WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1862. EXTRACT PROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.—"The couspiracy to break up the Union is a fact now known to all. Armies are being raised, and war levied to accomplish it. There can be but two sides the controversy. Every man must be on the side of the United States or against it. There

FOR SALE-The double-cylinder "TAYLOR" PRES on, which: this paper has been printed for the last nine to c der a year ago, and will be sold at a bargain. For term, 'pdy at this office, or address John W. Fornar,' 417 Onestmut street, Philadelphia.

can be no neutrals in this war. There can be

nome but patriots and traitors."

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

We have received telegraphic reports of important movements in Kentucky, but no definite accounts are forwarded. There are vague rumors of a general engagement with Buckner's forces, but hey are discredited.

Gen. Price's army in Missouri is said to be rapidly disbanding. The people of Arkansas would not permit those who had not formally entered into the service of the Confederates to march into that State, and the vigorous movements of General Pope have taught them the danger of remaining

in Missouri. The preparations for General Burnside's Naval Expedition are rapidly being completed, and it will probably soon sail. There are now at Annapolis 14 steamers, 1 propeller, 4 ships, 3 barks, 1 brig, 11 schooners, 5 floating batteries, besides 2 little dospatch steamtugs-in all, 41 vessels. Gen. Burnside and staff have also taken possession of the Picket, a handsome little propeller of 400 tons, and have made it the flag ship of the transport fleet. The preparations are all on the most extensive scale, and the expedition is strong enough to strike as hard a blow as Commodore Dupont did at Port Royal. Its destination is very properly a profound secret. The rebels in the vicinity of Yorktown, Va. have been thrown into a great state of excitement by the belief that it will attack that point, and Gen. Magruder has asked the permission of Jeff Davis to burn the town. He was directed to refrain from this infamous work of destruction until he was certain that it was to be assailed.

A full account of the Mississippi fleet, that is to co-operate with the land forces under General Halleck, will be found on our first page. The gunbents have been heavily plated with iron, and so constructed that they are proof against the heaviest ordnance. The whole fleet will consist of twelve gunboats, thirty-eight mortars, and nearly two hundred and fifty guns and mortars flag-ship of the fleet, and so confident are some of the naval officers of her strength, that several of them have expressed a willingness to take her under the batteries of Columbus, as they believe that her immense strength will successfully resist the heaviest metal in the possession of the rebels. The flag officer of the fleet is Captain A. H. Foote, one of the bravest and most skilful officers in the American navy.

THE MOST memorable year of American history has just closed. A mere enumeration of the creat events that have occurred would fill many columns, and it would require whole volumes to record an accurate history of them. It was a common remark several years ago, that republican institutions were on trial, but few could have dreamed that they would have been subjected to so terrible an ordeal as that which has been created by the schemes of the infamous conspirators who are vainly essaying to destroy this great Republic. It has fallen to our lot to live in a historic age, and the present generation, like the heroes of the Revolution and the soldiers of the second war of Independence, must decide by their courage, their powers of endurance, and their patriotism, whether they are equal to a struggle of momentous magnitude, in which the welfare of the nation, and of mankind, depends trials, innumerable hardships, and sad bereavements, have already been endured, and others await us. The sword is a stern arbiter, but once appealed to, under such circumstances, and for such a cause, as characterize the present contest, it is our bounden duty to sternly confront all the dangers and difficulties by which we are menaced, and to strive as manfully to preserve the integrity of the Union as our brave ancestors did to found and to shield it. Much has already been done. The moral grandeur of the great uprising of the American people, and the premptitude with which, in the hour of danger, they rushed to arms, have no parallels in the annals of history. It is not strange that in the outset of a struggle for which we were totally unprepared, we should have occasionally experienced the bitter mortification of defeat, and that, while many of the movements of the foes of the country have been baffled, some have been successful. But the close of the year finds every loyal State except Kentucky and Missouri uninvaded, and over some spot in nearly every disloyal State our national ensign waves in triumph. The whole Southern coast has been effectually blockaded, and while distress reigns everywhere in the Secession region, it is so plain that utter ruin threatens every interest of those, who have wantonly taken up arms against their country, that their only consolation is derived from the desperate and traitorous hope of foreign intervention. They have many misguided men in the field, but as they med in on all sides with a Union army of superior force, which is now becoming admirably disciplined, the hour of a complete National Triumph is, we trust, not far distant. Dark clouds still hang over our political firmament, but as time wears on they are slowly breaking away, and during the new year, upon which we are entering, they may be entirely

Col. George P. McLean. We regret that a despatch from Washington recently appeared in our telegraphic columns, stating George P. McLean, commanding the 88th Pennsylvania Regiment, at Alexandria, Virginia, was about to be court-martialed, for disobedience of orders, etc. We are informed that there is no foundation for this report. He has conducted himproof could have been given of the fidelity with which be has discharged his duties and the military knowledge he has displayed, than the fact that he was colouted as acting Brigadier General of his brigade during the sickness of its usual commander, al Montgomery.

Public Amusements. will take place at the Contine Theatre this afternoon, when the fairy spectacle of " Bige Beard" will be represented. The appointments, scenes, and processions of this piece have been prepared without regard to expense. Mr. Wheatley closes the Continental on Saturday, after a most successful season, and goes to New York, where, in conjunction with Henry Jarrett and Dayenport and Wallack, he will open Niblo's Garden.

Niblo's Garden.

Mr. Wheatley will be accompanied by Mr.
Ryer-and Miss Henry, and also by Mr. J. M. B.
Whitten, his old associate, who will falfil the functions of treasurer as efficiently as heretofore. Mr. Thomas McKcon will continue at the Continental At the Academy Mr. Forrest repeats his great part of Spartacus, in the play of the "Gladiator," with John McCullough as Phasarrus. A notice of this play is standing, and will appear to-morrow Cubas goes to Baltimore in a week. The "drama" f "Chippewa" has been withdrawn, for which the patrons of the Academy may congratulate themselves. It is simply an old circus spectacle, known as "She Would be a Soldier," wherein, acording to Mr. John Darcie's adaptation. two charactors have been introduced, making the play more heinous than ever. That such pieces should be produced upon the stage observated to Forrest is little less than descenation.

SIGNOR BLITZ will give three entertainments to day, at the Temple of Wonders, commencing at 11 A. M.; 3 and 7 P. M. The magical demonstrations and ventriloquisi modulations are to be of a grand and plessing character, and the canary birds will sing a happy New Year to all. Blitz is a great favorite; he never disappoints, but always amuses.

Notice to Postmasters. The following notice to postmasters has been is-

The following interpretations of the following interpretation of the following interpretation of the following interpretation of postuments at the directibuting office is significated to the order of this Department, requiring every distributing office to make up a separate bag for all master, letters, and appears directed to members of Congress, exclusive of all other matter. Special and careful attention is required to this order, and the clerks shall be so instructed. Such bags are to be labelled "Congress, Washington, D. C.," and the route agents at Washington will deliver these bags direct to the Congress, massessinger.

John A. Kasson,

France, England, and America. It must be conceded that the communi cation from M. THOUVENEL, Foreign Minister of France, addressed to M. HENRI MERCIER, diplomatic representative of the Emperor Na-POLEON, at Washington, showed a very friendly desire to see the Anglo-American difficulty settled without recourse to the argument of force: From the first, we have uniformly expressed the belief that France would continue oyal to all her engagements with the United States-engagements which commenced during our great struggle for independence-and it her, interest so to do. From the United States, politically and socially, France has always received friendship and sympathy, while England has showered enmity and scorn upon her whenever she dared. No more nomalous exhibition can there be than to see England quivering with apprehension, on account of the presumed hostile intentions of France, yet ridiculing NAPOLEON, through a scandalous and ribald press. Yet British statesmen affect to wonder at the sore feeling

sometimes arising in France out of the slanders and satires on the Emperor. The British Ministry appear to have acted with great craft and tact in this recent Mason and Slidell difficulty. It seems that it contrived, by consulting NaroLeon upon the inernational question, as it were-by sending him a copy of Earl Russell's despatch to Lord Lyons, and soliciting his opinion upon it-to make France in a manner endorse its

general principle. It is also said that Lord DERBY, leader of the Opposition, was advised with, and he, once known as "the Hotspur of debate," least crafty and most open of politicians, frankly endorsed what was represented to be a vindication of the honor of the British flag. There is an on dit that Queen Victoria shed tears over Lord Russell's letter, and insisted on some of its language being softened down. Another report, perhaps more credible, for VICTORIA would not be allowed by her Ministers to interfere in public matters, affirms that Prince Albert was decided in expressing his angry opinion of the Trent affair, and that the last thing he did, before he was smitten with the illness of which he died, was far and near, to warn British vessels at sea of the almost certainty of a war with America. decision in this case.

Whether a war with the United States would or would not be popular in England need not be discussed at this moment. We are certain, however, that it would be difficult to engage the arms of France against us,-the popular feeling of Frenchmen being greatly with Americans. Restricted as the French twesty-eight tugs and steamboats, carrying in all still it sometimes speaks out; its utterance, on such occasions, being accepted as not conof the largest calibre. The Benton will be the trary to what the Government wishes to have impressed upon the public mind. While throughout England rang a cry of "Our flag dishonored!" the following appeared in La Patrie, one of the leading journals of Paris: "It is not the mission of France to rage has been committed on the high seas against the British flag, it does not rest with our Government to demand reparation, nor is sent it. Let us suppose that, by an outrage on the French'flag, we were placed in a similar position to that of England. Under present circumstances, we are disinterested. We of England. For two years the Cabinet of Lord PALMERSTON has been calling together volunteers; plating frigates with iron; manufacturing rifled cannon; surrounding English ports with formidable defences; and sustaining itself in Parliament and the country by the aid of a warlike popularity. Having seen such a disparity, and such preparation against the phantoms of fear, the counsels which we would give to England must necessarily appear very moderate and timid."

Not against as would I rance willingly plant a contest with England, and the completion of | P. R. James's three-volume novels. Cherbourg, as much the key of the Channel as While The Times and most of other English Gibraltar is of the Mediterranean, created universal joy in France, despite of the vast expenditure upon it, because it secured a suitable place for the rendezvous of French ships, with an invading army, at only some six hours? steam voyage from England. In the newlypublished Memoir of ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE. (author of "Democracy in America,") is a report of a conversation between the able French. man and Mr. SERIOR, an eminent British polltical economist, in which the then recent coup d'état of December, 1851, was canvassed. De Tocqueville, eminently a man of peace, declared his conviction that Napoleon was bound to make war upon England, sooner or later. "Great social improvements," he said, " are uncertain, difficult, and slow: but glory may be obtained in a week. A war with England, at its beginning, is always popular. How many thousand volunteers would he have for a 'pointe' on London?" DE Tocqueville also believed that, even if Napoleon should desire it, to retain the Anglo-French alliance would be impossible. The nature of things, which is much stronger than any human will, must drive Napoleon, he thought, into an ultimate union with Russia and Austria. At heart, no doubt, Protestant Prussia and puritanical England are inimical to Catholic France-independent of old political scores.

France has none but the most friendly and grateful recollections. WE DO NOT KNOW what the effect of Mr. SEWARD's action in the case of Mason and SLIDELL will be in England-and it would be unprofitable to speculate-but the more we see of English sentiment, as manifested in their newspapers and by their public men, the more rejoiced we are at the position the Administration has assumed. It seems evident that the desire of English statesmen is the dissolution of the American Union. They have thrown their moral influence against us. and enough has been shown to prove that they would have gladly taken the opportunity of cotton, as a special and admirable dispensa of throwing their military power into the Southern balance. The Earl Shaffesbury, who has been ostentatious and even offensive in his relations with this country, a mere humanitarian and radical, lately admitted to an American citizen that, in common with almost every English statesman, he desired the dissolution of the American Union, and simply because, as an Englishman, he justly feared the commercial and political greatness of the United States. The Earl has been attached to the anti-slavery cause, making Exeter Hall speeches against American institutions and clamoring for the abolition of slavery. It may be a strange and suggestive comment upón his sincerity on this question and the sincerity of those he represents, that in the hour of trial he should be the friend and ally of the very people whom he has denounced and disperaged all his life. But that is a

With the United States, on the contrary.

question of consistency with which we have nothing to do. We only alinde to this nobleman because if America could expect to find a friend in any Englishman it would be in one who has professedly represented the sentiment of iberty. His declaration only proves that, whatever sentiment English public men may profess, there is nothing dearer to them than the failure of every other system of government, and the aggrandizement of British power. It may be unjust to harbor the thought, but we do not see in the action of English statesmen any sincere desire for friendship with the United States. The aristocracy wish democracy to fall; the commercial men wish the establishment of free trade; the manufacturers desire the ruin of our Northern manufactures; Lancashire demands cotton. Mr. BRIGHT and his friends express open sympathy with us, and we find Mr. BRIGHT traduced and vilifled more bitterly than during the Russian war, in which he was so unpopular. English public men, speculating upon the fiery temper of the American nation, its haughty pride and sensitive-

war, and their tone was one of menace and ferocity. The masterly statesmanship of Secretary SEWARD will bring to these men a bitter disappointment-and that disappointment will only be more intensified, when they see the unanimity and magnanimity of the American people in sustaining its rulers, and admitting the justice of Mr. Lincoln's course. We sincerely trust that the overtures of our Administration may be met in a proper spirit, but we confess that we have little hope of such a thing. Eug-John A. Kasson,

First Assistant Postmaster General.

LEX-GOV. United was nominated to-night for President of the Senate, and A. H. Bullock for Speaker of the House.

ness, had even commenced preparations for

in a temper that cannot be baffled. Jealous . the American power; envious of the Ameri can name; hating the Republic with all the hatred of unsuccessful rivalry; knowing that this is our hour of weakness and her hour of strength; that she has an opportunity which never came before, and may never come again; we are mistaken if, from being an unfriendly neutral, she should dispense with the neutra-

lity, and become actively hostile. All these considerations should impress themselves upon our people, as they are no doubt impressed upon the minds of our rulers. We must prepare for every possible contingency, as in times of revolution possibilities are probabilities. We must rise to the magnificence of our destiny. Already it has brought against us a powerful and long-matured rebellion; it may bring an enemy far more powerful from over the seas. Let there be energy and self-devotion and zeal. Let us prepare for any trial that may be in store for us, so that we may meet it as freemen fighting Freedom's last and greatest battle.

The easy philosophy of Optimism, which proclaims that "Whatever is, is best," has recently been adopted by that portion of the newspaper press in England which more especially devotes itself to ridicule and slander the great American people, now engaged in aining the great principles of the Constitution, and thereby permit the working out of a national system of public Government, the success of which interests the whole circle of human civilization. The favorite doctrine of Plato and the Stoics, traditionally handed down by Anselm and Aquinas, in the middle ages; asserted and developed by Leibnitz, in his "Theodicea;" put forward by Pope, in his "Essay on Man;" expatiated on by Bishop Warburton, amusingly satirized by Voltaire's wicked wit in the famous story of "Candide," Optimism pleasantly accommodates itself, with admirable facility, to all changes, putting a smiling mask upon even the features of Misfortune. The rule in this placid philosophy is that, however dark the cloud, it might have been a few shades blacker to direct that swift vessels should be sent off, still. Thus, if a man lose his arm, it might have been his head; if his fortune was wrecked, his health remained; if wealth and The underwriters at LLOYD's are said to have health were both ruined, life was left; and, voted thanks to the Prince for his activity and | finally, if death came to crown all the ills, it was consolatory to feel that the hapless victim was removed from all further suffering of mind and body.

Had we the appointment of functionaries in some great Laputan university, where Optimism formed the leading doctrine of practical philosophy, we should appoint the Editor of the London Daily Telegraph to press is in the utterance of political opinion, the chair of that faculty. He has considerable ability as a moral writer, and, except that he despises such exacting things as facts, would write Mistory with wonderful vivacity and effect. All through the American attempt to put down the least justifiable rebellion and treason that ever raised their hydra head against law and order, this writer-with a remarkable persistency in saying the thing which avenge insults offered to England. If an out- is not-has given his own version of occurrences in this country, so freely exercising the faculty of imagination, that American annals, in his columns, read like a wonderful romance it the duty of public opinion in France to re- in which the Confederates, in a Crusade for Freedom, are perpetually vanquishing the slaveholding Unionists in a sprightly series of tremendous battles, but, by the influence of some demoniac Afrite, (such as we used to are not the judges of what becomes the honor | read of in the "Arabian Nights,") are constantly prevented, notwithstanding all their successes, from entering the enchanted capital, bearing the world-honored name of Wasn-INGTON !

The Daily Telegraph has large circulation in England-more particularly in London, where it surpasses all the other penny dailies in circulation. Its foreign correspondence is good; its general news reliable; its leading articles alone, and its record of American events alone, exhibit powers of fiction which, if applied in the old fashion, would have proher ordnance, and point her Minie rifles. The duced a series of romances, as numerous as wishes of Frenchmen are strongly in favor of those constituting the long list of the late G.

> iournals have candidly confessed that England's principal interest in American affairs. just now, lies in her want of American cotton; while the mill-owners and the manufactors of Lancashire and Lanarkshire lament the scarcity of this staple; while the laborers whom they hitherto have employed, have become almost rebellious, because almost starving, under "short time," (which means small wages), the Optimist of the Daily Telegraph sportingly smiles upon what all others are grieved at, and jauntingly says: "It is all for the best! The cotton trade may languish; the mill-owners be ruined; the factory-machinery be eaten up with rust, from disuse; the poor laborers be driven to despair and crime by starvation-but, it is all for the best! The whole stock of cotton-goods on hand will go off the warehouse shelves. Trade will right itself. We can wait for the cotton, until it is street.

ever is, is best." Do any of our readers imagine that we are exaggerating? Indeed we are not. Here are the very words of the Daily Telegraph :

the very words of the Daily Telegraph:

"Under the lamp is the darkest place," says an Eastern proverb, and Manchester has only just found out her true position. It is far better than we or she deserved, for the cessation of American shipments turns out to be a boon instead of a bane. It is hard to say what might not have resulted but for this fortunate misfortune. In the middle of last year Lancashire markets were crammed with cotton bales, worth less as they shood than the cost price at the bunder or the levee. Markets abroad were glutted with manufactured goods, and sho Indian depots especially had been inundated with consignments. Unless naked Bheels, or Fakirs, who were nothing but the ashes of cow-dung, had consignments. Unless naked Bheels, or ras who were nothing but the ashes of cow-dung, suddenly consented to be decent, India in her years could never have taken up the amount o longeloths sent her. But it happened that the year was a year of famine, and that millions of Hindoo was a year of raining, and that minds of indicos had no money to purchase rice, much less Manchester goods. If the American supply had come to hand, the congestion of industry must have been even worse than its present temporary inanition. Short time means, indeed, reduced wages, and the physic is a bitter one; but it has had the

good effect of relieving the overloaded market. Thus, in the opinion of the Optimist, England has to regard Southern treason and a non-supply tion of Providence. With that inconsistency however, which characterizes writers who profer effect to fact, the same Daily Telegraph which, on the 21st ult., chuckled and crowed over the extinction of the American cottontrade, joyfully announced, on the 22d, that "the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy, Colonel Peyton," who arrived in England in the Nashville, had reported that, in the rebellious South, "there are 750,000 bales of cotten of the old crop, and over 4,000,000 of bales of the new crop, and \$50,000,000 worth of tobacco and naval stores, also ready for shipment." It adds, after mentioning how the Nashville had slipped out of Charleston, " In England, we are aware, there are commercial men who, knowing the blockade to be a fiction,

have contemplated practical measures to bring that fiction to an experimental test." There has been no small sympathy among Unionists in this country for the unfortunate working-classes thrown out of labor and into poverty by the stoppage of the cotton supply. The English journalist's congratulation on thi same stoppage would tend to relieve this feeling, if any intima ion had been given of provision made for the out-of-employment industrial classes. Alas! concerning them, the Optimist is silent. They are only "the lower classes "-British journalism sympathizes only with the rich capitalists, the illustrious peerage

of King Cotton! THE WAR IN MISSOURI.

OTTERVILLE, Mo., Dec. 31 .- One of our men captured by the rebels near Clinton, and carried to Springfield, has just returned, having left that place on Christmas. He says Gen. Price, with 8,000 men, had taken all the houses in Springfield for the use of his troops, turning women and children into the streets. He had unloaded his wagons, and was making preparations for a long stay.

The people of Arkaneas had refused to allow Price to enter that State with any other troops than those regularly collsted in the Confederate service. His force included only 1,500 men so enrolled. The country about Springfield was full of men returning from Price's army, who said if they were permitted to return home and take the oath of allegiance, Price would be left with only his regular Confederate troops. Since General Pope's rapid operations of last week, there is quiet in all the region between the

The massachusetts Legislature. NEW YORK, Dec. 31 .- The Legislature will meet

Missouri and Osage rivers. Not a rumor of rebel

camps or squads has been heard.

to-morrow.

Ex-Gov. Clifford was nominated to-night for

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL." Washington, December 31, 1861. The Roman Saturnalia was in December Ours opens the New Year. The great Wash-

ington feast is that which celebrates to-mor-

row. It is an old custom, this joyful greeting of the new year in "the Federal City." Long, long ago, the best and purest of the land halled its coming with pleasure, and honored its birth with pledges never kept, and counsels soon forgotten. The very room in which the most of these "Occasional" (!) reflections are written is redolent of these mellow recollections. Here the gross Chief Justice John Marshall, spent some of his happiest and most genial hours. Here he un-bent the dignity of his high office, and met his friends in social familiarity. This may seem a long, long time to you and yet I was astonished to hear a still hate and honored lawyer, now practising before the Supreme Court of the United States, say, a few days ago: "In this very room have dined with Chief Justice Marshall." The Southern aristocracy of the ancient régime were fine fellows. They looked upon slavery as dependent upon them; as a curse entailed by others; and they cared for it with a generosity that made it respectable even among the slaves. If they assumed to be gentlemen, it was not because of slavery, but in spite of it. The moment they became dependent upon their slaves they sunk into voluptuaries or tyrants. It is not a difficult task to see how ante-Calhonn Southerners, like Marshall, and Randolph, and Hampton, and George Wythe, (not to slight the sacred memories of Washington, Jefferson, and Patrick Henry,) greeted New Year's day here, or whereve the regular Government of the United States was established. They were polished, intellectual, and appreciative men. They loved the pleasures of the table and of society. Intemperate rarely, they were as blind to the reasonable indulgences of their friends as they were severe upon every evidence of vulgarity and excess. I think I can see John Marshall inclining his almost sainted lips to a foaming beaker of egg-nogg, or Patrick Henry pledging the New Year in a glass of old Maleira, and even the half-French Virginian, Jefferson, breaking his philosophic fast in a bumper of champagne. What theories these long-departed friends discussed among themselves! How they debated and disputedhow they prophesied and protested! The New Year was, no doubt, a gleesome day to The Government offered her a release upon them. I wonder if they ever anticipated such a New Year as will open to-morrow!

And it will be a very interesting one; but it will be surrounded with novelties, new scenes, new events, new issues; and a new people will welcome and commemorate the New Year in Washington. We are environed by two armies, each seeking the destruction of the other, and both made up of American citizens. We are frequently startled by the intelligence of a victory of one set of Americans over another set of Americans. We breakfast every morning upon the idea that Southern men can destroy the very Constitution they chiefly constructed and mainly construed. And last, not least, we find Washington rapidly filling with a population that have little or no reverence for the idols and doctrines of the classes known in the Encyclopedia of Fossils as F. F.'s, whether of Virginia, or Maryland, or poor, burnt-out South Carolina. What would the gods of the past say of this sacrilegious greeting of New Year's day

in Washington? And yet we will greet it with full and grateful hearts. Although they are dead, there is a living people to contend for the truths they preached and practised. OCCASIONAL.

Mutations in Business. Our advertising columns, this morning, contain

announcements of a large number of changes in our mercantile firms for the new year, which will be read with interest by the business community. The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. Thos. I. Lea, H. C. Richardson, A. E. Stcphens, and Thos R. Tunis, under the firm of Lea, Richardson, Tunis, & Co.. has been dissolved by mutual consent, either of the partners being privileged to use the name of the firm in liquidation

Messrs. Powers & Weightman have admitted Mr. James M. Tarr to an interest in their business. Mr. Francis W. Ralston has been admitted as a partner in the house of Messis. Lowber & Wilmer. A souvenir to their friends and relatives at home The old house of Truitt, Brother, & Co. has been reconstructed, by a copartnership entered into between Messrs. Robert M. Truitt and Thomas D. Wattson, for the transaction of the hardware business, at No. 528 Market street, under the style of

A congression has been formed between Mr Entruel G. De Coursey, lately with Messrs. Alfred Slade & Co, and Mr. Hugh Hamilton, formerly a representative of Messrs. A. and S. Henry & Co., England, with the view of transacting a general dry goods commission business at No. 237 Chostnut street ; style of firm to be DoCoursey & Hamilton. The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. Geo. J. Boyd and David Bales, under the firm of Boyd & Bates, having expired by limitation, Mr. Boyd has purchased the interest of his former partner, and will continue the banking business on his own account, at No. 18 South Third

grown in India and the West Indies. What- & The partnership lately subsisting between Messrs. William C. Patterson, James R. Cantwell, and John C. Keffer, under the firm of Cantwell & Keffer, has been dissolved by mutual consent; all debts owing to the firm to be received by either Mr. Cantwell or Mr. Keffer, who still continue to trade under the same style and name as heretofore.

The former partnership existing between Messrs. James F. Willcox and Michael Bouvier having expired, a limited partnership has been formed beween them for a torm of three years, commencing on the 25th of November, A. D. 1861. The style of firm is James F. Willcox, who is the general partner, Mr. Michael Bouvier being a special partner. The nature of business transacted by them is the packing of butter and lard for shipping and the anufacture of lard oil.

A limited partnership has also been formed between Mesers. William Fraser and Samuel Feedly, the former being the general and the latter the special partner, the general nature of the business to be transacted being Embroideries and Laces. The term of this partnership is limited to De cember 31, 1864, dating from November 9, 1861. Messrs. Adam, Adam H., and Anthony M. Warthman, Jr., have entered into a copartnership, under the firm of Adam Warthman & Co., for the purpose of transacting the Provision, Slaughtering,

and Pork-packing business.
The firm of Messrs. Shaffner, Ziegler, & Co. has been dissolved, Mr. H. H. Markley retiring. The remaining partners, Messrs. John Shaffner, Charles Ziegler. Joseph Adamson, and T. W. Markley nave formed a new copartnership, and will continue their business as heretofore, with the style and name unchanged.

The firm of Messrs. McFarland, Tatman, & Co.,

has been dissolved by limitation, and the decease of Mr. Honry Berghauser; the business of the firm o be settled by Mr. McFarland. The copartnership herotofore existing between Messrs. John Linton and Thomas W. Woodward,

under the firm of Linton & Woodward, has been dissolved by mutual consent. The interest of Mr. Charles H. Fernald in the lishers, No. 25 South Sixth street, has expired by

The partnership between Messrs. Fredk. Steele and Louis Hirsh, trading under the firm of F. Steele & Hirsh, has been dissolved by mutual consent; Mr. Steele to settle the business of the firm. Mr. Hirah will continue the fency dry goods and notion business at the old stand, under the name and style of Louis Hirsh.

A copartnership has been entered into between Mr. Charles F. Norton, of the late firm of Van Dusen, Norton, & Co., and Robert Gorrell, of Ashland, Schuylkill county, for the mining and selling of Locust-Mountain coal; the business of the firm be conducted at Ashland, under the name of Robert Correll & Co., and in Philadelphia under the name of C. F. Norton & Co

The copartnership of D Kirkpatrick & Sons naving been dissolved by the death of the senior partner, the business of the house will be continued ereafter by Messrs. Charles M. David and Francis horetofore.

Mr. Israel Morris having retired from the firm of Morris, Wheeler, and Co., Iron Merchants, No. 1608 Market street, his sons, Theodore H. and rederick W. Morris, are admitted as partners; the

business to be continued as heretofore, under the ame style of firm. The partnership existing between Messrs. Alex. F. Hazard and John V. Cheeseman, under the firm of A. F. Hazard & Co., has been dissolved by nutual consent; the accounts of the old firm to be settled by Mr. Hazard, who will continue business

at 508 Market street. The firm of Messrs. John B. Ellison & Sons have admitted Mr. Samuel Collier, Jr., and Mr. Isaso Keeler to an interest in their business. The congression heretofore existing between Messrs. Robert Purvis, Jr., and Joshua Peiros, under the firm of Peirce & Purvis, has been dissolved by mutual consent; the business of the late firm to be settled by Mr. Peirce, at Nos. 11 and 13

Strawberry street.
The firm of David Scull, Son, & Co., has been dissolved, either of the partners being authorized to use the name of the old firm in the settlement of their affairs. A limited partnership has also been formed, under the firm of David Scull, Jr., for buy-

The term of limitation extends from January 1st, nstant, to March 31st, 1864. The copartnership herotofore existing between Mesers. L. S. Hacker, M. K. Regar, and B. F. Winger, under the firm of Hacker, Regar, & Winger, has been dissolved by mutual consent; the business of the late firm to be settled by Mr.

The firm of Temple, Barker, & Co. has been dissolved; the business of the house to be settled by Messrs. Joseph E. Temple and Samuel H. Miller, the latter two gentlemen having entered into a part-nership, under the firm of Temple & Co., for the transaction of a General Dry Goods business, at Nos. 19 and 21 South Fourth street.

The firm of Messrs. Levick, Rasin, & Co., Shoe

Dealers, has been dissolved the business of the firm to be liquidated by Messrs. Richard Levick and Warner M. Rasin, at No. 505 Market street. Messrs. Isaac Barton & Co., Importers and Donlers in Shoomakers' Goods, No. 55 South Second street, have admitted Mr. John N. Wilkin as a partner in their firm. Style of firm to remain Messrs. B. A. Fahnestock & Co. announce their removal to 408 Market street.

LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH. FROM WASHINGTON.

MOVEMENTS OF GOVERNOR CURTIN. NTERESTING FROM GEN. BANKS' COLUMN.

THE BATTLE AT PADUCAH, KY., DISCREDITED.

GENERAL PRICE AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI HE QUARTERS HIS TROOPS IN THE HOUSES

OF THE CITIZENS. Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, December 31. The Female Prison.

As it is termed here, is under Lieutenant Surlpo: of the Sturgis Rifles, the infantry body-guard of General McClellan. It is Mrs. Greenhow's louse, wherein she is confined for furnishing intelligence to the enemy. Besides Mrs. GREENHOW, there is also Miss Ella M. Poole, of Richmond, Virginia. She was the correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, and several other journals. She is a very intelligent as well as beautiful young lady, of strict integrity, but a confirmed rebel. parole of honor, but she refused to accept anything but an unconditional release. It would be much better for the Government to remove them to Fort Warren at once.

Twenty-Third Regiment P. V .. Under the command of Colonel D. B. BIRNEY, is now encamped on Queen's Farm, near Washington. It is the largest regiment in the service, having 1,460 rank and file. They have decorated their camp with evergreens, and laid out their streets and avenues, naming them after the streets of Philadelphia. They, in conjunction with Colonel Adams' First Long Island, Colonel WILLIAMS' Eighty-second Pennsylvania, and First U.S. Chasseurs, Colonel Cochrane, attached to the brigade of General GRAHAN, have erected a new fort on a hill overlooking the approaches. Private MILLER, of Company E, Twenty-third P. V., was buried or Saturday afternoon.

Military Theatre. In Gen. Augen's brigade the soldiers have erected a theatre 40 by 80 feet. They have formed a stock company out of the members of their own brigade, and, as they have two excellent bands in the brigade, the opening night will present a grand

scene. It is thought that Susan Denin will assist at the opening. General Lander Has sufficiently recovered from the wound he received at Ball's Bluff to be able to ride out in the

Benham and Gwin. The question of Mason and SLIDELL having been disposed of by their surrender, it is probable that New Granada will make a similar demand on us for CALHOUN BENHAM and ex-Senator Gwin, who were carried over their territories, by General SCHNER, against the protest of the New Granadian Government. It is suggested that, as a matter of

simple justice, we should eject these two unmitigated traitors from our loyal soil. Photographic Establishments Are being erected all over the country upon which and giving the soldiers an opportunity to transmit

Lieutenant John N. Fisher, Formerly of Philadelphia, and now lieutenant in Colonel ADAMS' First Long Island Regiment, has been detailed for special duty, in Assistant-Adjutant General WILLIAMS' department, at the usadquarters of the Army of the Potomac.

Female Secessionists, Mrs. BANLEY, of Baltimore, arrived here this afternoon, and was placed in the prison for females. n the western part of Washington. It will be remembered that she was recently arrested as a spy. Not only in the folds of her dress, but in the rolls of her hair were discovered contraband letters, which are in the possession of the proper authorities.

Several days ago, Mrs. GREENHOW, who was among the first females arrested, and who is still a prisoner, received a cake from some friend of here her hands, Licut. N. G. SHELDON, of the Sturgis Rifles, suspecting something wrong, examined the cake, and found imbedded therein a note, informing that lady that arrangements had been made for her escape and conveyance to Richmond, naming the day and hour for her deliverance. This in formation, however, was not communicated to her by the Lieutenant, nor has the writer of the note been discovered.

Paying the Troops.

Arrangements have been made to pay all the troops up to the 1st of January. Orders for the preliminary musters were issued several days ago. Colonel Kerrigan's Trial. Colonel Kennigan's parole having expired, he

again in prison. His trial will be resumed on Thursday. A False Alarm. Heavy firing was heard late this evening, creating apprehension of a fight on the Virginia side, but it

ved to have been merely artillery practice. Almaden Case. The celebrated California Quicksilver.oase will argued before the Supreme Court in January. The printed case covers 3,500 (thirty-five hundred) pages. The decision will be one of the most imortant, involving, as it does, such immense inte ests, ever made by our Supreme Court.

United States Treasurer. Gen. SPINNER, the United States Treasurer, has eceived the following mysterious communication: " I own United States \$170-it is enclosed-owing t, it is the fault of a former comptroller.' The business of the Treasurer has been greater during the past month than the average of the past even years, and yet there has been no increase of the clerical force.

Arms for Indiana. The State of Indiana had a large contract in

England for Enfield rifles, at the sum of \$19 each. The last instalment, consisting of 3,500 rifles, were on board the steamer Australasian, about to sail for the United States, when the order of the British Government against the exportation of arms ar-Indiana is now short of arms, and Robert Dale Owen is here on behalf of the State, urging the General Government to supply the deficiency. He is also endeavoring to get the Indiana prisoners, now in the hands of the rabels, exchanged. As the State has acted nobly in the present struggle, she claims the sympathy of the General Government in behalf of her unfortunate sons, now languishing in the pestilential prison-houses of the rebels.

Movements of Governor Curtin. Governor Cuntin left for Harrisburg this evening, having satisfactorily accomplished the main object of his visit, viz.: the settlement of the accounts between Pennsylvania and the National Government. The result leaves the State exchequer in a healthy condition, and renders unnecessary the imposition of a tax.

The Governor's visit, in other respects, has

been peculiarly pleasant, not the least notice-able feature being the grand dinner given him A. Kirkpatrick, under the same style of firm as by Secretary Camenon last night, where, contrary to custom, the President honored the occasion with his presence. All the members of Cabinet were also present. Gov. CURTIN was prevented from attending the festivities in the Eightythird Pennsylvania Regiment. Many prominent effects of the army were, however, present, and by speeches and songs added to the grace and pleasures of the occasion. In addition to the dinner prepared by GAUTIER, the celebrated caterer for hington, each company was provided with an

oyster supper by their respective captains. The British Soldiers in Portland. Permission has been given in a very courteous manner, to pass the British troops through Maine into Canada. As the navigation of the St. Lawrence is closed, and the transport of troops inland from Halifax to Canada, in midwinter, would be expensive, tedious, and hazardous, England will appreciate this courtesy as one of no ordinary im-

portance. Col. McLean's Eighty-third Pennsylvania Vo-Innteers, in Gen. Portur's division, have been made the recipients of a new uniform, in the style their affinirs. A limited partnership has also been formed, under the firm of David Soull, Jr., for buying and selling Wool, in which the names of David Seull, Jr., and William Baxter are given as general partners, and David Soull as the special partner.

If the African Chasseurs, of the Fronch army, are fully discretified. The Landon Herald says the tender of a untilation in shape, and blue color; with jacket, bright silvered buttons, cloth cap, and yellow trimming. The material is stout and well adapted for comfort in cold reacted X per cent, chiefly owing to large livestments. of the African Chasseurs, of the French army.

weather. The uniform also embraces a stout over coat with cape, and a knapsack covered with calf skin, dressed in the hair. The Sixty-second Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. Brack, and the Eighteenth Massachusetts, in Gen. PORTER's division, at Hall's Hill, have also been

provided with uniforms of the same kind. Yesterday, the Eighty-third Pennsylvania Regi: ment received new arms, exchanging the old flintlock altered for the Springfield musket. They have since been busily engaged in putting their new arms in complete condition for inspection to-day. This evening the officers of the regiment will sit down to a dinner with invited guests, including Gen. CORTER and staff, Gen. MARTINDALE and staff, and other distinguished officers and civilians from the city, including a large number of ladies. The ables have been set in front of the Colonel's tent, in an arbor prepared for the occasion. They are in the form of a T, and are two hundred and venty-five feet in length.

Appointment of Quartermaster. WILLIAM STODDARD, of Lycoming county, Pa., has been appointed Superintendent of the Quarternaster's Department at Alexandria. Sickness in the Fifty-seventh Penn.

There is much sickness in the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. Maxwell. Two deaths -privates Bell and Dennis Peters-took place on Monday. Deaths of Pennsylvanians. The following deaths of Pennsylvanians have

aken place since the last report: Robert Holson, Company I, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania volunteers, t camp; LEWIS LEHMAN, Company B. Fortieth Pennsylvania volunteers. at division hospital, and George Brimmermen, Company C, Berdan's Heavy Contract for Hay and Corn.

Mr. John Hill, of the firm of Hughes, Ful-Ler, & Co., of Philadelphia, has secured a conract for furnishing the Government with one milion bushels of corn at 77 cents per bushel, and seven hundred and fifty thousand tons of hav at 322.50 per ton. This is one of the heaviest conracts yet made by the Government for "forage." The parties, it understood, have entered ample se-curity for the faithful performance of the con-

Flag Raising at Locust Point. A number of Philadelphians left in the five clock train, this afternoon, to be present at a flag raising, at Locust Point, which is to come off to norrow. The committee, consisting of Messrs JOHN HILL, ADAM WARTHMAN, JOHN REISK, JOHN DIEFFENDAFFER, and L. D. FALLER, all Philaelphians, waited upon Colonel Thomas B. Flo RENCE to deliver an address on the occasion. The affair will wind up with a grand dinner. The Marine Band from Fort McHenry will be present.

Miscellaneous. It is estimated by the packages received by Adams Express and through other sources, that at least five thousand roasted turkeys, with all the et ceteras, have been sent to the soldiers of the Potomac during the holidays. About fifty resignations of officers in the Penn-

sylvania regiments have taken place during the past three weeks. There have been only three colonels among them, and those on account of it health. Recent reconnoissances from General Smith's and General McCall's divisions show that the enemy has a strong picket guard beyond Dranes

ville, but no troops at that place. The quartermaster of the Seventh Maine Reginent received from the Clothing Bureau, on Saturday, coats and pantaloons for that corps, but was soon thereafter obliged to return them, owing to the fraud which, in their manufacture and material, had been practised upon the Government. General SUMNER, who was lately injured by the stumbling of his horse, has been brought to Wash-ington for medical treatment.

Hon. DANIEL S. DICKINSON to-day presented costly stand of State colors to the Dickinson Guard (Eighty-ninth New York Volunteers.) Hon. R. H. Duell received them on behalf of the regimont, delivering-a felicitous address. Vice President Hamlin, Gen. Caser and staff, Hon. W. S. DOANE, AUGUSTUS SCHELL, and others, were pre sent.
There is no evidence that the Pennsylvania Re-

serves will go into winter quarters. In their present position they are menaced by the rebols every Dranesville is half way between their camp and Centreville, where an immense rebel force is The rebels can at any time throw an immense force into Dranesville without any fear of being cut off by our forces. While they have a topographical advantage, we have the Keystone to teach them a

THE WAR IN KENTUCKY. VAGUE REPORTS OF A BATTLE.

lesson And it will be taught.

Louisville, Dec. 31 .- A doubtful rumor pre vails that the Cave City Hotel has been burned by the Secessionists. Exciting rumors of a general engagement in

Southern Kentucky have been current all day, but they are generally discredited now, no notice of any battle having been received at hendquarters. CINCINNATI, Dec. 31 .- A special despatch to the Commercial, from Indianapolis, says there are rumors of fighting in Kentucky. General Buell ordered the regiment of Fusileers and a regiment of light artillery, to Green river,

before he went forward. General Buckner's cavalry were yesterday within a short distance of our pickets, and it is supposed he intended attacking General McCook in force. destroy the Green river bridge, and then retire. All the United States regulars were thrown across the bridge early yesterday morning. Sr. Louis, Dec. 31.—No news has been received here of any fight at Paducah.

ADDITIONAL NEWS BY THE ASIA.

ISEE FOURTH PAGE !

HALIPAX, December 31.—The passengers by the Asia repeat a rumor that the blocking up of Charleston harbor with stone is bkely to lead to difficulty with England. It was further rumored that England's warlke preparations will continue in view thereof, and that the surrender of Mesars. Mason and Slidell is not the only demand England has to make.

Parls correspondents generally say that the belief that hostilities between England and America will not be arrested has become now general.

rations will continue in view thereof, and that the surrendry of Messrs. Discon and Sildell is not the only demand England has to make.

Paris correspondents generally say that the belief that
hostilities between England and America will not be arrested has become more general.

The English Admirally had issued a notification that
instructions have been sent to protect the British shipping in the China and India sens.

The Asia has on board 500 troops, stores, etc., and
consequently is under orders of the British Government.

She has also 23 cabin passengers and 57,200 in specie.

The Asia reports passing the Canada, for Liverpool,
on the 22d inst, also the ship Bremen on the same day.

The London Morning Post reports that the instructions to Lord Lyons combine such judiclousness and tenperance of procedure that the American, most tender of
his pride, will be unable to complain of England's course
as menacing or haughty.

A telegram of the 20th Inst. from Berne, Switzerland,
contains the following important announcement:

"The Federal Council has received a circular addressed by the French Government to the European
Powers, teclaring that the arrest of Messrs. Misson and
Sildel was contrary to the principles which are regarded
as essential to the security of neutral flags."

The circular also states that "the French Government had deemed it necessary to submit this opinion to
the Cabinet at Washington in order to determine it to
make concessions which the French Government had deemed the conservation of the facter

Alexge meeting of musters and officers in the mercantile marine had been held at London, and they had resolved to heartily co-operate with the Government own

The London, in a letter declining to attend a public
meeting at Brighton, strongly advocates arbitration in
the American disparence, and so such a much colon thinks that no question can be more within
the scope of the Paris resolution than the pending one,
and the true test of the disposition of the concernment on the pr

jected blockade of Charleston and Savannah by the stone ships as a bona fide operation of warfare.

The London Herald bitterly criticises Mr. Saward's foreign correspondence, therefag him with insolence, folly, and wickedness, as wanter and mischlevous as any that history records.

The Times slao has an editorial on Mr. Saward's despatches, and treats them with ridicule. It says Mr. Saward assumes to instruct the entire human race as to the origin, the rights and prospects of the war in America, and his confident assurances as to the demensions and duration of the war are belied before his words reach the public.

Moxements were taking place between the Covernment and the authornies of Liverpool, looking to the defence of that port. ardiators.
The Paris Patric, in enumeratize the five Frence reseals at New York, says others are shortly to be sen there.
The Paris Temps had given extremely to a rumor that the French Government had proposed to Russia, Prussia, and Austria, a combined mediation of the four Process in the Angle-American question. The report was gonor-ruly discredited.

Various peace rumors were also instrumental in causing the rise, but there was nothing reliable in them. The demand for money was still increasing.

The Queen and royal family had gone to Osborne, owing to the unsatisfactory state of the Queen's health. No further bulletins had been issued.

The Frince of Wales remained at Windsor until after his father? funeral. The Crown Prince of Prussia had arrived at Osborne

FRANCE.

The Parls Bourse was a shade firmer on the 20th instant, closing at 67, 25c, for the Rentes. The suppression of one company per regiment in the French army has been spoken of. ITALY.

Signor Ratazzi had tendored his resignation of the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies, but the Cham-ber unsulmously expressed a desire that he should retain his post, at least fill the close of the session. SPAIN. The Government bill, levying an import duty cotton, had been laid on the table in the Cortes.

TURKEY.

The monetary panic had subsided. The Government and forcibly suspended financial operations. had forcibly suspended financial operations.
Fund Pasha had returned to Constantinople, and
Halim Pasha had been appointed his provisional successor in Eyria.

INDIA.

The Bombay mail of the 27th of November would probably reach London in season to go forward per the Asia.

Cotton goods were firm and advancing at Bombay. Cotton goods were firm and advancing at Bombay. Exchange 2s 11/d.

The export of cotton from Bombay to England during the present year was estimated at \$20,000 bales.

Sir Charles Wood had decided to remove the seat of Government from Calcuttato the Hills:

CALCUTA, Nov. 25.—Sheetings firmer. Fish quiet. Linseed quiet. Silk advancing. Exchange 2s %d@2s %d. Freights were nominal. LATEST INTELLIGENCE, VIA QUEENSTOWN. LIVERPOOL, Dec. 22—The ship Ben Payson, from harleston, had arrived at St. Nazaire.
The steamer St. Andrew, of the Quebec and Glasgow ne, has been chartered by the Government to carry coops. &c.

inc, has been chartered by the dovernment of coops, &c.
London, Dec. 22—It has been decided that Parlia-nent is to assemble on Tuesday, the 14th of January,
Panis, Dec. 21.—The Rentes closed firm to-day at If 85c.
The Temps asserts that a despatch was received from

The Temps asserts that a despatch was received from Mr. Beward, saying that the American Government is ready to guarantee every facility to neutrals compatible with the rights of belligerents, and would give satisfaction in case of the infraction of any rule that had been adopted. This despatch was dated before the Trent atfair, but it is considered inportant as showing the peaceful inclinations of the American Government.

PANIS, Dec. 22—The Senatch has agreed to the Senatus Consultum by 132 yeas against one negative vote.

M. Fould maintained the correctness of his late report to the Emperor, and said that it caused a rise in the public funds, which would have continued but for the apprehension of war between England and America. The usefulness of extraordinary credits is demonstrated by what is now happening in England. Without the transfer of Alfaortlinary credits, large bodies of troops and formidable fleets could be despatched without Parliamentary action. ary action.

Berlin, Dec. 22.—The Council of Ministers have determined to convoke the Chambers on the 14th of Janu-The rumors of a Ministerial crisis are unfounded.
TURIN, Dec. 22.—The Budget has been approved by

TURIN, Dec. 22.—The Budget has been approved by 232 against 39 votes.

The financial statement of Mfnister Vosigi produced a good impression.

The deficit for 1861 is put down at 400,000,000, and for 1802 at 317,000,000. The latter, by the alienation of the Neapolitan and Ficilian rentes, and by a portion of the loan, will be reduced to 159,000,000; which the Minister proposes to cover by several new taxes, which, it is estimated, will yield 39,000,000, and the balance can be covered by treasury bonds.

mateu, will yield 33,000,000, and the balance can be covered by treasury bonds. Loxbox, Dec. 22.—The Observer (Ministerial organ) asys that England wishes for peace, but that she will gain by war, as it will enable her to rectify her American frontiers, open the ports of the South, and give a lesson to the United States. The Death of Prince Albert. ITS EFFECT UPON THE ROYAL FAMILY AND PROPLE.

The earliest public intimation of the illness of the rince was made through the Court Journal, and was Prince was made through the Court Journal, and was announced as "a cold caught during a visit to Cambridge." At the review of the Eton volunteers, he took a further cold. A gastric fever ensued, during the continuance of which public bulletins of the health of the Prince were lessued. On Saturday morning, the 15th, after three days' decided illness, he rallied and was pronounced out of danger. On Saturday afternoon, at four o'clock, a sudden reaction took place, and the following telegram was forwarded to the London papers: "Whyson, half past 4.—The Prince is in a most critical state, and the physicians who are in attendance upon his Royal Highness state that another hour will decide whether he lives or dies. A special service has just been held in St. John's Church for the purpose of offering up prayers for the restoration of his Royal Highness's health. The greatest excitement prevails in the town."

In the meantime, the Prince of Wales had been teles.

the town."

In the meantime, the Prince of Wales had been telegraphed for and arrived from Cambridge, and was with the royal family, at the sufferer's belside. The worst symptoms of 19 phoid fever appeared and the sufferings of the Prince were agonizing. "Wheesever an attempt was made to tift or move him his groams were distressing to hear. On Friday night the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Princes Alice stand up all night with the Prince, who was uneasy whenever they left his side. All Saturday ovening the Prince continued to sink, as it were from sheer exhaustion, and at eleven o'clock he quietly cessed to breathe.

All saturday evening the Frince continued to sink, as it were from sheer exhaustion, and at eleven o'clock in quietly cessed to breathe.

The Prince himself was aware of his perilous position. He said on Wednesday that he thought he should not recover, and alluded frequently to the sudden death of his relative the King of Portugal. He retained his senses to the last, recognizing the Queen and his children, who were all with him excepting the Grown Princess of Pruseis, Prince Alfred, and the Prince Leopold.

The Times says that the Queen has borno her loss with exemplary resignation, and a composure which, under so sudden and terrible a bereavenent, could not have been anticipated. When the first passionate burst of gifet was over, her Majesty called her children around her, and, with a calanness which gives proof of great natural energy, addressed them in solemn and affectionate terms. Her Majesty declared to her family that, though she felt crushed by the loss of one who had been her companion through life, she knew how much was executed ther, and she coordingly called on her children to give her their assistance, in order that she might do be a duty to these course.

protect of sers and sno accordingly called on her children to give her their assistance, in order that she might do her duty to them and to the country.

A friend at Windsor Castle condoled on Sunday morning with the Queen, who replied, "I suppose I must not fret too much, for many poor women have to go through the same trial." e Prince, is described as having been intensely painful ad affecting. The Princess Alice was carried from the bamber in a state of hysterical agitation, and when the latal news was communicated to her she was seized with a riskility of the nerves and temporary insensibility, which slarmed the attendants. The grief of her Majesty and the royal children was scarcely less intense, but, as

which slarmed the attendants. The grief of her Majesty and the royal children was scarcely less intense, but, as as been stated, the Queen did not allow her grief to verecome her sense of duty.

The funeral of the Prince would take place on the ZM, setween 11 and 12 o'clock A. M. The custom, which between 11 and 12 o'clock A.M. The custom, which remained in force up to the bunish of William IV, of intering members of the royal family by torchlight, has for many years been discontinued, and would not be resumed on this melancholy occasion.

The King of the Belgians was expected in England on a visit to the Queen. The Crown Princess of Prussia (the Princess Boyal of England) was unable to visit her mother, from ill health, but the Crown Prince was expected.

A feeling of gloom prevailed throughout England, and

A feeling of gloom prevailed throughout England, and a very general mourning was expected. The various municipal and other bodies were taking stops 1: give oxpression to their feelings of condolence.

In Paris the Prince's death caused a great sensation, and all the papers unite in expressions of sympathy. The Moniteur, after announcing the sad event, adds that "the Emperor, the Imperial family, and the whole of France, will mingle their regret and grief with the royal family and the English nation." The Imperial Court had gone into mourning, all festivities at the Tuillelries having been countermanded, and the Emperor is stated to have despatched an aid-de-camp with an autograph letter of condolence. At Berlin the news was received with strong manifestations of popular sympathy and sorrow, while the King instened to offer such consolation as he night to the Princess Royal, subsequently slatic the English envoy, and ordered the court to go into mourning immediately.

During the Prince's illness, telegrams of inquiry were telegraphed from almost all the courts of Europe.

The news of the death of the Prince was announced to the people of London by the folling of the great bell of St. Paul's at midnight of Saturday.

The Queen and the royal children were to leave Windeer Castle for Osborne on the 18th.

The English papers appeared in mourning on the 16th.

The London Times thus singularly refers to the Prince of Wales in connection with the sad event:

In "The Prince of Wales, of whom we have seen so much, yet seem to know so little, has position and power to win. He may be a true King or a shadow of royalty. The decision is to be made this very hour. The Prince will have to make a solemn choice between a life of frivoilty—perhaps of trouble and misery—and a reign of insefulners. Judging by the measure of age, he should now he as competent to assis hs mother as the Prince consert when he assument that duty."

From Gen. Banks' Command. From Gen. Banks' Command.

FREDERICK, Dec. 30.—The commission for examining into the character, ability, and qualifications of officers of this division of the army still continues its sittings in this city. Many cases of the lower grades of commissioned officers have been examined into and reported upon to the Commander-in-Chief. Others; including some of higher grades, are now before the board. The final action in all the cases will not be divulged until the rising of the board.

the board.
The General Court Martial to-day takes up the ess of the murder, by a private of the Fifth Con-necticut Regiment, perpetrated while that regiment was on a march, last fell, from Pleasant Hill to Williamsport. After disposing of this, other de-sertion craes will be brought up. It is believed that several of this class will be made examples of by the precess laid down in the articles of war.
John S. Clark, late colonel of the Mineteenth Now
York, has been appointed as aid-de-camp to Gon.
Banks, with the rank of colonel, and reported this Banks, with the rank of colonel, and reported this merning for duty.

Last week a fire broke out in a building near General. Banks' headquarters, affording his body guard, the Zouaves d'Afrique, a rare opportunity of instilling some new tacties in the fire department. Before the alarm had hardly sounded those agite fellows had emptied the engine houses of their "machines," attached hose, saled the walls, and extinguished the fire in an incredibly short space of time, saving the valuable property from any great loss.

Mrs. Gen Banks, and the ladies of many of the other officers of this division, are at present so-journing here, giving a metropolitan tone to so-ciety, and an increased air of refinement and elegance to the city. On Saturday, Gen. Banks, First Assistant P. M. General Kasson, and S. E. Middle-ton, Leq., cashier of the United States Treesnry, dined at the mansion of Frederick Siye, Esq., editor

ton, usq. cashier of the United States freesing, dined at the mansion of Frederick Siye, Esq., editor of the Examiner.

The Fifth Connecticut has been ordered hither from Hancock, and will probably be here by Thursday. The first section of Captain Best's (regular) battery is now on its way here from the same place. A man named James Magraw, (heretofore mentioned in this correspondence,) from Harper's Ferry, was arrested here on the 27th It is charged that he had voluntarily furnished a large quantity of sait to the enemy, some say 150 to 200 sacks. On Christmas Day, General Banks, through the judge advocate, Captain Collis, discharged from custody a number of prisoners under sentence by a former court martial.

A very useful institution is the ordnance depart ment of this division, under charge of Liout. W. Thompson, of Company I, Massachusetts Twelfth. A force under him is employed in repairing and issuing arms, which would otherwise be condemned and returned to Washington. The same officer has charge of the megazine and trophies captured from the Secessionists.

General Benham Ordered to Duty. New York, Dec. 31st.—A private despatch received from Washington states that General McClellan, on investigating the specifications of the charges against brighted General Benham, has ordered the latter's release from arrest, and he is to be ordered at each ot duty. This will be grateful news to the numerous friends of this brare officer.

The Kentucky Banks. JOUISVELLE, Dec. 31.—The North Bank of Kentucky uspended specie payment to-dov.
The Feople's Bank, at Bouling Green, has been re-originized at Louisville, by the choice of a new Board of Dect. rs, who will assume the direction of the bank to-

The Pittsburg Banks. Farry Burg, Dec. 31.—The Citizens' Bank assyende

Arrayal of the Borussia. New York, Drc. 31 —The steamer topussia arr o-night. Her advices have been anticipated.

Arrival of Troops at Halifax.

HALIFAN, Dec. 31.—The steamers Adviatic and Persia have arrived with troops, and the Cleopatra and Parana ner expected to-day.

The Asia gails at six veleck this evening for New

THE CITY.

FOR ADDITIONAL CITY NEWS, SEE FOURTH PAGE. Meeting of the Board of School Controllers-The Estimates for 1882. Yesterday afternoon the Board of School Controller ad a special meeting at 3½ o'clock. The report of the Committee on Estimates was read, asking the sum of \$594,808 for the ensuing year.

A discussion ensued as to the amount of some of the

The secretary read a communication from the Third The secretary read a communication from the Third section, and also the following resolution for the information of members:

Resolved, That the Committee on Estimates of the Board of Controllers be requested to meet the Sectional Board at their respective sections, in regard to the estimates for the ensuing year, where reductions are proposed in the estimates.

The following estimates.

mbecility.

3d. That the present High-school Committee have never visited my room, and have, therefore, no actual knowledge of my ability, either as a disciplinarian or teacher, and all information possessed by the committee teacher, and all information possessed by the committee must, of necessity, be equivocal.

4th. That I have been mable to obtain a specification of the charges against me, or the names of the parties by whom he reputed charges have been made.

5th. That I have had no opportunity to neet the reputed accusers, or detend myself against their attacks, and have therefore been deprived of a privilege guarantied by the Constitution to every accused person.

6th. I submit to this Board whether it was courteous to give but eighteen days notice of an intention to displace a professor, who has been connected with the High School for more than twenty-three years.

In consequence of the above reasons, I respectfully ask the Board of Control to endorse my action, in refusing to resign my position, and hereby express my willingness to pursue such a course as your wisdom may direct.

I am, however, unwilling to rest my case here. I

I am, however, unwilling to rest my case here. I have assumed the defensive long enough, and shall now proceed to reveal to this Board what I believe to be the true cause of the present unprovoked attack:

As the High School Committee have not visited my room, they are entirely ignorant of the real condition of my class; they know nothing concerning the progress of my publis in study, or the character of the order maintained in my department; and I attribute the whole of the present strange action of the committee to the influence and prejudices of Nicholas H. Maguire, who is known to have asserted, prior to his election to the principalchip of the High School, "that Professor Vogdes was unfit for his position, and should be romeoutly as the High School, prior to January, 1859, when Mr. Maguire assumed the charge Three years have passed, and the school occupies an unfortunate position in the estimation of the priblic. It is impossible to ascribe the change to the action of the professors of the institution, for of twelve who held positions during Mr. Hart's administration, pine still remain.

No can can contrast the course pursued by Mr. Hart

tion, nine still remain.

No one can contrast the course pursued by Mr. Hart with that practiced by Mr. Maguire without being convinced that the deterioration of the school is attributable to the latter, and to him alone.

Under Mr. Hart's direction the school was prosperous, and y was dilligently pursued, and the discipline was all study was dilligently pursued, and the discipline was all

guished, and the disorder of the pupils has become a matter of notoriety.

Mr. Hart occupied his whole time in the personal superintendence of the institution. He visited each professor's room at least once every day. He called the roll of the school daily, and rhad to delinquents the charges preferred asginst them, and thus exerted a mrst healthful influence over the minds of the pupils. His presence commanded respect. He delivered admirable courses of lectures to the students on the history of the Bible, the writings of great authors, and the history of the Various Institutions of the country. He supported the professors in the discharge of their duties.

Mr. Magniro does not occupy his time in the personal superintendence of the institution.

He does not visit the professors room, either statedly or frequently.

ocs not support the profe His whole premium on lateness and absence.

Illis undue 'familiait'; with pupils has promoted impudence on their part.

He has, on some occasions, employed pupils for a whole the has, on some occasions, on the consequence of veek at a time, excusing them from week at a time, excusing them from the consequence of their absence with the professor, and thus, not only deprived the pupils of the advantages of the school, but injured the remaining members of the class by this demonstration of partiality.

This course has demoralized the school; has diminished the amount of instruction furnished, and has brought about the present low estimate in which the school is held by the public. Respectfully yours,

Mr. NGRIES.

Mr. Richards moved that the communication by re-

by the public. Respectfully yours,

Mr. Richards moved that the communication be referred to a select committee of five.

Mr. Hollingsworth moved that it be referred to the Committee on Lighs Schools. He was much pleased, lie said, that it has been presented to the Board.

Mr. Richards opposed such reference. With all due respect to the High School Committee, they could not, he thought, discharge their duty in this instance impartially. They had exceeded their power in the first place in requesting Prof. Vogdes to resign.

Mr. Leech doubted the propriety of the Cammittee on High Schools requesting professors to resign. He thought the rubject should be referred be it to them for reconsideration. If the charges against Prof. Maguire wors correct he would vote to remove him.

Mr. Bichards stated that the resolution requesting Prof. Vogdes to resign was presented to him before an examination had taken place. After he had refused to resign, then an examination was gone into.

GENTLEMEN: On Friday, Dec. 13, 1861, I received the following resolution from the Committee on the High GENTLEMEN: On Friday, Dec. 13, 1861, I received the following resolution from the Committee on the High School:

Resolved, That Messys, Hollingsworth and Marchusent be appointed a committee to wait upon Messys. Vogdes, McMurtie, and Gerard, and request their resignations as professors in the Central High School, to take effect on or before January 1, 1862.

Upon the receipt of the above I immediately tendered my resignation, which I, however, now respectfully ask pennission to withdraw, being confident of having faithefully discharged my duties as professor of the French language in the High School. I offer the following protest against the action of the High School Committee:

1st. They requested me to resign without acquainties: me with any failure on my part to fulfi my duties: As L did not know the nature of the charge made, until after the request was made to resign, I had no opportunity to defend mysell.

2d. I consider that Mr. Maguire is responsible for all the difficulties I have had with the pupils of Divisions O and D, and beg leave to offer the following, in corrobation of my stalement:

3d. There were about a dozen boys whom I could not mote for disorder without incurring the displeasure of the principal. Among others, the following may be mentioned, viz: Lewis, Wartman, Drightly, Farr, Soward, McDowell, and Waterman.

4th. Divisions C and D were the only ones in which I had occasion to ask Mr Maguire's assistance in quelling disorder. Other classes were as orderly as I could have desired.

5th. Mr. Maguire himself demoralized Division D, by

om ! 7th. Mr. Maguire's system of discipline took out of

incapacity.

If the High School Committee had investigated the frue cause of the present unfortunate condition of the school, they would have found that the fault did not rest with the professors, but with the system of the principals and the method of his administration.

Yours truly.

The consecration of the Rey. Who. Bacon Stevens, M.D., Assistant Richop elect of the Diocesa of Pennsylvania, will be held in St. Ambrow's Church, on. Thursday, the 2d inst., at 10 o'clock A. M. The dergy will meet in the lecture=roo'.o., in the regy of the church, at 9 k o'clock.

istrict
The following communication was read from Profogdes, of the Central High School, by Mr. Richards: The following communication was read from Prof. Vogdes, of the Central High School, by Mr. Bichards:

PRILLADELTHIA, December 27, 1861.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MENDERS OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL—Gentlemen: On the 18th day of December, 1861, I received a communication from the Committee on the Central High School; requesting me to resign my position as professor of mathematics in that institution. Not being aware of any cause which could justify the committee in making such a demand, I have refused to comply with it, and respectfully offer the following protest against the action of the said committee:

1st. The Committee on the Central High School requested my resignation without having previously preserved a charge of any kind sgainty me.

2d. Subgroupfly by the above action of the committee, was informed that the charges against me consisted in inability to preserve order in my department, and imbecility.

I am, however, unwilling to rest my case here. I ave assumed the defensive long enough, and shall now

that could be desired.
Under Mr. Maguire's direction the school has lost its influence as an institution of learning, study has languished, and the disorder of the pupils has become a

requently.

He does not call the roll of the school, but employs upils to visit the class-rooms, and derives from them lists containing the names of absentees.

He transferred to the professors the duty of acquainting delimquents with the daily charges made against them.

His influence as a disciplinarian, superintendent, and ripcipal has therefore been lost. He does not furnish the scholars with instruction, either

resign, then an examination was gone into.

Mr. Riche desired to hear what the High School Committee had to say for itself.

Mr. Bichards then asked for the reading of the follow-PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28, 1861.
To the President and Members of the Board of Con-

disorder. Other classes were as orderly as I could have-desired.

5th. Mr. Maguire himself demoralized Division D, by withdrawing 18 boys, simply because I noted them for disorder. During the hour of recitation in French, these-boys were allowed (except within a few weeks immediately preceding the close of the school for the Christinas holidays) to be idle; and worse than that, they played cards in the observatory; other boys, seeing that they had only to be disorderly in my room to have the same privilege, were also disorderly, as a matter of course.

6th. In the great majority of cases, whenever, Mr. Maguire was requested to come to my room to quell disorder, he encouraged instead of suppressed it.

On one occasion, when I mentioned the name of a boy whom I was positive had created the disorder, wiz: Warman, of Division C, he rebuked me, in presence of the whole class, by saying, "You are mistaken; I have known this boy for several years;" and thus left my room!

sented as a worthy student. The number of demorit-marks given by a professor produced no effect at all upon a pupil's graduating average. Mr. Maguire encouraged-impudence and assurance in many of the pupils of the High School by employing them to transact business in a the school which it is the Principal's duty to perform; even delegating to boys his authority to visit the classes-for the purpose of ascertaining the number of pupils pre-sent and absent. The boys thus constantly employed-upon this and similar business were furnished with axupon this and similar business were furnicuess for neglecting their lessons, which to dissatisfaction anongst the balance of the Sth. Mr. Maguire occupies no portion teaching. of the school, they having had abundant evidence of the faculty of the school, they having had abundant evidence of lus-

e in hult. Mr. Bichards. They have conducted an expanse investigation with regard to Prof. Vogdes, and have not investigated the cases of Profs. McMurtria and Gerard at all. A more infamous proceeding never was reached on

Mr. Hollingsworth. We have body glacked by accordents.

Mr. Richards. Is it fair that men like Prof. McMurtine should be stricken down by a committee, and be compelled to say (as I am inforance), that it was on account of age and infrinities? Prof. Gengal, believing that the committee had a right to ask him to resign, compiled with the paquest. The moment he desovered his mistake he engleavored to astrace his stope. But the burden of the committee's investigation is "Vogdes!" "Vogdes!" and fir what! Recause ha has had the courage to stand and say, "I will not be struck down by a committee." I ask the committee is they have over visited the room of Professor Vogdes since their appointsment! ent! Mr. Marchment. I have. Mr. Michards. Oze member of the committee ! I