NEWS FROM ALL NATIONS.

—Ledru Rollin, a distinguished Frenchman, is dead.

—Gen. Sheridan and staff arrived at New Orleans Saturday.

—Serious trouble is expected at the coal mines in Ohio county, Kentucky.

—Green peas, grown in the open air, have appeared in the Savannah market.

—Canadians own 6,683 vessels of of various kinds, measuring 1,073,718 tons.

—Donn Piatt, of Washington, is a believer in spirits.

—Ex-Senator Morgan has declined the mission to Russia.

—They buy cattle in Oregon for two and a half cents a pound.

—California has a newspaper called the *Pajaronian*, and Colorado one known as the *Trinidadian*.

—For the first time this winter the Hudson river at Poughkeepsie is frozen over.

—Wm. Thomas, jr., was killed in Philadelphia on Wednesday afternoon, in a saloon fight! Whiskey did it.

—Count Von Arnim has appealed to the Kammergericht at Berlin from the sentence in his case.

—President Grant and Cabinet paid their respects to King Kalakaua at his quarters at the Arlington last Wednesday.

—It is thought that the Wisconsin Legislature will repeal the railway law regulating tariffs, passed last winter.

—Morrissey is getting ready, in Washington, for the Democratic majority in Congress. He is opening a faro bank.

—A bill was introduced in the House last week to reduce letter postage to one cent.

—Judge Abram Martin, the oldest member of the Montgomery, Ala., bar, died in that city on Friday night.

—King Alfonso has granted complete amnesty to all Carlists, and he has received the blessing he asked of the Pope.

—A very heavy fall of snow took place in the northern part of France on Wednesday.

—The Interior Department will hold a public competitive examination for vacancies in the Patent Office, beginning on the 15th of January.

—Prince Alfonso, son of ex Queen Isabella of Spain, has been proclaimed King, and is recognized by the army of the North and Center.

—In the village of Sheridan, Oregon, they utilize the church on week days by taking out the seats and using the floor for a croquet ground.

—Marble men now make small tombstones by the quantity, with the epitaph already cut; "Didn't know it was loaded." They leave a blank for the name and age.

—Several editors and reporters of the defunct paper, the *Republic*, have brought suit for the recovery of unpaid salaries. Thus are Republics sometimes ungrateful.

—Alabama and North Carolina have taken steps looking to a speedy and satisfactory adjustment of all claims against them.

—Garibaldi has declined with thanks the grant from the Italian parliament. The depleted condition of the national purse took him to this patriotic denial.

—General Burnside's friends think they have now a certainty of electing him to the United States senate when the Rhode Island legislature assembles.

—Advices received from the Direct United States Cable fleet state that the steamship Faraday sailed from St. John, N. F., on Wednesday to commence the re-laying of the cable.

—The crew of the brig Brocklesby, which arrived at Liverpool from Galveston on the 15th ult, have been sentenced to imprisonment for terms ranging from six to eight years for mutiny.

—An afflicted young lady in New York, whose father is lying on his dying bed, writes to a fashionable paper to know what it would be proper for her to wear for mourning.

—There is a sugar refinery in St. Louis which, during this year, has consumed sixty-three million of pounds of raw sugar. It also sold refined sugar during the same time to the value of $5,900,000.

—A dressmaker in New York had scarlet fever in her house, and sent home a dress to a lady, whose two children took the disease and died. There is probably no disease more contagious than scarlet fever.

—When a Louisville dry goods store is robbed, the proprietor pays the *Courier-Journal* a dollar and a half to report the item under a head like this: "Burglars of Good Taste."

—A man who has voted and paid taxes in Norwich, Conn., for forty year, has just discovered, through a new survey, that he resides outside the corporation. He is an astonished man.

—London has a "practical instructor in beggary" in the person of Prof. Roanor, who furnishes dogs taught to lead the blind, with children of unhealthy appearance, and other accessories.

—A minister who came into church during a sudden shower requested another to preach for him, as he was very wet. "No," said his other, "preach yourself; you will be dry enough in the pulpit."

—The total circulation of the Boston Public Library for the past seven months has been 368 287, an increase of 87,000 over the same period Last year. There are now 270,048 volumes in the library.

—Gov. Hartranft has signed the death warrant of Fred. Heidenblut, found guilty of murder, in Philadelphia, recently. The execution will take place on Wednesday, January 20, 1875.

—Edson A. Sible, of Harrisburg, was shot and killed, on Saturday, in Cambria county, by Philip Lehr. They were with a party hunting deer. Lehr shot at a pheasant, and one of the shot penetrated Sible's heart.

—Joseph B. Conrad, of Bernville, was nominated by the Democrats of Berks county, on Saturday, to fill the legislative representation from that county in which a vacancy occured through the death of Dr. Baldorf.

—Kalakana is now in Boston which is the eastern limit of his wanderings. He will go to Niagara Falls, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis and thence back to San Francisco. He expects to reach Honolulu by the middle of February.

—Ex-Governor Seymour, Chief Justice Church, Henry Richmond and Governor Fenton are all said to favor the election of Francis Kernan to the United States senate. The rural democracy are behind Kernan and disposed to put him through.

—The Louisville *Courier-Journal* whispers a horrible suspicion that the "Lafayette watch," recently presented to Mr. Oscar De Lafayette in the name of our government, is not the veritable souvenir given by Washington.

—A young woman, Mary Watson, died the other day in the House of Correction in Westminster, London, from mental suffering caused by the disgrace of being in prison. She was received there in December, 1872, having been convicted of larceny and sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

—Petition from the National Temperance Society and other temperance organizations and churches, representing over 300,000 petitioners, were presented in the House last Thursday asking for the early passage of the bill to provide for a commission of inquiry concerning the alcoholic liquor traffic, which passed the Senate last session.

—A policeman in Richmond, Va., broke his club over the head of a colored invalid who resisted when about to be arrested for unlawful trespass. At his examination in the station house he was asked whether the policeman struck him, to which he replied, "No, sah!" much to the chagrin of the officer in question.

—In Worcester, the other day, Mr. Rogers and his wife were opposing candidates for the School Committee in the Second ward. Mr. Rogers was nominated by the citizens and Mrs. Rogers by the Independents. She beat him two to one, and served him right. A man that runs for office against his wife is a fool.

—A railroad train in Michigan broke down recently, and the passengers alighted. Among them was an old gentleman, who to fill up the time, wandered off to an adjacent house. There he encountered an old flame of his, whom he had not seen for 30 years. The old flame was married and within a few days the couple were married.

Bradford Reporter

Towanda, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1875.

EDITORS:

E. O. GOODRICH. S. W. ALVORD.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Both houses of the State Legislature met on Tuesday last.

Senator CUTLER was re-elected Speaker *pro tem* of the Senate, and administered the oath of office to the new Lieut. Governor, Mr. LATTA.

RUSSELL ERRITT was re-elected Chief Clerk, a richly merited compliment to an honest, faithful, and efficient official and a consistent Republican.

The House was organized by the election of ADAM WOOLVER. The greatest confusion prevailed among the hungry cormorants who have been occupying private stations for the past fifteen years. The contention was so bitter that blows were resorted to by prominent Democrats. The only successful man among the score of applicants from this county for some position in the House, was Mr. IRA SMITH, of Minnequa, who is a fellow after Maj. TERRY's own heart, as well as being a blatant advocate of division. He is a man of but little or no influence. PETER demanded his appointment, and such faithful and effective workers as Col. MCKEAN, Capt. AMES, S. C. ADAMS, and C. T. HESTON are compelled to stand aside.

DEATH OF GERRITT SMITH.

One by one the great leaders of that movement which resulted in "Proclaiming liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof," are being gathered to their last resting places. But a short time ago it was HORACE GREELEY, then CHARLES SUMNER and now GERRITT SMITH has gone on the returnless voyage. From the earliest inception of the anti-slavery movement until the triumphant suppression of the rebellion and the consequent abolition of slavery, he was the steady, unwearied and uncompromising friend of liberty, and the enemy of every form of human slavery. Differing from many of the great leaders of that movement, notably with those opposed to political action, as GARRISON, WENDELL PHILIPS and others, he always cooperated with them in every measure calculated to bring about the great object for which they were struggling. Inheriting vast wealth, he used it most unselfishly for the advancement of all measures calculated to improve and benefit the race. No man was more thoroughly independent, and no one ever employed more completely the confidence of those who knew him. In 1852, notwithstanding he was opposed to both the leading political parties, and held the most extreme radical views on the slavery question, he was taken up as an independent candidate for Congress by the people of his district, and elected by a large majority. He resigned, however, before the expiration of his term, having no taste for public life.

Mr. SMITH was also prominent in the woman's rights movement, was an advocate of liquor prohibition, prison reform and all kindred schemes for bettering the condition of mankind. Few men have lived a more useful or blameless life; and few leave the world with more profound regrets from so wide a circle of friends and acquaintances.

THE NEW FINANCE BILL.

The new finance bill which we published last week, and which passed the Senate before the adjournment of Congress, is exciting a good deal of discussion all over the country; receiving the general approval of fair-minded men. Though not what is asked for, by the advocates of immediate resumption, it has the advantage of adopting a fixed policy in relation to that matter, which of itself will go far toward producing the conditions that will render resumption practicable. In relation to the feature of free banking incorporated into the bill of which we have already spoken, an exchange very justly says:

Under the provisions of the act to secure the resumption of specie payments which we publish in full today, as it passed the Senate, and as it will substantially become a law, every individual or association can become bankers under the national banking act, without regard to the amount of capital contributed. This is as it should be, for banking, like every other legitimate business, should be opened to all who may wish to engage in it, subject to the restrictions which the government has found necessary to incorporate in the system for the protection of the public. No system of banking has ever been used in this country at all comparable to the national banking act, and the main objection urged against it, which will now be removed, was its restriction within certain limits, beyond which banks could not be organized. Under this system there can be no loss to the note holder, so long as the government itself is good for its liabilities, and we have recently seen the unusual spectacle of notes on broken banks selling at a premium of four per cent, above par. Under the old State bank system, notes that were par hear would have to be sold at a discount within the limits of this state, but now we have a currency of equal value in every State of the Union. Then why should not banking under this system be as free as air, and be allowed to expand until the law of supply and demand will check its further extension, just as any other business will regulate itself when it is overdone?

THE dozen or so of faithful Democrats who were positively pledged a place by Major TERRY, do not now think him the high-toned, honorable gentleman they professed to believe him before the election.

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6, 1874.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

It is a noteworthy fact that within a month from the time of the adoption of the present Constitution of Pennsylvania by a majority of 144,000, a bill was presented by Senator Rutan directing the appointment of a commission to revise a Constitution then scarcely a year old. Mr. Rutan's bill passed and the commissioners appointed under the Act have had several meetings in this city—their last meeting was held during the last week in December. I regret that I cannot fully inform your readers what this revisory board proposes doing, as the member with whom I conversed, while generally garrulous, is as reticent upon this subject as a first class statesman.

As this revisory board had no hand in making the new constitution they propose showing what a great loss the commonwealth sustained in excluding them from the constitution convention, by the masterly manner in which they, by their criticism of the instrument, will demonstrate the dangerous thing the new constitution is. Thus far the commissioners have literally done nothing towards giving us an amended constitution, and while they generally agree as to how much better the instrument would have been had they sided in its construction, yet it now and then occurs to them what an unreasonable people do not concur with Senator Rutan that the Constitution should be condemned, or its practical workings impaired until a fair trial has been given it.

THE NATION'S JUBILEE.

The New Year opens auspiciously for the Centennial cause. The official acceptance by Great Britian of the invitation extended by the government of the United States to take part in the International Exhibition has given very great satisfaction to the gentlemen who are laboring so industriously to make the event a success worthy the occasion, as well as of the people in whose interest they are toiling so assiduously; while the address issued to the people of New York, and signed by so many of the representative men of that State, has given the members of the Centennial Board of Finance unbounded gratification and has greatly encouraged them in their labors.

I regard the acceptance by Great Britain as determining the status of our Exhibition so far as Europe is concerned; and I look upon the action taken by New York last week as resolving what the national character of the Exhibition shall be. England will put France, Germany, Swedan, Italy and the other nations of Europe upon their mettle; and New York now decides that she will compete for the supremacy in the matter of industrial exhibits with all the other States of the Nation.

At the Vienna Exhibition of 1873, there were about 800 exhibitors from Great Britain. From the information I have gathered from gentlemen who have recently returned to this city from England, and from the London press, I am led to believe that there will be over 2 000 exhibitors from Great Britian at the American Exhibition.

A COMPLICATED CASE.

About three months ago an internal revenue detective while perambulating around among the gin shop in the lower section of our city scented the aroma of boiling molasses; following the scent with the correctness of a thorough bred, he brought up in the rum shop of Hugh M'Cartney, in whose cellar he found a molasses still, running off about four barrels of whisky per day. The following day M'Cartney was brought before the U. S. Commissioner and held for his appearance at the next term of the U. S. Court.

In the house with M'Cartney resided a Mr. James Degan and his wife Rose. James was a seafaring man and was on the high seas when M'Cartney's place was seized. As the detective had a sure thing on M'Cartney, the latter in order to save himself, attempted to put the detective away by charging him with the theft of a roll of money, which happened to be lying around loose; the charge was made before an accommodating alderman who held the detective for his appearance before the Session Court. At the preliminary hearing Rose Degan swore she saw the detective take the money. When the case came before the grand jury, the bill charging the detective with theft was ignored.

A few days thereafter Mr. Degan came home and learning of the part taken by his wife, it is said he belabored her in true marine style, and to complete the punishment of Rose, she was tried, convicted and sentenced to an imprisonment for one year for perjury. A few days ago, Degan returned from another trip from across the ocean, and finding his wife in prison charged M'Cartney with being the author of all his troubles. Words soon came to blows and in the melee M'Cartney shot Degan in the arm, which was shattered so badly it had to be amputated. In the meantime M'Cartney had been committed to await the results of Degan's injuries. Between his attempt to kill Degan and defraud the government, M'Cartney is likely to spend the rest of his life in Cherry Hill, and lose his three-story brick tavern with its still in the cellar.

A CLERGYMAN'S DEFECTION.

The catholic priest J. W. Gerdeman who recently violated his vow of celibacy by marrying the pretty organist of his church, and who in the agitation incident to a change so radical in the life of a celibate neglected to properly debit and credit the amount of funds placed in his hands by his parishioners, has been held for trial by jury, by Judge Finletter who heard his case on *habeas corpus*.

The prosecution charge Gerdeman with having embezzled $82 000 of the money deposited with him for the erection of the church of which he was pastor, the defence deny embezzlement and claim that whatever deficiency exists, is the amount due the ex-priest for his services. I am of opinion that Gerdeman will never be convicted of high larceny.

THE DIFFERENCE.

I was informed by a distinguished gentleman, residing in the central part of the State, who was on here a few days ago, that the present occupation of country people is in shaving each others notes, an occupation that has the advantage of giving constant employment to those engaged in it.

Here in this city every other man is chiefly engaged in contemplating his own greatness and seriously considering just which public office will be most honored by his acceptance. It is needless for me to observe that every other man is fortunate in having an inexhaustible subject for meditation.

The publishers of our bright little *Evening Star* have been tried and acquitted of the charge of libel in their having published a statement last July in which a Mr. Joseph Calvert, who has an *alias* of Button Joe, was made to appear as being somehow, in some way, mixed up in the abduction of Charley Ross. "Button Joe" was not in that job but no one on the jury could be made to believe that the *Star* libelled him; hence the prompt acquittal of Messrs. Schoff & Blakeley.

Mr. William Moran, the *sub rosa* publisher of the Sunday *Tribune* was less fortunate than the *Star* people, he was tried and convicted of libelling Mr. Geo. E. Hall, a member of City Councils of having realized a large sum from a lottery, and of having made money surreptitiously as a councilman. Moran had another charge of libel against him by another councilman named Slack, whom Moran charged with having picked the pocket of the marble statue of George Washington of a silver snuff-box. The grand jury ignored the last indictment, but sentence awaits Moran upon the first conviction.

The Germans in this city propose taking good care of the poor from "faderland." Over two hundred families and 2,000 children are to be cared for this winter, by the Germaq Society of Philadelphia.

The distribution of bread, and other necessaries of life, given to the poor, takes place daily. One day a livery stable man informs the Mayor that he will distribute 1,000 loaves of bread and 500 lbs of beef to the poor of the city; then Henry Disston & Sons give public notice of their intention to deal out 300 quarts of chicken soup and 500 loaves of bread, and on an average no less than 2,000 loaves of bread are given away each day by liberal hearted men who desire to have their charity made public.

The total number of deaths in this city during the year 1874 is 15,393. During the year 1873 the deaths numbered 16 736. The principal cause of death was consumption of the lungs, the number of deaths from that disease amounted to 2 164 during the year 1874, while there were in addition 909 death from inflammation of the lungs.

Considering that we have Dr. Jayne's Expectorant establishment right in our midst and that Schenck's pulmonic syrups is also made here I regard this death statement as the most solemn and convincing evidence that patent medicines will not cure consumption.

During the year 1874 our citizens used 14 492,359 056 gallons of water. The quantity of whisky has not yet been measured. This is an average of 52 gallons per diem for each resident man, woman and child in our city. If we except the politicians, "Wash and be clean" does not apply to Philadelphians.

10,047 emigrant passengers were landed in this city during 1874, and 1,119 arrivals of foreign, coast-wise vessels reached our wharves during the year.

The losses by fire amounted to $741 608 during the year as against $938 450 for the previous year.

Dr. Weevil whose leg was inconveniently in the way of a pistol ball fired at him by Mr. Hanson, is likely to go "where the women cease from troubling," and where pistols are not used by demonstrative husbands upon family physicians who, like Weevil, after prescribing for madam's ailments accept an invitation to take a look at madam's new bed room furniture. It is now about a month since I mentioned the shooting of Dr. Weevil, and his physicians informs me that abscesses having formed around the stump of his amputated leg, Mrs. Hanson is likely to lose the services of her physician altogether, and the company of her husband for a long time. J. W. F.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Capital Unusually Quiet—King Kalakaua—The Centennial Tea Party—Democratic Jubilee, and Candidates for the Speaker's Chair—Ex Rebel Soldiers asking admission to the Soldiers Home—Recess of Congress, and the Committees on the Appropriations—The new Finance bill, and a large discharge of Female Employes at the Treasury Department.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1, 1875.

It may be safely asserted that at no time since the close of the war have there been so few visitors and so little stir at the Capital as now. The assembling of Congress failed to bring with it the usual influx of strangers, and as a consequence there is a very notable absence of the bustle and excitement which we have at this time been accustomed to witness. Whatever may be the cause of the nonappearance of our fashionable friends—whether it be from a spasm of economy or from a low condition of finances or not,—the result is, that so far the winter has been unusually quiet, dull, and uninteresting. At the Capitol, the galleries and reception rooms of both House and Senate have been less crowded. The streets and avenues have not been thronged with their usual number of fashionable promenaders and elegant turnouts, while receptions and parties have been few and far between.

It must not be supposed, however, that we have been entirely without excitement. During the month, we have been favored with several sensations, not the least among which was the arrival among us of a genuine live King, the first, it is said, that has ever done himself the honor of making our shores a voluntary visit, as well as the first officially recognized by the Government. Altho' not one of those high and mighty potentates that rule by divine right and the grace of God, his appearance at the Capital was sufficient to create quite a fever of excitement. Everybody seemed desirous of having a look at the King. Parties were made and receptions given for the special benefit of his dusky Majesty and suite, who in return, at the grand parlors of the Arlington, received and entertained with right-royal splendor and munificence. Wines of the rarest quality, it is said, flowed in generous streams, while his tables groaned with an abundance of the best and richest of viands, not forgetting, we suppose, to include, by way of variety, a few dishes of cold-baked missionary, as a matter of course.

The visit of Kalakaua, the King of the Sandwich Islands, although of short duration, was most opportune and fortunate, as it afforded the fashionable part of our community an excellent opportunity for airing its gay plumage and obtaining a free lunch. It being the first sensation of the season, as a consequence the rooms of His Highness were almost constantly crowded by the wealth, beauty, fashion and shoddy of the city. Although the King, as well as the members of his suite, were lionized to its fullest extent possible, still, it appears they kept their heads "level," and made many friends by the plain and unaffected manner in which they at all times conducted themselves, and by the unostentatious manner in which all parties were received who favored them with a call. Very many of our office-holders who hold positions of much less importance, attempt to assume at all times, in a social as well as official capacity, a far greater amount of dignity.

Then we had the Centennial Tea-Party, given in the rotunda of the Capitol, over which there was no small amount of display as well as a good deal of jealousy and ill-feeling, although the ostensible object of the party was to aid, by the sale of a quantity of cheap teacups and saucers at big prices, the Centennial project of 1876, the real purpose, it appeared, was to have a fashionable gathering and a good time. A good deal of wrangling was indulged in, and considerable ill-nature manifested by those who had the matter in charge; yet the same did not prevent, for two successive evenings, a large turn-out of those who love to see their names placed conspicuously in print, as well as those who are generally content to keep more or less in the back ground. The assemblage on both evenings was large, and was what is generally termed brilliant. The President and other dignitaries of the Government were present. The King of the Cannibal Islands was on hand. Senators and Representatives with their wives, members of the Diplomatic Corps, Army and Navy officers, members of the Press, in great numbers, were also there, crowding and packing the great halls and corridors of the Capitol building to their utmost capacity.

The sum realized, we learn, was about ten thousand dollars; but how much, if any of it, will reach the Centennial fund, after paying the contingent expenses, remains to be seen. But no matter. Who would'nt willingly plank down his two dollars and a-half for a cup of tea when poured out, with a smile as sweet as that of angels, by the beautiful ladies who presided at the tables? The privilege of retaining, as a memento of the occasion, the cup and saucer, was also something that seemed to be greatly prized by the excited individuals who rushed out their money. Although there was nothing about either the cup or saucer that might be called remarkable—the cup only having what purported to be a fac simile of the autograph of the truthful George printed upon its side, surmounted by thirteen stars,—yet great numbers of them were carried away for the purpose, we suppose, of adding to the ornamentation of parlor mantles. Taken altogether, it was a glorious time; better than a Fourth of July, a State sociable, or a Sunday School celebration. In the language of the boy who spent his last shilling, "'T was bright, 't was heavenly, but 't is *passed*."

The residence of the Hon. Fernando Wood was made lively, a few evenings ago, by the select number of the faithful, who, by special invitation, were gathered within its elegant walls, to participate in a grand jollification over the recent successes of the Democratic party. Invitations to the feast, which, with great care, had been previously prepared and which for some days had been hurried through the press, were extended principally to the members of Congress, through whom the Hon. Fernando at the next session is expecting to climb into the Speakers' Chair. It was a jubilee to which the great unwashed were not bidden. Although for years the acknowledged headquarters of the Democratic claus, none were invited to enter that palatial residence who did not, in some way, possess the power of aiding that gentleman in his political aspirations, over which he, at present, appears to be a good deal exercised. Warmed by the invigorating qualities of the good cheer of the Honorable host, as well as by the little ray of sunshine which so suddenly and unexpectedly burst upon the party, the gloom and despondency which for fifteen long years had been gathering upon their brows, gradually wore away. The congratulations which at first were of a rather modest character, through a certain agency of a liquid nature finally culminated in a high-toned, grandly eloquent pow-wow of the first water. It was scarcely fair that the blowers and strikers of the party should have been compelled to stand aloof on an occasion like this, with their nostrils constantly assailed by the delicious aroma that ascended from the wine cups and the flesh pots, that they were not allowed to approach. But this was an aristocratic feast, and one which contained within itself a double purpose.

Although it is pretty generally conceded that Mr. Wood has the inside track for the Speakership of the next Congress, yet he will have opposed to him several candidates possessed of tact, experience, and confessed ability. His notorious advocacy and acceptance of the obnoxious salary-grab, will doubtless be urged strongly against him by those of his opponents whose skirts happen to be free from that stain. This, together with his well known connexion with the corruptions of the ring government of the city of New York, will be obstacles in his pathway that he will find difficult to surmount. In the event of his success, how will the stump orators of the party look in attempting to rally the millions of veomanry of the country at the next Presidential campaign with the shout and battle cry of "retrenchment and reform," under the leadership of a Speaker who is the very type and embodiment of all they hold up to the public for their virtuous scorn and condemnation! But with all this in view, with all his political sins, and with all the objections that may be brought to bear against him, from the gentleman's well known tact and skill in preliminary manipulations it will be found, when the struggle takes place, that this polished, hoary-headed old vampire, having made himself master of the situation, will carry off the coveted prize.

The arrival in Washington at the beginning of the session of a newly-elected Democratic member of Congress from Indiana, who supposed himself elected to the present session, would look as if the next Congress would not be remarkable for the intelligence of *some* of its members, at least. Whether such was a fact or not, we, of course, are unable to say; but, if so, it evinced no greater haste to get installed into office than did the ex-rebel soldiers of the South, who, immediately after the election last fall, made application for admission to the Soldiers' Home. Should the Democratic party succeed in 1876 in obtaining control of the government, the Union soldiers, who are hard to the fullest extent possible, now assuming possession of the government that they became maimed and crippled for life to preserve, may expect companions whose presence will not awaken the most pleasant recollections. Either the abandonment of the Soldiers' Asylums, by failing to make the necessary appropriations for their support, or the pensioning of rebel soldiers will certainly be among the first acts of legislation demanded by the South.

Congress, as usual, is at present enjoying its holiday turkey. During the recess, however, the several committees on Appropriations do not seem to be disposed to remain idle. The estimates for the next fiscal year will be so nearly ready when Congress meets that it may proceed at once to their consideration. It is understood that the estimates, as coming from the hands of the committees, will be something like twenty five millions less than were the appropriations of the last session.

The new Finance bill passed by the Senate for the redemption of greenbacks in coin does not appear to suit the New York stock-jobbing speculators, who evidently desire no settlement of the finance question at this session. Neither does it appear to suit the Democracy, who, howling and barking for hard currency, dare not vote for the passage of a bill returning to specie payment. By the action of the Democrats in the Senate, it will be seen that the Republicans of the House must take the responsibility of adopting or rejecting the bill. There is but little doubt entertained with regard to its passage; and, as the Democrats will make a partisan opposition to the bill, this will be the issue on which the Republican party will go to the people. If labor shrinks in value, let property shrink also; wages have been reduced from time to time since the panic, but rents and the prices of subsistence have remained at war prices. If by returning to specie payments there is any more trouble to come, let it fall upon those who are best able to bear it. The shrinkage of values has already done the laboring classes all the injury that it can do. As labor shrinks in value, let property shrink in proportion.

The removal of the Revenue Stamp printing to New York City, has caused a large dismissal of clerks and employes from the Treasury Department. On Christmas day some four hundred, mostly females, received notice that their services were no longer required. The depression of spirits caused by this heavy reduction does not seem to be confined alone to the unfortunates, who awoke from their Christmas pleasure to receive notification of the deprival of their means of subsistence, but appears to have permeated the entire Department, and cast a damper over those who were fortunate enough to retain their places. The employment of female labor in the Departments has not been accompanied with the success that was anticipated; neither has it been the means of elevating the social or moral standing of those who are fortunate enough to obtain the places that so many are constantly seeking. But, having been appointed, it is to be regretted that it becomes necessary that so many should be thrown out of employment at this particular time and season of the year. It would doubtless have been better for them, and the government also, if the idea of appointing females to clerical positions had never been entertained. M.

[For the REPORTER.]

OUR HOLIDAYS.

The pilgrim fathers when they were miraculously saved from starvation by an interposition of Divine Providence, assembled themselves together and offered gratitude to God for His special rescue from apparent starvation and death. And they yearly assembled at an appointed place and time and offered to God gratitude for the past, and prayed for His special guidance and for their future prosperity.—But the day became corrupted by the intrusion of vicious indulgences and the day has now lost all its original solemnity and moral effect.

Our day of "National Independence," was a day in its infancy that called forth national gratitude, but sin in all its varied forms has intruded itself into this festive day and now, instead of being a day of national gratitude it is appropriated to the common vices of our day.

Christmas, the day we celebrate as the nativity of God's love in Christ, is different somewhat from those we have mentioned, as it is world wide. It interests, or ought to interest, every human being; it is the greatest and most important event in the worlds history. No wonder the angels sang "glory to God in the highest," when they brought the news to earth of a saviour born.

Nearly nineteen hundred years have passed into eternity since the Star of Bethlehem arose to illuminate this dark world and to bring "life and immortality to light," through the gospel, and the world testifies today of the power of God's truth to civilize, moralize and christianize mankind. But also, this memorable day like other holidays has been sacrificed to the enemies of Christ to do all manner of evil to destroy its original solemnity.

CITIZEN.

FRANKLIN, Dec., 25th 1875.

MR. EDITOR: In looking over the columns of last week's *Item* we noticed a report of the Masonic Reception at Monroeton, which we think not as correct and complete as might be. The writer, speaking of Evergreen Lodge, says: "To-day they have the proud satisfaction of having a substantial building 80x25, three stories high, at a cost of $3000." The facts are, they have a room 80x22, the third story of P. Mingos' store, lately erected; they have said room enclosed and one coat of plaster thereon; have expended, perhaps, four or five hundred dollars. Again, he says, "This reception was given, very appropriately, on the last night of the year when old things were passing away and new things taking their place." Verily, it is a new thing, we will hope, for a Masonic lodge to rent an underground saloon and deal out poor whisky to its guests; this part of the entertainment the *Item* reporter omitted. We would suggest that the members of Evergreen Lodge, before their next reception, add to their bill of fare the price of whisky and cigars. We doubt whether "pater-familias looked on with a benignant smile" as the "youth and beauty of Bradford glided" down to that saloon. The *Item* reporter failed to locate the second band, but those in the vicinity of said saloon had no difficulty in ascertaining its locality. We were pleased to learn that Prof Hult was not the leader of band No. 2. We advise the Prof. not to seek promotion, but let Dede and kindred spirits monopolize that department. We hope, for the credit of the Masonic fraternity, that entertaining guests at their receptions upon the European plan, will not become popular, if whisky and tobacco are to be included in the bill of fare. The writer says, "Leaving the dancers we entered the dining hall; here surprise again awaited us." He failed to tell us whether surprise awaited him on entering the saloon. Was it because the "Reception Committee" failed to show him around? No doubt it was a "joyous gathering" to those who love to imbibe; such seldom "go home till morning." Again, he says, "the proceeds amounted to over $200." The committee, I am informed, report over $80 taken in at the bar of the saloon. We have been told that the principles inculcated by the Masonic Order would make its members virtuous and law abiding citizens. Will some one acquainted with the mysteries of the Order tell us if it is so. If so, who is responsible for the shameful violation of law at the Masonic reception at Monroeton. BRADFORD.

THREE SOUND RESOLUTIONS.

A convention representing the pig iron branch of the iron trade of the entire country, was held at Philadelphia on the 10th of December, at which the following resolutions were adopted—the latter unanimously:

Resolved, That in our judgment it would be disastrous to the manufacturing and commercial interests of the country to attempt the resumption of specie payments in the near future, and that if attempted it would only be a failure.

Resolved, That the only way to resume is to get the business of the country in such a condition, by so regulating the tariff on imports as will keep the balance of trade in our favor, and by that means keep our specie from going out of the country.

Resolved, That this convention, representing the pig-iron manufacturers of this country, earnestly protest against the ratification of the proposed reciprocity treaty with Canada; believing that such treaty, if ratified, would result in completely breaking down the barriers which now exist against the introduction to our markets of the products of low-priced European labor; in disastrously impairing the revenues of the Government; in preventing the payment of the interest on our national debt, and in continuing indefinitely the general distress which now prevails.

Here the facts are presented in their true light; the subjects referred to are fully comprehended in their bearings upon our industries, and the conclusions arrived at are logically unanswerable.

THE members of the present legislature were required to take the oath prescribed by the new constitution, that they had not used money to secure their election. What a pitiable sight it must have been to witness Maj. TERRY raise his hand and solemnly swear that his success was compassed without employing money. The scores of men of loose morals who received amounts varying from a drink of whisky to two dollars for exercising the right of suffrage, "uninfluenced," from TERRY or his minions, would have been put to the blush with such an exhibition of this model representative's recklessness. But the Major has passed the point where such trivial matters affect him.

New Advertisements.

EVANS & HILDRETH

Call attention to their opening new Fall and Winter Goods, which is the largest and most complete they have ever exhibited, and at prices which cannot fail to please. In their stock may be found

BLACK HENRETTAS,

BLACK TAMISE,

BLACK BRILLIANTEENS

BLACK MOHAIRS,

BLACK ALPACAS,

BLACK CRETONS,

BLACK CASHMERES

BLACK EMPRESS,

BLACK CRETONS,

BLACK CRAPE CLOTH

BLACK DRAPET.

Also all the new shades in Cashmeres, Camel's Hair, Merinos, Empress Cloths, Satins, all wool Serges, Cotton and Wool Serges, Empress Poplins, Alpacas, Reps, &c., &c.

Also a large stock of Cloaks, Shawls, Blankets, Waterproofs, Cassimeres, Flannels, Felt Skirts, Prints, Ginghams, Shirtings, Tickings, Denims, Cottons, &c., &c.

EVANS & HILDRETH.

Towanda, Pa., Oct. 1, '74-tf

TAYLOR & CO.,

ARE OPENING THIS WEEK, A LARGE STOCK OF

GOODS, FOR THE

HOLIDAY TRADE.

Our assortment of both Staple and Fancy Goods, is now complete, and having made important reductions in

OUR PRICES,

We feel confident that we can offer

SPECIAL BARGAINS TO OUR CUSTOMERS,

Please give us a call.

TAYLOR & CO.

Towanda Pa., Dec. 8, 1874.

WATCHES,

JEWELRY,

AND SILVER WARE!

M. HENDLEMAN,

Dealer in fine American and Swiss

GOLD AND SILVER-WATCHES,

FINE JEWELRY,

STERLING SILVER

AND

SILVER PLATED WARE;

CLOCKS,

FROM THE CHEAPEST TO THE BEST.

GOLD, SILVER, AND STEEL

SPECTACLES AND EYE GLASSES.

One door North of Dr. H. C. Porter & Son's Drug Store, Main Street.

Towanda, Jan. 6, 1875.

HOUSES & FARMS FOR SALE.

A House and lot in Towanda boro, situate on State street. House 16 by 30, with wing 16 by 20, all two stories high (18 feet posts). Lot about 50 by 100 feet. Good well and cistern.

The House and Lot on Poplar St. occupied by Geo. P. Cash. The house is 48 by 40 feet, with rear part 30 by 22½. Lot 150 by 172. House has fifteen large rooms, three halls, and nine closets, pantry, &c. Well in the house. Fifty hogshead cistern.

Farm No. 1, in Asylum, containing one hundred and three and a-half acres, about 85 acres improved, with framed house and barn, and over one hundred apple trees thereon.

Farm No. 2 in Asylum, containing 69½ acres, about 30 acres improved, with new frame house thereon. The lot contains one of the finest springs of water in the county.

Farm No. 3, in Asylum, containing 103 acres, about 20 acres improved. Balance in timber, which has been sold. No buildings.

Farm No. 4, in Asylum containing 99½ acres, all in timber, which has been sold. There are two very fine springs of water upon this tract.

Farm No. 5 in Asylum, containing 26 acres, half river flats. A good framed dwelling house and a flag-stone quary thereon.

For further particulars apply to Geo. P. Cash, or H. L. SCOTT, Trustee.

Towanda, Jan'75.3m.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE.—By virtue of an order issued out of the orphans' Court of Bradford county, the undersigned, Administrator of the estate of John Bailey, late of Sheshequin, dec'd, will expose to public sale on the premises on SATURDAY, January 9th, 1875, at 10 o'clock, A. M., the following described piece or parcel of land situate in Sheshequin township, bounded as follows: On the north, by the public highway, on the east by the estate of Samuel Bailey, on south by Joseph Horton and on the west by James Horton, containing 20 acres of land more or less.

TERMS—$25 on day of sale, balance on confirmation.

EUGENE BAILEY,

Administrator.

Dec. 13-74.

New Advertisements.

LIST OF JURORS Drawn for February Term of Court 1875:

GRAND JURORS.

Albany boro, R N Flood, R C Strassbaugh; twp., Henry Kirby, J A Perkins. Warren Parks, H W Tiffany; Athens Lewis Jones; Burlington Samuel Crouch; Franklin, Abram Williams; Monroe, Mason Greene; Orwell, D D Jones Pike, W B Burrows, Jno J Slocum; Ridgbury, J Adams Evans; Smithfield, Chas Bitzbach; Springfield, Timothy Lund; Sheshequin, William Sayles; Tuscarora M S Culver, Peter W Lawn Peter Hartle; Ulster, Davis Vanslyke; Warren, J F Cooper, Wyatt, P W Woodburn.

TRAVERS JURORS FOR WEEK.

Athens twp John Bosworth, Anson Beldleman, Jacob Ercanbach; boro, A H Spaulding; Alba, O G Manley; Albany, Jno B Sterlerer; Barclay, Lyman Putnam jr, Geo White; Burlington, Isaac D Roper; Columbia, Ogden O Bosley, Randolph McKee; Canton, C W Landon, William Ryon Orson Ward, Geo Williams; Franklin, Reed McKee; Granville, Horace Redd; Litchfield, Adam Crans; Leroy, Leroy Holcomb, Geo W Wilcox A J Walter; Monroe twp, E S Andrus, Adelbert Cornbaugh, E J Cramer, Geo Smith; boro, J B Nombs; Orwell, Chas Bern; Rome boro, J H Chamberlin; Ridgbury, Ed F Henlon, David Larrison; Springfield, Timothy Leonard; Standing Stone; Alonzo Taylor; Smithfield, Newton Wood; Tuscarora, H S Ackley, Bailey S Keener; Troy boro, Oliver E Boothe; Towanda boro, D C Dayton, Dennis Sweeney, twp, H H Mace, Ewd A Decker; Wards Towanda, S J Fuller; Wysox, Fayette Ackley, Ezra Allen, Samuel Howard; Warren, Wallace W Baker; Wilmot, Valentine Brown; Wells, D B Freese, Cevelon Update.

TRAVERS JURORS 2ND WEEK.

Armenia, Wm H Backer; Albany, William Brown;