Pittsburgh Gazette.

THURSDAY MORNING: JUNE 16, 1864.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

The Sanitary Fair.

The attendance at the Fair yesterday was as large as any previous occasion since the opening. The reduction of the price of admission has had the effect of securing the presence of many who would otherwise have been debarred the privilege. As the Fair will close on Saturday, those who have not visited it should take advantage of the present opportunity.

The Dining Hall was unusually well patronised during the day, and the ladies in attendance had an excellent bill of fare to offer to visitors. The large Dining Hall has been closed, but we understand that the Restaurant will continue open to-day.

A large number of secret ballots were polled for the Firemen's Prize Trumpet during the day. In the evening it was removed to the Mayor's office, where it will remain until this afternoon at three o'clock, when the vote will be counted, and the prize awarded to the successful party.

We learn that the following pictures donated to the Sanitary Fair, and now on exhibition in Art Gallery, will be disposed of at public sale on Thursday evening at 8½ o'clock: Gen. Banks; Miss Williams; Gen. Grant, A. L. Dalby; The Offering, Trevor M'Clung; Col. Clarke, Wall St.; Lawson; Kittanning Point; George Helzel; Wounded Soldier, J. Broome; The Post-man, C. M. Johns; Shipwreck, Foerster; Head, Mrs. J. L. Boyd; Landscape, presented by the Bishop; Bowman Institute; Landscape, W. C. Wall; Old Portrait, 130 years; Old Virginia Home, Blythe; Washington and his Mother; Landscape, Miss Cowley; Landscape, Miss Shinn; Landscape, Thomas G. Evans; Old Farmhouse; J. E. Holmes; Wounded Soldier; Seiter and Snips, J. E. Holmes; Landscape, J. E. Holmes; Missing; Landscape, Paul Garson; Six Engravings, Trout; Reading Music; Landscape and Figures, Mason T. Bell; Crayon Drawing, S. F. Murdoch; Sketch after Nature, Alfred Wall; Young Samuel, Chalstit; Lawyer's Dream, Blythe; Portrait of General Grant, Miss Sherif; Portrait of General Hays, Miss Sharif; Fancy Head, artist unknown; Landscape, Miss Cowley; Landscape, Miss M. Shinn; Portrait of Right Rev. Bishop Domenec; Sayrand Boy and Mina. Also a large collection of autographic letters, autographs and photographs, together with some beautiful statuary. As these paintings, &c., are very valuable, there will, no doubt, be a lively competition, and handsome sums will be realized from their sale.

A Speech from Col. Ekin.

We observe by the Indianapolis papers that during the session of a meeting, held on Sunday last, to consider the subject of raising sanitary stores for the Army of the Cumberland, Col. James A. Ekin, who happened to be in Indianapolis on special business from Washington, delivered a very stirring and effective speech, and added many incidents which had come under his own observation, of the good accomplished by the Christian and Sanitary Commissions. Speaking of the movements of the Potomac Army, he said that no doubt was felt in Washington of Grant's success. He had it from an officer high in authority that the army was in better condition every way than when it crossed the Rapidan, and that Richmond must fall. The President says that Grant is on the track he has chosen, and has not been turned aside from the plan formed before the army moved. He who doubts the success of the cause is almost an infidel; nothing is dark—everything is moving prosperously forward. An officer on Grant's staff told him that the Lieutenant-General felt perfectly confident that the stars and stripes would soon float over the dome of the rebel capitol. He closed with the stirring lines of Drake:

"Forever float that standard sheet,
Where breathe the foe, but falls before us,
With freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And freedom's banner streaming o'er us!"

Notwithstanding the time and the place, the audience indulged in suppressed applause.

Enormous Scales.

We find the following in the Cleveland *Herald*, of a recent date:

We yesterday afternoon saw at the Scale Works of J. F. Keeler, on the Flats just across the Seneca Street Bridge, the largest scales ever built in Ohio, and probably in the West. They were built for the Port Pitt Works in Pittsburgh, expressly to weigh the monster twenty-inch gun recently cast at that establishment. The dimensions of these scales are: Length, 30 feet; breadth 7½ feet; and 4 feet in height. They will weigh from 3½ pounds up to 100 tons, and are so nicely and accurately adjusted that the weight of half a pound will turn the beam. A half pound weight on the beam weighs one ton on the scale. They are built entirely of wrought-iron with the exception of the lever heads which are cast. The pivots are made of wrought iron steel edged for the purpose of securing greater strength and durability. The cost of the scales, when set up in Pittsburgh, will be $2,000.

It would be impossible for any one not a practical mechanic to explain their workings satisfactorily. But to us they were a great curiosity when we considered that such a huge affair would weigh a morning's marketing or a hundred tons with the same unerring accuracy. They are well worth a visit from all who wish to see a fine piece of machinery.

We understand that the scales above mentioned will arrive in this city in a day or two, and will be put up at the Port Pitt Works. We also learn that it is the intention of Mr. Keeler to establish a scale manufactory in this city.

An Urgent Call from our Wounded Soldiers.

Letters have just been received from some of our hospitals containing a most earnest and thrilling appeal for articles for the wounded, both east and west. Arm slings are especially mentioned. Where ten have been sent, hundreds are needed. Will not all get at once to work and do what we can to alleviate the sufferings of those who are doing and bearing so much for us. Arm slings and other articles will be found to-morrow (Thursday) afternoon at the room of the Allegheny Ladies' Aid Society, which is removed to the 3d story front room of Mr. R. H. Davis' new building, corner of Federal and Water streets.

The Fourth National Bank.

The Fourth National Bank of Pittsburgh, located at No. 55 Market street, has been designated, by order of General Spinner, Treasurer of the United States, as a Depository for the Government (excepting for money from customs) and also a Financial agent, and has been duly qualified to receive deposites of public moneys, etc. This bank is under admirable management, James O'Connor, Esq., being its President, and all those having business to transact will have every facility extended to them. We commend this institution to the favorable consideration of business men and others.

Fireman's Horn.

Notice to the several Fire Companies of Pittsburgh and Allegheny City, interested in the Firemen's Trumpet:

You are hereby invited to select one member from each Company, to be present at the Mayor's office, in Allegheny, on Thursday, 16th inst., at 3 o'clock P. M., to witness the opening of the sealed votes for the Fireman's Trumpet. JAMES MILLER.

ACCIDENT ON THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—On Thursday last, a flagman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, named John Oliver, was caught between two cars near Derry Station, and injured so severely that he died on Tuesday. The train had stopped at the station, and Oliver was engaged in coupling the cars, when the train suddenly moved. Being unable to extricate himself he was caught between two cars and had his back broken, besides sustaining severe internal injuries. Drs. Dickson and Hamilton, the physicians of the Western Division of the road, were sent for, but his injuries were so severe that he died on Tuesday. Mr. Oliver resided near Walls' Station, on the line of the road.

PARDONED.—James O'Neil, of Hollidaysburg, convicted some time ago of forging Pennsylvania Railroad vouchers to the amount of fifteen hundred dollars, and sentenced to prison for eighteen months, has been pardoned by Gov. Curtin. This is the same man who at one time committed a forgery on Mr. Bingham, of the Adams Express office here. There were several other forgeries also perpetrated by him, most of which his friends succeeded in compromising.

ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning, while a man named John Gregg was engaged in coupling cars at the depot of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, he was caught between two of the cars and received a severe contusion and pressure upon the leg. Dr. Wm. Hamilton dressed the wound.

Best Sewing Machine in the World.

Over five thousand Wheeler & Wilson's Sewing Machines are now in use in this city and vicinity. The great peculiarity of the Wheeler & Wilson Machine is, that no one is ever disappointed in the way in which it operates. It sews, hems, tucks, gathers, binds, fells, and performs all the most delicate and artistic stitching with a degree of strength, elasticity and precision never attained by any other sewing machine. It is, moreover, a beautiful ornament; is so simple in its movements that a child can operate it, and so perfectly constructed that it is almost impossible for it to get out of repair. Purchasers of the Wheeler & Wilson machines are instructed in the use of them by competent teachers, without charge, either at their homes, or at the Instruction Rooms, No. 27 Fifth street. Every machine sold is warranted three years, and guaranteed to give the most unqualified satisfaction. Strangers visiting the city to attend the great Fair, should not fail to call at the Sewing Machine Emporium of William Sumner & Co., No. 27 Fifth street, where a fine assortment is always kept on hand.

The Sign Ordinance.

EDITORS GAZETTE:—I wish to call the attention of the city press to the very stringent law relative to signs upon business houses in this city. I am informed by Mayor Lowry that the present ordinance is very objectionable to the entire business community, and that he has used his endeavors to have it so altered that it shall give satisfaction to the merchants, who most certainly are the best judges of the number of signs they wish to use and the manner of displaying before the public. The merchants of no other considerable city in America are annoyed by such a silly, old fogy law as the one in question, and in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and other cities that keep pace with the times, it is considered a mark of enterprise and prosperity to see plenty of newly painted and conspicuous signs, announcing the business and life of the commercial world. I am confident that if the city press will but unite on this subject, and properly show up the matter, they will do a great favor to their best customers. MANY MERCHANTS.

Pittsburgh Sanitary Fair!—A Rare Chance to Purchase Autographic Letters, Photographs, &c., of Eminent Persons!!

On Thursday evening, at 8½ o'clock, in the *Art Gallery Department*, there will be a sale, by Alexander McIlvaine, Auctioneer, for the benefit of the Pittsburgh Sanitary Fair, autographic letters, photographs, books, &c., comprising autographs of President Lincoln, Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, U. S. A., Maj. Gen. W. S. Rosecrans, U. S. A., Hon. W. H. Seward, Hon. Judge Wilkins, Prof. Louis Agassiz, Prof. Henry W. Longfellow, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, the celebrated German poet, *Goethe*, Prof. De la Harke, William Cullen Bryant, Prof. Penningsacher, and the Governors of Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Maryland, West Virginia, Illinois, Connecticut, &c. No better memorial of the Fair can be held than these patriotic expressions of sympathy for our sick and wounded soldiers.

Contest for the Firemen's Trumpet—Official Notice.

It has been deemed best to open the Auditorium or Grand Exhibition Hall, on the Fair grounds, on Thursday, June 16th, 1864, at 2 o'clock p. m. This will give the entire public an opportunity to witness the decision of the contest for the silver trumpet. The votes will be counted by Hon. Thomas M. Howe, Hon. Thos. Bakewell, and Wm. Eichbaum, Esq., at 3½ o'clock precisely.

The small charge of 10 cents admission will be made, the entire proceeds to go to the sick and wounded soldiers.

By order of the Committee.

JAMES MILLER.

ENTERTAINMENT AT AUDIENCE HALL.—The final exhibition under the auspices of the Literary Committee will take place this evening. The Welsh Choral, the Prohibition and other societies, under the direction of Prof. Wamelink, will represent the musical branch; the Perry, Nuemann, Penn, and Philomathic perform the literary part. The gentlemen representing these societies are too well known to require any notice. On the whole we predict that the entertainment will be one of the most worthy of the Fair. Tickets, fifty cents.

FINED FOR SELLING LIQUOR WITHOUT LICENSE.—Henry Woodcock, the keeper of a vile den on Wood street, was fined fifty dollars and costs by Judge Mellon, yesterday, for selling liquor without license. A man named Tanworth, a resident of the Eighth Ward, was fined ten dollars and costs on a similar charge.

WANTED.—A man who is not subject to draft, to fill the place of a drafted man. Special inducements offered. Apply immediately at the GAZETTE OFFICE.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES

THOMAS PARRY, Plain and Ornamental Slate Roofer, and dealer in Pennsylvania and Vermont slate of the best quality at low rates. Office at Alex. Laughlin's, near the Water Works, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Corns, Bunions and Diseased Nails.

DR. RANDALL.—This eminent Chiropodist, who effected many cures of corns and bunions, is again among us, and is located at 20 Fifth street, over Andrew's tea store. His operations are efficacious, painless and speedy, and knowing, as all should that comfort in walking is essential to health, those afflicted with these troublesome pests would do well to give the Doctor a call. Mr. Eli Young, and Mr. James Millinger, well known in this community for years, were afflicted with both corns and bunions for a long time. Mr. Eli Young says: Dr. Randall most successfully cured some most painful corns and bunions for me. The cure is effectual, and I consider I made an excellent investment.

Mr. James Millinger writes:—Dr. Randall, a year ago, removed a most painful corn from under one of my toe nails. The operation was perfectly successful. To-day he has removed others, and I have no doubt with equal success, for which I had undergone several unsuccessful operations at the hands of other professed Chiropodists.

Office hours from 10 to 12 a. m., and from 2 to 5 p. m.

IS IT POSSIBLE that any soldier can be so foolish as to leave the city without a supply of HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS? Whoever does so will deeply regret it. These medicines are the only certain cure for Bowel Complaints, Fevers, Sores and Scurvy.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment are now retailed, owing to the high prices of drugs, &c., at 50 cents, 75 cents and $1,10 per pot or box.

For sale in Pittsburgh by B. L. Fahnestock & Co.

For sale at Fulton's drug store, Fifth street, Pittsburgh.

For sale also by Geo. A. Kelly, Federal street, Allegheny city.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The attention of our readers is directed to the brilliant assortment of Spring and Summer Goods just received by our friend Mr. John Weiss, No. 126 Fifth street, Allegheny. His stock comprises a great variety of Fancy French, English, Scotch and American Cassimeres and Cloths, and fine Silk and Cassimere Vestings—all of which will be made up to order in the latest styles and in the best manner. A choice selection of Furnishing Goods also on hand and for sale, together with a full stock of Ready Made Clothing, well and fashionably made.

REMOVED.—Samuel Graham & Co., Merchant Tailors, have removed to 78 Smithfield street. We are just receiving our second supply of spring and summer goods, and would most respectfully invite our friends and the public in general to examine our new stock, believing it to be one of the finest stocks of merchant tailor goods in the city. Every garment warranted to give full satisfaction, in both price and quality. Give us a call before purchasing elsewhere and judge for yourselves. GRAHAM & McCANDLESS, Merchant Tailors, No. 78 Smithfield street.

DR. MOFFITT, Dentist, No. 162 Fourth street, between Smithfield and Grant.

No inducements held out by offering low prices; but an equitable fee will be charged in every case, for the best materials will be used, and all the time and skill necessary to insure permanent results shall be applied m17:6m

TO THE ENROLLED MEN OF THE SIXTH WARD.—Subscribers to the Bounty Fund of the Sixth Ward, who hold certificates for a less amount than forty dollars, and all other contributors, are notified to hand in their certificates to Alderman Butler, on or before Thursday morning.

FOR Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh and Consumptive Coughs, Brown's Bronchial Troches are used with advantage, giving oftentimes immediate relief.

Sold by druggists generally.

OMNIBUS and carriage calls will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 410 Penn street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, June 15, 1864.

FROM GRANT'S ARMY.

A gentleman of high official position having just arrived from Grant's headquarters, says that the railroads running north from Richmond have been completely destroyed within the past week by our cavalry. Not a bridge, abutment or culvert remains intact; all have been burnt and blown up, and the rails bent and twisted and sunk in the swamps. The rebel railroad communication with the northern portion of Virginia is at an end, and the rebels, by exerting all their energies, could not repair the damages in three months. The rebel cavalry have all disappeared from our front. Doubtless they have gone to intercept if possible Sheridan's force, which by this time is supposed to be operating in the very bowels of Virginia.

FRANK BLAIR.

Frank Blair is receiving cold comfort from Congress. Yesterday the House Committee on Elections reported him no member, and to-day the Senate Judiciary Committee declared him no General. Meantime he has pocketed the profits of one and is now enjoying the emoluments of the other.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CASES OF GENS. SCHENCK AND BLAIR.

The Committee report on the resolution of Garrett Davis and its proposed substitute, in the cases of Generals Schenck and Blair, that, so far as Schenck is concerned no expression of opinion on the part of the Committee, or action on the part of the Senate, is demanded. That before the assembling of the Congress to which he had been elected he resigned his position in the army and has not since attempted to resume it, but that the case of Blair is different, in that he continued to hold the office of Major General in the U. S. Army, but the Committee express no opinion whether continuing to discharge the duties of an office made incompatible with those of a member of Congress would disqualify him from taking his seat. They quote the Constitution and other precedents to the effect that the two offices are incompatible, and that the acceptance of the second vacates the first, and deprecated the growing irregularity recently introduced of revoking resignations after their acceptance. They report the following resolution:

Resolved, That any officer of the United States whose resignation has been duly accepted and takes effect, or who, having been elected a member of either House of Congress, and is qualified and enters on the discharge of his duties as a member, is thereby, in either case, out of the office previously held, and cannot be restored to it without a new appointment in the manner prescribed by the Constitution.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION—LIVELY DISCUSSION.

A lively discussion occurred in the House on the amendment to the Constitution. Mr. Mallory made a violent speech echoing Fernando Wood's sentiment that slavery was the best condition for the negro, and threatening, in behalf of Kentucky, a deadly issue on the question. Mr. Kelley rebuked him scathingly. Messrs. Thayer, of Pa., and Kelley, of Illinois, made able speeches in favor of its passage. Mr. Pendleton spoke against it, and offered an amendment, which was rejected. A vote on the previous question was then taken, and resulted as follows: yeas 84, nays 65. This being not a two-third majority, the bill was lost. Mr. Ashley, of Ohio, changed his vote from yea to nay, in order, as he explained, to move a reconsideration at a suitable time hereafter.

THE FREEDMEN'S BILL.

The Senate was engaged nearly all the afternoon in the discussion of the Freedman's bill, Grimes, Saulsbury and Carlisle opposing it, and Sumner and others advocating it. A motion to postpone it to the next session was lost, and they adjourned without taking a vote.

UNION RATIFICATION MEETING.

A great ratification meeting is being held here to-night, in front of the Patent office building. Resolutions strongly endorsing the action of the Baltimore Convention were passed. Judge Kelly, of Pennsylvania, is now speaking.

BILLS BEFORE THE SENATE.

In a previous dispatch, which the telegraph made unintelligible, I tried to state that thirty bills were before the Senate yet, which ought to be acted upon before the adjournment of Congress.

COAL LAND AND TOWN PROPERTY.

In the Senate, a bill for disposable coal land and town property at public sale, at a minimum price of twenty dollars per acre, was passed.

WOUNDED FROM WHITE HOUSE.

Late last night a boat load of eleven hundred wounded came in from White House, the last, no doubt, that will be received from that point.

GRANT'S LAST MOVEMENT.

We have no later details of Grant's movement to James river than Stanton's bulletin of to-day.

THE NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE FRAUDS.

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

NEW YORK, June 15, 1864.

A special to the *Post*, dated Washington, June 15th says: Mr. Hubbard, of New York, made a report in part from the Committee appointed by the House to investigate the alleged frauds in the New York Custom House. The report commences by epitomizing the different acts of Congress and the Treasury, and the instructions authorising and regulating the taking of bonds from persons, and the shipping of goods from neutral ports in proximity to rebeldom.

The first of these precautionary bonds were taken in September, 1861. 7952 had been taken at the port of New York, prior to May, 1864. The Committee develop the fact that these bonds had not been required by any other collector than Mr. Barney. The bonds had not proved an effectual stopment of the trade. Goods covered by them had been found on board captured blockade runners. No precautions had been instituted on bonds on account of difficulties in making out the requisite proofs and because believed. Nearly all bonds taken under Stanton were totally defective in essential formalities. The report details at length wherein the insufficiency consists, and where the responsibility rests. It states that the late bonds have been prepared and taken in conformity with the acts authorising them.

The Committee devoted a good deal of attention to the alleged abstraction and sale of some of these bonds, rumors of which created such a stir last fall. Their conclusions do not fix upon young Cady Stanton the odium of having been an agent or sale broker of these bonds. It appears that many of the bonds approved by Stanton were defective in the material for the parties thereto and the amounts of penal sums thereof. It was proved that the sale of one bond for $54,000 was negotiated before its execution and within one hour after was surrendered to the maker for the price of $600.

It appears that while young Stanton confesses having abstracted not over eight bonds, the numbers of other bonds and shipping manifests are missing. The Committee significantly ask, who made way with these bonds and evidences?

The report also dwells at length on the increase of trade with neutral ports, especially Matamoras, within the last three years, and points out the nature on this side, and the difficulties in the way on the other side for the effective suppression of the contraband features of it. The report concludes with an intimation that time will not permit the closing up of some other branches of inquiry on which testimony was taken, as was at one time contemplated more extensively, and the consideration of important interests demanded from them.

VALLANDIGHAM IN OHIO!

SPEECHES AT HAMILTON AND DAYTON.

His Arrest Narrated and Course Defended.

TROUBLE APPREHENDED AT DAYTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

CINCINNATI, June 15, 1864.

Vallandigham suddenly appeared at Hamilton to day and made a speech to the Democratic District Convention, which appointed him delegate to the Chicago Convention. He stated that he held himself ready for any process through State or Federal courts, but would not submit to military proceedings. He pronounced Order No. 38 dead, and all proceedings under it null and void. He seems to think that the Democratic party belongs to him, and tenders the one hundred and eighty thousand men who voted for him as his sureties in case of legal proceedings. He is at Dayton to-night, where he will speak to-morrow. Everything was quiet there at midnight.

CINCINNATI, June 15.—Vallandigham made his appearance at a Democratic District Convention held at Hamilton, to-day, with apparent surprise to the larger portion of the assembly. He was received with great enthusiasm and spoke for three hours, narrating his arrest and defending his action. He said the assertion of the President that he was arrested because he labored with some effect to prevent recruiting troops and encouraged desertions from the army, or had disobeyed or failed to counsel obedience to lawful authority, was absolutely false. He appealed for proof to every speech he had made, and to the record of his military commission by trial and sentence of which he was banished. The sole offense laid to my charge was words of criticism of the public policy of the Administration, and of open political meeting of my fellow-citizens. For more than one year no public man have been arrested, and no newspaper suppressed within the State for an expression of political opinion, while hundreds in public assemblies and through the press with language and violence in which I never indulged, are criticising and condemning the acts and policy of the administration, prosecuting the war, and maintaining even the propriety of recognising the Southern Confederacy. I do not mean any longer to be the only man of the party who is to be the victim of arbitrary power. If Abraham Lincoln seeks my life, let him so declare, but he shall not again restrain me of my personal liberty, except by due process of law. He denounced "Order No. 38," under which he was arrested, and said it was against the Constitution and the laws, and without validity, and all proceedings under it were null and void. The time has arrived when it becomes my, as a citizen of Ohio and of the United States, to demand, and by my own act, vindicate the rights and privileges which I never forfeited, but of which, for so many months, I have been unjustly deprived. He reiterated his right to criticise the acts of the administration; and cautioned his political friends from any acts of violence on his account, but advised none to shrink from any responsibility, however urgent, if forced upon him. Vallandigham was accompanied to the depot by an enthusiastic crowd, and arrived at Dayton to-night, where it is understood he will make another speech.

The Convention elected Vallandigham a delegate to the Chicago Convention.

CINCINNATI, June 15.—Vallandigham arrived at Dayton at half past five o'clock and proceeded immediately to his residence. There was no demonstration. Rumors are current that soon after his arrival, he had taken the night train for Toledo, but subsequently announced that he would deliver a speech to-morrow. There is considerable apprehension of trouble at Dayton, and the people are very much excited

LATE EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

THE ENGLISH PRESS ON THE AMERICAN WAR.

WARLIKE ADVICES FROM DENMARK.

THE MARKETS, &c.

NEW YORK, June 15.—The Scotia, which left Liverpool at 9:30 a. m., June fourth, and Queenstown on the evening of the fifth, arrived at 7 p. m.

The correspondent of the London *Times* learns that the French Government intends to send two delegates to America, one civil and the other military, to ascertain and report upon the real prospects of the belligerents. It is also asserted that overtures have been made by the French to the English Government with a view to devise means for putting a stop to the frightful carnage.

The London *Times* reviews affairs in Virginia as unfavorable to the Federals, and is prepared to hear of Grant's failure.

The Morning *Star* regards Northern prospects more favorably, and denounces the Southern coloring given to the facts by the *Times*.

The Army and Navy *Gazette* thinks that Grant so far has produced no result commensurate with the hopes and sacrifices of the North.

Mr. Layard, in the House of Commons, said that the government had not yet received the decision of the United States Government relative to the arrest of Acting Master Donovan for the alleged murder of the mate of the Anglo Saxon.

It is also said that the government had received no information that a British steamer had been searched in a Federal harbor by Federal officers and the newspapers of privates removed.

Advices from Denmark continue warlike. There are many indications that the war will go on.

Liverpool, June.—Flour was much inquired for, and 6d higher; prices range from 18 to 19s. Wheat firmer, and generally 1@2 per cent. dearer. Red, Western, 8@10s; Southern, 8@9s; White Western, 8@6s; White Southern, 8@6 and 9@3. Corn firm; 28s for mixed provisions. Beef steady, with other kinds quiet. Pork unchanged, and rather easier. Bacon rather firmer. Ashes quiet, and a shade lower; Pots 32s 6d@34s; Pearls 33s 9d@34. Sugar opened quiet, and closing active and firmer. Coffee very dull.

London.—Wheat firmer and quiet; White American 41@45, Red 39@42. Flour 20s 6d. Tea very firm for Common Congo: Coffee—Prices barely maintained. Provisions generally unchanged. Petroleum active.

LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN.—*Liverpool, June 4—Evening.*—Cotton quiet and unchanged; sales 5,000 bales. Breadstuffs firm and unchanged, but quiet. Provisions inactive and unchanged. Produce quiet and steady.

London, June 4—Evening.—Consols closed at 90⅞@90¾ for money.

General quotations for good bills is not below ½ per cent. Supply of money abundant. News unimportant.

Paris, June 4.—Rentes, 67f.

Liverpool, June 4—P. M.—The Paris *Moniteur* to-day publishes details of the French victories over the Insurgents at Geris, indicating that the Insurgents must soon be forced to decamp.

Shanghai, April 26.—General Gordon defeated the rebels at Masoo, and expected the early surrender of Nankin and Soochuas.

Melbourne, April 26.—New Zealand advices report two severe engagements, in one of which the English suffered a reverse. There is no immediate prospect of a close of the campaign.

Bids for the $75,000,000 Loan.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Bids for the Seventy-five million Loan to-day ranged from par to eighty-eight per cent. premium. The offers ranged from 4⅝ to 5 per cent premium.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Sealed offers were to-day opened by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the aid of the Assistant Secretaries, Harrington and Field, for bids of the United States, amounting to $75,00,000. The number of bids was unprecedentedly large, and and deceptive in the parties thereto and the amounts of penal sums thereof. It was proved that the sale of one bond for $54,000 was negotiated before its execution and within one hour after was surrendered to the maker for the price of $600.

It appears that while young Stanton confesses having abstracted not over eight bonds, the numbers of other bonds and shipping manifests are missing. The Committee significantly ask, who made way with these bonds and evidences?

The report also dwells at length on the increase of trade with neutral ports, especially Matamoras, within the last three years, and points out the nature on this side, and the difficulties in the way on the other side for the effective suppression of the contraband features of it. The report concludes with an intimation that time will not permit the closing up of some other branches of inquiry on which testimony was taken, as was at one time contemplated more extensively, and the consideration of important interests demanded from them.

THE FIGHT NEAR GUNTOWN, MISS.

Our Loss Probably Less than One Thousand.

FOURTEEN PIECES OF ARTILLERY LOST.

DESPERATE FIGHTING OF OUR TROOPS

Butchery of a Refugee Train Confirmed.

St. Louis, June 15.—Memphis advices of the 13th contain further accounts of the engagement near Guntown, Mississippi. The troops comprising the expedition were two brigades of cavalry under Grierson, two brigades of infantry, 1st Illinois Light Artillery, and three regiments of colored infantry, all under command of General Sturgis.

The citizens report that Kirby Smith is in command of the enemy, assisted by Forrest, Roddy and Lee. Forrest is said to have started his entire command for Georgia; but recalled them upon hearing of the advance of our forces.

Our troops are said to have fought with desperate valor, and but of 18 pieces of artillery, 4 only were brought off. About one hundred wagons were taken, and the greater portion of our wounded fell into the hands of the enemy. The rebel cavalry pursued our forces to Collierville.

Our loss is supposed to be considerable, though not so large as theirs.

We have no definite information in regard to the casualties. Col. Humphrey, of the 95th Illinois, is reported killed; Col. Warring, of the 4th Mo., severely wounded.

Gen. Sheplor and his command have arrived at Batesville, on route for Missouri, on a raid.

Gen. Sickles and staff arrived at Little Rock on the fifth. He left for Vicksburg on Tuesday.

The reported capture and butchery of a refugee train which left Batesville on the evacuation of that place by our troops, of which mention has been made, and since contradicted, is reaffirmed by parties who have arrived here direct from Batesville. Seventy men and four women were slaughtered, and the remaining one hundred women and children left on the road in a helpless condition, and treated in a most cruel and barbarous manner.

MEMPHIS, June 14.—Considerable bodies of missing infantry of Sturgis's expedition are constantly coming, and our loss will probably be cut down to less than one thousand, all told. By to night the casualties will be pretty accurately reported. Some officers blame Sturgis and say his management was bad. This will probably be investigated. All concur in stating that the men fought with desperation, the negro troops especially, but they fell into confusion, and their ammunition becoming exhausted, caused a panic. It is reported the rebel force which Sturgis encountered, was en route to Johnstons army when they received news of the fitting out of this expedition, and turned about to defeat it.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, June 15, 1864.

SENATE.—Mr. Trumbull, from the Judiciary Committee, reported on the House resolution in the case of Messrs. Blair and Schenck, with a resolution declaring that when an officer of the United States Army, whose resignation has been duly accepted and taken effect, is qualified and entered upon the duties of another office, he is thereby out of the office previously held, and cannot be restored to it without a new commission and qualification. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wilson from the Military Committee, reported the House bill entitled an act to define the pay of certain officers in the United States service, approved July 17th, 1862.

The Senate then, by a vote of 26 to 5, refused to take up the bill of Mr. Powell to prevent military interference in State elections.

The Fugitive Slave Law was called up by Mr. Sumner.

Mr. Powell moved to refer it to the Judiciary Committee.

The motion was lost, 21 to 14.

The bill was then, on motion of Mr. Sumner, referred to the Select Committee on Slavery and Freedom.

The bill for the disposal of the coal lands and town property in the public domain was passed, 33 to 5, the nays being lands to Wisconsin in aid of building military roads.

The bill to establish a Bureau of Freedman's Affairs came up, the pending amendment being that of Mr. Saulsbury. A debate ensued.

Mr. Carlisle moved to postpone the whole subject till December. Rejected.

Mr. Saulbury's amendment was rejected, 8 against 29.

Mr. Grimes opposed the bill. After further debate the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the constitutional amendment to abolish slavery.

Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, was surprised at a speech of his colleague (Mr. Ross,) last night. It was full of disparagement of the administration and misstatements in regard to the manner in which the war had been carried on, while there was nothing in it reprehensive of the course of the rebels. The gentleman (Ross) claimed that his party were the friends of the soldiers. But what was the course of the gentleman and his friends in regard to the voting of supplies? They invariably voted against granting either money or supplies for the soldiers. When a bill was introduced here the other day to punish guerrillas, those assassins who rob and murder soldiers and citizens, they opposed it. When the Constitution was framed there were but about 50,000 slaves in the land, and no one contemplated a permanent continuance of the institution. The greatest care was taken that no word should be inserted in that instrument which recognized property in man. Our fathers expected that the institution would soon become extinct. He tried the increase and power of slavery and its enormous and increasing aggressions against the rights of free speech and a free press, and the opposition excited by those aggressions. He cited statistics in order to show the relative progress in population and wealth of the free and slave States, showing the injurious effects of slavery on the progress and welfare of the community in which it exists. He thanked God that the manhood of the negro had been recognized by this nation; this they did when they placed the uniform of a soldier upon him.

Mr. Thayer, of Pennsylvania, replied to the assertion of the gentleman from New York, that slavery was the best possible condition of the negro. He (Thayer) denounced the assertion as monstrous, infamous, barbarous, and inhuman.

Mr. Wood—I re affirm it.

Mr. Thayer said he found no fault with him for expressing it. Let him and his friends go before the country upon it if they dare. He (Thayer) did not attempt a refutation of such an argument as that; he contented himself with denouncing it as barbarous and inhuman. Let him (Wood) go to posterity with the record he made yesterday.

Mr. Wood—That is what I made it for. It was for posterity, and not for the members of this House.

Mr. Thayer then proceeded to refute the argument of Mr. Kalfleisch that there was no right to amend the Constitution in this manner.

Mr. Mallory replied to the argument that slavery was incompatible with the expense, by citing Kentucky and Missouri as evidence that slavery was not incompatible with fidelity and loyalty to the Union. The party in power had changed the war for the restoration and preservation of the Union to a war for the destruction of slavery, as they boldly avowed, as the only means of preserving the Union. President Lincoln had said to him and others of the Kentucky delegation to the last Congress that the means which were being taken to bring back the seceded States were based upon the belief that there were a large number of the people of those States in favor of the Union; but if it was re-established, that these people were unanimous in favor of separation; the other States could not force them back in to the Union. He, Lincoln, had not acted upon this, he had violated the Constitution and justified it upon the ground of necessity and regarded that as a sufficient reason for any outrage or any violation of the Constitution he, Mallory, denounced the employment of negro soldiers, and endorsed the assertion of the gentleman from New York, Mr. Wood, that slavery was the best possible condition for the negro race. He feared that the course pursued by the Administration had rendered the restoration of the Union impossible. He still hoped on, however, and would prosecute the war for that purpose, carrying offers of peace and forgiveness, whenever the rebels would lay down their arms and return to their allegiance.

Mr. Kelly, of Pennsylvania, advocated the adoption of the amendment upon the ground of peace and humanity. If the State of the gentleman from Kentucky (Mallory) was scourged and dissolved by war, it was because there was a God who avenged the wrongs of his children to the [illegible] and fourth generation. Let this amendment go to the people and let them act upon it.

Mr. Edgerton would rejoice to see slavery cease, but it should be done by the States themselves. He argued that we had no right to make the change in the Constitution in the present condition of the country. He traced the agitation of the slavery question which had led to the triumph of the Republican party and the withdrawal of the Southern States. They believed that their rights were no longer secure in the Union. He opposed the adoption of the amendment for several reasons. It proposes that three fourths of the States shall dictate to the others and control their domestic institutions. At present it was directed to the destruction of slavery, but it might as well affect any other domestic law. It changed the basis of representation under the Constitution. He denounced the policy of the party in power as a subversion of the rights of property. The object of the party in power was to elevate the negro to political rights and reduce the white people of the South to subjection and destitution.

Mr. Randall opposed the passage of the resolution upon the ground that if we take this action there can be no settlement at present of the difficulty, and will prolong the rebellion.

Mr. Pendleton said that he approached this subject with diffidence, and that he believed in the constant progress of political science. He was anxious to answer the just demands. He was profoundly convinced that the wise would not touch lightly the ordinance of a Government which had by the law of a Government, in the varying exercise of a very limited power, maintained civil order, and yet attained an unparalleled development of material prosperity amidst the enjoyment of permanent liberty, to a degree hitherto unknown for seventeen years. This constitution has existed for sixty; its positions have been unchanged. Three times it has been amended. Not a single amendment has added to the powers granted to the United States nor to those reserved to be made.

Mr. Ingersoll, of Illinois, said that the constituency whom he was proud to represent, was unanimously opposed to wrong and injustice and in favor of justice and humanity to every race. They have given largely of men and means to crush out the rebellion and destroy slavery. Abolish slavery and our old starry banner will be grander and brighter than ever before hope will spring afresh on the hearts of the people. These sixty years have been eventful ones in our history. Three millions of people have become thirty. The wilderness has become almost unknown valley of the Mississippi, now dips into the Pacific Ocean. Spain, France and Mexico on the south have contributed to enlarge our domain. We have repelled invasion and have lasted the triumphs of conquest. We have had partisan strife and sectarian strife. The Constitution was sufficient for these things, in these times. The times have changed. A new party has come into power, and in the first six months of the Administration, in the midst of clashing arms, in the exhibition of a civil war co-incident with its advent to power, it proposes to hang and bury the Constitution.

Mr. Pendleton proceeded to discuss these propositions. He quoted Mr. Seward's speech of January, 1861. The amendment to the Constitution could not be carried without a fraudulent use of the power to create new States, or of the military power upon the old ones.

Mr. Thayer remarked that the principle which would amend the Constitution only to restrict and not enlarge its powers, was subversive of every principle of liberty.

Mr. Mallory, of Kentucky, said the calm reason of the country would spur him up in the opinion that this was an inopportune and unfit time to make this amendment. Eleven States were not represented here. They were still States in the Union.

There are 35 States, three-fourths of which numbers 27. There are 10 free States; add Mo., West Va., the District of Delaware, and there are four yet needed. They must be made up from the States which have seceded or from the new ones. Surely, gentlemen, you will not insist that the States which you will not permit to be represented on this floor shall vote on this question. If the new States are added they increase the number added. Sixteen must be added. This am