BUSINESS NOTICES.

The first premium, at the Philadelphia Exhibition, was awarded to HOFFMAN'S MALT EXTRACT, as the best article for invalids, as a nutritive tonic. Physicians, generally, throughout the country, prescribe it in preference to any other preparation of malt, as being the most palatable and easily digested. It is a mild tonic, and a nutritive in its effects. Sold by all Druggists. Depot, 1 Dey Street, New York.

STEINWAY'S PIANOS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST HONOR—the highest medal, at the Great Exhibition, Paris, 1867. Warerooms, Steinway Hall, 107 and 109 East 14th street, near Broadway. BLASIUS BROS., No. 1004 Chestnut street.

THE CHICKERING PIANOS RECEIVED the highest award at the Paris Exhibition. CHICKERING & SONS, No. 652 Chestnut street. ed3t.rp5

EVENING BULLETIN.

Friday, March 26, 1869.

THE PROPOSED SPANISH CONSTITUTION.

The cable brings us a brief summary of the results of the labors of the committee appointed by the Spanish Cortes to draft a constitution for liberated Spain. The document contains some rather curious and novel features, but, upon the whole, it is satisfactory as an evidence of the really earnest desire of the popular representatives to satisfy all parties and give the people, and the world, freedom of Spain and the stability of the new government upon a substantial foundation. It provides for a monarchical form of government, with a king who is to be chosen every eighteen years; Senators to be elected, as ours are, by representative bodies once in twelve years; and Congressmen who are to be chosen directly by the people, under the universal suffrage law, triennially. A majority of the committee report in favor of entire separation of Church and State, and the report is unanimous in favor of liberty of the press, the right of public meeting, and of toleration of all religious denominations.

The first provision, limiting the reign of the sovereign to eighteen years, is peculiar and we believe without precedent in a government that professes to be monarchical. Of course it destroys all hereditary title to the throne, and makes the ruler king only in name. He will accept the dignity of his office directly from the hands of the people, and at the expiration of his term will yield to his chosen successor, and become simply a private citizen again. This is fatal to the favorite theory of Divine right, and to all hopes of founding dynasties. It is a mere exaggeration of the system of choosing the Executive existing in this country—and we may safely say that it is not an improvement. Possibly the arrangement was intended as a compromise upon the theories of the Monarchical and Republican parties in Spain, and if this is so, we do not perceive how it can be satisfactory to either. The Executive will be a king in dignity or right, and he will hold his office too long to suit those who desire a strictly Republican government. But the office is filled every 18 years, and a bold, ambitious and able man, there will be ample time for him to secure himself permanently upon the throne, and to act as nearly as he pleases under the Constitution, by virtue of which he holds his office; and the extended term of the Senators will only serve to aid him in his purpose. Americans know something of the life which affords a command to a bold man occupies the executive office; and of the opportunities for mischief which are afforded him in four years. If such an individual should be chosen to serve for eighteen years in a country like Spain, where there will always be a powerful faction eager for his overthrow, and ready for revolution, the result would certainly be fatal to popular liberty. Despite the frequent agitation consequent upon a quadrennial election, we have come to recognize the provision of our Constitution for the change of Presidents every four years, as wise and safe. It may be that after the discussion upon this proposed instrument, which will cause in the Cortes, the term may be shortened; but there is much greater reason to believe that the popular representatives, who form the majority of the body, will favor the establishment of a hereditary monarchy.

The guarantee of liberty of the press, of speech, and the right of public meeting, given in the draft, is satisfactory, and will please all liberal parties; but there is an element of discord in the other portion of the report, upon the question of union of Church and State. A minority of the committee, representing possibly a minority of the Cortes, desire to make Roman Catholicism the religion of the State; a majority oppose such a connection. We believe that the latter will prevail, and that the weight of the priestly influence and the demands of zealots which will be brought to bear against them. It would be merely a fair step to encumber a free government with the burden of an established church in this age. If there was no other example to which the Spaniards could look for an illustration of the folly of such a system, they might find it in the contest now progressing in England—a contest which is the result of the efforts of a people struggling upwards to pure liberty to free themselves from the trammels of a church establishment. In the present religious conflict of Spain, a powerful ally, supported by the State, would be certain to strangle religious freedom in time. It would be, too, a dangerous ally of an unscrupulous monarch who aspired to be an absolute monarch.

But, despite these objections, which are serious enough, if they are not removed, the proposed constitution is entitled as the first attempt of a long enslaved people to frame a popular government. It is a great deal gained to have any constitution at all; but this one, with the credits and defects, will place Spain nearly equal with the age, and whole countries in advance of Isabella and her despotism. If it is adopted in the present form, the hope of the nation will be in the choice of some honest, upright and patriotic prince, who will unselfishly seek the advancement of his country, and the perpetuation of its liberties. Perhaps, ere the expiration of his term, the people may be sufficiently convinced of the evils of a long term of power, to consent to an alteration of the constitution in this respect.

RETRENCHMENT AT HARRISBURG.

Senator Billingfelt, of Lancaster, is one of the men whom we should have expected to bring in such a report as he submitted in the Senate, yesterday, on the subject of legislative entrenchment and reform. He enjoys a high reputation for sterling honesty, and for a careful and conscientious devotion to public interests. The report of his committee makes several important suggestions, all looking to a reduction of the expenses of the Legislature, and we trust that it will meet the respectful assent of both bodies.

But the saving of twenty or fifty thousand dollars annually, important as it may be, is very insignificant, when compared with the greater need of a sweeping reform in the whole system of legislation. Irrespective of all political distinctions, there is something so rotten in the present order of things at Harrisburg, that, unless we can go deeper and strike nearer to the roots of the evil, very little will be gained by the proposed retrenchments. Let us have them, by all means, but let us also get at something which will uphold and honor those men who have kept their records clean, in spite of the adverse atmosphere of Harrisburg, and, at the same time, drive out the corrupt and reckless "wings" who go to the Capital simply upon speculation, and who grow fat and comfortable out of the $1,000 salary which the State pays for their services.

THE PENN SQUARE FACTION.

Each weekly session of Councils has a portion of its time devoted to the business of City Improvement. The Building Commission, created for the purpose of erecting the Public Buildings on Independence Square, yesterday, an attempt was made to re-open this dead subject, and to throw it in among the uncertain issues of a general election. It is a very poor compliment to the intelligence of the people of Philadelphia, for the Penn Square faction to imagine that the shallow arguments which they have so feebly urged in Councils can be made effective upon the general minds of the people. These arguments,—if arguments they can be called,—have been so thoroughly ventilated already, that they are not worthy of further discussion, and these restless opponents to the very sensible action of Councils must be in a rather desperate strait when they are driven to take up a dead issue so far opposed to the ignorance or the prejudice of the people of Philadelphia, elements which we are thankful to know are in the decided minority in this community. Select Council promptly disposed of this last move of the Penn Square faction by an indefinite postponement, and thereby established a fresh claim upon the confidence and support of the public. North, South, East and Central Philadelphia have a united interest in keeping the Public Buildings in the convenient central location which has been selected for them; and this great majority of our citizens must watch, with the close scrutiny which their movements deserve, challenged, the successive moves of the little faction which is working so industriously to mislead the public mind and to defeat its legitly expressed will.

THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania yesterday completed the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution. Every Democrat voted for preserving the class distinctions which have hitherto excluded the colored race from the rights of citizenship, while every Republican voted for extending to him a friendly hand, and for giving him the chance to prove himself a worthy citizen of our Commonwealth. In after generations, must remember this fact. If the Amendment passes into the Constitution, they must remember that they come to the ballot-box in spite of the recorded opposition of the Democratic party. They must teach their children that, in the great crisis of their race's history, the so-called Democracy voted solidly to keep them down to the old level of slavery, while the strong hand of a true Republican lifted them up out of that degradation and set their feet upon the rock of human and political equality. This fact cannot be too widely circulated or too strongly enforced just now. The moment the colored man has an actual vote, the Democracy will turn round and beg for it, on bended knees. Then it will be well to have it clearly understood that, first and last, the Democrats have been the sworn enemies of the colored race, and that whatever of political privileges and recognition they may, they owe to Abraham Lincoln and the Republican party.

EX-PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

The announcement, yesterday, of the dangerous illness of Andrew Johnson, at Greenville, was followed, in the afternoon, by a prevalent rumor of his death, which was contradicted by later despatches. One of the morning papers, here, indulges in an obituary notice of the ex-President, and the *Newark Daily Advertiser* publishes the notice of his death, without correction. The life which Mr. Johnson has led for the last four years does not tend to longevity, and it is not improbable that the sudden attack of illness by which he has been prostrated may terminate fatally. It will be remembered that President Polk succumbed, within three months of the end of his term of office, to the wear and tear of his administration, and there are stronger reasons in Andrew Johnson's case, than in his, to anticipate a fatal result to any serious attack of illness at this time.

Wendell Phillips is a cheerful philosopher and eminently practical statesman. To his great mind, there is no such thing as an insuperable difficulty. Some obstacles may require a spring of greater magnitude than others to surmount them, but the buoyant airlines of a Milawker inspires the soul of Wendell, and he goes over the hill Difficulty with a hop, skip and jump, that is charming to contemplate. Thus the Fifteenth Amendment. Quoth Wendell: "Ratify the amendment!" Whereupon some miserable doubter replies: "What if we have not States enough with us?" *"Make 'em!"* says good Master Phillips, "Carve up Texas! Take a slice out of Georgia? Who cares for Georgia? Cut out half-a-dozen Southern State, and don't let 'em in till they ratify the Amendment! Easy as rolling off a log, don't you see?" Happy Wendell! And obtuse Ulysses, who could have thought of a Washburne or a Fish for his Prime Minister, while Wendell Phillips yet lives!

CLOTHING

SPRING SALE OF Fine clothing for Gentlemen and Boys. An entirely new stock. By far the largest and most varied, the most elegantly made up, in new and styles have put the lowest figures and handsomely trimmed; grave and gay, to suit all tastes—boys of six, or men of sixty.
Scale of Prices, Cheap, CHEAPER, CHEAPEST.
WANAMAKER & BROWN

GROCERIES.

FINE GROCERIES.
The largest stock and greatest variety of choice Family Groceries to be found in this city for us to be found in our establishment.
No expense or trouble is spared to meet the wants of our customers. Every thing is sold at the lowest cash prices. Orders promptly attended to, and goods packed securely for any part of the country and delivered free of charge to any depot or steamboat.
SIMON COLTON & CLARKE.
S. W. corner Broad and Walnut Sts. mh1 fm m

BOOTS AND SHOES.

W. H. HELWEG,
BOOTMAKER,
NO. 535 ARCH STREET,
Is now prepared with a full assortment of BOOTS and GAITERS always on hand and made to order at short notice. mh26 tf rpo

THE FINE ARTS.

EARLES' GALLERIES,
816 CHESTNUT STREET.
LOOKING GLASSES,
OIL PAINTINGS,
PICTURE FRAMES,
FINE ENGRAVINGS,
CHROMO LITHOGRAPHS.
JAMES S. EARLE & SONS.

DRY GOODS.

LINENS AND HOUSE-FURNISHING DRY GOODS.
A CARD.
Persons preparing to furnish, as well as those about to renew their supply of LINENS and other HOUSE-FURNISHING DRY GOODS, are particularly invited to call and inspect our stock.
We do not confine our trade to LINEN or COTTON GOODS exclusively, but embrace in it every variety of textile fabric required for domestic use in a well-ordered household, from a COOK'S TOWEL to a DRAWING-ROOM CURTAIN.
The convenience and advantage to the purchaser of finding under one roof every article they require, selected by those whose life-long experience qualifies them to judge, bought on the most favorable terms, and sold at a fair, moderate price, fixed and uniform to all, is so obvious as to need no comment.
Sheppard, Van Harlingen & Arrison,
No. 1008 CHESTNUT Street.
mh19 f m w 10trp

MOURNING GOODS,
Every variety for Spring.
We make the class of Goods
A SPECIALTY.
PERKINS & CO.,
9 SOUTH NINTH STREET.
mh5 f m w 3m4p

RICKEY, SHARP & CO.,
727 CHESTNUT STREET,
Are offering great bargains in
DRY GOODS.
Embracing Silks of novel ties in

DRY GOODS.

Their stock is the most extensive and varied in the market, and will be daily replenished with the cheapest and choicest offerings of this and other markets.
mh24 strp

THE HAMPDEN MILLS
Would call the attention of buyers to their
Earlston Ginghams,
The Finest,
Most Perfect,
Best Finished,
Best Looking,
EVER MADE IN AMERICA.
Also, to their assortment of
HEAVY AND LIGHT
COTTONADES AND TICKINGS,
AGENTS,
FROTHINGHAM & WELLS,
610 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA.
mh18 3m rpo

CARPETINGS, &c.

SPRING. 1869.
LEEDOM & SHAW,
910 ARCH STREET.
We are now receiving a very large stock of new goods for
SPRING SALES,
Embracing all the new styles of
CARPETINGS,
FLOOR OIL CLOTHS,
MATTINGS, &c
mh5 3m rpo

FURNITURE, &c.

GEO. J. HENKELS,
CABINET MAKER,
1301 and 1303 CHESTNUT STREET.
fel 1trp5

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE BEST HORSE BOOK
THE HORSE
In the Stable and the Field.
Treating on the Management, Diseases, Management in Health and Disease.
BY STONEHENGE, McCLURE AND HARVEY.
With over Eighty Engravings from Fine Drawings, from the pencil of the Finding artist, the celebrated Harvey, the cover 8vo. Retail price, $2.50. Published by
PORTER & COATES,
No. 822 CHESTNUT STREET.
All Books Retailed at Wholesale Prices. mh20 rpt

WANTS.

WANTED TO PURCHASE—RESIDENCE ON Spring Garden, West of Broad, from $20,000 to $30,000. Apply to No. 727 Walnut street.
TWO WRITERS OF FICTION.—A FIRM-LAND SEMINARY, in Chester County, Pa., 1 hour from Philadelphia, desires a second. Address, by letter, F. & D., Evening Bulletin Office. mh24 3trp

SECOND EDITION.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON

A Fatal Railroad Accident

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The Unitarian Conference of Middle and Southern States, which was in session here yesterday, has adjourned *sine die*, after the election of the following named officers: President, Rev. E. W. Clarke; Vice Presidents, H. Ware and Sayles J. Bowen; Secretary, Rev. Plotter Hamill; Treasurer, Rev. R. S. Rayne; Executive Committee, S. Farrington, O. Schaine, H. Ware, George G. Barber, S. M. Keith and S. J. Priestly. The Conference will meet in Charleston, S. C., next Year.

The House Committee on Printing consists of Addison H. Ladin, of New York; Henry L. Cake, of Pennsylvania, and William Mungen, of Ohio.

Railroad Accident—Coroner's Inquest.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—An inquest was held on the bodies of two girls, Ellen and Eliza Coffy, of Still River, killed while crossing the Fitchburg Railroad in a sleigh at Groton Junction, yesterday. No blame was attached to the employes of the company, the crossing being a private one. Ellen was aged about 14 years, and was pupil at Port Restaurant in Boston. The mother, who was with the girls and was severely injured, though alive, cannot recover.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

HARRISBURG, March 26.

SENATE.—The bill authorizing the Directors of the Poor House of Lower Dublin, Philadelphia, to borrow $5,000 for building purposes was passed.

Mr. Johnson read a bill in place authorizing the Prothonotaries of the Supreme Court to take depositions and acknowledgements of deeds.

The House bill relative to Edward D. Hammond and Hettie Hammond; the Senate bill divorcing H. K. Rutherford from Caroline Rutherford, and the Senate bill divorcing John Gordon from Mary Blound, were all passed.

Adjourned until Tuesday morning.

HOUSE.—Resolutions were offered by Municipal Corporations of the House are understood to have adopted the Senate Resolution for a Joint Session on Second street. This was done by the exclusion of the latter from the resolution, which, in the committee, viz: Daily, Bunn, Holgate and Foy. The efforts to drive the Second street Bill through the street have been continued for the last few days, and have resulted in complete failure.

The House bill to incorporate the Sheep Drivers' Association of Philadelphia, and the Drivers' Association passed until next Thursday.

On motion of Mr. Mullin, the House bill to print the history of Pennsylvania volunteers was considered. The bill provides for the printing of a sufficient number of copies to allow one copy to each member, one volume being now ready. Two additional volumes were to be prepared and presented to the Legislature before 1870.

Mr. Wrath, of Bedford, on behalf of a special committee appointed to consider the subject, moved to take the work from the State Printer and give it to J. G. Sypher, who offers to print the book at $7 per volume, including binding, and $3 50 per volume for the remainder.

Mr. Davis contended that the State Printer had originally charged nine per volume. He had now agreed to do it for $7 per volume, although the contract price authorized him to charge $3 20 per volume.

Mr. Davis denied that the Governor, even if he had ordered the work printed, could, in any manner, make the State Printer pay greater amount than the regular authorized contract with the printer, and that the Governor could not let the lowest bidder should now take the work and save an excess of three dollars in each book.

Mr. Wrath said that the saving to the State by making the contract with Sypher would amount to over $30,000. The actual amount was afterwards stated by Mr. Niles to be $40,750 in favor of Mr. Sypher.

Marine Intelligence.

PORTRESS MONROE, March 26.—Passed in for Baltimore, bark Riverton, from Porto Rico; brigs Lizzie Dimmick, from Sagua, Tarrant, from Cienfuegos; schooner Lotte, from Sagua. Passed out, ships Annapolis, for Liverpool; Ocean Queen, for Havre; Galileo, for Malaga; brigs King Carlos, for Londonderry; Sarah Cowell, for Cienfuegos; schooner Clara Smith, for Cardenas. In the Roads, bark Pembroke, for Rio Janeiro.

Weather Report, March 26, 9 A. M.

			Weather.	Ther.
Plaster Cove	W.	50	Clear.	35
Norfolk	N. W.	8	Clear.	40
Portland	S.	20	Hazy.	34
Boston	E.	12	Clear.	32
New York	E.	6	Raining.	44
Wilmington, Del	S. E.	6	Raining.	48
Washington, D. C	S.	6	Raining.	53
Richmond	S. E.	10	Raining.	52
Augusta, Ga	S.	8	Raining.	70
Charleston, S. C	S. E.	8	Raining.	72
Savannah	S.	6	Cloudy.	60
Newport	S.	8	Raining.	50
Buffalo	S.	8	Raining.	34
Cincinnati	E.	8	Raining.	54
Louisville	N.	6	Raining.	54
New Orleans	N.	6	Clear.	44

State of Thermometer This Day at the Corners of Market and Third.

9 A. M.....30 deg. 12 M.....32 deg. 3 P. M.....44 deg.

Receipts by Railroad and Steamboat.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL

There was no meeting at the Stock Board either here or in New York to-day, and no quotations reported.

The following is the amount of coal transported over the Schuylkill Canal, during the week ending Thursday, March 25, 1869:

	Tons Cwt.
From Port Carbon	4,031 00
" Pottsville	1,000 00
" Schuylkill Haven	6,246 00
" Port Clinton	337 00
Total	11,613 00
Previously this year	6,851 00
Total	24,124 10
Time since last report	1,119 00

Increase.....10,935 10
Receipts of Spring and Meal for the week ending March 25, 1869:
Flour.....5,579 bbls
do. Rye.....20
do. Corn Meal.....30
do. Cordmeal.....19
Total.....5,648

Philadelphia Produce Market.

TUESDAY, March 26.—There is no essential change to be noted in the market for the last time yesterday's quotations, viz.: $2 75@$10 50 for Clover-seed; $3 50@$3 75 for Timothy; and $2 65 for Flaxseed.

The grain market declined depreciated in the Flour market, but the inquiry is confined exclusively to the wants of the local consumers and the coastwise trade, as the advices from abroad forbid shipments. Sales of 1,000 barrels Penna. and Ohio family at $8 75; barrels changed hands, mostly per barrel, including the 500 barrels Indiana winter wheat, do. do. at $8@8 25; Pennsylvania and Ohio do. do. at $7 50@$8; and fancy do. do. at $9 75 for choice; $10@$12 for fancy brands; $6@6 25 for extra; $5 50@$6 for extra family. Rye Flour sells at $7 25@$8 as in quality. In Corn meal nothing doing.

The Wheat market remains as last quoted, with sales of about 2,000 bushels at $1 53@$1 55; 1,000 bushels Indiana Amber at $1 75, and 2,000 bushels Ohio at $1 48@$1 52. Rye is steady, with sales of 2,100 bushels Western at $1 50@$1 55 for prime, at the market. Corn is firmer, with sales of 2,000 bushels Yellow at $1 06@$1 08, and 1,000 bushels White at $1 05@$1 06, and 2,000 bushels Western Mixed at 85c. Oats are less active, with sales of Western at 72@73c. 3,000 bushels Canada Barley Malt sold at 1 25.

Whisky is quiet, with small sales of tax paid at $2 66@$2 68.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, March 26, 1869.

MARCH 25.—The stock market opened with the approach of the first of April and the activity of the money market, and most of the best collaterals were made to general at seven per cent in coin, but commissions were paid in addition by weak houses, or where the security was of an inferior character. The general of difficulty was experienced in some localities in making accounts, and the banks kept quite an hour beyond the usual time to accommodate three of their customers who were behindhand. While the stock market was at this moment when so much money is required in the rural districts, it is evident that the cliques in the stock markets are introducing artificial influences to keep up the feverish feeling produced among speculators. The story of gold sales by the Government is also used to keep up the excitement. If Secretary Boutwell has not fallen into the hands of the gold speculators of Washington and Wall street he should refrain from this story until after the passage of the pressing crisis. It is to be desirous of ridding his bodyy of redeeming the gold notes, and that he will use the payment of the coupons on the government bonds, but leave the currency in the interests of the people. Our merchants and manufacturers need all the accommodation the banks can afford them to carry on the whole of spring business. Commercial paper is duller, as to the number of transactions, but firmer as to rates, which range from ten to twelve per cent. for prime double names.

To-morrow being Good Friday the two boards of brokers, the Stock Exchange and Long Room have adjourned over to Saturday, to which time transactions were made in gold to-day. The day is not a legal holiday, and therefore the banks will remain open as usual.

Gold was extremely dull to-day, and fluctuated but little, the question being whether the 25th would be the culminating point, or the 31st, with the bulk of transactions at the intermediate figure. The darling of the speculators, Erie, was weak yesterday despite the "corner" prolonged the "squeeze" over to this morning, when it opened at 4-3 and sold at 1 3-8 and 1 1-4. At this point the resolution of the "public" gave way, especially as it was noised that the government had put a million dollars in the market to buy exchange, and to pay the foreign diplomatic corps, and the loaning rate dropped to 5 per cent, and Erie fell to 1 1-8 at the Stock Clearing House. All loans as above were made for Saturday. The Erie "corner" continued for eight per cent. were paid for carrying. Foreign exchange was steady on the basis of 108@108¼ for the various grades of bankers' sterling, sixty days, and 109@109¼ for sixty days on Paris, and 108@108¾.

The Sumter steamer Herman to-day took out $10,000 in treasure and the Havana steamer Columbia, $1,000,000, in specie, and the Bagdad, Liverpool, $1,000,000, which arrived yesterday in the Westphalia on the way to pay the Spanish mail in Cuba.

Governments were, illogically, strong. The activity of the demand for bonds on the part of London ought to have caused a depression in prices, but they advanced, despite the fact, a full one-half per cent. for the 62s and a smaller fraction for the 65s and 67s. The 10s were nearly the result of an attempt to "cover" previous operations made in the 10s, 62s, 65s and the other issues at two and three per cent.

Freights were firmer for the World at large.

MARCH 25.—The stringency in the money market continues to be felt, and all good commercial paper was made at 7 per cent. gold, and commissions were made besides; and the demand for currency was so great that the Government sent to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, and other cities up and postponed until next Thursday.

On motion of Mr. Mullin, the House bill to print the history of Pennsylvania volunteers was considered. The bill provides for the printing of a sufficient number of copies to allow one copy to each member, one volume being now ready. Two additional volumes were to be prepared and presented to the Legislature before 1870.

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THIRD EDITION.

2:15 O'Clock.

LATER FROM WASHINGTON

THE PACIFIC RAILROADS

The Junction of the Central and Union

Junctions and Injunctions.

(Special Despatch to the Pullads. Evening Bulletin.)

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The Senate Committee on Pacific Railroads at their meeting this morning, discussed the subject of the junction at Ogden, but final action was deferred. The Union Pacific got the better of Fisk in the Committee to-day. A resolution was agreed upon and reported to the Senate, nullifying the action of the New York Courts, and allowing the Company to hold the earnings anywhere.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Rear-Admiral Craven, in a communication just received by the Navy Department, dated the 5th instant, reports the movements of the North Pacific Squadron. The Sagadoje Pensacola, Capt. Preble, was off San Francisco; the Wateree, Commander Selfridge, was at Panama, under orders to sail April 1st for San Francisco, Commander Lewis, arrived at Acapulco on the 15th of February, from Panama, and was ordered to Panama; the Cyane, Commander Walters, had been ordered to Panama from San Francisco; she is to be put out of commission. The Jamestown, Commander Truxtun, left San Francisco February 16, on a cruise southward, to make certain observations on the way, Cobia at Acapulco reports as the interests of the government required, will remain there. The Mohican, Commander Thompson, left San Francisco. Her officers and crew were to be transferred to the Mohican. The Saginaw, Commander Meade, was at Sitka, and will return to San Francisco to be laid up. The Ossipee's squadron is good.

Despatches from Rear Admiral Hoff, of the North Atlantic squadron, to March 17, have been received. Everything was quiet in the squadron. Admiral Hoff expected to sail that evening in the Contoocook, on a tour of inspection to the Windward Islands, Venezuela, Santiago de Cuba, etc. In the event of any difficulties he was instructed to return to Havana. The Narragansett, Commander Pillsbrown, left Havana on the 6th ultimo, for a cruise to Cuba, to take the place of the Penobscot. The Penobscot was ordered to Havana, sailed on the 1st inst. The Tallapoosa, Commander Selfridge, will be relieved late in March, at Aspinwall, by the Kansas, Commander Summerlin, and will proceed to Cuba, to take the place of the Penobscot. The Kansas will then return to Aspinwall, and sail late in May. A vessel is kept constantly at Aspinwall, for the protection of American interests on the Isthmus, and vessels of the squadron relieve each other every two months. The Kansas will be ordered to the appointment office of the Treasury is so great that an order was issued to-day, requiring applicants for office until after each day's mail is read.

Judge Fisher, of the Supreme Court of this district, accompanying a delegation from Delaware, to-day called upon President Grant.

There were not so many visitors as usual at the Executive mansion to-day. Prior to the Cabinet meeting, Judge Swayne, of the Supreme Court of Alabama, Hon. Mr. Allison, of Iowa, Senator Sylvanus, Senators Morton, Yates and Cameron, and General Logan, had interviews.

By direction of the President the commanding officer at the Navy Yard at Brooklyn and of the Military Academy will at once reduce the number of men, and hasten the departure of those on furlough, as designated below, and grant discharges to all men whose services are no longer needed: Navy Yard, Allegheny Arsenal, 50 men; Watervliet Arsenal, 50 men; Washington Arsenal, 50 men; Frankford Arsenal, 50 men; St. Louis Arsenal, 40 men; Frankford Arsenal, 50 men; Rock Island Arsenal, 50 men; Watervliet Arsenal, 100 men; Leavenworth Arsenal, 35 men; Benicia Arsenal, 35 men; Charleston, 30 men; Indianapolis Arsenal, 25 men; Augusta Arsenal, 25 men; Vancouver Arsenal, 15 men; Fort Monroe, 50 men; Fort Vernon Arsenal, 15, and Fort Union, 15. West Point Military Academy, 10 men; Pikesville, 5 men, and Champlain, 5 men.

CITY BULLETIN

THE GIRARD HALL TRAGEDY.

The Coroner's Inquest.

Coroner Dallas, this morning commenced an investigation into the death of Joseph W. Smith, in Girard Hall, on Wednesday afternoon last. Mayor Fox, District-Attorney Sheppard and his assistant, W. H. Rogers, were present.

Geo. W. Megargee testified—Live 604 Moyamensing avenue; keep a grocery stock; was Wednesday evening, myself and wife and John Snyder came over to Sixth street and Girard avenue; as we were crossing the street saw that there was no light in Girard Hall. Mrs. Jones came out and asked what the matter was; she said that probably Smith was up-stairs and had a fit; myself and wife, Mrs. Jones, Dr. Jennings and wife, Peter Germon and John Snyder went up-stairs. Some noise was heard in the little room and we saw that Smith's trunk was open and the lid was thrown back; the door was a board torn up out of the floor just inside the door; the door was stopped into the hole. I said that I thought that there was something wrong and we had better go light; Mrs. Jones and Germon got a light from the drug store; they lit the light; I went first, the young man Hamilton, from the drug store, brought candle, and we walked into the big room. Mrs. Jones said, "there he lies in a fit;" think Hamilton was in first with the light; I raised up the corner, a red counterpane which he was covered with; when I first saw the cover was over his head and around under him; he was all covered except his left hand, which was sticking out; I raised up the cover and face until he was uncovered; the counterpane was brought over from the back towards the window, and was tucked under the body in front; he was lying upon his face or chest in the northwest corner of the room, and the chest was under the window and against the south wall; I think that he was also lying on the coverlid and then it was drawn over him from behind; did not notice whether the window was closed; Smith was lying on his left side; think the head was over the end of the chest towards Sixth street; the face was turned outward; the hands were lying down upon the chest with the left hand further out than the right; they were pointing or towards the front; the pistol was lying between the hands; on the coverlid, on the chest; can't say whether the hands were open or closed; it was the back of the left hand that I saw; it was lying in its natural way; the hands were a foot or nine inches apart, and were tied with a cord around each wrist; there was a pool of blood on the right side of the head; there was a handkerchief in his mouth to gag him; I replaced the coverlid and went for an officer; I was going then to a meeting which was to be held on the 5th of last month when I got back the room was crowded; the crowd was cleared out, the room was left in charge of an officer; we went for the detectives Mr. Dallas, I think, was present; the detectives never knew him to have had any difficulty with anyone.

Mrs. Charity Jones testified—Reside No. 820 Lawrence street; Smith came to his dinner at a quarter before 12 o'clock on Wednesday, cheerful and lively as he always was; he remained until a quarter before 1 o'clock; I heard him ask for how soon I would have tea; I told him that he could have it in one o'clock he whistled, he had engaged to meet me and others at the hall to go to a meeting of another society; we generally left about a quarter before eight; when he left after dinner he said that he had a heavy cap to make for Thursday night; he made such things, and hops then to literunill six o'clock I did not feel much uneasy, after that I felt worried, and told my husband that I should hurry up to the hall as soon as possible, as I thought he had been taken by one of the gangs which he was subject to; the last fit he had was about four months ago; I felt uneasy about half past seven to go to the hall; when I got to the hall I saw Mr. Megargee, Mr. Jennings and others; they asked where my husband was; I said he had left home at five; he said he had had a fit in the hall; as he had not been home to supper, Mr. Megargee, myself and others went up-stairs without a light; I opened the door of Smith's room; it was just closed and not latched; the window in his room was a large one and had no curtains; by the light which came in we saw that the room was in confusion; I asked Dr. Jennings to see if Smith was on the bed; he stepped towards the bed and got into the hole where the board was taken up; he said that he had not was not on the bed and he could not see him attached; the room—Hamilton lit the gas in the entry at the head of the stairs; he came down; finding the door between the small room and the hall closed, I pushed it; I opened the door was not fastened or latched; I pushed it open, but Hamilton and Megargee walked in first; the chest had to be moved a little beyond the door; it belongs to the Knights of Pythias, it is a large chest; we found Smith lying on the chest wrapped in the quilt; I could see nothing but his left hand; his head was covered and the whole of his body except the left hand; Mr. Megargee pulled the cover from under his head; the coverlid seemed as if it had been pushed under; I then saw the handkerchief or cloth over his mouth, and a thin red silk scarf around his neck; I first thought that it was blood; it was drawn around the neck, and being there looked like a rope of blood; the gag had not been lighted; the handkerchief was white and had a corner in it; I can't say whether his handkerchief had belonged to Smith; his hands and feet were tied; he was lying on his left side, his knees drawn up off at the end of the chest; the face was turned towards the front; there was carpet on the floor of the little room; the carpet was ripped up, and was lifted out of the door; a large leather trunk was wide open, and the trays taken out; the contents were scattered about the room; some were on the floor; a chair was upset about the middle of the room; the trunk stood near the door leading into the little room; the chair was between the door and the opposite wall; his overcoat was on a hook in the entry outside; hooks on the door had been thrown there; there were blind shutters on the window; next to the chest was a table, which he kept, and they were all closed; the officers were sent for and we were ordered to leave; he was about 5 o'clock in the afternoon; I had breakfast, a little before 12 for his dinner and supper; I had a call; our store is under the hall; I got up; I thought he had fallen; he was a noble-hearted young man, and took his money, for he went into very little company; he spent it; he told me he had gone five weeks ago that he wanted to be married; he had had loaned some to a friend, and when he got it back about the first of April he would be married together; I saw him have at one time two $20 bills, two $5 and one $10 bill; he was in the receipt of a salary; that was the largest amount I ever saw him have; he told me that he had for months spoke that he had kept money in the hall in a box secured; but that it was not in the same place at that time; he said he thought that the hall would not burn down; he didn't say that he was afraid of the hall; he had the money; several weeks ago I spoke to Smith about the gas; he said that he had spoken to the gas on interest, and he said that if he had known it before he could have lent the money, he had had already promised it; Smith was talking about a mortgage on property; he said that he had more than he ever had, and he had more money than he wanted to use; he was President of a society which meets in Franklin street and Girard avenue, and asked me to take the small change, the result of the collection, and allow him to keep the money for the Society; on Wednesday in conversation he said that he had been in the Director of Public Works office which he got for his dresses were from $1 25 to $2 50; about a year ago he told me that he had a premonition that he should be murdered in that hall; I told him that he might be, and he replied "the enough I may;" in the winter he generally carried a pistol when he went to the hall; he brought it with him; I always saw he came to supper; he always had it in his overcoat pocket; it was a six-barrelled revolver; he said that he would not like to kill anybody, but if he was attacked he would; I saw it in the hall and could get no satisfaction about it; he always had it with him; the hall yesterday say that Smith had been shot at; he was in the habit of wearing a gold watch and watch; but I don't think that he has been carrying it for two or three weeks, as the watch was broken; he never said to me that he was afraid that he would be murdered for his money; he never saw Smith with a pistol before this winter; he has lived with me two years.

Dr. Robert Jennings, residing at No. 203 Richmond street, corroborated the testimony of the preceding witness.

John Genin testified—My place of business is No. 509 Girard avenue; about 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning, Smith came in front of the store and I asked him where he was going; he said up to the hall; so we started up Girard avenue to the hall; I went home; I left him there an hour, then went away and came back and said until nearly 12 o'clock, when we first went there a gentleman was waiting for him; he gave him a card which was in the blind in the hall and paid fifty cents for it; I left Smith there about half past 12 o'clock; I heard shoot; I became alarmed and went back; I heard the gas and another man who inquired where Smith was; I said half-past eleven; I left the hall about half-eight o'clock, while I was at the store; Smith told me that he had paper on a lamp-black thrown in his face, as he was coming down the steps of the hall; does not know if he ever having had any difficulty with anybody; when I was with him that morning he asked me whether I thought a man could be murdered in a public place; I thought not, and he said then it is all right; he did not say anything about a premonition; when I left Smith had fixed all his dresses in the trunk and chest in the room; the bed had not been made; the colored counterpane was on the bed; a rope was strung across the room; Smith's overcoat was hanging on a hook in front of the door; he showed me a pistol which he had seen; it was a long pistol; the carpet on the floor was all right.

Geo. Hamilton, clerk in Shoemaker's drug store, Sixth and Girard avenue, testified—About four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon I heard a pistol shot, and in three seconds afterwards I heard a fall; our store is under the hall; I did not get appeared to be in the hall above at the end of the room; Smith was always very curious and as often said to me: "I expect somebody will be in here according to the road; or about six or eight months ago he told me that he found a