The Press.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1861.

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FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

POETRY-WAR WIT, &c. Single Copies for sale at the Counter of The Press. TRRMS :- One copy, one year, \$2; Three copies, one year, \$5; Five copies, one year, \$8.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS. The details of the news from England, brought by the mails of the Jura, indicate that the excitement in regard to the seizure of Mason and Slidell had, to a slight extent, been allayed by the publication of the letter of General Scott, which appears on our first page, and by the discussions which had appeared in the English journals, showing that we had only followed English precedents in stopping the Trent and scizing the rebel commissioners. It is evident, however, that much angry feeling still exists, and even those journals what they deem "ample reparation" is not made, it will be almost impossible to avoid a war between the two countries. The London Times, while it concinto, contends that we "must be prepared to accept as international law, not what the English navy or others have done in old times, but what the English navy would be permitted to do in the present day." It also alleges that the English Ministry have sent "to Washington, not to open a controversy, but to demand a restitu-

On the other hand, the London Daily News opens its columns to several well-written communications, one of which shows that Eagland, for serted, not by law, but by armed force, the ing under the neutral flag of the United States." Another correspondent ably shows the folly of censuring Captain Wilkes for not subjecting the innocent passengers on board the Trent to the pecuniary loss and inconvenience which they would have suffered if that yessel had been taken into an American port.

Richard Cobden, too, in his letter warns his countrymen that any intervention in our internal difficulties "can have no other effect but to aggravate and provoke the quarrel."

But these words of sober and unimpassioned counsel have but a limited effect in stemming the torrent of British prejudice and passion, which has been aroused, and which the sympathizers with the rebellion are doing their utmost to increase. speedily come to their assistance. And such military and naval preparations have been commenced by the British Government that their intention, to speedily commence hostilities, if a diplomatic adjustment is not made, cannot well

A telegraphic despatch from New York says that Secretary Chase stated yesterday in that city that he had good reason to believe that an amicable settlement would be made, and we presume that the Administration will adopt every honorable means in its power to avoid a war with England at this critical functure in our national history. He also expressed to the New York bankers the opinion fully justify his hopeful views.

Missouri, and to have taken about three hundred prisoners. Bates county, where he attacked them. borders on Kansas, and lies a short distance south of the latitude of St. Louis.

The Washington Star says that a successor to General Phelps, whose injudicious proclamation we

all emergencies, while as to arms, we are abundantly able to help ourselves from the armories now in cause in Kentucky, and giving his best exeroperation, and with our ability to construct new machinery whenever it may be needed.

A despatch from Somerset, Kentucky, states that General Schoepff, with his army, had left that place to attack Zollicoffer, who was at Fishing Creek General Schoepff's force consists of about 7,000 men, with three batteries of artillery, and he was he would be able to whip Zollicoffer, and perhaps bench until driven from Nashville, and is now take some of his troops prisoners. The two regi- an exile in Washington, having lost his homelead the van of General Schoepff's column.

No later than vesterday, we heard a gentleman bitterly complain that his brother being a prisoner in the South, it was a terrible thing that he could not be liberated, as generally takes place in war, by exchange. He asked, in the excitement which was not unnatural un- imprisonment, and proscription for their der the circumstances, why some plan had not loyalty. been framed, by which this exchange of prisoners could be effected?

That so many persons pine in captivity in the North and in the South, is mainly to be they should not be left to the fate which seems attributed to England. We surely do not err to be upon them. It will be an ineffaceable stain | by certain of their leaders in both Houses of in believing that not only do the public desire upon the American name if the Union men of to see this condition of affairs changed, but Eastern Tennessee are sacrificed to this spirit | leaders commit as great a blunder as those that Congress, the Cabinet, and the President of rebellion. We know that the President himself also unite in the desire to have an ex- feels kindly towards the people of the Border | confiscation of the property of rebels to the | in Philadelphia. The living Aztec children, the change of prisoners. England, which talks so States—that for Tennessee he has a partiloudly of freedom, is the real jailer— cular affection—his message ably reprethe actual turnkey. Suppose that by sented and defended their cause. a mutual arrangement an exchange of him the Union men-these "Lincolnites" prisoners were made, what would Eng- of Tennessee-look in their hour of trial-to land do and say? Her words would be, him the country appeals for the maintenance "While you treated the South as redel we of its honor and its faith. And we hope that could not acknowledge it as independent. All neither our suffering fellow-citizens in Tenwe could do was to acknowledge it as belligs- nessee, nor their sympathizing friends throughrent. Between a nation and her revolted ter- out the Union, will be disappointed. ritory, exchange of prisoners cannot be admitted-because the exchange would show equality. The moment you do exchange with the South, we shall insist that you thereby concede to it the status of national independence, and we shall at once acknowledge it, by town-superior furniture. Sale on Monday, at the recognizing its flag, breaking the blockade you suction store fine wines, brandies, &c. See Thohave proclaimed, and sending our merchant- mas & Sons' advertisements of the three sales.

men into its ports, for cotton and tobacco, rice and turpentine, under the escort, if necessary,

act upon it, even if the present difficulty had not arisen, and thus England keeps, in North and South, the prisoners who, but for her, might just as well be restored to freedom and home, to friends and relatives. If they remain in prison, England holds the key.

WE HEAR a voice of supplication from the that we cannot refuse, and which the honor of the country should speedily answer. It is a | pend upon in the prosecution of this war; and cry of help by those in sad distress-by brave and good and loyal men, who are suffering for are restored, we shall find the true elements the cause of their country. For Eastern Tenpart of the South has the tyranny of the Sccessionists been more cruel and unrelenting. In no part of the South has the loyalty of the masses been more firm and incorruptible. The people of that district have shown us what it is to be patriots and citizens—and they show us every day that while Secessionism may have extinguished the forms of Union and of law, they are nevertheless cherished and defended by the people.

We believe in comparative loyalty. We are not disposed to be harsh with the majority of the Southern people. It is a great deal easier to go with the tide than buffet it, and while there is glory about martyrdom, men generally do not care to die for their opinions. Therefore we are not surprised that, throughout the extreme Cotton States, there is no such manifestation of loyalty as we believe exists, and as we soon hope to sec. When we know that loyalty in the Carolinas means death and poverty and shame, we naturally expect to see the Carolinas disloyal. When we hear of citizens being sent to prison in New Orleans for speaking kindly of Mr. Lincoln, we reflect that people, as a general thing, have a dislike to prisons, and do not wonder at the unanimity with which they detest our Chief Magistrate. Men are executed in Arkansas and Texas for devotion to the Union, and, therefore, in Arkansas and Texas the Union has few friends. All over the South the enemy is powerful and relentless, disobedience to his will is only the prelude to the prison or the scaffold, and therefore all over the South, our friends have submitted to the temporary sway of the tyrant, and look longingly unto the North for the coming of the avenging armies of the Republic. When Se-

cessionism broke forth-when State after State seccded—and it seemed as if the whole country, south of Mason and Dixon's line, had yielded to the traitors—there were Union strongholds throughout the South where the friends of the country were determined on making a gallant struggle. One by one they have surrendered. Northern Alabama. Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, North Carolina, and Virginia—where the flag of the Union waved even after their assumed Secession-are now overrun and controlled by the enemy, and such Union men as CLEMENS, STEPHENS,

the ranks of the enemy. One stronghold remains—and that is Eastern Tennessee. No page will be brighter than that which tells the student of American history how brayely the Union men fought-with what devotion they have maintained their allegiance-against what odds they have contended. They are surrounded by an enemy. which are friendly to the North intimate that, if | Their channels of communication have been interrupted—their newspapers have been suppressed-their public men have been villified, banished, and plundered—and still they are cedes that plenty of British precedents can be found true. Not in silence, and under a protestto prove that the British navy has repeatedly acted but boldly, openly, and with arms in their a much more offensive manner than the San Ja- hands. We have before us a detailed account plied with reliable returns respecting the value "insurrectionary movement," as the Secession newspapers call it, and the cruel measures taken by the rebels to suppress it and punish the participants. Several have been hung already, say the Secession organs, and short work will be made of the rest of them. Their homes have been visited and plundered by the rebels, and injury and wrong heaped upon their families. In the words of the authority from which we quote: "Hundreds of families took refuge in hidden mountain reseventy years, when she was a belligerent, "as- cesses, leaving everything behind them to escape the ruthless vengeance of their perseright to search for and capture persons sail- cutors, while hundreds again have been pillaged of their all, and are reduced to a state of starvation, without husbands, sons, or brothers to protect or feed them." All through Bledsoe, Rhea, Carter, Johnson, Cocke, Greene, Coles, Blount, Sevier, and Jefferson counties the Linion men are numerous and enthusiastic.

> trenching themselves, maintaining an armed opposition to the enemy, and defending themselves against vastly superior odds. They are doing this, too, in the face of every possible disadvantage, scantily supplied with ammunition and provisions, and armed only with rifles, shot-guns, home-made pikes, and knives. They are making a desperate and forlorn fight, in the hope that Buezz and his army will

In the rugged region thereabouts they are en-

To the men who have made and are making this fight let all honor be paid. There were those who abandoned the field when the first sign of danger became apparent-abandoned it cowardly and without striking a blow, only that they might swell the crowd of Washington place-hunters and spoilsmen, and receive the reward of a loyalty which was tempered with discretion. There were those like Mr. NELson who followed the Union until suddenly confronted with the doors of a Richmond prison, and obtained their liberty by a shameful abjuration of their allegiance. There were those like John Bell, who covered with disthat within thirty days intelligence of the most grace an honorable life that they might retain cheering character would be received from our their lands and possessions. Among the armies and our fleets; and, if a war with England heroes of the fight, none stand higher than is avoided, the present position of affairs seems to Andrew Johnson. Representing the honest men of the mountains, a plain, blunt, selfmade man, full of energy and power, attached

confusion a large body of the rebels in Western to Tennessce as the State where he has lived all his life; where he has raised his family, accumulating and investing the earnings of his life; the State of his pride, his interests, and affection, he abandoned all that he might be true to the Union. He was the first to open the fight by his celebrated attack upon Lane, of Oregon; he traversed Tenpublished a few days ago, has been appointed, and nessee, at the risk of his life, denouncing that he will be hastened out of the Gulf with as the traitors and opposing Secession until his public duties recalled him to Washington. As a Senator, he has been a coneasiness need be felt in regard to a deficiency of sistent friend of the Administration, an earnest our supply of saltpetre. It is assumed that the supporter of a radical and thorough war policy. Since the adjournment of the special session he has been advocating the Union tions to maintain the loyalty of that State. His relatives in Tennessee are among those who still cling to the Union. His son-in-law. Colonel STONER, is at the head of a body of Union men in Coles county, while another son-in-law is directing a similar movement in the counties of Bledsoe and Rhea. Nor in speaking of the Senator should we neglect confident that, with the force under his command, States Supreme Court, who remained on the ments, composed of fugitives from East Tennessee, stead by confiscation; nor the eccentric but

the gallant Justice Carron, of the United indomitable Parson Browntow, who is now in a Southern prison for daring to write and speak and fight for the Union. Such men as Representative MAYNARD, Judge DAVID L. PATTERSON, Major Heiskell, ex-Senator PICKEYS, Colonel N. G. TAYLOR, and others well known to Tennesseans as prominent citizens of that State, are now suffering exile,

When will BUELL and his delivering army. come over the Cumberland mountains to their aid? The honor of the country demands that To

LADIES' ELEGANT AND PLAIN CLOAKS. &c .-The entire stock of Messrs. Carl Peters & Co. will be sold to-morrow, at their store, Chestnut and Tenth streets. Now arranged for examination, with catalogues. Sale this morning, at German-

If we have not given Secretary Smith and Postmaster General BLAIR the attention they deserve, it must be remembered that they are This is what Eugland would say. She would not fighting men, and therefore scarcely entitled to the honors of war. In the reports they have submitted to the President, there was a vast amount of information, and a thorough history and exhibition of the internal affairs of our country. This history is especially interesting to us when war is deranging our commerce and agriculture, covering the nation with debt, and retarding the operations mountains of Eastern Tennessee. It is an appeal of the Government. They show what the resources of our country are; what we may dewhere, in the future, when peace and quietness of our national greatness. In the report of nessee we have a peculiar affection. In no the Secretary of the Interior we have our whole internal system exemplified. His department, perhaps more than any other, has felt the depressing effects of treason. Our intercourse with the Southern States having been suspended, there is a consequent derangement of the Land and Indian bureaus, in which the South is so much interested. The Interior Department has been, in fact, a South ern protective institution. Most of its expenditures have been given for the benefit of the Southern States. Nearly all its expensive operations have been carried on within the limits of the Southern States, and Southern politicians have ted and fattened upon its

The Secretary, after presenting the affairs

of the Land Office, and showing that, notwith-

bounties.

standing the war, there is still a great desire among our people to obtain the public lands by pre-emption to convert them into homesteads, discusses the Indian question, which has assumed a peculiar aspect since the breaking out of the rebellion. To the mind of the Secretary, the affairs of the Indian tribes are unsettled and unsatisfactory: many of them being in the limits of the seceded States, the spirit of rebellion has been instilled into their minds by the traitor emissaries. Large tribes, including the Cherokees, the Chickasaws, and the Choctaws, have suspended all intercourse with the Federal agents, and consummated an alliance with the Southorn Confederacy. They have been driven into this hostile attitude by violence and threats on the one hand, and a withdrawal of the Federal troops on the other. And although it may be a source of sorrow to our Government, the Administration has been compelled to deal harshly, and, at the same time, justly, with them. Their annuities have been suspended, and the privileges which they received from the Government taken away. The Secretary thinks the experience of those in the management of Indian affairs proves that they are incompetent to conduct their own business, or to protect their rights in intercourse with white men, and he proposes that a change should be made, by which they should be no longer subject to the injustice and extortion of rascally traders and men who amass large fortunes out of their ignorance and misfortune. The Patent Office has also felt the burden of this Soule, Houston, Gilmen, and Rives are in war, although a stimulus to invention has been found, in a desire to improve our present means of warfare, and to simplify and render more efficient our arms and ammunition. The Secretary anticipates a large increase of business in connection with the Pension Office, and thinks, justly, that there should be some legislation to meet the enormous demands which the war will most certainly create. In speaking of the eighth census, he makes a suggestion in relation to the establishment of a bureau of agriculture and statistics, which we trust to see incorporated into a law. It is lamentable that the country is so rarely supof our agriculture and manufactures, and repeat the regret of the Secretary, that we are shamefully ignorant of the extent of our inter-

nal commerce, and possess no means of ascertaining its importance. What redounds to the credit of the Secretary of the Interior is the energy and sagacity he has manifested in carrying out the wish of the Executive in the suppression of the African slave trade. Hitherto our laws against this fearful piracy have been void. To Mr. SMITH belongs the credit of having carried those laws into effect by entrusting their execution to competent and faithful officers. Nothing is more complimentary to the Secretary than the fact that, under his administration, the first capital conviction for complicity in the slave trade has been obtained. He has sent to Liberia between four and five thousand Africans. This is but a colonization experiment, however, and it will require further experience before we can test its success.

terest. They reflect high credit on his administration of his department. The operations of the Post Office Department, as presented by the Postmaster General, though not as extensive as those in the juris diction of the Secretary of the Interior, possess a general and particular interest to the people. The pest office is necessary in all our social and business relations. It cements our friendships, brightens our associations, improves, extends, and strengthens our intercourse with other nations and ourselves. It is as necessary to the poor man as to the rich.

These are some of the matters in the report

of the Secretary which possess a national in-

and enters into every possible relation of The report of the Postmaster General is, therefore, always interesting, but Postmaster General BLAIR has a different task from any of his predecessors. His revenue has been plundered; his postal routes violently suspended; many of his departmental operations fatally, and most of them materially deranged. But he has bravely met the difficulties of his position, and, if we may judge by his report, has partially surmounted them. That great department was never more efficiently conducted. Corruption no longer fester in its channels. There is economy in its disbursements, and energy in all its management. He has extended our postal system by means of advantageous treaties with France, Russia, and Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and the Central American States. He has also taken very material step towards accomplishing one of the most needed reforms of the age-a cheap transatlantic postal system. In the expenditures there is a decrease of over a million of dollars, and the amount he will require from Congress will be less than has been asked for many years. As an illustration of the great intelligence of our people, and the vast convenience of the postal system to them, we may repeat one fact which he mentions—that there were over 212,000,000 of letters sent in the last year. He recommends that provisions be made for assuming control of the Southern post offices on the restoration of loval authority; and he advocates the erection of a post office in Philadelphia; suggests that the franking privilege, as enjoyed by postmasters, be either abolished or curtailed; that branch offices be established in great cities; and that the postal laws be revised. He makes a fine argument in defence of his course towards disloyal newspapers, excluded by him from

the mails; and with this argument, thorough. conclusive, and convincing as it is, he closes his report. As we intimated before, our object in alluding to the reports of the Postmaster General and the Secretary of the Interior, is simply to present to the people the great fact that, notwithstanding the dangers surrounding the country, and the peril it is now undergoing, all the operations of the Government move on surely, smoothly, and in perfect harmony. Could there be a greater illustration of the stability of our institutions and the confidence

and faith of our people? THE LOYAL MEN of the Border States should take care not to be driven into a false position Congress who oppose confiscation. These who think this a war of emancipation. The use of the Government, and as a recommense for the vast outlay of money incident to this war, is perfectly consistent with the law passed in July last, and does not at all affect the great objects declared by Congress to be involved in this contest. If the Representatives of the Border States, at the special session of Congress, had permitted a proper con fiscation bill to pass, millions of rebel proper ty would now be in the treasury, the burden of taxes would be lighter, and the war more thorough and effective.

Holibay Parsents .- Pianos and Melodeons car be bought from me, up to Christmas, at extraordi. nary reductions on all former prices. Call, and you will be satisfied. J. E. Goven. Seventh and Chestnut streets.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

Washington, Dec. 19, 1861. If there is masterly inactivity in the grand army of the Potomac, there is extraordinary vigilance and energy in every other part of the country where the Federal troops are assembled to punish the traitors. If General McClellan, for some wise and unknown purpose, feels that he can afford to wait, such is evidently not the temper of General Buell in Kentucky, General Halleck in Missouri, General Sherman in South Carolina, General Rosecrans in Western Virginia, Harvey Brown on Santa Rosa Island, and the gallant leaders of our various naval expeditions. We are receiving daily evidences of the vigor and the victory which distinguish the operations of these

brave soldiers and seamen.

The tide is not only rapidly but inevitably turning in our favor, and in a short period the most impatient and exacting will find their appetites gratified by abundant and brilliant triumphs. Circumstances apart from the efforts of our troops aid the good cause. The rebels are not merely defeated by the courage and perseverance of our army and our navy, but their own dissensions and distresses, coming like so many dispensations of an avenging God to complete the good work. If Richmond is trembling over the smouldering volcano of popular discontent, the grass is growing in the streets of Mew Orleans, and the famishing poor are clamoring for bread in the market-places. If Nashville is consternated before the apparition of Buell's advancing column. Charleston is desolated by the greatest conflagration since the New York fire of 1832. Savannah is almost depopulated by the apprehension of an advance of the Federal army, and the neighboring State of Florida is crowd-

ed with fugitives driven from the burning towns along their own coast. General McCiellan evidently knows that throughout these Southern States, this work of disintegration is going on; he feels that victory is coming to our standards—that we are advancing to a certain triumph. The South is growing weaker and weaker; the North becomes stronger and stronger. The resources of the South are being rapidly exhausted; the resources of the North are being developed and increased by commerce and agriculture. Jefferson Davis sends a message to his Congress to ask relief for Charleston, and the Congress generously votes \$250,000 with more ostentation than the Federal Congress exhibits in dispensing its millions. Every indication coming from the South shows want, despair, and misery. With a suffocated commerce, a false currency, burning crops in the Carolinas; with the dread of servile insurrections, not to speak of the incensed Indian tribes, who may avenge their betrayal and the injustice of their chiefs by an indiscriminate massacre, where can the rebellion possibly lead?

Therefore, are we not reaping a victory? Is this contest not becoming rapidly decisive? When the army of the Potomac moves, may i not be as an army of pursuit? With Sherman at Sayannah; Dupont at Charleston; Buell at Nashville, and Halleck at Memphis, how long will it be until McClellan is in Richmond?

OCCASIONAL. THE PILGRIM FATHERS .- The anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers will be celebrated by the sons and daughters of New England in Pennsylvania, on Saturday evening, 21st instant, by a public meeting in Concert Hall, when an oration will be delivered by the Hon. JOSIAH QUINCY, Jr., of Boston. one of the most popular and interesting orators of New England, and several patriotic pieces will be sung by a select choir. The theme of the orator will be, "The Spirit of the Puritans, the necessity of To-day. occasion is intended to be a happy intellectual festival to all who may attend, both ladies and

Books for the Season. Striking as is their announcement, in the advertising columns of to-day's Press, it inadequately conveys an idea of the extent and variety and value of the magnificent collection of books now on sale at T. B. Peterson and Brothers', 306 Chestnut street. A larger, better selected, or more suitable collection has never been exhibited, for the Christmas and

new-year time, gift-making seasons, even at this well-known establishment. The prices have been

reduced, too, to suit the times, and this is, of itself, a great inducement to give the preference to this The variety, as we have said, is immense, including books, in all sorts of binding, from the pub lishing cities in the United States, and also fine editions imported from England. There are Albums and Souvenirs of all sorts, and for all ages, and an unlimited supply of children's books, games, and albums. Of Bibles, Prayer, and Hymn-books, there is no end. There are handsome editions of the Poets, American and English, in various bindings, and we notice that a large and complete family Bible is marked at \$1.50. The course of

heapness can no farther go! Messrs. Peterson's own publications naturally oc cupy a prominent space in their catalogue. They include about seven-tenths of the best English and French novels and romances published within the last fifteen years, and procurable here in no other form. Also, numerous works of fiction by eminent native authors, including all the writings of the late Mrs. Lee Hentz, and Mrs. Southworth, in va-

rious styles of binding. Upon Scott and Dickens, however, Messrs. Peter son have bestowed the greatest pains and cost. They have the Waverley Novels in all shapes and sizes, from one hundred dollars (the Abbotsford edition) to their own, in five volumes octavo, at one dollar a volume-or every line of prose fiction ever in all varieties of size, type, illustration, and binding. Of their Dickens, however, we shall write more fully on another occasion. We conclude by recommending these who desire to make suitable season-gifts of lasting value, to choose out of Petersons' immense stock of books.

ENGLISH PICTORIALS AND MAGAZINES -We are indebted to Mr. Upham, newspaper agent, 310 Chestnut street, for the latest pictorials and periodicals from England. The Illustrated London News, of Nov. 30, is a double number, with four engravings of American subjects, including the sword presented to General McClellan by the city of Philadelphia, and made by Messrs. Bailey & Co, Chestnut street, and the Illustrated News of the World with supplement-engraving, on steel, of Charles Mathews, the comedian. The Cornhill Magazine continues the stories by Thackeray and Trollope: Richard Doyle sketches A Popular Entertainment, some one else writes and illustrates The Excursion Train, and the Roundabout Paper pleasantly chats about the Bearded Lady in America. Temple Bar closes Mr. Sala's Seven Sons of Mammon, The Mystery at Fernwood is concluded. and it is promised that in the January number

shall be commenced two new novels,-Aurora Floyd, and (by Mr. Sala) The Strange Adventures of Captain Dangerous. BOOKS RECEIVED-From Peterson and Brothers. Poems by William Allingham: blue and gold, (Ticknor and Fields); May's Constitutional History of England, from 1760 to 1860. Volume I. (Crosby and Nichols,) and Lilliesleaf, a novel by

M. Oliphant, (T. O. H. P. Burnham)

Public Amusements. WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—The reputation o Mr. Daniel Setchell, the Boston comedian, gath- State on the affair of the Trent. ered a fine house at the Walnut last evening. Mr. which, entitled the "Four Phantoms," did not do instice to his good talents.

The style of Mr Setchell is akin to that of Burton, but he has many individualities that redeem him from the charge of imitation. There is little doubt that a few nights would make the new comedian a champion and a favorite in Philadelphia. He kept the house in a roar from the beginning to the end of his performance. He was loudly called for at the end of the first piece, and made a characteristic speech. To-night and to-morrow night will finish Mr. Setchell's engagement for the pre-

GERMANIA ORCHESTRA.-The Saturday afternoon concerts of the Germania are very well attended. The musical selections for next Saturday are above even the usual standard. ANTI-SLAVERY FAIR.-This fair I till this evening. The tables are pleasantly arranged, and the exhibition better attended than

BARNUM IN PHILADELPHIA. -On Monday next, P. T. Barnum, Esq., will open his famous museum What is it," the performing bears, the living sea lions, and the Albino family, are some of the attractions promised. Signor Britz's Temple of Wonders is one of the

most attractive places of amusement in the city. His feats of natural magic are inexplicable to the mind, and the drill scenes in ventriloquism excellent. The learned canary birds are also deeply entertaining to all who love the feather tribe. SALE OF FURNITURE, PIANOS, &c .- This morning, at 10 o'clock, at Birch & Son's, No. 914 Chest-

catalogues. Arrival of the City of Washington. NEW YORK, Dec. 19.-The steamer City of Washington, from Liverpool, has been signalled will be presented on Saturday. This regiment is below. Her advices have been anticipated.

nut street, will be sold household furniture, pianos,

sewing machines, paintings, and other articles. See

LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH. FROM WASHINGTON. THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

The Mason and Slidell Seizure. NO OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS WET FROM

LORD LYONS. AN AMICABLE ADJUSTMENT PROBABLE.

Reconnoissance towards Fairfax THE REPORTED SURRENDER OF FOR

IMPORTANT FROM MISSOURI. REBELS IN JOHNSTON COUNTY DISPERSED.

PULASKI UNTRUE.

GEN. POPE IN HOT PURSUIT OF THEM, Capture of Three Hundred Prisoners, and all their Baggage and Munitions.

A LARGE SUPPLY TRAIN FOR GENERAL PRICE'S ARMY CAPTURED

THE SECESSIONISTS OF ST. LOUIS SUP-PORTING THE UNION REFUGEES.

FROM POINT OF ROCKS. COLONEL GEARY'S COMMAND ATTACKED BY THE RESELS.

They are Repulsed, with a Loss of Fourteen Killed.

NO LOSS ON OUR SIDE. INTERESTING FROM NEW YORK

IMPORTANT PREDICTIONS OF MR. CHASE THE WAR IN KENTUCKY.

SCHOEPFF'S COLUMN IN MOTION. TENNESSEE REGIMENTS LEAD THE VAN

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, December 19, 1861. Slavery in the District of Columbia. As the subject of abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia is now agitated, it may be of general interest to know that, according to the recent census, the number of slaves in Georgetown is 577; in Washington, 1,744; and in the remainder of the county 834, making a total of 3.185. The number of free blacks in the District is 11,131. The total population of Washington is 61,122.

The Conduct of the War, The joint committee to inquire into the conduct of the war consists of Senators WADE, CHANDLER, and Johnson of Tennessee, and Representatives GOOCH, COVODE, JULIAN, and ODELL. Proposed Abolition of the Franking Pri-

The bill abolishing the franking privilege, reported by Mr. Colfax from the Post Office Committee, and the consideration of which was postponed till the second Thursday in January, aboall laws authorizing le ments to be sent free; but provides that all who are now entitled to the franking privilege may send them without pre-payment, as soldiers' letters are regulated at present, the postage to be paid by the recipient. Speeches are to be carried for 1 cent, and public documents at 2 cents per pound, within 2,000 miles, making the postage on an Agricultural Patent Office Report 5 cents, and on volumes the size of the Congressional Globe 10 cents. The estimated increase of revenue by this change is

over \$1,000,000. The Dead-Letter Office-All Dead Letters to be Returned. The bill which was passed by the House to-day, for improving the efficiency of the Dead-Letter Office, provides for twenty-five additional clerks at a salary of \$800 each, in accordance with the recommendation of the Postmaster General, to return all dead letters to their writers, and not valuable letters alone, as now. By the estimates of the Department at the pre-

sent postage rates, the receipts on these returned letters would exceed the cost of the required clerks -\$13,000 per year. But the bill, as reported from the Post Office Committee, increases the postage or returned money letters to treble, and on all other dead letters returned to double the ordinary rates, still further increasing the surplus.

The Smithsonian Institute. The regents of the Smithsonian Institute, on th part of the House, are Representatives COLFAX, McPHERSON, and Cox. Another Reconnoissance Near Fairfax

Three companies of the Cameron Dragoons, un

der Major S. E. Shith, commanded respectively by Captain Wilson, Company F; Lieutenant STETSON, Company H, and Lieutenant HESS, Company C, went out on a scout, vesterday, on the roads leading to Fairfax Court House and Hunter's Mills. When within a mile and a half of Fairfax these three officers, with eight privates, as an advance guard, encountered an equal number of the rebel cavalry. Instantly they gave chase, but the rebels fied, seeking the cover of a wood near by. In written by Scott, for five dollars! They have as the chase they passed through an orchard, when many as Twenty-nine editions of Charles Dickens, one of the rebels dismounted under an apple tree, and, with his carbine, a five-shooter, rested against a tree and fired three shots at Major SMITH Fortunately for the Major, none of them took effect. After vainly endeavoring to draw the rebels from the wood, our little party rejoined the main body under direction of the Major, and rode to Vienna, and from thence to Hunter's Mills. When near the latter place, Capt. Wilson and Lient, Sterson discovered a rebel who was endes voring to make his escape. They dashed off after him, and soon returned into camp with him as a prisoner. When introduced to Gen. HANCOCK, the latter said: "Ah! VOLLIN, I am glad to see you -we have been looking for you for some time past." He is said to be a spy, and a most notorious

A Present from Philadelphia Ladies. Company F, Capt. GATES, of Col. MAGILTON'S Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, were to-day the recipients of good and substantial woollen undershirts, mittens, and home-knit socks. The company was drawn up in line, and each man received the article named. Lieut. WATHAUGH, of Company II, detached and serving on Gen MEADE's staff, had the pleasure of being the recipient of this really acceptable gift from the patriotic ladies of Chestnut Hill. Capt. GATES received the presents on behalf of the company, in a few remarks, thanking the fair donors. Lieut. WATHAUGH made neat address, stimulating the men to attain profisiency in their new vocation. The men gave three cheers, and a most terrific tiger, for the ladies of

Chestnut Hill. The Trent Affair-An Adjustment Pro-It is believed that Lord Lyons has not yet made any official communication to the Secretary of A number of private letters have been received

Setchell appeared in two comediettes, the first of from England, representing the excitement as intense, but the speculations on the subject are similar to those indulged in by the press of that It is believed here, in well-informed circles, that whatever may be the demands or claims of her Majesty's Government, the questions at issue may

be adjusted honorably to both nations. A New Rebel Battery. A new rebel battery on the Potomac, opposite Run Point, consisting of three guns, one of which is a 64-pounder, opened fire last night. One of the shells carried away the corner of CLENENS' house. and two fell into the camp of a New Jersey regiment on the Maryland shore, neither of them exploding. The last shot was found about 12 o'clock

Gen. Butler and Capt. Wilkes. Gen. Butler arrived here to-nigl Capt. WILKES visited Congress to-day, and was cordially received by the members. Penitent Soldiers. Twenty-seven insubordinate members of the New

York Thirteenth Regiment, who for two months

past have been confined in the central guard house. have been released and returned to their regiment in Virginia. They have all come to the decision to be hereafter faithful to their duty. Forgery of Franks. The Post Office Department will rigidly enforce the law against counterfeiting the handwriting of any person entitled to the franking privilege, or causing the same to be done in order to avoid the payment of postage. The penalty is a fine of \$500

stationed at Alexandria.

Franks are being fraudulently fised, and sometime forged and sold to soldiers and other persons. Seamen for Philadelphia. One hundred seamen are to leave the navy yard to-morrow morning fer Philadelphia. Flags to Col. McLean's Regiment. It is understood that the State flags for Colone McLean's Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment

XXXVIITH CONGRESS-FIRST SESSION.

Washington News and Gossip.

The agitating question to-day has been the mature

of the despatches received this morning by the

State Department from Europe. The Avenue, as

usual, is full of rumors. One is, that the Cabinet

held a meeting this afternoon, and had agreed to

hand over Messrs. Mason and SLIDELL to the Bri-

tish Government. One thing, bewever, is positive-

Lord Lyons received no instructions to return

home in case Mason and SLIDELL were not placed

under the protection of the British flag. Lord

LYONS and Secretary SEWARD had a long inter-

view this evening. One of the Cabinet officers re-

marked to a party of gentlemen in the Navy De-

partment to-day, "There need be no fear of sny

trouble with England. SEWARD has satisfactority

The Navy Department has received an official

contradiction to the report that the rebels had

There are six prisoners in confinement at Alex

Col. WALL, of the Third Maryland Regiment,

proceeds to the Eastern Shore of Virginia, which

has recently returned to its allegiance, to organize

a new brigade, to be called the First Eastern Vir-

INTERESTING FROM NEW YORK.

AND DECISIVE MILITARY AND NAVAL RESULTS.

BLY ADJUSTED.

with the associated banks would be sufficient for

the wants of the Government till about the middle

of January, before which time he had confident

expectations that our military and naval operation

vill give brilliant and decisive results, and he did

not doubt that the questions with Great Britain

would have a pacific solution. He made no propo-

sition for further financial arrangements at this

The Evening Post says that about \$300,000

A rumor prevails that Secretary Chase has re-

ceived a despatch from Washington that justifies

FLIGHT OF THE REBELS.

ALL THE BAGGAGE AND MUNICIONS.

Gen. Pope then threw forward ten companies of

owing with the main body of his army.

lirections, but mostly towards the south.

No fighting is reported to have occurred.

General Price has only 8,000 troops

strong force of cavalry to Lexington.

Exchange on London is firm at 110 al111.

will be sent to Europe on the steamer Africa.

arranged everything."

evacuated Fort Pulaski.

ginia Brigade.

usted.

arranged.

&c., in our possession.

their baggage, horses, &c.

south, is clear of rebels.

Sedalia.

andria on the charge of desertion.

SENATE. Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, presented petitions, numerously signed, for the emancipation of slaves, with comp-sastion to lay al masters.

Mr. Walts, of Ohio, presented a petition from citizens of Ohio, saking that John C. Fremont be appointed disturbents General. Mr Wilbery of Virginia, offered a resolution that existing war was forced agon the country by the fer in rebellion, without provocation, and was decired to destroy the Union and the Constitution, and

could be no grievance as a cause for rehelbion. As a Virginia Senator and a slaveholner, he declared that the South always got what she demanded. Its commersied the proclamations of those generals who declared that it was not their intention to interfere with loyal institutions, and expressed his gratification that the President, in his message, had reiterated his fidelity to the Constitution. He declared that by no efforts of his should severy be extended, though he believed it was necessary for the present that the African race should be kept in bondage. He gave a brief sketch of the rise of S cossion, and declared that it was the result of a long-concected conspiracy, as avowed by the leaders of the reliedion. He argued at some length against the dectrine of Secsation, and contended that the real cause of Secsation was hostility to the democratic principles of a republican Government.

Will out concluding his areach, Mr. Willey gave your

with out concluding his speech, Mr. Willey gave way to a motion for an executive section.

The resolution from the House, to adjourn to the 6thof January, was taken up, and Mr. CARLILE, of Virginia, moved to amend so as to adjourn on Monday next.

Mr. BAYARD, of Delaware, said that as the resolution
read only referred to the House, he moved to amend so as
to read that both Houses adjourn from Monday next to
the 9d of January. SECRETARY CHASE PREDICTS BRILLIANT THE TRENT AFFAIR TO BE AMICA-NEW YORK, Dec. 19 .- At the bank meeting held to-day, all the pending questions of accounts with the Treasury Department were harmoniously ad-Secretary Chase stated that the present balances

io-morrow.

No quorum voting, Mr. FOSTER, of Connecticut, moved to adjourn. Carried,

The Senate then adjourned. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. ABNOLD, of Illinois, it was resolved that the Secretary of War or requested to furnish the cost of the transportation of arms, ordnance, and munitions of war, to that portion of the country west of the Alleghnuies, since May last, and give, as far as practicable, a detailed statement of the places from which they were transported, and the cost, whether by rail or water. A bull to amend the act of July last, which grants \$100 hounty to soldiers at the expiration of two years, and to those sooner honorably discharged by reason of wounds and disabilities, so as to extend its provisions to those who entered the service under the first proclamation of the Tresident, and were similarly disqualified, was, after debate, tabled.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee of Ways and Manny, reported a bill making appropria-

the belief that the Trent affair will be amicably SIGNAL VICTORY IN MISSOURI GENERAL POPE IN HOT PURSUIT THREE HUNDRED PRISONERS TAKEN, AND these vessels are to be built on a plan entirely different from those already constructed. The details and speci-fications he would not deem it important to disclose, if he had the means. The plan was well considered by a com-mittee of naval officers. ST Louis, Dec. 19 .- Despatches received to-day at headquarters from Gen. Pope state that after a forced march, yesterday, he got between the enemy, encamped six miles from Chilhowee, Johnson

county, and 2,200 strong in Clinton and Henry counties. But as soon as they heard of his approuch they beat a rapid retreat towards Rose Hill, in Johnson county. leaving all their baggage, and a large quantity of arms, munitions, papers, cavalry and a section of artillery in pursuit, fol-When at Johnson, in Bates county, the rebels

Mr. Validately, 13th a disolation was disagreed to.
The bill was then passed.
Mr. OLFAX, from the Committee on Post Offices and
Post Roads, reported a bill to promote the efficiency of
the Dead Letter Office, based on the re-ommendation of
the Fostmaster General, in his last annual report. were so closely pursued that they scattered in all General Pope then forced a strong cavalry reconnoissance to within fifteen miles of Osceola, and intercepted and captured 150 fleeing rebels, and all Other squads of some ten or fifteen rehald wars taken, making the aggregate number of prisoners

General Pope says the whole country between Rose Hill on the west, and Grand river on the It is understood that General Pope will send a The main body of his army is now en route for

supplies for Price, has been captured, in addition o the articles previously reported.

THE WAR IN KENTUCKY. THE UNION ARMY IN MOTION. THE TENNESSEANS LEAD THE COLUMN.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 19 .- A Frankfort despatch to the Commercial says: Advices from Somerset state that vesterder morning, at daylight, Gen. Schoepff, with all his force marched out to attack the rebels. General Zollicoffer is in position on Fishing Creek, with 6,000 men and some artillery. General Schoepff's force consists of two Tennes see regiments, Hoskins' Kentucky Regiment, and the Seventeenth, Thirty-first, Thirty-fifth, and Thirty-eighth Ohio Regiments, and Standart's Ohio

and Hewitt's Kentucky batteries, of ten guns, four of which are rifled, four smooth-bore, and two Zollicoffer has no wagons on this side of the river and but indifferent means of crossing. General Schoepff was confident of whipping

him, with some hope of capturing most of his men. The Tennesseans head the column. It is probable that a battle took place yesterday or to day Interesting from Point of Rocks. ANOTHER REBEL ATTACK ON COL. GEARY'S REGIMENT REPULSED.

NO LOSS ON OUR SIDE POINT OF ROCKS. Dec. 19 .- At ten o'clock this morning, a rebel battery of three guns, flanked

with about two hundred infantry, suddenly commenced shelling the encampment of Col. Geary's About twenty of the shells, which were well aimed, fell amidst the encampment, the first within

a few feet of Lieut. Col. De Korponay, com-The six companies in the camp were immediately well deployed and entrenched, and the battery of the Pennsylvania Twenty-eighth Regiment opened fire with two guns. The first shot, which was sighted by Capt. Knapp, disabled one of the rebel guns, and the second, sighted by Lieut. Geary, fell in their centre.

Our battery then advanced and poured a continuus fire into the rebels, silencing all their guns, and driving back a fourth one, which was sent to reinforce them. The rebels were driven from their position in full retreat, with a loss of fourteen killed, as for as known, and many wounded. The engagement lasted for over half an hour.

After the rout of the rebels the victors turned their guns on some houses situated near the old furnace on the Virginia side, where about 150 rebels were secreted. They drove them out, killing a number of them. The guns were admirably served.

The War Feeling in Canada. HALIPAN, Dec. 19.—The warlike feeling is high here and throughout the province.

BUFFALO, December 19.—Persons owning vessels now in winter quarters on the Canadian shore are towing them to this place, on account of the warlike tone of the English press.

The Secessionists of St. Louis Supporting the Refugees. St. Louis, Dec. 19.—The names of about 300 Secessionists have been enrolled at the Provost Marshal General's office, upon whom contributions will be levied, under General Halleck's general order No. 24, for the benefit of the Southwestern refugees. About sixty of the most prominent of these parties will be called upon to-morrow for the sums parties will be called upon to more for the sums set opposite their names, varying from one to four hundred dollars, and the balance be notified as the

Fire at Lexington, Ky .- A Lieutenant LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 19 .- The Amphitheatre, at the Fair Grounds, where a regiment of soldiers were encamped, was completely destroyed by fire last night. Loss from \$10,000 to \$12,000. During the excitement a sentinel shot Joel Hick-man, the first lieutenant of Colonel Wooley's Cavalry, killing him instantly. A Grain Vessel Capsized.

Boston, Dec. 19.—The ship Oriental Queen, from New York for Queenstown, with grain, was zed off Nantucket on the 16th capsized off Nantucket on the 16th.

The captain and eight men were picked up by a light-ship, after being thirty-one hours in a small hoat. The mate and five men were left on the wreck. The light-ship arrived at Edgarton to day with the crew; also, the crew of the schooner Congress, which was abandoned on the 21st.

The Steamer America Signalled.

St. Johns. Dec. 19.—The steamship America, St. Johns. Dec. 19.—The steamship America, which Left Liverpool on Saturday, and Queenstown on Sunday, the 5th inst., passed Cape Race at eleven o'clock on Wadnesday night, three miles and a half distant. The news boat reached within half a mile of the vessel, but evidently was not seen, as the steamer left without being boarded.

The America took the place of the Persia, and will be due at New York on Sunday. A Government Propeller Ashore.

NEW YORK, December 19—A propoller supposed to belong to the Government was seen asbore yesterday, on the north should of Barnegat. She had two masts. She was firing guns in quick succession A Telegraph Line to the Pennsylvania Coal Oil Mines.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 19.—A telegraph line from Pittsburg to the Franklin Oil creek and Titusville is now in operation. The office is in St. Charles. Hotel. Pittsburg

signed to destroy the Union and the Constitution, and that its purpose was to disavow and reguliate the fundamental principles of the republican Government.

He proceeded to sprak at length on the resolution, contending that the rebellion was perfectly urganizable. In no country was life more secure, and civil and religious liberty more perfect.

The contry was in an unexampled prospority, and especially was the South favored, and conveniently observedual de no grievance as a cause for rehellion. As a Vigninia Senator and a slaveholder, he declared that the

the 2d of January.

Mr. WADE, of Ohio, opposed an adjournment, and moved to lay the subject on the table. Lost—yeas 17, neys 19.
Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, moved that the subject be postponed until Monday next. Rost—yeas 17, mays 18, Mr. FESSENDEN moved to postpone the subject till

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the construction, preservation, and repairs of fortifications and works of defence. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. The House resumed the consideration of the bill providing for the construction of twenty iron-clad steam gunbasis, to be built by contract or otherwise, as the Secretary of the Navy may does best for the public interest. mr. VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, offered and advosated an amendment, providing that the said gunboats shall be constructed at the public navy yards, as far as practicable, or by private contract, after giving ten days' notice for proposals, to be published in the papers of New York. Boston, Philadelphia, and Bultimore. Mr. SEDGWICK, of New York, in explanation, said

course of his remarks, that rather than yield the princi-ples which we have held for years, he was prepared to meet the combined hotility of the whole world, and this he believed was the sentiment of the entire Am rican people.

Mr. SEDGWICK said the Pensacola was one of the Mr. SEDGWICK said the Pensacola was one of the beauties of building by private contract, which was less satisfactory and economical than those constructed at the Government yards. He did not believe that a foreign war was perding, but if so, he trusted the question would be met in the proper spirit. There was no insult of which Gr at Britain could complain to justify a war. The vessels now proposed to be constructed were not for service abroad, but at home to put down the rebelion.

Mr. Vallandiglamis amendment was disagreed to.
The bill was then passed.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, the Com-On notion of Mr. WASHBURNE, of Hitnors, the committee on Elections were instructed to inquire and report whether any person holding office under the United States, and receiving compensation therefor, is at the same time holding a seat here and receiving compensation as member of this House.

A resolution was passed directing an inquiry into the building of the Capitol and Treasury extensions; whether the contracts had been faithfully performed, and whether the work cannot be done at less expense to the Governthe work cannot be done at less expense to the Govern-

Mr. COLFAX reported a bill abolishing the franking privilege. Its consideration was postponed until the second Tuesday in January. The consulae and diplomatic appropriation bill was onsidered and passed.

On motion of Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, a resolution On motion of Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, a resolution was adopted instructing the select committee on con-tracts to inquire whether the transportation of troops by railroad was by special contract or otherwise, etc., and calling on the Secretary of War to furnish all orders re-lative to the transportation of troops and munitious of A train of seventy wagons, with clothing and

> The Case of Jefferds. NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—It was adduced in evidence to-day that Charles Jefferds confessed to the

The Army Sanitary Commission. WHAT IT HAS DONE AND WHAT IT NEEDS. We have received from Mr. George T. Strong a pamphlet which sets forth the object of the Sanitary Commission, shows what the organization has accomplished, and replies to certain charges which have been made against it.

Mr. Strong says:

"The Commission is almost daily called on by army surgeons for medicines and stimulants, with the statement that their stock is exhausted—that under the forms and regulations of the Army Medical Bureau it cannot be replenished in less than a fortnight, and that in the meantime some ten or fortnight, and that in the meantime some center twenty of their patients are sinking for want of these remedies, and will assuredly perish unless the Cammission come to their rescue. It has, in these cases alone, saved the nation scores of valuable lives, by merely supplying the few dollars' worth of brandy or quinine which could not other-wise have been obtained till too late.

wise nave need obtained till too late.

"The general object of the Commission is to watch over the health of the volunteer army, and especially to suggest and carry out measures for the prevention of disease. This duty the Army Medical Bureau cannot at present thoroughly perform. Being organized with reference to the wants of an army of fifteen thousand regulars, officered by men educated in their profession, it is necessarily unequal to the care of half a million of volunteers under officers as inexperienced as the rank and file. It would seem, moreover, that some of its senior officials, who have grown old in the routine of their duty on its former limited out of place and sometimes positively mischievous. They are naturally and pardonably slow to pereive that forms and usages properly held sacred and inviolable for fifty years may now be mere obstacles in the way of substantial duty. Their intelligence may be beyond question, but the tendency of their efficial life and experience has

hardly been such as to qualify them for the im-mense work they are suddenly called on to perform. Hence the necessity for that volunteer aid which the Sanitary Commission is appointed to furnish." Mr. Strong proceeds to illustrate this point, and "The operations of the Commission have been necessarily expanding and enlarging. They now involve a monthly expenditure of nearly five thousand dollars—a trifled compared with what the private charity of the country can afford to contribute towards saving the lives of our soldiers.

"A storehouse for its supplies, its offices at Washington, and the building occupied as the "Soldiers' Home" in Washington, are furnished by Government. which also provides horses, ambulances, and army wagons for its inspectors and other agents, and gives them every facility for visiting camps, hospitals, and nilitary posts. Its current expenses are thus greatly diminished. But it can receive no money from Government without an appropriation by Congress; and this members of the Commission have thus far been unwilling to ask. They fear that the moral power on which its usefulness mainly depends would be weakened, if it appeared in the attitude of a petitioner for money from the public treasury, and thereby incurred even the suspicion vate charity of the country can afford to contribute

treasury, and thereby incurred even the suspicion of connection with political machinery and in-An important department of the Commission is that of camp instruction, and it is intimated in Mr. Strong's paper that many of our volunteer officers, suddenly withdrawn from civil life, are ignorant of the nature of camp diseases, and of the remedies which should be applied. He further shows that the measures adopted by the Commission have prevented a large amount of suffering and sickness among our troops.

The Commission, however, is in urgent need of funds. Mr. Strong says:

The funds now at the disposal of the Commission of the Commission of the Commission for but n few weeks

sion will enable it to go on for but a few weeks longer.

"Unless its treasury is speedily replenished, it must, very soon, dismiss its inspectors, and notify the numerous associations throughout the country with which it is affiliated, that its depots at Wash with which it is similated, that its depots at washington and elsewhere are closed. I am confident that the liberality and patriotism of the country will not permit this, especially at the present time, when the approach of winter exposes the army to new forms of disease, and when additional supplies the property designed the property of the proper plies are more urgently demanded than ever."

A note at the end of this pamphlet contradicts a statement which recently found a place in one of the daily journals of this city, to the effect that "the Commission has become less attentive and efficient, and is bitten by the ambition of super-seding, or at least remodelling, the astablished medical bureau of the regular army." says:
"The source of this article is obvious. It is

nesticed here usually for the purpose of denying most positively and explicitly that the Commission has become in any degree less attentive or efficient in camp inspection, or in any of its departments of work enumerated in the preceding pages. On the contrary, its corps of camp inspectors is steadily increasing in number, and hence chiefly griges the great increase in its exhence chiefly arises the great increase in its expenses. It employed its inspectors in August; it now employs fifteen, and it contemplates engaging three more. Its supervision of their labors is more and more systematic and thorough, and those labors are believed, with good reason, to be daily more and more valuable and beneficent. There is steady progress in the amount of force employed, and the work of each inspector is more efficient as he gains experience in his duties. The statement in question is therefore, absolutely withhence chiefly arises the great increase in its exstatement in question is, therefore, absolutely without foundation."

A CENTRAL EPISCOPAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION. for the sick and wounded of the army, has just been organized at Grace Church, (Rev. Dr. Suddards,) corner of Twelfth and Cherry streets, and ladies residing in that section of the city are invited to attend and participate in the operations of this Society, commencing at 10 o'clock o-day. This humans and considerate undertaking is attributa-This humane and considerate undertaking is attributa-ble to the fact that the Government has taken the large warehouses at the corner of Broad and Cherry streats for hospital uses, and that live hundred of our sick and wounded troops are to be removed there immediately. It is well known that many of the comforts which men in their situation need are not supplied by Government. We doubt not, therefore, that the ladies in this central locality will zealously contribute from their industrial and pecunlary resources to the relief of the sufferings of those brave men who, by the fortunes of war, have been thus brought to our especial notice. The association is, of course, conducted by authority, and will conflict with ro other organization. THE CITY.

ADDITIONAL CITY NEWS ON FOURTH PAGE. AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING. AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC-Broad and Lorge WHEATLEY'S CONTINUENTAL THEATHE. Walkest street, above Eighth..... The Southern Rebellion by See and Lund"..... The Cataract of the Ganges." ARON-STREET THEATRE-Arch street, aboye State. WALEST-STREET THEATRE—Nigh and Wainut sta...
"The Four Phantoms"..." Virginia One Hundred Years
Ago."..." The Falls of Talloola."

Ago "—" The Falls of Balloola."

TRMPLE OF WONDERS—N. E. corner Tenth and Choose the streets.—Signor Blitz's Entertainment.

Menry Ward Beecher at Concert Hall.

The seventh lecture of the Posple's Liberary Inetitate course was delivered at Concert Hail last evening, by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. The audience was immense, every seat in the hall and every foot of standing room having been demasty occupied. The lecturer was late in making his appearance, as a matter of course, though for one of Mr. Beecher's antecedent-in [not] meeting ongagements, not to have disappointed antogether, we suppose, must be accepted as a nontrality. His defontion

gagements, not to have disappointed altogether, we sup-pose, must be accepted as a punctasity. His detontion of the asilence on this occasion, however, opened the way for a telling apploys. At a few minutes before & occock, J. W. White, K.s., came upon the platform, and stated that the most implemental duty he knew of was to make a public apploys, and the mere so when it was called for by the delinquencies of abother. The andi-ence commenced hissing. Mr. White, raising his voice, continued, "hiss Mr. Eecher when he comes!" [Ap-ilans.] plaine.]
Mr. W. then read addespatch from Mr. Beecher, stating that he had been at the pier five minutes before two P. M.. but the boat having, without his knowledge, changed its point of starting, he was unavoinably obliged to wait for the four o'clock train. Mr. White concluded by hoping that the ladies would spend the few remaining moments already that the ladies would spend the few remaining moments already in the their ladies. its point of starting, he was unavoidably obliged to wait for the four o'clock train. Mr. White concluded by hoping that the ladies would spend the few remaining moments pleasantly at their knifting, (which has become a fashionable occupation at lectures of late.) and the gendlemen in discussing the Mason and Sidell complication. The authence then gave three cheers for Mr. White, and relapsed into a very contented and apparently happy conversation society.

At twenty-five minutes past eight the lecturer made his appearance, and was received rather ametry. His opening apology, gracefully made, truly and simily received, contained this item of news: That on Monday last the clittors of The Independent had resigned, leaving that paper in imminent dauger of not getting out this week. From that time until yesterday his time had been uninterruptedly occupied in emeting the arrangements by which the entire control of The Independent had passed into his own hands, so that he was obliged to put off leaving for Philadelphia until the last load. The rest of the apology has already been given.

He then commenced his lecture, stating, as his subject. The Results of the Past, and the Pology of the Future." It would be impossible to give any accurate idea of its treatment, more than to say it was analytical, philosophical, and, upon the whole, more logically argumentarise than Mr. Beecher's nectures usually are. The past was ours: the future, he said, no man could discern without being a prophet, though he thought that it was perfectly lawful for every man to try his band sit prophecy, and, with this understanding, he proceeded to unravel, with a masterly hand, the experience of the past, and to draw therefrom deductions which are likely to mark the future. We have never seen an audit nea in more samplets attention and the most enthusiastic applause. It was admitted, on all hands, that he fairly surpassed himself on this occasion.

The next and last lecture of this popular course of lectures, will be given at Concert Halt, on

DEDICATORY CEREMONIES AT THE NEW MA-

DEDICATORY CEREMONIES AT THE NEW MA-sonic Hall, Manayunk, The fine large building cretted on Main street, Manayunk, by Roxborough Lodge, No. 135, of the ancient Order of York Masons, has lately been completed, and was yesterday formally opened. The building is three stories in height, and constructed with a view to both utility and ornament. A portion of the third-story floor has been leased for the use of the American Protestant Association, the remain-ing anatuments in the same story being used by use of the American Protestant Association, the remaining apartments in the same story being used by the above todge. The second story comprises a handsome commodious room, extending the full length of the building, which is designed to be used as a public market for the last two months, a large number of stalls having been introduced. The new structure is centrally leated in the building potential of the neighborhood. By this method of leasing the building a yearly rental of \$1,700 will be realized, which may eventually entirely defray the cost of eraction incurred by the lodge.

The ceremonies of dedicating that portion of the half reserved for the use of the Masonic brotherhood took place yesterday. The Norristown, Phenixville, and other lodges were in attendance, and previous to the exercises at the hall formed in procession, at the Odd Bedlows' Hall, and, headed by Beck's Philadelphia Band, proceeded to the Mount Zion M. E. Church, where an address was delivered by the Rev. John Chambers, Genal Chaplain of the Order. An efficient celestra, under Dr. Cunn ugton, discoursed most excellent music. Grand Chaplain of the Order. An efficient orelastra, under Dr. Cunnington, discoursed most excellent music. The church was well filled, the galleries presenting successive unbroken rows of bright female countenances.

The orator of the day commenced his address with a reference to the fact, generally, that those present had not assembled for the purpose of culogizing the institution with which the greater part of those present cit honored to hold communion: those who knew its beneficial workings were satisfied that it needed no eulogy. It was of the most succent origin. It is not and never was designed to supersed the Church, for which there was no precedent. The Society of Free Masonry had increased, year ty year, for centuries, and now stood forth in all its manh of and inherent beauty. It was founded on the Bible, and all that has been said to the distance of the centure of the its disfavor has emanated from the twin spirits of vindictiveness and ignerance either separately or allied. The speaker continued: We have been called a secret Order. We are a secret Order, and do not refute the allegation: yet men wil denounce us because of our secrets, when we know that our secret are our own. We are a beneficial sectety, and I hazard nothing in the assertion that, according to the means at our disposal, do more for the benefit of mankind than any institution of a like nathe benefit of markind than any institution of a like nature in existence. We do not do the attings publicly: the right hand, in the performance of beneficent acts, kneweth not what the left hand doeth.

With regard to the unity of our Order, a Mason may recognize his brother in the cause whether he meet him among the snows of Iceland or the burning sands of the desert.

In reply to a statement anonymously made, that the Order count manced the use of light or within its temples.

Order count manced the use of liquor within its temples, the speaker averred that during an almost life-long membership, since 1814, he had never seen a drop of liquor within the precincts of a Masonic lodge. He did not deny that liquor was occasionally used at the festivals of Masons, and regretted that such a custom should obtain. If a para became a member of the Masonic Order, twee necessarily consists that such a remaphoral he as tain. If a man became a member of the Masonic Order, it was necessarily requisite that such a man should be a Christian at heart. Upon entering the lodge room of any of the different branches of the Order, the indifferent visitor could not fail to notice that, upon the pedestal consecrated to that use would ever be found, day and night, the holy Book of God.

A further reference was made by the speaker to the little of the consecration of the distance of the consecration. A further reference was made by the speaker to the badinage of idle gossippers, to the effect that members of certain todges became intoxicated, indulged in late hours, and like delinquencies. As an answer to all of which, he put the question: Did not men who never claimed to be Maronr—who, because of prejudice or ignorance, revited the teachings and spirit of the Order—do those things! In conclusion, he expressed the hopeful conviction that the particular order at whose instance the present assemblage had convened, would ever live up to the rules and regulations imposed for its government and preservation. Description.

Upon the conclusion of the address, the procession sgain formed outside the church, and proceeded to the new building of the order, when the peculiar ceremonies incident to the occasion were performed, after which, a goodly representation of the different longes present set down to a collation of good things, supervised and averanged by Major Chas. E. Graefi.

CHESAPEARE AND DELAWARE CANAL .-UHERAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL—
This canal will remain open all the winter. It is used
by Government to transport immense quantities of hay
and military freight. Several big boats are required to
transport the heavy draught, and frequently the entrance
locks at Chesapeake and bolaware cities are besieged by
a score of vessels. Much of this freight is shipped from
New York, passing by barges through the Baritan canal, then down the Delaware, when it is towed by steamers to Felaware civ. The greater part of it is landed at
Perryville, at the head of the Chesapeake, but much is
also forwarded to Annaholis or Baltimore, where by also forwarded to Annapolis or Baltimore, whence by railroan or steam it is transported to Washington. The line of canal propellers between Philadelphia and Baltimore is almost insufficient to accommedate the immense amount of freight that goes toward Washington daily. Horses in large quantities are placed every evening on board these boats at the foot of Ches'nut street, and innunerable suders from New Jersey and the interior of Pennsylvania take passage in this way, with their conveyances and merchandise, for the seat of war. Last evening three Jerseyments for a soldier boarding-house, which they intend to construct five miles beyond Alexandria, and anticipate a rich pseuminty roturn. Many passengers go also forwarded to Annapolis or Baltimore, whence by to construct five miles beyond Alexandria, and anticipate a rich pecuniary return. Many passengers go southward in these propellers. The accommodations are not generally capacious, and the boats are often so crowded with freight that they ground on the flate at the Delaware City entrance to the canal. The Wednesday evening boat was delayed nearly an hour at Delaware City, and was obliged to wait for the flood tide before she could enter the locks. Our correspondent passed St. George's on Thursday morning, and found the canal, as far as the eye could reach, filled with barges and tugboats, carrying bales of hay. There is a telegraph along the tow-path of this canal which is now very surviceable. Hare scruces are witnessed upon these canal propellers, and the conversations are only the adventurers is of a biglious primated and individual clustrator. A tall New the tow-path of this canal which is now very solve-case. Bare suries are witnessed upon these canal propellers, and the convortations at ong the adventurers is of a highly animated and individual character. A tail New Englander remarked to us last evening, that "the guessed there wasn't no money outside o' Washiton, and he wer a goin to have some while it was about." This individual tesorted at old times to a small limb bottle that he carried in a capacious coat pocket. He "guessed" that he was as smart as any on 'em, and hoped, if the war held out for some time, to come home laden with the good toings of this life.

These propellers are doing an excellent business, and the stockholders are along laboring under a heavy debt, which will be in great part liquidated during the war. It is a curious fact, that some of the managers of the Chesapeale and Delawaro Canal were, at the compression of the war, very infinical to the Union, by which they are now rearing fortunes. Some of them, it is said, in May had contemplated removing the canal locks, and thus forbidling the Government to transact its business through that medium. If the seat of war should over be trimoved toward Philadelphia the lime of this canal will most certainly become historical. The late military recomoissince of the vicinity of Philadelphia, denoted this canal as only of the less natural lines of defence.

NAVAL MATTERS .- The ship Amelia, it may recollected, was captured by the Brooklyn some be recollected, was captured by the Brokey's solice, while endeavoring to run the blockade. As the reward of such tementy a portion of her Curgo, consisting of boiler, hoop, but, and fine iron, was sold on Tuesday morning, at Queen-street wharf, "on account of whom it may concern."

The material was divided into six lots, according to the quality, and sold for very finir prices. First lot, 600 bundles in 100 iron, brought \$20 a ton; third lot, 210 sheets fine iron, at 3c. a pound; fourth lot, 140 boins plates, at 2%c. a pound; fifth lot, 30 bars angle iron, and 10 bars gueril iron, at 3%c. a pound; sixth lot, 281 bars and bundles iron, at 3%f per ton.

What has become of the submarine battery captured at our wharves about six months ago? The question is suggested by our perceiving that a submarine beat is in course of construction by a firm in Kensington. It is of poiler iron, 45 feet long, 56 inches across, and 60 luches deep. It is shaped like an egg, and is designed to operate under the water, the interior containing machinery for sinking it, and also to propel it.

A HANDSOME TESTIMONIAL TO A LORAL A HANDSOME TESTIMONIAL TO A LOCAL GOVERNOR.—We are pleased to learn that Mossra. Bailey & Co. have just completed a magnificent set of silver, to be presented to Governor Hicks, by the loyal, men of Kent county, Maryland, as a token of their spepreiation of his devotion to the cause of the Union, amid trials and danger. The set consists of a splendid pitcher and salver, and two beautiful goblets. The pitcher is nearly fifteen inches high, and is of exquisite pattern. On one side is finely engraved the United States coat-of-arms, and on the other that of the State of Maryland. In fronts side is finely engraved the United States cost-of-arms, and on the other that of the States of Mayland. In front is a chiefa currentated by stage and military devices, and hearing this inscription: To his Excellency Thomas Holliday Hicks, Governor of the State of Mayland, from the Union men of Keut, for his unswerving devotion to the Constitution of the Union. The salver is af boautiful design, the currence of the yearlow surrounding two engrared views of landscape scenes in Kent county. In the centre is the same inscription, which is also on each of the goblets. The presentation will be made at an early day by Edwin Wilkins, Esch of Chesterrown, Md., on behalf of the docors.

A RELIC OF REVOLUTIONARY DAYS .- A well-A RELIC OF REVOLUTIONARY DAYS.—A Well-known citizen and manufacturer has lately commenced the erection of a splendid mansion upon the old battle-ground at Geymantown. The workings engaged in dig-ging the foundations, a few days since, exhaused a heman skeluton—oridently that of a soldier, so the traces of military uniform still clean to the whitened hones. But, a most singular corroboration of this supposition was in the fact that a small builts hole was found to have been pierced through the frontal sinus, and in moving the figure the builtet was heard to rattle in the cavity of the skulk. The remains were carefully removed and go-in-terred in a new locality.

LARCENY. - Yesterday afternoon Hiram Redman was committed by Aldorman Bestler, to suswer the charge of having stolen a cost from a store at Second and Union streets. The accused, when prected, was in-texicated, and had the cost out.