The Press.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1861.

EXTRACT FROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.—"The conspiracy to break up the Union is a fact now known to atl. 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 trailors."

FOR SALE—The double-cylinder "Taylor" Pages on which this paper has been printed for the last nine months. months. It is in excellent condition, having been made to order a year ago, and will be sold at a bargain. For terms apply at this office, or address JOHN W. FORNEY, 417 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS,

Mr. Randolph Clay, formerly charge d'affaires of the United States at St. Petersburg and Vienna, and minister to Peru, has written an able letter to the London Times of December 11th, in which he discusses—1st. Was the commander of the San Jacinto justified in visiting the Trent on the high seas? Second. Can the prisoners taken out of the Trent be legitimately considered as contraband of war? In conclusion, he states that the justice of regarding the forbearance and good will on the part of the American commander, in permitting the Trent to proceed on her journey, as an encreachment on the neutral rights of Great Britain, or of making it the ground of a formal reclamation against the United States, may very well be doubted. It would seem, indeed, that the real wrong was in the captain of the merchant steamer receiving on board persons notorigusly in the employment of the revolted States, thereby committing a flagrant breach of neutrality, and acting in direct contravention of the injunctions of his sovereign. Surely, if the captain of a British steamer chose to receive such passengers on board, neither his owners nor his Government can reasonably complain of their extradition by a national vessel of the United States.

It is novel, says Mr. Clay, to see the British Government appear as the staunch advocate of neutral rights after so many years of contrary policy; and it will be equally inconsistent, after so many years of cruising and so great an amount of treasure being spent in the suppression of the slave trade, to see the standard of St. George wave side by side with the Palmetto flag, for the protection and encouragement of the "demoralizing insti-

General Burnside's expedition to one of the points on the Southern Coast will soon leave Annapolis for its destination. Most of the vessels that will compose the fleet have arrived at Annapolis, and all the land forces are making busy preparation for their departure. It is worthy of note that two of the brigades will be under the command of Pennsylvania Generals, Parke and Rene.

The destruction of the privateer Royal Yacht, and the capture of her crew, near Galveston, Texas, by a part of the officers and crew of the United States frigate Santee-a detailed account of which will be found on our first page-was one of the most gallant exploits that have taken place since the present rebellion broke out, and reflects credit not only upon the officers and crew engaged in the affair, but also on the whole American navv. All hands did their work well, and we are glad to see that a cunner named Wm. Carter, of Philadelphia. was among the bravest of the brave.

The news from New Mexico is peculiarly gratifying: There is a strong Union feeling provalent throughout the Territory, and at the latest dates all in which this part of his programme has been was quiet. Colonel Canby, in command of the de: carried out is almost sublime. When he partment of New Mexico, has retaken Forts Craig finished the great docks at Cherbourg—that and Stanton, on the Mesilla border, and at last ac- stupendous work, which had for two hundred counts he was on his way to dispossess the rebels of pears excited the dread of Great Britain, and Fort Fillmore, which was traitorously surrendered to them by Major Lynde. There are about six thousand Indians on the Big Bend of the Arkansas, consisting of different tribes, who are anxious and willing to fight in defence of the Union.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post states that there were flying rumors at the capital yesterday of a new phase of the troubles with England. The story runs that Lord Lyons, instead of making a direct issue of the seizure of Mason and Slidell, on board the Trent, has revived the question of the Maine boundary, demanding the relinquishment of a part of that State to treat private, and claiming that the boundary line has novel been definitely drawn. Connected with this curious rumor are some vague hints concerning a revival of the Oregon dispute. The common report in the streets in regard to this new complication is said to have emanated from high authority. The correspondent gives it as one of the floating rumors of the day, without vouching for its truth. It is added, with some show of authority, that the President and the Cabinet entertain no apprehensions of a war with England on the Mason-Slidell question, believing that that affair can be satisfactorily adjusted. The Maine trouble, however, is reported to have caused some uneasiness in official circles.

Per contra, it is asserted in a telegraphic despatch from the Associated Press that it is generally believed in Washington that the Trent affair has been

THE Irish race, in the present awful crisis, have displayed a constancy and a courage that find them his almost abject worshippers. Himought never to be forgotten by the American people. The German and the Frenchman Queen, he consigned to the care of Prince come here animated by an undying attachment ALBERT his own parvenu Empress, Eugenie, to their fatherlands, and while they, too, have thus inflicting a double wound by reopening a manifested heroic devotion to the cause of double memory. Grandly exultant in the pretheir adopted country, it is the Irishman alone sence of the uncovered nobility of England, who becomes a thorough American. British those who rejoiced over the capture, the caprapacity, British insolence, and British aristocracy have made him so much a subject in was not yet satisfied even with the additional Ireland, that he longs to be a freeman in thought that a ruler chosen by the people America, and when he reaches our soil, his should be thus honored and courted by the first and constant thought is to gather around creatures of a haughty nobility. In the Crihim the relatives and friends that he has left mean war English incapacity, English red at home. When England strikes at the Ame- tape and English fanaticism, so well underrican Union, without provocation, and in the stood by Napoleon, enabled him to inflict face of the concessions of this Government, another humiliation on English pride. The is there an Irishman anywhere, here, in Cana- historian will assign to Napoleon the credit da. in Australia, or in Ireland itself, that will of having directed the movements of the ennot feel that this new evidence of the audacity | tire campaign. Seated in his own palace, and of England is Ireland's opportunity?

WHEN Lieutenant General Scorr left the United States, after his resignation of the active duties of his high command, a disposition was exhibited in certain quarters to impress the public mind that he was over-anxious to be relieved from the coming complications of the times. He had voluntarily retired; but malevolent hypercriticism suggested that he had been compelled to retire, and his own glorious self-abnegation was misconstrued as the result of a destiny he could not avoid. At his great age, however, breaking equally with years and with wounds, he had a right to suppose that his countrymen would accord to him the repose he sought, and no doubt it was his ever-confidence in the triumphant success of our arms that induced him to leave the management of the army to younger and more vigorous men. But he had scarcely touched the First Napoleon, who gave it to us, a foreign soil, hardly rested from a trying sea voyage, when he heard the cry from over the Atlantic that a new danger had settled upon our common cause, and he comes back to us, no doubt to remain in the American Union until he is called to the bosom of his fathers. What the object of his mission may be none but those high in authority can tell. It is enough for us to know that he returns to give a new evidence of his devotion to his country. Before such an act of sacrifice and patriotism all disinterested and Union-loving men will agree that he could not have adopted a better way to crown the column of his long life with a wreath of enduring glory.

In the event of war with England, what by candid men has commonly been considered and regretted as a vulgar prejudice, may prove a saving virtue. The masses have never ceased to hate England. The history of the War of Independence, related in the plain and vigorous Saxon of our grandfathers, sank deep into the popular heart, and still nourishes that hatred, which, though latent in some instances, is universal. The popular pulse had not subsided into a healthy beat before wanton acts of aggression on the part of the British Government brought on the war of 1812. Since that time the public has valued the friendly professions of the mother country at a low figure. The masses behold in her only a moneyed institution, seeking to control the world. They believe her to be subject to but two moving influences—jealousy and lust for dominion.

With this ancient and bitter grudge as a basis of operation, war with England would cause such another uprising in the loyal States as the world never saw. But, grand as such an exhibition of patriotism would be, no true patriot desires the occasion for it to arise in dence in the tenacity with which he remembers this period of home trouble.

THE INSANE ANXIETY of the British aristocracy to involve England and the United States in a war is strangely contrasted with their badly-concealed jealousy and fear in regard to the present attitude and future designs of the silent and vigilant Emperor of the French. Never, at any period of his checkered life, has NAPOLEON displayed a more dangerous reticence or a more herculean energy. What his intimations may have been to our venerable citizen, WINFIELD SCOTT, we are not permitted to know, but that he has allowed certain hopes to be encouraged in the

the side of England in whatever purposes she

may contemplate on the great American ques-

tion. But it is now more than probable that

all the suspicions of the English rulers are

being rapidly revived. A very little reflection

will, indeed, show that they cannot be too

cautious in trusting themselves to the tender

embraces of the head of the French empire.

A little more than ten years ago he was the

object of the ridicule and contempt of the

British governing classes. Their organs, from

the London Times to the London Punch, slan-

dered, satirized, and infamously caricatured

him after his escape from the prison of Ham,

as a baffled and disgraced impostor; as a self-

constituted aspirant to position for which he

had neither qualities nor claims; as the "Eagle

Emperor," (alluding to a well-known incident

in his career;) as an adventurer, almost de-

pendent upon the bounty of Count D'ORSAY,

another adventurer; as a volunteer policemen;

and even when, after all these taunts and

scoff's, he threw himself upon the French peo-

ple, and closed a bloody revolution, after the

example of his own illustrious relative, by

vaulting into the seat of empire, amid the ac-

clamations of eight millions of Frenchmen,

who gave him their votes, with an alac-

rity and an enthusiasm unprecedented

in French history,—even after this tri-

umph, the English aristocracy, the Eng-

lish statesmen, and the English press, con-

tinued to depreciate, to denounce, and to

labor for his annoyance and his destruction.

So cordially did he respond to this persistent

hatred that his whole policy, since his eleva-

tion to the throne, has been to humble that

fixed purpose, been changed. Kind words,

couched in diplomatic style, have been youch-

safed to England; but all his deeds have

tended to subordinate England to France.

rage of French statesmen and French sol-

diers has always been made prominent.

Acting with England in the great Crimean

campaign; identified with her in most of

the international diplomatic disputes with

other nations, he has almost imperceptibly

taken the lead, until at this moment he may

be called the master of the destinies of Europe

and if need be, can at any time assume to

dictate terms to England herself. The manner

invited Queen Victoria and both Houses

treachery to the greatest soldier of any age-

that NAPOLEON, in whose name and for whose

the exulting reflection which recalled the pe-

target of British ridicule and British insult.

tivity, and the death of the First Consul, he

the lead and themselves won the glory of the

fight. We recur to these incidents to show

that it is impossible for France to become the

cordial ally of England in the designs of the

latter against this country. Apart from these

recollections, which have enlisted so much of

the grateful sympathy of our own people,

beginning with the signal aid rendered to the

cause of the Colonies in the Revolution,

under the generous reign of Louis the Six-

teenth, followed by the transfer of Loui-

siana to the United States, by order of

that England might not seize it, and

ending with the election of LOUIS NAPOLEON

as President-in itself a recognition of the

popular element in our own system;-apart

from these recollections, if there were no

living prejudices against England in the mind

of the French Emperor and the French people

there is undoubtedly no practical French in-

terest that can be subserved by such an alli-

ance as England seems to desire, in order to

make her attack upon this Republic irresisti-

ble. If England, in characteristic and de-

grading violation of all her anti-slavery pro-

fessions and prejutices, and for a selfish com-

mercial reason, chooses to throw her weight

in favor of the repudiating robbers and in-

grates of the Southern Confederacy, the instinct

will undoubtedly induce her to sympathiz

of France, political, commercial, and social,

with the Northern and loyal States. The best

and most profitable customer of France in the

purchase of her great fabrics are the people of

the free States, India, China, and Italy are

all silk-growing and silk-manufacturing coun-

tries, and the chief dependence for the ex-

tensive silk establishments at Lyons and other

French towns is upon our population. While

England maintains markets for her cotton

fabrics in all the countries which are the

known rivals of France in the manufacture of

silk, the boast of the Southern people that

they are the great consumers of French goods

is turned to ridicule by the single fact that the

servant girls of the free States consume more

silks and French goods than the whole

Southern aristocracy. If England is content

to trust Louis Napoleon, so are we. If they

have confidence in his disposition to sacrifice

all the memories of the past and all the in-

terests of the present and future, we may be

pardoned for saying that we have equal confi-

the one and cherishes the other.

féte which celebrated its completion.

contrary, where the uniform cheap postage originated, a large annual contribution to the national revenue is the result, and, year after year, this contribution increases in amount. There the postage is two cents, while it is three cents with us-exclusive of the increased rate for California letters. It is true that the population of the United States considerably exceeds that of Great Britain and English Ministry of his disposition to co-Ireland, but our postal expenses are also operate with that Power in all future congreater from the straggling distribution of our population, the vast extent of territory quests or conflicts, and that he has thus far preserved a careful neutrality in reference to which our mails have to travel, and the augthe Southern Confederacy, and even tolerated, mented cost, arising from both of these causes, if not stimulated, a series of assaults upon of convoying letters. the present Administration of the Federal Government, is certain. Ordinarily, and from an ordinary man, such manifestations would be gratefully greeted by the British aristocracy, and it would seem that, up to a certain point, they have served to induce the belief that Louis Napoleon really intended to stand by

With a larger population than England Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, it may appear singular that, in the United States, fewer letters are circulated. How is this? The difference may be counted in millions. Do we communicate less with each other? or are our people not so well able to perform the mechanical portion of letter-writing? Not so, for the proportion of people in this country able to read and write vastly exceeds that in the old country. The fact, which post-office statisticians have hitherto left unnoticed, is, that he Telegraph has largely usurped the duty and largely appropriated the receipts of the Post Office. If there were no telegraphic messages, letter-writing would flourish more than it does. We are too "fast" to wait for the comparatively slow transmission through the Post Office. The messages which keep passing over the wires, from daylight to midnight, are to be counted, we believe, in millions upon millions all over the land, and each message, doing duty for a letter, deprives the Post Office revenue of one postal rate. Say that only two hundred million telegrams annually are despatched-we exclude those which communicate intelligence to the pressand here is \$6,000,000 a year, which (or the greater portion) ought to go into the till of the Post Office. It must be considered, too, that the Telegraphs actually contribute nothing whatever to the public revenue.

Increase the Post Office Revenue.

Ever since the reduction in the rates of

postage the Post Office Department has not

paid its own expenses. In England, on the

Our suggestion is, place a tax of five cents upon each message sent by telegraph; the amount to be ascertained, every month, by returns from the Telegraph Companies, a few Government Inspectors being legally empowered to ascertain what amount may be due. No doubt, this small tax would be added on, by the Telegraph Companies, to the current price of the message. But the tax would have the advantage of being payable only by the parties specially using "the wires" in-

aristocracy of England, and to deal exact and It may be observed—there is no such im even-handed justice upon the betrayers and post as this in England? We don't know that murderers of his uncle. Nor has this, his we are bound to take England as an universal exemplar; but, we say that, in England, the telegraph does not supersede the post office, as it does here. For every hundred messages over the wires here, there is only one in England; we doubt whether the proportion is not Whether in the council or in the field, the superiority of the judgment and the cou-

Our proposition, which has never before been made in any journal, is simply-increase the Post Office revenue of the United States by collecting a small tax of five cents, or thereabouts, on every message sent over the telegraph wires. It will yield, at least, a clear revenue of \$5,000,000 per annum.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL." WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1861. The steamer that sails from New York on Saturday will carry forward to Mr. Adams, in London, and Mr. Davton, in Paris, a full in the Cabinet meeting on Christmas day. even induced the First Consul to pause in his Conflicting reports as to the action of this intentions with regard to it-Louis Napoleon meeting will, of course, accompany the auof Parliament to be present at the magnificent thorized despatches. The sympathizers with Secession in Philadelphia and New York, Few people are, perhaps, aware that this is taking advantage of the leniency of the Government, will address the agents of the traithe French Gibraltar of the British chantors at London and Paris for the purpose of nel, and that if ever a great military exinspiring them with still greater hatred against pedition is undertaken by France against our country, as well as to stimulate them to re-Great Britain, it would be fitted out at and started from Cherbourg. In fact, this newed intrigues to secure the speedy recognition of the Southern Confederacy. Now it is great fortification almost looks down upon the that we begin to feel the sting inflicted by the British capital. It was to this place, originally intended as a menace to Great Britain, that men in our great Eastern capitals, who sustain intimate. 4000 ate emissaries of the Confede-Louis Napoleon ostentationsly invited the British Legislators, and they came like supracy at work against the Union in the Old World. If the letters written by the murked pliants, because they could not refuse his royal summons. He welcomed them as a and known traitors in Philadelphia and monarch would welcome subjects, and, by the New York, to London and Paris, by tomorrow's steamer, against the good cause, august reception, proclaimed to mankind that could be exposed, I predict that they would he had brought to his feet the daughter of that contain more aid and comfort to the foreign house which had gloried over an act of enemy than these crafty and industrious agitators have ever given to the domestic enemy. sake he was chosen to preside over the French Thus the pacific policy of the Administration may be defeated, and the design of England, viz: the recognition of the Southern Con-Again, when he stood in the palace of the Brifederacy, consummated. For here is our tish Kings, he was more the conqueror than great danger. Should Great Britain deterthe guest, and he could not have restrained mine either to make a condition with Mr. riod when, almost a fugitive, and, in a great Lincoln that the blockade must be raised, degree, a dependent, in London, he was the or, this concession refused, that she will break it, war is inevitable. Happily, however, the He left England in 1847, amid the jeers and Administration has not been inactive in view scoffs of the English nobility-he returned to of this appalling catastrophe, and the same steamer that will carry the encouraging counself the escort of her gracious Majesty the sel of our traitors will also bear evidences of the earnest and eager and sincere anxiety of our rulers to keep the peace with Great Britain. Nothing will do more to prevent the recognition of the rebellion than a series of bold and instantaneous forward movements of our armies, here and elsewhere. At no period within the last five months would such demonstrations have been more decisive of great issues. If

souri, there will be no recognition of the South-ENGLISH PICTORIALS.—From Mr. Upham, 310 Chestnut street, we have the Illustrated London News and Illustrated News of the World, of Deconstantly informed by telegraph of the movecember 7, containing a variety of engravings. ments of the allied forces, it was in his brain Also, Harper's Weekly, the new number comthat the plan was conceived, and by his orders mencing the sixth annual volume, with Charles that that plan was executed. In proportion Dickens' New Christmas Stories, in advance, by as the British generals proved their unfitness purchase of copyright, of all other American jour for command the soldiers of Louis Napoleon, nals. Admirable stories these are, too-especially the last, which is American in subject and advenmen born of the people, acting under his inture, commencing at San Francisco, and proceeding structions, pushed the British aristocracy from

within the next three weeks the returning mes-

sengers of the English Government shall find

the Secessionists routed in Virginia, destroy-

ed in Kentucky, annihilated in South Carolina,

Florida, and Texas, and driven out of Mis-

HOLIDAY PRESENTS .- J. E. GOULD, Seventh and Chestnut streets, is selling his elegant Pianos and Mclodeons at greatly reduced prices. Such inducements were never before offered to pur-

SALE OF VALUABLE FARM, STOCKS, &C .- Tuesday next, 31st inst., at the Exchange. SUPERIOR FURNITURE—Monday, at 905 Pine st. WINES, BRANDIES, &c.—Closing sale of Harris, Heyl, & Co.'s stock, on Monday, at the auction See Thomas & Sons' catalogues and advertise

ments of the three sales. Proposed Extension of the Canadian Telegraph. MONTREAL, Dec. 27.—No decision has yet been made by the authorities as to building a military telegraph line to Quebee. The existing telegraph company of Canada seriously contemplate extending the line some 200 miles to Cape St. Rozier, on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, via Campbellistown, at the hand of the Pay of Chebary. If this extension the head of the Bay of Chalons. If this enterprise is carried out, the news by the Canadian line of steamers will be received at least one day sooner

than by the way of Father Point. Should the line be extended to Cape Rozier, it is expected that the steamers to and from Quebec will make that a port The Europa at Halifax. HALIFAX, Dec. 27.—The steamer Europa arrived at 5, and sailed at 7 o'clock this morning for Liverpool. Messrs. Mason and Slidell were not on board. The steamer Asia reached here yesterday. up the St. Lawrence, but came back on account of the ice. She will not land, her troops here, but sails for New Brunswick to-day. The Sixty-second Regiment will be sent to St. John in the Delta to-morrow.

Excitement in the Stock Market. New York, Dec. 27.—There was quite an excitement in the stock market this afternoon, with an advance in prices, which is attributed to the impression that a suspension of extensive payments in specie by the banks will precede the next large treasury negotiations.

Death of Judge McClure. PITTSBURG, Dec. 27.—The Hon. W. B. McClure, for many years president judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions of this county, died early this morning. He was highly esteemed by the whole community as an upright judge.

Arrival of the Edinburgh. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The steamer Edinburgh is signalled below, and will be up about 20 clock. Her advices have been anticipated. She brings the mails that the Arago should have brought.

The New Tariff Bill Signed. Washington, Dec. 27.—The President has approved the bill to increase the duties on tea, coffee, and sugar.

LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1861. General McCail's Report of the Dranesville Fight. General McCall's report has been issued, but loes not vary from the intelligence stready com-

nunicated to the press. Hon. Alfred Ely. Hon. ALFRED ELY has arrived here from Richmond, and details a very interesting account of his experience among the rebels.

Colonel Windham, The English rifleman, who distinguished himself during the late Italian war, under GARIBALDI. aud who served in the Sardinian army for six years, having offered his services to the United States Government, has been appointed to a position in the Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiment.

A Horse Patrol, Formed from detachments of the regular cavalry, has been established in this city. These grim sentinels are now seen, armed cap-a-pie, scated in their saddles, almost as motionless as statues, at every corner along Pennsylvania Avenue. Their duty is to prevent the frantic style of riding, lately exhibited by officers and others, along that thoroughfare. They also see that every soldier produces his pass, when demanded, if suspected of not peing legitimately absent from camp. A Sailor Wedding

Took place on Tuesday evening, at the Church of the Epiphany, the bridegroom being Lieut. Thos. H. EASTMAN, now in command of the steamer Yankee, of the Potomac flotilla, and the bride Miss ANNA MAXWELL, daughter of Dr. MANWELL, U.S. N. There was a large attendance of naval officers and others present. Mad. Susini (nice M'lle ISABEL HINCKLEY) assisted, as the French say, the choir with her splendid vocal powers.

Battle of Bull Run. A sketch of the battle of Bull Run has just been published in Richmond by W. HARGRAVE WHITE, being lithographed by F. W. BOERNEMANN in Charleston. It was drawn by Captain SAUUEL P. MITCHELL, of the First Virginia Regiment. It is not much in the matter of art, being but poorly printed; but it illustrates the plan of the battle and confirms the fact that General McDowell's plan was both admirably formed and executed. The Confederates acknowledge that they were attacked on their weak part and outflanked, when some unaccountable panic seized upon the Federalists. As a matter of justice to an able general, this evidence from the enemy is invaluable. Elias Howe.

The sewing-machine inventor, is now here, visiting the camps of the regiments which he helped to fit out, to continue his good offices, and contribute to the comfort of the men.

Americans Leaving Paris. Intelligence received to day by the American nails states that Americans on the Continent are flocking to Paris, preparing for an immediate departure for their homes. The current impression n Paris is that, in case of a war between England and America, France will unite with England. This is shared by many Americans from whom letters have been received.

Accident to Captain Powers. Captain Powers, assistant adjutant general to General Martindale, was seriously injured on Wednesday, while riding through the woods near Falls Church. He was thrown from his horse by coming in contact with the limb of a tree, and lay insensible for several hours. He is now in a fair way of recovery.

The Defences of Philadelphia. A committee of the Philadelphia City Councils arrived here to-day, and visited the Navy and War Departments on business connected with the de-

Lieutenant Hurd. papers about his escape from Charleston, is costor. The fellow passed himself off at the deorgetown Hospital as a wounded soldier, but there is no doubt he was never in Charleston, and his whole story is a sheer fabrication. Winter Quarters.

General Casey's division are building wooden barracks on Meridian Hill, in the form of a Spanish town. They are to be one story high, and extend along four sides, each side capable of containing a regiment. In the centre will be an open space, or grand plaza, forming an excellent parade ground for brigade movements. It is noteworthy, as illus trative of Northern ingenuity, that they are all put together by the soldiers, and cost the Governnent nothing except for the lumber.

Certain officers of each brigade are now being instructed in a new signal code, the invention of Maj MEYERS, formerly surgeon in the navy. They are said to be neither too simple for the enemy to discover easily, nor too complicated to embarrass the movements of our own army. It is said that the countersign signal was betrayed to the enemy before it was in use over three days, and it is therefore necessary to use some device that may not be easily understood, except by the signal officers instructed for that purpose. Colonel McClean,

of the Cameron Light Guard, or Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, now stationed in Alexandria, or which place he is provost marshal, will probably be court-martialed. Charges have been preferred against him for disobeying the commands of his superior officers, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. Affairs in General McCall's Division.

The signal lights of the enemy have been seen for several nights past by General McCall's division at no considerable distance from Camp Pierpont. Another suspicious character has been brought blindfolded by our pickets into Camp Pierpont on suspicion of being a spy.
Company B, Captain Cooper, of Colonel Camp-

BELL's artillary regiment, has left Camp Pierpont with his splendid battery to assist General BANKS in crossing the Potomac. Large forces of the rebels have been seen within short distance from the outside pickets from

McCall's division. The glorious victory achieved at Dranesville has inspired the Pennsylvania Reserves with additional confidence, and the defeat of the rebels has probably whetted them for fresh scenes of brutality and vengeance.

The Reserves are ready for a holiday frolic, and would like to see the enemy dance to their music. A Foraging Party. A foraging party, consisting of Generals WADS

WORTH'S and KEYES' brigades, from Upton's Hill, left their camps at two o'clock this morning with one hundred wagons. They went to within a mile of Fairfax, but saw no rebels, and returned in the evening with the wagons filled with corn and hay. The Burning of the Government Stables. Two hundred and thirty horses were burned in the fire last evening.

Miscellaneous. President Lincoln, accompanied by Capt. Dahl. GREN, visited the Pensacola to-day, and went on her trial trip down the river. Colonels MEAGHER and ASBOTH have been nomi-

nated to the Senate as brigadier generals. General Rosechans arrived here from Western Virginia to-day. The President has approved the bill providing

for the appointment of three commissioners from each State to visit the camps to receive and forward to the friends and families of the soldiers the latter's allotment of pay. -The North Carolina, loaded with forage consigned to Colonel INGALLS, of the Quartermaster's Department, Alexandria, arrived at Livermool Point to-day, from New York, in a leaky condition. She. in connection with a number of others, is expected

to pass the rebel batteries hitherward to-night. The steamboat Talaca, Captain H. S. WRIGHT, arrived here yesterday from Philadelphia, having passed the blockade without a shot being fired at her. She is intended for the new Government ferry at Georgetown, and will probably commence her trips on Monday next. This is one of the greatest improvements made by the Government, and will greatly facilitate the transportation of the heavy army wagons, which are constantly passing between this city and Virginia, and will relieve the Long Bridge from the pressure of teams which have heretofore been forced upon it.

News from the South. The Richmond Examiner of Tuesday says is greatly fears that the United States will surrender Mason and SLIDELL to the British authorities, and will thereby submit to a shame yet unrecorded in the annals of any nation, rather than disturb the I purpose to grind into the earth the liberties of the people of the South. By the abject submission demanded, they may, but only for a while, avert the war between Great Britain and the United

The Examiner says a fleet is now the most exigent desideratum with the South, and censures the rebel Government and officers of the navy for their singular torpidity in all matters pertaining to the building of ships during the whole progress of the

The Examiner contains copious extracts from the New York papers of the 22d. The general appropriation bill, which has been approved by JEFF DAVIS, appropriates for the army about sixty millions of dollars; for the navy shout four millions. A naturalization law has been passed by the rebel Congress, extending its provisions to all persons, not citizens of the rebol States, who are engaged in

The Nashville Despatch, of the 24th, says gold was sold there, the day before, at 25 per cent. premium, which is a decline of 15 cents on tha former prices. Some days ago it sold at 40 per

the naval service of the rebel States during the

The Trent Affair Adjusted. It is reported, and generally believed, that the Treat affair has been adjusted. The Confederates are Still at Dranes ville,

The Confederates, aggrieved at their defeat at Dranesville, are anxious to draw our forces into another engagement, in the hope of better success. They have been largely reinforced, and are using means to draw out the Federal troops. There is no disposition on the part of Gen. McCall to avoid an encounter, and any advance on the part of the rebels will certainly result in another engagement. The recent engagement at Dranesville is ac knowledged, as the facts have now been received from both sides, to have been one of the best-con-MUSICAL FUND HALL, Locust street, above Eighth .tested encounters we have yet had with the enc my. Gen. STUART and some of his officers showed a heroic spirit, and Colonel KANE says

that he could distinctly hear the officers urging the rebel army on to battle. One officer, he says, implored the men to rush forward; but, after using every argument in his power, they failed to obey, when the officer, in a ast desperate effort to make his men advance upon our troops, rushed forward himself, when he was shot down, and his men were immediately dispersed. Colonel KANE says that a prompt obedience to the commands and entreaties of that officer, on the part of his men, would probably have turned the fortunes of the day against us. So near were the two armies together, that Colonel KANE distinctly heard the order given by that rebel officer, to aim at the officer (Col. KANE) leading on the Bucktails; and he attributes his own escape from death on the field wholly to the bravery of his own men in striking terror into the ranks of the enemy and causing them to refuse to

obey the orders of their commander It will cause no surprise to hear of another engagement at any moment in the vicinity of Dranesville. Our pickets in that direction were driven in yesterday, and the rebels have been largely strengthened. General McCALL is prepared for any emergency; and if the Confederates desire to neet the Pennsylvania Reserves in a fair field, a very trifling advance on their part will be received by General McCall as an intimation to move forward to an engagement.

Colonel Kane

Colonel KANE, of the Bucktails, under the very xcellent care of his wife, is improving. He is however, confined closely to his bed, and is very weak Colonel KANE is not wounded in the forehead, and deprived of his reason in consequence, as currently reported. His wound is on the cheek, the ball having passed through the cheek, and, carrying away a tooth and a portion of the jaw-bone, odged in his mouth. He is in full possession of his reason, and recounts with minute detail the incidents of the late engagement and brilliant success of the Pennsylvania troops.

General Heintzelman's Command-An Engagement Probable. General HEINTZELMAN is in command of the left wing of the army, and the rebels just beyond his lines attempt to hold their ground with considerable tenacity. Within ten days he has made three several attempts to bring them into an engagement, but in each case they turned their backs upon the Federal troops after the first fire The General is determined to make a movement that will either bring them to an engagement, or drive them permanently back from their present scouting grounds. In his command there are, as in the right wing of the army, a very large proportion of Pennsylvania troops, and they are eager for an opportunity "to let slip the dogs of war" upon their foes. Generals Heintzelman, Sumner, and RICHARDSON are in command of the left wing of the army of the Potomac, and, composed as it is of many of the finest regiments in the army, they will

tunity occurs. Soldiers' Pay and their Families. The President this morning signed the bill recently passed by Congress, to provide a more convenient mode of allotments of soldiers' pay to their families. It gives the President the power to appoint from each State three persons as commissioners, who shall not be entitled to any compensation from the Government, who shall receive by draft from the paymasters the order of such per-Lieut. Hunn, who so boldly sold the New York | sons to whom allotments of soldiers' pay may be made. The third section of this law takes from the sutlers their lien on the soldiers' pay. The

not fail to do honor to themselves whenever oppor-

THE CAMPAIGN IN MISSOURI.

2,500 PRISONERS CAPTURED.

Ten Bridge-Burners Shot.

REPAIRS OF THE RAILROADS. Sr. Louis, Dec. 27 .- The following is a resume

of the recent military operations in Missouri, oh-Within the last two weeks the Federal army has captured 2,500 rebels, including about 70 commissioned officers; 1,200 horses and mules, 1,100 stand of arms, two tons of powder, 100 wagons, an immense amount of commissary stores, camp equipage; the large foundry at Lexington, used by the rebels for casting cannon, shot, and shells, burned : most of the rebel craft on the Missouri river, inor captured, and a clean sweep has been made of the whole country between the Missouri and the Osage rivers, and Gen. Price cut off from all sup-

The retreef the whole army commenced as soon afterwar is possible, and so fearful were they of pursuit th bey burned the bridges and placed every obstaclii the way of the fancied pursuers. Even the celesed bridge built by Gen. Fremont across the Ostewas not spared by the flying rebels. It is remd that one regiment was left on the Osage as a eliguard, and that several small bodies are scated through the counties about Warrensburg, ollting supplies. A cavalry force has been sent oun pursuit of them, but our horses are so warned weary by other long forced marches that thelis little prospect of capturing these rebels. The t report from Price is that he passed through Shrield en route for Arkansas, and it is pretty cert that he will not at tempt to

return this winter. Sr. Louis, Dec. -In accordance with orders from General Hallethe Provost Marshal General has directed the sixteen slaves now confined in the St. Louounty jail, and advertised for sale under the Sistatute, be released from prison, and he placemader the control of the chief quartermaster olis department, for labor, till further orders—thed slaves being the properiy of robels, and hag been used for insurrec-

tionary purposes. FROM INTUCKY. SKIRMISH-RO OF A REBEL PAL

Louisville, Dec. 27 letter to the Damecrat, from London, Ky., a that there are only 1,500 rebels at Cumberlatup. They have sent their sick to Knoxville, wheir pickets extend five miles this side of the There is no news from Somerset to-day.

Mr. Duff, just arrived, res a fight, on Tuesday night, at Joseph Corsorbuse, Perry county, between one hundred another robels and forty-seven Union men. rebels were com-pletely routed, with sixteen inded. The Federal force lost nothing.

The rebels are prowling the Perry, Letcher, and Boethill counties, robbind swearing the Union men to support the Sirn Confederacy.

THE CITY AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Browd and Locust treets—Afternoon — Grand Matinee—Evening—"Jack WHEATLEY'S CONTINENTAL THEATEE—Walnut street boys Eighth.—"The Southern Rebellion by Sea and above Eighth,—"The Southern Rebellion Land"—"The Forty Thieves." Arch-Street Theatre—Arch street, above Sixth.— BARNUM'S TRMPLE OF LIVING WONDERS—1909 Chest-cut street, above Tenth. at street, above Tenth.

WALKUT-STREET THEATRE—Ninth and Walnut sta.—

The Hide Telebrath of Loye"—" The Hide TEMPLE OF WONDERS—N. E. corner Tenth and Chest-nut streets.—Signor Blitz's Entertainment.

Lexington and its Hero-A Vivid Picture. The announcement that Col. James A. Mulligan—the "Hero of Lexington," in popular parlance—would adin itself have filled the edifice to its utmost capacity, even though the benevolent purpose of the lecture ha not been publicly stated. The claim of St. John's Or phon Asylim upon the sympathics of our public has every instance, asserted its influence with market and gratifying results. From this reason, we anticipated and truly—that National Halt would be filled.
Upon the platform were scated Right Rev. Bishop Beck's Philadelphia Band was also upon the platform and did itself infinite credit. Punctually at eight o'clock Col. Mulligan was intro-

Punctually at eight o'clock Col. Mulligan was introduced to the andlonce, and in reply to its cheers of salutation bowed courteously. The Colonel is of medium height, and well knit and sinewy in frame. In his bearing there is a striking unity of the polished grace and ease of the gentleman with the sturdy maniliness of the soldier. His countenance is noble, handsome, and (we say it not in complinent) but slightly indicative of his type of nationality.

Bishop Wood introduced the Colonel as follows: I am pleased, beloved friends, to see you all here this evening; in the first place, because you show a kind sympathy for the orphun, and in the second place, because it is a demonstration of your loyalty to the Union. [Applause.]

I will give no further reasons, but will introduce to you Colonel James A. Mulligan. [Lond applause.]

Colonel Mulligan gloke as follows:

LADDES AND GENTLEMEN: I did not expect to find myself kere to-night, but I was asked to visit your city in the name of the orphan, and any man who is in the perilons trade of wir, and who has arrend him little arms that founds him and little lips that press his own, and knows not how soon they may be thrown upon the cold charities of the world is not like the reference and the clearities of the world is not like the reference and the clearities of the world is not like the reference and the clearities of the world is not like the reference and the clearities of the world is not like the reference and the clearities of the world is not like the reference and the clearities of the world is not like the reference and the like the re

perilons trade of wir, and who has around him little arms that Ioulle him and little lips that press his own, and knows not how soon they may be thrown upon the cold charities of the world, is not likely to refuse the call of the orphan. [Applause.] The audience I see before me to-night is my humble cup of cold water for this object. Let me now plainly and briefly relate the circumstances of a little affair that happened to us in Missouri. Just outside the limits of Jefferson City, overlooking the broad Missouri, were encamped two regiments, over which floated twin banners—banners which have been twins in the past, and may they ever be so in the future—the harp of Ireland and the stars of America. [Applause.] Under these twin banners my as rollicking and happy a regiment as was ever collected together. It was the Irish Brigade of Chicago. At the hour of midnight it received an order to march to therelief of Col. Marshall's cavalry, then threatened by the enemy, and with them to cut their way through to Lexington, and hold it at all hazards. The next morning saw the Irish Brigade with its tace set towards Lexington. We started with forty rounds of mmunition and three days' rations, and advanced for mine days without meeting the enemy, foraging upon the country in the meantime for support. As we moved along, war smoothed his winkled brow. The chaplain mixed unitry in the meantime for support. As we moved along, ar smoothed his wrinkled brow. The chaplain mixed war smoothed his wrinkled brow. The chaplain mixed his admonitions with an occasional snatch of an Irish melody. The major was a married man, and chanted—

"Ever of thee I'm fondly dreaming."

The lieutenant colonel was a married man, and, not to be formal, I was a married man, and followed the major. [Laughter.] Thus we went on, until at length we arrived within two miles of Lexington. The brigade sat down, pitched its camp, the men rested, and preparations were made for advancing into the city. We at length we arrived winner two immeson learning. The brigade sat down, pitched its camp, the men rested, and preparations were made for advancing into the city. We want in, with our solitary six-nounder mnzzled in rose and breeched with evergreens. The mon had travelled nine days, by forced marches, as it is called in the regular army, yet they, never looked better. On arriving at Lexington we found Colonel Marshall's cavalry and a few Home Guards, and I wish, for our sakes, there had been fewer. I have a very poor opinion of Home Guards. I have found them invincible in peace, and invisible in wer. [Laughter.] They are generally content to stay at home under the shadow of the paternal mansion and let the country take care of itself. I say we found a fow of those Home Guards there. On the 10th of September a letter arrived from Colonel Peabody, saying that he was retreating from Warrensburg, twenty-tive miles distant, and that Price was pursuing him with ten thousand men. A few hours afterwards Colonel Peabody, with the Thirteenth Bissourl, entered Lexington. We then had 2,780 men in garrison and forty rounds of cartridges. At noon of the 11th, we commenced throwing up our first entrenchments. In six hours afterwards the enemy onened their fire. Col. Peabody was ordered out to meet them. The eamp then presented a lively scone; officers were hurrying hither and thither, drawing the troops up in line and giving orders, and the commander was riding with his staff to the bridge to encourage his men and to plant his artillery. Two six-pounders were planted to oppose the enemy, and placed in charge of Capt. Dan. Quirk, who remained at his post till daybreak. It was a night of fearful auxiety. None knew at what moment the enemy would be upon the little band, and the hours presed in ellence and anxious waiting. So it continued until morning, when the chaplain rushed into headquarters, saying that the enemy were pushing forward, Two compenies of the Missouri Thirteenth were ordered out, and the Colonel, with the aid of

them gainanty, and harnessed them to such an extent as to delay their progress, in order to give time for constructing entrenchments around the camp on Gollege Hill. This had the desired effect, and we succeeded in throwing up earthworks three or four feet in height. This consumed the night, and was continued during the This consumed the night, and was continued during the maxt day, the outposts still opposing the enomy, and keeping them back as far as possible. At three o'clock in the afternoon of the 12th the engagement opened with artillery. A volley of grapeshot was thrown among the officers, who stood in front abatavatery; replict will a vigor, which convoted the scene into one of the wildest description. We had five six-pounders, and the musketry were firing at every angle. Those who were not shooting at the moon were shooting above it. [Laughter.] The men were ordered to cease firing, and they were arranged in ranks, kneeling, the front rank shouting and the others loading. The artillery were served with more care, and within an hour a shot from one of our guns dismounted their largest piece, a twelve-pounder, and exploded a powder caisson. This achievement was received with shouts of exultation by the beleaguered garrison. The enemy retired a distance by the beleaguered garrison. The enemy retired a distance of 3 miles. At 7 o'clock the engagement had ceased and Lexington was ours again. [Applause.] Next morning General Parsone, with ten thousand men at his back, sent in a flag of truce to a little garrison of twenty-seven hundred men, asking permission to enter the town and bury his dead, claiming that when the noble Lyon went

or cupfured, and a clean sweep has been made of the whole country between the Missouri and its of the whole country between the Missouri and its of the whole country between the Missouri and its of full retreat for Arkansas with his whole army, having parced through Springshold on Monday last.

Our loss in accomplishing these imperant results because the Jobh is Miles and wounded.

The second of Cinwa Hallock, which have been to shally exceed the Jobh is Miles and wounded.

Missouri and the Drilliant strategies combinations of critical Holes of Honey French States, and the British Strategies combinations of Cinwa Hallock, which have been to shally exceeded the Jobh is Miles and Wordson, Colonals Jeff. C. David of Port Sumpter fame). Fred. Stass, of the Bleventh Regular Infantry, and the brave officers and soldiers of our summer fame). Fred. Stass, of the Bleventh Regular Infantry, and the brave officers and soldiers of our summer fame). Fred. Stass, of the Bleventh Regular Infantry, and the brave officers and soldiers of our summer fame). Fred. Stass, and rolling stock, on the State of the Sta

returned, it was with a shot through the check and another through the arm, and with but 45 of the 50 he had led forth. [Applause.] The hospital was in their possession.

We were in a terrible situation. Toward night the fire increased, and in the evening word came from the robels that if the garrison did not curronder before the next day, they would heist the black flag at their cannon, and give us no quarter. Word was sent back that "when we asked for quarter it would he time to settle that "(Cheers.) It was a terrible thing to see those brave fellows mangled, and with no skillful hands to hind their gaping younds. Our surgeon was held with the enemy, against all rules of war, and that, too, when we had released a surgeon of theirs on his mere pledge that he was such. Captain Moriarty west into the hospital, and, with nothing but a razor, noted the part of a surgeon. We could not be without a chaplain or surgeon any longer. There was in our ranks a Lieutenant Hickey, a rollicking, jolly fellow, who was despatched from the hospital to procure the surgeon and chaplain at all hazards. Forty minutes later and the brave fieutenant was horne by severely wounded. As he was borne past I heard him exclaim, "God have mercy on my little ones." And God did hear his prayera, for the gay lieutenant is up, as rollicking as ever, and is now forming his brigade to return to the field. [Applause.] On the morning of the 19th the firing was resumed and continued all day. We recovered our surgeon and chaplain. The day was signalized by a fierce bayonet charge upon a regiment of the enemy, which served to show them that our men were not yet compossession.

We were in a terrible situation. Toward night the

geon and emplain. The day was signalized by a fierce bayonet charge upon a regiment of the enemy, which gerved to show them that our men were not yet completely worthed out. The officers had told them to hold out until the 19th, when they would certainly be reinforced. Through that day our little garrison stood with straining eyes, watching to see if some friendly tlag was bearing aid to them. to them—with straining car, awaiting the sound of friendly cannonade. But no reinforcements appeared triently commonate But he reinterestions appointing, and, with the energy of despire, they determined to do their duty at all hazards. [Prolonged cheers.] The 19th was a horrid day. Our water cistering had been drained, and we dared not leave the crown of the hill, and make one enternelments on the bank of the river, for the one my could have planted their cannon on the hill and buried us. The day was barning hot, and themen bit their cartridges; their lips were parched and bilstored. But not a word of nurmering. [Apolause.] tridges; their lips were parched and blistered. But not a word of murmuring, [Applause.]

During the night I passed around the field, smoothed back the clotted nair, and by the light of the moon, shiping through the trees, I recognized here and there the countenances of my brave men who had fallen. Some were my favorites in days gone past, who had stood by me in these hours of terror, and had tallen on the hard-fought field. Sadly we buried them in the trenches. The morning of the 20th broke, but no reinforcement appeared, and still the men fought on. The reliefs had constructed movable breastworks of heaup hates. Did them up the hill, and alvanced their batter.

to call by the familiar pickname, "Saxy," was then ordered to oppose his company to the assilants. As I gave the order, "Saxy, to in," the gallant Fitzgerald, at the head of Company I, with a wild yell, rushed in upon the enemy, who were driven out. [Applause.] Many of our good fellows were lying dead, our cartridges had failed and it was evident that the light would soon cease. It was now three o'clock, and all on a sudden an orderly came, saying the remy had sent a fing of truce. With the fing came the following note from General Price:

"Colonel, What has caused the cessation of the light?"

Ingilit!"

The Colonel returned it with the following roply written on the back:

"General, I hardly know, unless you have surrendered." [Laughter.]

"He took pains to assure me, however, that such was not the case. I learned soon after that the Home Guard had hoisted the shift flag. The leutenant who had thus hoisted the shift flag. The leutenant who had thus hoisted the shaft flag. The leutenant who had thus hoisted the shaft flag. The leutenant who had thus hoisted the shaft flag. The leutenant who had thus hoisted the shaft flag. The leutenant who had thus hoisted the shaft flag was threatened with instant deash unless he pulled it down. The men all said, if we have no cartridges, and a vast horde of the enemy is about us? They were told to go to the line and stand there, and use the charge at the muzzle of their guns or perish there. They grasped their weapons the steroe, and use the charge at the muzzle of their guns or perish there. They grasped their weapons the steroe, and there they stood without a murmor, praying as they never prayed before that the rebeh horde would show themselves at the carthworks. An officer remarked, "This is butchery." The conviction became general, and a council of war was held. And when, sinally, the white slag was raised, Adjutant Cosgreve shell bitter tears. [Applaines.] The place was given up, upon what conditions, to this day, I hardly know or sare. The enemy came pouring in. One soppish officer, dressed in the gardilest mid-frim of his rank, strutted up and down through the camp, stepped before our men, took out a pair of hand-entify, and, holding them up, said, "Do you know what these are for?" We were placed in file, and a figure on horselack, hooking much like "Death on the lead of Dixlo." Of my limpisonment there I will say nothing. We all feel, every m an of us, that we have been sighting for a great cause; that we were not spared from Lexington to sit dily in our homes while our country is in danger. [Cheers.] We all feel that that Republic willel was cemented by t ight!"
The Colonel returned it with the following roply writ-

THE NEW FIRE-ALARM AND POLICE TELE-THE NEW FIRE-ALARM AND POLICE TELE-GRAPH OFFICE.—The old office of the Department of Highways, which is now being fitted up for the fire-alarm and voltes telegraph, will be ready for compation about the 10th of January. The office, when completed, will afford every accommodation and ample room for the transaction of business. During the past year about 50,000 messages have been transmitted through the old affire—a small, marrow room, poorly ventilated, and with a leaky roof, threatening destruction during rainy weather to the instruments, &c., which are crowded into it. This is the only office ever occupied by this department since its organization, as at that time the business transacted was accordingly small. Since the building of our local telegraph, however, numerous wires have been laid, and the amount of business increased to such a great extent that, after considerable delay, attended with much boring. Councils have agreed to give the rooms occupied by the Highway Department to the police telegraph, and remove the former to the building at the southwest corner of Fifth and Walnut streets, where they are at present leaded.

are at present located.

The work of fitting up the new office was entrusted to Um. J. Phillips, the superintendent of the telegraph, and his gentlemanly assistant, Bavid R. Walker, Esq. Both of these gentlemen have used every exertion to have the same done at the lowest figure, and we are informed that the total expense will not exceed \$1,000—a tridling cost for the amount of labor parformed. The place given as a battery room is a cellar directly under the office. This cellar has been fitted up in such a manner as to preserve the instruments, wire, &c., that may be placed therein, and thus effect a considerable saving to the city in the course of a year. The office, and, owing to its dampness and ill ventilation, answers very poorly the purposes for which it was originally intended. The new battery-room has been so constructed as to be used she for storage purposes.

The Highway Department formerly occupied two rooms, the front one, and the largest of which, facing on Chestaut street, will now be used for the telegraph instruments. The room back will be occupied by the superintendent and his assistant, as a private office. There will be two operators detailed for day duty, and the same number for night. Messes. Theophilus Hartley and George Cullim are at present performing day duty, fand freesre, Frank Erdman and Wm. B. Heinsnight duty. The annual report, showing the workings of the department, is each year compiled by Operator Heins, whose politeness and intelligence have won for him the respect and esteem of all. The other operators at the Central Office are an intelligence have won for him the respect and esteem of all. The other operators at the Central Office are an intelligence have won for him the respect and esteem of all. The other operators at the Central Office are an intelligence have won for him the respect and esteem of all. The other operators at the Central Office are an intelligence have won for him the respect and esteem of all. The other operators at the Central Office are an intelligence ha are at present located.

The work of fitting up the new office was entrusted to

Strange to say, however, their pay is the same as the who are detailed for duty at the station-houses, who he amount of labor performed is one-tenth less. The and will reflect credit on the city and the gentlem HEARING OF BURGING -Vegterday after.

noon John Houghton and George Wright were arraigned before Aldernian Beitler on a charge of burglary. Mrs. Sommers, residing at 1345 Hancock street, testified that her house was broken open and robbed about six weeks since. An entrance was effected by breaking open a back shutter, and \$32.50 was taken from a trunk which was bright open at the scaled in the research which a scaled in the research which a scaled in the research which was bright as a side in the research which was bright as a side in the research which was bright as a side in the research which was bright as a side in the research which a side in the research which was bright as a side in the research which was a side in the research which a side in the research which was the research which was a side in the research which which which was a side in the research which which was a side in the research which was a side in the research which which was a side in the research which was a side in t was broken open with a soldering iron.

The robbery was effected about five o'clock in the af ternoon.

Robert Dve, a small buy, testified that on the afternoon of the tobbery; he saw Houghton in the yard of Mrs. Sommer's house; witness asked him what he was doing there, when he replied that he had got over the fence after a ball.

John Kirk, another boy, testified that he had seen the John Kirk, another boy, testified that he had seen the prisoner, Houghton, in the alley leading to Mrs. Sommer's house on the afternoon of the robbery.

Mrs. Llewellen, residing in Perry street, testified that her house was entered by thieves on the 27th of November while she was absent at a funeral. The thieves took a watch, a pair of gold spectacies, and some money, in all about \$110.

Wm. Kelley, a little boy, said that on the day of the robbery he saw Houghton and Wright standing together in Perry street. One of them asked him to ring the bell of Mrs. Llewelleu's house and see if any one was at home. The prisoners were committed to answer in default of \$5,000.

SUPPOSED FOUL PLAY.—A man, named Cornelius Murphy, was found dead in bed on Thursday, at his residence, Anita and Elisworth streets, in the First ward. He had a severe contusion on his right temple, a scar upon the side of his aeck, and several bruises about the head. From these circumstances it was supposed that the deceased had met with foul play. His wife states that she got up about noon on Thursday, and went down stairs without discovering that her husband was dead. Shertly afterwards a woman, who occupies another portion of the house, went to take some soup to Murphy, and, upon entering his room, found him a corpse. Coroner Conrad was summoned to hold an inquest in the ease. Nothing very definite could be ascertained, and the investigation was postpound until yesterday, in order to allow a post-mortem examination to be made. At the inquest, however, it was ascertained that the cause of the death was from natural causes. The deceased was about forty-five years of age, and was the deceased was about forty-five years of age, and was the

THE ARMAMENT OF FORTS DELAWARE AND MIFFLIN.—Major Henry, yesterday morning, received the following note from the Hon. Wm. M. Meredith, Attorney General of the Commonwealth, relative to the defensive condition of Forts Delaware and Mifflin:

DECAMBER 26, 1861.

Mr Dean Sin: I have to thank you for your note of his morning.

I have this moment received a telegraphic despatch I have this moment received a telegraphic despatch from the Governor at Harrisburg. He has been in communication with Gen. Totten, the head of the Engineer Department at Washington, and has just received from him an assurance that one hundred and hirty-five large guns (now ready), and twenty flanking 24-pound howitzers will be mounted on Fort Delaware, and forty-seven large guns (how ready) on Fort Mifflin. As soon as Congress acts, the new fort opposite Fort Delaware will be erected, and the defensive capacity of Fort Mifflin increased. With great esteem, very truly yours,

W. M. MEREDITH.

Hon. Alexander Henry.

Passage of Troops .- Yesterday morning PASSAGE OF TROOPS.—Yesterday morning the first battalion of the First Regiment of Cavalry of Massachusetts passed through the city. They numbered four hundred men and horses, and were under the command of Major Greedy Curtis. The men were all fully cutipped. The Ninth New Jersey Regiment, under Col. William Bryan, passed through our city on Thursday evening, cn route for Washington. They were handsomely entertained at the Union Volunteer and Gooper Shop Refreshment Saloons. The men were treated to a full supply of mince pic. They left about 12 o'clock, and at daylight yesterday morning a regiment eleven hundred strong was breakfasted, and sent on their way South.

INTERESTING CELEBRATION.—Kensington M. E. Church presented a most beautiful scene on Thursday avening last, being the occasion of an exhibition of sing-ing and speaking by the children of the Sabbath school ing and speaking by the children of the Sabbath school. The church was handsomely fitted up, and was crowded to its utmost capacity. The order was excellent. The feature most worthy of remark was the singing of the "Star-Spangled Banner" by the children. The arrangements produced an effect such as we have soldom witnessed. The Rev. Mr. Lightbourn deserves credit for the energy and skill he has displayed in giving such a fine treat to the friends of the "Old Brick," as this church is still familiarly called. We learn that the exhibition is shortly to be repeated.

HANDSOME TESTIMONIAL. — On Christmas day, the friends of Mr. George W. Case, master painter at the nary yard, presented to his estimable lady a service of silver, consisting of six pieces and a waiter. The latter was incertibled as follows: "170 Mrs. George W. ryice of silver, consisting of six pieces and a waiter. The latter was inscribed as follows: "To Mrs. George W. Case, by the friends of her husband, December 25, 1861."
The testimonial was a handsome one, and was manufactured by Messrs, William Wilson & Son, corner Fifth and Cherry streets. The donors were all employees of the navy yard.

AT HIS OLD POST .- Lieutenant William C. Haines, of Colonel Small's regiment, has resigned his position on account of ill health, and resimed his acties as assistant clerk at the Mayor's office. Lieutenant Haines brought with him two 68-pound shells and several pieces of the projectiles which had been thrown from the rebel battery near; Gockpit Point at our troops, composing General Hooker's division, on the Maryland shore. The skot fell short—shout three-marters of a nile—and the

MILITARY FUNERAL.—The inners of Light. Henry Hochustine, of Company I, Ninety-eighth Begiment of Pennsylvania volunteers, will take place on tomorrow afternoon. It will be attended by the German battalion of the Home Guards. The interment will be made in the vault of the Scott Legion, of which the daccesed was a member, having served in the Mexican war, in Captain Binder's company. He was 37 years of age, and died of heart disease. The body reached the city on Thursday.

Thursday afternoon, when the water was drawn from the locks of the canal at Manayunk, the body of a man named William Sharpless was found at the bottom. Mr. Sharpless resided in Montgometry country, opposite Manayunk, and has been missing since Monday. How he got into the water is not known. He was fifty years of age. NAVAL MATTERS .- Yesterday morning the U. S. gunbont Tahoma sailed from the navy yard. She is under command of Lieutenant J. C. Howell. The Tahoma, is a new boat. Her armment consists of a teninch pivot shell-gun, a twenty-pound Parrott-gun, rifled, and two twenty-four-pound Dallgreen howitzers. One-half of the schooner Extra bolonging to Wm. H. Armifage, of Virginia, has been sold for \$525.

The prize steamer Salvor has also been disposed of, he brought about \$12,000. Charges with Robbery .- William Roborton and George Wright have been held in \$2,500 ball by dderman Shoemaker, to answer the charge of breaking to and robbing the dwelling of Wm. C. Jones, No. 1305 North Savanth stream

Col. Mulligan. Col. James A. Mulligan. the hero of Lexington, arrived in this city yesterday afternoon. He is stopping at the Continental Hotel. INSTALLATION. - The annual communication of the Grand Lodge, A. Y. M., of the State of Pennsylvania, was held yesterday morning, at the Hall on Classi-nut street. The officers elect for the ensuing year were FATAL RESULT .- Patrick McLaughlin, about

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS .- During the week, reliefs had constructed movable breastworks of heap bales, rolled them up the hill, and advanced their batteries in a manner to command the fortification. Heated shot were fired at them, but they had taken the precaution to souk the bales in the Missouri. The attack was urged with renewed vigor, and during the foremoon the outer breastworks were taken by charge of the rebols in force. The whole line was broken, and the enemy rushed in upon us. Captain Fitzgerald, whom I had known in my younger days, and whom we had been accustomed ending on the 25th instant, our imports reached \$128,948, and our exports \$202,418. During the same week in 1860, the imports stood \$117,646, and the exports \$231,876.

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT .- Wm. , Scheibie has been elected representative delegate to he 4th-of-March Convention, from the Fourteenth Legis-

forty years of age, died on Thursday, at the St. Joseph's Hospital, from the effect-of injuries received by being ran deep by a gas on the Germantown Passenger Rails

Public Amusements. The Mænnerther Society gives a grand concert on the evening of December 30. The proceeds are to be applied to benevolent purposes. A number of leading artists have volunteered. The Germania

Orchestra will be in attendance. At Barnum's Museum, Chestnut street, above Tenth, the crowd is daily augmenting, and the sealion, Albinos, and what is it, are objects of increasing curiosity and delight. The Academy dramatic performance was welf at tended last evening. We have alluded in previous articles to Mr. Forrest's Hamlet. It was, as before, a bold and vigorous delineation, well sustained, particularly by Miss Athena, where clear na tural voice and careful attention made the part of Onhelia a great feature of the performence. Mrs. Farren has no rival in her role of the Queen Mother. There is a majerty in her figure and manner that, enhanced by a strong but flexible voice, enders her the best representative of the mother of Humlet. Messrs. Harrison, James Martin, Collier, and others, were capable and efficient. John Me Cullough has much improved under Mr. Forrest's tuition. With a little less of the elocutionist, and more manner, Mr. McCullough would have few equals among the young actors of the time. He

His Edgar, De Mauprat, and Icileus, were all models of neat acting.

Mr. Daniel Setchell concludes his Academy engagement this afternoon, and goes back to Boston, where the people refuse to tolerate his absence. Mr. Setchell has a fine comic vis and figure, a keen perception of the ridiculous, and a purity of speech and manner unusual among the "low comedians" of our time. He is an unrivalled punster, and interlards his parts with provoking double enteretres, frequently suggested upon the moment. Most comedians depend for success upon the play of their features; but Mr Setchell's face is a comic study even in repose. He was born to make men

has an expressive face, and is niways careful and

anxious. His figure is good, but his movements

somewhat constrained, and his voles, though strong

and musical, requires a judicious variation of pitch.

the Walnut of nights, and the roars of laughter that follow his sallies are almost fearful. The "Forty Thieves is attracting half the city to the Continental, and Blitz, at the Temple of Wondors, is chirping to the canaries with the gusto of thirty years ago. Blitz is a remarkable man, and his his tory would make a series of maryels. Cubas, at the Academy this afternoon, will dance for the benefit of the Volunteer Refreshment Sa-

Olarke-untiring, ambitious, rising-is crowding

loons. Colonel Mulligan, the Hero of Lexington. will attend the Academy this evening to witness Mr. Forrest as Jack Cade. Proscenium box No 4 was secured yesterday for the gallant Colonel and SIGNOR BLITZ'S performances at the Temple of Wonders are witnessed by troops of children and their parents. We know of no amusement so inno-

cent as the Signor's magic, ventriloquism, and the canary birds. He appears every afternoon and Another Deserter Shot.

Correspondence of The Press.] CAMP Cox, Western Virginia, Dec. 23, 1861.

Richard Gatewood, a private, belonging to Company C, First Kentucky Regiment, was shot, on Friday last, the 20th inst., in presence of our whole brigade-composed of the First and Second Kentucky and Twelfth Ohio Regiments—by order of a general court martial, for assaulting a sentinel The prisoner threw a stone at the guard, which struck him and broke two of his ribs. The victim, believe, is still in the hospital. Gatewood afterward described, was arrested, tried, and convicted, He was a desperate character.

GEN. SCOTT'S RETURN HOME. REASONS FOR HIS SUDDEN DEPARTURE FROM PARIS.

HIS INTERVIEW WITH M. THOUVENEL [From the New York Post of last evening]

General Winfield Scott returned home last night, in the steamer Arago, after an absence of but forty-seven days. The larger part of this short period was spent on the occan. Nearly all the re-mainder of the time he was at Paris, where he arrived on the 26th ultimo. His departure f It is known that the General intended to remain abroad several months and to extend his journey to Italy, but the plan of his tour was changed solely for reasons connected with the present relations of our Government with foreign Powers. Without reference to the interviews which took place between the General and Prince Napoleon, and afterwards with Minister Thouvenel, it is stated that the would in any event head that the result in any event has a second and account the control of ted that he would, in any event, have embarked for home at a very early period, in view of the possibility of a war between the United States and England, in which France might eventually be in-volved. The General felt that, so long as he re-mained in Europe, his free communication with this

mained in Europe, his free communication with this country might be interrupted, and that his speedy return might be prevented.

or The Certaining who has had unusual opportunities the convictions of eminent men abroad, and of judging what course will be taken by England and France, is profoundly impressed with the danger of the breaking out of hostilities between England and the United States at a very early period, and believes in the necessity of prompt astion on the part of our Government to avert a collision. He is satisfied (in what manner and for what causes will be explained hereafter) that in no case can we expect any aid or even countrages what causes will be explained hereafter) that in no case can we expect any aid or even countenance from France, and believes that whatever action may be taken by the latter, will at least operate against us in the event of an appeal to arms.

The General, it may be added, is much gratified with what now appears to be the position of our Covernment, and regards the prospect of a peace able adjustment of the difficulty as much better than it had seemed to be in Europe.

THE GENERAL'S JOURNEY. It will be remembered that General Scott's ombarkation for Europe in the Arago, the same steamer in which he has returned) occurred almost immediately after his arrival here from Washington on the 2d of Neurophysical scenary in which he has returned) occurred almost immediately after his arrival here from Washington, on the 3d of November.

After a rough passage of nearly fifteen days the Arago arrived at Cowes, England; but the General and his party remained on board the steamer, and during his whole absence from this country he did not set his foot on British soil. He landed at Harre on the 25th of November, and remained in that city one night, starting for Paris the next day. His stay in Paris was but fifteen days. Soon after his arrival the news of the Trant affair was received, and a whirlwind of excitement was occasioned by it, breaking in upon the General's anticipated quiet. He did not at first intend to return; and it was but a few hours before he actually set out for Havre, on the 10th inst, that he decided to relinquish his tour. His health had rapidly improved during the brief recreation he allowed himself.

His return was so sudden that the captain of the Arago only knew of the fact that the General was to be his passenger when he actually arrived on board that vessel at Havre.

THE INTERVIEW WITH PRINCE NAPOLEON.

Among the visitors received by the General in Paris was Prince Napoleon, with whom the General became acquainted in Washington. The interview was protracted and very cordial. It occurred after the news of the Mason-Slidell capture had reached Europe, and when the temper of the British nation had been developed. The Prince expressed his well-known friendly feelings towards the United States; and, under the circumstances, believed that the wissest course in regard to the Trial matter was for our Government to disayow the responsibility of the seizure, a course which, in his opinion, could alone prevent war. It is understood that the Prince's conviction was, that England would demand the restitution of the rebel ambassadors, and would not accept any other result. He could give no encouragement as to the position France would THE INTERVIEW WITH PRINCE NAPOLEON

M. THOUVENEL'S VISIT TO THE GENERAL. M. THOUVENEL'S VISIT TO THE GENERAL.

After the arrival of General Scott on board the Arago, he had an interview with M. Thouvenel, French Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Minister semained with the General nearly half an hour. It is understood that the subjects discussed were principally of a private character, M. Thouvenel conducting the conversation in English In regard to the Mason-Slidell affair, M. Thouvenel expressed no opinion except a brief allusien to the course that England was likely to pursue. The interview terminated with the expression of the best wishes of the Minister towards General Scott. personally, and for the prosperity of the United States in the future.

There was no communication whatever between the Emperor Napoleon and the General Napoleon was at Compiugue, and was expected in Paris on the 12th instant—two days after General Scott left. deneral Scott intended to seek an audience with the Emperor on his return to Paris, but his sudden departure prevented it.

HIS HEALTH. The General's health is much improved. walks with comparative ease in his room, and he is often very cheerful, conversing with his friends with great animation. The diaziness with which he was afflicted when he departed has almost en-tirely left him, troubling him only when he con-centrates his attention for a considerable period of time, or when he over-exerts his mental fa On his arrival last evening the General de on his arrival last evening the General despatched a letter to Secretary Seward announcing his return, and tendering his services in any manner in which they could be made useful. This proffer is understood to refer particularly to the information which the General is able to communidenormation when the General is said to communi-cate in relation to the threatened difficulties abroad.

General Scott will not immediately repair to
Washington, unless his presence shall be specially
requested; but it is understood that he intends to
visit the capital at an early day, probably as soon
as he shall have recovered from the fatigues of his

fourney.
Colonel Scott, who accompanied the General his voyage, will remain in Paris with his familuntil spring. A London Hoax. The following paragraph, from the London Times of the 11th, shows to what petty slanders that journal descends to inflame the English people against the Ameleans:

"RETURN OF EMIGRANTS -A party of returned enigrants from America, passengers by the Nagara, arrived yesterday at the Euston terminus of the London and Northwestern Railway from Naw York via Liverpool. They consisted chiefly of persons of small means, who had left this country four or five years ago, and established themselves as shopkeepers in New York and Boston. One cause of their return is stated to have been the annoyance the British residents were subjected to by the lower class of the population since the affair of the Trent. They say that numerous offair of the Trent. They say that numerou English families are about to leave the Northeri States, in apprehension of a war breaking out with England."

A Waren Tuiss, John Randolph, a colored man, was resterday committed for trial by Alderman Beitler, on the charge of having stolen thirteen watches, from a man named Hecht, in Patterson, Juniata county, Pennsylvania. Several of the watches were recovered at a pawn shop in this city. The accused was fully committed for trial. He was arrested by Officer John Lindsay, of the Third district police.