THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.—FIRST SESSION.

MONDAY, March 31.

In the Senate, to-day, a resolution was adopted, calling on the Secretary of War to furnish a copy of the report of Gen. Mansfield relative to the late engagement between the Merrimac and Monitor. The bill for the appointment of light-house inspectors was postponed. Mr. Wade introduced a bill to provide a territorial government for Arizona. Mr. Fessenden presented a joint resolution from the Legislature of Maine, indorsing the President's emancipation policy, and asking senators to vote for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia. The bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia was taken up, and Mr. Sumner proceeded to speak in its favor. Further consideration of the bill was postponed till Tuesday.

The House passed the Senate bill removing the impost duties on arms imported either by States or contractors. A resolution was adopted declaring Mr. S. F. Beach not to have been elected to the House from the Seventh District of Virginia. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the tax bill. Many important amendments to the bill were adopted. The clause imposing a duty of five per centum *ad valorem* on furs of all descriptions not otherwise provided for, was amended by the proviso that no duty shall be collected on furs until the expiration of the reciprocity treaty with Great Britain. The tax on diamonds, emeralds, and other jewelry, was put at three per centum *ad valorem*. The clause in the bill in relation to the taxation of flour was stricken out. The tax on cloth and all textile fabrics was fixed at three per centum *ad valorem*. Mr. Kellogg offered a new paragraph to the bill, which was adopted, to the effect that on and after the 1st of May a tax of one cent per pound shall be charged on all cotton held or owned by any person or company. The section of the bill relating to slaughtered cattle, hogs and sheep, was adopted entire. The next section of the bill was amended so as to allow the commissioner of internal revenue to make further regulations for ascertaining the accurate number of cattle, etc., liable to taxation.

TUESDAY, April 1.

In the Senate to-day Mr Sumner offered a resolution that the Committee on the Conduct of the War be instructed to collect evidence in regard to the barbarous treatment by the rebels at Manassas of officers and soldiers of the United States killed in battle there. The resolution was adopted after being amended so as to include an inquiry whether the rebels enlisted Indians who committed unheard-of atrocities, and how this savage warfare was conducted. Mr. Wilson introduced a bill for the better organization of the militia of the District of Columbia. Mr. Hale offered a resolution, which was adopted, that the Secretary of War transmit to the Senate the correspondence of General Wool with the War Department relative to the movements at Fortress Monroe since the latter has been in command there. The bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia was then taken up, and a lengthy debate ensued. Mr. Browning offered an amendment to Mr. Clarke's substitute for the bill, which was adopted, making the average value of slaves in $500, and providing that one-half be paid to the master, if loyal, and the other half retained by the Secretary of the Treasury; and that if the slave, when liberated by the bill, emigrates to another country, it shall be paid over to him or her. Mr Trumbull offered an amendment to the original bill, which was adopted, that no payment be made for any slaves to any person who has borne arms in the rebellion against the United States, or in any way given aid thereto. Mr. Wright, the new senator from Indiana, spoke against the bill. Speeches were also made by Messrs. Pomeroy, Fessenden, and Willey.

In the House Mr. Washburne presented a memorial in favor of the early enlargement of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. Consideration of the Pacific Railroad bill was further postponed to Tuesday next.—Mr. Hutchins offered a resolution, which lies over, requesting the Committee on the Conduct of the War to inquire whether the recent order of Gen. Hooker, directing that certain fugitive slaves be returned to their masters, is not a violation of the articles of war, and to report such remedy as will prevent the issue of similar orders. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the tax bill. An amendment was adopted that trust companies be included with the banks, savings institutions, etc., and that they pay three per centum on their income. A new section was added, providing that on and after May next there shall be paid for every insurance policy which may be made, renewed, continued, or indorsed, a duty of ten cents for every one hundred dollars insured for one year, etc. The section levying a duty on advertisements was amended by enacting that the tax shall be assessed on the amount received for advertisements, not the amounts charged, and is reduced from five to three per centum. The committee then rose.

WEDNESDAY, April 2.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Latham read the correspondence between the Secretary of State and ex-President Pierce, in regard to the charge which had been preferred against the latter of being a member of a treasonable organization. A resolution was passed requesting the Secretary of War to inform the Senate what drafts were made by one Wardell and accepted by ex-secretary Floyd, the nature of the transaction, and what amount is outstanding. The House resolution to co-operate with the States in aid of emancipation was taken up. Mr. Sherman spoke in favor of it. The resolution was passed by yeas 32, nays 10. The bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia was then taken up, and further debated by Messrs. Davis, McDougall, Clark, Morrill and Collamer.

In the House Mr. Diven introduced a bill, which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, authorizing the sale of annuities for life and fixing their value. The House took up the Senate resolution, that whenever military operations require the presence of two or more officers of the same grade in the same field or department, the President may make such assignment without regard to seniority of rank. A motion to lay the resolution on the table was negatived, and it then passed by a vote of yeas 81, nays 40. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the tax bill. The "stamp duties" clause was amended by exempting promissory notes and inland bills of exchange from the duty Promissory notes, bank checks, etc., over fifty dollars, are to be subject to a duty of two cents. The clause in regard to expresses was supplanted by a substitute imposing a tax of two cents on every receipt issued by any express company for a single package, and for any number more than one five cents. The clause as to goods, etc., entered at the custom-houses, was also amended.

THURSDAY, April 3.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Wilmot presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, relative to the defenses of Delaware river and bay, recommending the construction of gunboats, and tendering the credit of the State to the amount of a million of dollars for the purpose. Mr. Hale, from the Naval Committee, reported the bill authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to test plans and materials to render floating batteries invulnerable, with an amendment reducing the appropriation from $50,000 to $25,000. The bill was amended and passed. The bill for the relief of the widows and orphans of the officers and seamen of the ships Cumberland and Congress, giving twelve months' extra pay to the nearest relative, was also passed. Mr. Wilson offered a resolution, which lies over, declaring that the war is prosecuted to defend the Constitution and preserve the rights of the several States unimpaired, and that the United States will prosecute the war until this is secured. Mr. Willey offered a resolution, which also lies over, instructing the Military Committee to inquire into the present condition of the armory at Harper's Ferry, and whether it is expedient to repair the same. The Bill to provide for the administration of the oath of allegiance to citizens in foreign countries was passed. The bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia was then taken up. Mr. Sumner moved an amendment, which was adopted, that in taking testimony before the commissioners no witness shall be excluded on account of color. The second section of the bill was amended by providing that no claimant making application for payment for his slave, shall take an oath that he has not borne arms in the rebellion, nor given aid or comfort thereto, and that such oath shall not be taken as sufficient evidence of the fact. Mr. Collamer offered an amendment, which was adopted, that the owners of persons held to service shall put upon file the name and description of the person liberated by the bill, within such time as the commission may limit, under penalty of forfeiture of the claim, and that the clerk of the court shall issue certificates of manumission to the persons liberated by the bill, as amended, was then passed, by a vote of 29 to 14.

In the House, on motion of Mr. Spaulding, the President was requested to communicate any information which may be received at the Department of State, showing the system of revenue or finance now existing in any foreign country. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the tax bill. The clause relating to marine and inland insurance was amended by providing that when the amount insured does not exceed $1,000 the tax upon the same shall be twenty-five cents when more than $1,000 and not exceeding $5,000, fifty cents; and when exceeding $5,000, one dollar. The clause in relation to mortgages was also amended by imposing a tax of forty cents when the amount mortgaged is under $5,000; when exceeding $5,000, one dollar. It was agreed in regard to these clauses, that when the amount insured or mortgaged does not exceed $100, no duty is to be imposed. An amendment was adopted that the stamp duty on notes, checks marine and other specified protests shall be twenty-five cents.—A proviso was also adopted that the stamp duty on manifests, bills of lading, and passenger tickets provided for the schelude B, shall not apply to steamships plying between these ports and the ports of British North America. An amendment was also adopted that no writ, summons, or other process issued by a justice of the peace in any criminal, law, or equity suit commenced by the United States or any State, shall be subject to the payment of the stamp duty. The medical schedule was altered so as to provide that medicines, &c., shall pay when valued and sold at retail five cents a tax of one cent; not exceeding fifty cents, two cents; not exceeding one dollar, four cents; and for every fifty cents or fractional part thereof over and above one dollar, two cents. Consideration of the income section of the bill was resumed. An amendment was adopted including the telegraph, gas, and express companies under the income duty. It is also provided that the net gains on profits and incomes only shall be payable on or before the 30th of June, 1863, and in each year thereafter until and including the year 1865, and no longer. Furs of all descriptions, when made up, pay a duty of three per centum *ad valorem*.

FRIDAY, April 4.

In the Senate to day, after the presentation of petitions, Mr. McDougal, from the special committee, reported a bill to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line to the Pacific. Mr Lane offered a resolution that the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for compensation for the horses, baggage, etc., lost at Hatteras Inlet for the want of proper transportation. The Senate proceeded to the consideration of business connected with the District of Columbia, and passed several local bills. Adjourned till Monday.

In the House to-day consideration of the tax bill was resumed. An amendment was adopted that cast iron, used for bridges and buildings or other permanent structures, shall be taxed one dollar per ton, provided that bar iron used for similar purposes shall pay no specific duty additional to what is already required by the act. An amendment was also adopted that machine belting and hose of all kinds for conveying water shall be taxed three per centum *ad valorem*. The allowance and drawback section was amended by enacting that, from and after the date of the passage of the act, there shall be an allowance or drawback on articles manufactured, on which any internal duty or tax shall have been paid, equal in amount to the tax paid thereon, and no more, when exported; provided, that no allowance or drawback shall be had for any amount claimed under twenty dollars. A new section was added providing "pains and penalties" for fraudulent practices in regard to drawbacks. Mr. Blair offered a new section imposing a tax of two dollars on persons held to service under the laws of any state.—After considerable debate the amendment was rejected by yeas 47 nays 42. The committee then rose, and Mr. Colfax reported the tax bill, as amended, to the House. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. The bill to establish a branch mint at Denver City, Colorado territory, was passed. Adjourned till Monday.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, April 4, 1862.

SENATE.—The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Cattell, of Harrisburg.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Imbrie, a bill to provide for the payment of certain military officers

Mr. Crawford, a bill to incorporate the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Shippensburg.

Mr. Connell, a joint resolution offering the temporary use of the Lazaretto Hospital building to the Government of the United States as an army hospital for contagious diseases.

BILLS CONSIDERED, ETC.

The supplement to the several acts of Assembly relative to divorces came up in order on third reading and passed finally.

The supplement to the act creating a Home Guard in the City of Philadelphia came up in order on third reading, and was amended, on motion of Mr. Nichols, by striking out the first section, and providing for the election of a major general, on Monday, April 14th, and passed finally.

The bill to increase the powers of the City of Philadelphia, relative to cleansing the city, and for other purposes, came up in order on third reading, and passed finally—yeas 13, nays 11.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Senate reassembled at three o'clock.

The following bills were passed:

An act consolidating the laws relative to the Guardians of the Poor.

A supplement to the act to incorporate the Pennsylvania Coal Company.

A supplement to the act relative to the mode of drawing jurors.

The bill relative to the election of members from the rural wards passed to a third reading, and was then laid over.

The Senate then adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.—The House was called to order at 10 A. M., by the Speaker.

The Committee on Ventilation asked an appropriation for placing ventilators in the ceiling of the House.

Mr. Rex declared that the amount appeared exorbitant, in view of the expenditure of $500 for the same purpose a year or two since. The subject was debated pro and con, and the appropriation was finally made.

Mr. Wildey, from the Railroad Commits of the House, reported the bill allowing Sunday travel, with a negative recommendation.

Mr. Widner also reported, negatively, on the act imposing a penalty of $30 on conductors who take up more passengers than can comfortably be seated.

An act relative to certain children's homes was reported favorably.

Mr. Ryon moved that the House proceed to the consideration of an act relative to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. He stated that a contract had been made between the Pennsylvania Coal Company and the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, which the last named organization agreed to carry the coal of the former at half the excess of the selling price at shipboard in New York, over and above $2.50 per ton. The canal terminated at Roundout on the Hudson river, and the coal was shipped from that point in barges. The companies have now quarrelled, and the result is a great loss and inconvenience to the coal trade of Pennsylvania. Under these circumstances, Mr. Ryon advocated the passage of an act directing the Attorney General to inquire by what authority the original contract had been made, and to report to the next Legislature. The act was accordingly considered, and passed finally.

An act requiring the resumption of specie payments by the banks was taken up. The first section was agreed to by a vote of fifty-seven yeas, to forty-four nays. It provides that suspension shall be legalized until February, (the first Tuesday,) 1863, and that forfeitures shall be remitted until that time; also, that the banks may pay out the Government demand notes, and may issue small notes to the amount of 40 per cent., of their capital stock; also, allowing them to purchase Government or State stocks without limit, from individuals or corporations.

Mr. Armstrong offered a new section:

"That for the purpose of paying in specie or its equivalent all interests which shall hereafter become due or payable by this State, as required by the act of June 12, 1840, the several banks which shall avail themselves of the provisions of this act, and which shall refuse to redeem their notes in specie on demand at any time within ten days before or after the time when such interest shall become due and payable, shall hereafter, when required by the State Treasurer, by notice in writing, pay into the State Treasury in proportion to their capital stock paid in, within thirty days after the State shall have paid such interest, their rateable proportion of such premium for gold, or its equivalent, as shall have been actually paid by the State; and in default of such payment the State may sue for and recover the same by the process of law."

Mr. Hopkins offered to further amend as follows: And provided further, that the same principle shall apply when notes are presented by individuals."

The last amendment was lost by forty-two yeas to forty-nine nays.

A message was received from the Governor stating that he had signed many bills, among them the acts incorporating the Philadelphia and Crescent Navigation, and the act for the better defence of the Delaware Bay and river. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House was again called to order at 3 o'clock.

The consideration of the bill relative to the resumption of specie payments by the banks was resumed.

The amendment of Mr. Armstrong was adopted.

Mr. Vincent offered an amendment, providing that the president, vice president and cashier, shall be held liable to creditors when the bank makes an assignment through fraud. The amendment also authorizes the courts to order an assignment if any bank fails to redeem its notes after the first Tuesday of January next.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Tracy submitted an amendment, that the banks which refuse to exchange treasury notes for their own, sixty days after the passage of this bill, shall not receive the benefits of the act. Agreed to.

The second section of the original bill, requiring the cashiers to make regular statements, was then passed.

The bill was then put upon its final passage.

Mr. McCullough declared that the banks only desired the legislation The people had been opposed to the suspension of specie payments.

The yeas and nays were then called, and resulted as follows: Yeas 51, nays 42. So the bill passed.

From the N. Y. Herald, March 31.

AN INUNDATION OF NEGROES.

The public has already been informed that the escaped contrabands of the South are pouring into Philadelphia in large numbers, and that in Washington they have become so impudent as to elbow white men off the sidewalks insult white women, and be utterly unfit for servants. This influx of negroes and this saucy independence are the very natural results of the teachings of the abolitionists, who hold that a white man is as good as a negro only when he behaves himself and goes strongly for emancipation. But how will this negro inundation affect the North and the South?

In the North these escaped negroes will fill our poor houses and increase our taxes. Many of them will learn trades, as they are already doing in Philadelphia, and white men and white women will be crowded out of employment. Already we have more negroes here than we know what to do with, and every fugitive contraband is an incubus and a nuisance. If the slaves continue to come North, let white laborers look out for themselves. In Jamaica and the Barbadoes, where the experiment of free negro labor is being tested, the mulattoes are rapidly gaining power and influence, and white men are being pushed to the wall. The same causes produce the same results. We shall fare no better than the whites of those islands.

But, while this black labor is a surplus here, it is greatly needed at the South. Cotton, sugar, rice and tobacco must be raised, and only blacks can raise it. But, if we permit the abolitionists to decoy all the slaves to the North, how shall we get them back again to the South when this war is over? Everywhere emancipation of slaves results in a scarcity of labor, and in the British West Indies, where the want of negro laborers is severely felt since the abolition of slavery, every effort is being made to persuade free negroes to emigrate from the United States. We shall be in just the same predicament, by and by, and the South will be almost valueless because of the scarcity of slaves.

The problem of the inevitable negro is taking this shape, therefore: slaves are becoming scarce at the South, where they will be sorely needed, and plentiful at the North, where they are not needed, but are a burthen and an expense. Something must be done to remedy this evil, and that immediately.—Freedom for the blacks has been a popular cry in some quarters for years. It is about time now to raise the cry of freedom for the whites; for the negroes are becoming masters of the situation.

ABOLITION PATRIOTISM!—Russell Errett, formerly the editor of the Washington *Patriot*, and now one of the abolition editors of the Pittsburg *Gazette*, held during a portion of the last year, three fat offices—Comptroller of Pittsburg, Clerk of the State Senate and U. S. Paymaster. When our Legislature met and when it was supposed that Paymaster Errett was with the division about to move down the Mississippi—this patriotic abolition editor "turned up" in Harrisburg, to claim pay as a return clerk until the organization of the Senate. Was such "greed" ever equalled? Notwithstanding his fat pay as a U. S. officer, &c., he *goes* to Harrisburg and demands pay for *ten days* and *mileage!* This is abolition patriotism for you. It is such men as this that fairly shudder at the idea of a *dishonorable* compromise!—*Exchange.*

WAR NEWS.

The Battle of Winchester—Gen. Shields' Account.

The following letter from Gen. Shields, to a friend in Washington, gives the General's informal account of the battle of Winchester:

HEADQUARTERS GEN. SHIELDS' DIVISION,
Winchester, Va., March 28, 1862.

I will give you a brief account of our late operations. My reconnoissance beyond Strasburg, on the 18th and 19th inst., discovered Jackson reinforced, in a strong position, near New Market, within supporting distance of the main body of the rebels under Johnston. It was necessary to decoy him from that position. Therefore I fell back rapidly to Winchester on the 20th, as if in retreat, marching my whole command nearly thirty miles in one day. My force was placed at night in a secluded position, two miles from Winchester, on the Martinsburg road.

On the 21st the rebel cavalry, under Ashby, showed themselves to our pickets, within sight of Winchester. On the 22d a l of Gen Banks' command, with the exception of my division, evacuated Winchester, *en route* for Centreville. This movement, and the masked position of my division, made an impression upon the inhabitants, some of whom were in secret communication with the enemy, that our army had left, and that nothing remained but a few regiments to garrison this place. Jackson was signalized to this effect. I saw their signals and divined their meaning. About five o'clock on the afternoon of the 2d, Ashby, believing that the town was almost evacuated, attacked our pickets and drove them in. This success increased his delusion.

It became necessary, however, to repulse them for the time being. I therefore, ordered forward a brigade, and placed it in front, between Winchester and the enemy.

I only let them see, however, two regiments of infantry, two batteries of artillery and a small force of cavalry, which he mistook as the whole force left to garrison and protect the place. In a little skirmish that evening, while placing the artillery in position, I was struck by a fragment of a shell, which broke my arm above the elbow, injured my shoulder, and damazed me otherwise to such an extent that I have lain prostrate ever since.

I commenced making preparations for any emergency that might occur that night or the next morning. Under cover of the night I ordered an entire brigade (Kimball's) to take up a strong position in advance. I pushed forward four batteries, having them placed in a strong position to support the infantry. I placed Sullivan's brigade, on both flanks from being turned, and I held Tyler's brigade in reserve, to operate against any point that might be assailed in front. In this position I awaited and expected the enemy's attack next morning My advance brigade was two miles from the town. Its pickets extending perhaps a mile further along the turnpike leading to Strasburg.

About eight o'clock in the morning I sent forward two experienced officers to reconnoitre the front and report indications of the enemy. They returned in an hour, reporting no enemy in sight, except Ashby's force of cavalry, infantry and artillery, which by this time had become familiar and contemptible to us. Gen. Banks, who was yet here in person, upon hearing this report, concluded that Jackson could not be in front possibly, or he decoyed away so far from the main body of the rebel army. In this opinion I, too, began to concur, concluding that Jackson was too sagacious to be caught in such a trap. General Banks therefore, left for Washington. His staff officers were directed to follow the same day, by way of Centreville.

Knowing the crafty enemy, however, I had to deal with, I omitted no precaution. My whole force was concentrated, and prepared to support Kimball's brigade, which was in advance. About half past ten o'clock it become evident we had a considerable force before us; but the enemy still concealed himself so adroitly in the woods that it was impossible to estimate it. I ordered a portion of the artillery forward to open fire and unmask them. By degrees they began to show themselves They planted battery after battery in strong position, on the centre and on both flanks. Our artillery responded, and this continued until about three o'clock in the afternoon, when I directed a column of infantry to carry a battery on their left flank and to assail that flank, which was done promptly and splendidly by Tyler's brigade, aided by some regiments from the other brigades.

The fire of our infantry was so close and destructive that it made havoc in their ranks. The result was the capture of their guns on the left and forcing back of their wing on the centre, thus placing them in a position to be routed by a general attack, which was made about five o'clock by all the infantry, and resulted in driving them in flight from the field. Night fell upon us at this stage leaving us in possession of the field of battle, two guns and four caissons, three hundred prisoners and about one thousand stand of small arms. Our killed in this engagement cannot exceed one hundred and fifty, wounded, seven hundred and thirty-three. The enemy's killed and wounded exceed one thousand. The inhabitants of the adjacent villages carried them to their houses as they were removed from the field of battle.

Houses between the battle-field and Strasburg, and even far beyond, have since been found filled with dead and dying of the enemy. Graves have been found far removed from the road, where the inhabitants of the country buried them as they died. General Banks, in his pursuit of the enemy beyond Strasburg afterwards, found houses on the road filled in this manner. This was the most ghastly spectacle. The havoc made in the ranks of the rebels has struck this whole region of country with terror. Such a blow had never fallen on them before, and it is more crushing because wholly unexpected. Jackson and his forces will be destroyed if the other brigades accompanying him, will never meet this division in battle again.

During the night they managed to carry off their artillery in the darkness. We opened upon them by early light next morning, and they commenced to retreat. General Banks returned from Strasburg early between nine and 10 o'clock, A. M., and placed himself, at my request, at the head of his command, ten miles from the battle-field, pursuing the enemy. Reinforcements which we had ordered back from Williams' division, and which I had ordered forward during the night, now came pouring in, and with all these we continued the pursuit, pressing them with vigor and with repeated and destructive attacks as far as Woodstock, where we halted from sheer exhaustion. The enemy's sufferings must be beyond conception as they have nowere else endured since the commencement of this war; and yet such were their gallantry and high state of discipline that at no time during the battle or pursuit did they give way to the panic. They fled to Mount Jackson, and are by this time in communication with the main body of the rebel army. I hope to be able in a few days to ride in a buggy and place myself at the head of my command; but I have neither sufficient force nor sufficient rank to do that service to the country that I hope and feel I am capable of. No man could be better treated than I am by Gen. Banks; and yet if he and his command had been here on the 23d you would have heard nothing of a fight, because our wily enemy would not have been entrapped. I want a division of cavalry regiments of the Third United States Cavalry for instance—and additional infantry. I wish you would see the Secretary of War, for instance, in relation to this matter. I can do the country service if they give me a chance. JAMES SHIELDS.

The Defences of New Orleans—The Fortifications.

A recent number of the Richmond *Dispatch* says:

"The Mississippi is fortified so as to be impassable for any hostile fleet or flotilla. Forts Jackson and St. Philip are armed with one hundred and seventy guns, (8-pounders, rifled by Barlow Britton, and received from England) the navigation of the river is stopped by a dam of about a quarter of a mile from the above forts

"No flotilla on earth would force that dam in less than two hours, during which it would be within short and cross range of one hundred and seventy guns of the largest calibre, many of which would be served with red hot shot, numerous furnaces for which have been erected in every fort and every battery.

"Between New Orleans and the forts there is a constant succession of earthworks. At the Plain of Chalmette, near Janin's Property, there are redoubts, armed with rifled cannon, which have been found to be effective at five miles range. A ditch thirty feet wide and twenty deep extends from the Mississippi to La Carriere.

"In the forts St. Philip and Jackson there are 3,000 men, of whom a goodly portion are experienced artillerymen and gunners who have served in the navy."

The same paper says:

"In a day or two we shall have ready two iron-cased floating battery batteries. The plates are 4½ inches thick of the best hammered iron, received from England and France. Each iron-cased battery will mount twenty 68-pounders, place I so as to skim the water, and strike the enemy's hull between wind and water We have an abundant supply of incendiary shells, and the furnaces for molten iron, congreve rockets and fire ships.

"At New Orleans itself we have 32,000 infantry, and as many more quartered in the immediate neighborhood. In discipline and drill they are far superior to the Yankees We have two very able and active generals, who possess our entire confidence—Gen. Mansfield Sorell and Brigadier General Ruggles. For commodore we have old Hollins—a Nelson in his way.

"We are ready to give the Yankees a hot reception when they come. Around all are mad with excitement and rage. Our only fear is that the Northern invaders will not appear. We have made such extensive preparation to receive them, that it were vexatious if their invisible armada escapes the fate we have in store for it."

There are also said to be formidable obstructions of various kinds in the river, to prevent the passage upward of a fleet. A correspondent at Ship Island, writing recently, says:

"I have conversed with some prisoners recently taken in reference to the obstructions placed acro s the Mississippi by the Confederates to prevent the passage of the Federal men-of-war. From them I learn there is an immense raft of logs, containing eighty thousand feet, stretched across the river at a point called the "Jump." The raft is secured to the bank of the river, on either side, by heavy chains, which are dropped when any of the Confederate steamers pass. This formidable obstruction is commanded by a strong battery."

From Island No. 10—A Rebel Steamer Fired Into and Burnt.

CAIRO, April 4.

A boat arrived here from Island No. 10, which left there last night, reports that the firing was resumed yesterday morning by our gunboat mortars. One of our shells burst upon the rebel steamer Winchester, which set her on fire, when she burnt to the water's edge and sunk.

During the firing the rebels turned their floating battery up to a new position, and tried to reach us with their shot from her 32 pounder rifles, but the shot all fell far short, and after a couple of hours manœuvering she was taken back to her old position. Several shots were fired at the rebel transports by our gunboats.

The rebels are erecting batteries all along the Tennessee shore, to prevent the landing of federal troops in Missouri.

Further from Island No. 10.

ON BOARD STEAMER WILSON,
OFF ISLAND NO. 10, March 31.

The mortar bombardment is continued as usual, but with much greater accuracy. The rebels are strongly fortifying the lower portion of the upper battery, which we suppose they intend to abandon. It is rumored that large gangs of men and teams are at work upon the upper part, repairing and mounting guns. New and extensive lines of fortifications have been erected upon the main shore, and three or four new and large camps established. They have evidently been largely reinforced. A new battery has also been established upon the Island, and transports have been briskly plying from the head to the foot of the Island all day. Everything indicates a desperate battle. The day cannot be far off.

From the Army of the Southwest—Advance of Our Troops in Arkansas—The Enemy Defeated by Our Advance Guard with Considerable Loss.

WASHINGTON, April 4.

A despatch received here from St Louis, dated yesterday, says: "General Steele's advanced guard has reached Pittsman's Ferry, Arkansas. Col Carline had an engagement with the enemy on the 1st instant, on crossing the river, and killed one Lieutenant and wounded several others, and captured five prisoners from the enemy, together with their camp equipage, horses, mules, forage and a number of small arms.

From New Mexico.

ST. LOUIS, April 3.

A letter from Fort Union, New Mexico, dated March 18, says reinforcements have arrived there, and our force is now sufficient to defend that depot. At the latest advices Colonel Canby was still shut up at Fort Craig, 250 miles south of Fort Union, and that the Texans, 2,400 strong, were at Alburque with 20 pieces of artillery, and about half way between Forts Union and Craig.

Other accounts say that 1,800 Texans were advancing on Fort Union.

The Texans held Santa Fe, and had organized a Provisional Government, General Pelcham being governor.

If a forward movement can be made without jeopardizing Fort Union, an effort will be made to relieve Colonel Canby, and reclaim Santa Fe and Alburque.

It was reported that Col. Canby had captured a train of sixty wagons and 400 Texans

Communication between Santa Fe and Fort Union was cut off, but an advance would be made about the 22d by the troops at Fort Union assisted by two small batteries, when it was expected communication with Fort Craig would be restored.

Beauregard Outflanked.

The New York *World* in an extra says, that private information derived from a responsible source has reached here that Beauregard has been outflanked in the position his Rebel army occupied near Corinth, Mississippi, and was compelled to fall back, and also that a heavy body of United States troops had got in between the enemy and the city of Memphis, not far from the Mississippi, thus cutting off communication and retreat. Glorious news, adds the *World*, may be expected from that quarter in a day or two.

DEATH OF COL. MICHAEL DOHENY.—Col. Michael Doheny, alike distinguished as an orator, writer, poet and Irish revolutionary writer, died last night of intermittent fever, at his residence in Eighteenth street, South Brooklyn.—His death was unexpected by his friends, as he had been but a few days confined to his bed.—*New York Times, April 3.*

STRANGE MORTALITY AND LONGEVITY.—Four members of the family of the late John and Elizabeth Ash, of Darby, Delaware county, the aggregate of whose ages was 308 years (!) all members of one family, living together, and all unmarried, lately died within a period of less than two months prior to the 19th of March. Since then, three more members of the same family have died, viz: Mary Ash, senior, aged 97, Rebecca Ash 61, and Hannah Ash 74. It appears then, that in a period of about two months, seven members of the same family, whose united ages amounted to 532 years, have been removed by death. It has been our duty to record many remarkable instances of longevity, but this is without a parallel. What solemn and impressive reflections does this suggest, in connection with the recognition in eternity, of those we have loved in time! Let us hope that they were "beautiful in their lives, and in death undivided." We have just learned that Dr. Caleb Ash, also a member of the family in question, died on the 27th ult., his age being unknown, thus making eight deaths in the circle. The disease which has proved so fatal is said to have been pneumonia.

RE-ELECTION OF GOV. SPRAGUE.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 2, 1862.

Governor Sprague and the rest of the present incumbents of the State offices were re elected to-day without opposition. The vote was light, only about eleven thousand ballots being cast. The General Assembly is divided politically very nearly as it was last year. The Democrats and Constitutional Union party have a majority in grand committee of about thirty-six.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

$25!] ☞ Employment! ☜ [$75!

AGENTS WANTED!

We will pay from $25 to $75 per month, and all expenses, to active Agents, or give a commission. Particu ars sent free. Address Erie Sewing Machine Company, R. JAMES, General Agent. Milan, Ohio. [aug 27 1y 33

☞ **Among the many apparent trifles** continually being brought to the surface from the ideal under-world of the unknown, there are occasionally simple articles costing but little in detail, but whose combined benefits, usefulness and economy of time and money, aggregate on the basis of millions. Such an article is DARBY'S PREPARED GLUE. Its uses are innumerable, and as its cost is next to nothing, the demand for it is universal. It is prepared with chemicals, and used cold—requiring but little skill or time for its application.—*From the Home Journal*, New York, August 27, 1859. [feb 11 1m 5

☞ **To Consumptives.—The Advertiser,** having been restored to health in a few weeks by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and the dread disease, Consumption—is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the means of cure.

To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used (free of charge,) with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find A SURE CURE FOR CONSUMPTION, ASTHMA, &c. The only object of the advertiser in sending the prescription is to benefit the afflicted, and spread information which he conceives to be invaluable, and he hopes every sufferer will try his remedy, as it will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing.

Parties wishing the prescription will please address

REV. EDWARD A. WILSON,
Jan 21 3m 2] Williamsburgh, Kings Co., New York.

☞ **Equality to All! Uniformity of Price!** A new feature of Business: Every one his own Salesman. Jones & Co., of the Crescent One Price Clothing Store, 602 Market street, above 6th, in addition to having the largest, most varied and fashionable stock of Clothing in Philadelphia, made expressly for retail sales, have constituted every one his own Salesman, by having marked in figures, on each article, the very lowest price it can be sold for, so they cannot possibly vary—all must buy alike.

The goods are all well sponged and prepared and great pains taken with the making, so that all can buy with the full assurance of getting a good article at the very lowest price.

Remember the Crescent, in Market, above 6th, No. 604
feb 26 1y-5 JONES & CO.

DEATHS.

In this city, on Thursday last, after a protracted and painful illness, Lewis Hurford, aged 78 years. Mr. H was one of our most respected and useful citizens, and his decease will be strongly felt by a large circle of relatives and acquaintances.

In this city, on the 2d inst., Mariao E., daughter of P K. and Marian Broneman, in the 17th year of her age.

Near Rockville, Chester county, on the 15th of March, Martha, daughter of Tristrim and Martha Connell, aged 1 year and 1 month.

On Friday evening last, in the 75th year of his age, Michael McGrann, an old and highly esteemed resident of this city.

In this city, on the 4th inst., Virginia, daughter of George and Charlotte Gundaker, aged 1 year, 5 months and 20 days.

In this city, on the 1st inst., Margaret, infant daughter of James and Ann Coyle, aged 5 months and 14 days.

THE MARKETS.

Lancaster Wholesale Grain Market.

Corrected weekly by J. R. BITNER & BRO., Forwarding and Commission Merchants, No. 91 North Queen street.

LANCASTER, April 7.

Flour, Superfine, ₰ bbl	$5.00
" Extra "	5 25
White Wheat, ₰ bushel	1.25
Red "	1.15
Corn, old "	42
" new "	
Oats "	28
Rye "	62
Cloverseed "	
Whiskey, in hhds	21
" in bbls	21½

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, April 5.

Flour: firmer feeling in market but not much doing. Sales of 500 bbls. superfine at $5@5 25 and low grade extra family at $5 50. Rye Flour steady at $3 25, and Cornmeal at $2 75. Wheat is firmer; sales of red at $1 27@1 30, and white at $1 40@1 45. 2,000 bushels Rye sold at 70cts. Corn active at 53½@54½c. for yellow, and 60@61 cents for white. Oats in better request with sales at 34@36 cents. Cloverseed in good demand at $5 12½@5 25. Small sales of Timothy at $2. Flaxseed at $2 10@2 15. Coffee dull; small sales Rio at 18@19 cents, and Laguayra at 21 cents. Provisions held firmly; sales Mess Pork at $13@13 50 and 200 casks Hams in pickle at 6c Lard firm at 8¼@8¾ cts. Sales of 500 bbls. Ohio Whisky at 24 cents.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, April 5.

Flour is heavy; sales of 7,000 barrels Wheat dull but nominally unchanged. Corn quiet and unchanged; sales of 10,000 bus. Beef firm. Lard firm. Whisky dull—holders ask 23 cents, while buyers offer only 22 cents.

ASSIGNED ESTATE OF GABRIEL SCHLOTT.

of the City of Lancaster, Gabriel Schlott and wife, of the City of Lancaster, having assigned all the estate, real, personal and mixed, (except so much as would be exempt from levy and sale on execution,) of the said Gabriel Schlott to the undersigned, for the benefit of creditors: All persons indebted to the said Gabriel Schlott are requested to make payment, and all persons having claims against him will present them to

JOHN B. ERB, Assignee,
April 3rd, 1862. Residing in Litiz.
apr 8 6t 13

THE ST. LOUIS, CHESTNUT STREET HOUSE,

BETWEEN THIRD AND FOURTH, PHILADELPHIA.

The undersigned, having leased, for a term of years, this popular house, have the pleasure of announcing to their friends and the travelling community that it is now open for the reception of guests. The house since the first of March last, has been entirely renovated and refitted in a superior manner; the apartments are large, well ventilated, and furnished in modern style. It is centrally located, convenient to all the depot and steamboat landings, and in the immediate vicinity of the Custom House, Post Office and Corn Exchange.

Connected with the Hotel is a Restaurant for the accommodation of those preferring the European plan. Prices of Rooms from Three to Seven Dollars per week, according to location.

Board $1.50 per day. Table d'Hote for merchants and business men from 1 to 3 P. M.

HENRY NEIL,
apr 8 1y 13] ISAAC L. DEVOE.

A SUPERIOR LIMESTONE FARM

FOR SALE.—The undersigned will sell a highly cultivated LIMESTONE FARM, situated in one of the interior counties of the State, containing near 245 ACRES, out of which two excellent farms could be made. It has excellent improvements, a NEW HOUSE, good and convenient Barn, Hog Stable and Corncrib, an excellent water near the door, and Spring House. It is all limestone land, and lies sufficiently high to make it one of the most productive farms in the State. It produced last year 1000 bushels wheat, and large quantities of corn and oats. It is in prime condition and has 50 Acres of promising wheat growing now.

For location, price, &c., inquire of

D. G. ESHLEMAN,
No. 36 North Duke St., Lancaster.
apr 8 [Examiner copy] 4t 13

1862. APRIL. 1862.

ANOTHER ARRIVAL OF SPLENDID NEW SPRING GOODS AT WENTZ BROS.

1 Lot of FOULARD SILKS, only 12½ cents.
1 Lot Spring Challie DELAINES, 12½c., worth 20c.
1 Lot Brocha VALENCIAS, Boqus, 25, 31, 37½c.
1 Lot Super Boqua CHALLIES, only 25c.
SHEPHERDS' PLAIDS, beautiful and good, 25c.
All our best CALICOES, selling at