From our Fifth Edition of Yesterday.

Important from Washington.

[By the U. S. Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—On account of the absence of Justice Grier, who is to deliver the opinion on the decision of the Supreme Court in the test oath case, it was not delivered this morning. As the Court will adjourn on Friday until Thursday of next week, this opinion may not be expected until Monday of the following week.

No decision has yet been given in the application for a writ of habeas corpus in the case of Dr. Mudd, one of the Dry Tortugas prisoners.

It was stated that Chief Justice Chase doubts the jurisdiction of the Court in the matter. If it is not speedily decided by the Courts, the action of the Executive will be invoked to order the release of the prisoners condemned by the military commission who come within the terms of the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the Mulligan case, better known as the Indiana Conspiracy case.

Further News From Mexico.

[By the U. S. Associated Press.]

GALVESTON, Dec. 26th.—Col. Plato, late of the Quartermaster's Department, has just arrived here from Indianapolis. He saw the *Daily Ranchero*, which stated on the authority of its Matamoras correspondent that it was reported and generally believed that Escobedo had been captured and hung outside of the city. It was believed that the military had instigated Ortega to the act.

Escobedo had been heard from on the day previous to the reported execution.

Massacre of United States Soldiers.

[To the N. Y. Associated Press.]

FORT LARAMIE, Dec. 26.—A terrible massacre occurred on the 22d inst., near Fort Phil. Kearney.

Brevet Col. Fetterman, Captain Brown and Lieut. Grumond of the Eighteenth Infantry, with ninety enlisted men of the Second Cavalry and the Eighteenth infantry were surrounded by Indians, and every officer and man killed.

From Washington.

[To the New York Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—At an early hour this morning a policeman, named Williams, while attempting to arrest two burglars on Seventh street, was shot by one of them, the ball striking a button on the breast of his coat before entering his body.

The burglars then made their escape, and up to this time have not been arrested. The wounded man was conveyed to his home, where he now lies in a serious condition, the ball not having yet been extracted.

From South Carolina.

[To the New York Associated Press.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 26.—Afreedman, known as Horace Greeley, and who made his escape from prison several weeks since, was recaptured last night. He stands charged with the murder of a son of Mr. Rhett, last summer. We have reports today of the killing of two freedmen. One is said to have been murdered by some soldiers connected with the sixth infantry.

Marine Intelligence.

[To the N. Y. Associated Press.]

HALIFAX, Dec. 26.—Late Bermuda advices report the total loss of the bark Pathfinder, from Rockland to New Orleans, with a cargo of lime. A portion of the cargo will be saved.

Reception of the New French Minister by the President.

The Marquis de Montholon, the retiring French Minister, and the newly accredited minister, M. Berthemy, were presented to the President by the Secretary of State at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The leave-taking of the Marquis de Montholon, with the answer of the President to him, were of the kindest character.

Mr. Berthemy made the following address to the President.

Mr. President—I have the honor to place in your hands the letters which accredit me in the quality of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of his Majesty the Emperor of the French. In confiding to me the mission to represent him near you, my sovereign has specially charged me to make known to you, the value he attaches to the relations of friendship which exist between France and the United States of America, to maintain these relations, to draw them more closely, if possible, in view of the developments of interests, common to the two countries. Such will be the constant aim of my efforts, and I have firm hope to attain it, if, as I am in advance assured, the government and people of the United States share in the sentiments of which I bring to this place sincere expressions.

The following is the President's reply to Mr. Berthemy:

Sir—Grateful affection toward the French nation is among the earliest, the most profound and the most enduring sentiments of the people and the government of the United States. We constantly try to believe that no interest of either country requires alienations or antagonisms between them. While intimate commercial interests tend to bind them together, as you have justly observed, they have at the same time a common interest in the advancement of civilization and humanity throughout the world. In expressing these feelings I am only repeating what has been uniformly said by the United States since they became sovereign. We have had much reason to be pleased with the conduct of your predecessor, the Marquis de Montholon. Be assured, M. Berthemy, that no consideration, or courtesy, will be withheld, which shall tend to make the performance of your duties agreeable and pleasant.

The retiring French Minister and his successor dined with the Secretary of State last night.

SINKING OF A STEAMER.—Saturday morning, at four o'clock, the stern wheel steamer Argonaut No. 2, just after leaving the New Albany (Indiana) wharf, where she had discharged a lot of clay for the glass works, struck the ledge of slate rock, and almost immediately sunk. She was attempting to run through a fog, and had made but a few revolutions ahead when she struck heavily, the stern sinking in about fifteen feet water. She lies alongside the bank, close to shore, with the water up to her boiler deck forward, and the water on her cabin floor aft. She had some fifteen cabin and tweaty deck passengers, all of whom were saved unhurt, together with their baggage. The engineer was working her slowly at the time; but being laden with iron, her bow was crushed on the instant of contact with the slate shelf or reef. The Argonaut No. 2 was on her way to Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, from St. Louis. She entered protest at Louisville. The boat was valued at $20,000, and was insured for $10,000. The Underwriter, which has just finished with the Emperor, will probably raise her in a day or two. The bow of the Argonaut is spread open, but she is otherwise unhurt, and a bulkhead can very soon be built, so that she can be pumped out. All of her cargo, except some whisky and iron, will prove a total loss.

Financial and Commercial.

[To the U. S. Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 26, 1 P. M.—The Flour market is quiet and firm; sales of 4 900 bbls. superfine. $8 20@10; common to choice extra State, $10 40@11 75; ditto Western, $9 40@3 85; round hoop Ohio, $10 90@12; trade brands, $12 65@13 25; the market closing quiet but firm. Southern Flour dull; sales of 150 bbls. at $11@13 25 for common, extra at $13 30@16 50. Rye Flour quiet; sales of 180 barrels at $6 50@7 50. Corn Meal easier; sales of 825 barrels Brandywine at 5@5 50. Wheat quiet and without a decided change; sales of 3,000 bushels of Amber State at $3 10, 7,100 bushels mixed Milwaukee at $2 15. Rye is dull; sales of 500 bushels at $1 35. Barley dull; sales of 1 000 bushels. Corn is about 1c. better, with only a material demand; sales of 24,000 bushels at $1 14½@1 15 for mixed western afloat, and $1 12 for new yellow Southern. Oats dull and heavy; sales of 18 000 bushels at 62@65c. for Chicago and Milwaukee; 68@69c for State, and 66c. for new Ohio and Delaware. Whisky dull and nominal. Pork is lower; sales of 4 300 bbls. at $18 75@19 25 for old; sellers clo ing at $18 81 cash. New mess, $20@20 87. Prime, $17@17 75. Beef is heavy. Beef hams are firmer; sales of 200 bbls. at $2 50@3 50. Bacon is quiet. Cut meats are heavy; sales of 140 packages at 9@10c. for shoulders and 10@12c. for hams.

IMPORTATIONS.

Reported for the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

BANGOR—Brig Nellie Clifford, Littlefield—212,783 ft lumber 121,000 laths E A Souder & Co.

ST MARY's, GA.—Brig D B Doane, Weeks—150,000 feet lumber 8 bdls strips E A Souder & Co.

Arrival and Sailing of Ocean Steamers

TO ARRIVE.

SHIPS	FROM	FOR	DATE
City of Dublin	Liverpool	New York	Dec. 8
Atalanta	London	New York	Dec. 8
Palmyra	Liverpool	New York	Dec. 11
City of Boston	Liverpool	New York	Dec. 11
England	Liverpool	New York	Dec. 12
Allemania	Southampton	New York	Dec. 12
Nova Scotian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 13
City of Limerick	Liverpool	New York	Dec. 13
Fulton	Havre	New York	Dec. 19

TO DEPART.

Helvetia	New York	Liverpool	Dec. 29
Pioneer	Philadelphia	Wilmington, NC	Dec. 29
Whirlwind	Philadelphia	Charleston	Dec29
Louisiana	New York	Liverpool	Dec29
St. Laurent	New York	Havre	Dec. 29
Deutchland	New York	Bremen	Dec. 29
Hendrick Hudson	Philada.	Havana	Dec. 29
Wm Penn	New York	London	Dec. 29
Erin Shirley	New York	New Orleans	Dec. 29
Geo Washington	New York	New Orleans	Dec. 29
Columbia	New York	Havana	Dec. 29
Ocean Queen	New York	Aspinwall	Dec. 31
Atalanta	New York	London	Dec. 31
Cornica	New York	Nassau, N. P.	Dec. 31
Java	Boston	Liverpool	Jan. 2
City of Limerick	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 2
Palmyra	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 2
Morro Castle	New York	Havana	Jan. 3
City of Cork	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 5
Allemania	New York	Hamburg	Jan. 5
City of Boston	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 5
England	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 5
Australasian	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 9
Eagle	New York	Havana	Jan. 10
Pennsylvania	New York	Liverpool	Jan. 12
Hansa	New York	Bremen	Jan. 12
Atalanta	New York	London	Jan. 12
Pereire	New York	Havre	Jan. 12

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GEORGE L. BUZBY,
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GEORGE N. TATHAM,
} MONTHLY COMMITTEE.

MARINE BULLETIN.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA—DECEMBER 27.

SUN RISES, 7 20 | SUN SETS, 4 39 | HIGH WATER, 7 9

ARRIVED YESTERDAY

Ship David Crockett, Burgess, 94 days from San Francisco, with wheat to C H Cummings. Towed up by tug America.

Steamer Philadelphia, Fultz, 36 hours from Washington, with mdze to W P Clyde & Co.

Steamer Claymont, Allen, 36 hours from Richmond, with mdse to W P Clyde & Co.

Steamer George H Stout, Ford, 35 hours from Washington, with mdse to W P Clyde & Co.

Steamer New York, Platt, 24 hours from New York, with mdse to W P Clyde & Co.

Schr Isabella Thompson, Corson, 8 days from Jacksonville, with lumber to D S Stetson & Co.

Schr J Elliott, Gilchrist, from Calais, with lumber to D Trump, Son & Co.

Schr E L B Wiley, Cramer, from New York, with barley to Bergdoll & Psotta.

Schr Clayton J. Lowber, Jackson, 1 day from Smyrna, Del. with grain to Jas L Bewley & Co.

Schr Rebecca, Ross, 1 day from Lewes, Del. with grain to Jas L Bewley & Co.

Tug Hudson, Carr, from Delaware Breakwater, with 4 schrs, to W P Clyde & Co.

CLEARED YESTERDAY

Steamer Saxon, Matthews, Boston, H Winsor & Co.

Steamer Norfolk, Vance, New York, W P Clyde & Co.

Steamer Ellen, Brammell, Baltimore, do.

steamer J S Shriver, Dennis, Baltimore, A Groves, Jr.

Brig St Nicoll, Anderson, Gibraltar, L Westergaard.

Brig Waverly, Terry, Rio Janeiro, Merchant & Co.

Brig R B Gove, Harkness, New Orleans, Warren, Gregg & Morris.

Schr Wm L Springs, Steelman, Galveston, D S Stetson & Co.

Tug Hudson, Carr, Delaware Breakwater, with bark Blue Nose in tow, W P Clyde & Co.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Exchange.

LEWES, DEL., Dec 26—6 PM.

Bark Island Home, from Liverpool for Philadelphia, went in yesterday; a ship passed up this morning. Brig Circassian, from Turks Island, is at the Breakwater, waiting orders. Bark Rilla, 30 days from ware, 24th inst. by pilot boat M H Grinnell. Wind N. W.

JOSEPH LAFETRA.

*Probably the Ellen, Morrison, from Mauritius 20th Sept. for Boston.

MEMORANDA

Steamer Peruvian, Glover, hence at Liverpool 5th inst. via New York, and entered out next day for this port.

Steamer Moneka, Libbey, cleared at New York yesterday for Charleston.

Steamer Victor, Gates, cleared at New York yesterday for Vera Cruz.

Ship Eureka, Smith, cleared at Liverpool 8th inst. for this port.

Ship W J Hatfield, Murphy, entered out at Liverpool 8th inst. for this port.

Ship Equator, Krohn, hence at Flushing 10th inst.

Ship Summer Seohs, Tobias, entered out at London 8th inst. for this port.

Ship Uncle Tobey, Pinkham, hence, remained at San Juan del Sur about 10th inst.

Ship Gen Sheppy, Dinsmore, hence for Acapulco, remained at Rio Janeiro 25th ult—would repair without delay.

Ship Andrew Johnson, Curling, cleared at Liverpool 10th inst. for Callao.

Bark Thomas Dallett, Davis, from Richmond, remained at Rio Janeiro 25th ult. ditching—captain and crew sick.

Barks Minnie Traub, and E W Bernard, at Havana 15th inst. to load old iron rails and old iron at Sagua for this port, at $4 per ton.

Bark Chas Gumm, Gallison, hence at Antwerp 8th instant.

Bark Jacob Hatfield, Blauvelt, hence at Flushing 10th inst.

Bark John Boulton, Lindsay, hence at Trieste 4th instant.

Bark Jupiter, Bradherring, hence at Hamburg 5th instant.

Brig James Baker, Thompson, for this port was up at Charleston 24th inst.

Brig Sarah Ellen, McLaughlin, hence at Flushing 10th inst.

Brig Zephyr (Br), McCulicugh, hence in the river, Antwerp, 10th inst.

Brig Haze, Hall, at Charleston 22d inst. from Boston.

Schr S Lee, Melton, cleared at Charleston 21d inst. for Turks Island via Buck's Mills, &c.

Schr T D Wilder, Darrah, cleared at Mobile 21st inst. for New York.

Schrs Trident, Jameson, and A Falkenburg, Terrill, from Boston for this port, at York yesterday.

Schr H Blackman, Gaudy, cleared at New York yesterday for this port.

GROCERIES.

FRESH ADAMS COUNTY PEACHES,
In Gallon, Half Gallon and Quart Cans. Fresh Quinces and Tomatoes Also, 100 doz. Tomatoes in Glass. 100 doz. Green Corn. For sale by
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Blue and Black Pilots,
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Black French Cassimeres,
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Satinets, all qualities,
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Office, No. 232 WALNUT street, south side, east of Third street.

The Properties of this Company are well invested and furnish an available fund for the ample indemnity of all persons who desire to be protected by Insurance.

MARINE RISKS taken on Vessels, Freights and Cargoes.

INLAND TRANSPORTATION RISKS on Merchandise per Railroads, Canals and Steamboats.

FIRE RISKS on Merchandise, Furniture and Buildings in Town or Country.

INCORPORATED IN 1794—CAPITAL, $500,000, ALL PAID IN AND SECURELY INVESTED.

TOTAL PROPERTIES, $1,000,000.

PERPETUAL CHARTER.

DIRECTORS.

Arthur G. Coffin,	John Mason,
Samuel W. Jones,	George L. Harrison,
John A. Brown,	Francis R. Cope,
Charles Taylor,	Edward H. Trotter,
Ambrose White,	E. S. Clarke,
William Welsh,	William Cummings,
Richard D. Wood,	T. Charlton Henry,
S. Morris Waln,	Alfred D. Jessup.

ARTHUR G. COFFIN, President.
CHARLES PLATT, Secretary.

PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA,
No. 111 South FOURTH Street.
INCORPORATED 2d MONTH, 22d, 1865.
CAPITAL, $150,000, PAID.

Insurance on Lives, by Yearly Premiums; or by 5, 10 or 20 year premiums. Non-forfeiture.

Endowments, payable at a future age, or on prior decease, by Yearly Premiums, or 10-year Premiums—both cases Non forfeiture.

Annuities granted on favorable terms.

Term Policies. Children's Endowments.

This Company, while giving the insured the security of a paid-up Capital, will divide the entire Profits of the Life business among its Policy holders.

Moneys received at Interest, and paid on demand.

Authorized by charter to execute Trusts, and to act, as Executor or Administrator, Assignee or Guardian, and in other fiduciary capacities under appointment of any Court of this Commonwealth, or of any person or persons, or bodies politic or corporate.

DIRECTORS.

Samuel R. Shipley,	Richard Cadbury,
Jeremiah Hacker,	Henry Haines,
Joshua H. Morris,	T. Wistar Brown,
Richard Wood,	Wm. C. Longstreth,
	Charles F. Coffin.

SAMUEL R. SHIPLEY, President. ROWLAND PARRY, Actuary.
THOMAS WISTAR, M. D., Medical Examiner. J. B. TOWNSEND, Legal Adviser.
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FIRE ASSOCIATION,
Incorporated March 27, 1820.
OFFICE, No. 34 N. FIFTH street. Insure BUILDINGS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and MERCHANDISE generally, from Loss by Fire, (in the City of Philadelphia only.)

STATEMENT of the Assets of the Association January 1, 1866.

Bonds and Mortgages on property in the City of Philadelphia	$326,466 11
Ground Rents	20,843 81
Real Estate (Office No. 34 North Fifth street)	14,396 17
U. S. Government 5-20 Bonds	45,000 00
U. S. Treasury Notes	5,640 00
City Warrants	645 00
Cash on hand	27,422 41
Total	$351,419 10

TRUSTEES.
GEORGE W. TRYON, President.

WM. H. HAMILTON,	JOSEPH R. LYNDALL,
JOHN SOUDER,	LEVI P. COATES,
PETER A. KEYSER,	SAMUEL SPARHAWK,
JOHN PHILBIN,	CHARLES P. BOWER,
JOHN CARROW,	JESSE LIGHTFOOT,
GEORGE I. YOUNG,	ROBERT SHOEMAKER,
	WM. T. BUTLER, Secretary.

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

OFFICE, NO. 5 SOUTH FIFTH STREET.

ASSETS, - - - - $126,522 21

CHARTER PERPETUAL.

MUTUAL SYSTEM EXCLUSIVELY.

DIRECTORS FOR 1866.

Caleb Clothier,	William P. Reeder,
Benjamin Malone,	Joseph Chapman,
Thomas Mather,	Charles Evans,
T. Ellwood Chapman,	Edward M. Needles,
Simeon Matlack,	Wilson M. Jenkins,
Aaron W. Gaskill,	Lukens Webster,

CALEB CLOTHIER, President.
BENJAMIN MALONE, Vice President.
THOMAS MATHER, Treasurer.
T. ELLWOOD CHAPMAN, Secretary. se22-3m

JEFFERSON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.—OFFICE, No. 24 NORTH FIFTH STREET, NEAR MARKET STREET.
Incorporated by the Legislature of Pennsylvania CHARTER PERPETUAL. CAPITAL AND ASSETS $150,000. Make Insurance against Loss or Damage by Fire on Public or Private Buildings, Furniture, Stocks Goods and Merchandise, on favorable terms.

DIRECTORS.

George Fretz,	Frederick Doll,
Augustus Miller,	Jacob Schaeffer,
John F. Belsterling,	Samuel Miller,
Henry Troemner,	Edward P. Moyer,
William McDaniel,	Adam J. Glass,
Christopher H. Miller,	Israel Peterson,
Frederick Staake,	Frederick Ladner
Jonas Bowman,	

GEORGE FRETZ, President.
JOHN F. BELSTERLING, Vice President.
PHILIP E. COLEMAN, Secretary.

PHŒNIX INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.
INCORPORATED 1804—CHARTER PERPETUAL
No. 224 WALNUT Street, opposite the Exchange.
In addition to MARINE AND INLAND INSURANCE this Company insures from loss or damage by FIRE on liberal terms, on buildings, merchandise, furniture &c., for limited periods, and permanently on buildings by deposit of premium.

The Company has been in active operation for more than SIXTY YEARS, during which all losses have been promptly adjusted and paid.

DIRECTORS.

John L. Hodge,	David Lewis,
M. B. Mahony	Benjamin Etting,
Thomas H. Powers,	Thomas H. Powers,
William S. Grant,	A. R. McHenry,
Robert W. Leaming,	Edmond Castillon,
D. Clark Wharton,	Samuel Wilcox,
Lawrence Lewis, Jr.,	Louis C. Norris.

JOHN R. WUCHERER, President.
SAMUEL WILCOX, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY.—THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY—Incorporated 1825—Charter Perpetual—No. 510 WALNUT Street, opposite Independence Square.

This Company, favorably known to the community for over forty years, continues to insure against loss or damage by fire, on Public or Private Buildings, either permanently or for a limited time. Also, on Furniture, Stocks of Goods and Merchandise generally, on liberal terms.

Their Capital, together with a large Surplus Fund, is invested in the most careful manner, which enables them to offer to the insured an undoubted security in the case of loss.

DIRECTORS.

Daniel Smith, Jr.,	John Deverenx,
Alexander Benson,	Thomas Smith,
Isaac Hazlehurst,	Henry Lewis,
Thomas Robins,	J. Gillingham Fell,
	Daniel Haddock, Jr.

DANIEL SMITH, Jr., President.
WILLIAM G. CROWELL, Secretary.

AMERICAN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—Office Farquhar Building, No. 19 WALNUT Street.—MARINE AND INLAND INSURANCES.—Risks taken on vessels, cargoes and freights to all parts of the world, and on goods on inland transportation on rivers, canals, railroads and other conveyances throughout the United States.

WILLIAM CRAIG, President.
PETER CULLEN, Vice President.
ROBERT J. MEE, Secretary.

DIRECTORS.

William Craig,	Henry C. Dallett,
Peter Cullen,	Wm. S. Lowber,
John Dallett, Jr.,	J. Johnston Brown,