The Press.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1861. EXTRACT FROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. BOUGLAS .- " 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 most striking feature of the news received from the South is the numerous indications of the discontent and suffering which prevail in that unhappy and distracted section of our country. The proverb that "the way of the transgressor is hard." never found a more forcible illustration. Ruin. distress, and misery environ the people of the rebel States on every hand. Most of the stern realities of war are brought home to every fireside, even while no battles are fought and no lives actually lost. All ordinary business pursuits are broken up, the usual sources of revenue are destroyed, a scarcity of the luxuries and many of the necessaries of life prevails, and while thousands are forced against their will into the rebel army, the hopeless aspect of the war they are waging cannot be disguised, and they see the Union army constantly pressing upon them, slowly it may be, but surely, in every quarter, by land and by sea, on the Atlantic coast, on the line of the Potomac, in Missouri, in Kentucky, in Western Virginia, and on the Missis-

It is not singular that this feeling of discontent is rapidly assuming a tangible shape, and that the rebel papers complain of the existence of organized Union societies in Tennessee, in Arkansas, in New Orleans, in North Car. lina, and in other quarters of the South. After our armies achieve a few decisive victories, as we do not doubt they will, this Union feeling will be greatly strengthened, and, finally, a reaction will occur in many quarters that will greatly assist our efforts to crush the re-

The Memphis papers of the 4th instant contain a partial confirmation of the rumor of a battle between the Union men and the Secessionists near Morristown, Tennessee: but it has not yet been clearly shown that Parson Brownlow has achieved a brilliant victory in that quarter.

More vessels are about to join the stone fleet expedition. Several will shortly leave New Bedford; six will sail from Boston to-day, ave from New London to-morrow, and two will shortly depart from New York. It will shortly be an impossibility to run the blockade of the principal rebel harbors. The signs of the times indicate that a great move-

ment will shortly be made on the Mississippi. A correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, writing from Paducah, under date of December 3, says: "I do not say how soon it will take place, but I do say that every movement points in that direction. What does the countermanding of orders to prepare winter quarters here mean? Why are the Brigade Quartermasters ordered to make ready to haste all means of transportation? Why are all furloughs so suddenly refused to all privates and and claborate. officers? Why are so many marines shipped to Cairo, unless they are to man the Mississippi flotilla? Why are those powerful gunboats being truth is, there is a grand movement on foot, that will make treason feel the hopelessness of success. The rebels are expecting us at Columbus, and are preparing accordingly. They well know the importance of that position, that it is the very portal that opens to all Western Tennessee, and with it Memphis must inevitably fall. Columbus is strongly fortified both by nature and art, and must either be taken by wise strategy, or at severe cost.

It was not without a degree of reluctance CHASE. His task was an appalling one, and great as was our confidence in his ability, the intellect of a more than ordinary man, for in his hands was confided the most material duty of the war-the great work of meeting country that they would promptly meet the demands of the Administration; conducting the most delicate negotiations with the financial potentates of America and Europe; All these labors have accumulated mon the head of Secretary CHASE with fearful effect. He found the Government paralyzed -he found the treasury depleted and exhausted by the infamous Cobb-so that, if we except the brief CHASE was compelled to create his department out of a chaos worse than nothing, and had been beggared by the thieves and traitors nurtured by Mr. Buchanan.

The Secretary devotes the introductory pertion of his report to an account of the execution and practical operation of the various measures adopted by Congress at its special session. They provided, as our readers are aware, for a national loan of \$100,000,000; a loan in Europe or in the United States, at the discretion of the Secretary, for the same amount; the issue of treasury notes in payments to creditors or in exchange for coin, bearing an interest of 3.65 per cent., and the issue of notes payable on demand, to be used as coin in payments and exchanges. The necessity of providing for immediate exigencies, and the regular and continuous disbursements of the war, was the great care pressing upon the attention of Mr. Chase. He met it by entering into negotiations with the leading bankers of New York, Philadelphia, and Boston-the purport of which was that the Government should receive from these gentlemen two separate loans of \$50,000,000 each, and a third loan, which was negotiated on the 16th of November, at par for seven per cent., to the amount of \$45,795,478.48. These different loans, including the issue of treasury notes, realized an aggregate of \$197,242,588.14. The other sources of revenue depended upon by the Secretary in his estimates, such as customs duties, income taxes, and direct taxa- and still Governor, and in attestation of his tion, did not meet his anticipations, partly because Congress reduced the duties on tea, coffee, and sugar, and partly because of the derangement of commerce consequent upon the war. This deficit will reach, it is thought, \$25,000,000; and, as if to add to the embarrassment of the Treasury, the war rapidly assumed proportions beyond all calculation. The Administration supposed in ginia's oldest daughter",—and Virginia her-July that the war would be terminated by an army of 300,000 men. Estimates for such an army were made by Mr. Chase, and appropriations voted by Congress. But the subseonent judgment of the President in favor of a short and decisive contest, and the action of Congress in enlarging the army, threw upon the Treasury an establishment the extent and teers, voted by Congress, made a very important item in the national deficit, swelling it to an enormous extent. So that the Secretary, from causes over which he had no possible control, found a virtual deficit in his estimates since July of \$213,904,427.68.

How to meet these vast expenditures and provide for this sudden increase of our army, and at the same time continue the war and by Secretary Chase, and will form one of the tion. The Secretary very justly recommends her laws and visit punishment upon the guilty retrenchment and reform; the abolition of violators."

the great difficulty of the Secretary.

debt" can never become an American idea. War may bring upon us sudden and enormous interest and a gradual extinction of the principal is essentially false. We cannot depend upon the revenue and import duties, for under the most fortunate condition of affairs they can only yield a fragment of the sum now necessary. The income tax will almost fail by reason of the vast machinery necessary to put it into operation—the direct tax can only be to make the attempt." collected in the loyal States. The aggregate amount that can conveniently be raised by taxation is \$50,000,000, while with an advance on tea, coffee, and sugar, such as the Secretary recommends, and taking into account the receipts from lands and ordinary sources, we than \$96,000,000, leaving a balance to be provided for of nearly \$380,000,000.

can only raise from customs \$45,800,000, which, added to the estimated receipts from taxation, will place in the Treasury not more In discussing the problem this presents, the Secretary makes but a general reference to the tariff question. "Freedom of commerce," ne says, "is, indeed, a wise and noble policy, mt, to be wise or noble, it must be the policy of concordant and fraternal nations;" but the most sacred duty of the American people at this moment, requires the concentration of all their energies and all their resources to the re-establishment of the Union on the per-

manent foundations of justice and freedom: and while other nations look with indifferent or unfriendly eyes upon this work, sound policy would seem to suggest, not the extension of foreign trade, but a more absolute reliance, under God, upon American labor, American skill, and American soil." This eloquent tribute to the necessity of protection for labor and industry will be read with especial pleasure by the people of Pennsylvania, and, coming directly from the financial head of the Administration, will go far towards perpetuating among our people a feeling of confidence in

Having exhausted the resources of the customs office and the tax-gatherer, Mr., Secretary Chase approaches what after all is the great question before him-how "to enable the Government to obtain the necessary means for prosecuting the war to a successful issue without unnecessary cost?" Two plans are suggested. The first contemplates the gradual withdrawal from circulation of the notes of local banks, substituting as an issue United States notes; the second suggests the preparation and delivery to local banks and moneyed associations of notes prepared for circulation under national direction, to be secured by United States bonds and other securities. There are so many dangers and abuses connected with the first plan, and it is moreover so radical and startling in its nature, that the Secretary cannot recommend its adoption. The second plan meets his favor, however, and his argument in illustration of it is forcible

Into this argument it is not our nurnose now to enter. The change it proposes to make will be a thorough financial revolution. He completed, and seven to be brought to Cairo? The proposes to establish a magnificent currency, consolidating the uncertain and unreliable interests of the local banks and financial institutions, and virtually substituting the faith of the United States for the faith of innumerable private associations. He will find it, notwithstanding the experiences in New York and elsewhere, an untried theory. The changes it the end will be beneficial. To our minds, however, the beauty of Mr. Chase's scheme is Here is a chance for feats of generalship. Let us the fact that it consolidates the currency of hope that they will soon be put into execution." the country, and by making the faith of the Government the representative of national wealth. labor, and industry, it will make that Gothat we opened the report of Mr. Secretary vernment stronger-and the people, being more or less dependent upon its existence and stability, they will be more anxious to defend honesty, and courage, we felt that he had and protect it, supporting its authority, and before him a duty which would have tested crushing any rebellion against it. A plan like this, the Secretary thinks, will so establish our Government securities that it will not be the responsibilities which it brings, and so for the service of the Government at fair and shaping and developing the resources of the reasonable rates. This last consideration will go far towards commending the plan of Mr. CHASE to the confidence of the country, and

we trust that Congress will adopt it. There is a frankness about this report of answering and obviating the multitude of ob- Mr. Chase which we like. He opens his books jections which are incessantly coming from and shows us every figure in his account. He those interested in tariffs, loans, and taxations. tells the country that there will be considerable burdens; that our public debt in July next will be over \$500,000,000, and in the July succeeding nearly \$900,000,000; shows us that we are running in debt more than a million dollars per day; but his confidence in our naperiod of the masterly management of Mr. Sc- tional resources is so great, that he thinks we cretary Dix, it may truly be said that Mr. can pay off both principal and interest in thirty years. In other words, we can save this Government by thirty years of toil-and these to reorganize a Treasury Department which thirty years of toil the country will gladly contribute. His other recommendations are wise and proper, and in all of them we concur. He reiterates the sentiment that "commerce shall follow the flag." and thinks that whenever ports are opened in the South, they should be opened without restriction, and all commerce freely permitted. A compliment to the Coast Survey, and a recommendation that steps be taken for establishing a decimal currency over

> the world, close his report. The Secretary of the Treasury has done his work well. Few documents, of any Cabinet minister, exhibit such a high order of statesmanship. He grasps his great theme with courage and boldness, and masters its many embarrassing and difficult details. And while there must be discussion and difference of opinion as to the various measures he has proposed, the country will certainly join with us in applauding the ability and devotion he has exhibited in his high and responsible position.

In case our readers should have forgotten the fact, we beg to state that John Letcher is "Governor of Virginia." Mr. LETCHER has so completely passed out of all recollection, making no speeches, writing no letters, and is so thoroughly ignored by the Confederacy, that the announcement of his being still in existence. and in the Executive chair of Virginia, will be news throughout the North. He is still living authority has sent to the Virginia Legislature | John Bull, stout and sturdy, holds little Jonaa message. Extracts from this message we have published. It is a remarkable document, and still breathes the spirit of Virginia. As usual, we have that prolific old Commonwealth boasting of her relatives and her progeny. Maryland is her "sister," and the Cotton States her "Southern sisters." Kentucky is "Virself is the "Old Mother Commonwealth," and feels a "mother's affection for all her children, wherever located," Missouri might appropriately be called a cousin, or a niece, but the Governor evidently looks upon her as a very ungrateful relative, and simply calls her the "gem of the Northwest."

The style of this message is unique. We magnificence of which history does not parallel. have John Letcher all through it—and a The increase of pay and rations to the volun- very indignant John Letcher he is. He tells us about the "wreath of victory," and about a "righteous resistance to tyranny." The Southern soldiers are "worthy sons of illustrious ancestors," and they will "plant their flag firmly upon her soil or die in the attempt." The Northern army is a "living libel upon mankind;" Kentucky will be "redeemed, regenerated, and disenthralled;" Western Virginia has been harboring the "floating scum meet its obligations, is the question discussed of Western population," is "unnatural, disgraceful, and treasonable," and must be made embarrassing topics of Congressional legisla- to feel that "Virginia has power to execute

unnecessary offices; the reduction of salaries In this message we have an angry Goverand pay. He also suggests that the property nor. He has his griefs, and very good cause of rebels be made to pay the cost of this re- for grief. He does not like the way affairs bellion, and thinks the large amount of pro- are being managed, simply because his advice perty owned in the North by traitors should has not been taken in the management of afbe confiscated. He also submits the doctrine fairs. He went hobbling into Secession at the that "rights to services, under State laws, last moment and came near having the door must, of necessity, form an exception to any shut, consequently he finds himself standing rule of confiscation." Although this sen- in the aisle with no polite usher inviting him tence is a little obscure, and the distinction to a front seat. All the high places are filled, hardly as important as the Secretary would and the service goes on, and old John seem to think, we heartily endorse his de- Lerchen stands unnoticed and disregarded. claration that "persons held by rebels, under Davis finds no use for him, and governs Virsuch laws, to service as slaves, may, however, ginia in his own way, whether it pleases John be justly liberated from their constraint, and LETCHER or displeases him. He evidently made more valuable in various employments, dislikes the old fellow, and we do not believe through voluntary and compensated service, has ever asked him to dinner. He became a than if confiscated as subjects of property." traitor with such a bad grace that his treason But no retrenchment, and the fruits of no is disputed, and, consequently, he makes a rebel confiscation, can provide for the large, bold effort in his message to prove that, after ments of the three sales.

sums incurred by this rebellion, and here is all, he was with the Secession conspirators from the first, and that all his professions of love In nesting this difficulty Mr. Chase lays for the Union were mere attempts to mislead down one great axiom, which we commend to the North, and more effectually to assist the the country. It is that the idea of "perperual conspiracy. Thus he sent Judge Crump as an emissary to Governor Hicks, of Maryland. but Caume found that officer very unmanageexpenditures of treasure, and we may find it able. Before the secession of Virginia, and necessary to permanently depart from the sys- in "anticipation of the event," he tells us tem of adequate taxation, but the financial that he was busily engaged in the purchase policy which does not look to a payment of the | and manufacture of arms—he details his capture of Harper's Ferry and Norfolk with much parade-he tells how many guns he has given to North Carolina, and his "friends in Maryland," and he very circumstantially relates how "as far back as the eighth of January" he arranged a plan for the capture of Fortress

> All this, however, does not help John LETCHER, and on the strength of these reprecentations he scolds terribly, "We," he says, must restore these men to their homes,' which is a fearful sarcasm upon DAVIS for allowing McClellan to drive him out of Western Virginia. "We must retake Accomac and Northampton counties;" we "must have Maryland," as its "possession is indispensable;" "We must recover every square foot of Southern territory;" " We must triumph in the struggle;" " We must repudiate all compromises, and reject all advances towards reconstruction." He opposes the waiting policy of DAVIS, and is with BEAU-REGARD and the fire-eaters, showing, in the space of a very few months, a change of opinion from an avowedly strong Union man to the most extreme and bloodthirsty

Monroe, but that it was not "deemed prudent

The "Nashville" in British Waters. European politicians are somewhat puzzled just now, at the new phase of American affairs presented by the impudence of the rebel privateer Nashville in going to the Br tish port of Southampton, there to receive assistance in refitting and bett-r adapting her for warlike purposes. The facts connected with her visit are so recent that we need only briefly say that the Nashville having committed an act of

piracy by burning the American clipper Harvey Birch at sea, steamed direct for Southampton with the crew of the clipper, in irons -a I except her captain and mates-put them on shore there, as prisoners of war, and then coolly anchored in the harbor, with the avowed intention of taking in stores, and of being bester adapted to war purposes. The latest accounts left the Nashville at Southampton, where, however, no movement had been made to supply her with coals or stores, or to effect The impression in England is that the

Nashville committed a great breach of international law by landing the crew of the Harvey Birch, piratically seized, on British soil, and that the British Government should have taken possession of her. Mr. Adams, our Minister in England, has the matter in hand, and a Cabinet meeting had been held at the Admiralty presumed to be relative to the Nashville. In its usual insolent manner. The Times treats this affair very slightingly. There was an United States war steamer called the James Adger, (the Times informs the world,) which went into Southampton for repairs, received them, and steamed out on the 12th of November.

and had been sent over to England to intercept a vessel loading at Liverpool with warlike stores for a Southern port. On November 21, another war-ship, the Nashville, also steamed into Southampton Water, with the Confederate flag flying at her peak. "The Nashville, like the James Adger, was allowed to bring up off the mouth of the Itchin, and within a few hours afterwards, in a very free and easy way, she took up a snug berth in the dock. She has met with some bad weather, and she pro poses, like her hostile sister, to make good damages, and go forth again upon business of her own. The only point, if it be a point, in which the Nashville differs from the James Adger is that the former has been so fortunate as to take a prize. This prize, however, she has left at the bottom of the sea, bringing the crew into Southampton, and giving them up to the United States consul. There was no prize in the technical sense of the word, no ship and cargo to be brought into court and condemned and sold. As we have no right to board a public vessel of war, no one, of course, has any means of knowing what either the James Adger or the Nashville has in her captain's cabin or her lieutenants' berths. All we know is that neither of them had any floating thing following her in the fashion of a

prize." Now the James Adger, as was subsequently admitted by the Times, "was only suspected of a design to waylay a ship carrying contraband of war," while per contra, "the Nashville has actually captured and burned the Harvey Birch, and made prisoners of her crew." English were wrong, the Times adds, in admitting either vessel into Southampton. though one had violated no law, while the other had burned the Harvey Birch and captured her crew, precisely as a pirate would have done under the black flag! The old doctrine that dead men tell no tales has caused murder to follow robbery, and the Times theory that because the Nashville, having burnt the Harvey Birch at sea, did not trail her in, towed at her stern, into English waters. she must be esteemed a well-behaved and highly respectable pirate. Lord John Rus-SELL's instructions of June were "to interdict the armed ships, and also the privateers, of both parties from carrying prizes made by them into the ports of the United Kingdom. or of any of Her Majesty's possessions.' We should like to know whether, under this order, the crew of the Harvey Birch were not "prizes" taken into Southampton?

The Nashville has not even the excuse of being a privateer; for though her commander (one PEGRAM, formerly in the United States navy,) holds a commission from Jer-FERSON DAVIS, he had no letter of marque authorizing him to be a privateer. This adds to the complication. One cannot see how England can treat the Nashville except as a pirate.

Significant. The last number of Punch contains half a dozen culs at America, including one half-page be scarcely distinguishable, but the malice is obvious, as usual. The engraved satire, called "The Wilful Boy," represents the United States as a very small urchin, sword and pistol in hand, who exclaims "I will fight-I will have a National Debt like other people!" than by the ear, and says "If you knew as much about fighting as I do, you'd keep quiet." Precisely so. Mr. Bull's pugnacity has cost him four thousand million dollars which he owes and cannot pay, and the annual interest, drawn from the poor British, is \$150.000,000 a year. When Punck sneers at Jonathan's fighting, he forgets that exactly one fourth of the National Debt of England was incurred, between 1776 and 1783, in attempting to crush Freedom in America.

nut street, has sent us the London pictorials of the 23d November, just received by the Africa. The Illustrated London News, with a variety of engravings, has several American war-scenes, supplied by Mr. Vizitelly, its able artist-correspondent The Illustrated News of the World, with a vile caricature of the late "Tom Duncombe" on its front page (its wood-cuts are generally very poor), gives a fine supplement-portrait on steel of Louisa Pyne, the well-known English vocalist, who sang in this city in 1854.

SCHILLER'S LAY OF THE BELL .- We have reeived the libretto, in English verse, of Schiller's "Lay of the Bell," which will be given this evening, at Musical Fund Hall, as the second part of the Handel and Haydn Society's Concert. The music is by Andreas Romberg, who has happily wedded immortal song to flue melody.

LARGE POSITIVE SALE OF BOOTS, SHOES, GUM SHOES, HATS, TRAVELLING-BAGS, &C .- The early attention of purchasers is requested to the large assortment of boots, shoes, brogans, long leg cavalry boots, hats, caps, travelling-bags, &c., embracing first-class seasonable goods, of city and Eastern manufacture, to be peremptorily sold, by catalogue, for cash, commencing this morning, at 10 o'clock, by Myers, Claghorn, & Co., auctioneers, Nos. 232 and 234 Market street.

SALE OF FURNITURE. This morning, at ten o'clock, at the auction store, No. 914 Chestnut street. Sale of stock of carpets Wednesday, at ten o'clock, at Bailey & Brothers', 920 Chestnut street. T. Birch & Son, suctioneers

PEREMPTORY SALBS-REAL ESTATE, STOCKS, PEWS. &c., this day, at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange. A very large sale. Books this evening at the auction rooms. STOCK OF SUPERIOR WINES, BRANDIES, &C., at the auction rooms to-morrow, (Wednesday.) See Thomas & Sons' catalogues and advertise.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL." LATEST NEWS WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1861. BY TELEGRAPH. In the last message of Governor Pierpont,

of the new State of Virginia, he draws a vivid picture of the bankruptcy and despera- FROM WASHINGTON. tion of the so-called Southern Confederacy, and predicts that the holders of the Secession securities, bonds, or notes, will, in any event, be cheated or robbed. He says:

at A large propertion of the slaves have been sent farther South for security. All the live stock within the rebel lines have been seized for the use of their army. Farms have been stripped of horses, wagons, fencing, and timber, and the houses of the people of blankets and even clothing—whatever, in short, that could be made useful to the soldiers. The property of men known or supposed to be true to the Union has been taken without compensation, and they regard themselves fortunate if their lives are spared. The property which is pretonded to and they regard themselves fortunate if their lives are spared. The property which is pretonded to be paid for is paid for in treasury notes of the Confederate States; or in bank notes issued on the deposit of such treasury notes. This currency, even at Richmond, is already at a discount of not less than thirty per cent., and the papers there are seeking to maintain its credit by denouncing the ponsities of death or confiscation against merchants and bankers who make any distinction between such notes and coin. Yet this circulation is really valueless. If the rebellion fails to sustain itself, the notes must go down with it. If it succeed, from the immense amount issued, and the character of the leaders, we may safely assume the repudiation of the debt to be inevitable. The President of the Confederate States, it will not be forgotten, was for many years the leader of the be forgotten, was for many years the leader of the repudiation party in Mississippi."

In reading over this paragraph, which is so

ruitful and suggestive of thought, which at a

glance exposes the weakness, corruption, and

bankruptcy of the traitors' experiment, and ad-

monishes all men to place no faith either in the principles or promises of the Secession leaders, I am reminded of an incident which occurred in Arkansas, during Gen. Jackson's Administration, while it was yet in a territorial condition, and overrun by tribes of wild Indians. Arkansas, like many of the Southern States, has for more than thirty years been a field of speculation for gamblers in money and politics, chiefly because of the vast sums necessary to satisfy or subjugate the Indians. Men of desperate fortunes rushed into the Indian reservations, and by means of influence at Washington having secured positions as receivers of public money, registers of public lands, Indian agents, or sutlers, were enabled to accumulate influence and wealth. Among these was a celebrated character called Elias Rector, for more than a generation since a leech upon the national treasury, the recipient of office under nearly every Administration, and now, in grateful recollection of these kindnesses, a bloodthirsty and remorseless enemy of the Federal Government. I see that one of his relatives is the acting Governor of Arkansas at this day, and, like nearly every rebel Governor, shows his appetite for quarrel by ridiculing and attacking the selfconstituted managers of the rebellion. But to return to old Elias. While acting as sutler, at one of the military posts in the Indian territory, an order was issued by the Secretary of War, Joel R. Poinsett, to the military commandant at the post, directing him to enlist one thousand friendly warriors for the purpose of co-operating with our troops against some of the hostile tribes, and to pay them eight dollars a week. As soon as this tempting offer was made known, an immense number of red men rushed to the post and offered themselves as volunteers. They came with their squaws and papooses, their horses and rifles, and immediately entered upon an extensive frolic. Rector had a great mass of supplies on hand, and, relying upon the faith of the Government, was only too glad to dispose of his stock at exorbitant prices to the extravagant and greedy Indians. But, in the midst of the carnival, a second letter was received from Secretary Poinsett, informing the commandant of the post that a slight mistake had occurred in his first order, and that, instead of being able to pay the Indians dollars a week, he was directed to apprise them that their wages would be but eight dollars a month. As soon as the corrected order was read to the assembled tribes by their several interpreters, the greatest consternation prevailed. An instant and universal stampede took place. Those who had no horses started away on foot, and in a few hours there was not a red-skin to be seen in the neighborhood. Poor Rector saw his own dilemma at a glance. His goods had been sold on credit, his warehouses stripped of their contents, and he had scarcely sufficient ammunition and provisions for the small garrison of soldiers. There was but one remedy left, and that was to appeal to the generous Government at Washington. He accordingly took stage and steamboat and county. reached the Federal city in due time, put up at Brown's Hotel, dressed himself in his best, combed out his long black hair, which he wore like a woman, tucking it up under his hat with a comb. He called upon the Secretary of War, and detailed to him the sad story of his misfortunes. The Secretary sympathized with him, expressed his desire to indemnify him, but declared he had no authority to do so. After a long consultation, however, a happy thought occurred to him, and he solemnly advised Rector to return to his sutlership, find out his Indian customers, take their notes for the amount due him, come back to Washington and lay the case before Congress upon these youchers. The surprise of Rector may be imagined, but cannot well be described. Pulling his comb from his head, and uncoiling his flowing locks until they rolled almost to his middle, he exclaimed, in tones of mingled sorrow and anger, "Take an Indian's note, Mr. Secretary? why, Great God! I would as soon take the note of a redtired from the Department uttering the deepest curses upon the errors of the Circumlocution Office, and his own ill fortune in having confided his wealth to the tender mercies of the Indians. It is a somewhat touching reflection that all men like Rector, who have been flourishing upon the liberality of the General Government, are now taught the lesson of trusting to the faith of a rebellion, which, without the manliness of the poor Indian, and with none of his causes for complaint to sustain them, are now crushed under the double

who accept them with a full knowledge that they can never be redeemed, and with a sor- or some other point on the Northern coast. rowful anticipation that they are but pledges OCCASIONAL. Public Amusements. ACADEMY OF MUSIC .- A notice of "Richelieu" is unavoidably crowded out. Suffice it to say, that in no part has Mr. Forrest been so handsomely encouraged and so successful. He was tolerably sustained, but needs the assistance of a capable character actor. It is to be regretted that Mr. Mark Smith has been prohibited from appearing up to the present time. Mr. Smith, it will be remembered, is a son of "Sol Smith," the veteran Western comedian. Two sons of the elder Smith are officers in the United States navy, and oneattached to the engineer corps—was engaged in the Port Royal expedition. The report of the disloyalty of Mr. Smith has a specious foundation. Few men have been so uniformly patriotic and self-devoted. The public demand that the management shall be sufficiently independent to introduce him, and it will be left to the generosity of a Philadelphia audience to give him he reception that it has always accorded to a stranger, a gentleman, and a cosmopolitan. The Senorita Cubas appears this evening in her characteristic dances, full of the passion of motion. The dark beauty of Spain will visit the Volunteer Refreshments Saloons this afternoon. WAINLY-STREET THEATRE .- The beautiful spectoole of "Faust and Marguerite" will be produced

burden of having lost their own honor and

their own property at the same time. The

notes of the Southern Confederacy are as

worthless as the notes of the Indians them-

selves. Created as a currency, they are forced

upon the farmers and traders of the South,

by Mr. Roberts this evening. A full house greeted it last night. Mr. Adams plays Faust with his usual discrimination and ability.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—To-night Mr. L. R. Shewell, one of the most capable and efficient actors in this country, takes a benefit. A new dramatization of Scott's Novel of the "Bride of Lammermoor" will be produced, and also the nautica drama of "Ben the Boatswain." Mr. Snewell is a Philadelphia gentleman, who adopted the stage from enthusiasm, and with unprecedented rapidity has passed through the several stages of his profession, until he has reached a most enviable and merited position. He should have a full house. CONTINENTAL THEATRE. -The " Cataract of the Ganges" will be played again this evening. Its startling effects, fine tableaus, magnificent proces-

sions, and good acting, will be greeted, as heretofore, with unbounded satisfaction.

A GRAND CONCERT BY THE INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, for the benefit of the Cooper Refreshment fund for volunteers, will be given at the Musical Fund Hall on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17th.

From Missouri. St. Louis, Dec. 9 .- General Halleck has issued orders stating that the Mayor of this city will require all municipal officers to immediately subscribe to the eath of allegiance, prescribed for them by the convention, in October last, and directing the taken prisoners, while four of the enemy were shot. provost marshal to arrest all State officers who, The New York Seventeenth, together with the having failed to subscribe to such oath within the | Fourteenth and Forty-fifth regiments of the same time fixed by the convention, may attempt to exer- State, went out in force in pursuit of the rebels,

THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM. GEN McCALL'S DIVISION GONE ON ANOTHER

THE CASE OF COL. KERRIGAN.

RECONNOITHING EXPEDITION. A MOVEMENT CONTEMPLATED ON

THE LOWER POTOMAC. FROM THE UPPER POTOMAC.

A FIGHT WITH THE REBELS.

A BATTERY TAKEN FROM THEM, BUT AFTER-

WARDS ABANDONED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1861

Special Despatches to "The Press."

Trial of Col. Kerrigan. The court martial to try Col. James E. Kenni-AN, of the Twenty-fifth New York regiment, asembled at the Art Building, Seventeenth and Pennsylvania avenue, this morning, at 10 o'clock. The following officers compose the court : Brig. Gen. Silas Casey, U. S. regular infantry, Brig. Gen. L. P. Graham, U. S. regular 2d cavalry, Virginia. Brig. Gen. J. N. Palmer, regular 5th cavalry,

Brig. Gen. John G. Parke, regular tepographical Erig. Gen. John G. Parke, regular tepographical engineers, Pennsylvania.
Col. Frank Wheaton, 2d Rhode Island volunteers, regular 4th cavalry, Rhode Island.
Col. Z. W. B. Stockton, Michigan volunteers.
Col. E. P. Chorman, 8th Pennsylvania cavalry.
Col. John Beardsley, 9th New York cavalry,
Col. W. H. H. Davis, 104th Pennsylvania volunteers.

New York.

Col. J. W. Allen, 9th New Jersey volunteers.
Col. J. B. Howell, 85th Pennsylvania volunteers.
First Lieutenant J. Addison McCool, 3d U.
5. infantry, Judge Advocate, Reg. The charges upon which Colenel KERRIGAN is

seing tried—seven in number—are the most serious known in the military service, and the court before which he appears is regarded as the strongest in talent, experience, and other respects, that has ever met in the army of the Potomac. The four generals are all of the regular army, and experienced disciplinarians. So also is Colonel WHEATON. The Judge advo-

cate, Lieutenant McCooL, is a native of Pennsylvania, well known to the editorial fraternity of your State, and also to the legal profession of schuylkill county, of which he was a bright ornament when he entered the army, at the opening of The following is an abstract from a recently in-

tercepted Southern letter: "I suggest that you send your letters through the Hon. James M. Mason, at London. In this way they will be sure to reach their destination." Col. KERRIGAN, who has for some time past been confined in the city prison, was this morning ar-

raigned before a court martial, when the specifications and charges were read to him he pleaded "not guilty." Colonel KERRIGAN appeared in court in charge of a guard. His counsel was Judge EDWARD L. HEARNE, of New York. He was arraigned on the

following charges: Charge First. A habitual neglect of duty. Charge Second. Showing conduct which was prejudicial to good order and military discipline. Charge Third. The violation of the forty-fourth

Charge Fourth. Disobedience of orders, in violation of the ninth article of war. Charge Fifth. Lying out of camp without the leave of his superior officer. Charge Sixth. Drunkenness on duty. prisoner pleaded not guilty to all the cha

except the fifth. Application was then made for a postponement of the trial, which was granted, until to-morrow at ten o'clock. Since the adjournment of the court, the following additional charges have been preferred :

Charge Eighth. Withdrawing of the pickets [Note. This conduct is alleged to have immediately preceded the attack upon our forces and capture of Munson's Hill by the enemy, on Augus

Charge Seventh, A shameful abandonment of his

27.—Rep. 1 Charge Ninth. Communicating with the enemy a number of times, between the 25th of July and the 1st of October. That he left his camp, in Fairfax county, Virginia, and visited the enemy in said

The Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON is engaged to defend Colonel KERRIGAN, whose position is a desperate one. Captain Boyd, of the Lincoln Cavalry, who made the successful reconnoissance to Fairfax Court

House a few days ago, and for which he was complimented by General McCLELLAN, has been deached from his regiment and now performs the duty of provest marshal for the division under General FRANKLIN. His company perform patrol duty. Colonel MULLICAN arrived in Washington to-day,

and was warmly received. General McCall's Division General McCall's division of the army went out before daylight this morning, in force, on a reconnoitring expedition. They will advance farther into the interior, and scour the country more thoroughly, than on former expeditions, with

a view to discover and drive off rebel scouts that have been venturing beyond the rebel army lines. Movements in the Army. I have high official authority for saying that the rebel batteries on the Potomac are soon to be wiped from the banks of the river. It is no credit, it is headed woodpecker!" The dejected sutler retrue, to our boasted strength that they have tired from the Department uttering the deep- been allowed so long to impede the navigation we can say the blockade has been completely removed, our rejoicings will enable us to forget the past. General SICKLES, whose brigade is on the

Maryland side of the lower Potomuc, has been in the city during the last two days, and has received important instructions from the Government in reference to a general movement upon the enemy' batteries. From the Lower Potomac Four schooners from below reached Alexandria at noon to-day. They were loaded with Government stores. The steamers Murray and Satellite came up to the navy yard this morning. The

rebels fired some shots at the Satellite, as she passed up, but they did not take effect. A Telegraphic Line from Fortress Monroe. CYRUS W. FIELD is here, endeavoring to get the Government to adopt a plan for the building of a telegraph line from Fortress Monroe to Baltimore,

The War in Western Virginia, HUTTONVILLE, (Va.,) Dec. 9 .- One sergeant and four privates, deserters from the enemy's camp towards Monterey, came in last night. They report the rebels in a suffering condition. The roads were impassable, and the soldiers were anxious to desert.

The deserters appear well pleased to be from under

the paternal Government of Jeff Davis. They belonged to the Hansborough battalion, and are from Western Virginia. The Future of Virginia. The sacred soil of Virginia will not be long unvery portion of Virginia where the army of the Potomac is encamped, the soil is of very superior quality, and many of the soldiers have made un their minds to purchase farms, if they can possibly obtain them, and make that country their future home. With Northern enterprise and industry.

Fairfax county could very soon be made one of the

States.

most profitable farming districts in the United

Installation. The Rev. Ww. HENRY CHAUNCY WAS installed yesterday. His church (Unitariae) was filled. The discourse was delivered by the Rev. Dr. HENRY W. BELLOWS; Rev. JOHN PIERPONT Pronounced an address; the right hand of fellowship was offered by the Rev. C. J. Bowen: Rev. FRED. N. KNAPP. Rev. WILLIAM D. HADLEY and Ray W. H. CUDWORTH, also took part in the interesting ceremonies.

Sunday in the Camps.

Conscientious chaplains have evidently an un-pleasant time of it in the administration of their pastoral labors. I visited the camps yesterday, but could discover but few evidences that the Sabbath was observed at all. A short religious exercise was had but slim audiences. Generally, the men were them off. busily engaged putting up log cabins, and were as industriously employed as on any previous weekday since they commenced the crection of their log houses. If the different regiments follow the example already set in some camps, and erect log chapels, it would give the chaplains some convenience to assemble a congregation, but now they have no place for worship, and as the severity of the weather prevents them from calling the men together in the open air, it is next to impossible for chaplains to call any number of hearers together for the purpose of religious worship. Officers of the regiments should encourage the erection of suitable log chapels, to be used during the severe weather.

A Skirmish. A scouting party from the New York Seventeenth, when near Anondale, met a party of rebels to day, and, in a skirmish, three of our men were cise civil authority in violation of the ordinance. but they could not be overtaken.

Republican Caucus—The Confiscation of Slave Property. The Republican caucus was in session to-night for several hours, Gen. Pomerov, of Kansas, acting as

chairman, and Mr. McPHERSON, of Pennsylvania Ten-minute speeches were made by Messrs. Sre-VENS, POTTER, DIVEN, BINGHAM, KELLEY, ED-WARDS, LANE, CAMPBELL, ASHLEY, and DAVIS. The discussion is represented as having been very spirited. The general feeling seemed to be to confiscate the slaves and all other property of the rehels, and their siders and abettors, but not to interfere with those of the Unionists. A resolution semewhat to this effect, it is said, is pending. Owing to the insufficient notice given of the caucus, the attendance of Representatives and Sena-

tors was not as large as was desired. Hence no vote

was taken, and the caucus adjourned until Wed-

nesday night. Frauds Upon the Government. Mr. D. B. CHRIST, of Pottsville, Pa., has discovered an extensive system of fraud upon the commissary department here. His attention was attracted to a Government wagon in one of the

out-of-the-way streets of the city, and his suspicions were aroused. After it left the street, he managed to obtain, through the window-shutter, a peep into the building opposite the spot where the wagon stood. Then he discovered large quantities of oats, forage, and wood stowed away. These facts were laid before Col. RUCKER, of the commissary department, who instructed Mr. Christ quietly to follow up his investigations of the matter. The result of his labors has been the discovery of some of the thieves, among whom are the purchasers of the stolen goods, tenmsters who delivered them, and military men who assisted the teamsters, and shared the spoils. Several arrests have been made.

Col. Corcoran, of the Sixty-ninth Judge Dalr, Hon. HIRAM BARNEY, collector of the port, RICHARD O'GORMAN, Esq., and JCHN SA-TAGE, Esq., of New York, have been in this city for several days, laboring to effect an exchange of the gallant Col. Concoran, of the New York Sixtyninth Regiment, now in Charleston jail. These gentlemen have produced a profound impression by their representations to the President, members of the Cabinet, and of Congress. It is to be hoped that the arrangement they desire will be effected. Washington News and Gossip.

The summer-like weather which we are now or joying has caused much log-cutting among the roops on the other side, who are preparing their winter quarters. Several large foraging parties started out this morning. One, from the Pennsylvania Reserves, in the direction of Leesburg.

Several resignations of officers are reported to

have taken place in the Pennsylvania Reserves during the past week. Secretary Welles is about to issue proposals for the purchase of a large number of vessels, of heavy tonnage, which are unfit for sea. They are supposed to be intended for the stone fleet.

Personal. Gen. FREMONT has taken apartments here on E, between Ninth and Tenth streets. Secretary CHASE's report was read to-day, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Col. JAMES A. MULLIGAN is at Willard's. Judge Nelson appeared in his seat upon the Supreme Court to-day for the first time in the current

Secretary SEWARD went as far as Philadelphia Saturday, to accompany some members of his family returning to Auburn, N. Y. Mr. SEWARD is again at his post to-day. John J. Asron, grandson of the late J. J. ASTOR.

is to day officially announced as volunteer aid-decamp to General McClellan, with the rank of Mr. RUSSELL, of the London Times, dined, after the review on Saturday, at the camp of the Garibaldians, with Colonel D'UTASSY and his officers. Dr RUSSELL complimented the Garibaldians in a neat speech, for their soldierlike movements in the review, and the officers for the harmony manifested in a regiment made up from so many different

Deaths of Pennsylvania Soldiers. The following soldiers have died since our last MILTON BRANT, Company A, Fifty-third Pennsylvania, at St. Elizabeth Hospital. Joseph Schaffer, Company A. One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Hospital. G. W. Gist, Company I, First Pennsylvania

Cavalry, at Columbian Hospital. J. B. KITCHEN, Company E, Fifty-second Penn vlvania, at Columbian Hospital. DAVID KOAGLER, Company I, Thirty-sixth Pennsylvania, at Indiana Hospital. WM. DUNLAP, Company C, First Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, at Camp Pierpont. JOHN T. TAYLOR, Company J, First Pennsyl-

Miscellaneous. Hon. C. B. CALVERT, of Maryland, and Hon. R. H. DUELL, of New York, waited upon the President to-day, urging the appointment of Col. JOHN C. ROBINSON as brigadier general. The latter commanded at Fort McHenry on the 19th of April and commands now a brigade at Annapolis

vania Reserve Corps, at Camp Plerpont.

Junction.

As to-morrow and Wednesday will be devoted by Congress to proceedings consequent on the death of Senators BAKER and BINGHAM, the House has post poned the consideration of the various slavery pro positions before it until Thursday. Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, has modified his esolutions in several important particulars, so as to include the declaration that there can be no solid and permanent Union so long as slavery exists, and that all slaves should be proclaimed free, full compensation to be made to those loval masters who

have been, and continue to be, supporters of the The bill introduced by Mr. HUTCHINS, of Ohio, o-day, proposes unconditionally to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. The notice for a caucus to-night at the Capitol. as read after the House adjourned, invited the

attendance of the Republicans of both houses, on matters of importance, whereupon Mr. VALLAN-DIGHAM expressed his surprise at the continuance of King Caucus's reign. He thought gentlemen intended to carry out their "no party" professions A delegation of eight Cherokees, Creeks, and Seminoles have arrived here to examine and report to their people the true condition of political affairs. They had an interesting conference to-day with the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and have expressed their surprise at finding things so entirely different from the repreentations made to them by the rebel leaders. Commanders E. R. THOMPSON and OVERTO CARR, and Lieut. JAMES A. DOYLE, of the United States navy, have, upon the recommendation of the

board, now in session in New York, been retired During the coming few weeks the navy will require a large number of the vessels now fitting out, and it is earnestly hoped that fishermen and others returning from summer cruises will enlist in this branch of the Government service. Several thousand will be needed. A well-known gentleman of financial ability ha

prepared, and will publish this week, a pamphiet explanatory of the Secretary of the Treasury's proposed system of national finance. Important from the Upper Potomac-A FREDERICK, Dec. 9 .- Colonel Leonard, of the

Thirteenth Massachusetts Regiment, arrived hero this morning, from Williamsport, with important advices from the Upper Potomac. On Saturday afternoon a rebel force, consisting of a battery of six pieces, about four hundred in-

fantry, and two hundred cavalry, made their appearance at Dam No. 5, on the Virginia side, and ommenced throwing shot at the dam and houses on the Maryland shore, burning a barn and riddling all the houses within range. They continued the fire until dusk. The only forces there to oppose the rebels were company of the Massachusetts Thirteenth Regi-

ment, on picket duty, and an unarmed regiment from Illinois. As the Massachusetts company were armed with smooth-bore muskets, their fire was not effective at that distance. Early on Sunday morning the rebels resumed the fire with artillery and small-arms, and, emboldened by the slight resistance they met with on Saturday.

they came down to the very brink of the river, and exposed themselves without fear. During the night Col. Leonard had despatched, by canal boats from Williamsport, another company of his regiment, armed with Enfield rifles. This force was concealed as skirmishers along the Maryday, the riflemen opened fire from their concealment, and in a short time the rebel artillerists were compelled to abandon their battery in hot haste, the infantry and cavalry leaving the ground about the same time. The robel loss is believed to have been

For want of a sufficient infantry force, and a battery to protect their movements. Col. Leonard was compelled to let the rebel guns remain in position, observed in some of the regiments, but even these and after nightfall the rebels returned and took The rebel battery consisted of three Parrot 10pounders, one 12-pounder carrying the Sawyer shell, and two smooth-bore 6-pounders. Some of the infantry were armed with improved long-range

rifles. This force came from Bath; the cavalry and infantry by the country roads; but the battery by railroad from Martinsburg. They were probably en route to Winchester or Harper's Ferry, and

XXXVIITH CONGRESS-FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, December 9, 1861. SENATE.

Mr. DIXON, of Connecticut, presented the resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Connecticut asking the Senators and Representatives to use efforts to secure the repeal of so much of the act for the increase of the revenue as imposes an income tax, or olar to have the amount apportioned among the several States, so as to allow them to raise the amount in their own way. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Also, the resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Connecticut in favor of a system of decimal weights and measures. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, presented the petition of a citizen of Iowa, who had invented a rebel moving machine, or double-acting bomb, to which he wished to call the special attention of the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs. Military Affairs. Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill re-Mr. WILSON, or massacuments, measured attive to courts martial in the army.

Also, a bill to provide for alloument certificates among ha volunteers. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, presented several petitions of citizens of Rhode Island and Vermout, calling on Congress, under the war power, to legislate on the subject of the emancipation of the slaves belonging to

cheis.
Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, presented several peitons of the same character.

The President of the Senate also presented several personal parts of the Senate also presented several personal perso The President of the Schate 480 presented soveral petitions from citizens of Wisconsin of the same character, All were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, Mr. SUMNER presented a resolution that all memorials and papers on the files of the Senate relating to the recognition of Liberia and Hayti be taken from the files and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs Agreed to. greed to. Mr. CLARKE, of New Hampships, offered a resolumr. CLAKEE, of New Hampships, offered a resolu-tion requesting the marshal of this District to inform the Senate by what authority he keeps slaves of the District in pail because they were refractory. He said he had visited the jail and found a number of slaves of the Dis-trict confined for no reason, but only because their mas-ters and mistresses sent them there because refractory. The resolution was arreed to

ers and mistresses sent them there because refractory. Bis resolution was agreed to.

Mr. POMLAROY, of Kansas, introduced a bill granting pensions and land warrants to soldiers. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, introduced a joint resolution lirecting the Secretary of War to receive and equipertain mounted regiments. Referred to the Military committee. formulate.

Mr. HARBIS, of New York, introduced a bill for the value from fire. Referred to protection of the public property from fire. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia. Mr. Hale's resolution directing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the present Supreme Court and establishing another was taken up.

Mr. HALE said the present Supreme Court had falled
in the purpose for which it had been established. He
sincerely believed that if the rebels now in arms against
the Government should succeed, the Supreme Court would
decide that the United States soldiers now in Virginia

Mr. FONTER, of Connecticut, thought that Congress should legislate only for the great question before it. While he believed that the Supreme Court had lost the confidence of the country, he did not think that the judiciary would be benefitted by the demunication of Senser Market Market Market his the testing the senser of the country that the testing the senser of the country that the senser of the senser He did not believe this to be the time for such rad al legislation. Mr. BROWNING, of Illinois, thought that it was not

n the power of Congress to repeal the Supreme Court. That power was not given in the Constitution, and we had no more power to do that than to repeal the Constibut on tution.

Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, moved as a substitute that all that portion of the President's message relating to the judiciary be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The discussion was continued at some length but Mr. Hala. by Mr. Hale. Mr. Collamer's amendment as a substitute was agreed

Mr. Collamer's amendment as a substitute was agreed to, and the resolution, as amended, adopted.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury was received, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. HALE, of New Hampshire, offered a resolution that the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making alterations in the Constitution in relation to the several courts. Laid over. Constitution in relation to the several courts. Laid over,
On motion, various portions of the President's message were referred to the committees on Indian Affairs, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, &c.
Mr. DIXON, of Connecticut, presented a bill to restore Mr. B. Woolsey to active service in the navy.
On motion of Mr., CHANDLER, of Michigan, the resolution inquiring into the causes of diasters at Bull Run and Bull's Bluff was taken up—the question being on the substitute of Mr. Grimes, that a committee be appointed to investigate the causes of all disasters that have happened to the Union forces.

Mr. POMEROY thought that these investigations were of doubtful expediency, and might load to impeachments.

nents.
Mr. CHANDLER said that the officers of the army Mr. CHANDLER said that the officers of the army were not liable to impeachment, but one of our number has fallen, and is nobody to blame? He thought that the facts ought to be known.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iows, enumerated a great variety of causes which had been given for the disaster at Bull Run. He said he granted the true cause known. In regard to the disaster in Missouri, referred to by the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Lane), if Gen. Fremont was to blame, let it be known; but if not, then, in Golfs hame, let him be justified, and let the country know it.

DIr. LANE, of Kansas, said he did not attribute the blame to any particular officer; but he did know that troops were on hand to relieve General Lyon and Colond Mulligan, and the people believed there was a want of capacity or dereliction of duty somewhere.

Mr. POSTER said, if military officers thought it best not to investigate the subject now, under the present cir-

MIT. FUSTEM SAID, II MUIITARY officers thought it best not to investigate the subject now, under the present circumstances, he thought Congress had better not do it. If the military officers manage the army badly, Congress will only make a bad matter worse by interfering. He would let the military alone in time of war. An inquiry of this kind will only call men away from a higher date, at the rroper time Congress might make the inquiry. Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, thought that no harm art. FESSENDEN, of Maine, thought that no harm could come of such an inquiry, and good might result. Congress might make the inquiry without in any way putting obstacles in the path of inditary officers. Yo see many things which seem wrong, and he thought it better to make an inquiry now into their causes and have the matter settled promptly. The Senate was not under the control of the military. They were not second, but the first, and their requests are to be obeyed. They should perform their duty and calmly investigate the subject. should perform their duty and campy investigate the subject.

Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, concurred with the Santtor from Maine, but thought the inquiry should not be confined to the disasters of the war, but should be a general inquiry into the whole couplings of the war. Many orders had been given which might be inquired into. One officer is said to have refused to take any cotton from the rebels. If so, he was in the wrong. Another is said to have refused to receive slaves in his camp; and one high officer of the Government, the Adjutant General, had been travelling over the country to pick up scraps of testimony not worth anything, and had the stuff published. The people were full of enthusiasm, which was damaged by these jealousies of military officers. damagod by these icalousies of military officers.

On motion of Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, it was re

damagou by these jeatonises of initiary officers.

On motion of Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, it was resolved that the Committee on the District of Columbia be requested to report the number of fugitive slaves that have been confined in the city jail, in Washington, during the last one and a half years, by whom claimed, and whether any of these fugitives have been returned to their claimants, and by what authority and to whom; and also specifying what number, if any, have been returned since the Péécht order of Secretary Seward in reference to alleged fugitives, and to whom, and by whom, they have been delivered.

Mr. SHERMAN continued. Impeliments had been thrown in the way of the progress of the army by many of the departments of the fovernment. He would record his soferm conviction that before the war ceased shavery would almost if not entirely have ceased to exist; but the war would be carried on without any reference to the subject of shavery, to preserve a free country for free men. If he could infuse the spirit of the people into all the departments of the Government the war would goon end.

Mr. CRIMES reposeed to a mend the subject to a second of the covernment the war would goon end.

Mr. GRIMES proposed to amend the substitute, so as

Mr. GRIMES proposed to amend the substitute, so as to appoint a join committee, consisting of three members of the Senate and four members of the House, to investigate the condition of the present war.

Mr. HALE, of New Humpshire, thought the resolutions were not pointed chough, and moved to add, it especially the disaster of Ball's Blutt."

Mr. WILSON, of Ma-sachusetts, said he was glad to see the resolution take a wider field. He thought it was time that the diverse proclamations of officers should cease, and the Government have a settled policy. We must remember, however, that we have not many men of large military experience, and great mistakes have been made and will likely continue to be made. But he wanted it to be understood by the military, that the poople expected no such mistakes should be made.

Mr. LATHAM, of California, saked for the yeas and nays. The resolution was then agreed to—yeas 33, nays 3. Megars. Carliele, Latham, and Ricc.

Absent—Mesers. Bright, Collamer, Foot, Thomson, Willey, and Wilmot.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, from the Committee
on Elections, introduced a resolution, which was passed,
authorizing the parties in the contested election case of
Beach vs. Upton, in Fairtax district, Virginia, to take

Hearn's. Upton, in Fairtax district, Virginia, to take testimony.

Mr. MURBILL, of Vermont, gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill donating lands to the several states for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts in the establishment of colleges.

Mr. BICHARDSON, of Illicois, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following, which was passed:

Whereas, The exchange of prisoners in the present rebollion has already been practiced, indirectly, and as such an exchange would not only increase the cultiments and vigor of our army, but subserve the highest interests of humanity; and as such exchange does not involve the recognition of the rebels as a Government:

therefore be it

Resolved by the Senale and House of Representatires, That the President of the United States be requested to inaugurate systematic measures for the exchange of prisoners in the present rebellion.

On motion, it was resolved that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of furnishing relief to the starring population of Ireland, and to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, from the Committee
on Military Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the raising of a volunteer force for the better defence of Kenicky Mr. LOVEJOY, of Illinois, introduced the following oint resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War he requested to

It as follows:
L. M.A.B. It has been represented that information of the
numbers and condition of our army has been conveyed to the enemy by means of fugitive slaves, who have been allowed to enter the lines, therefore, in order to remedy the evil, no such persons shall hereafter be permitted shall be excluded therefrom."

Mr. GOX, of Olio, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Not agreed to—yeas 63, mays 68.

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Ancona, Bailey (Pennsylvania), Riddle, Blair (Vingnia), Browne (thode Ishund, brown (Virginia), Burnham, Cobb, Cox, Cravens, Crisfield, Cristenden, Dawes, Delano, Dunlap Dunn, English, Fouke, Grider, Harding, Harrison, Holman, Horton, Johnson, Kellogg (Illinois), Killinger, Law, Lazear, Leary, Lebman, McKnight, McPherson, Mallory, Maynard, Menzies, Nisös, Noble, Noell, Korton, Odell, Olin, Pendleton, Richardson, Rabinson, Sheffield, Shellaburger, Shiel, Smith, Steele (New York), Steele (New Jersey). Stratton, Thomas (Massachusetts), Thomas (Marshad), Criton, Vallandigham, Wadsworth, Webster, White (Ohio), Wickliffe, Wood, Woodruff, and Wright—62.

NAYS—Messrs. Aldrich, Alley, Ashley, Babbitt, Bailey (Massachusetts), Buker, Baxter, Bingham, Blair (Missonri), B'air (Pennsylvania), Blake, Buffinton, Chamherlain, Clark, Colfax, Frederick A. Conkling, Roscoccockuking, Conway, Davis, Diven, Duell, Edgarton, Edwards, Eliot, Fenton, Fesschelen, Franchot, Frank, Gooch, Granger, Guley, Hutchins, Julian, Kelley, Lansing, Locunia, Lovejoy, Morchead, Morrill (Maine), Morrill (Vermont), Phelps (California), Pomeroy, Porter, Potter, Rice (Massachusetts), Riddle, Rollins (New Hampshire), Sargeant, Sedgwick, Shanks, Sherman, Slosia, Spaulding, Stevens, Train, Trimbs, Trowbride, Vandever, Vanhorn, Van Wyck, Wall, Wallace, Walton (Maine), Walton (Vermont), Washburue, Whocler, Wilson, and Worcester—68.

Mr. LOYEJOY then moved the previous question.
Whereupon Mr. Olin, of Kontucky, moved that the House adjourn. Lost by a large majority.

Mr. LANSING offered a substitute, which Mr. Lovejoy accepted, characterizing the order as inhuman and joy accepted, characterizing the order as inhuman and joy accepted, characterizing the order as inhuman and joy accepted, characterizing the order as inhuman and Mr. COX, of Ohlo, moved to lay the resolution on the Mr. LANSING offered a substitute, which Mr. Love-joy accepted, characterizing the order as inhuman and cruel, and respectfully requesting the President to direct Gen. Halleck to recall the said order, and cause him to conform to the practice in order departments of the

conform to the Manuel.

Mr. J.ANSING, of New York, offered the following as a substitute, which Mr. Lovejoy accepted:

Whereas, Major General Halleck, of the Western Military Department, has issued an order prohibiting negroes from coming within the lines of our army, and excluding those already under the protection of our troops And. And,
Whereas, A different policy and practice prevaits in stopped at that point to destroy the dam, and thus impede canal transportation.

This morning, the rebels were in considerable force, and kept up a scattering fire with their rifles core, and kept up a scattering fire with their rifles core. The force is cruci and inhuman, and, in the judgment of the House, bused upon no military necessity: There fore, be it

ment, and who may, directly or indirectly, offer brib the advantages of furnishing military stores, men of war, etc. Military and naval courts martial or thorized to hear such cases, and those found guilt to be punished with imprisonment of not less that Mr. CONKLING and that the Government ha Mr. CONKING and that the Government has cheated of large sums of money. There was a mult of harpire, which no mon could number, preying the vitals of the Commonwealth. They should provide the vitals of the Commonwealth. They should provide there was a class of desperate speculators who deploting the treasury to enormous amounts, so a very of ingenious modes. of ingenious modes.
Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, who is on the S opt. The bill was referred to the Committee on ciary.

Mr. BINGHAM, of Ohio, introduced a bill to orgath the medical department of the army. Referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill repealing all acts and parts of acts au sking the committeent of persons of color as runaw or anspected or charged with being runaways, and be a constant of charged with being runaways, and be a constant of persons of color as runaways. for such practices.

Mr. Gurley's (of Obio) bill to conflicte the party of rebela, liberate their slaves, and cotonize t was referred to the Committee on Millitary Affairs.

Mr. RUTCHINS, of Obio, introduced a bill to ablavery in the District of Columbia. Roferred.

Mr. WEBSTER, of Maryland, introduced a resolu

Mr. WEBSTERS OF STATEMENT MAY AND A WHICH WAS A GOOD TO BE STATEMENT OF THE STATEMENT OF TH and Canals to inquire into the expediency of ostablish a radironal from New York to Washington, via the Pensylvania Central Ralirond.

Many other bills and resolutions of minor important were introduced and referred.

The SPEAKER presented the annual report of is Secretary of the Treasury.

A motion for printing extra copies was referred to the Committee on Printing.

On motion of Mr. VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, On motion of Mr. VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, was

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnis
if not incompatible with the public interests; cupies of
proclamations or orders issued and published in the pre
or otherwise made public by himself or any head of D
partment or any military or navel officer of the Unit
States, since the 4th of March last, relating to the point
ong contest with the so-called Confederate States.

On motion of Mr. COX, it was resolved that the Con
mittee of Ways and Means be instructed to consider e
subject of the tariff and taxation, with a view to equal
the burdens of the present war upon all citizens, a
upon all sections, and upon capital and labor, and,
this puspose, that the bress of bariff and direct tax will
so modified as to carry out the principles of just and car
taxstion. so modified as to carry our the principles of the taxation.

Mr. UPTON, of Virginia, introduced a bill to facility

judicial proceedings in the confiscation of captured pr perty and for the better regulation of the law of prizes. The House then adjourned. From New York.

New York, Dec. 9.—The steamship Congress from Antworp, arrived at this port this afternoon Her advices have been anticipated.

The gnnboat Tuscarora has arrived from Philadelphia. The gunboat Suwannes is below. Furman & Co.'s distillery, in Williamsburg, was partially destroyed by fire this morning, by the explosion of one of the stills. One of the workmen, Prancis Teague, was killed. Nearly \$20,000 worth of rum was destroyed. f rum was destroyed.

Klindenmueller's German Concert saloon, in the Bowers, was visited by the police on Sunday night, and all the fausticians, performers, supers, burkeepers, and the proprietor, were arrested.

Municipal Elections in Massachusetts. Boston, Dec. 9.—Mayor Wightman was re-lected to-day by 1,000 majority over Tobey, the Republican candidate. In Lowell, Mr. Hosford was elected mayor over Graves, (Republican.)
P. M. Neal was elected mayor of Lynn. Wm. Gaston re-elected mayor of Roxbury. P. J. Stone elected mayor of Charlestown, and P. E. Aldrich, mayor of Worcester.
George W. Jackman was re-elected mayor of Newburyport, by an almost unanimous vote

New York Bank Statement.

New York, Dec. 9.—The bank statement for the week ending on Saturday indicates—

A decrease of loan. \$2,996,340

A decrease of deposits 2,68,761

An increase of specie 810,052

An increase of circulation 288,554

AUCTION NOTICE—SALE OF READY-MADE CLOTH ING .- We would call the attention of the trade to the large and desirable assortment of ready-made clothing, including the entire stock of a first-class clothier, being the fines: stock of clothing offered this season. To be sold on (to-morrow) Wednesday morning. December 11th, commencing at 10 o'clock precisely, by Philip Ford & Co., Auctioneers, at their store, No. 525 Market, and No. 522 Commerce

THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING. AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Broad and Locust treets, --- Grand Cubas Night." WALNOT STREET THEATER Ninth and Wainut sts. -WHEATLEY'S CONTINENTAL TRULTER Walnut stre Land"-The Cataract of the Ganges." TEMPLE OF WONDERS-N. E. corner Tenth and Ches -

UP IN THE CHIMNEY .- At this cold, rainy season of the year chimney-sweeping is most in vogue At this time Winter shows his teeth and the frost gathers on the window panes.

fires are kindled under the mantel-places. But, alas! the chimney is full of soot, that falls upon the new zinc. all flaming and blazing, and the fire bursts out near the roof, threatening conflagration, so that a youth, ever alert for "the safety of our citizens"-such being the motto on his engine-screams "Fi-er!" at the top of his voice, and soon calls up half the department. Therefore, as we commenced, this is the time of the year for the sweeps. They go out, three sable youths, with the arms of their "profession," and leading the old blind uncle that carries a club and wears green specthe "Oh! oh! oh!" in a sort of curious music that doesn't mean anything, and yet rings out very merrily

on the pure, clear air. Up and down, by windows full of jewelry, of beautiful wares, of costly silks, and paintings, and furniture, the sweeps, sooty and dusty, and very cold, go hugging their rags and flourishing their brushes, and cryin "Oh! oh! oh! oh!" By and by, they reach a very old house, that seems deermined to be taken for a relic of the Revolution, though it isn't so old by any means, and a maiden lady, who might have been the mother of any of the forefathers,

pokes her head just a little way out of the door, and sayse in a cracked sort of voice, "Little boy." up the steps so quickly that one of his great fore "How nasty you are," says the maiden lady, as if that were an obstacle to the successful prosecution of chimne sweeping. "Yes um," said the boy, "did you want the second-

story back, the kitchen, or the 'tother cleaned ?" The old lady opines that the " 'tother" is the chimna n question, but she is nevertheless strongly opposed to seeing four ebony personages come grinning up the steps.
The old man stumbles awkwardly after, led by the sooty urchins, and together they explore corridors of cobwebs, bleak, chilly passages, and go, shally, into a perior that is embellished with frowning portraits, a dingy carpet, nd furniture of antediluvian pattern and heaviness. I he old lady and the negroes peep up the chimney in uccession, as if some strange dragon dwelt therein, and directly the smallest lad, being assisted by the other brothers, finds himself going up the funnel, half suffo-cated by dust and wood ashes. Once he comes down and tells "dad" that it can't be stood, and that it will

neck, and he is up in no time. neck, and he is up in no time.

He has reacked the top: how beautiful seem the sky, the city spread beneath! and the swallows that are roused from their nests acream around him, and make sundry dashes at his head. But, all unabushed, the little fellow shouts his "Oh, oh! oh, oh!" until the people look up and around to see the vocalist, whom they presently discover by his sooty face and woolly cranium.

Directly he begins to sweep. The soot falls to the hearth, so that the old lady who has remained in the musty parlor, with indistinct nations of their separases.

argon, is there with a territore congu, and goes imping out at the door.

Such is the life of the aweep, who is, by the way, a
sort of hero. His struggle is like that of a goed man
who climbs through a sooty world, made foul by the bot
passions of men, and, arrived at the top, where the
heavens are blue and beautiful, he shouts his triumph in

A Case of Sympathy .- Some three years A CASE OF SYMPATHY.—Some three years since, a gentleman named Omohundro, a native of Richmond, Yu., sent to this city to be educated two of his younger children, a brother and sister. The children were committed in the care of A. W. Raad, Esq., a friend of the finnily, who resides in this city, and who placed them at boarding school under the tutorship of Miss Davis, of 1511 Poplar street. Here they remained, and on account of pressing business engagements the father was unable to visit his offspring. Time wors an, and the breaking out of the Southern rebellion cut off all communication between parent and children. Some throw weeks since, the had, Sinse Omohundro, was taken serious of skillfur physicians and the tender selicitude of his guardian, he died on the 4th instant. Information of the lad's denth was sent to General Wool, at Fortress Monroe, with the request that he would forward it to the father at Bichmond.

It is not known whether the message was received or not, as no reply has yet been returned. The guardian for the last was the deal of the guardian of the last of the guardian of the not, as no reply has yet been returned. The guar lian Mr. Bund, felt deeply pained at the death of his youthfu Mr. Band, felt deeply pained at the death of his youthful ward, and adopted every proper means to pay the last sad tribute to the deceased. He procured the services of Mr. E. S. Early, the well-known undertaker at the corner of Tenth and Green streets, who furnished four coffins, one of which, containing the body, was made of ecdar, lined with satin. Upon the lid of the coffin was a large glass, showing the face and breast of the boy. This was placed in a metallic case coffin, also having a glass top similar to the first, and which was rendered perfectly air-tight, in order that the remains might be preserved, in case the father should at any time succeed in reaching this city. These two coffus were enclosed in another made of manegary, and handsomely covered with black cloth, and furnished with silver mouddings and handles. Upon the lid was a magnificent silver breast-plate, which bore the following inscription: "Sllas Omniundfo, Jr., died December 181, 1861, aged 12 years and 6 months." The whole of these were again enclosed in a red cedar box, held t gether with copper and copper funeral took place yesterday afternoon, from the hoard-ing school to which the deceased was attached. The only relative present was the Bey, Mr. Henson, of the Baptist Church, Broad and Brown streets, who was not eve Church, Broad and Brown streets, who was not even aware of the presence of the children in this city until he heard of the death of the boy.

The funeral was very largely attended, which no doubt was caused by the peculiar circumstances of the case.

The Rev. Dr. Morton, of the Episcopal Church, officiated The Rev. Dr. Morton, of the Episcopal Church, officiated at the grave. Those present were much moved by the solemnity of the proceedings. The interment took place at Laurel Hill Cemetery, the body being placed in the yault of Dr. Lavis, who attended the had during his sickness. The father of the deceased is a wealthy merchant, doing business in Richmond, where he owns a large amount of property.

stopped at that point to destroy the dam, and thus impede canal transportation.

This morning, the rebels were in considerable force, and kept up a scattering fire with their rifles upon our men whenever visible. One Federal soldier was struck twice and severely wounded, but this was the only casualty on our side during the whole affair.

At 11 o'clock last night, a portion of the First brigade here was put in readiness to start to Williamsport, but at a later hour the order was countermanded.

A hattery of Parrot's guns was forwarded to Harper's Ferry, by railroad, at noon, to-day, to be in readiness abould the rebete again wish to test their skill in projectiles.

Other departments by the direct sanction of the Administration; And, Wheteas, The sand order is oruci and inhuman, and, in the judgment of the House, bused upon no military necessity: Ther force, be it

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to direct for. Halleck to recall said order, or cause it to conform to the practice in other departments of the subject was postponed.

Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, introduced a resolution, Mystic have both sailed from the navy yand. The officiancy and soldiers in actual acretic of the Administ tration; And, the by iteration; And, the beginner of the House, bused upon no military necessity: Ther force, be it

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Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, under the resolution of the subject was postponed.

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Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, i NAVAL MATTERS .- The schooner Ella, five-