dissection that it is almost empty.

South and West.

The Louisiana legislature has unanimously re-elected John T. Morgan to the United States Senate.

GENERAL ANDREW S. HERRON, Congressman elect from the sixth Louisiana district, died very suddenly at his residence, a few nights ago, of heart disease.

GOVERNOR MCENERY, of Louisiana, refused to issue a certificate of election to Senator Kellogg (who was a candidate for Congress in the Third district) on the ground of nonresidence in the district or State. Senator Kellogg submitted a statement to the effect that he was a resident and legal voter in the State.

FRANK FRAYNE, an actor, has been performing for years in a play—"Si Slocum"—in which he shoots an apple off another performer's head. A few days ago he was playing in a Cincinnati theatre. Frank Frayne personated Si Slocum and Miss Annie Von Behren took the role of Ruth Slocum, Si's wife. The play had proceeded to the end of the fourth act, at which point Si Slocum, who is a captive, is offered his freedom in the event of his shooting an apple off his wife's head with the backward shot. He has performed this feat in all the principal cities and has never before met with an accident. As usual Mr. Frayne took his place on one side of the stage, with Miss Von Behren directly opposite. The apple was placed on the girl's head, and Mr. Frayne after taking aim, fired. At the crack of the rifle Miss Behren fell back on the stage without uttering a word, the blood oozing from a wound in the forehead. She had been shot in the forehead, and died in fifteen minutes. The audience was dismissed and Frayne was arrested.

JONATHAN T. UNDERGRAFF, Republican Congressman-elect from the seventeenth Ohio district, died a few days ago at Steubenville, aged about sixty years. Congressman Undegraff had served in the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Congresses.

At the unveiling of a monument to the Confederate dead in Magnolia cemetery, Charleston, S. C., about 15,000 persons were present, and the oration was delivered by United States Senator Butler.

A wealthy farmer named Hugh Rickert, his wife, two sons and one daughter, were riding to church at Garfield, Ill., when they were run down by an express train. Mr. Rickert was fatally wounded about the head and breast. His wife and one of the sons were killed outright. The younger son had an arm broken, but the girl miraculously escaped without a scratch.

MOSES LOCKHART (colored) was hanged a Edgefield, S. C., for the murder of another colored man named Bialock.

The coroner investigating the case of Annie Von Behren, the actress shot in a Cincinnati theatre by Frank Frayne, rendered a verdict of accidental death. Miss Von Behren was engaged to be married to Frayne.

The steam barge R. G. Peters caught fire on Lake Michigan and before aid could be obtained went to the bottom. The captain, mate and crew of eleven men were all drowned.

At Durango, Col., Dr. Evetzky entered the office of his partner, Dr. H. A. Clay, and fired several shots, inflicting wounds which resulted in death. Dr. Evetzky then blew his own brains out. He had been cowhided by two women, who accused him of talking disparagingly about them, and believed his partner had something to do with his cowhiding.

GENERAL M. C. BUTLER has been re-elected United States Senator by the general assembly of South Carolina.

The steamer Enterprise was burned off Maud's Point, N. C., and Captain W. A. Thompson, W. H. Hancock and a colored man were drowned.

The National Dairy fair was opened at Milwaukee, Wis., with a large display of exhibits. Nearly 500 delegates, representing all parts of the United States and Canada, as well as Great Britain, attended the tenth annual convention of the Butter, Egg and Cheese association, held after the opening of the fair.

From Washington.

The annual estimates for the next fiscal year have been printed, with the exception of those for "miscellaneous" expenditures and the "permanent" appropriations. The estimates of every department are considerably greater than the appropriations for the current fiscal year, as the following table will show:

	Estimates, 1883-84.	Appropr'd, 1882-83.
Legislative	$3,274,049	$3,087,145
Executive	18,668,595	16,985,568
Judicial	408,300	404 000
Foreign intercourse	1,990,905	1,312,855
Military Establishment	28,901,445	27,363,287
Naval establishment	23,481,078	14,884,432
Indian Affairs	6,725,731	5,257,355
Pensions	101,575,000	100,000,000
Public Works	14,361,715	7,439,404
Total	$298,786,818	$276,765,076

The postal estimates are omitted from the above table. They amount to $46,741,111, but it is estimated that the postal receipts will amount to $50,670,456, leaving a net surplus of $3,929,345 in case no changes are made in the rates of postage or classification of mail matter. The "miscellaneous" estimates for the current year amounted to $26,090,192, and the estimates on account of permanent appropriations to $120,[illegible]

[redacted]

more than $1,488,000,000, which is $186,000,000 in excess of the amount held two years ago, November 1, 1880. The gain in gold coin since the resumption of specie payments has been $283,000,000 and in gold and silver coin $394,000,000. The increase in national bank notes has been nearly $39,000,000. The amount of legal tender notes outstanding remains at $346,681,016. The reduction of the debt during the twelve years ended June 30, 1881, has been more than $648,403,668, the annual average reduction being $54,333,639. The reduction during the past year was $148,648,550. The whole cost of the national banking system to the government from the date of its establishment in 1863 has been $5,400,000. The government has, in about twenty years, collected taxes on the capital, circulation and deposits of national banks amounting to $118,035,705.

Ex-Senator Stephen W. Dorsey has addressed a card to the public explaining his connection with the star route service, and denying the charges made against him.

Professor E. Stone Wiggins, LL. D., astronomer of the Canadian finance department, has written a letter to President Arthur predicting a very destructive storm in the early part of March next. He says that the storm "will first be felt in the Northern Pacific, will appear in the Gulf of Mexico on the night of the 9th, and, being reflected by the Rocky mountains, will cross this meridian from the west at noon of March 11, 1883." He says further that "the New England States will also suffer severely from the wind and floods," and that "no point outside of harbor, in the whole area of the Atlantic, especially north of the equator, will be a place of safety, for this will be pre-eminently the greatest storm that has visited this country since the days of your illustrious first President."

During November the national debt was decreased $5,534,142.89, leaving the total debt at $1,910,824,073.62, and the total cash in the treasury at $287,867,173.93.

In November the United States mints coined 292,100 gold pieces worth $3,272,000; 3,575,200 silver pieces (including 2,300,000 silver dollars) worth $2,429,800, and 4,742,200 minor coins worth $126,666.

The total receipts and expenditures of the government (exclusive of postal receipts and expenditures) for the last fiscal year were:

Customs	$220,410,730
Internal revenue	146,497,595
Direct tax	160,142
Sales of public lands	4,753,140
Miscellaneous	31,703,643
Total	$403,525,250
Net ordinary expenditures	$257,981,440
Surplus revenue	145,543,810

President Arthur has appointed Clayton McMichael, president of the Philadelphia associated press, as United States marshal for the district of Columbia, vice Charles E Henry, resigned.

The following are the claims allowed by the Garfield board of audit: Professional services: Dr. D. W. Bliss, $6,500; Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, $5,000; Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, $5,000; Dr. Robert Reyburn, $4,000; Dr. Silas A. Boynton, $4,000; Dr. Susan A. Edson, $3,000; total, $27,500. Services and supplies: Total, $5,929.93. Extra services by government employes: Total, $5,449. Grand total, $38,860.93. The total appropriation to pay claims against the Garfield estate was $57,500.

Foreign News.

The cost of the war in Egypt is estimated at $15,000,000.

M. DE LESSEPS says that the Panama canal will be finished by 1888.

Two American citizens have been murdered on the west coast of Madagascar.

Eleven men were drowned by the foundering of a steamer off Cornwall, England.

For taking part in recent disturbances forty-six students have been expelled from the St. Petersburg university.

Flames in Quebec destroyed a large factory and a block of wooden buildings, causing a total loss of about $200,000.

Floods in Germany have wrought great destruction to life and property. At Dusseldorf a house fell in and fourteen persons were reported drowned. There was six feet of water in the streets of Cologne, Coblentz and Bonn. At the last named place about 500 houses were submerged. Large tracts of country in Holland have also been inundated.

A new Turkish cabinet has been appointed with Vefyk Pasha as prime minister.

An ordinance has been introduced in the German bundesrath forbidding the importation of American pork.

Queen Victoria prorogued the British parliament until February 15.

The Most Rev. Archibald Campbell Tait, D. D., archbishop of Canterbury and primate of all England, is dead in his seventy-second year.

A special cable dispatch says that the state of Ireland is worse than is suspected, and that altogether the prospect for the winter is quite as bad as it has been for years past.

Arabi Pasha, at his trial in Cairo, Egypt, by court-martial, pleaded guilty to the charges of having revolted and refused to obey orders to cease the revolt, and with having, in violation of the orders of the khedive, refused to disband the army. The court sentenced Arabi Pasha to death, but the khedive of Egypt commuted the sentence to exile for life.

Revolutionists have been attacking various towns in Ecuador, and considerable fighting has been done.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says that the Danish Arctic exploring vessel Dijmphna appears to have drifted into the Kara Sea, to the south of the Nova Zembla. It is proposed to organize an expedition with from ten to fifteen sledges and 150 reindeer to search for the vessel.

A Mississippi physician says the day is not far distant when cottonseed oil will have taken the place of lard the world over. He pronounces it much purer than lard and a great deal healthier.

New York estimates that she cleans enough mud off her streets each year to make a fair sized township somewhere off the coast.

THE WORK OF CONGRESS.

Senate.

Senator Davis, of Illinois, president pro tem, opened the second session of the Forty-seventh Congress by calling the Senators to order at 12 m. After prayer by the chaplain the customary resolutions were adopted for the appointment of committees to notify the President and House of Representatives, respectively, that the Senate had convened and was ready for business.... A resolution to print 20,000 copies of the tariff commission's report was referred to committee on printing.... Mr. Heale, of Maine, introduced a bill to increase the number of the judges of the Alabama claims commission to five.... The Senators listened to the reading of the President's message.

Mr. Brown presented the credentials of W. Barrow, chosen to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Hill, of Georgia.... On motion of Mr. Anthony the standing and select committees as they existed at the close of last session were continued.... Petitions were introduced by Mr. Dawes, Mr. Ingalls and Mr. Cockrill in relation to the passage of the pending bill for the increase of pensions to soldiers who have lost limbs or are laboring under equivalent disabilities.... Resolutions were offered by Mr. Beck calling for an investigation into the political assessments of government employes; also calling for a statement of the number of pensions granted and applications pending. and a joint resolution for an amendment to the Constitution empowering the President to veto a part of the appropriation bill.

House.

The second session of the Forty-seventh Congress was opened by Speaker Keifer at 11 A. M. The galleries were filled with spectators. In his opening prayer, the chaplain of the House alluded to the deaths of Representatives Love and Updegraff, and gave thanks that the other members had been preserved during the recess in health and prosperity. The speaker then formally declared the session opened, and the clerk proceeded to call the roll of members. The call disclosed the presence of 202 members.... The following named gentlemen were then sworn in as members of the House to fill vacancies: R. R. Hitt, of Illinois, to succeed Mr. Hawk; Seaborn Reese, of Georgia, to succeed Mr. Stephens; Charles M. Shelley, of Alabama, to succeed himself. Mr. Calkins, of Indiana, presented by request a memorial against the swearing in of Mr. Shelley, but asked for no action beyond the reference of the memorial to the committee on elections, which was done. Mr Moulton, of Illinois, presented a petition from John P. Caine claiming to be elected as a delegate from Utah. Referred to the committee on elections.... A resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a committee to inform the President and the Senate that the House was ready to proceed to business.... Mr. Herbert introduced a bill to further to protect executive officers and employes of the United States government from political assessment. It prohibits any Senator or Representative in Congress, or officer appointed by the President, from requesting or demanding from any of the officers or employes of the government any money or thing of value for political purposes. The President's message was received and read.

Mr. Kelley, chairman of the committee on ways and means, reported a bill to abolish the internal revenue tax on tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarettes. It was referred to the committee of the whole, and the minority was granted leave to file a minority report.... A bill was passed to repeal and amend certain acts pertaining to the shipment and discharge of seamen.

The United States Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer Gilfillan in his annual report says that the receipts of the government show an increase over those of 1881 of $22,251,764.23 in the revenue from customs; $11,233,309.94 from the internal revenue; $2,551,277.20 from the sales of public lands, and $6,707,416.34 from miscellaneous sources, making a total increase in the net revenue of $42,742,767.71. The total net revenue was $403,525,250.28. The net expenditures decreased from $260,712,887.59 to $251,981,440.20, a reduction of $2,731,447.39, which, added to the increase in receipts, makes an increase of $45,474,405.10 in the surplus revenues applicable to the reduction of the public debt. The expenditures on account of interest on the public debt show a reduction of $11,431,534.39, from $82,508,741.18 in 1881, to $71,077,206.79 in 1882. These net expenditures over expenditures was $145,543,810.08, and the amount applied to the reduction of the debt $160,281,505.55.

The report also says: The amount of United States currency outstanding at the close of the year was $352,464,552.10. There was redeemed during the year $105,773,706.05 in silver certificates and notes of failed, liquidating and reducing national banks, making the total redemptions since the first issue of currency $2,405,914,799.41. The issues of silver certificates during the year were $34,300,000, and the redemption $20,000,220, leaving the amount nominally outstanding at the close of the year $26,056,710.

United States bonds were redeemed during the year to the amount of $166,204,450, of which $60,079,100 was applied to the sinking fund. The total amount of bonds retired by purchase, redemption, conversion or exchange from March 11, 1862, to June 30, 1882, is $2,149,549,250.

The most noteworthy change in the last year is the decrease of the gold coin and bullion held by the treasury from $176,791,566.11 to $153,057,964.12, and the increase of the standard silver dollars from $65,949,279 to $121,025,550, a decrease in the gold of $23,745,602.29, and the increase in the silver dollars of $26,076,071. Notwithstanding the decrease in the last year, the gold owned by the government is nearly $30,000,000 more than two years ago, the amount held last year having been swelled by the deposit of gold coin for exchange on the West and South. The aggregate amount of gold and silver coin and bullion held by the treasury increased from $269,706,998.76 in 1881, to $276,144,510.05 in 1882.

The excess of the cash assets of the government over its net demand liabilities on the first day of November was $135,151,658.89.

The amount of United States notes received in payment of duties on imports during the year is $24,650,576, as against $19,079,753 in 1881. The total amount so received since the resumption of specie payments is $186,053,930, an average of $4,044,739 a month.

The amount of standard silver dollars coined from February 28, 1879, the date of the act requiring their coinage, to October 31, 1882, is $128,029,880, of which $30,000,000 remains in the treasury and $95,323,498, or about twenty-seven and one-half per cent. is in circulation.

The Tariff Commission.

The report of the tariff commission was submitted to the House of Representatives by the president of the commission, Mr. John L. Hayes. The first part of the long document gives a description of the work of investigation, during which 6,000 miles were traveled in five weeks and every working day was employed, the traveling being all done by night. Twenty-seven cities were visited and no appointment was missed. Over 600 witnesses were heard and 2,000 pages of testimony taken, with impartiality so far as views of the tariff were concerned. In no case were witnesses solicited, with the exception of officials in some cities, and the commission expresses its purpose to make the report a complete photograph of public sentiment upon the subject of tariff revision.

The commission declares that high duties have a tendency to create prejudice, to encourage unsafe investments of capital, to cause a plethora of certain commodities; that the time has come when a reduction from high war rates can safely be made, and that the increase in the productions by the older industries is sufficient to admit of reduction without impairment of ability to compete. The reductions on the average and as a whole approximate twenty per cent., and will perhaps reach twenty-five per cent.

It has been the effort of the commission to make the reduction apply to commodities of general consumption and to diminish or withhold the reduction upon commodities of high cost requiring more labor, and which being consumed principally by the more wealthy classes could bear higher duties, at the same time supplying revenue and encouraging the higher arts without being oppressive in their operation. It has been sought invariably to make a discrimination in the rate of duties imposed on a manufactured product and the raw material or partially manufactured product of which it is made, the object being to impose a higher duty up