The Press.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1861.

EXTRACT FROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.—"The conspiracy to break up the Union is a fact now known to all. Armies are being raised, and war levied to accomplish it. There can be but two sides to the controversy. Every man must be on the side of the United States or against it. There can be no neutrals in this war. There can be none but patriots and traitors."

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The tone of the unfriendly Canadian journals, in discussing the seizure of Mason and Slidell, probably foreshadows the views which will be expressed on that subject by the London journals. The Montreal *Gazette* takes the ground that it is our duty to replace the rebel commissioners "under the neutral flag from under protection of which they were dragged by force." Its line of argument is as follows:

The general principle involved is thus stated by Kent, an authority which Americans will, of course, not pretend to dispute: "It is not lawful to make neutral territory the scene of hostility, or to attack an enemy when within it; and if the enemy be attacked, or any capture made, under neutral protection, the neutral is bound to redress the injury, and effect restitution. The books are full of cases recognizing this principle of neutrality." A neutral ship is neutral territory, subject, however, to this exceptional disability, that it may be visited and searched for contraband of war. It is now, also, expressly laid down that the neutral flag covers even enemy's goods which are not contraband of war. It is quite certain that the persons of enemies are not contraband of war, unless they are enlisted and armed, or about to be armed, for service in the enemy's behalf. Troops are contraband of war. The United States precedent in the Kozsta case is a very strong one on this point against the seizure of Messrs. Mason and Slidell. They have made the law very strong against them by that case. But it has been laid down in books that the carrying of despatches is contraband trade, subjecting the vessel to capture and confiscation. And it is probable that it is upon this ground that Commodore Wilkes has taken the step complained of. We have no proof, however, that Messrs. Slidell and Mason were bearers of despatches; the vessel was not captured; and the authorities we have examined do not in terms declare the bearers of despatches liable to seizure, unless as part of the crew or passengers of a vessel captured for contraband trading. This is clearly the only loop-hole of doubt. Without a fuller statement of facts it is impossible to discuss the case intelligently. But it seems to us very doubtful if the despatches carried by an ambassador or agent] of the enemy to a neutral court are those meant by the rule referred to. A diplomatic agent going from Russia to the United States, by a Baltic vessel, would hardly, we fancy, have been liable to have been seized with his despatches during the Crimean war. The despatches referred to would be those between different armies, or the Government and army, or from port to port, or to fleets or squadrons of the enemy, not those addressed to a neutral Government. For the former case would be the employment of a neutral vessel in the belligerent service; the latter might be rather in the service of the neutral Government.

Some of these ideas are ingenious and plausible; but Great Britain has repeatedly furnished precedents which either prove their fallacy, or show that England has never respected them. She not only seized Henry Laurens, our ambassador to Holland, in the days of the Revolution, when he was on board a Dutch ship, but took Terrence Bellew McManus, an Irish refugee, from an American ship in the vicinity of Cork. The old British right-of-search doctrine would of course justify the arrest of Mason and Slidell, for by it the power was assumed to take away men, who had once been British subjects, from any American vessel on which they could be found, even if they had become naturalized American citizens! This was an infamous claim, which our Government very wisely and properly resisted; but it will be singular indeed if the nation, which, for a long period, pertinaciously made it, should now object to our seizing rebel commissioners, who have no special claims whatever to British protection, and whose arrest is fully justified by the principles of international law.

The New York *Post* of last evening gives a full account of the expedition of ships, laden with stone, which left New Bedford on the 20th inst., destined for some point on the Southern coast. The expedition is composed of twenty-five vessels, principally whaling ships, from New Bedford, New London, Nantucket, Newport, &c. In the bottom of each ship a hole was bored, into which was fitted a lead pipe, five inches in diameter, with a valve so fixed that, though perfectly safe even for a long voyage, it can be very quickly removed. It is calculated that the ship will be filled and sunk to the bottom in twenty minutes after the removal of this valve.

The captains of the ships are all well acquainted with our coast, first-rate seamen and good pilots, and as they have received sealed orders, the destination of the fleet is unknown to both them and the public.

The Baltimore *Patriot* learns that the son of a distinguished citizen of that city, in the French army, writes to his father that the French ministers, at a recent meeting, voted unanimously not to recognize the independence of the Southern Confederacy. He also stated that he knew of private individuals in France who would lend the United States Government $50,000,000 if it was needed. The feeling was general in favor of standing by the old Union and give her funds to its support.

Captain David D. Porter, of the United States navy, is in New York getting together the materials for another expedition to the Southern coast. No doubt he has been selected to lead the naval portion of it, and, as he is one of the bravest and best officers of our navy, we need not fear for the result. There are now about eighty Government vessels of various sizes and classes in the port of New York.

John Jacob Astor, the millionaire of New York, has been appointed on the staff of Gen. McClellan, with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

The Frankfort *Commonwealth*, one of the best Union papers published in Kentucky, thus comments on Col. John Cochrane's late speech to his regiment at Washington:

"The policy indicated by Mr. Cochrane is exactly right, and in accordance with the usage of civilized warfare. We hope to see it adopted by the Government. It should have been at first. Had it been, many lives of loyal citizens would have been saved that were lost through the anomalous conduct of the Government toward traitors in arms. Since the commencement of this most unnatural war it has been safer to be a rebel than to be loyal to the Government. The extreme punishment of treason has thus far been an 'oath of allegiance,' which a rebel will take with as much *sang froid* as he would a gin cocktail.

"Why should not the slaves of traitors in arms be confiscated to the use of the Government? The *Democrat* will not deny that slaves are property, as clearly so as are mules. Is it right and proper to confiscate a mule, and put it to hauling transportation? If it is, why is it not equally right and proper to confiscate a slave for a driver of that mule? Both are property, and both are employed by the rebels in their attempt to destroy this Government. We believe in 'fighting the devil with fire.' The rebels employ armed negroes, armed savages. They resort to all sorts of base means, even to piracy on the high seas. They poison wells, and when they can—as at Guyandotte—they resort to assassination. It is all stuff to talk about fighting such an enemy on 'high points.' The Government has been trying the experiment some eight months, with indifferent success. If we meet a rattlesnake in our path, we mash his head if we can. Let this barbarous rebellion be crushed out We care not how, so it be done quickly."

Foreign Affairs.

We have London and Liverpool news to the 10th inst. inclusive. The London journals appear to mitigate that virulence of expression against the American Government which has so openly appeared since the commencement of our Civil War. Lord PALMERSTON, at the Lord Mayor's Feast, on the 9th, had mentioned that the non-supply of cotton from the South must drive the European manufacturers into seeking for a sure and ample supply in other places. He said he viewed with affliction the lamentable differences which have led to this war, but it was not for him to pass judgment on the quarrel, and he concluded with the hope that harmony and peace would soon be restored. On the same day, the Fishmongers' Company (of London) gave a dinner, at which Messrs. MANN and YANCEY, pseudo-Commissioners from the South, were guests.

The condemnation, by the English press, of Lord LYONS' letter to Mr. SEWARD, is so decided—all following in the wake of *The Times*—that his recall is said to have been all but actually agreed upon by the British Cabinet.

The tripartite expedition against Mexico will include 5,000 soldiers from Spain, 1,500 from France, and 800 from England. So says the *Independence Belge*, a journal of more notoriety than accuracy. The *Constitutionnel* and the *Patrie*, both published in Paris, state the French contingent to be 3,000 men. The three squadrons will *rendezvous* at Havana. The *London Times* says: "Three States are combining to coerce a fourth into good behavior, not so much by way of war as by authoritative interference in behalf of order. The administration of Mexican affairs has been so execrable that even foreigners can no longer tolerate the consequences of misgovernment which fall to their share, and it has been resolved by common consent to terminate an anarchy which makes itself felt beyond the bounds of the distracted State. These are no common conditions of action, and if President LINCOLN should accept the invitation, which is provided for by the convention, to participate in the approaching operations, the character of the work will become more curious still."

The three naval squadrons are to make directly for Vera Cruz, and, *La Patrie* says, "that city will be immediately occupied, and should that measure not lead to any satisfactory result, *the allies will successively occupy Tampico, Matamoras, Tacasco, and the town of Carmen, in the Yucatan, and ultimately, if necessary, the City of Mexico.*"

The End of Cotton.

If this rebellion may be attributed to the existence of any interest, or the development of any branch of industry or agriculture, surely it has been the cultivation of cotton. Cotton has been the staple of the South. It has been the source of all its revenue, and, from the fact that it renders necessary an objectionable system of labor, the basis of its political power in the Confederacy. The most troublesome States of the Union were the Cotton States. The most ambitious and treacherous of the Secession politicians are those who came from the districts where cotton is cultivated. The legislation necessary to the protection of cotton was, in many cases, antagonistic and injurious to the other great, and far more material, interests of this country. Cotton has been frivolous, exacting, and arrogant. Claiming to be "king" (in the pet phrase of Southern rhetoric), it exacted all the privileges and exercised all the prerogatives of the most imperial monarchs. When it wanted a protective tariff, it demanded a protective tariff; when it desired free trade, its leaders clamored for free trade, or threatened to dissolve the Union. Cotton sowed the seeds of treason in 1833; it ripened into the full fruit of infamy in 1861. Cotton has been the servant of the Southern leaders, and master of the Northern public men. Its sway has been one dark, unrelenting, and grasping tyranny; and, it was only when it attempted to stifle constitutional liberty in this country, and to desolate the rich and extensive Territories of the West, by establishing perpetual slavery, that the loyal heart of the nation rebelled against its usurpations, and the loyal arm of the nation drew the sword to resist its progress.

It is, therefore, with a feeling of satisfaction, which we trust will not be mistaken for a selfish thought, that we look forward to the speedy downfall of this fatal power. We do not wish to see the cultivation of cotton terminated on this continent, any more than we wish to see the end of the wheat crop in Pennsylvania, or the hay crop in Illinois. So long as cotton was a simple agricultural interest, restrained by judicious legislation, and recognized by the Government as other interests are recognized, we looked upon its growth as a kind dispensation of Providence, and the commerce it fostered a gratifying element of national prosperity; but when the interests of cotton seek to advance at the expense of national honor, and of national existence, then we greet their overthrow with pleasure.

And that overthrow seems to be at hand. We have heretofore given our own humble opinion on this question, and rapidly-occurring events now justify what seemed then to be a mere newspaper speculation. The Prime Minister of England is a far-seeing, sagacious man, and his opinions are before us. In a recent speech he said to his auditors, "that although circumstances may for a time threaten to interfere with the supply of cotton, the temporary evil will be productive of permanent good. England shall find in various quarters of the globe a sure and ample supply, which will render it no more dependent."

Lord PALMERSTON evidently speaks by the card. He knows the resources of the British empire—its agricultural and commercial capacities. He knows that upon the cultivation of the cotton crop, and its supply to English factors at fair prices, depends the happiness of a large class of her Majesty's subjects. Lancashire needs cotton; its people must be employed, or the peace of the realm will give way to anarchy, riot, and probably revolution. Accordingly, with the money of the Crown, he has been developing the cotton crop in other quarters of the globe, and stimulating English enterprise to bring it to the market. His agents have been in India, Australia, Turkey, the West Indies, and other countries beyond the seas, and they report a favorable prospect for the establishment of a cotton trade independent of America.

Considering all these facts, and especially the assertion of the Prime Minister, we may look upon the cotton tyranny as at an end. No matter what the result of this war may be, the cotton interest has received a fatal blow. If peace came to-morrow, the cotton capitalists of the South would find that the interest which they cherished and supported until it became a political monster had been crushed forever. England will never more be at the mercy of factious rebels, who plot treason and plant cotton. And we have no doubt that the peace of the country, its real greatness, its prosperity, its agricultural and commercial strength, will be benefited by the success of English enterprise.

John C. Fremont.

We notice, in some of the German papers of the radical school, a "call to the people," for the purpose of giving General JOHN C. FREMONT a public reception in New York city. We have this call before us, and it is impossible to conceive anything in worse taste. The signers tell us that the chief complaints against FREMONT are: "Firstly, that he wishes to uproot by war the causes of the war; and, secondly, that he has given foreigners, *particularly Germans*, honorable positions on his staff. FREMONT has therefore sinned, because he is for freedom, not in mere form alone, but in its real essence, and because he has thought foreigners—Germans—worthy to do battle for this end." FREMONT's removal is spoken of as "the arbitrary decree of a weak Administration;" he is called "the Man of the People," and the "German element" is called upon to express its opinion in his favor.

As to JOHN C. FREMONT, we have only this to say: During his whole military career we have been his friend. In the columns of this newspaper no word to his disparagement can be found. We looked upon his appointment to the Missouri department as a graceful concession to the wishes of a large portion of our countrymen on the part of the Administration. Whether legitimately so or not, Gen. FREMONT was a representative man. He went to Missouri, sustained by a public confidence such as few men in the world ever enjoyed. The members of the Administration were his friends—the people of the country were his friends—and both the Administration and the country were anxious for an opportunity to reward and exalt him.

What has been the military history of JOHN C. FREMONT? We appeal to the impartial sentiment of the nation—to those who have no interest whatever in saying yea or nay. While we candidly think that nothing has been shown to prove General FREMONT either a corrupt, dishonest, or a disloyal man, we must say that he has exhibited a weakness and incapacity which no one regrets more sincerely than ourselves. The Administration removed him under the pressure of a painful and imperative necessity—the President commanding it as a disagreeable and reluctant duty.

The mischievous and malignant part of this call is the allusion to the emancipation proclamation of FREMONT and his sympathy for the German element. We conceive the whole demonstration to be the wicked scheme of demagogues. It bears upon its face an unblushing lie. Those who have watched the policy of the Administration need not be told that an error of judgment like that of General FREMONT would never have caused his removal. The course of the President on his proclamation was the performance of a simple executive duty, and any attempt to interpret that course as a sign of weakness or hesitancy exhibits ignorance or insincerity. But, apart from this, the ridiculous and amusing falsehood, that General FREMONT's predilection in favor of the Germans was a cause of his removal, shows to what extremes the demagogues are compelled to resort. We do not deny to these Germans the right to give General FREMONT a public demonstration, to carry transparencies and burn torches, any more than we would deny to them the right to pay such a compliment to the Sultan of Turkey or the Emperor of Japan. But we do think, as in the present crisis, their course is most unwise, unpatriotic, and reprehensible.

We think so because no good can result from it. If General FREMONT has been treated unjustly, time and opportunity will be given for him to show wherein he was persecuted. But no torchlight demonstration can clear his fame or make the country believe he was an able or competent general. If these men are the friends of JOHN C. FREMONT, then God save him from their friendship! We trust that he will permit his own good sense, his patriotism, and his loyalty to control him in this matter—that he will frown upon all such attempts to use his name for the purpose of embarrassing the operations of the Administration, creating dissatisfaction among the people of the country, and paralyzing the efforts of the Republic to protect the Union and maintain the Constitution.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22, 1861.

In one of my letters, more than a year ago, I predicted that Washington must become a Northern city. Anticipating the defeat of the Southern aristocracy which, while lording over, had loaded down Washington with its want of progress and principle, I looked forward to the day when the daring, inventive, and original spirit of the free States would come here and entrench itself—would lead in society, mechanics, manufacture, arts, and sciences. These anticipations have been more than realized. The war, precipitated by the mad measures of the Southern traitors, after having been postponed by a Republican President, so far as he could offer conciliation, has already proved to be a great blessing to the District of Columbia. This capital, under all Administrations, from the day of George Washington to the day of Abraham Lincoln, has been insensibly and irresistibly controlled by the South. It mattered nothing which party triumphed at the Presidential election, the Southern politicians mastered the Administration. Southern manners, Southern habits, and consequently, Southern prejudices, impregnated the framework of the departments and the city. The influence thus wielded by slavery made it easy for the politicians to mould and manage the men in power. Talk as we may about the dangers of sectionalism, let us be candid with each other, and admit that, after the South, through its ambitious and desperate men, refused to abide by the result of the election—which election was, in fact, decided by their own hostility to a Northern Democratic candidate for the Presidency—a pure Northern triumph has ended in securing the salvation and stability of the city of Washington. To begin: We got rid of the worst enemies of the country and the District in the persons of the leading Southern traitors; and those who remain behind only do so amidst hollow and well-appreciated professions of loyalty to save the property that would otherwise be confiscated. A torrent of Northern enterprise and invention has poured into the city. Shops of every description are opened along the Avenue and in the other business streets. As to society, Northern gentlemen and Northern ladies have supplanted those who have been the monarchs of the world of fashion. The capitalists of our great free cities are coming here, and, although not yet establishing themselves in great palaces, are undoubtedly preparing to do so. We shall presently see evidences of the spirit that has made the environs of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, almost a paradise, exhibiting themselves in the beautification of our surroundings. Northern carpenters, blacksmiths, and men engaged in every avocation of labor, are quietly settling down, as if to keep their posterity here forever. There are hundreds acres of unoccupied lands in and about Washington. All that is needed to make them valuable is population. That much-abused individual, the speculator, who scents a job like the war-horse from afar off, and yet who sometimes proves to be a public benefactor, frequently risking everything and losing it upon an idea, may perceive in this suggestion a wide and compensating field for his genius. Washington is one of the healthiest cities in the world, and when I look over the untenanted and uncultivated lots east of the Capitol, and on the Island, and all around this interesting neighborhood, I am surprised that more of our Northern people have not come here and made it their home. Nothing but the intolerance and contracted spirit of those who have regarded it as their exclusive inheritance has prevented this from being done long ago. In truth, the national capital has been attractive more to politicians than the people. Now, however, that the Northern people are doubly here—first in their government, and next in their soldiers—they will probably reflect upon the suggestion that there is no spot more worthy of the enterprise of the rich and the labor of the poor. We need but a little more of the spirit that is rife on all hands to make Washington a great manufacturing and commercial depot. Our vast navy yard, like yours at Philadelphia, since the destruction of that at Norfolk, will have to be extended and improved. Adjacent alike by water and rail to the great iron and coal fields of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, it is no difficult thing to anticipate the day when the scenes witnessed along the waters of the Delaware shall become familiar here; when immense factories of every description, from the ship-yard to the manufactory of the most ordinary articles of common use, will be objects of constant observation. The representatives of the various industries and arts of life, instead of being attracted by Secession towards Secessia; instead of being called South, as was flippantly prophesied by the leaders of the rebellion, when that monstrous ingratitude originated, halt here. They look with surprise upon the tempting and promising prospect; they realize how much they have lost by neglecting Washington city; they behold the numerous facilities of soil and climate and geographical position with wonder, and almost forgetting what they have left behind, prepare to avail themselves of the advantages before them. If we can preserve this Union for our children and our children's children, the political metropolis of the United States will be as great a city as Rome ever was in her palmiest days. OCCASIONAL.

General Ripley.

[For The Press.]

MR. EDITOR: At the commencement of the war with Great Britain, in the years 1812–'15, there was an officer of the name of Ripley. Can this General Ripley, who commanded a part of the rebel forces at Port Royal, be a descendant of his? General E. T. Ripley, who distinguished himself in the war of 1812–'15, was a native of New Hampshire, an eminent lawyer, who, leaving the pursuits of private life, entered the army as a colonel, and had the merit accredited to him of commanding the earliest organized regiment in the then new army. He rose to great distinction in that war, as the fellow-soldier of Scott, Gaines, and Macomb, in the battles on the Canada frontier. General Ripley was retained (with his then rank as general) on the peace establishment which followed that war, and upon a subsequent reduction he retired to civil life, and died, we believe, at New Orleans. Assuming the fact that the present General Ripley is a Southron born, we conjecture he is a son or relative of the hero of the war of 1812. Can any of your readers or correspondents enlighten us? Can the memory of so noble a sire be tarnished by the recreancy of such a son?

Public Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—HERRMANN.—The sale of seats for Herrmann's four farewell seances, at the Academy of Music, commences this morning. These will be positively his last appearances in Philadelphia, and his engagements are such that his return prior to his departure for Europe is an impossibility. Herrmann's success in Washington has been of the most brilliant description. His four farewell seances here will be equally so.

BARGAINS IN PIANOS AND MELODEONS.—There being a large temporary reduction in the cost of manufacture of the above, J. E. GOULD, Seventh and Chestnut streets, offers the full benefit to his customers See advertisement

LARGE SALE STOCKS AND REAL ESTATE, Tuesday next, 26th inst., at the Exchange, including valuable city and country property, to be sold peremptorily. See Thomas & Sons' advertisements and pamphlet catalogue issued to-day.

ENGLISH PICTORIALS.—Mr. Upham, 310 Chestnut street, has sent us the *Illustrated London News*, and the *Illustrated News of the World*, both of November 9. As usual, they contain numerous fine engravings.

PARSON BROWNLOW.—T. W. Hartley, Franklin street, has published, engraved on steel, by Illman & Sons, a portrait of the Rev. W. G. Brownlow, ex-editor of the *Knoxville Whig*.

A RENEGADE.—J. B. Jones, formerly residing in this city, and in Burlington, N. J., engaged in editing a paltry publication called the *Southern Monitor*, is now the friend of Benjamin, the traitor Secretary of War. A Memphis paper just received says: "The correspondence between General Walker and the acting Secretary of War gave rise to a very animated newspaper controversy, conducted mostly in the columns of the *Whig*, and with no little ability on both sides. A writer who signed himself 'Brutus' attacked the Administration with much spirit, and was answered by a friend of Mr. Benjamin under the initial signature of 'J.' Brutus remains unknown to the public, but 'J.' is said to be J. B. Jones, Esq., Passport Clerk in the War Department, late editor of the *Southern Monitor*, of Philadelphia, and many years ago proprietor of the *Madisonian*, of Washington city, the official organ of President Tyler. The sensation created by this imbroglio has now subsided, leaving upon the majority the impression that Gen. Walker's letter of resignation was in wretched taste, but that he had been badly treated by the Confederate Government, and that it were a thousand pities to lose the services of so brave and skilful an officer."

DURING the past week the Committee on the Defence and Protection of the City expended $6,544.25 for the purchase of arms, equipments, &c., for the use of the Home Guards. The largest portion of the amount was paid for rifles.

LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, November 22.

Seizure of Forage—A Reconnoissance.

The reconnoitring and foraging party, under General BROOKS, which went out yesterday from General SMITH's division, took possession of Flint Hill and the surrounding country by throwing out the pickets in different directions, to prevent a surprise, while the forage master gathered and brought away 70 loads of hay, having with him not less than 90 wagons. The only evidence of the presence of the enemy were one regiment of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, and one battery seen from a prominent position between Fairfax Court House and Centreville, in a westerly direction, about eight miles beyond our outposts. The party retreated late last night, having been altogether successful, and met with no casualties whatever. Information was received that the rebels had constructed an artillery road from Flint Hill to Germantown.

The report that Dr. MULFORD, surgeon of the Thirty-third New York Regiment, was accidentally killed at the review on Wednesday, is untrue. He was not even hurt. The only one slightly injured was Dr. DICKERSON, assistant surgeon of the same regiment.

Colonel TAYLOR, who was arrested under a misapprehension in connection with the running over of a private on Wednesday, has been restored to his command.

Review of Gen. Smith's Division.

Gen. SMITH's division, including the brigades of Generals HANCOCK, BROOKS, and BRANNON, and MOTT's and BARR's batteries, in connection with Col. FRIEDMAN's cavalry, was to have been reviewed this afternoon by Gen. MCCLELLAN, but as public business prevented him from being present, Gen. SMITH himself reviewed the division. After passing in review, the regiments were drawn up in line of battle, the artillery occupying the prominent points, and Col. FRIEDMAN's cavalry having been posted in a position to make a charge. The infantry and artillery first opened the fire, which was continued by the entire division for nearly an hour, movements as in actual battle being observed. They imagined the enemy to be in the direction of Lewinsville. Ayres' Battery, which occupied Smoot's Hill, took part in the engagement. The exercises were closed by a charge from FRIEDMAN'S cavalry on a fancied column of the enemy's infantry The only accident was that to CHARLES TREUTER, of Philadelphia, who was thrown from his horse and seriously injured. Both the review and the sham battle were in the highest degree creditable to Gen. SMITH's division, and showed rapid progress in discipline and efficiency.

Army Appointments.

The following military appointments were made to-day, viz:

ROBERT SMYTHE, of Iowa, to be an additional paymaster of volunteers.

FREDERICK C. OGDEN, of New York, to be second lieutenant of the First Regiment of U. S. Cavalry.

Captain JOHN M. SCHOFIELD, of the First Artillery, United States army, to be a brigadier general of volunteers.

Major THOMAS J. MCKEAN, of Iowa, now an additional paymaster, to be a brigadier general of volunteers.

Captain PHILIP ST. GEORGE COOK, United States army, recently made a brigadier general of volunteers, was promoted to be a brigadier general in the regular army.

Military Bridge Across the Potomac.

The War Department has decided to erect a bridge, for military purposes, across the Potomac, upon the piers of the aqueduct at Georgetown.

The bridge, we learn, will contain a wagon and a carriage road, arranged so as not to interfere with each other. Workmen will immediately be set to work in its construction.

A Rebel Deserter.

A rebel deserter from one of the enemy's reconnoitring parties came into our camp yesterday. He reports that the rebels have an abundance of all provisions except groceries. When the news of the landing of our fleet on the coast of South Carolina reached the encampments in Manassas Gap the South Carolina troops were wild, and wanted to be sent home at once.

The Patrol.

Since the commencement of the paying off of the troops the patrol, composed of regulars, have had much trouble. The volunteers, in spite of the stringent regulations, manage to get into the city and get drunk. This afternoon the patrol passing up the Avenue had in charge a boisterous "gray," who persisted in crying out: "I tell you I am a Secessionist at heart." He was taken to the guard-house.

Reconnoitring Parties.

Three strong reconnoitering parties started out this morning in the direction of Fairfax. The rebels, for the past three nights, have been shooting our pickets in the most cold-blooded and deliberate manner.

What Shall be Done with the Army?

A proposition will undoubtedly be recommended to, and I think passed by, the next Congress, to abolish the distinctions between the regulars and the volunteers in the army, and to solidify the whole mass in one body. It is estimated that there are not more than three thousand genuine regulars in the army at this time, and if the commissioned and non-commissioned regular officers could be put at the head of the different regiments, battalions, and companies, we should soon have a force of unsurpassed soldiers. In any event, the idea of destroying the distinctions which have given rise to so much trouble is a good one.

Prince de Joinville.

This experienced soldier is in raptures over the grand review, alleging that he never saw anything compared with it in the old world, when the regularity, promptitude, and harmony of the movements are taken into consideration.

Senator Bright.

It is stated upon good authority that JESSE D. BRIGHT, of Indiana, will insist upon taking his seat in the Senate at the ensuing session. His family have been living in this city during all the recess.

Northampton and Accomac Counties, Va.

Early in the approaching session of Congress propositions will be presented and considered in Congress to make that part of Virginia, known as Northampton and Accomac counties, a part of Maryland. Reference to a map of those States will indicate the wisdom of the change, aside from all political considerations. Those counties embrace a delightful section of country; and though the land has been exhausted, there is a fine opening for enterprise in that district, to which attention is already being directed.

North Carolina.

The Government have well-authenticated assurances, from North Carolina, that the Union sentiment is daily increasing and gaining strength in that State. The inhabitants, generally, are freely asserting that they have been deceived by the leaders of the rebellion, and are anxious to have the burdens, imposed by Secession, removed, and the authority of the Federal Government recognized and enforced. North Carolina will, in all probability, be represented, before many weeks, in the United States Congress.

Bids for Building the New Hospitals.

The bids for building a hospital on Stone's farm, Maryland, and another on Judiciary Square, Washington, were opened yesterday. For the former the bids ranged from $72,000 to $24,000. JOSEPH COONS and R. J. MAHON, both of Baltimore, bid each, separately, the latter figure.

For the hospital on Judiciary Square, the bids ranged from $72,000 to $22,000, JOSEPH COONS putting in the minimum bid. W. H. ALLEN, of Baltimore, bid $57,931.92 for both together.

Northern Farmers in Eastern Virginia.

A very general feeling has been manifested among young and enterprising men in our army in Virginia to make that State their future place of residence as soon as the rebellion is settled. They have been accustomed to labor on farms in more northern latitudes, and see here a very inviting prospect in the rewards sure to accrue from industry and well-directed agricultural enterprise.

The Pennsylvania Ninety-third.

The Pennsylvania Ninety-third, from Lebanon county, arrived here last evening, and are quartered at Kendall Green. They are under command of Colonel J. N. MCCARTER, who served as chaplain in the Fourteenth Pennsylvania three-months service, under Colonel JOHN W. JOHNSTON, a brother of ex-Governor JOHNSTON. Colonel MCCARTER was formerly pastor of the St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, in Catharine street, Philadelphia, and is well and favorably known in the old district of Southwark. The regiment is 1,047 strong, and was raised by Colonel MCCARTER in twenty-eight days. From the time the regiment left Lebanon, on Wednesday morning, the men never left the cars in a body until they reached Washington. JOHN W. JOHNSTON is the lieutenant colonel of the regiment.

A Grand Review To-morrow.

The army on this side of the Potomac, including infantry, cavalry, and artillery, will be reviewed to-morrow on east Capitol grounds.

Gen. Meigs.

This very efficient and popular officer will be continued at the head of the Quartermaster's Department; reports to the contrary being without foundation in truth.

Deaths of Pennsylvania Soldiers.

The following soldiers died yesterday:

CHAS. H. MANZER, company M, Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, at the Seminary.

GEORGE ROWERS, company K, Twenty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, at Columbian College.

The Army Beef Contracts.

The army beef contracts have been closed. There are three contracts, each for 4,000 cattle. The first was taken by MCQUADE, of Pittsburg, Pa., and WM. T. HILDRETH, Harrisburg, Pa., at $3.98, delivered at Pittsburg—the first delivery to be made on the 30th instant. The second contract was awarded to JAS. LOWTHER, of Latrobe, and ISRAEL PAINTER, Greenboro, at $3.57, delivered at Harrisburg—first delivery 31st December. The third lot was awarded to F. RUFF & Co., of Blairsville, Pennsylvania, at $3.55, delivered at Harrisburg, York, or Chambersburg—first delivery to be made on the 30th January. The contracting parties are all of Pennsylvania. These lots, with that awarded October 20, to MARKLE & JOHNSON, at $3.43, will complete the call for 16,000 head. The bids ranged from $3.39 to $6.

A Pennsylvania Soldier Shot.

Private SYBIL, in Capt. RODIER's company, District volunteers, was shot last night, and lies in a critical condition at the hospital to-day. He was in his camp asleep, when a private, in liquor, a real Baltimore Plug-ugly, was brought into the camp in irons. He, however, got his hands through the handcuffs, and commenced pulling the bricks out of the fire-place and throwing them violently at the guard. Presently he seized a musket and aimed it at Lieut. Colonel TOWERS, who escaped the charge, which was lodged in the thigh of Private SYBIL, then lying asleep. The limb is horribly mangled and cannot be saved, and the recovery of the man is very doubtful. SYBIL is from Altoona, Blair county, Pa., where he has a wife, to whom, a few days ago, he sent twenty-five dollars, out of twenty-six dollars received as his dues up to 1st November.

Washington News and Gossip.

It is very evident, from intelligence which has been received during the past three days, that the rebels are strongly fortifying Centreville. In an advance movement, the first check that our troops will receive will be at this point. No one for a moment supposes that the rebels will pretend to give us battle there, but that they will dispute the first ground with us, and then fall back upon their strong positions, on our way to Richmond, and hazard a decisive battle, the result of which must be the annihilation of their army.

General MCCLELLAN did not go over the river to-day. There is no movement in the army.

Pennsylvania Soldiers in a Fracas.

Two soldiers, absent beyond the time allowed, were discovered yesterday by a guard sent for them. They were found at the corner of Second and G streets disputing about the possession of a coat, which the guard ordered them to deliver into his possession. The guard was answered by one of them in a surly manner, upon which he raised his musket and dealt a severe blow, the lock striking his victim on the temple, causing a dangerous, if not a fatal, wound. The parties were all taken to the camp of the Twenty-third Pennsylvania, where they belonged.

Appointment of Consul.

Col. EINSTEIN yesterday took formal leave in this city of the officers of the regiment which he formerly commanded, having been appointed consul to Nuremburg. He will leave for Europe by the next steamer.

FROM MISSOURI.

WARSAW BURNED BY THE REBELS.

A Prisoner-of-War Assassinated.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 22.—Judge Thos. L. Richards, who has been confined as a prisoner of war in the hands of Col. Moore, of the Home Guards, was shot dead while standing at the window of the court house in Memphis, Scotland county, on Monday last. Col. Moore has offered a reward of $1,000 for the apprehension of the assassin.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Nov. 22.—Passengers by the train from the West report that the rebels burnt the town of Warsaw night before last, to prevent it being used as winter quarters for our troops. The intelligence reached Syracuse just before the train arrived, and is considered reliable.

A quantity of government stores were destroyed.

A train of two hundred men left Sedalia a few days ago for Leavenworth. A messenger from the train reached Sedalia at twelve o'clock last night, announcing that they had been attacked near Knob Noster by a force of from five hundred to six hundred rebels, and the train captured.

Refugees continue to arrive here in crowds, many being in a most destitute condition.

The Lower Potomac.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—The *Wyandank* ran the blockade last night, reaching Indian Head about moonrise, and the navy yard this morning. She was not fired at.

The steamer *E. B. Hall* also ran the blockade downward last night, having on board a large quantity of ammunition and ordnance stores generally.

Two schooners, loaded with wood, ran the blockade successfully on Wednesday night.

The enemy is apparently at work on a new battery at Possum Nose, which is far above the others, on Mr. Otterbach's land.

The Steamer San Jacinto.

BOSTON, Nov. 22.—The steamer *San Jacinto* left Newport at midnight.

NEW BEDFORD, Nov. 22.—The steamer *San Jacinto* was at Holmes' Hole at 10 o'clock this morning. No communication was allowed with the shore.

Sandy Hook Pilot-boat Purchased by the Government.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.—The Government has purchased one of the Sandy Hook pilot-boats, and is examining several others with the same view. They are intended to be used as mail or despatch boats.

British Neutrality.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.—The *Post* of this evening says English letters state that the British Government refuses to grant clearances from English ports to vessels having aboard arms for the United States, and shippers will hereafter be compelled to send such goods in vessels from continental ports.

A Regiment of Franc Fireurs.

ALBANY, Nov. 22.—Capt. Confort, of the French army, who has served fourteen years in Algeria, has been, at the request of General McClellan, authorized to raise a regiment of "Franc Fireurs." Their service will be special and under the immediate command of the General-in-chief.

THE SCHUYLKILL ARSENAL.—At present the principal materials being received at the above-named arsenal (commonly called Gray's Ferry Arsenal), comprise fabrics for army clothing, although camp kettles, canteens, and the hundred other etceteras of a soldier's outfit, still pour in in large quantities. Three furniture-car loads of blue cloth, for army overcoats, were yesterday delivered at the arsenal during our visit. The cloth is taken at once to the receiving and inspecting department, on the first floor, where its length in yards is ascertained as follows:

The cloth being unrolled upon a wooden roll about one foot in diameter, every revolution of the latter of course measures off a yard. Two men are required in the operation; in fact, their sole business consists in the measuring of the fabrics as they are received. As each package of cloth is finally wound off the reelf its length in yards is announced and entered in a memorandum-book.

At the northern and southern extremities of the receiving department, there are immense arched vaults, extending backward some twenty feet, and filled with army blankets.

The inspection of the camp kettles is extremely rigorous. They are sounded in every part with a small hammer, and the experienced ear can thus detect, at the first blow, the slightest flaw or imperfection of their casting. Out of every hundred kettles inspected, not more than three or four are condemned.

Hitherto a source of much difficulty at the arsenal was the prevention of the destruction of army cloth and clothing by the moths. It was required to be kept in bins which were furnished with closely fitting chintz curtains. Now, however, the moths have very little chance to carve out a reputation for industry, for the garments are frequently forwarded to distant points before they have remained three days upon the bins. The manufacture of packing-boxes, in which they are shipped, gives steady employment to about thirty men.

The arsenal is commanded by Capt. Gibson, U. S. A., whose duties now are unusually onerous. Between four and five thousand persons are furnished employment either in or by the establishment.

PHILADELPHIA IMPROVEMENTS IN MONTOUR.—Philadelphia capitalists are largely interested in property on the line of the Catawissa and Williamsport Railroad. The town of Danville, in particular, contains an immense amount of property in which Philadelphians are interested. There are three extensive iron manufacturing establishments in that place, the chief of which is the Pennsylvania, or Montour Iron Works. These were partially erected in 1839, as the Montour Iron Works, and are among the most extensive in the United States. The anthracite furnaces, four in number, are on a large scale, and turn out an immense quantity of metal. The rolling mills are furnished with three high trains, and are capable of producing 160 tons of finished rails in twenty-four hours. The hard ore is mined on the premises; while a large portion of the soft ore is brought from Lebanon. The coal is from Wilkesbarre and vicinity; the limestone is from quarries about two miles distant, and to which a railroad has been constructed. These works employ about 1,500 men, and the probability is they will be kept in motion during the coming winter.

The Columbia furnaces are among the largest on the continent.

The Rough and Ready Rolling Mills were erected in 1847, by Messrs. Hancock & Foley, who are the present proprietors. They also have three high trains of rolls, and are furnished with the most approved machinery. Like the Columbia furnaces, they also have a direct connection with the Lackawanna railroad, and every facility for the manufacture, shipment and transportation of iron rails, of any size or pattern. The new furnace recently erected at an enormous expense, is a massive structure, with a capacity of two hundred tons per week. The upright engine, of 200 hundred horse power, is a splendid piece of mechanism. They have a connection with the Lackawanna railroad, together with every other appointment and appendage essential to a complete establishment. The old Columbia furnace was the first anthracite furnace in this country, and was in operation until recently.

Danville, at present, contains fourteen churches, two academies, seventeen public schools, two literary societies, three newspapers, two steam flouring mills, sixty-eight stores, seven hotels and taverns, with a diversified number of institutions.

In 1850, the population of Danville was 3,323; 1855, it was 5,422, and is now about 7,000, 350 of whom are now in the Federal army.

THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE—Ninth and Walnut sts.—"Bob Nettles"—"Turning the Tables"—"Jonathan Bradford."

ARCH-STREET THEATRE—Arch street, above Sixth.—"Soldier's Daughter"—"The Seven Clerks."

WHEATLEY'S CONTINENTAL THEATRE—Walnut street, above Eighth.—"William Tell: the Hero of Switzerland"—"The Golden Farmer"—"The Yellow Dwarf; or, The Desert Hag."

CONCERT HALL—Chestnut street, above Twelfth.—George Christy's Minstrels.

TEMPLE OF WONDERS—N. E. corner Tenth and Chestnut streets.—Signor Blitz's Entertainment.

ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS—Corner of Tenth and Chestnut streets.—Waugh's Italia and Stereoscopic Views of the War.

MILITARY MATTERS IN TOWN.—Five cavalry, and some eleven infantry regiments, are now being formed in the city, and a number of recruiting stations have been opened for the regular service, including all the departments of artillery, cavalry, and infantry.

Colonel Rush has, perhaps, the best of all the cavalry camps, at Second street and Nicetown lane. The regiment has a mounted battalion drill every afternoon, that is witnessed by a large concourse of people. Some of the horses in possession of commissioned officers are models of equine beauty and strength. The men have now learned to ride with freedom, and the magnificence of the spectacle of eight hundred men, dashing at a full gallop over a beautiful rolling field, has had no parallel spectacle in the neighborhood of the city since the war commenced.

A number of the riders have had awkward falls in learning to ride, and some painful accidents have happened. The horses, that were in the beginning sorry animals, have by good treatment and exercise, become sleek, active, and beautiful. The tents of the camp were lately removed to the north of the field, so that the men drill up to the very edge of the woods on three sides. The road is lined daily with omnibuses and vehicles. Booths have been erected in the adjacent woods, and there is an abundance of liquor always at hand. Col. Rush's men will go into the field, at Washington, fully trained, capable riders and swordsmen, and the velocity of their first grand charge will be felt to the rebel centre.

Two hundred men, attached to the regiment of Curtin Hussars, are now encamped on Ridge avenue, opposite the railroad depot. Four hundred men from the interior are expected to join the regiment shortly.

The Irish Dragoons, Colonel Gallagher, late cavalry instructor at Carlisle barracks, are at Camp Henry, Frankford. The various companies are daily receiving accessions to their ranks. Most of the officers have been in the English service.

Five companies of Colonel R. Butler Price's regiment are encamped at Camp Patterson, on the Darby road, a short distance beyond the Blue Bell. Two other companies are at Harrisburg, while five more are in the course of formation throughout the different portions of this State.

Colonel Lyle's infantry regiment of National Guards, well officered and rapidly augmenting, is still encamped at Oxford Park. To active, sober men, willing to serve for the war, with experienced officers and gentlemanly privates, the Guard is the most eligible of all the regiments now being formed.

Pennsylvania has now one hundred thousand five hundred men in the field, including some regiments that have not yet gone out from State camps. The whole force in the field is about 620,000 men, so that our State has contributed almost one-sixth of the whole number. Of Pennsylvania's quota Philadelphia has sent about 28,000, or nearly one-third.

The mills are running on Government work day and night. Machinery has been altered, in most cases, so that munitions of war can be made in place of the implements of peace, as formerly.

At the wagon works of Henry Simons, Second and Cumberland streets, large numbers of ambulances, heavy baggage wagons, and tent poles are turned out every week. A wing is being added on the western side of the range of buildings, and additional steam power is being put in to drive the machinery.

Messrs. Lambert & Mass are making large quantities of equipments for the United States marine service, and are busily engaged in turning out trimmings and embroidery work for army officers. Another branch of their establishment is engaged in mounting sword blades, which are principally imported from Germany.

Messrs. Mills & Kershaw are running their factory night and day, without intermission, in making blue kersey cloths, which are used for making uniforms for those in the volunteer service. They have a force of about one hundred and fifty hands employed, two-thirds of whom are males, who turn out 6,000 yards of the kersey each week, in addition to about 20,000 yards made by other manufacturers, which they finish.

A cotemporary devotes some space to exhibiting the paltry condition of Philadelphia defences:

"While the Chesapeake is defended by *six* forts, at a cost of *five million* seven hundred thousand dollars, the Delaware bay and river are defended—nominally, by two forts, but really only one—which cost *one million* four hundred and ninety-eight thousand dollars. New York harbor is defended by *fourteen* forts, which cost three million seven hundred thousand dollars. New Orleans is protected by *eight* forts, which cost about two million seven hundred thousand dollars. Boston harbor has *three* important fortifications, which cost one million eight hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. Pensacola is defended by *three* first-class forts, which cost one million eight hundred thousand dollars. And even so insignificant a place as Mobile has its *two* first-class fortifications, and one small outwork, which cost a million five hundred and twelve thousand dollars—while the great, wealthy, and populous city of Philadelphia, with the rich and densely settled counties of Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey, which skirt the Delaware bay and river, have but *one* fort, and that unfinished, and a mud bank, by courtesy called Fort Mifflin, which together have cost less than one million five hundred thousand dollars. At the foot of the whole list, below even Pensacola and Mobile, they will find Philadelphia and Delaware bay. The United States has established seven navy yards, located respectively in or near the cities of Boston, Portsmouth, N. Y., New York, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Pensacola, and San Francisco. The aggregate cost of these seven yards was $25,556,149, but of this vast sum there has been spent upon the Philadelphia navy yard but $1,632,472. As usual in such matters, Philadelphia is at the *foot* of the list. While the New York yard cost over six millions, that of Norfolk nearly five millions, those at Pensacola and Boston nearly four million each, that at San Francisco over three and a quarter millions, and even the obscure establishment at Portsmouth, N. H., over two millions, the Philadelphia yard cost but a little over a million and a half."

NAVAL MATTERS.—The side-wheel steamer *State of Georgia*, which formerly ran between this port and Charleston, but which was purchased by the Government about three months since, sailed to join the blockading squadron yesterday afternoon.

The *State of Georgia* is a splendid steamer, of 1,200 tons burden. She has been re-coppered and much improved in other respects, and, within the last week, her armament has been put aboard. As a matter of reference, we republish the following list of her officers: James F. Armstrong, commander; Milton Haxton, lieutenant; F. H. Haskill, paymaster; Thos. R. Wilson, gunner; John J. Rogers, acting master; Charles Folson, do.; Wm. E. Welch, do.; H. P. Cooley, acting master's mate; Isaac Hallock, do.; John J. Hughes, do.; James Wilkinson, first assistant engineer; David Pike, second do.; Jacob D. Rogers, third do.; William H. Miller, third do.; Thomas Nesbit; Wm. J. K. Morris, captain's clerk.

The *Adolph Hugel*, and *Maria Wood*, which were purchased about the same time as the *State of Georgia*, will follow her as soon as their armaments can be got on board. Their destination is also to join the blockading fleet.

The special committee of Councils, to whom was referred the subject of the extension of the Philadelphia navy yard, held a meeting on Thursday, and had before them various plans, and after an examination of them, a sub-committee was appointed to communicate with the owners of property not only adjoining the yard, but also at League Island, and other suggested sites, in order to ascertain the lowest prices, &c.

We have already noticed the arrival of the *Tahoma* at the navy yard. The time occupied in the trip to this city from Chester was one hour and twenty minutes. Her engines were designed by Chief Engineer B. F. Isherwood, and constructed under the superintendence of Chief Engineer Danby, of the navy yard; they are of the horizontal, back action variety, with surface condensers, cylinders 30 inches diameter, 18 inch stroke. Screw is of brass, 9 feet diameter, with 12½ feet pitch. There are 23 tons of brass in the engines, the cost of which is one-third that of the whole engines.

Her armament consist of eight 32-pound guns, one 10-inch Dahlgren amidship, and one howitzer on forecastle. She is to be commanded by Capt. John C. Howell, U. S. N., who was engaged in the Hatteras Inlet expedition, and there is no doubt but that the *Tahoma*, under command of this efficient young officer, will give a good account of herself.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.—Mr. Davison, residing at the northwest corner of Thirteenth and South streets, died at six o'clock yesterday morning, from a gun-shot wound in the calf of the leg, received last Wednesday. Mr. D. was gunning on the farm of Mr. Robert Givens, at Norristown, with three other gentlemen, and the shot was accidentally inflicted by one of them, Mr. James Bryan. Since the accident Mr. Davison has been in terrible suffering, and mortification having taken place, he died as above stated.

On Thursday afternoon, about half past four o'clock, a lad named Benjamin F. Garver, eight years of age, was killed on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, at Germantown avenue and Otter street. He attempted to jump upon a freight train, between two cars, and fell upon the track. One of the cars passed across his body lengthwise, mutilating him in a horrible manner. The remains of the deceased were conveyed to the residence of his parents in the rear of No. 1116 Germantown avenue.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.—Yesterday morning, a man named William Greenwood had his arm broken by being caught in the belting at the factory of Crozer & Brother, Germantown.

Jacob Deamer, aged twenty-three years, had his right leg crushed yesterday, by being run over with the Reading Railroad cars, at Broad and Callowhill streets. He was employed as a driver, and was turning off the switch when he fell, and three cars passed over him. He was taken to the hospital, where the mangled limb was amputated. He resides at No. 1611 Thompson street

John White, aged twenty-three, had one of the fingers of his left hand blown off yesterday, by the accidental discharge of a gun, at Darby. He was taken to the hospital.

THE TWO SHERIFFS.—It will be remembered that the Court of Common Pleas referred the question of who should be commissioned as sheriff to the Governor of the Commonwealth. Governor Curtin has declined to interfere in the matter, and he has referred back to the court the question of who is sheriff elect. Mr. Thompson has already offered his securities, and Mr. Ewing, we are informed, is about to do the same thing. We have previously had two district attorneys, and are in a fair way of having two governments. Two sheriffs or two mayors we are now prepared for.

COUNTERFEIT NOTE CASE.—Yesterday counterfeit $10 on the Waterbury Bank of Connecticut were freely passed in different parts of the city. A man, whose name we could not ascertain, was arrested in the Fifth ward for passing them.

FIRE.—The alarm of fire about nine o'clock yesterday morning was caused by the boiling over of a pot of pitch, which was being used for placing a fire-proof roof upon a warehouse on Broad street, above Cherry. The flames were speedily extinguished.

CONDITION OF THE PHILADELPHIA, WILMINGTON, AND BALTIMORE RAILROAD.—The following statement of the condition of the above railroad has been forwarded from Boston, where this stock is largely dealt in. The Boston authority says:

"When the rebellion broke out, the Wilmington was doing us a business under the management of Mr. Felton as would have made it a regular 8 per cent. stock, after certain improvements and expenditures had been met. Since that time its earnings have increased very much, from the Government and other business which had been heaped upon it. In October alone, the increase was $60,000 over the earnings of October, 1860. November bids fair to show an equally handsome gain. Whether the war be long or short, Washington cannot but be a great military as well as political headquarters henceforward, and the Wilmington is therefore sure of a large business, far surpassing that which it enjoyed before 1861, but which really netted 8 per cent. to the corporation. But the bare possibility that the rebels might occupy Washington and menace Baltimore has greatly depressed the Wilmington in the market, and it is only as these fears have been vanishing that the stock has rapidly advanced. We like to talk plainly, and see no reason why we should not do so. If our views are incorrect, they will fall to the ground. We never stop for insinuations. We consider Wilmington worth par, ($50 per share) for the reason that it is in good order, is well managed, has a moderate debt, provided for by a sinking fund, and is earning ten to twelve per cent per annum. It may safely be assumed to pay $4 per share (eight per cent.) hereafter, and in this view we cannot perceive why it should not sell for as much as the Northern, that pays $4, or the Eastern, that pays $4. There is much more probability, just now, that the Wilmington will pay more than $4 than that the Northern and Eastern can increase their dividends. Our plain inference is, therefore, that, although Wilmington has advanced rapidly, it is yet very cheap, in view of its condition, management, profits, and security from damage by treason."

THE MURDER OF LIEUT. COL. VAN GERBER.—ARREST OF A PHILADELPHIAN.—A telegraphic despatch from Washington, received yesterday, stated that the principal in the recent murder of Lieut. Col. Van Gerber (which took place in that city on Friday last) had just been arrested in Baltimore. His name was not given. It was stated, however, that his arrest had been secured through the instrumentality of a Philadelphian and a Baltimorean, who, having themselves been apprehended on the charge of committing the deed, had turned State's evidence.

We are informed that a day or two since Lieut. Tolbert, of the Twenty-fourth-ward police, assisted by one of his officers, arrested a young man named Richard Esray, upon the charge of having been implicated in the affair. The arrest was made in pursuance of instructions from headquarters, on Saturday evening last, at which time Esray reached this city, having fled from Washington on Saturday morning.

Esray is a butcher by trade, and was in the employ of Mr. John H. Jones, who has lately secured a Government contract. He had always borne a reputable character so far as we can ascertain, and it will probably be shown upon the trial that he had no actual hand in the crime. He is doubtless the Philadelphian referred in the above despatch, as having turned State's evidence.

Yesterday another young man residing in the Twenty-fourth ward, whose name we are induced to withhold from considerations of propriety, but who was arrested on the previous day, upon the charge of being concerned in the murder, had a hearing before Mayor Henry. The evidence produced against him failed to substantiate the charge, and the mayor accordingly directed his release.

Lieut. Col. Van Gerber, of the New York volunteers, was an esteemed officer, who had seen service, and acquired considerable military experience. He was as generous as he was brave, and won many warm friends in the ranks of his command. The motive that could have prompted his murder remains a mystery.

It appears that on Friday night last, while the deceased Colonel was in the act of entering a carriage in front of a concert saloon in Washington, he was struck upon the head with a slung-shot, in the hands of an unknown party. It is believed that the assailant must have been mistaken in the identity of his victim, for upon no other theory can the affair be explained. The trial will be invested with considerable interest.

COLLISION ON THE GERMANTOWN ROAD.—The down grade of the Germantown steam railroad, whereby cars formerly ran into the city from Germantown by gravity, very nearly resulted in a serious accident on Thursday. Attached to the rear of a local train was a long platform car loaded with "sleepers." When near Germantown, the latter car became detached from the train, and commenced a return trip to the city. The farther the car ran, the greater the speed attained, and by the time Camac's woods was reached, the car was making fifty miles per hour. As the curve at that point was rounded, a passenger train for Germantown was encountered. This train was drawn by the engine "Tioga." The stray car was discovered, and the engineer immediately reversed his engine, but was unable to prevent a collision. On came the car with immense velocity, and struck the locomotive with great force. The latter was considerably injured. The machinery was very much deranged, and it is thought that several hundred dollars will be required to repair damages. The engineer and fireman escaped by leaping from the engine. The engineer was somewhat bruised, and made an extremely narrow escape. It is said that his hat was knocked off by one of the sleepers, which were scattered in all directions by the collision. Although some of the platforms on the cars were crushed, fortunately none of the passengers sustained any injuries.

THE WAR AND THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.—In the fall and winter of 1859 and 1860 literary societies and debating clubs sprang up rapidly in this city. Every ward, every grammar school, every fire company, every High School class, had its literary conclave. A literary congress was inaugurated, and the services of a newspaper organ secured. But in spite of such auspicious prospects the interests of the literary world were doomed to premature decline. The Congress died before its first birthday anniversary, and the societies went out one by one.

A few of the older organizations withstood the wreck of matter, and are still in the hey-day of prosperity. They have all responded to the call of duty and of patriotism. The following is a statement of the number of men they have furnished to the volunteer service. It is as full as can be made at present:

Humboldt Literary Institute	22
Mechanic Literary Institute	19
Byron Literary Assembly	15
Southwark Literary Circle	24
Osceola Assembly	15
Graduates' Literary Union	5
Lafayette Debating Society	14
St. Joseph's Literary Institute	13
Kensington Literary Institute	22
Warner Literary Institute	10

Some of the companies recruited here have been almost wholly composed of members of the various literary societies. The National Guards and Washington Grays, of the three-months service, were largely made up of "men of letters," and at least nine-tenths of the Commonwealth Artillery were members of such organizations.

THE EXPLOSION AT DUPONT'S POWDER MILLS.—The explosion at Dupont's powder mills, near Wilmington, which was distinctly heard in this city, on Wednesday morning, occurred at 11 o'clock. The casualties are said to be three or four men killed, named Samuel Russell, Charles Mulhrien, and John Vizier. A fourth man was killed, name unknown. The remains were so blackened and mutilated that their friends could not recognize them. Martin Dolan was near one of the mills, and narrowly escaped. The explosion was the most powerful since the explosion of the powder wagons in Fourteenth street, Wilmington, some years ago. It shook many houses in Wilmington violently, and was sensibly heard and felt at Point Breeze and Wilmington, but was not felt or heard at New Castle. The dwelling-houses of the proprietors of the estate are said to be very much damaged, and considerable work and time will be required to put them in repair. The operatives in a manufactory on the opposite side of the Brandywine creek were terribly affected by the concussion; one of the girls is said to have died from it. The glass was all shattered out of the mill, and some of the machinery displaced.

THE PIRATE WILLIAM SMITH.—The pirate Smith, now confined in Moyamensing prison, has recently attained some notoriety, by reason of the retaliatory action taken upon his case by the rebel General Winder, of Richmond. A number of gallant soldiers, now prisoners in the rebels' hands, have been cast into loathsome and unhealthy apartments at Richmond; and the only warrant for this treatment was the rumor that Smith had been similarly cared for. The fact is, that Smith is treated with far more courtesy than his crimes entitle him to. His cell is in the second corridor in the untried department. A companion shares his imprisonment in the same cell. They have proper furniture and excellent food and ventilation.

Forty-three cents per day is allowed for his subsistence by Government, and this is more than most laborers require in the item of food. The county prison would be, in some sort, a palace to the Richmond folks; but for the pirates confined there half the cells would be empty. There has been no sickness of any account for some time, and the whole edifice is a model of cleanliness and good order.

THE ARMY VOTE has been the cause of trouble not only in Philadelphia, but also in Luzerne county. The Board of Return Judges which met on the 12th instant, after a warm discussion, protracted until two o'clock in the morning, decided not to enumerate the returns of companies which bore on their face evidence of fraud, or were not made out in accordance with law, but to count these votes on a separate slip of paper, and to give certificates of election upon the county vote. This proposition was carried by a vote of 33 in favor to 29 against; whereupon the minority *seceded* and organized a separate Convention.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT.—Yesterday afternoon a young man was caught in the act of entering a building at Sixth and Walnut streets with a false key. As soon as detected he made his way to the street, and attempted to escape. Detective Taggart, who was passing at the time, pursued the offender and captured him. The prisoner had on his person a purse made of silk and steel beads, with a silver clasp, bearing the initials "C. W. B." The accused will have a further hearing on Monday afternoon, at the Central Police Station. The owner of this purse should be present.

TROUBLE IN THE LOTTERIES.—The Kentucky lotteries have been drawn secretly, in Wilmington, Del., for several weeks, instead of in the State of Kentucky, as has been represented. The Wilmingtonians demurred at such irregularity, and the lottery commissioners, printers, and clerks of John A. Morris & Co.'s establishment were summoned before the Grand Jury at New Castle, on Wednesday, to prove, what is not denied, that the Delaware lotteries are drawn in Wilmington The Grand Jury presented a bill to the court.

NINE THOUSAND LETTERS were distributed through the city on Thursday, by the post office carriers. The utility of our postal system—the best in the world—is demonstrated from this statement. At the same rate per day, there would be distributed during a year 3,285,000 letters, not including the enormous business transacted by post office boxes, franked matter, and newspaper exchanges.

DISCHARGED.—Samuel Eaken, arrested and confined in Forts Lafayette and Warren, for giving his aid and talent to the rebel agents, the Sloats, of Richmond, has been released, and has returned to this city. Wyatt, Winder, and a number of others, are still in durance.

PROPOSED DRILL ROOM.—The Committee on Defence and Safety of the City have received plans, which are now under consideration, for altering the market houses at Broad and Race streets, so as to render them suitable for drill purposes and storing small arms belonging to the city.

FRANKLIN INSTITUTE—MONTHLY MEETING.—A stated meeting of the Franklin Institute was held on Thursday evening, the 21st, John C. Cresson, Esq., President, in the chair.

After the usual preliminary business, Mr. Houson, of the Committee on Meetings, exhibited the following articles:

1. A cook stove for army use, invented by Mr. Isaac S. Williams, of this city. The stove is of sheet iron, oblong in shape, and has an inner lining, which, when removed and inverted over the top of the stove, forms an oven. In this case can be packed over 80 culinary utensils, and a complete set of table articles for a dozen men. Mr. W. has taken steps to procure a patent.

2. An ordinary Springfield musket, rifled and altered to a breech-loader by a plan invented by B. F. Joslyn, of Stonington, Conn. The movable breech tilts over laterally, to allow for the insertion of the cartridge, and when depressed to its proper position forms, as it were, part of the barrel.

This firearm (patented in this country and Europe) has been subjected to severe tests at the Washington navy yard, and has been highly recommended for simplicity, cheapness, and cleanliness.

3. A military hat (invented and patented by E. L. Pascal, Esq., of this city), readily convertible into a dress hat, fatigue cap, or havelock. It has met with the approval of military men, and has been adopted to a considerable extent in the army.

4. A package of paper bags, made by a machine invented and patented by H. G. Armstrong, of this city. Mr. H. briefly explained the main features of the machine, stating that it was one of the most ingenious, simple, and effective inventions ever carried out in this city. Eight hundred complete bags can be made by this machine in one minute.

5. A fastening for shoulder-straps, invented by B. G. Barney, Esq., of this city. It enables the wearer to readily detach the strap from and reattach it to the shoulder of his coat. Mr. B. has applied for a patent.

6. A model of a combined floating battery, and steam ram, the invention of J. R. Savage, Esq., of Camden, N. J. All exposed parts of the battery are iron plated, and so formed as to present an angle of 30 degrees to shot striking in a horizontal direction. A movable rod or bar can be projected from the hull to penetrate the bed of the river or harbor, for the purpose of anchoring the vessel, and as a centre around which it may be revolved by the aid of the rudder and propeller, the guns being thus directed to any desired point.

7. A very simple and ingenious clasp for shades for coal oil lamps, invented by Mr. C. Reichman, of this city.

8. A specimen of cravat, patented as a design, by Mr. Albert Eshleman. Mr. Houson stated that he had exhibited this specimen in order to show the meeting what a number of articles of manufacture could be protected under the new act relating to patents for designs, a subject as yet not generally understood.

A calisthenic or gymnastic apparatus, invented by Mr. R. A. Maxwell, Eleventh and Chestnut streets, attracted much attention. This instrument occupies a space of about two cubic feet, and can be regulated to give a resistance of from 5 to 600 pounds. All exercises for which cumbrous devices and gymnasium are provided can be practised by this instrument.

Henry Pickel, C. E., of this city, presented an improved plane-table for surveyors, consisting of a drawing-board, supported by a theodolite tripod. Mr. Pickel stated that, by using this table in connection with a sight ruler, and comb-scale calculator (both of his invention), he could save much labor in laying off and calculating. With his comb-scale calculator, calculations of arrears of offsets, ordinarily requiring several hours, could be made in a few minutes. Mr. P. stated that he had tried his instruments, while engaged in Government surveying in India, and found them of very great advantage.

Professor Henry explained some improvements of Mr. P. H. Vanderwede, of New York city, for obtaining light, heat, and motion by electricity. The professor read a paper on the subject, and exhibited various diagrams and machines showing the construction of Mr. Vanderwede's apparatus.

After an explanation by Mr. Jones of his improvements in floating batteries, the meeting adjourned, to enable the members present to examine the many interesting specimens and models.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

THE MONEY MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA, November 22, 1861.

The Stock market continues dull, though city loans and State fives maintain previous quotations. Pennsylvania Railroad shares also are firm, and the same may be said of nearly all the investment securities. Reading Railroad shares are heavy, declining to 17⅜.

The Money market is unchanged.

Peterson's Detector sends us the following description of a new and very dangerous counterfeit $10 note, on the Waterbury Bank, Conn.: "10's: vignette—female seated between 1 and 0; in one hand a key; the other, horn of plenty; right end, female head on captain, 10 above; left end, female with scales, 10 above." This is splendidly done, and has deceived some of the best judges of paper money.

The following is the amount of coal shipped over the Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad, for the week ending Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1861, and since Jan 1st, 1861:

	Week. Tons.	Previously. Tons.	Total. Tons.
1861	7,030	226,790	233,820
1860	4,839	163,446	168,285
Increase	2,191	63,344	65,535

The inspections of Flour and Meal in Philadelphia, during the week ending Nov. 21, 1861, were as follows:

Barrels of Superfine	24,857
do Fine	290
do Middlings	55
do Rye	267
do Corn Meal	309
do Condemned	246
Total	26,017

The following is the amount of coal transported on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad during the week ending Thursday, Nov. 21:

	Tons.	Cwt
From Port Carbon	11,536	12
" Pottsville	712	05
" Schuylkill Haven	20,505	13
" Auburn	2,479	17
" Port Clinton	2,630	11
" Harrisburg and Dauphin	544	15
Total Anthracite Coal for week	38,409	13
" Harrisburg, (total), Bituminous	5,756	08
Total of all kinds for week	44,166	01
Previously this year	1,539,962	10
Total	1,584,128	11
To same time last year	1,827,770	12

The following statement shows the business of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad during the month of October, 1861, as compared with the same month of 1860:

	1861.	1860.
Received from coal	$197,343 50	$267,457 06
" " merchandise	40,832 29	66,148 21
" " travel, &c.	38,033 12	35,351 17
	276,208 91	368,956 44
Transp't'n, roadway, dump-age, renewal fund, and all charges	123,419 11	144,812 38
Net profit for the month	152,789 80	224,144 06
" " for previous 10 mos.	1,134,521 51	1,269,781 10
Total net profit for 11 months	1,287,311 31	1,493,925 16

The New York *Evening Post* of this evening says:

Stocks opened with some signs of recovery from the decline of yesterday; but the market soon gave way, and a much lower range of prices is established.

The market has no appearance of panic, but seems to wilt under a desire to sell out stocks held on small margins. As soon as this process is exhausted the market will rally.

The pressure to sell the railroad shares is very marked, and after the Board a fall of ¼@1 per cent. took place. The immediate cause of this is the unwillingness of the brokers to hold stocks for weak operators.

New York Central commenced at 79¾@79¼, but towards the close a general stampede to sell the other railway shares broke the market, and at the close this stock is selling at 78½.

Erie Railway has been weak throughout the day, especially the common stock, which fell at the close to 30¾ against 31½@32 early in the day.

Chicago and Rock Island opened at 54¼, and gradually wilted down to 53¼@53¾.

The Government list is firm, and prices of the sixes of 1881 ¼@½ per cent. higher. The fives of 1871 and '74, however, are ¼@½ per cent. weaker, though there is no large amount offering at the quotations.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange Sales,

November 22, 1861.

REPORTED BY S. E. SLAYMAKER, Philadelphia Exchange.

FIRST BOARD.

1000 City 6s New Coup 93	17 Mechanics' Bk... 20
1000 do....New. s5 93	15 do. ... 20
10000 Pa R 1st m 5dys 97	200 Penna Coup 6s.. 95¼
2000 do....2d m s5 84¼	400 do. ... 95⅜
2000 do....2d m s5 84¼	26 Penna R. ... 38
50 Read R.b5wn&int 17.56	10 Morris Canal..b5 35
100 do..s5wn&int 17.56	24 Harrisbg R. 3dys 51¼
10 Spruce & Pine R. 8¾	4 Schl Nav Pref.... 11¼

BETWEEN BOARDS.

15000 Pa Coup 6s...b5 95¼	10 Spruce & Pine..2dys 8½
1000 City 6s ... 86¼	50 do. ...3dys 8¾
6 Minehill R. ... 46¼	8 Commercial Bk.... 41

SECOND BOARD.

100 Reading R. ... 17.31	2000 Penna Coup 5s... 81
1000 City 6s, New 2dys 93¼	15 Harrisburg R. ... 51¾
200 do......K S O 86¼	10 N Liberty Gas... 30¼
200 do......K S O 86¼	50 Lehigh Nav. ... 50¼
22 Penna R....s5wn 38	5 do. ... 50¼

AFTER BOARDS.

5 Lehigh Scrip ... 33¼

CLOSING PRICES—STEADY.

	Bid.	Ask.		Bid.	Ask.
Phila 6s	86¼	87	Elmira R	4¼	..
Phila 6s R.	86½	87	Elmira R Pref.	9¼	10
Phila 6s new	93	93¼	Elmira 7s '73	62	65
Penna 5s	78¼	78½	Long Island R.	9¼	10
Reading R	17¼	17⅜	Leh Cl & Nav.	50	51
Reading Bds '70	81¼	82¼	Leh Cl & N Scrp	33¼	34
R'dg M 6s '80 '43	92	..	N Penna R.	4	5
Read M 6s '86	72½	74	N Penna R 6s	56¼	..
Penna R.	38	38¼	N Penna 10s	70	..
Penna R 2d m 6s	84½	84⅜	Catawissa Pref.	4¼	5
Morris Cl Con.	34	36	Frkfd & South.R	36	39
Morris Cl Pref.	108	110	2d & 3d sts R.3.	46¼	47
Sch Nav 6s '82	62	63	W Phila R	50¼	51¼
Sch Nav Imp 6s	70	74	Spruce & Pine	8	8⅜
Sch Nav Stock	4	5	Green & Coates	16½	17
Sch Nav Pref.	11	12	Chest & Wal.	27	30

New York Stock Exchange—Nov. 22.

FIRST BOARD.

7000 U. S. 5s '81, reg..93¼	100 Hudson R. R.....38¼
1000 U. S. 6s, 1865....87½	75 do.......38
2000 U. S. 5s '74, Cp..84	75 do.......37¾
7000 Ohio State 6s '70..93	8 do.......37¾
10000 Ill. Cp. Bds. '62..82	50 do.......37¾
1000 Missouri 6s......43	250 do......s30.37¾
5000 do.........43⅛	200 Reading R......34¼
18000 do.........43¼	100 do.......34¼
5000 do......b7.43⅜	20 Harlem R......12¼
35000 do.........43⅜	100 do.......12⅜
4000 do......b30.43¼	10 do.......12½
2000 Miss. 6s, iss. to H. & S. J.R.....48	117 Mich. S. & N. I...17½
1000 Erie 1st mtge...103	50 do.......11¾
2000 Erie 3d mtge '83..80	100 M. S. & N. I. gntd.37
1000 Hudson R. 2d mt.75½	50 do.......36¾
530 Mich. C. 8s 1st m.95	150 do.......36¾
3000 do.......95¼	60 Panama R......115
1300 C. B. & Q. 8 p. c..93¼	400 Ill. Central Scrip..61
1400 L. Erie & W. 1st.73	400 do.......61¼
10 Merchants' Bank.90	400 Clev. & Pitts. R...12¼
25 Bk of Commerce.83	10 C. C. & Cin. R....98¼
5 Amer. Exch. Bk.85	10 Gal. & Chi. R.....71½
10 Bk Commonw'th.73	50 do.......71¼
8 Del & Hud. Can.85	200 do......b30.71¼
175 Pacific M. S. Co.92	50 do.......71½
50 do......s30.91¾	100 do......b10.71½
60 do.......92¼	100 do......s30.70¾
55 do.......92⅛	70 do.......71
260 do.......92¼	300 Chi. & R. I. R....54¼
50 do......s10.92¼	50 do......b30.54¼
100 do......b10.92¼	50 do.......54½
50 do......b10.92¼	550 do.......54
50 do.......92¼	10 do.......53
100 do......b60.93	100 do.......53¾
300 N. Y. Central R.79¾	50 do......b10.54
600 do......s30.79¾	100 do......s30.53¾
300 do......s10.79¾	100 do......b30.54
100 do......b30.79¼	225 Chi. B. & Q. R....62¼
700 do......b10.79¼	126 Mil. & P. du Chien.20
350 do......s10.79¼	50 M. & P. du C. 1st P.79
750 do.......79¼	750 Cleve. & Toledo...35
50 Erie Railway....32	700 do......b30.35
850 do.......31¼	50 do......b10.35
20 do.......31¼	1100 do......s30.34¼
250 do......b30.31½	500 do.......34½
600 do......s40.31¼	750 Mich. Cen. R....50¼
50 do.......31¼	100 do......b10.50¼
150 Erie R. Pref....57	100 do......b30.50¼
100 do.......56¾	150 do.......50
50 do......b30.56¾	150 do.......50¼
50 do......b30.56	100 do......b10.50¼