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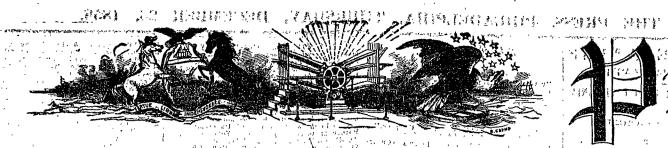
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1858. Books for Holidays and for all Days. More than once, more than a dozen times during he last fortnight, we have been consulted, in vie of Christmas boxes, as to what the gifts ought to be. There can be but little doubt that for children o ton years and under, the most acceptable present are toys. Above that age, the best gifts, beyond loubt, are books, which have permanent value, and bear perusal and re-perusal while their leaves hang together. A book equally interests young people and old. Young ladies (and their mothers, sometimes) may rejoice over brooches, ear-rings, flugor-rings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, chains, and so on—to say nothing of bonnets, closks, shawls, dresses, dozens of gloves, perfumery, and other "fixins"—but sensible people had better give them the same value in books, music, and

apon Dickens as a sort of necessity in a house—a ndispensable as a side-board in a dining-room or a sofa or lounge in a drawing room. Petersons have another fine work, now in course of publithings which will improve their mind. No man can desire his wife to be a blue-stocking, (which cation, viz: their illustrated Library of America Wit and Humor, which we have repeatedly had is worse than having her unlettered,) but a pru-dent man, if he desire his wife to be truly " a ocasion to commend. Lastly, we would notice one of Petersons' most recent publications, Fracahelp meet unto him" will not marry unless the telli's great Cookery, Book. The writer of this lady possess a little library of her own, with the octavo, which is profusely illustrated and most richly covered, was a pupil of Carème, the great contents of which she is familiar. A lover, who contents of content and as farmers.

desired to show his respect for a daused whom he likes, will at once display his taste and liferality by making her a present of books. French enisinier, and oblef took to Queen Victoria. The book has run into numerous editions in Eng-Meen, whi at once display his taste and ingraity by making her a present of books.

Nearly forty years ago, Rudolph Ackermann, a German print publisher in London, issued a small volume, gally bounding green and gold, which he land. We had two proofs within a few days, the practical merit of this work. The City Vashington steamer, which arrived at New Yorl called "The Forget Me-Net." It contained a dozen engravings, and some illustrative poems and

Prose tales. This was the first of the family of 'Annuals.' The idea was taken from the Germans, and greatly improved upon in England. The Forget-Me-Not was issued, Frederick Shoberl being its editor all through, for over five and-twenty years in succession. Numerous rivals arose, on its success, many of which colipsed the original. The Literary Souvenir, edited for several years by Alaric A. Watts, was, porhaps, the best, of these. The leading writers in England contributed to it; the works of the ablest painters vore engraved for it by the best artists. As much as \$1,000 was paid for engraving a plate after a design by Martin, the size of the plate being four inches by three. Each volume contained an average of a dozen plates. As much as \$350,000 were paid, for the paper, printing, pictures, engravings, silk-binding, and advertising of one year's Lite-rary Souvenir. As the sale reached 200,000 copies

in one year, at \$3 a volume, the outlay yielded Annuals were popular in England while their literary and artistical merits were great, and until their number became Legion. Great com-petition, reducing the sales of each, led to a more cheaply-produced and less valuable article. The great authors, written-out, or ashamed of the founglings in letters who now crowded into the Annuals, either ceased to contribute or merely threw in the sweepings of their study. Gradually, the Annuals died away, save Books of Beauty, and Flowers of Loveliness, and such Vanity-Fair publications, mainly supported by vain paying for their portraits being engraved-possi bly with the view of facilitating matrimonial speculations. At last, the Annuals died out, and none mourned them. Yet, in their prime,

these were charming books. . In this country, of course, the Annuals also have flourished. We recollect a few-such as the Token, the Atlantic Souvenir, the Opal-which-were really excellent books. Here, too, excessive competition broke down the good Annuals, by introducing cheap literature and imported and almost worn-out plates. Sometimes, the literature itself was stolen from the English Annuals. We do not think that a really good American Annual has appeared for years. At any rate, we have not seen one, and we get a sight, at least, of nearly every new book published.

Though the Annuals declined in England, the taste for handsomely printed and richly illustraor all sizes, and bound in all styles, Arabesque, the dooks increased. During the last ton years turkey Morocco, Antique, Velvet, &c., with and withher of books, which the best artistical talent seems delighted to make beautiful, is augmented every season. Chiefly, these volumes consist of popular poetry, gloriously illustrated with some of the finest steel and wood engravings ever executed. In this country, too, this description of literature has borne transplantation. Bometimes, w have only English engravings adapted to American letter-press, but at least one half of our own illustrated works of the present season are America

all through. It is our purpose now to point out, as fully a our brief space permits, what American publica-tions of the present season are best adapted for gift-books. We shall not name any book which we have not seen and examined. Nor shall we confine our notice to illustrated books alone. There are many well worthy of presentation, by the hand of friendship or affection, which contain few or no engravings. Their established literary merit entitles them to the highest rank.

Commencing with Philadelphia publishers, we first meet with one of the most beautiful, popular, and richly-illustrated books of the year. This i superb volume, imperial 8vo in size, entitled a Gallery of Famous English and American Poets. ublished by E. H. Butler & Co., with an Introluctory Essay, by Professor Coppes, of the University of Pennsylvania. This volume, containing selections from nearly fifty poets—American and

English—is illustrated with over one hundred first—

The edition published in this country is mu

English—is illustrated with over one hundred first—

There complete than the original for Mr. Everclass engravings on steel, placed on the page with the printed letter-press. The paper is cream-colored, the type is new and clear, the binding is superb, without being too gorgeous. In short, this is one of the most beautiful books ever published. and we are glad to learn that its merit, as a giftbook, is appreciated largely out of Philadelphia as well as in it. Messrs. Butler also have published quite a library of richly-illustrated works-Campbell, Kirk White, Keats, Moore, a beautiful 'Sabbath Boll Series," and several others, inclu-

ding Macaulay's Lays of Ausient Rome, with one hundred illustrations, original and from the antique, drawn by Scharf, and engraved on wood by The extensive list of works published by J. B. Lippincott & Company allows great scope for choice. We would narticularly mention their fine library illustrated editions of the Standard Poets, of the Waverly Novels, more or less illustrated, ording to price, are worthy of notice. John Cassin's Mammalogy and Ornithology of the United States Exploring Expedition under Commodore Wilkes, comprising a folio atlas of over fifty steel ngravings, carefully colored by hand, appears to us a book which every man who has a library ought to present to himself. Its companion is Girard's Herpetology of the same Expedition, with folio engravings, also colored from life. Cassin's American Ornithology, Frank Goodrich's Man upon the Sea, all the publications of W. and R. Chambers, of Edinburgh, with Bibles and Prayer Books, of all varioties of editions and olnding, may also be particularly noticed. In the juvenile department, Messrs. Lippincott are also ory strong. Arthur's children's books are indeed esentable ; so is the Pictorial Treasury, a quaro, with seven hundred engravings. Lastly, we would notice Cabinet Histories of the States, of which the first series in twelve volumes, edited by W. H. Carpenter and T. S. Arthur, is now eon ete, containing the history of Ponnsylvania Georgia, New Jersey, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee Illinois, and Vermont. We have found this series aliable and full, without being tedious, and, as

rantage, by adults as well as children. Ithough they have not exactly laid themselves out for Gift-Books, our friends Childs & Peterson have some publications of established value, in a literary as well as an artistical point of view. First mong these are the Narratives of the lamented Dr. Kane's Arctic Explorations-books most ad nirably enriched with steel and wood engravings, and possessing the interest of romance ith the reality of truth. Another appropriate gift-book is "Brazil and the Brazilians," handsomely printed and beautifully illustrated. Miss Bouvier's Familiar Astronomy, a scientific ook, which is already a standard work, may also be a suitable present. Allibone's great Biblioraphical, Biographical, and Critical Dictionary f American and English authors, is not yet ready hough it will be in subscribers' hands in a few lays The new ten-volume edition of Franklin's life and Works, lately announced by Childs & Peterson, is in the press; but Fremont's Exploations, with numerous original engravings, will

net be ready for some time. A beautifully illustrated and highly interesting volume, which we noticed very fully a few days ago, is Professor Osborn's "Palestine, Past and Present," rich in chromographs, wood-outs, and other illustrations. It is published by James Challen & Son, and is the only one of their illustrations. rated books which we have seen. Passing by a number of publishers, whose works we either have not seen or do not think sufficiently

with the sales of last Christmas, there is at least a are nearly ready.

doubling of receipts. The fact is, the public were Among the numerous publications of our en-

viz: Darley, Cropsey, Pickersgill, Tenniel, Bir sett Foster, Duggan, Skelton, and Madet. There are between fifty and sixty engravings on wood riumphs of artistic treatment and skill, them full-page illustrations, some worked in with letter press, as charming vignettes. We are no surprised at learning that this ornate and beauti ful book has sold largely since its publication in September, and that the Christmas demand for i has been great.

Another book, also illustrated by American well as English artists, was published a few month ago, by Harper & Brothers, of New York. - It con tains a hundred and thirty-two fine engravings, called "The Poets of the Ninetsenth Century,

and was edited by Robert Aris Willmott, an English auther and critic of considerable standing more complete than the original, for Mr. Evert A Duyckinck, editor of the Cyclopedia of American Literature, introduced many fine English poem omitted by Mr. Willmott, and added numerous spe imens of American poetry, which had previously been wholly neglected. Besides this, the presen edition is quite as well printed as the other, and nore abundantly illustrated. We do not attempt to particularize Harpers

publications, suited for presentation. Their mere names make a heavy catalogue, including, as they lo, every department of literature. Their Abbott's Story Books are peculiarly well adapted for young folks, and are extremely low in price

Several beautiful books, got up with much taste and at great cost, have been issued by the Apple tons of New York. First in morit among these is the Stratford Gallery, containing 45 finely en graved portraits of Shakspeare's heroines, with letter-press criticisms—analytic yet womanly—by a set of which would place a world of thought and beauty upon a single book-shelf. Three editions of the West and the public, from its intellectual, as claim upon the public, from its intellectual, as well as its artistical merit. Another valuable book, issued by the same publishers, is C. A. Dana's Household Book of Poetry, without which even an ordinary library is incomplete. Mr. Dana has edited this book with taste and judgment. Every poem which he gives is unabridged. He has had the good sense, as well as the boldness, not to include a few living rhymesters, mechanical manufacturers of weeden songs, who have puffed each other into notoriety, and pant to find it fame. These two are the only Christmas books of the Appletons that we have seen. We have a report of Mrs. Balmar no's Pen and Pencil, but have not yet received it But we looked over it, two years ago, in manuscript, and formed the opinion that public taste must be cold indeed if it did not appreciate a work to thoroughly womanly, artistical, and thoughtful. About this time, a volume of Photographic ilustrations of the Courtship of Miles Standish was have been published by Rudd & Carleton. of lew York. Not having yet seen it, we presum t has not appeared .- Felix Darley, who is admitted by the American-hating Athenaum to be truly a fine artist," has made an illustration of the peem, admirably photographed by S. Masury, (of Boston, we bolieve,) representing the bride brought home, after the wedding, mounted on the snow-white steer. Darley is quite himself in this charming design. There rides the fair Purltan Priscilla, while, by her side, holding her hand, paces the delighted bridegroom, and bluff Miles Standish, with other horsemen, make up the procession through the woods. This is literally an Idyl of the pencil. It is published by J. E. Tilton & Co., of Boston, and is on sale in this city by

Gaut & Volkmar. Pass we on to Boston. Little, Brown, & Co. who do a special business in Law Books, are publishers, also, of some very admirable works in general literature. Foremost among these is their series of British Poets, edited by Professor Childs. This collection, on the plan of the late Mr. Pickering's Aldine Poets, but at half the price, is more complete, as including the works of Moore, Scott. duron Southey, and many more, the copyrights of which have not run out in England, which prevented their being reprinted on the Aldine edition. The same publishers have issued a complete series of the British Essayists, which we can also recommend as being very complete, as well as low-priced and well-printed. They have, in course of publi-cation, a most handsome edition of the Works Richard Grant White, who edits the work. Four volumes, containing the Comedies, have appeared, and prove Mr. White's full knowledge of his subreader of early English dramatic poetry, and his consciontiousness as a careful student of the original text and true meaning of Shakspeare. Whoever desires to possess or present a truly valuable book can scarcely do better than subimportant for particular notice here, we have only to say that all the retail publishers have been

ut of cash a year ago; but times have bright | terprising friends; Ticknor & Fields, of Boston, difficulty will be what to choose. No difficulty is obtaining their works, as every bookseller mu have them in stock. If you desire to make greatest retail business, in the book line, now doing in Philadelphia, is done by Peterson & Brothers, Chestnut street. Every book we have already truly liberal present, to young or old—to place a library of romance in any residence—there is the Household Edition of the Waverley Novels, pooket size, a steel-engraving to every volume, the printing done from new type, the paper fine, the original prefaces and the latest introductions, and the notes conveniently placed at the foot of

tain for the purchaser, at five minutes' netice. the page. This admirable edition, at once neat, portable, and low-priced, will be completed in 48 volumes, of which 44 are published. Who, de-They are crowded with buyers from morning until nor-table a wise host takes care to have one solid dish—what the French call a piece de resistance. Petersons have such a dish, in the shape of iring to make a present which will rejoice a hou bold, can begrudge a poor seventy-five cents per volume for this edition? The popular editions of standard works, in blue and gold, which Ticknor & Fields introduced, are also nice gift books; also, their illustrated Juvenile volumes. Or, let the Dickens's works, of which they publish twentyfor \$5, to Dickens in twenty-five 12me. vols., with engravings counted by the hundred and rich binddonor choose between the collected works of Long ngs, up to \$60 for the set, which is about a third the English price for the same works. We look fellow, De Quincey, Kingsley, Tennyson, Charles Reade, Hawthorne, Lowell, Whittier, Grace Green. wood, and many more. This house has published or over a hundred authors, most of them ye

alive, so their list is large. The works of Prescott, the historian, issued by Phillips, Sampson, & Co., of Boston, may be named as most suitable to be presented to any American nale or female, young or old. So with their Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, of which a new an superb edition has just appeared. They also pub lish, in eight octave volumes, the Modern Britis Essayists, Emerson's works, blue and gold editions of some of the British Poets, in fifteen volumes

and some juvenile works of recognized merit.

Gould & Lincoln, also of Boston, have a large number of books for the holidays. Among these from Liverpool last week, brought over two haves we especially note Hugh Miller's Works, in seven shot at Knowlsly, the country seat of Lord Dorby. Both found their way to Philadelphia. Wevolumes, a great many books of a more serious character, and the Aimwell Stories; and have just

the writer of this reminiscence..." assisted" at the issued Our Charley, an admirable children's book, final disposition of both. One hare, twenty-one We have no list of Grosby, Nichols, & Co.'s days after it left England, was cooked at the Orleans House, Chestnut street, under direction of the popular Mr. Curtis, "mine host" thereof, ac oblications. This is a well-known Boston house Two volumes, however, which they have jus ording to Fracatelli's receipt, No. 1070, entitled ued, ought to have a great sale at once. The first is Frederick Gerstaecker's Wild Sports of the ory would have made an anchorite break his you Far West, (translated from the German,) with eight crayon drawings, executed in oil cold designs by Harrison Weir, an eminent English book-illustrator. The other, called The Age of Chivairy, by Thomas Bullock, author of The Age private house, with equally good results. Here of Fable, also has illustrations in colors. It reates the adventures of King Arthur and his Knights, and also the curious Welsh legends re-corded in the Mabinogeon, first translated by Lady Charlotte Guest. These are capital books to rea around the Christmas yule log, or the abominable dollar upwards, and the buyer thereon receives a stove, which here is its substitute. reached \$100 worth. But Mr. Evans does not sell dollar books alone. He has annuals and illus-

We must pull up, for we have over-stepped out limits, and have said as much as the subject will bear. We have referred only to books which we have seen, and which we think well of.

Letter from Washington.

has the ancient and modern poets, with works by living authors of the highest eminence. Every department of literature is represented on his shelves, from albums and annuals to Bibles and orrespondence of The Press.; WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1858. One of the most remarkable exhibitions of charged by other booksellers. How he can make Washington for a century, was the effort of the President to bring together the two wings of a New York political club-a club indeed, not of a it. We have never heard any complaint of unfair play, and as Evans has outlived all opposition, and is certainly doing a great business now, any notice of gift books which omitted to montion him State, but of one city. I am told that before ne gotiations began, ere discussion pro and con, the President, it was insisted, should be with all the ceremonies inaugurated into the sublime mysteries of the war dence, the painted face and the seng of welcome, and that then the pow-wow be-gan in due and ancient form; but it is hardly At Derby & Jacksen's we find two very beautiful Annuals, the letter-press of each by Frank Goodto be believed, whatever else one may think of the entire proceedings, that Mr. Buchanan rich, son of the veritable "Peter Parley." The first, published last year, is The Court of Napogave his assent and the White House to such a farce and child's play. We have fallen, leon, in two volumes, with nineteen exquisite porraits. The other (which we noticed, at some on strange times. While superhuman endeavors are made for the continued existence of an effete Heroism, and Influence, in one volume, also with society which, in its organization, is contrary to nineteen portraits engraved on steel. These are the spirit of the Democratic party, the Democracy truly splendid works. There is a far different set of a majority of the States are divided with dis-sensions, engondered and inflamed by the arrowhich, we dare say, will pass extensively into many hands this Christmas. It is a series called gance of Bederal cheats and Federal officials. The

The British Classics, with portraits, complete in fifty volumes, variously bound, and put up in two neat cases. This series actually constitutes a the sure warning of their own fate. That which has made them goes to unmake them when they have turned to evil ways and upon the path The Committee of Wave and Means of the House of Representatives will report to the House all of the general appropriation bills before the holidays.
Reductions have been made-on-the-estimates of

There will be a deficiency bill to supply deficien-cles in the appropriations, for this fiscal year, of over six millions. Altogether, it is matter of certainty that Congress will be asked to authorize It is a very good move on the part of the House to adjourn over the holidays, for when they have remained in session, never for one day could a

quorum be had to do business. The British Pariament always adjourns over the Easter and Christmas holidays, and now that this precedent has been set here, Congress will, I think, do likewise, as to the Christmas holidays.

I presume Mr. Phillips is maturing his tariff

bill, but it must be getting along slowly. He is on the Ways and Means Committee, and as there is to be a measure offered admitting foreign iron duty free, and a debate on the increase of the tariff and specific duties, it is to be hoped that we shall have a good account of the Pennsylvania member of the committee

The foreign policy, as it is called, of this country, for a few years back, is a sphynxian riddle. It seems that all negotiations, and protocols, and treaties, have had for their alm, like the consulting committee of a debating society, not to settle anything, but to raise the knottlest and most diffi cult points. There is the Central American ques tion, upon which more has been written, at least as much, as upon the slavery issue. Edmund Burke said that England had not a particle of claim to the Belize, or any possessions at all in Central America, and yet she has gone on from mall beginnings, until she now arrogates with France a controlling power in that quarter. Sone ra and Chihuahua, the President recommends, shall be drawn under the sway of our Government; that is, that they shall be placed in the

condition of pupilage, and educated first for Territories and then for States of this Confederacy. None can deny that they occupy positions upon this continent, looking out, as they do, from the Pacific and the great line of travel across this continent, towards Asia and China and Japan, of incalculable benefit to our commercial and other national interests. But a sentiment has grown up in the American mind, that as we are the great Power of this hemisphere, and more nearly concerned in its changes of Government and the policies of its neighboring States than European Governments possibly could be. therefore our influence should be controlling, o ather that the influence of none of the European or other foreign Governments should, by ac quisition of territories, be allowed such growth as to control the great transit and other routes, re gardless of us. It may be called the Monroe docrine, or what not; still it is a living principle with the Democracy, and it should be seen to. think that, without prevarication, it is settled and agreed to by all the nations now squabbling with baronets, and ministers, and consuls, and commoderes in and about the San Juan river. Gen Cass's words to Mr. Lamar were brave words fitly spoken-it is for us now to see whether brave deeds wait upon brave words. The Isthmean routes, important as are Sonora and Chihuahua, are still more important. The United States, and the United States alone, should control them. I believe sincerely that the shrowd and sagacious statesmen of England keep up the hot water in Central America, in order to divert our attention from the other great schemes going on elsewhere in the world; for they must know that prying, nervous, fidgetty Uncle Sam demands somethiz to do of his Secretary of State, and if it cannot be found in one place it assuredly will in another. Before the close of this session the building of more steam sloops will be ordered-probably six They have been found to be most useful.

Removal of the Market Houses.

Too much credit cannot be awarded to our councilmen for their prompt action in favor of the removal of the market houses from Market street; but we must not forget that there is such a thing as hasty legislation, and we fear that the time appointed for their demolition-April 15th, 1859 entirely too soon, and likely to cause much trouble and inconvenience, inasmuch as the present occupants will not have sufficient time to procure a suitable location, and erect such a building as will

meet the wants of the community. We have heard it stated that there of Shakspeare, with an original biography by hold by certain occupants which will not expire until July next, and if the action of Councils be carried out, suits will be instituted against the olty to recover damages, and several thousands of ject, his acuteness as a critic, his information as a dollars may be spent in this manner, which could easily be avoided by deferring the removal of the

valuable of last Christmas, there is at least a loubling of receipts. The fact is, the public were

espondents for "TEE PRESS" will please bear in

ame of the writer. In order to insure correctness in he typography, but one side of the skeet should but

We shall be greatly obliged to gentlemen in Pennylvania and other States for contributions giving the irrent news of the day in their particular he resources of the surrounding country, the increases population, or any information that will be interest-TWO CENTS.

ng to the general reader.

Our Holiday Directory Continued. In addition to the several departments of trade, al-ready referred to, as furnishing suitable articles for present-purchasers, we may notice, as peculiarly appropriate for a Ohristmas gift—

THE SEWING MACHINES. of which the reader will have no difficulty in supplying himself by taking our advertising columns for his guide:

Messrs. Wheeler & Wilson, at No. 628 Chestaut street, now offer a new Style Machine, as fifty dollars, with a reduction of twenty-five dollars on all the old

Mr. S D. Barre, No. 28 south Eighth street, Agent for the Harris Boudoir Sewing Machine, is now offering that very popular instrument at a reduction of, ten dollars from the former price, thirty dollars being the price now at which they are held.

Messrs. J. M. Singer & Co., No. 602 (heating attack), and have reduced their celebrat.

have reduced their celebrated Family Sewing Machine from one hundred to fifty dollars, at which price it ought to sell rapidly for holiday presents.

Messra Grover & Barrer, No. 730 Chestant street, also offer their "New Style" machines, which sew from two thouses of the series of the sew from two thouses. o speeds, and which are, in many other respects, very perior, at fifty dollars—a reduction. Mr. Savage offers a very simple but perfect instru-nent of this kind, at his store, No. 722 Obestuut street.

JEWELRY AND SILVERWARE.

To the list of silverware establishments already noiced, we may name the old established house of
Messrs. FARE & TROMPSON, importers of watches, Mesers. FARE & THOMPSON, importers of watches, &c., at No 324 Ohestout street. These gentlemen have now on hand a very full assortment of English and Swiss gold and silver matches, which, as presents for the holidays, should not be overlooked.

Mr. Samori, W. Parsen, No. 714 Chestant street, bas

also prepared to meet the wints of the season in fine style, having the his about a might allottening to watcher, itselfer, and allowers which he office he unusually low prices. Mr. THOMAS C. GARRETT, No. 826 Chestnut street, Iso offers, expressly for the ine of goods usually comprised in the stock of a first-liass jewelry establishment. Messre. MEYER & WORKE, No. 701 Chestnut street

offer a stock of silver-plated ware got up with special reference to holiday gifts. Their stock of neatras well as signat fancy and useful articles for presents is very complete; and well deserves the attention of buyers.

Mr. G. Russsin, No. 22 North Sixth Street, also offers a fine stock of jeweiry, suitable for presents.

Mr. Ws. B. Eltonhead, at his store; No. 230 Sooth Second acreat, offers of buyers. Second accest, offers Obristmas presents, in the shape of elegant time-keepers and lewelry in general.

OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS. Under this head there are any number of articles of

beauty and enduring value.

Meders. McAllierer & Baorner, No. 728 Chestautstreet, adverties, in addition to their splendid stock of storeoscopes and storeoscopic views, a very large esort-ment of optical instruments of every description, specia-cies, polycramas, kaleidoscopes, microscopes, spy glasses, thermometers, &c:

Mr. B. Parrish, southwest corner of Righth and Arch streets, also offers a fine assortment of English and French stresscoping views of the corn and French stereoscopic views of his own importation.
Mr. James W. Quezz, No. 924 Chestnut street, ad-

vertises the stereoscope in great variety; also, am other views for it, the "Marriage Ceremony," In the way of
HOUSEKEEPING ARTICLES, one of the finest assortments in the city will be found at the store of Mr E. W. Carrit, No. 114 Chestaut street. His celebrated Herrick's Patent Sweeper will e welcome in every family not already supplied with it. Messrs. E S. FARSON & Co , corner of Second and

means. B. F. FARSON & UO, corner of Second and Dock streets, also offer a most complete and stratetive assortment in the line of housekeeping articles. Their stock comprises an endless variety of useful articles suitable for presents.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. In this department we have several first-class estab-lishments to recommend to the reader. Mr. SPANCER, under the Girard House, offers a stock

splendidly varied, and very complete in all the depart-ments which come under the head of Gentlemen's Fur-Mr W. W. KRIGHT, No. 606 Arch street, is prepared o challenge the world for competition in the article of to challenge the world for competition in the article of Gentlemen's Dressing Gowns.

Mr. J. Bunn Moone, Nos. I and 3 North Sixth street, also offers a very extensive and select assortment of this class of goods, suitable for holiday presents.

Messra. R. C. Walbonn & Co. Nos. 5 and 7 North Sixth street, also occupy a front rank in this class of dealers. Their present stock is very superior in every reasons.

espect. GUNS AND PISTOLS. For a present to a sporting gentleman, the best place o go to in this city, or any other in Christendom, is the nagnificent new gun establishment of Mesars. PHILIP WILSON & Company, No. 432 Ch their store are but a truthful type of the contents

within. They have everything in the way of shooting irons -" from a needle to an anchor !" BOOKS. To the bookstores to add the house of es already referred to, we have now Moses R. H. Burran & Company No. 127 South the Treasury Department; but this will not amount to anything, for they will, in the House, be not only increased to that mark, but far beyond it.

The Treasury Department; but this will not amount to anything, for they will, in the House, be not only increased to that mark, but far beyond it.

The Treasury Department; but far beyond it.

The Treasury Department of The Henry Coppes, it contains the very choicest: selections from forty-three of the most celebrated English and American poets, and is illustrated with upwards of one

hundred engravings on steel. Rev. T. H. Erockron, southwest corner of Broad and Chesinut streets, offers a circular "gratis" with an address to the Bible-reading public, containing a list of editions, styles, &c, of his Bible series. These books of Mr. Stockton, we hope, will receive the attention of uvers, which their merits deserve.

Mesars Smirn & Excellen, No. 40 North Sixth street, have in store a very supprior stock of religious books and others, among which are many of rare merit, and that are peculiarly adapted for presents during the Union Temporary Home for Children.

Union Temporary Home for Children.
(For The Press!

This useful institution, which for nearly three years past occupied the mansion of the late Rev Doctor Wylie, has been removed to the northeast corner of Poplar and Sixteenth streets, the estate owned by the late Matthew Arrison. The premises have been purchased by the society for the sum of twenty thousand dollars, and are well adapted, in every respect, to make a delightful aome for the children of the indigent.

The grounds are quite extensive, the house is large, furnished with every convenience, and in excellent repair.

The Board of Managers desawa much are the contraction of the present acceleration. region turnisme with every convenience, and in excellent repair.

The Board of Managers deserve much credit for their labor and perseverance in bringing the institution to its present high position among the benevolent enterprises of the day. May they never want friends to encourage them in their future efforts to extend sympathy and assistance to homeless children!

to homeless children!
Money, of course, is constantly required to carry on the operations of the "Home;" but in siddition to this, there is much needed at present, dunations of bedding, and of household furniture in general, which would be gratefully received; also provisions of every kind.

A Christmas dinner will be given to the children at I o'clock. The public are respectfully invited to attend and see.

THE Winans steamer, building in Baltimore, is now rapidly approaching towards completion, and it is antiolpated that she will be ready for trial in ten days, or two weeks at the farthest. Her smoke stacks, lookout house, and upper works are now all complete. Her machinery is all up, and almost in working order, exhibiting a capacity of power in her four engines capable of propelling a frigate of twonty times her tonnage. There are two quite capacious cabins at either end of the vessel, with iron floor, and twelve deadlights to each, giving sufficient light to see to read in any part of them. Her trial trip will be looked for with great interest. THE Winans steamer, building in Balti-

GREAT EXCITEMENT.—There has been GREAT EXCITEMENT.—There has been a great excitement among the negro population of Elmira, New York, in consequence of the passage through that town of an old slave who, finding be could not provide for himself, and had the prospect of suffering in his old age, had sent for his master to take him back. The master went to Canada for him, but at Elmira a crowd assembled, threatened the master with violence, and even threatened to kill the slave rather than have him go back. Neither threats nor persuasions, however, could induce the negro to remain any longer in freedom, and he was finally got off.

An expressions was, who desired to go from

An incentious Man, who desired to go from Needham to Boston, but had no money, made believe that he was the murderer of Caraley, for whom a reward was offered, was arrested and taken to Boston, where he was immediately released, as not being the man wanted.

ABSOONDED.—A grain-dealer, Julius Patten, at Buffalo, N. Y., has abscended with several thousands of dollars, belonging to the firm of Patten & Munduback, of which he was a member, together with large amounts in addition, which he obtained by fraudulent transactions.

In sure Chicago past office mails are doily IN THE Chicago post office mails are daily received from about twenty arriving trains. This view hundred mails are made up each day. Over five millions of letters and six millions of papers wers handled during the last quarter.

A TOBACCO FAIR has been held at South Windsor, Conn., the first exhibition of the kind in the State. The fair originated with a few neighpors who are tobacco-growers, an organization was formed, and an exhibition agreed upon. COCK FIGHT .- The New Bedford people

have got up a match with Bostonians, for a cock-fight, \$500 a-side, and expect to make one with New Yorkers. And they have just had a dog-fight Ir is Thought that some of the prisoners who escaped from Rochester jail were drowned in attempting to swim the river; not having been heard from since, atthough Locke and others have

Deen recaptured.

Two LIMES OF STAGES are already advertised to leave Kansas for the gold region. They commence running in April, and will perform the journey in less than two weeks. journey in 1688 than two weeks.
MR. JOSEPH SALAS, a Spaniard, and an old
soldier, who fought in several battles sgainst Na
poleon, died at Boston last week, aged ninetr

Miss Louisa Pyne, who was prevented by obstruct ode, said was prevented by deferring the removal of the market houses to a later date, say January 1st, market houses to a later date, say January 1st, 1860.

Distribution of Bread.—We understand that the Mose Interest Institute will distribute one

Acago of "phosphatic guano" has arrived

A CARGO of "phosphatic guano" has arrived at Washington, from an Island in the Caribbean