American Volunteer.

CARLISLE, PA.,
Thursday Morning, December 17, 1868.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY COMMITTEE ROOMS, CARLISLE, PA., Dec. 5, 1868.

There will be a meeting of the Democratic Committee of Cumberland County, in the Court House in Carlisle, on Saturday, January 16, 1869, at 11 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of choosing a representative delegate to the Democratic State Convention, under the 9th section of the "Crawford county" System, viz:

"The Standing Committee, at a meeting called for that purpose by its chairman, shall have power to select delegates to the State Conventions and appoint the necessary conferees."

Other very important business will be presented for the action of the Committee, and a full attendance is urgently requested.

F. E. BELTZHOOVER, Chairman.

SOUND THE ALARM.

There can be no doubt that it is the purpose of the Radical revolutionists, Phillips, Greeley, Sumner and Butler, to strike a fatal blow at our present form of republican government. They propose to do this by taking from the people of the separate States the power to regulate the suffrage for themselves. This scheme was timorously concealed for fear of disastrous consequences during the campaign. The radicals feared to alarm the people of Ohio, Kansas, Connecticut and other States which had repudiated negro suffrage, and therefore passed the following hypocritical resolution on suffrage at Chicago:

Second Resolution: The guaranty by Congress of equal suffrage to all loyal men at the South was demanded by every consideration of public safety, of gratitude and of justice, and must be maintained; while the question of suffrage in all the loyal States properly belongs to the people of those States.

This was the Radical platform on suffrage a brief month ago. But the election is over, the dupes have deposited their votes, and have not ceased shouting for Grant until the leaders deliberately repudiate the platform on which they elected him. The people of Pennsylvania are to have no choice in the matter, but Congress is to pass an amendment to the Constitution, and the State Legislature is to ratify it.—The Philadelphia *Press* thus boldly announces the plan:

"When the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States have ratified the proposed amendment securing suffrage impartially to all the citizens of the nation, and that right becomes embodied in the National Constitution, the State judiciaries will have little disposition to contest the question or embarrass action by fretful and querulous discussions. All disqualifying statutes or judgments must go down before the new constitutional guarantee. The question of conflict of authority between the National and a State constitution has been settled long ago in the courts and confirmed on the field.

Nor need we anticipate adverse action from the Supreme Court of the United States. The judiciary is the weakest of three branches of our government, commonly but erroneously called co-ordinate. It cannot long oppose its will to that of the Legislature and of the Executive."

This is not merely a question of negro suffrage in Pennsylvania, but it is one which affects the very existence of the State, and the very spirit of our government. Negro suffrage thrust on the unwilling people of the South has accomplished ten-fold the evil it can do here. It is not simply the addition of the small negro phalanx in Pennsylvania to the Radical party that inspires the determined hostility of the Democratic party to this scheme. It is a proposition to take from the State by an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the right of determining the qualifications of its own electors. In depriving the separate States of this high attribute of power, the Radicals propose to degrade them to mere dependencies and provinces of the grand consolidated empire which they covet. They are no longer States in the sense of the fathers of the Constitution, but mere outlying satrapies of a central government, exercising only such powers as that central government permits. Republican government miserably fails when the States are deprived of the power of determining the political qualifications of their own citizens. While depriving, in Congress, ten States of the Union of this power, the Radicals in Chicago affirmed it in regard to the other States. But now they propose to dissolve thirty-seven States composing the Federal Union, re-mould them into one centralized power and thus put an end to the Republic, as Washington, Jefferson, Franklin and Adams made it. Are not Wendell Phillips, and Greeley, and Forney, and George Wilkes and Ben Butler wiser than these old fogies in their own conceit?

The Radicals have already wrested from the Executive his Constitutional power. The Supreme Court has ceased to be one of the co-ordinate branches of government. It only remains now to successfully assail by these measures the autonomy of the States, and then all power will be concentrated in Congress. The Constitution is thus utterly destroyed, and a mere majority in a capricious Congress, swayed by ever-changing party currents, becomes the supreme arbiter over the fate of the nation. It only needs this measure to enable the Radicals in Congress to obtain absolute control of the government, and proclaim the empire in the name of the people. Such an assembly gave the sanction of the people of France to the Empire of Napoleon in 1804, and to that of the nephew of his uncle in 1852. It was such a body, which in utter contempt of the people, gave the throne of Mexico to the unfortunate Maximillian. With the rights of the States destroyed, and all political power concentrated in Congress, it would not be hard to persuade the Radical majority in Congress to proclaim an emperor in the august person of Grant, and create themselves hereditary peers of the empire, with a batch of marshals. They will be compelled to do this to maintain their usurped power. The only sure means of saving the republic and perpetuating the liberties of the people, is by maintaining the rights and dignity of the States unimpaired. So says the Allentown *Democrat.*

☞ The Louisville *Journal* gives in few words what it conceives to be the reason for the defeat of Seymour. It says: From the best light before us we should say that Radical money and Radical organization were too much for the bare Democratic principle of free government which went to the people on its own merits and was overcome by the force of fraud and muscle. It is of little moment now what should have been the issues introduced into the canvass. It is of little moment how far the East or the West may have been in error. There is enough for the Democratic press to do if it look well after the enemy; and if it does that it may safely forgive the shortcomings of its friends.

"TRUTH IN A NUTSHELL."

Under the above caption, our neighbor of the *Herald* publishes a statement purporting to come from "a venerable Democrat in Madison, Ind.," who professes to regret having educated one of his *ten* sons, because that one persists in voting the Republican ticket ever since, whilst his nine uneducated brothers adhere to the Democratic party. The *Herald* is of opinion that this story is a "fancy sketch," but yet thinks it "conveys a lesson at once useful and suggestive," inasmuch as it goes to show that men of education must naturally be Republicans in politics, whilst ignorant, uneducated men must naturally be Democrats.

This is modesty "in a nutshell."—When we consider that about one-fourth of the voters of the Republican party are ignorant, uneducated negroes, and that nearly every man of brains or character that ever belonged to that party has left it in disgust, the assumptions of the *Herald* appear rather ludicrous.—Why, neighbor, you have scarcely a solitary great man left in your rickety party, and perhaps there never was a party on the face of the earth that embraced more ignorance, brutality and dishonesty in its organization. In the large cities, where we look for refinement and education, the Democrats are in the majority by thousands; so to in the counties—Cumberland, for instance—where general education and intelligence pervades, the Democrats are in the ascendant. When the Republican party first organized, many of its leaders were men of mark, for instance, Chase, Doolittle, Cowan, Adams, of Massachusetts, the Blairs, Andrew Johnson and others. Where are these men now? Every one of them the decided opponents of the party of which they were the fathers. They were convinced that the Republican party was controlled by ignorant and depraved men, fanatics, niggers and fools, and they left it in disgust. The men who are now prominent in the Republican ranks, its leaders, we may say, had no position whatever in the good old days of the Whig and Democratic parties.—Then the so-called leaders of both parties were giants in intellect, whose pure lives all could respect. On the Democratic side we had Jackson, Buchanan, Dallas, Wright, Calhoun, William Allen, Benton, Woodbury, Van Buren, and scores of others equally distinguished. On the Whig side they had Clay, Webster, Clayton, Henry A. Wise, and others of equal fame and power. How is it now? Who are the leaders, the shining lights of the pie-bald Republican party? Wendell Phillips, the fanatic, Fred Douglas, the Boston negro, Beast Butler, Brute Brownlow, and a few sore-heads like Cameron, Forney, and little John Cessna, who left the Democratic party and espoused the Republican cause, because of the facilities afforded them to become rich in a few years. These are the shining lights of the Republican party at present: they have usurped the places occupied by men of character, and the legislation we have had for the last few years is an evidence of their littleness and ignorance.

We will not stultify ourself by claiming that all the educated men of the country belong to the Democratic party, for the man is a fool who makes such a claim for any party, but we can say in truth that never, in the history of our country, had we so many consummate fools and uneducated blunderers at the head of affairs, and most especially in Congress, as we have had for the last seven or eight years. To see the little whiffets of the Republican party put on airs and ape statesmanship, is enough to disgust the most obtuse intellect. Many of them who eight years ago were beggars, now count their ill-gotten wealth by hundreds of thousands, and this money they have stolen from the people during the war. Yours is the "party of education and of progress," is it, Mr. *Herald?* Bosh.—Rather say it is the party of snobs and thieves. That will be the truth.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We lay before our readers to-day the message of the President of the United States to the two Houses of Congress, at the commencement of the second regular session of the Fortieth Congress. It is a document of more than ordinary significance and importance. Comprehending in its scope the minutest details of public affairs, both domestic and foreign, it is a bold, frank, plainly uttered expression of the opinions entertained by the Executive upon the various measures which in his estimation demand the attention of the legislative branch of the Government. The character of the past legislation of this Congress is severely criticised, and that body is bluntly advised to retrace its steps and repair its errors. A large portion of the message is devoted to the consideration of financial matters, in regard to which some novel views and propositions are advanced.

CONGOS IN CONGRESS.—The Louisiana Board of Canvassers have declared the election of a coal-black negro to Congress, and Sumner is happy. The country he now considers as safe. It was many months ago that this lover of the sausage lipped declared he would not consider the perpetuity of the Republic as fixed until he should have the pleasure of welcoming negroes to seats in Congress. The Louisiana Board of Canvassers, having the fear of Sumner's prophesies before their eyes, have gratified his inanities by throwing out Democratic votes and declaring as above.—Henceforth the floor of the American Congress, made famous by the eloquence and learning of statesmen, is to be noted rather as a place where boot-blacks and white-washers congregate with a view of passing laws for the government of a great nation. Heretofore it was deemed essential to have statesmen for such purposes. Under Radical rule, however, statesmen are very much out of place. Men of intellectual force and breadth of thought would not suit their purposes, hence the desirability of securing the stupidity attaching to the "colored brethren."

READING GAZETTE.—Messrs. Hawley & Ritter, of the Reading *Adler*, have purchased the Reading *Gazette* (the English organ of the Berks county Democracy,) from Hon. J. Lawrence Getz, who was re-elected to Congress at the October election. Alfred Sanderson, Esq., who has been connected with the *Gazette* for some years, will retain his position as one of the editors. Success to the old *Gazette*.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

The Fulton County *Republican* asks the following pertinent questions:

"Why is it that we must pay treble the amount to our Legislators of all branches that we paid years ago. Why is it that now in one year there is more *stolen* than formerly would have paid the expenses of the government? Why is it that honest men cannot be elected to office and represent the wants of the laboring classes who have to pay the taxes?"

And it answers them as follows:

"Because having to buy their elections they must have bigger salaries—they must steal from the public treasury to cover their illegal expenses. Because *honest men* have not the meanness to go into the market and County Conventions, and buy the *opinions* and votes of men like cattle dealers do droves of stock, and therefore cannot compete with those who do."

The above questions and answers are worthy of serious consideration. Of late years we have a class of men who may be justly termed political gamblers. They belong to both parties, and they can be found in the halls of Congress, in our State Legislatures, and other deliberative bodies. By a lavish expenditure of money, by false promises, chicanery and fraud, they effect their purposes and worm into places where they are enabled to "steal from the public treasury to cover their illegal expenses." The man who obtains place and power through the influence of money, will dive into corruption and reimburse himself the very first opportunity. That is just as certain as that twice two make four. How different was it twenty years ago. Then "electioneering" by candidates for Congress or for the State Legislature was neither resorted to nor countenanced. Men for these positions were sometimes brought forward by communications published in the county papers or by the spontaneous public voice. Then a delegate to a County Convention who failed to carry out, by his vote, the wishes of the town or township he was selected to represent, was a disgraced man, who had dug his political grave. The men of both parties were inexorable, and their wishes were not to be thwarted by tricksters and scoundrels who sold their votes for money. Seldom, however, was a man known to betray his political trust in those days, for he knew the finger of scorn would be pointed at him if he dared even attempt it. Honesty in politics was then considered as sacred as honesty in private transactions, and by this standard men were judged.

It would be well for the people, well for the State and nation, if a return to old customs and old ideas could be brought about. Compare the yearly expenses of the State Government of twenty years back with the expenses of the present year, and we find them nearly five times greater. Then look at the National Government, and we find a still more startling exhibition.—The expenses of the National Government for the year 1860—a year of peace—were sixty-three millions of dollars; in 1869—another year of peace—according to the estimate of the Secretary of the Treasury, three hundred and seventy-two millions will be required to carry on the Government for twelve months! Is this extravagance or corruption, or both? The fault, to a very considerable extent, is with the people of both parties, themselves. Let them be more careful how and to whom they entrust place and power, and let them set their faces like flint against the corruptionists who buy position. It is time that honest men think of these things, for the remedy is in their own hands.

EVERYBODY IS TAXED.

At Richmond, Virginia, Chief Justice Chase, in his charge to the Grand Jury of the District Court, used this language:

"We admonish you, gentlemen, to exercise your utmost vigilance on this subject. Frauds in revenue are an evil which the whole land cries out upon, and frauds upon the revenue are frauds upon the whole body of tax-payers, *and no one who eats, drinks, wears, or is sheltered under any roof, however humble, now escapes from taxation.*"

The above was good advice as well as good sense. It serves as an answer also to the lies promulgated by Radical speakers and editors during the late campaign, who had the unblushing impudence to assert that the poor man paid no taxes. The truth is, the poor man, according to his capacity, pays double in the way of taxation that the rich man pays. The poor man is the consumer, the rich man the producer. Government taxes cloths, prints, calicos, fabrics, coffee, tea, sugar, tobacco, iron, and indeed everything. Does the capitalist, who is the producer, pay this tax that is imposed upon him? Not a cent of it. He just adds the amount of the tax and a little more to the price of his commodities, and the poor man, who is the consumer, pays the rich man's tax. A rail-road is taxed two cents on each passenger, and the rail road officers at once add *five* cents fare to the passenger. Instead of paying the two cents tax, the rail-road makes three cents on every passenger. But, we did not intend when we commenced writing to branch out on the subject of the tariff and taxation, but merely to call attention to Chief Justice Chase's words. Hereafter, when more time is at our command, we desire to refer to the system of taxation under which the people are now groaning, as also to the baleful effects of a high tariff, for which leading Radical capitalists are now clamoring. Both are frauds and impositions upon consumers and poor men, as we think we will be able to demonstrate.

RADICAL OUTRAGES.—The State of Louisiana, as all are aware, cast a large majority for the Democratic electors.—The canvassing board of the State, however, in canvassing the votes, have seen fit to perpetrate a most shameful outrage by throwing out the votes of the counties in which the Democracy had large majorities, and declaring the Radical ticket elected. Thus it will be seen, that notwithstanding the Radical cry of "let us have peace," they are constantly doing that most calculated to irritate and create trouble. It is folly to ask people to suffer quietly to the commitment of such grave outrages upon their rights and privileges. Better far to name the officers of the State at once, than do so after the idle mockery of an election. An acknowledged despotism which has method or boldness and directness as its governing rule is far preferable to a deceptive Republic which, despite its professions, arrives simply at the same result. In the former, one is saved the bitterness of disappointment, in the latter comes not alone disappointment, but all the poignancy of accumulated outrages. If the Radicals are in earnest in their "peace" professions, then will they denounce this outrage, and all those of a similar character.

For the Volunteer.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Philo Hall School room is a place of so much interest and importance, that I feel unwilling to leave it without giving you some idea of the general impression which it has made upon my mind. We have a large singing class organized here of over forty members; all are taking a decided interest in the cause, and it has been termed the headquarters of Dickinson—a place for the class to meet once a week to have a pleasant singing. The class has been organized for a term of six months; several months have already passed since the opening of the term, and they are now advancing and getting a pretty good idea of music. I was surprised to find in so short a length of time how they have taken hold of the study, and to the visitor they certainly make the impression on his mind that their meeting together is for the purpose of striving to improve. Their motto is "ever onward." When they take up a study they give it their whole attention, and they will certainly come out successful. I found a full turn-out of the class, all the members being present. The members of the School Board are respectfully invited to be present at our singing. Some have already been with us, but we would like to see a full turn-out of the Board. They are men of high principle, with a strict regard to honor, and the duties of their office therefore requires them to be present to see what care we take of the new building. Its architecture, though not elegant, is neat, plain and impressive, having a staid and sober look that in a cold climate like ours has the first merit of art, from the fact that it is comfortable.—There is, however, much here to attract attention during the winter months.—The singing during the evening was excellent; they are progressing in this important branch, and are certainly doing credit to themselves as well as the district in which they reside. After a few brief remarks by Prof. Lutz, the class adjourned to meet at Philo Hall, Thursday evening, December 17th.

On Friday evening we were present at one of our Professor's singings at Papertown. The class has been organized but a short time, and bids fair to be an ornament in this little village. They entertained us kindly in a somewhat uncomfortable house, several panes of glass being out of the windows, and the house in other respects showing a little the worse of hard usage, only aided in making us uncomfortable. We, however, enjoyed ourselves, and took an interest in the welfare of the class, knowing our friends did the best in their power to make us comfortable. I noticed members of other classes present, and the singing is well worthy of the writer's notice. The citizens of this flourishing town should take active measures at once and secure the basement of the church for the class to hold their singing. Wishing the several classes success in the future, I will close for the present.

A FRIEND.

Dickinson township, Dec. 12, 1868.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—A country paper advertises for an "honest boy to make a devil of."

—New York and London are said not to possess a Jewish beggar among them.

—The negro race constitutes one-fifth of the population of the United States.

—The question now is whether Sumner will ask that dusky Louisiana Congressman to dinner.

—The Ohio papers are quarreling about the location of the State Lunatic Asylum. Each editor wants it near his own office.

—"If all the world were blind, what a melancholy sight it would be," said an Irish clergyman.

—Hartford, Conn., is to have a Grecian Bend Ball, with a premium of $10 for the largest bend.

—They use lumps of silver ore for currency in Nevada, and also to gamble with at "faro" and "poker."

—Some eager sight-seers or office-hunters are already engaging rooms in Washington for inauguration week.

—A daughter of Ex-Gov. Orr, of South Carolina, has married a Philadelphian.—Reconstruction is progressing.

—On the Union Pacific Railroad the cry is "look out for the Indian," instead of "look out for the Locomotive."

—The Rev. Dr. Chapin says that a man living in the activities of the nineteenth century is a condensed Methuselah.

—To do the thing properly in New York at a wedding, the bride must have eight bridesmaids, and a hundred dollar poodle besides the one she marries.

—Fort Lafayette, in New York harbor, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. The fire is supposed to have originated through accident.

—It is reported that an attempt will be made to increase the whisky tax to $2 00 per gallon. The "Whisky Ring" are laying their wires to that end.

—Squibbs says he once prevented a severe case of hydrophobia by simply getting upon the top rail of a high fence and staying there until the dog left.

—There is a real idol temple erected and formerly established in the United States, at Portland, Oregon. The building is completed, and the Chinamen are actively engaged in furnishing it.

—The Radicals are showing how many Irishmen hold office in New York city. If the offices in question were only filled with negroes, the dear creatures would be delighted.

—The bodies of trees grow only in the fall of the year. The sap commences to run down into the trunk from the upper branches when the first frosts come upon us, thus giving a fresh impetus to the body of the tree.

—The Republicans polled only 20,000 votes in the election for Mayor of New York City—only half the number polled for Grant. This indicates which party was guilty of fraud at the Presidential election.

—An Indian was hanged for murder in Wisconsin a few days since. His whole tribe came to see the execution, and no one expressed any feeling except his old mother, who screamed a terrified "Ugh!" as her son dropped.

PERSONAL.

—Thomas B. Florence is ill.

—Jefferson Davis is traveling in Wurtemburg.

—Alexander T. Stewart's daily income is $10,000.

—General Grant went to Chicago last week in a silver palace car.

—Speaker Colfax and bride have taken up their residence in Washington.

—Marshall O. Roberts has $800,000 worth of pictures in his gallery.

—The young Louisville courtesan who has just inherited $300,000, lies on her death-bed with consumption.

—General Cole, on trial for the murder of Hiscock, at Albany, has been acquitted.

—Prim used to play third flute in a provincial theatre. Now he is first fiddler in Spain.

—General Grant had an interview of an hour's duration with General M'Clellan, at the St. Nicholas Hotel last week.

—Mike M'Coole's wife won't let him follow his old profession, and he now runs as second mate of a Mississippi steamer.

☞ Among the subjects to be considered by Congress at an early day are the methods of bringing about the resumption of specie payments. The sooner specie payments are resumed, the better it will be for the majority of the people. Business must then be accommodated to the basis of the solid capital of the country; and then it is to be hoped that much of the wild, insane and gambling speculations of overgrown monopolists may in a measure cease.—Real, not fictitious values, is what the best interests of the nation demand.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

institutions are kindred to our own, in behalf of its inhabitants, who are suffering extreme destitution produced by recent devastating inundations.

Our relations with Mexico during the year have been marked by an increasing growth of mutual confidence. The Mexican Government has not yet acted upon the three treaties celebrated here last summer for establishing the rights of naturalized citizens upon a liberal and just basis, for regulating consular powers, and for the adjustment of mutual claims.

All commercial nations as well as friends of Republican institutions, have occasion to regret the frequent local disturbances which occur in some of the constituent States of Columbia. Nothing has occurred, however, to affect the harmony and cordial friendship which have for several years existed between that youthful and vigorous Republic and our own.

Negotiations are pending with a view to the survey and construction of a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien, under the auspices of the United States. I hope to be able to submit the results of that negotiation to the Senate during its present session.

The very liberal treaty which was entered into last year by the United States and Nicaragua has been ratified by the latter Republic.

Costa Rica, with the earnestness of a sincerely friendly neighbor, solicits a reciprocity of trade, which I commend to the consideration of Congress.

The convention created by treaty between the United States and Venezuela in July, 1865, for the mutual adjustment of claims, has been held, and its decisions have been received at the Department of State. The heretofore recognized government of the United States of Venezuela has been subverted. A Provisional government having been instituted under circumstances which promise durability, it has been formally recognized.

I have been reluctantly obliged to ask explanation and satisfaction for national injuries committed by the President of Hayti. The political and social condition of the republics of Hayti and St Domingo is very unsatisfactory and painful. The abolition of slavery, which has been carried into effect throughout the island of St. Domingo and the entire West Indies, except the Spanish islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, has been followed by a profound popular conviction of the rightfulness of republican institutions, and an intense desire to secure them. The attempt, however, to establish republics there encounters many obstacles, most of which may be supposed to result from long indulged habits of colonial supineness and dependence upon European monarchical powers. While the United States have, on all occasions, professed a decided unwillingness that any part of this continent or of its adjacent islands shall establish over a large portion of its people a rule more absolute, harsh and tyrannical than any known to civilized powers.

The acquisition of Alaska was made with the view of extending national jurisdiction and republican principles in the American hemisphere. Believing that a further step could be taken in the same direction, I last year entered into a treaty with the King of Denmark for the purchase of the islands of St. Thomas and St. John, on the best terms then attainable, and with the express consent of the people of those islands. The treaty still remains under consideration in the Senate. A new convention has been entered into with Denmark, enlarging the time fixed for final ratification of the original treaty.

Comprehensive national policy would seem to sanction the acquisition and incorporation into our Federal Union of the several adjacent continental and insular communities as speedily as it can be done peacefully, lawfully, and without any violation of national justice, faith, or honor. Foreign possession or control of these communities has hitherto hindered the growth and impaired the influence of the United States. Chronic revolution and anarchy there would be equally injurious. Each one of them when firmly established in an independent republic, or when incorporated into the United States, would be a new source of strength and power. Conforming my administration to these principles, I have on no occasion lent support or toleration to unlawful expeditions on foot upon the plea of republican propagandism, or of national extension or aggrandizement.—The necessity, however, of repressing such unlawful movements clearly indicate the duty which rests upon us of adapting our legislative action to the new circumstances of a decline of European monarchical power and influence, and the increase of American republican ideas, interests and sympathies.

It cannot be long before it will become necessary for this Government to lend some effective aid to the solution of the political and social problems which are continually kept before the world by the two republics of the island of St. Domingo, and which are now disclosing themselves more distinctly than heretofore in the island of Cuba. The subject is commended to your consideration with all the more earnestness because I am satisfied that the time has arrived when even so direct a proceeding as a proposition for an annexation of the two republics of the island of St. Domingo would not only receive the consent of the people interested, but would also give satisfaction to all other foreign nations.

I am aware that upon the question of further extending our possessions it is apprehended by some that our political system cannot successfully be applied to an area more extended than our continent; but the conviction is rapidly gaining ground in the American mind that, with the increased facilities for intercommunication between all portions of the earth, the principles of free government, as embraced in our Constitution, if faithfully maintained and carried out, would prove of sufficient strength and breadth to comprehend within their sphere and influence the civilized nations of the world.

The attention of the Senate and of Congress is again respectfully invited to the treaty for the establishment of commercial reciprocity with the Hawaiian Kingdom, entered into last year, and already ratified by that Government. The attitude of the United States towards these islands is not very different from that in which they stand towards the West Indies. It is known and felt by the Hawaiian Government and people that their Government and institutions are feeble and precarious; that the United States, being so near a neighbor, would be unwilling to see the islands pass under foreign control. The prosperity is continually disturbed by expectations and alarms of unfriendly political proceedings, as well from the United States as from other foreign Powers. A reciprocity treaty, while it could not materially diminish the revenues of the United States, would be a guaranty of the good will and forbearance of all nations until the people of the islands shall of themselves, at no distant day, voluntarily apply for admission into the Union.

The Emperor of Russia has acceded to the treaty negotiated here in January last for the security of trade-marks in the interest of manufacturers and commerce. I have invited his attention to the importance of establishing, now while it seems easy and practicable, a fair and equal regulation of the vast fisheries belonging to the two nations in the waters of the North Pacific ocean.

The two treaties between the United States and Italy for the regulation of consular powers and the extradition of criminals, negotiated and ratified here during the last session of Congress, have been accepted and confirmed by the Italian government. A liberal consular convention which has been negotiated with Belgium will be submitted to the Senate. The very important treaties which were negotiated between the United States and North Germany and Bavaria, for the regulation of the rights of naturalized citizens, have been duly ratified and exchanged, and similar treaties have been entered into with the Kingdoms of Belgium and Wurtemburg and with the Grand Duchies at Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt. I hope soon to be able to submit equally satisfactory conventions of the same character now in course of negotiation with the respective Governments of Spain, Italy, and the Ottoman Empire.

Examination of claims against the United States by the Hudson's Bay Company and the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, on account of certain possessory rights in the State of Oregon and Territory of Washington, alleged by those companies in virtue of provisions of the treaty between the United States and Great Britain, of June 15, 1846, has been diligently prosecuted under the direction of the joint international commission to which they were submitted for adjudication by treaty between the two Governments of July 2, 1863, and will, it is expected, be concluded at an early day.

No practical regulation concerning colonial trade and the fisheries can be accomplished by treaty between the United States and Great Britain until Congress shall have expressed their judgment concerning the principles involved.—Three other questions, however, between the United States and Great Britain remain open for adjustment. These are the mutual rights of naturalized citizens, the boundary question involving the title to the island of San Juan, on the Pacific cost, and mutual claims arising since the year 1853, of the citizens and subjects of the two countries for injuries and depredations committed under the authority of their respective Governments. Negotiations upon these subjects are pending, and I am not without hope of being able to lay before the Senate, for its consideration during the present session, protocols calculated to bring to an end these justly-exciting and long-existing controversies.

We are not advised of the action of the Chinese Government upon the liberal and auspicious treaty which was recently celebrated with its plenipotentiaries at this capital.

Japan remains a theatre of civil war marked by religious incidents and political severities peculiar to that long-isolated empire. The Executive has faithfully maintained strict neutrality among the belligerents, and acknowledges with pleasure that it had been frankly and fully sustained in that course by the enlightened concurrence and co-operation of the other treaty Powers, namely, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, North Germany and Italy.

Spain having recently undergone a revolution marked by extraordinary unanimity and preservation of order, the Provisional Government established at Madrid has been recognized, and the friendly intercourse which has so long happily existed between the two countries remains unchanged.

I renew the recommendation contained in my communication to Congress dated the 18th of July last—a copy of which accompanies this message—that the judgment of the people should be taken on the propriety of so amending the Federal Constitution that it shall provide:

1st. For an election of President and Vice President by a direct vote of the people, instead of through the agency of electors, and making them ineligible for re-election to a second term.

2d. For a distinct designation of the person who shall discharge the duties of President, in the event of a vacancy in that office by the death, resignation, or removal of both the President and Vice President.

3. For the election of Senators of the United States directly by the people of the several States, instead of by the Legislatures; and

4. For the limitation to a period of years of the terms of Federal judges.

Profoundly impressed with the propriety of making these important modifications in the Constitution, I respectfully submit them for the early and mature consideration of Congress. We should as far as possible remove all pretext for violations of the organic law, by remedying such imperfections as time and experience may develop, ever remembering that "The Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all."

In the performance of a duty imposed upon me by the Constitution I have thus communicated to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommended for their consideration such measures as have seemed to me necessary and expedient. If carried into effect they will hasten the accomplishment of the great and beneficent purposes for which the Constitution was ordained, and which it comprehensively states were "to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." In Congress are vested all legislative powers, and upon them devolves the responsibility as well for framing unwise and excessive laws, as for neglecting to devise and adopt measures absolutely demanded by the wants of the country. Let us earnestly hope that before the expiration of our respective terms of service, now rapidly drawing to a close, an all-wise Providence will so guide our counsels as to strengthen and preserve the Federal Union, inspire reverence for the Constitution, restore prosperity and happiness to our whole people, and promote "on earth peace, good will toward men."

ANDREW JOHNSON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1868.

Local Items.

GOING—the Old Year.

COMING—the Holidays.

ON HAND—a surplus of snow.

DELIGHTED—the children at the near approach of Christmas.

SCARCE—Greenbacks, butter and Radicals who don't want an office.

☞ Had a mule on—the Market House Scales last week.

SNOW.—The late snow storms have stopped work on the buildings in progress in this town.

VENUS is now the morning star, and can be seen in the east, just in advance of the sun. So the papers say.

☞ Passed through town last week—a Radical office-seeker, with seven dogs tied to him.

NOTICE.—Prof. T. G. Apple D. D. will preach in the Reformed Church on next Sabbath morning and evening.

CUMBERLAND FAIR.—The "Cumberland" boys are making energetic preparations for their holiday fair, and it promises to be a success.

SKATING PARK.—What has become of the skating park? Now is the time it ought to be in full blast. We hope it has not shared the fate of all other Carlisle enterprises.

ON THE MUSCLE.—Quite a lively time was experienced in the neighborhood of the Court House, on Saturday evening, by a couple of our sporting fraternity.—The result was one man slightly wounded. No arrests.

REMEMBER THE POOR.—Winter is fairly on us, and the poor should receive the consideration of the charitable and benevolent.

FIRE IN NEWVILLE.—The extensive stone ware works of Hays & Bro., at Newville, were destroyed by fire, a few days ago; loss $12,000, with partial insurance.

☞ Hydrants should be closely inspected before the thermometer descends to zero. A few hours devoted to their protection from frost will not only save time but expense. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

☞ Ladies, we are receiving our fourth stock of FURS. We have been complimented by the best judges of fur, of having the finest stock of Furs ever kept in his place. We can prove this fact to you if you will pay a visit to our store.

W. C. SAWYER & Co.

☞ The right place to get your Dry Goods is at W. C. SAWYER & Co's. Don't [illegible] the fact that they have reduced all their prices for the holiday season.—Their stock is full and complete, and their styles can not be surpassed any where in point of beauty or quality or moderation in price.

"CAUCASIAN."—After the holidays, when Congress re-assembles, we hope to be able to lay before our readers a weekly letter from our sprightly and pungent Washington correspondent, "Caucasian," whose letters have always been received with so much favor by our subscribers.

COUNTY POOR HOUSE.—The addition to the County Poor House, intended more especially for the insane, is under roof, but will probably not be ready for use until Spring. It is a handsome structure, reflecting credit alike upon the commissioners and the contractor, Colonel Gutshall.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.—Now is the time to guard against sudden changes of the weather; clothing should be changed with the change of the atmosphere: Colds and many other diseases may be prevented and life prolonged by proper attention to this subject.

FAIR IN MECHANICSBURG.—Our enterprising neighbors of Mechanicsburg intend holding a holiday festival, commencing on Thursday December 24th, and continuing until after New Year, the proceeds to be appropriated to the purchase of new silver instruments for the Mechanicsburg Silver Cornet Band.

EXHIBITION.—A very interesting exhibition of magic lantern views of scenes in Scripture history was given in Rheem's Hall, by Mr. C. N. Robinson, on Friday evening last, for the benefit of the Cave Sabbath School. We regret that we were not able to be present, but understand that the exhibition was quite well attended and gave entire satisfaction.

☞ We announce that the well-known firm of BENTZ & CO., have made large additions to their mammoth stock of Dry Goods, their elegant Sable Furs, real Lace Collars, Handkerchiefs, Cloakings, Dress Goods and Domestics are creating quite a sensation on account of the low prices at which they are selling. Give them a call and secure some of these good bargains. 2t

THE EDITORIAL TREADMILL.—Very few of our readers are aware of the exacting duties incumbent upon those who are connected with the editing of a newspaper. It is one of the hardships of the profession, that the mind and body are are not allowed to lag for sickness, or to stop for calamity or sorrow. The Judge may adjourn his court, the school and the workshops may close shutters, the mourner may veil his features and turn friends and strangers from the door, but the journalist may forget to-morrow the sorrow of to-day, and must write gayly and freshly as a newsmonger on the trifles of the hour, whatever burden has been laid upon that same hour by Providence.

NEW CARRIAGE FACTORY.—In our wanderings around town, the other day, we chanced to call at the large new carriage factory, which our public-spirited friends, the Messrs. Sherk, have erected on the corner of Pitt and South streets, and found them hard at work putting things to rights in their new quarters. The enterprise and energy of the Messrs Sherk should commend their manufactures to the entire community. They have on hand a splendid assortment of Sleighs and Carriages, which they seem to take pleasure in showing to all who call, whether they desire to buy or not.

CALISAYA BARK.—It is said that Messrs. Drake & Co., proprietors of the Plantation Bitters, are the largest importers of Calisaya Bark in this country, and that, with the exception of an occasional sale, all they import is used in the compounding of their celebrated Plantation Bitters—to which they are undoubtedly indebted for their wonderful health-restoring properties. As a Tonic and Appetizer they are not surpassed, and we cheerfully recommend them. All first-class Druggists keep them for sale.

MAGNOLIA WATER.—Superior to the best imported German Cologne, and sold at half the price.

Dec. 17, '68—1t

WHY HE DIDN'T.—"Why don't you trade with me?" said a close-fisted tradesman to a friend, the other day.—The reply was very characteristic: "You have never asked me, sir. I have looked all through the VOLUNTEER for an invitation in the shape of an advertisement and found none. I never go where I am not invited."

STARTLING.—Both continents of this planet are to be submerged, according to the prophecies of a German philosopher, in about 5,000,000 years. Our subscribers need not be deterred from renewing their subscriptions in view of the verification of this prophecy, provided they do not pay for a longer term than these figures indicate. It would be well to watch this modern Jeremiah, and if at the end of this period his prophecies prove false send us word and we will expose him—if we happen to be running the VOLUNTEER.

SUICIDE.—On Thursday evening last, a man arrived at the State Capitol Hotel, in Harrisburg, and registered his name "J. S. Martin, Shippensburg." He did not make his appearance next morning, and about noon, on going to his room it was found that he had hung himself to the door latch. He was a man about fifty years of age, with grey hair and beard, and subsequently proved to have been a resident of Brooklyn N. Y., who was partially insane and had escaped from the care of his family, who had offered a reward of $500 for his capture.

GOUGH COMING.—By reference to the announcement made elsewhere by the Good Templar Association, it will be seen that John B. Gough, the celebrated lecturer, will lecture in this place, early in February. The Good Templars have gone to great expense in securing the services of Mr. Gough, and they desire to dispose of as many tickets as possible by February 1st. This will doubtless be the only opportunity the people of Cumberland County will have of leaving Mr. Gough for years to come. The application of the Good Templars has been in over two years, so far in advance is Mr. Gough's time engaged. The mere mention of his name will doubtless be sufficient to secure the sale of all the tickets.

☞ Letort Lodge, Good Templars, having secured the services of John B. Gough Esq, he will deliver a lecture in Carlisle, provided a sufficient number of tickets are disposed of by February 1st. All persons who desire to hear Mr. Gough will please purchase tickets as early as possible from any member of the Lodge.—Tickets, One dollar.

E. D. QUIGLEY, M. T. THOMPSON,
W. P. LYNCH, A. E. MONASMITH,
W. M. OGILBY, *Lecture Com.*

Dec. 17, 1868—2t.*

CHRISTMAS.—As the holidays approach friends are looking forward for presents, and mementoes. Many will choose trifles some ornaments, and others articles of luxury and usefulness. We cannot do all such a better favor than by referring them to our advertising columns, where everything at all valuable will be found. Dry Goods, Groceries, Confections, furnishing goods for married folks and old bachelors, feathers, fancy trimmings for the ladies, books for the literati. Don't forget to look over our advertising columns.

☞ A fine head of hair is such an indispensible adjunct to beauty that no one who prizes good looks should neglect to use the best preparation to be had to increase its growth, restore its color or prevent its falling off. Ring's Vegetable Ambrosia is one of the most effectual articles for the purpose we have ever seen, besides being one of the most delightful hair dressings and beautifiers extant. It is free from the sticky and gummy properties of most other dressings, and being delightfully perfumed recommends itself to every lady or gentleman using fine toilet articles.

Nov. 26,—4t.

SOLDIERS' MONUMENT—ROLL OF HONOR.—The council of the Soldiers' Monument Association of Cumberland County desire to obtain immediately a complete list of all officers and enlisted men who entered into the service of the United States army during the war of the rebellion, from any borough or township of Cumberland County, and who were either killed in battle, or died from wounds or disease contracted in the service. The friends of all such deceased officers and soldiers are specially requested to report by letter or otherwise the name, company and regiment of each, with his former residence, to the undersigned, at an early day, in order that a full list may be made out without delay. A brief military history of each person is also requested, which will be published in the transactions of the Monument Association.

E. BEATTY, Cor. Secretary.

Dec. 10, '68—3t

FISH BREEDING IN THE SUSQUEHANNA.—The Philadelphia *Bulletin* refers in the following manner to the efforts which are being made to stock the Susquehanna river and its confluent streams with black bass.

This scheme is a very praiseworthy one, and deserves the hearty support of all. Ever since the discovery of this country, the inhabitants have engaged in the work of destroying its game, and have neglected to protect it in any manner, or to help its propagation. This reckless havoc has produced inevitable scarcity, until, in river and land alike, wild animals worth pursuing can hardly be obtained without going into the wilderness. Happily, the reaction has begun. Pisciculture has attracted a great deal of attention lately, and in various portions of the country is conducted so successfully that it bids fair to become a very important and valuable interest.—The people of Pennsylvania succeeded, some years ago, in arranging the dams in the Susquehanna so that the shad could ascend to waters to which it had long been a stranger, and the very gratifying results of this undertaking have encouraged them to other efforts in the same direction. It is intended to introduce the black bass into the Susquehanna, Juniata, and other rivers, in large numbers, and as this fish propagates very rapidly, and is of delicious flavor when served up for the table, it is thought that a new, abundant and cheap article of food will soon be provided for the people of our inland towns. If the experiment is successful there is no reason why salmon and other good fish may not be cultivated also.

—The New York *Spirit of the Times* says the terms of surrender offered to General Johnson by General Sherman, and for which General Sherman was so ruthlessly assailed, were dictated by President Lincoln with the concurrence of General Grant!

—A Scotch minister went into his pulpit once, in the olden time, in a somewhat muddled state, and leaning over the precentor's desk (below the pulpit,) said: "G-i-v-e out the 256th Psalm." "There beant so many," replied the precentor, wizen-faced and savage. "Then sing so many as there be!"

Business Notices.

TWENTY PER CENT. OF A REDUCTION.—NEW IMPORTS TO WM. BLAIR & SON.—We are now opening a large invoice of *Common* or "*C. C.*" *Ware*, received by the ship "*Addie Hall*," which we offer *Wholesale and Retail* at a reduction of 20 *per cent.* from our late prices.

Also a large quantity of *Raisins, Candies, &c.* for the Holidays, which we offer very *cheap.*

Our Stock of *Queensware, Glassware, Cedar and Willow-ware, Coal Oil, Salt &c.,* is very full.—Please give us a call.

WM. BLAIR & SON,
"South End" Carlisle, Pa.

Dec. 10, 1868.

CORN SHELLER AND FODDER CUTTER.—Every Farmer should have one of the superior STAR CORN SHELLERS, of which we have three sizes, all very cheap. Also the NATIONAL FODDER CUTTER, of which we have four sizes, with other Agricultural Implements of the very best make at low prices. Call and see them at F. GARDNER & Co's Foundry and Machine shop, Carlisle, Pa.

SCHOOL BOOKS.—A large supply of books, such as are used in the common school of this county, for sale, *CHEAP*, at Cornman & Worthington's Drug Store, No. 7 East Main street Carlisle.

Special Notices.

A SHINING LIGHT IN PHILADELPHIA!—Is the *Illuminated, Magazine, Hot-air Parlor Stove* "JUNIATA," recently introduced by the well-known Founders, Messrs. STUART, PETERSON & CO. The great feature possessed by this splendid Stove, is in its ability to *comfortably heat Parlor and Chambers* with one fire! And this it does readily and economically! Its entire freedom from complications, aside from its other great excellencies, commends it to the consideration of all who have neither the time, inclination nor patience to spend upon an unmanageable stove. Ask your nearest stove dealer to allow you to inspect the "JUNIATA," and if he hasn't got it persuade him to secure a supply without delay.

Dec. 17, 1868—1t

☞ SELLERS' FAMILY MEDICINES are among the standard preparations of the day.—The Imperial Cough Syrup is a sure cure for Coughs and Colds. Call at Haverstick Bros. and get a bottle.

☞ We notice to-day Johnson's Rheumatic Compound, an internal remedy for the cure of Inflammatory Rheumatism. This is a most valuable medicine, since it is a sure cure for the most painful of all diseases. For Sale by Haverstick Bros.