The Press.

VOL. I.—NO. 130. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1858. TWO CENTS.

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PUBLISHED DAILY, (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY.
OFFICE, NO. 417 CHESTNUT STREET.

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Notices.

INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21, 1857.
The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders will be held at the Company's Office, No. 4 EXCHANGE, on TUESDAY, January 5th, 1858, at 12 o'clock noon; and an Election for Thirteen Directors will be held at same place on MONDAY, January 11, 1858, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 1 o'clock P. M.
de25-tja11 WILLIAM HARPER, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE NORTH PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY.
The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of "THE NORTH PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY," will be held at the office of the Company, No. 123 WALNUT, above Fourth street, Philadelphia, on MONDAY, January 11, 1858, at 11 o'clock A. M., at which time and place an Election will be held for a President and Ten Directors, to serve for the ensuing year.
de25-dtja11 EDWARD ARMSTRONG, Secretary.

NOTICE.—Office of the Westmoreland Coal Company, Philadelphia, December 19th 1857.
The annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at their office, No. 230 South THIRD Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 6th of January, 1858, at 12 o'clock, at which time an Election will be held for Eleven Directors, and a Secretary and Treasurer, to serve for the ensuing year F. H. JACKSON,
de21-tija Secretary.

NOTICE.—Office of the Beaver Meadow Railroad Company.
PHILADELPHIA, December 14, 1857.
The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Beaver Meadow Railroad and Coal Company will be held at their office, No. 322 WALNUT Street, on MONDAY, the 18th of January next, at 12 o'clock, at which time an election will be held for President and ten Directors for the ensuing year.
de16-dtja18 L. CHAMBERLAIN, Sec. and Treas.

OFFICE OF THE LOCUST MOUNTAIN COAL AND IRON CO.—PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16, 1857.—The annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at their office, No. 88 S. FOURTH Street, on MONDAY, the 18th January, at 11 o'clock A. M., at which time there will be an election of Directors to serve for the ensuing year.
de29-dtja18 WM. C. LUDWIG, Secretary.

ELECTION—PENN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.
An election for Nine Trustees, to serve for three years, will be held at the Office of the Company, on MONDAY, January 4, 1858. Polls open at 10 and close at 12 A. M.
PHILADELPHIA, December 21, 1857.
de23 28,30&ja2 JOHN W. HORNOR, Sec.

OFFICE OF THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA—PHILADELPHIA, December 3 st, 1857.—The annual meeting of the stockholders will be held at the office of the Company, No. 232 WALNUT Street, on MONDAY, January 11th, 1858, at 12 o'clock M., and on TUESDAY, the day following, January 12th, 1858, an Election will be held for Directors, to serve the ensuing year.
ja1-dtja12 HENRY D. SHERRERD, Secretary.

DIVIDEND—NEW ORLEANS GAS LIGHT COMPANY.—FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' BANK, Philadelphia, December 31, 1857.—The Directors of the New Orleans Gas Light Company have declared a semi-annual Dividend of FIVE PER CENT. payable at this Bank, to the Philadelphia Stockholders, after the first day of January next.
ja1-1w C. M. LEWIS, Cashier.

THE INTEREST DUE JANUARY 1, 1858, on the Mortgage Bonds of the ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY, (held in Philadelphia) will be paid on presentation of the Coupons at the office of E. S. WHELEN & CO., No. 309 WALNUT Street. JAMES GIBSON, Treasurer.
PITTSBURGH, Dec. 24, 1857. de28-tja2

Publications.

PHYSICIANS' POCKET DAY-BOOK FOR 1858.—Just published and for sale by C. J. PRICE & CO., No. 33 South SIXTH Street, above Chestnut.
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The Press.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1858.

RATIONALE OF COMMERCIAL TROUBLES.

It is evident that the commercial and financial difficulties of Europe, and more particularly of Great Britain, have not yet terminated. Every mail brings tidings of suspensions and bankruptcies, of the downfall of traders and merchants who had previously been considered not only solvent, but prosperous. Nor is this gloomy condition of affairs limited to one locality, or one branch of trade. Produce-merchants, money-brokers, and great exporting and importing houses of London and Liverpool, are suffering equally with the cotton spinners of Lancashire—the metal workers of Birmingham—the woollen cloth manufacturers of Yorkshire and Somersetshire—the shawl and muslin makers of Paisley and Glasgow—the cutlers of Sheffield—the shippers of Hull and Bristol—the linen workers of Dundee, and the chinamakers of the Staffordshire Potteries.

The Banks have suffered severely. Two joint-stock concerns of this nature have positively failed—the Borough Bank of Liverpool, and the Western Bank of Scotland. Others have suspended, but will resume business, viz.: City of Glasgow Bank, the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Banking Company. Mr. PEABODY, the London banker, had to be backed up by the Bank of England, as was the case with WILLIAM and JAMES BROWN, of Liverpool, in 1837. The great discounting house of OVEREND, GURNEY, & Co., London, had to obtain similar aid. The well-established discounting firm of SANDERSON, SANDEMAN, & Co., of London, had to give way; their liabilities are estimated at $16,250,000. In fact, there has been general ruin, and let men talk as they please of "the recuperative force" of English trade, a long time must pass before confidence and prosperity are restored.

The causes of this revulsion are obvious and can be briefly stated. It has been the fault of commercial people, every where, to have an impatience of the old manner, slow and sure, in which money was made. Speculation has been universally entered into, and, in the absence of Cash, recourse was had to Credit. When, by so easy a process as signing his name to a few slips of paper, a man could raise twenty times as much money as he was actually worth, and when there also was the chance of profitably employing this fictitious capital, (fictitious, as regards the means of repaying it,) it is no wonder that people rushed into all sorts of experiments as regarded money-making. Many of these succeeded, for boldness and sagacity may have been united in the transaction, but more failed. Nobody thought much about the failures, but looked, sanguinely and admiringly, at the successes, and laid themselves out for imitating the fortunate speculators, as far as they could. Hence came an extension of the manufacturing industry of England,—hence as much cotton, wool, and iron was wrought up in one year as was sufficient to supply the consumption of three. There is now in the ware rooms of Manchester and its surrounding towns more manufactured cotton, than, on the usual demand, can be consumed in three years. The same applies to the different staples of other districts.

The result is a cessation of work in many places, a limitation of it, by "short time," in others. Those who have labored in the factories, forming a vast proportion of the industrial population of the whole country, are either doing half work, on half wages, or not working at all. These people are proverbially improvident. When fully employed, they spend every sixpence that they earn, and never think of laying up for a rainy day. They are now in sore distress, and God's good providence, which has made food cheap and plentiful at this time, alone keeps them from getting to starvation point. Once they reach that, they will probably disregard all law except the law of necessity, and open plunder may become the order of the day. We have not ventured upon gloomy prophecies as to the future of England, but we do see the small dark cloud on her horizon, and are confident that a hard winter, with a continuance of pecuniary distress, may probably drive the workers of the cotton district into open insurrection for bread.

Lancashire alone contains a population of over 2,000,000. It is the great seat of the cotton manufacture, but silks, and woollens, and flax fabrics are also extensively wrought. In the cotton factories alone, (at the census of 1850,) nearly 300,000 persons were employed, and nearly 100,000 more in manufacturing silk, woollen and worsted, engine-works, and in the coal-works. It is easy to see how even 10,000 of these, unemployed and reckless from starvation, might do a great deal of mischief in even a single night.

The manufacturers, particularly those of the Manchester cotton district, went on, foolishly producing goods in excess of all reasonable expectation of consumption. To dispose of them, vast quantities were shipped to all the markets in the world. A large portion was sent away, to be disposed of by commission; another large portion was entrusted, on credit (or bills of no great intrinsic value), to almost any parties who made plausible representations, and declared that they could sell largely, if they had an extensive and valuable stock. It was doing pretty well, if one-half the goods thus sent away were paid for. We doubt whether, during the last two years, as much as half the goods, with which the Manchester people glutted our own markets, were paid for.

Coupled with this was a competition, among the manufacturers, merchants, and traders of England, in social life. These people, bolstered up as they were by speculation and credit, lived expensively, and brought up their families with little regard for money—except to waste it, extravagantly. Much has been lately said of the high living of the Fifth Avenue people of New York. But these, with all their ostentation, were not half as improvident, as extravagant, as the business people of England, who, in their pride of purse, competed with the wealthy nobility of their native land, wholly forgetting, that they did not possess the art of making the wheel of fortune stand still.

Even the sedate people of Scotland, a proverbially careful race, yielded to the temptation, and though they did not ape the reckless extravagance of their English friends, often exceeded them in the extent to which they embarked in business speculations. They were assisted in this by the Banks. The amount of business transacted by these institutions was great. The Western Bank of Scotland, with its head quarters at Glasgow, and one hundred branches all over the country, had a paid-up capital of $7,500,000, and, when it failed, was liable for deposits to the amount of $30,000,000. This money was used, by the Bank, in loans and discounts to mere men of straw, plausible adventurers, business swindlers, who started on credit, and carried on vast enterprises wholly, by means of bills and notes. It is doubtful whether, of this $37,500,000, capital and deposits, as much as a fourth will ever be forthcoming. The shareholders are severally liable, under the British law, to the whole extent of each man's property; but most of these people had invested the whole of their savings in the concern, and are wholly unable to make further disbursements. A few rich shareholders who will have to pay up their whole property, will be ruined by doing so, and, after all, the bank's liabilities will not be provided for.

For some time to come, we are afraid, the commercial intelligence from England will be very gloomy. Perhaps, as regards the great houses, the worst has been encountered. But the smaller houses are successively yielding, and the misfortune is that these are really the most honest and fair, because the least speculating business people in England. They have held out as long as they could, but the pressure has finally been too great, and they have succumbed. More failures of this kind, we apprehend, may be looked for. At the best, it will be some time before business resumes a healthy tone in England. What has occurred, will be well worth even its great cost, if it inculcate the wholesome lesson that Speculation, generally hazardous even with Capital, can lead to but disastrous results, when it is chiefly based upon Credit, and largely drained by Extravagance.

SABBATH READING.

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING THE BIBLE; Or, J. S. M. vs. Graybeard.

The article which appeared in the columns of THE PRESS two weeks ago, entitled, "Will the Winter be Severe?" has elicited the following interrogatory note, dated

NEWVILLE, Dec. 28, 1857.

MR. EDITOR: In your WEEKLY PRESS of the 26th instant, there is a communication under the head, "Will the Winter be severe?" by Graybeard, in which the writer endeavors to answer the question in the negative, and seems to sustain his views on the subject by the use of sundry quotations from the Sacred Volume, among which there is one to be found in the second paragraph of his communication, thus; "Will the great Ruler of the universe favor the needy with a mild winter, and thus again fulfil his promise of '*tempering the wind to the shorn lamb?*'" This quotation is pre-eminently sublime, and my only object in this communication is, respectfully to ask Graybeard in what part of the inspired book I may find the beautiful sentiment written? By answering this question, Mr. Graybeard will confer a particular favor not only to myself, but also to many others. J. S. M.

To be as laconic in answering, as J. S. M. is respectful in inquiring, Graybeard's reply is, IN NO PART. Our critical correspondent's appreciation of a *beautiful sentiment* is commendable; but he gravely, though no doubt sincerely, errs when he accuses the writer of having given, among others, the sentiment referred to *as a Scriptural quotation*. A word will serve to enlighten him upon this point: The quotation was employed to embody the *spirit* of God's oft-repeated promises to His needy and dependent children, and *not as being* the literal words of Jehovah, as they are presented to us in any arbitrary translation.

The figure employed in this extract is as expressive as language *could be to convey to the* mind this beneficent attribute of Deity, and having the double merit of brevity and adaptedness, it was used as a substitute for a multitude of *literal* Scripture passages, the *spirit of which it so* completely embodies, but of which passages I will here insert a few specimens for the benefit of readers in general and J. S. M. in particular.

In the prophecies of Isaiah, xl., 11, the promised Messiah is spoken of in language as follows: "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

In multitudes of passages throughout the old and new Testaments, Christ is represented under the figure of a shepherd, and his followers as a flock entrusted to his care and protection. Flocks, when shorn of their natural vesture, and exposed to the chilling winds, occupy in one sense a position very similar to the human being who, without any intended improvidence on his own part, is divested of his means of support, many instances of which have occurred in our midst within the past few months.

And now, under these circumstances, what other promise do we need to *literalize* this promise imputed in my former article to the great Ruler of the Universe, *to temper the wind to the shorn lamb?* Have we it not in this?

"*He delivereth the poor in his affliction.*" Job xxxvi, 15.

Not only is this beautiful figure warranted in regard to "tempering the wind," or mitigating suffering, which it implies—but from the Saviour's own words as recorded by St. John, these shorn lambs are to Him dearer than His life. "I am the good Shepherd: the good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep," is the language employed.—John x, 11.

In view of this, are we not justified in imputing to Providence the promise of "*tempering the wind to the shorn lamb?*" although as already stated, Mr. J. S. M. need be at no pains to find the precise *words* in which it is here rendered, *anywhere* "in the inspired book."

Had he given a wider margin to his inquiry, I *should have respectfully referred him* to all and either Sterne, Swift, Pope or Shakspeare! to all and either of whom this quotation has been attributed in divers ways, and at sundry times by men even of *grayer literary reputation than Graybeard's*.

I will do this correspondent the justice, however, of saying, that he betrays a very proper sensibility in being annoyed with the *idea* of misquoting the Bible, and can, *on this account*, readily excuse him for having with inadvertent zeal accused me for having done a thing for which I have really as little relish as he has himself.

There is no doubt but that there exists an inexcusable amount of Biblical ignorance even in quarters and in minds from which we would expect better things, and the man who best succeeds in impressing upon the convictions of the rising and *risen* generations the fact that no man's information, even in a literary sense, can lay any claims to respectability, unless it include as a basis a somewhat intimate acquaintance with the sixty-six books of that God-emanating volume, can never be duly rewarded for his achievement this side of heaven.

There can, of course, be no absolute wrong in ascribing *any true Christian sentiment* to the Gospel; for, even though the *language* may be ignorantly accredited, it still betrays a proper recognition of that great source of truth. But men in high positions in society have so often betrayed such a shameful ignorance of what the Bible really contains, that if from no other motives than to appear to be decently informed, I should think the want of a more general perusal of the Scriptures would be felt. It is no uncommon occurrence for men, in the most public manner, to quote Shakspeare, Pope, or some other celebrated profane author, and ascribe it to the Bible, or else do what is even more ridiculous, quote passages of Scripture as the left-handed lady held her hymn in church—downside up! The quotation employed by Mr. Bell, during his governorship of one of the Southern States, within our own recollection, is a case in point. In the course of one of his annual communications to the people of his State, he referred to a favorable change in the season through which they were then passing, in the following strain:

"Adopting the language of the sacred Scriptures, we may, too, exclaim, 'Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious summer!'"

In the course of newspaper comments which this ludicrous blunder was of course calculated to elicit, a certain editor facetiously remarked, that the said Governor would hardly be suspected of being the "church-going *Bell*."

Numerous other cases might be given to illustrate the importance of reading the Bible; but inasmuch as calling the reader's attention to this fact was my only object, further comment is unnecessary. GRAYBEARD.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

THE DAILY PRAYER MEETING held at the Lecture-room of the Union M. E. Church, Fourth street, below Arch, between the hours of twelve and one, we are glad to learn, are being well attended. The *Union* character of these meetings is a commendable feature; similar meetings are now being held in New York, Brooklyn, and other places. As has been already stated, they will continue for one hour; but they are also designed for those who may find it inconvenient to remain more than *five or ten minutes*, as well as for those who can spare the whole hour. The necessary interruption will be slight, because anticipated; and those who are in haste can often expedite their business engagements, by halting to lift up their hearts and voices to the throne of grace "in humble, grateful prayer."

All are cordially invited to attend.

SABBATH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—Last Sabbath afternoon, the Sunday School in connection with the Logan Square Presbyterian Church, celebrated their anniversary in the presence of a large audience. The addresses to the children by Rev. Mr. Adams, and Mr. H. H. Shillingford, the hymns sung by the school, the presentation of two large and splendid books to the two teachers of the Infant School, by Mr. Thompson, the superintendent, and the distribution of rewards of merit by the pastor, the Rev. Mr. Patton, to some ten or twelve pupils, were all happily appropriate to the time and place, and highly interesting to the large congregation which filled the body of the church.

THE BIBLE QUESTION.—The question of adopting the edition of the Bible issued by the Bible Society as a *correct standard* edition, is in the hands of an able committee. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Managers will occur on Thursday next, the 7th of January—but is is hardly expected that the committee will be prepared to report at that time.—*Christian Observer.*

CHURCH MUSIC.—A writer in the *Presbyterian Quarterly Review*, in speaking of this subject, says that, considering the elements of power given in this part of Divine worship, there is a signal failure to make of it what it should be, and continues: "Surely nothing is more exquisite than music! God has chosen for his praise the most beautiful of all methods of expression. It is finer than the medium of the artist, though he make the canvas almost speak; finer than the purest Pentelican marble, though wrought by Phidias; finer than Greek Parthenon, or Gothic Cologne, though the one seemed glorious enough to bring the gods to earth, and the other to raise men aspiring, flame-like, to heaven; finer even than the living voice of the orator in his most impassioned moods."

THE WEST.—Revival influences are cheering the West. The plants of grace flourish and bloom on the prairies as well as in less fruitful New England. The Christian *Times* (Chicago) of last week in its news from the churches, makes record of quite a number of religious quickenings, and quite a number added to the churches of Illinois. In Burlington, Iowa, twenty-seven converts have been baptized recently.

NAPOLEON III. AND THE POPE.—Some of the priests in Rome, whose political sympathies are with the Legitimist party, having hitherto refused to pray for the Emperor Louis Napoleon, a command from the Pope to include his Majesty in *their prayers has recently been issued*. This fact is thought to be a significant indication of the ascendancy of French influence in Rome.

A GOOD THING.—The Rev. Dr. Cummins, of Trinity Episcopal Church, Washington, D. C., has a *congregational Bible class which numbers some* two hundred, many of those attending and participating being gentlemen of high ability, whose answers and remarks give great interest to the exercises.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Successful Coup d'Etat of President Comonfort—Comonfort Proclaimed Dictator.

[From the New Orleans Picayune, Dec. 25.]

The United States mail steamship Tennessee, Captain Forbes, from Vera Cruze the 21st instant, reached her wharf at an early hour this morning. The purser reports:—

The Tennessee experienced very heavy gales from the N. E., N. and N. W. during the entire passage.

The American three masted schooner H. E. Spearing sailed from Vera Cruz the evening of the 15th for this port.

Left in port the American bark Rapid, Maischalk, master, to sail for New York the 1st prox.

During a heavy gale on the 10th instant, the French ship Paquete de Vera Cruz parted her chains and went ashore. The vessel a total loss. Crew saved.

The Tennessee brings $87,634 74 in specie on freight.

The Tennessee brings most important news. The new Constitution has been overturned and done away with forever; the Federal Councils have been broken up and dispersed; Comonfort declared sole and absolute Dictator, with power to call an extraordinary Congress; the capital is in arms, and other principal cities, including Vera Cruz, have pronounced.

This important event took place on Thursday morning, the 17th inst., and was as sudden as the movement was bold and daring. Everything seems to have been planned by Comonfort, and ex-Governor Baz carried his wishes into execution with a coolness and celerity that only has its parallel in the French *coup d'etat* of the second of December.

The only forewarning, indeed, the Congress and the people had of the contemplated overturn was, with most unexampled hardihood, given by Governor Baz, himself, the day before. That day, personally present in the Chamber of Deputies, he was made the object of very severe criticism, and numerous charges were made against him. So far, however, from deigning to reply to them, he rose in his seat, and, after rebuking the Congress in general terms for their puerile course from the opening of the session, openly and plainly told them that that was the last day they would ever meet in those chambers, for the next day they would be swept away.

None, however, seems to have believed him. But the next morning, at 6 o'clock, the roar of cannon in the heart of the city showed it was no idle threat. Soon after the brigade "Zuloaga," one of the most trusted corps, conveniently stationed at Tacubaya, came marching in and took possession of the citadel Garita and other strongholds, amid salvos of artillery which proclaimed that a new order of things had begun.

No resistance whatever seems to have been made; indeed, there was no time for action on the part of the opposition. On the contrary, the bells of the city rung out, rockets were sent up, and everything evinced the joy of the people. The tumult, however, having somewhat subsided, the following plan or proclamation made its appearance.

PROCLAMATION.

Considering, That the majority of the people have not been satisfied with the fundamental constitution (Carta), which was given by their leaders, because it has not proved sufficient to preserve progress with order and liberty; and furthermore, on account of the obscurity of many of its provisions it has become the source of civil war.

Considering, That the republic requires institutions analogous to its manners and customs, for the development of its elements of riches and prosperity—the true fountain of public peace—and the aggrandisement and respectability to which it is entitled both at home and abroad.

Considering, That the army ought not to sustain what the nation does not wish, but, on the contrary, should be the sustainer and defender of public will, expressed in so many ways; it is hereby declared:

1. That from this date the Constitution of 1857 will cease to be observed throughout the republic.

2. Respecting the unanimous vote of the people, expressed in the free election made by them of his Excellency, President Don Ignacio Comonfort, for supreme magistrate of the Republic, he shall continue in charge of the command, invested with full powers to pacify the nation, to promote the improvement and progress of the same, and to promote the improvement and progress of the same, and to regulate the different branches of the public administration.

3. Three months after the adoption of this plan by the States into which the republic is now divided, the person in charge of the executive power shall convoke an extraordinary Congress without any further object than to form a constitution which may agree with the wishes of the nation, and guarantee the true interests of the people. This constitution, before being promulgated, shall be submitted to the votes of the inhabitants of the republic.

4. After being sanctioned by this vote, it shall be published, and immediately afterwards Congress shall issue the law for the election of the constitutional President of the republic. In case that the said constitution should not be approved by the majority of the inhabitants of the republic, it shall be returned, to be reformed according to the sense of majority.

5. Whilst the construction is being made, his Excellency the President will proceed to name a council, composed of one principal and one substituted member for each one of the States, which shall have the attributes established by a special law.

6. All the authorities that fail to second this plan shall cease in the exercise of their functions.

FELIX ZULOAGA.
General-in-Chief of the Brigade of the Capital and Governor of the district.
TACUBAYA, Dec. 17, 1857.

Soon after appeared the following:

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR

Augustin Alcorrica, General-in-Chief of the Capital and Governor of the District:

Fellow-citizens: Placed by limited and scanty merits at the head of the Government of the important capital of the Republic, and desiring to co-operate in all that which my conscience estimates just, useful, and necessary to the welfare of my country, I have seconded the plan proclaimed at Tacubaya, by the brigade under the command of General Don Felix Zuloaga.

For the capacity I hold I have been able to observe very accurately the great and insuperable difficulties which surround the supreme government, and the total impossibility there is for the Constitution sanctioned in the present year of 1857, to convey to the inhabitants of the Republic the security, peace, and happiness which all men in society desire to possess.

I labor under the conviction that this step, which may be qualified unfavorably by the exigencies of political parties, will be, notwithstanding, well received by all those persons flying from exaggeration, and who love just and true liberty with sincerity and good faith.

The inhabitants of this fine city, who are acquainted with the humane character of Mr. Comonfort, must not entertain any fears of their creed, interests, or liberties being attacked; and for my part, in the orbit of my incumbencies, I offer to dedicate myself strictly to the maintenance of public tranquility, and that efforts should be made day by day for its preservation.

Of no avail will our efforts be if to them are not added those of enlightened and honest persons, let their political opinions be what they may. These are the hopes of your fellow-citizen. AUGUSTIN ALCERRICA.

MEXICO, Dec. 14, 1857.

The arrests do not seem to have been very numerous, but among them were men of distinction: Benito Juarez, President of the Supreme Court; Senor Olivera, President of the Congress, and a few of the leading members of the opposition.

A private note, written on the morning of the 15th, two days after the revolution at the capital, and the latest possible says, "everything goes on well;" by which is doubtless meant that the city was quiet and the dictatorship fully established.

Our advices from Vera Cruz also—the 21st—state that the city was quiet. As to the pronunciamento there and at Puebla, they do not differ materially from those of the capital. It seems to have been a well-concerted movement, and probably was co-extensive with the republic. At Vera Cruz and Puebla, as doubtless at other points, all that was necessary was for the garrison to quietly transfer their allegiance from a Government now no more to a more absolute dictatorship. The new order of things, however, seems to have everywhere been favorably received, especially at Vera Cruz.

The Albany, (N. Y.) *Knickerbocker* has the following: The tragic deaths of Charles W. Litties and Nathan Newhafer, late door-keeper to the Assembly, have brought to mind an incident in which they were both engaged. A week ago Friday, both of these men were opposing counsel in a civil suit. Mr. Newhafer was not a lawyer, but had been hired by a friend of his to manage the suit, to which his friend was a party. Saturday noon Mr. Newhafer accidentally fell off Andrew street bridge, was precipitated into the river and carried over the Falls. About 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, Mr. Littles was in Mr. Storr's office again and remarked to Mr. S. that Newhafer little thought while engaged in the suit, the next day he would be in the old Genesee. He also made some remarks about the uncertainty of life. Before twelve hours from that time the murdered body of Charles Littles was floating in the river. Far from him was the thought then that he would be lifeless in a short time, and that the search for the drowned body of Mr. Newhafer would be the means of bringing to light the fact that he had been brutally murdered.

The accomplished lady of Senator Gwin has ever been justly famed for contributing largely to the happiness and enjoyment of other people, and her latest device eclipses all the rest. She gave the other day a *matinee* for the young acquaintances of her young daughter! All the masters and misses who have the honor of mademoiselle's acquaintance were invited, at noon. Daylight was excluded from the saloons, that the toilettes of "Young America," might appear to advantage.

FURTHER NEWS BY THE STEAMSHIP ARAGO.

The British Parliament adjourned its sittings on the 12th December until the 4th of February next, the royal assent having been previously given to the bank issues indemnity bill.

Lord Panmure read a letter from Sir Colin Campbell in the House of Lords on the day of prorogation, in which he effectually disproved the report that he had been on ill terms with Lord Canning at Calcutta.

Mr. Milner Gibson was elected member for Ashton by a large majority over his opponent.

The quotation of the exchange at New York on London for bills at 60 days' sight is about 109 per cent. for first-class paper. At present rate of discount here there is consequently no profit on the transmission of gold from this country to the United States.

In the Stock Exchange loans on Government securities were obtained at 5 per cent. for short periods, and at 6a7 per cent. till the dividends. At the bank there is still an active demand, but in the open market the choicest bills can be negotiated at 9½a9¾ per cent.

The London money market was buoyant on the evening of the 15th instant, and consols closed at 91¾a91⅞. Cotton was unsettled in the Liverpool market, and experienced a decline of one-fourth of a penny on some descriptions. Trade was exceedingly dull in the manufacturing districts of England. Flour had advanced about sixpence a barrel. Large sums of gold were being brought into the Bank of England; but notwithstanding the favorable reports from the Stock Exchange, some of the oldest firms failed daily, and the heavy financial revulsion which has so nearly overwhelmed the trading communities of Northern Europe continued with unabated pressure. Hamburg still suffered severely, and it was said that a few leading houses still safe, would have to meet calls in that city estimated at $20,000,000 in January next. In France the alarmed financiers were, it was asserted, about to unite, both in means and design, in order to ward off the crisis if possible.

The City of Glasgow bank have obtained the full assistance necessary to enable them to re-open, and will, therefore, not have to apply to the Bank of England. The Western bank have formally notified that they cannot resume business.

Some very heavy failures had been announced in London.

The commercial crisis had become more aggravated at Smyrna, and was increased by the fall in the prices of almost all kinds of commodities.

Trade in the manufacturing districts of England was generally bad.

Positive statements have been circulated to-day of the embarrassment of firms in Yorkshire largely connected with the wool trade, which, if confirmed, will be likely to lead to numerous difficulties among smaller houses.

Letters from Paris state that the stock of bullion in the Bank of France continues to increase, and that all mercantile houses are still restricting their engagements as much as possible. At Lyons the branch of the Bank of France is making advances upon silk at about 50 or 60 per cent. of the market price.

The Danish Council of State had authorized the Minister, Herr Krieger, to bring in a bill for the loan of £300,000 sterling, at 8 per cent. secured on the finances of the whole kingdom.

The Belgian elections had resulted in a large Ministerial majority in favor of the Liberal policy. There were 108 members to be elected; of these, 70 of the new Deputies belong to the Liberal side, and only 28 to the Opposition.

It was rumored at Vienna that news had been received from Constantinople, to the effect that the Porte, acting with the consent of the Powers which signed the Treaty of Paris, had issued a firman for the dissolution of the Divans in the Danubian Principalities, but the statement required confirmation.

In pursuance of an arrangement with the Porte, the French Government has appointed a French Consul at Ibraila, in Wallachia, on the Danube.

A letter from Jerusalem, of the 20th ult., states that great agitation prevailed in that city and the neighborhood. A conflict had taken place between the inhabitants of Bethlehem and those of Tamar, in which one man was killed and several wounded. Caravans of pilgrims were beginning to arrive in the country. Jerusalem is crowded with pilgrims of a new character. A great part of the crew of the American frigate Congress had arrived there to visit the Holy Places, together with a great number of the crews of the three Russian ships-of-war anchored at Jaffa.

The Shah of Persia had ordered Ferukh Khan to leave Paris in January, and travel for two months in other countries of Europe.

From India we have interesting details of the news previously received by telegraph. Generals Havelock and Outram appear to be quite able to maintain themselves at Lucknow until they are finally relieved by the large force now assembled under Sir Colin Campbell.

Letters from Hong Kong state that the British preparations for recommencing the war were nearly completed.

The death of Colonel Thomas Sidney Powell, C. B., who recently succeeded Major General Sir Henry Havelock, K. C. B., in the command of the Fifty-third regiment, is confirmed as having taken place in an action with a body of the Dinapore mutineers near Futtehpore.

TRYING TO LAUNCH THE LEVIATHAN.

[From the London Times, Dec. 16.]

More than a week has elapsed since the last efforts were made to move this vessel. As our readers may remember, the efforts were discontinued in consequence of the great difficulty experienced in obtaining anything like secure hold-fasts for the river moorings. Partly owing to the immense strain, and partly because of the peculiarly dense nature of the river bed, which prevented the anchors penetrating more than a foot or so in depth, it was quite impossible to make any effective use of this river tackle, which, at the present stage of the launch, has become absolutely essential to its further progress. In order, therefore, that a proper hold may be obtained, a regular series of large piles has been driven on the opposite side of the river, one on the wharf of Messrs. Humphry's yard, and the second a little below high water-mark, between the Water-gate Ferry and Deptford Dockyard. Each of these clumps of piling are almost similar in strength and arrangement to the piles which serve as a basis for the hydraulic rams in the yard itself, and like them, too, they have not been resorted to till the eleventh hour, and, in fact, until the failure of all other methods has literally forced their adoption upon their engineers. Both of these were completed early yesterday morning, and the chains and anchors holding back the moorings by which the Leviathan is dragged with a double purchase towards the river were secured among them. There seems not the least doubt now but that these piles will hold their anchors fast enough, but it is by no means clear that the launch will be by any means expedited. Under the previous arrangement, in which ordinary anchors were used to hold the moorings, the chains were always breaking, and coming in foot by foot. What chains will stand, now that the anchors are secured, and cannot yield an inch? It was expected that all the arrangements would be completed yesterday, in time to make another effort to move the vessel early in the morning. Unfortunately, it was impossible to complete the details of the preparations till nearly dark yesterday, when a brief attempt was made, more, as it was asserted, for the purpose of trying the tackle than with any serious intentions of commencing operations at so late an hour. Be this as it may, however, a tremendous pressure and strain was kept up on both fore and aft cradles for about ten minutes without making the smallest impression upon the inert monster, though the force applied eventually became so great as to drive the feed-pipe out of one of the hydraulic rams and snap a river mooring chain of 2½ inches. These mishaps being about equivalent to a day's work, the pressure was then taken off again, leaving the launching apparatus minus the services of the ram and chain. Both these, however, can easily be repaired and ready for work this day, when it is positively asserted that the launching is to recommence for the fourth and last time.

IMPORTANT FROM JAPAN.

Negotiation of a further Treaty between the American Consul-General and the Japanese.

We find the following important letter, and the articles of a new treaty subjoined, in the *Friend of China* of Oct. 31:

UNITED STATES' CONSULATE GENERAL,
SIMODA, Japan, July 6, 1857.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit for your information a copy of a convention that I have made with the Japanese.

It is proper that I should inform you that the relative value of gold and silver are quite different in Japan to what they are in other parts of the world.

In the United States the relative value of gold to silver is as 1 to 16, but it is about 1 to 3.17th, so that although the Japanese give the same weight of their gold coin as the foreign coin they receive, yet owing to the difference of relative values, a loss of ensues of more than 75 per cent. on foreign gold, as compared with silver.

To illustrate the operation of the second article of the Convention, I would state that where Americans have heretofore paid $100 in silver, they will now pay $34.50. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, TOWNSEND HARRIS.

To James Keenan, Esq., United States Consul, Hong Kong.

For the purpose of further regulating the intercourse of American citizens within the empire of Japan, and after due deliberation, Townsend Harris, Consul-General of the United States of America within the empire of Japan, and Inowouye, Prince of Sinano, and Nakamoera, Prince of Dewa, Governors of Simoda, all having full powers from their respective Governments, have agreed on the following articles, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. The port of Nangasaki, in the principality of Hizen, shall be open to American vessels, where they may repair damages, procure water, fuel, provisions, and other necessary articles, even coals, where they are obtainable.

ART. 2. It being known that American ships coming to the ports of Simoda and Hakodade cannot have their *wants supplied by the Japanese*, it is agreed that American citizens may permanently reside at Simoda and Hakodade, and the Government of the United States may appoint a vice-consul to reside at Hakodade.

This article *to go into effect* on the 4th day of July, 1858.

ART. 3. In settlement of accounts the value of the money brought by the Americans shall be ascertained by weighing it with Japanese coin (gold and silver itsobues)—that *is*, gold with gold, and silver with silver; or weights representing Japanese coin may be used after such weights have been carefully examined and found to be correct.

"The value of the money of the Americans having been thus ascertained, the sum of six per cent. shall be allowed to the Japanese for the expense of recoinage.

"ART. 4. Americans committing offences in Japan shall be tried by the American Consul-General or Consul, and shall be punished according to American laws.

"Japanese committing offences against Americans shall be tried by the Japanese authorities, and punished according to Japanese laws.

ART. 5. American ships which may resort to the ports of Simoda, Hakodade, or Nangasaki, for the purpose of obtaining necessary supplies or to repair damages, shall pay for them in gold or silver coin, and if they have no money, goods shall be taken in exchange.

ART. 6. The Government of Japan admits the right of the Consul General of the United States to go beyond the limits of Seven Ri, but has asked him to delay the use of that right, except in cases of emergency, shipwreck, &c., to which he has assented.

ART. 7. Purchases for the Consul General or his family may be made by him only or by some member of his family, and payment made to the seller for the same, without the intervention of any Japanese official, and, for this purpose Japanese silver and copper coin shall be supplied to the Consul General.

ART. 8. As the Consul-General of the United States of America has no knowledge of the Japanese language, nor the Governors of Simoda a knowledge of the English language, it is agreed that the true meaning shall be found in the Dutch version of the articles.

ART. 9. All the foregoing articles to go into effect from the date hereof, except article 2, which shall go into effect on the date indicated in it.

Done in quintuplicate, (each copy being in English, Japanese and Dutch,) at the Goyosso of Simoda, on the 17th day of June, in the year of the Christian era, 1857, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the 81st, corresponding to the fourth year of Ansei, Mi, the fifth month, the 26th day, the English version being signed by the Consul-General of the United States of America, and the Japanese by the Governors of Simoda. TOWNSEND HARRIS.

The Hong Kong correspondent of the London *News*, writing on October 30, says:

"The news from the north consists of many details, each of them of comparatively little importance when taken individually, but in the aggregate very significant. The heads of the intelligence are the progress of the insurrection, the distress of the Government, disturbances in different provinces, the Russian embassy and their supposed overtures, and the Japanese. I think we may as well dispose of these latter folks first, and indeed a most surprising rumor is prevalent about them; no less than that the Russian ambassador to China, Count Pontiatine, on his return to Shanghae from his Japan trip, has confirmed the report that was gaining ground that the Japanese *contemplate opening* their country to the commerce of all nations. Wonderful, if true! We have been accustomed to consider the Chinese the most exclusive and bigoted of the human race, always excepting the Japanese, *and it is hard to understand how*, in the space of a few years, and under the influence of such very able and satisfactory (?) treaties as ours and the American negotiators have concluded with them, the Japanese have taken such a bold and wise step in the onward course. However, let us hope it is true. Perhaps their more northern temperament may contribute to make their heads wiser than their neighbors; and if it is true they will become a nation instead of being what the Chinese are—a people.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON MARKETS, Tuesday, Dec. 15.—SUGAR—The market has been dull, and a decline of 1s was *submitted to in order to effect sales* in the middling and low qualities. 680 hhds of West India have been sold, including a portion of the public sales of Barbadoes, from 38s 6da44s 6d, and Granada from 34s 6da37s; 450 bags of low to good middling yellow Mauritius sold from 36sa38s 6d; 1,000 bags of Bengal were also offered in public sale, and all sold at 1s decline; middling to light yellow, 38s 6d a39s 6d; low brown date, 20s 6da27s. Three cargoes Havana sold the last two days, Nos. 11. 11½, at 21sa24s 6d; and a cargo of 3,500 bags brown Pernam at 21s 6d, which were low prices. The refined market dull; lump, 56a59s.

COFFEE—450 bags Costa Rica found buyers in public sale at lower prices—53s 6da55s 6d; 15 casks plantation Ceylon sold at former prices.

TEA—This article has been in fair demand at yesterday's prices. About 1,000 chests common Congou sold at 12d. usual terms.

RICE—This article continues dull of sale at the late decline.

RUM—Prices are unaltered.

SALTPETRE—780 bags were offered by auction, and half sold at lower prices. Refraction 7½ to 8½, 36s; refraction 7, 37s; and refraction 5½, 38s 6d.

COTTON continues out of demand.

IRON—Scotch Pig, 51s 6d.

OIL—Linseed quoted 28s.

TURPENTINE, 30s and 31s.

TALLOW, 52s 6d on the spot and to March, and 53s 6d for March.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.—TUESDAY, Dec. 15, 1857.—COTTON.—The market closed very heavily, and prices of all kinds are ⅛da¼d per lb. lower, *except in very low Americans*, (3/16da¼d per lb.) which are steady. The sales only reach 2,000 bales, and all to the trade, and include 30 Pernam and Maranham, at 7¼d; 10 Bahia, at 6d; 10 Egyptian at 9d; and 300 Egyptian at 3⅛da5d per lb. Import, since Thursday, 50,000 bales.

Wheat met with a good consumptive demand, and a considerable business resulted, at an advance of 3d per 70 lbs. on prices of this day week. Flour was more inquired for, and may be quoted about 6d per bbl. and sack dearer. Oats were without change in value or demand, but Oatmeal brought 6d per load more money. Barley, Beans and Peas met with buyers to a fair extent, but at 2d per 60 lbs. and 6d per quarter decline since Tuesday last.

Indian Corn was rather more inquired for, and slightly dearer than on Friday last, although still 6d per quarter lower than on this day week, prime yellow and mixed American being obtainable at 3s 6d a 34s, and prime Galatz and Odessa at 33s 6d per quarter.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

[Special Correspondence of The Press.]

CARACAS, Dec. 15, 1857.

I avail myself of the departure of the bark "Joseph Maxwell," for your port, to inform you that for the last two weeks the Administration have been very much alarmed, under the impression that General Paez, now residing in New York, was organizing an expedition against Venezuela, and would be ready to sail immediately.

Fortunately, persons who have arrived from the United States within the last week and who take a deep interest in the welfare of this country, have been able to persuade General Monegas and his ministers, that it is utterly ridiculous even to imagine that General Paez ever dreams of being able to realize such an enterprise on his own account, or to obtain the necessary means, from the parties in that country, especially now that money is so scarce and the panic not quite over. Moreover, it is well known here that President Buchanan and his officers would prevent an attack of such a character on a country that is at peace and on friendly terms with the United States. It is, indeed, a pity that General Monagas should so easily believe such rumors, that are got up by persons in New York, now holding official capacities from this Government there, and who have no hopes of continuing in their position but by alarming the Government and the country generally, with the inevitable consequence of unnecessary precautions and total want of confidence in all mercantile transactions. Otherwise the country is perfectly quiet, and the people tired and convinced that the revolutions are the sole cause of the prostration of these South American Republics.

The Hon Charles Eames, immediately after his arrival here, undertook to have the Sheldon Aves question settled at once, according to his instructions, and General Monagas and his Cabinet deemed it advisable to send without delay a special minister to Washington to adjust the claim; consequently on the 5th inst., he left by the packet, and ought to be in the United States by the 28th. The special commissioner, Dr Briceno is a lawyer, and the editor of the *Diario de Avisos*, who has discussed the matter for some time in his paper. I have not been able to ascertain the character of his instructions, but it is the desire of the Government to have the question amicably settled, and no doubt such will be the case; in the meantime, Mr. Eames, notwithstanding his earnest and able efforts in this and other disputed cases, stands as high as ever in the estimation of the Government and people, and of General Monogas personally.

On the 20th inst, there is to be a great jubilation at Puerto Cabello, in consequence of the laying of the first track of the Central Railroad in Venezuela, that will be carried on to conclusion as early as possible, to the great improvement of the country, and reduction of prices on the products of some of the western States.

The telegraph line between Caracas, Laguayra Puerto Cabello, is now in operation as far as La Victoria, and in the course of three or four months will be entirely finished.

The new crop of coffee begins to come in, and is, by far, much larger than we have had for many years previous. *Hides are down to* 11c. a pound, Venezuela currency, in consequence of the stock on hand in the United States.

General Monagas and his administration are endeavoring, by all available means, to encourage new enterprises *in the country that they wish to see* prosperous, and be on friendly relations with foreign powers; and it is to be hoped that the present Chief of the Executive may long live, as he guarantees peace and a happy future to this country, which nature has provided with abundant elements to be one of the most flourishing nations in the world. VERITAS.

The only daughter of Captain S. Rulen, of Patchogue, Long Island, an interesting girl, fifteen years of age, was burnt to death on Monday of last week under peculiarly-distressing circumstances. It seems that she got to the school house *on that morning* earlier than usual, and before any of the other scholars or her teacher had arrived, and climbed in at the window. She lit a fire as an act of kindness to her teacher, and in making it her clothes caught fire. Mr. W. Horton, who happened to be passing at the time, heard her screams, and hastened to her assistance. He succeeded in putting out the fire, by wrapping the young girl in his overcoat, who was then almost insensible. The assistance, however, proved to be too late. All efforts to save her life were unavailing, and she died soon after.

We have news from Hayti, dated Port-au-Prince, on the 10th of December. The New York *Herald* correspondent says: Coffee is coming in freely, and the stock on hand amounts to 23,000 bags, besides some 4,000 bags in the government stores. It remains firm at $9 per 100 pounds. Logwood is plenty at former quotations. Provisions are active. The doubloon is now worth $230 Haytien money, and is expected to rise. The money crisis in Europe has effected our trade seriously. Several bills have come back protested. Captain Mayo takes passage in the United States sloop-of-war Cyane for Norfolk, and will return home by way of Washington, when he will lay the case of his imprisonment before the Secretary of State.

Nathaniel E. Stanton, who left Providence, R. I., nearly two years ago, on board the Mary E. Smith, for New Orleans, by the way of Montevideo, is now, with several others who took passage with him, serving out a life sentence in a Brazilian penitentiary—the vessel having turned out to be a slaver. Mr. Stanton and others having been compelled to assist in taking a cargo of slaves from the coast of Africa, and having been seized, with the vessel, by a Brazilian man-of-war, the United States consul has interested himself for the release of Mr. Stanton and the other passengers.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents for "THE PRESS" will please bear in mind the following rules:

Every communication must be accompanied by the name of the writer. In order to insure correctness of the typography, but one side of a sheet should be written upon.

We shall be greatly obliged to gentlemen in Pennsylvania and other States for contributions giving the current news of the day in their particular localities, the resources of the surrounding country, the increase of population, and any information that will be interesting to the general reader.

GENERAL NEWS.

Among the arrivals by the Isabel on Monday morning, says the Charleston *Courier*, of the 30th ult., was Dr. Mariano De Briceno, editor and proprietor of the Caracas *Diario de Avisos*, who is *now on his way to Washington* as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to our Government from the Republic of Venezula, his diplomatic mission especially relating to the pending question in regard to the Island of Aves, better known as the Birds Island. The leading points of this question may not be without interest to our readers. Birds Island—West of Gaudalupe—together with other islands along the coast is subject to the government of Venezuela. It is a rocky, uninhabitable island, valuable only for its deposits of guano. In December, 1854, the Venezuelan Government granted to Mr. Wallace, by contract, the exclusive right to export guano from this and all the other guano islands under the control of the republic. In June, 1855, the island was visited without authority by several vessels from the United States, in search of guano, and in particular, two firms in the city of Boston fitted out an expedition for the exportation of the article. A schooner of war was therefore sent from Venezuela, and the parties representing the Boston firms left the ground peaceably and under a written agreement. Subsequently, Mr. Wallace made over his contract to a firm in Philadelphia, who, as the Government of Venezuela avers, failed to meet its conditions. They were sustained in their claim, however, by the representative of the United States at Caraccas. In the meantime the Boston firms have entered a claim for damages, it is said, to a very considerable amount, on the ground they had lawfully occupied the island and were forcibly expelled therefrom. It is to adjust these difficulties that Dr. Briceno is sent to our Government. We understand that he left the city last evening for Washington.

The Constitution of Pennsylvania, says the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, provides that the General Assembly shall meet on the first Tuesday of January, and that the Governor shall hold his office for three years, commencing on the third Tuesday of January, on which day his inauguration takes place. In the case of Gov. Packer, this will fall on Tuesday, the 19th of January. The following companies have officially reported themselves to Gen. Williams as intending to be present at the inauguration of Gen. Packer: Pennsylvania Dragoons, Capt. Charles T. Jones, and Black Hussars, Capt. Beckert, of Philadelphia; Quitman Guards, Churchtown; Newport (Perry county) Artillery; Logan Rifles, Altoona; Woodward Guards, Williamsport. Add to these seven companies from Dauphin county, ordered here on that day, and we have thirteen companies that will certainly be here; and information has been received that gives an assurance of at least six or seven companies more. The Lebanon Rifles, the Reading Rifles, and the Ringgold Artillery, of the same place—all fine companies, the former being able to muster 120 men and the latter over 200—are confidently expected; and will no doubt be there.

We learn from the Cumberland (Md.) *Telegraph*, that the astounding result of the investigation of the books of the Mineral Bank by the Trustees, Messrs John Beall and George A. Pearre, shows the misapplication of one hundred and twenty-two thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars, (funds belonging to the bank,) by its late President, Joseph H. Tucker, who has "vamoshed the ranche." An affidavit covering these charges, has been sworn to, and an attachment issued thereupon against the personal effects of Mr. Tucker. He is alleged to have drawn out the money on fifteen several bills of exchange, which have since mysteriously disappeared. Other indebtedness, swelling the aggregate to $150,000, has also been proved against him; so, but for this defalcation the bank would have been fully able to pay every dollar it owed and had a handsome surplus in its coffers.

One of our clergymen, on Sunday last, says the Portland *Advertiser*, preached a sermon of unusual interest and ability, and, at the same time, of unusual length, detaining his congregation for a half an hour beyond the accustomed time. That the thoughts of all his hearers were not fixed on heavenly things during the last thirty minutes, may be inferred from the remark of a lady listener, as she passed out of the church: "Well, I guess my turkey is spoilt by this time!"

The Queen's children are rapidly growing up. The Princess Royal, who is about to be married, is now aged 17; the Prince of Wales is 16; the Princess Alice, whose hand is to be demanded in marriage by the Prince of Orange, is 14; and the Prince Alfred, whose "residence at Alverbank" his mamma graciously visited, is 13. Besides these four eldest the family includes Helena, 11; Louisa, 9; Arthur, 7, and Leopold, 4.

Bishop Simpson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who was the delegate to the Wesleyan Conference held in England in August last, is now travelling in the East, and at the last accounts he was ill at Beyrout, in Syria. A postscript, however, to the letter announcing the fact, says the crisis had past, and he was considered convalescent.

The water was drawn from the Susquehanna and Tide-Water canal on the 25th ult. The Wrightsville *Star* says the revulsion in the monetary world has had the effect to cause a deficiency in the amount of tolls received this season at the office of the company in that place, compared with that of last year, amounting to something over $48,000.

Joseph H. Benham, a lad of seventeen years, in Hartford, Conn., is said to have invented a sewing machine, the needle of which threads itself, and makes the "chain stitch." The editor of the *Times* has seen it work through "*eight thicknesses of heavy cassimere*," as easily and perfectly as one of cotton. They are to be manufactured at once.

Mr. James T. Roche, for thirty years a clerk in the Wilmington (Del.) post office, died suddenly on Tuesday evening. He had returned from the office to his residence, and taking his seat at the supper table suddenly fell over and expired. Mr. William Clark, the oldest citizen of the same town, died on Tuesday, aged 84 years.

A private letter from Sydney, New South Wales, says the San Francisco *Globe*, states that Adelaide Gougenheim, the actress, was married recently to a gentleman at that place. The sisters had intended to revisit California, but the new duties assumed by Adelaide will prevent her coming, and Joey will not leave her sister.

About thirty ships are now on their passage to Boston from various ports in India, principally Calcutta. No more are expected for a year, as orders have gone forward to stop shipments, in consequence of the ruinous prices at which India goods are sold.

Died at Greensburg, Pa., the 23d Dec., Mr. John A. Smith, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, aged about 98 years. He was engaged in a number of the battles of that war. At the time of his death he was a recipient of a pension from our State government.

Wm. Griffin, keeper of a small store at Acquia, Stafford county, Va., was brutally murdered on the night before Christmas, and his premises robbed of $900 in specie, besides other articles. A man has since been arrested on suspicion.

M'lle Rachel, it is stated, is recovering. She has resolved, however to abandon the stage forever, and intends to send her theatrical wardrobe and jewelry to the United States, to be sold. The value of the same is stated at $125,000.

Christopher Magee, Esq., has been nominated for Mayor of Pittsburgh. The present incumbent, Mr. H. A. Weare, has been re-nominated by the Republicans.

A woman, named Nancy Gilbert, was burned to death, in Allegheny City, Pa., the other day, while in a state of intoxication.

On Hollockville pond, in Hawley, Mass., two young men, [illegible] skated half a mile in one minute fifteen seconds.

CITY POLICE—JANUARY 1.

[Reported for The Press.]

A TREAT THROWN AWAY.—Bernard McClaskey was charged with beating James Farrell in an eating cellar. The facts were stated by McClaskey himself in the manner and form following:

"I was passing along Eighth street, in the dusk of the evening, thinking of the plisint people I had left in the ould country, and wondering what the dence brought me into this half-shivalized region, when who should I meet but Jim Maloney, the friend of my sowl and companion of my innocent childhood, whom I left at home in Barrycarline, and nivir expected to set eyes on again till we met in heaven. My bussum heaved with immotion at the sight of him, and says I, 'Och, Jimmy, is it indeed yourself, or is it a spectral collusion?' I ax'd this because I thought I might possibly be desaved in the dim twilight. 'Och, Jimmy,' says I, again, 'tell me the truth, then, for ould acquaintance sake, is it you or only your appyration?'

"Divil an appyration at all," says he, it's meself, in form and appearance just exactly as my mother bore me, and I niver pretinded to be any body else."

"With that I seized him by the hand and dragged him down into a cellar, where they ate and drank you for a shilling a head, and there I ordered beefstakes for two, and liquor in proportion, and I feasted him like a lord and made him swallow a quart of sperrits—drinking to the honor and glory of green Erin—and whin we could get down no more, I sat back to take a good look at the friend and comrade of my youth. As I gazed on him, by the light of the gas, it struck me, for the first time, that it wasn't exactly himself. Says I, at last, 'I'm beginning to think, that you must be laboring under some mishtake in calling yerself Jimmy Maloney.' Says he to that, 'I nirer called myself any thing of the kind.' 'Why then,' says I, 'I'm afraid you'll turn out to be an imposthure, after all. Did'nt you answer to the name of Jim, when you knew yourself to be, all the time, but a swindling blackguard?' Say he. 'I answer to the name I was christened by, and that is Jim Farrell, and sorrow a Maloney is there out of the State's prison that I'd be willing to swap names with'" "And it's you, you dirty vagabond," say I, "that have been eating and drinking, all this time, at my expense, because I happened to mistake you for a jintleman! May I nirer be a glorified angel, if I don't put such a mark on the face of ye, that the whole world shall know you for a thafe and a liar, and you'll never humbug another dacent man out of a supper that was good enough for the president."

To carry out this threat, M'Claskey blacked both of Farrell's eyes, and to answer for this outrage, he was placed under the usual recognizance. W.