SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1862. EXTRACT FROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS .- " The conspiracy to break up the Union is a fact now known to all. Armies are being raised, and war levied to accomplish it. There can be but two sides to the controversy. Every man must be on the side of the United States or against it. There can be no neutrals in this war. There can be none but patriots and traitors."

THE LATEST WAR NEWS. Our gallant navy has added another to its already brilliant list of victories. Fort Henry, situated on the eastern branch of the Tennesseo river, just on the State line of Kentucky and Tennessee, has been reduced by our gallant Western navy, and the rebel flag which lately faunted from its entrenchments has been replaced by the glorious stars and stripes. The official report, which we publish in another column, states that the gunboats Essex, Carondolet, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Conestoga, Taylor, and Lexington, under the command of Commodore Foote, after an hour and a quarter's bombardment of Fort Henry, forced the rebels to surrender unconditionally that fortification. The fort contained twenty guns and seventeen mortars, and was gallantly defended by Gen. Tilghman, who, with his staff, and sixty prisoners, surrendered to th Federal forces. The Federal loss, so far as known, is put down at nine killed, twenty-five wounded, and five missing, while the rebels state that their less was 5 killed and 10 wounded. About 4.000 rebel soldiers were encamped outside of the entrenchments, but when the bombardment began they ran and left the fort and its defenders to oppose our gunboats. The soldiers must have been panicstricken, for they abandoned everything in their flight. A vast deal of plunder fell into the hands of the Federal troops, including a large amount of ordnance stores. As a strategic point, the Federal possession of Fort Henry cannot be underrated. A few miles up the Tennessee river is the Memphis

and Ohio Railroad, which connects Bowling Green

the Federal troops will cut off all communication

time seriously threaten the rear of the latter place. The flag of the Union is again re-established on the soil of Tennessee, and we hope never, in the words of General Halleck, to be removed. The Richmond Examiner of February 4 comes to us with a leading editorial on the alleged "insult of the London Times on Mason and Slidell." The Examiner breaks forth in a torrent of abuse on the Times for daring to call Jeff Davis' commissioners "those fellows," and states that, instead of the said commissioners being "suppliants" at the English Throne, they are there but to simply demand "our rights under the rules which England herself has acknowledged to be just and binding." The editor then tries to prove that England cannot wrong the rebel Government without injuring herself, and concludes his article thus: "We. therefore, confidently expect of England an early compliance with our application; while, at the same time, we shall feel that we shall not in the least have compromised our independence. - We shall owe her no homage and no gratitude. If she perform to us this act of justice gracefully, whatever the ruling motive, we should owe her good will, and the disposition to cultivate friendly and intimate relations; but such speeches as the Lon-Con Times is reported to have uttered, would ness shows a want of practical sense, as well as

has gone there for the purpose of enlisting a regiment of Indians for the rebel service. One company has been enrolled already, and several others are in course of formation. The chief of the mation had resolved to call the National Council on the first Wednesday in February, and urge the immediate concurrence of the nation in treaties made with the rebel Government opersons have raised such a cry against "Lincoln Hirelings"—raised such a cry against educat troops—for their alleged as they call inhumanity," as the very persons to have now enlisting the hostile savage to butcher and destroy everything that lies in his path, without regard to age or sex. Surely, such a cause as world, and bring down upon its aiders and abettors the just execration of all coming generations.

General Butler is rapidly pushing forward the preparations for his expedition to some point on the Southern coast. Large quantities of quartermaster and commissary stores have already gone forward, and three more New England regiments are only waiting means of transportation to their place of rendezvous. General Butler's force will consist of about ten thousand troops and several batteries of artillery. It is surmised by some, from the number of batteries going forward, that some point in Texas will be visited by the expedition, and shall be received as a legal tender, has gratithat Ship Island, where the troops are to sail for, will be only the place of rendezvous preparatory to striking an effective blow.

The rebel official report of the battle of Ball's Bluff has just been published. Gen. Evans states that to oppose the Federal troops he had only seventeen hundred and nine men, of whom thirtysix were killed and eighty-six wounded. He says he captured seven hundred and ten prisoners, fifteen hundred stand of arms, three pieces of cannon, and one stand of colors, together with ammunition, discredit them now should be rendered inefcartridges, &c. He states the Federal loss to be 800 killed.

Further intelligence from the Burnside Expedition will be found on our first page this morning. The forces are still at Hatteras, but active preparations are being made to attack the rebels.

Public Amusements.

All the theatres were crowded last night. At the Continental Theatre temporary seats had to be provided, in the aisles and lobbies, to accommodate the press of people. Mr. and Mrs. Williams had a full house at the Walnut. They leave the city to-night, at 11 o'clock, to undertake short seasons in Baltimore and in Washington. Mr. Williams is one of the best business men in his profession, and his energy has been proportionate to his thrift and integrity. The engagement closing has been the most Some years ago he was a subordinate actor at the Walnut-street Theatre, with a salary of eight dollars a week. He has taken away as many hundreds during the past five weeks, and could probably do well for another month. We do not regard Mr. Williams as a good actor. He lacks impressiveness; he does not improve; he has not those individualities so inseparable from genius; and he has professionally effected little for the elevation of either the Irish character or the Irish drama. At the same time he is pleasing in many parts, and precise in all. His pieces have been, in general, cleverly contrived, and he has been indefatigable in the business details of his engagement. Mrs. Williams is a handsome and spirited woman, but her pieces are flat, the public of exchange-tickets. and lack probability. She is a caricaturist, not a delineator, and the ideas of American life that she has conveyed to Europeans are by no means conducive to a high estimate of our mind or our man-

John Drew's benefit was fairly patronized last evening. With the tact and thrift of Mr. Williams, Mr. Drew would be one of the most successful actors on this continent, of not less repute than and in its fervid humor and earnestness. His eccentricities are not exaggerations, and although a comedian, his pathos sometimes approaches a tragic intensity. With his amiable and gifted lady, we hope to enjoy Mr. Drew's representations for many

It affords us pleasure, in this connection, to bear testimony to the merits of Mr. L. R. Shewell, who will leave Philadelphia, for Niblo's Garden Theatre to night. He opens on Monday in the "Colleen Bawn," supported by Mrs. John Wood, Miss Wells, Miss Emma Taylor, and others. Mr. Shewell is an ambitious and careful gentleman, who has endeared himself to Philadelphians, having been attached to stock companies here for several years. His career has known no retrogression, and he has ventured into a variety of fields, often remote and difficult, but he has never failed to please and impress. Miss Emma Taylor, in no wise remarkable, is, nevertheless, an amiable and careful lady, whose face we shall miss. Mr. Edwin Adams will take a complimentary benefit at an early day. He has resumed his place at the Walnut-street Theatre. Mr. Wayne Olwine, favorably known as an actor, a dramatic author, and a manager, is in town. Mr. E. A. Marshail will take a complimentary benefit, at the Academy of Music, next week. The Arch-street Theatra will have no performance on that night. The Germania rehearsal comes off this afternoon. Blitz's benefit will take place at the Academy next week. Mr. Elwin Forrest and Mr. John McCullough leave for New York to-night. J. M. Nixon, Esq , went away yes-

terday.

Cotton and the Blockade. The Annual Trade Circular of Messrs. Lir.

TLEDALE, of Liverpool, usually sums up the commercial history of England during the preceding twelvemonth, and speculates upon the prospects of the future. Their Circular for 1861, issued a few weeks ago, notices the falling-off in British trade, commerce, and manufactures, which we have already noticed a falling-off which will render it necessary to impose additional taxes, as soon as practicable after Parliament meets-and is especially significant on the Cotton trade. In England, at present, money, which usu-

ally gives life and impulse to commerce. is abundant, and may raise the value of stocks and shares, and of some descriptions of produce—so abundant that the Bank of England's rate of discount has been reduced to 21 per cent., and the joint stock and private banks and brokers have their rate lower still. Were there full demand for British manufactures and produce, there would be abundant employment for capital. But, owing to our recent tariffs, British exports to this country have considerably declined, and there has been additional gloom cast upon the various manufactures of which Cotton is the staple, not only by our tariffs, but by the total deprivation of all American Cotton, amounting to three-fourths of the whole consumption. The Manchester Guardian, which is the mouth-piece of the cotton-spidners and cotton-printers of Lancashire, admits that, from the general cessation in factory-work, there is great distress in the cotton-districts, but says that "it is a question whether this was caused by dearth of cotton or by over-production."

In fact, it cannot be denied that the cottonlords had more cotton-manufactures on hand than there was any chance of selling. Their supply was greater than the public demand. The Littledale Circular, estimating the probabilities of the cotton supply, says: "Thus far, Lancashire has suffered nothing; the brunt of the evil has yet to be felt, for what is a stock of 250,000 bales of American cotton to supply the world's wants for the next four or six months, during which time America, instead of giving to Europe a couple of million bales, as she did last year, will herself take from us a large slice of our remaining pitand Columbus. The possession of this railroad by tance." In truth, anomalous as it may seem,

between Gen. Johnston, at Bowling Green, and late, which reminds one of the familiar ex-Gen. Beauregard, at Columbus, and at the same pression of sending coals to Newcastle. How is the required cotton to be supplied? The Littledale Circular asks whether India can supply the deficiency-which it cannot-and then cautiously inquires whether France and England will join in breaking the blockade, adding "This seems to be the turning point, for we see no prospect of its termination by the belligerents themselves. That the Empe ror would gladly join us in the act there is little doubt; but after the giving up of the commissioners to us on our peremptory demand as neutrals, it would scarcely be courteous in us at once to join France in a step so deadly opposed to the Federalists, and we scarcely think France will do it without our

concurrence."

There is considerable significance in the words "at once," which we have here italicized. LITTLEDALF, it appears, takes for granted that to obtain cotton from the South, England must break the blockade, but, for appearances' sake, must not attempt it at once—as that would be too soon after the Federal concession of giving up Mr. JEFFERson Davis' worthless emissaries. Hence, to the Lancashire mind, breaking the blockade is only a matter of time. To be sure, there is here an assertion that France has this purpose, surly animal, we know; but was a stations rude France would scarcely go to that length withbut this is supplemented by a suspicion that here, the concurrence of England. Perhaps, By rebel sources, we have received late intelligence from the Choctaw nation. A rebel colonel the belief that France, which hits let, for been loyal in its friendship, meditates such an act of hostility as breaking the blockade. Moreover, it happens that the dearth of cotton is felt infinitely more in England than in France. Is it probable that France would permit England to use her as a cat's-paw?

We shall not believe so until we see it. The Littledale Circular says, sensibly enough, in conclusion : "Under all circumstances, therefore, we fear that the difficulties which last year threatened, may be more fully realized during the present, and we can only hope that out of them may arise a more than equivalent good, should the blockade continue long enough to stimulate the growth that of the rebels cannot succeed, and its failure of cotton throughout the tropics." Precisely will send a thrill of joy throughout the civilized so. The South, which used to supply the world with cotton, has committed suicide on its own produce, and Europe will become independent of American cotton by stimulating its production in other parts of the world. In 1862 the dearth may continue to operate, but, year after year after that supplies will pour in from various quarters. In the South, King Cotton has been self-deposed.

Congress and the Treasury Notes. The passage by the House of Representatives yesterday of the bill which provides that the Treasury notes issued by the Government

fied all loyal citizens. The credit of the nation must and will be sustained, at every hazard. For the Treasury notes issued, the faith of the whole American people is pledged, and, no matter what may be our present difficulties, there cannot possibly exist among us a more solid and unquestionable security than that which is based upon the aggregate wealth of the nation. That they will all be eventually redeemed none can doubt; and the efforts to

We trust that while they will hereafter be receivable in the payment of all debts, public and private, such financial arrangements will be made for their redemption as will place their available value beyond cavil. In business circles, yesterday, we understand that the action of the House was universally commended. The patriotic feeling, and the financial interests of the land, unite in

a cordial endorsement of the wisdom and necessity of the new treasury-note bill. City Railwayism. Taking into account the dilatory mode of the salting-the-streets investigation, it will probably be concluded somewhere about midsummer-three months after the snow has vanished from the face of the earth. Meanwhile, we would suggest that the City Passenger Railroad Companies make one concession to public opinion. Let them keep the crossings of the streets cleanly swept, so that people may walk across without getting their shoes or boots saturated with the slush which is augmented by the salt-sprinkling system. The city, in granting them immense privileges, has done a great deal for the railroad companies. Is it not time for the companies to begin to return the obligation? We are informed, on authority, that nothing but the careless. ness of conductors prevents a full supply to

Illasko's Philadelphia Cadets. Mr. Hlasko has published the roll of his Philadelphia Cadets, 122 in all, regularly officered, himself being Adjutant. To this roll he has appended an Address to his patrons, pupils, and the public. He enlarges, with no small force of argument, on the necessity of physical culture for all young people in every rank of life, thinking, with the most eminent physicians of all times, that "to give a healthy tone to the mind, the physique of the body,

most especially in youth, must be carefully attended to." He has added an Institute for physical culture and military training to his well-known Dancing Academy,—and his qualifications may be estimated from the fact that for six successive seasons he instructed the United States cadets at West Point. His intention is continuously to have a cadet-battalion, in a regular military school, under competent instructors, at a low charge, and to annex an armory thereto, capable of accommodating 500 cadets, with ample room, seats reserved apart from the students, for a great number of spectators. For our own part, we wish that every school boy and school girl in the Union had one hour's such drilling, every day, as we know Mr. Hlasko gives his cadets. The Address closes with "The Union Battle Cantata," dedicated to the Cadets, words

It is spirited and patriotic. HIGH-SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.-The semiannual commencement of the Central High School will take place on Thursday next, February 13, at the Academy of Music. The occasion will be one of more than ordinary interest. On behalf of the Committee on the High School, Mr. Thomas Fitzgerald will deliver the opening address. The Germania Band is engaged for the occasion. The number of four-year graduates is 24; of parual ceurses, about 50.

The special committee of the Board of Controllers, appointed to investigate certain charges made against Prof.

Maguire, are still in session at the High-School Building, corner of Broad and Green streets. They will hardly submit their report to the Board until the meeting after next. partial courses, about 50.

and music by G. Gumpert, arranged by F. Lossé.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

Washington, February 7, 1862. The British Parliament is now probably in ession. American affairs will undoubtedly absorb most of its time, and enter into most of its discussions. The friends of America in the two Houses will start with many advantages. They write here full of ardor and hope since the release of Mason and Slidell: but. while expressing the utmost confidence in their ability to contend against the aristocracy, plead most earnestly for continued prudence, patience, and magnanimity on the part of the Administration of Mr. Lincoln and his supporters. It is astonishing with what accuracy the champions of American institutions in Great Britain understand the issues at stake in this war. Nor are these men the mere representatives of a class. Among the list I could name many of the most opulent and influential of the British nobility, many prominent commoners, and, of course, all the genuine philanthropists who realize the magnitude of our struggle, after years of reading and reflection upon our system of government. All these statesmen, all these organs of opinion, concur in the warmest tributes to the moderation, courage, and ability which have distinguished the management of our relations with foreign Powers since the commencement of the war. Without exception, they recommend that every pretext for interference in this war, on the part of England and France, should be removed. They place considerable stress upon the denunciation of the obliteration of Charleston harbor, and urge, with much ability, the necessity of immediate and vigorous action, so that our arms may successfully seize, and triumphantly hold, all the other great cotton ports of the South. Nothing, in truth, does us so much good in Great Britain as constantlyrenewed exhibitions of the increasing military power and natural resources of the loyal States. There is a sentence in one of the letters, of one of the most fearless and popular of the British statesmen, which I commend, with due respect, to the consideration of General Mc-Clellan: "Everything done with you which shows power by land or sea; every new point occupied; every move in the direction of freedom to the slave, upon the basis of compensation to the loyal owners, tells here there have been considerable exports of Amepowerfully-makes it less possible for our rican cotton from London and Liverpool of Government to deal treacherously with you, and to inflict any blow upon you." There now remain three cotton ports of great importance—Savannah, Mobile, and New Or-

leans-the speedy opening of which by our land and naval forces would forever dissipate, alike the idea of the recognition of the Southern Confederacy or the breaking of the blockade. It is alleged, I know, by incendiaries like Cobb and Toombs, that cotton-growers and factors would never be permitted to trade with the authorities of the United States. But this prediction is as unlikely of fulfilment as the call of Cobb and Toombs upon the people of Georgia is of meeting a favorable response. Nothing is required in the premises but resolute action, and such treatment of the loyal and deceived people of the South as will convince them that our armies come to deliver them from their betrayers, and to restore them to their prosperous condition before they were compelled to raise their hands against their most effective protector and most earnest friend. We ought to recollect that we cannot stand

up against a commercial pressure and panic unless we show unwonted energy in the management of the war. You will do me the justice to say that I have never aided those who have attempted to embarrass military operaions by insisting upon unprepared forwar movements. But the fact that all our tried friends in Europe rest their hopes upon the success of our arms is so patent and public that it would be crime to conceal it. If we could occupy the ports of New Orleans and receive imports, permit expaise the blockade, toms receipts would go into our coffers. The demand for cotton in France and England is already considerable, and may become formidable. The price has doubled, and, as the price of yarns and cloth does not follow in any proportion, trade is greatly embarrassed. and many mills are not in operation. To the working people the opening of the ports of New Orleans, Mobile, and Savannah, by the Federal arms, is of great moment. We must deprive the aristocracy of France and England of all pretext for throwing themselves upon the sympathy of their laboring masses, and of recognizing the Southern rebellion.

The action of the House of Representatives, esterday afternoon, in passing the Treasury United States Note bill, and the bill for the funding of these notes and for the funding of the floating debt of the United States, has given general satisfaction. The propositions include the "legal tender," and I was particularly rejoiced to see that but five of the Representatives from Pennsylvania voted against this wholesome and necessary legislation. The debate was most interesting and exhaustive, and, while I respect the opinions of those who did not see proper to support the bill, I am confident that the anticipations of its friends, including experienced statesmen of all parties, and the hopeful calculations of the Secretary of the Treasury, will soon be realized in the maintenance of the public credit, and in the provision of such a currency as will be gratefully accepted by the people in all transactions between themselves and the Government of the United States. The overriding necessity will undoubtedly lead to its prompt passage through the Senate. It is to be regretted that the majority of the

Democrats in the House, under most malign counsels, should have opposed a measure which is certain to affect the direct interests of all their constituents. This imperatively necessary bill not only relieves the Government, but will increase the value of the property, personal and real, of every citizen of the loyal States. The day this bill becomes a law real estate will advance to the value it commanded before the war. But, above all, the poor man, and the soldier and seaman, will be protected from the money-sharks and brokers. In making this currency a legal tender we secure for it a universal circulation; and although some corporations may suffer and growl, the great body of the people will thrive. We can better realize this when we recollect that the bank notes of our State are always below par, and received with distrust in another. We are not only making History, but we are making precedents. In our just hostility to the perverted doctrine of State rights, by which one State has been enabled to dislocate our entire political system, may we not at one blow extinguish this dangerous heresy, by defeating the schemes of the advocates of State sovereignty, alike as to political control and pecuniary independence? In other words, if the honest friends of a strong Central Government, which is forever to put down Secession and Rebellion. are to succeed against Treason, may it not be necessary to complete their triumph by now establishing such a national currency as will foreshadow the necessity of a permanent circulating medium? Nor can the boastful advocates of State rights, North and South, object, because they have inflicted alike political and pecuniary ruin upon their own people by adhering to their own contracted ideas. We are in an era when, in order to save a great Government from destruction, we may have to yield up many prejudices and opinions. A man who is ready to yield his life to his country may readily yield his old notions that

she may be saved. OCCASIONAL. THE WAR IN KANSAS. ENERAL LANE SUPPORTED BY THE LE-

GISLATURE.

LEAVENWORTH, Jan. 7 .- The lower House of the Kansas Legislature, by a vote of 60 yeas to 7 pays, to-day passed a resolution requesting the President to appoint Lane a Major General, and give him the command of the Southern expedi-

The Conservattve of this city has made an ex-

posure of the recent bill for the transfer of the Kansas bonds to the Department of the Interior. by which the State, it is alleged, has been swindled to a large amount, probably \$50,000. Tue United States steamer Owasco went to

sea, from Staten Island, on the afternoon of February 5. The following is a list of her officers: John Guest, lieutenant commanding; Chester Hat field, lieutenant and ex-officer; Henry Babcock, Daniel P. Heath, acting masters; W. W. Leavitt, assistant surgeon; B. Beardeley, scting assistant paymaster; W. K. Purse, second assistant engineer, acting chief; John A. Scot, Charles H. Greenleaf, Daniel M. Egbert, third assistant engineers; John Utter, T. D. Babb, J. G. Arbona, William P. Tomilisson, master's mates; A. D. R. Crawford, captain's clerk. LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

AN IMPORTANT RECONNOISSANCE BEYOND FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE.

A NUMBER OF REBEL SOLDIERS CAPTURED

MORE TREACHERY OF THE REREL ON THE UPPER POTOMAC.

FLAG OF TRUCE DISGRACED BY THEM

A PORTION OF HARPER'S FERRY BURNED &c.

Special Despatches to "The Press." WASHINGTON, February 7, 1862. Engagement with the Enemy near Fair-

tax Court House. Gen. WM. F. SMITH telegraphs that this morning a party of his scouts returned with five prisoners belonging to the First Cavalry, and one citizen. The remainder of his regiment engaged the enemy pear Flint Hill, in the vicinity of Fairfax Court Capt. Curry reported that he needed no assist-

The cavalry dismounted and assaulted a house and took the prisoners. One of our captains and private were wounded. Another detachment subsequently returned with four prisoners belonging to the First North Carolina Regiment. Three of them are non-commissioned officers. Six horses and eight Colt's rifles were also captured. The prisoners will be sent to Washington.

Further Particulars—Scouting Expedition of the Cameron Dragoons The following particulars have been received It appears that, at four o'clock this morning, Col. FRIEDMAN'S cavalry, the Cameron Dragoons, num bering eight hundred men, went out in the direct tion of Fairfax Court House, for the purpose of capturing the Secession pickets. They swept the country from Fairfax Court House to Hunter's Mills, a distance of perhaps five miles, going within half a mile of Germantown, which is several miles beyond the Court House, and seven miles this side of Centreville. They drove in all the Secession pickets excepting thirteen, who belonged to the First North Carolina and STEWART'S Virginia Cavalry. These they captured, and this evening they were brought to Washington. They were found in a log-house,

The command was under Major Mass, of the Cameron Dragoons. A transportation wagon, belonging to the rebels vas captured, together with the borses and rifles nentioned in the preceding despatch.

and, on being surprised, fired upon our scouts. One

rebel was killed in this fight. Capt. Wilson, of

the Cameron Dragoons, was wounded in the neck,

and a sergeant also was wounded.

The Senate's Ten-million Note Bill. The ten-million note bill which originated in and passed the Senate to-day is intended as a temporary relief, until the bill from the House, passed yesterday, can receive the consideration of the Senate. The latter will be reported by the Finance Committee on Monday.

The Canture of Fort Henry The news from Fort Henry has diffused genera joy, and stimulated the openly-expressed desire for dditional victories.

Occupation of Romney, Va. The War Department has received a despatch that Gen. LANDER now occupies Romney, the rebels having retreated. A Court-Martial.

partial in the case of Colo was concluded to-day. The verdict is not known. Cotton Seed. In a few days the Interior Department will de-

liver cotton seeds to those in the Middle States who desire to make the experiment of raising Charged with Disloyalty.

been arrested the name of HENRY JENKINS has been arrested and haria on a charge of dis-loyalty, and committed to prison here. He came here from Norfolk, under a flag of truce, for the purpose of visiting his children, who were represented as suffering for the necessaries of life. The charges against him are not stated Last night a young man named FRANCIS a WHEATLEY, a native of this city, was arrested by the police for uttering disloyal sentiments, by using strong language in favor of the Secessionists The evidence against him is said to be very strong. He was committed, subject to military orders. The civil and military authorities are now arresting every one found uttering disloyal sentiments. A careful watch is also kept over suspected

Suffocated to Death. John Scott, attached to the Thirty-eighth New York Regiment, was suffocated to death in his tent by taking a pan of coals into it and closing up all the crevices. His companion, JOHN MCNEILL, came near sharing the same fate. Hon. Jesse D. Bright.

persons.

The Intelligencer, this morning, expresses the opinion that the expulsion of Senator Bright was surrendered to you." decided, by the Senate, with an extremity of rigor not justified by the historical circumstances under which the letter, that forms the ground of the indictment against him, was written.

Secretary Seward. Secretary SEWARD, who is now on a visit to a sick daughter, in Philadelphia, is expected to return here to morrow.

The Gunboat Quaker City. NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The gunboat Quaker City has arrived, from St. Thomas on the 21st. The Iroquors sailed on a cruise on the 16th from St. Thomas.

Personal Matters. Secretary Chase gave a brilliant party last night. The Hutchinson Family were present, and gave some of their beautiful songs. The song for which the singers were expelled from the camps was warmly applauded and encored. Among the peiand lady, ex-Governor Boutwell, Mrs. General McDowell, and Mrs. Governor Andrew. A committee has been here from Philadelphia, and waited upon the Postmaster General in regard to some matters connected with the Philadelphia post office. It is understood that the removal of and five missing. Postmaster Walborn is demanded. Gen. SHIELDS is still in the city, but has not yet

been assigned to a command. Col. SIMMONS, of the Fifth Pennsylvania, is warmly urged for a brigadier generalship. He belongs to the regular army, and has seen much hard service. He is from Harrisburg.

The Ultimatum of Secretary Stanton. Yesterday, while a member of Congress was urging the appointment of one of his friends, Score tary Stanton very kindly replied: "I can make no more appointments from political influence of personal appeals. The appointments in the army nust come from the ranks. I have the cases of a number of widows, who have lost their husbands in the army, to attend to, and, as they are most needy, and their wants pressing, they will receive

"As for the few civil posts in my gift, I shall distribute them among the poor and meritorious soldiers who have been crippled in defence of their country's rights." The summary manner in which the new Secretary despatches business is not very pleasing to greedy contractors, but it meets the hearty approbation of every honest and practical business man. Several members of Congress com plain that the Secretary treats them very cavalierly. in time.

The Slave Pen at Alexandria Last Tuesday night a drunken soldier, who had been committed to that abominable place, the elave pen at Alexandria, was frozen to death. This place is not fit to confine cattle in, much less human beings. Gen. Montgomery is much consured for retaining it as a guard-house when there are so many vacant buildings that could be used for the purpose.

From the Lower Potemac. There is no news of interest from the Lower Petomsc. The rebel steamer Page has not been seen for several days. The Cock Pit battery is almost continually at work. The rebels fire at every passing vessel they see, but without any serious effect Some eight or ten small vessels, loaded with wood and oysters, passed the rebel batteries last night. and have arrived safely at Alexandria Military Opthalmic Institution.

This morning Dr. F. A. Moschzisken, the oculist and aurist, was before the Military Committee of the Senate, with a plan showing the necessity of appropriating a separate building, to be arranged and used as a military opthalmic institution. He showed the committee, from the reports of European military surgeons, the ravages of what is called Egyptian or military pthalmia; that such institutions have always beer found necessary in England, France, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Belgium. The Doctor showed the committee that, if the disease once breaks out, it is of a contagious character, and any soldier who shows the least symptoms of opthalmia, should at once b put under treatment in a hospital appropriated for hat purpose. Senator Wilson takes a lively in terest in the matter.

The Doctor offers his services free to the Government to superintend such an institute, and de sires the committee to appoint several young surgeons to be under his guidance and direction The necessity of an institution of the kind will strike every one as an important measure.

THE VICTORY IN TENNESSEE.

Official Report of Com. Foote BRIGADIER GEN. LLOYD TILGHMAN AND STAFF TAKEN PRISONERS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7. Secretary Welles has received the following despatch : UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP CINCINNATI.

OFF FORT HENRY, TENNESSEE RIVER, February 6, 1862. The gunboats under my command, the Essex Commander Porter; the Carondolet, Commander Walker; the Cincinnati, Commander Stembel; the St. Louis, Lieutenant Commanding Paulding; the Conestoga, Lieutenant Commanding Phelps ; the Taylor, Lieutenant Commanding Gwinn; and the Lexington, Lieutenant Commanding Shirk, after a severe and rapid fire of one hour and a quarter, have captured Fort Henry, and have taken General Lloyd Tilghman and his staff, with sixty men, as prisoners.

The surrender to the gunboats was unconditional as we kept an open fire upon them until their flag was struck. In half an hour after the surrender I handed the fort and prisoners over to Gen. Grant, commanding

the army, on his arrival at the fort in force. The gunboat Essex had a shot in her boilers, and, after fighting most effectually for two-thirds of the action, was obliged to drop down the river, as I hear several of her men were scalded to death, including the two pilots. She, with the other gunhoats, officers, and men, fought with the greates gallantry.

The Cincinnati received thirty-one shots, and had one man killed and eight wounded, including two seriously. The fort, with twenty guns and seventeen mo tars, was defended by General Tilghman with the

most determined gallantry. I will write as soon as possible. I have sent Lieutenant Commanding Phelps and

three gunboats after the rebel gunboats. A. H. FOOTE, Flag Officer. Full Newspaper Particulars. CINCINNATI, Feb. 7.—The Cairo correspondence

f the Gazette and Commercial, of this city, gives the following account of the bombardment and capture of Fort Henry:
Yesterday, at 12.30 P. M., the gunboats Cincin nati, St. Louis, Carondolet, and Essex-the Tyler, Conestoga, and Lexington bringing up the rear. Advancing boldly against the rebel works going to the right of Painter Creek Island, immeiately above which, on the east shore of the river, stand the fortifications, keeping out of range till at the head of the island and within a mile of the enemy, and passing the island in full view of the rebel guns, we steadily advanced. Every man was at his quarters, and every ear was strained to watch

the flag officer's signal-gun for the commencement of the action. Our line of battle was on the left, St. Louis, next the Carondolet, next the Cincinnati, (for the time being the flag-ship, and having on board Flag-officer A. H. Foote,) and next the Essex. We advanced in line, the Cincinnati a host's length ahead, when at 12.30 the Cincinnati opened the ball, and immediately the three accompanying boats followed suit.

The enemy were not backward, but gave an ad-The fight raged fiercely for a half hour. We steadily advanced, receiving and returning storms of shot and shell, when, getting within three hundred yards of the enemy's works, we came to a stand, and poured into them right and left. In the meantime, the Essex had been disabled and drifted away from the scene of action, leaving

the Cincinnati, Carondolet, and St. Louis alone engaged. At precisely forty minutes past one o'clock the wild excitement as soized the throats, arms, and caps of the four or five hundred sailers of the gun-

boats can be imagined. After the surrender, which was made to Flagofficer Foote, by Gen. Lloyd Tilghman, who defended his fort in the most determined manner, we found that the rebel infantry, who were encamped outside the fort, and numbered 4,000 or 5,000, had cut and run, leaving the rebel artillery company in

command of the fort. The fort mounted seventeen guns, mostly thirtytwo and thirty four-pounders, including a magnificent ten-inch columbiad. Our shots dismounted two of their guns, driving the enemy into the embrasures. One of their rifle thirty-two pounders burst during

the engagement, wounding one of their gunners. The rebels claim to have had but eleven effective guns, worken by fifty formers. They lost five killed ber, all told, of our prisoners. and ten badly wounded. The infantry left everything in their flight, and a vast deal of plunder has fallen into our hands,

Gen. Tilghman is disheartened. He thinks the disaster is one of the most damaging blows of the war. In surrendering to Flag Officer Foote, the rebel general remarked: "I am glad to surrender to so gallant an officer." Flag Officer Foote replied : "You do perfectly right, sir, in surrendering; but you should have blown my boats out of water before I would have

In the engagement the Cincinnati was in the lead, and the flag officer's flying pennant was the chief mark. Flag Officer Foote and Capt. Stemble crowded her defiantly into the teeth of the enemy's guns. She received thirty-one shots, some of them going completely through her.

The Essex was badly crippled. When about half through the fight and while crowding steadily sgainst the enemy, a ball went into her port side on the forward port, passing through the heavy bulkhead, and squarely through one of her boilers. The escaping steam scalded and killed several of

Captain Porter, his aid, S. P. Britton, Jr., and Paymaster Lewis, were standing in the direct line of the ball's passage, Britton being in the centre of the group. The shot struck Britton on the top of his head, scattering his brains in every direction. The escaping steam poured into the pilothouse, and instantly killed Messrs Ford and Bride. sonages present were CARL SCHURZ, Senator Howe the pilots. Many of the soldiers, at the rush of the steam, jumped overboard, and were drowned. The Essex did good service before she was disabled, her guns being skilfully handled by her gunner, Matt. Snyder, of Philadelphia. She had six seamen killed; two officers, and seventeen men,

The Cincinnati had one killed and six wounded. There were no casualties on the St. Louis or Carondolet, though the shot and shell fell upon them like rain.
The St. Louis was commanded by Capt. Leonard Paulding, who stood upon the gunboat and fought the guns to the last. Not a man flinched. and with cheer upon cheer they sent shot and shell

among the enemy. Hot Pursuit of the Flying Rebels---Reported Treachery Among Them. PADUCAH, Ky., Feb. 7.—General Smith on the west and General Grant on the east side of the

river, are pursuing the retreating rebels. It is reported, and credited by some of our officers, that the rebel troops from Fort Henry were not true to the rebel cause, but took advantage of the opportunity offered by the attack to run away from a fight that was distasteful to them.

FROM THE UPPER POTOMAC. REPEL TREACHERY REVENGED

FLAG OF TRUCE DISGRACED.

THE TORCH AGAIN APPLIED TO HARPER'S FERRY. SANDY HOOK, Md., Feb. 7 .- This morning, Capt Baylor and three of his men (rebels) concealed

hemselves behind a stone wall just above Harper's Ferry bridge, while a black man, (or a white man painted to represent a negro,) by displaying a flag of truce, induced a loyal Virginian to go over. When nearly across, Baylor and two others fired at and killed the ferryman. Our batteries on the Heights then shelled the buildings, and subsequently a party of Federal troops crossed and set ire to twelve houses, including the Wager House and another hotel, the railroad buildings, etc. The whole lower part of the town is now in ashes. A necessity existed for burning these buildings, as they have afforded a hiding-place to rebel rifle-The number of the rebels was not ascertained. but many were seen to mount their horses and

leave for the outskirts of the town by the Charlestown road. This afternoon a rebel flag of truce, in the hands of three of Baylor's men, came to the ferry but they were warned off by Col. Geary. A large rebel mounted picket was stationed all the afternoon near Bolivar.

FROM PORT ROYAL.

DEPARTURE OF ANOTHER EXPEDITION FOR THE SOUTH. NEW YORK, Feb. 7 .- The sloop of war Savannai

arrived at this port to-night from Port Royal. She brings no news of importance, except the sailing of an expedition of the South, on the 26th. The expedition was to include all the lightdraught steamers and several gunboats, with several thousand troops. Everything was quiet at Port Royal.

XXXVIITH CONGRESS-FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1862. SENATE.

Petitions Presented.

Mr. ANTHONY (Rep.), of Rhede Island, presented a resolution from the General Assembly of Rhode Island, in regard to the permanent location of the Naval Academy at Newport. The said State had tendered exclusive jurisdiction to the United States of the necessary lands, &c. He referred briefly to the loyalty of the Etate, and the fact that Newport had suffered greatly by the rebellion, and was one of the finest harbors in the country.

Mr. WILSON (Rep.), of Massachusetts, presented the memorial of a number of mercantile firms of New York, against any repeal of the present wavehousing system

Mr. WILMOT (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, presented several petitions in tavor of emancipation; also, in favor of homeopathic surgeons.

Mr. DOOLITTLE (Rep.), of Wisconsin, presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Wisconsin, requesting that the Senators and members of Congress from that State vote for the abolishment of the Iranking privilege.

Mr. HARRIS (Rep.), of New York, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred the credentials of Benjamin Starke and other papers, without expressing an opinion as to the effect of the papers, or any action of the Senate, reported a resolution that Mr. Starke was entitled to take the constitutional oath as a Sepator.

Mr. TRUMBULL (Rep.), of Rilinois, asked leave to file Petitions Presented.

Mr. TRUMBULL (Rep.), of Illinois, asked leave to file the minority report. The committee had not seen fit to report on the testimony, and could not agree with the majority of the committee. agority of the committee.

Mr. HARRIS (Rep.), of New York, said the commit-

Mr. HARBIS (Rep.), of New York, said the commit-tee did not express an epinion as to the effect of the pa-pers on any subsequent action of the Senato. The papers were ordered to be printed. Mr. HARLAN (Rep.), of Iowa, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to reduce the expenses of the Government in the survey and sale of public lands. of the Government in the survey and sale of public lands.

Mr. HALE (Rep.), of New Hampshire, from the Naval Committee, reported a joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Capt. S. F. Dupont, and the officers and stamen under his command, for the victory at Port Royal. Adopted.

Mr. HALE, from the Naval Committee, reported back the bill providing for the construction of twenty iron-clad steam gunboats, with an amendment.

The United States note bill was received from the House and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WILSON (Rep.), of Massachusotts, introduced a bill to increase the efficiency of the Medical Department of the army. Beforred. f the army. Beferred. Mr. LATHAM (Dem.), of California, introduced a bill

Mr. LATHAM (Dem.), of California, introduced a bill relative to the warehouse system in the Pacific ports of the United States.

Mr. GRIMES (Rep.), of Lowa, moved to take up the gunboat bill. He said that if the intelligence which came to the city this morning of the capture of Fort Hebry by our genboats in the Western waters was true, then no bill was more important.

The bill was taken up. The amendment of the committee appropriates \$10,000,000 for the purposes of the act. Mr. HALE (Rep.), of New Hampshire, read a letter

Mr. HALE (Rep.), of New Hampshire, read a lotter from the Secretary of the Navy, saying that the Department could probably build ten or twelve boats in six months, and double that number in a year; that the Department do not intend to conform to any particular plan, but intend to avail themselves of the experience gained in the progress of the work; that the cost ranges from \$360,000 to \$580,000; but that Capt. Ericsson proposed to build four in six months, at \$225,000; that the purposes of the boats are to reduce the harbors of the enemy and open them to the Union army. The Secretary eathersty recommends the appropriation of ten millions. Mr. HALE said that the vessel already built by

cretary earnestly recommends the appropriation of ten millions.

Mr. HALE said that the vessel already built by Captain Ericseon was built by contract, and was completed within a day of the time specified.

The bill, was amended so as to limit the number to twenty, and passed.

The report of the Naval Committee on the Secretary of the Navy's letter, in regard to Mr. Morgan's purchases, was taken up.

Mr. HALE said he considered the subject of much importance to the Senate and to the country. What he was about to say was to be said not as a Republican, or a member of any party. He stood here to-day to plead for the country. He had been accused of being an opponent of the Administration, but he wanted it distinctly understood that on this subject he had nothing to buy and nothing to sell. The Administration had not a gift that he desired, and he had nothing they wanted except a faithful interest in the country. He would say to the Administration, as the Hebrew prophet said to the King of Babylon, "Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rowards to another; but I will read to these, O, king, the writing declared unto me, and interpret it." That was exactly where he stood. He would give to the Administration a zealous support, and they could help themselves. He would say to them as Pecksniff said to Martin Chuzzlewit, "Chuzzlewit, I forgive you. You cannot help yourself." No earthly consideration can make him leave the place he occupied means anything cles of it but what it is. There have been some objections made against this resolution. The Senator from Maine (Mr. Fessenden) thought it was not dignified on the part of the Senate to act on the cridence that we had. That objection was removed now. The evidence is, that the Secretary of the Navy, having occasion to purchase some vessels, employed his brother-in-law, and for less than five months' service paid him \$70,000. He laid aside the question whether this sum was paid out of the public funds, but returned to the ascertion that, directly, the purchase of thes

ings.

But Mr. Morgan declares, on his reputation as a merchant, and the Secretary of the Navy also agrees with him that he regards this as a wise system, which, if faithfully carried out at this time, would be highly conducive to the public interest. And the Secretary of the Navy refers to the reputation of Mr. Morgan as an honeet man. He (Mr. Hale) did not propose to argue on the integrity of the Secretary of the Navy or Mr. Morgan. However, the secretary of the Navy or Mr. Morgan. However, the summer of the single remark, that he had had a large experience in criminal trials, and according to his experience a criminal would only resort to the testimony of his previous good character, as a last desperance a criminal would only result to the mony of his previous good character, as a last desperate defence, to be used when there was other left. He had received innumerable letters on this subject, many of which were anonymous. He never read an anonymous letter, and had not done so for seventeen years. He would ask, what would have been the conduct of the Republican Senators if there had been

including a large and valuable quantity of ordnance

never read an anonymous letter, and had not done so for seventeen years. He would ask, what would have been the conduct of the Republican Senators if there had been such a misapplication of the public funds by a Democratic Secretary? The whole vocabulary of Grecian and Boman classical invective would have been exhausted by the Senator from Massachusetts to overwhelm such a man, and the impulsive Senator from Michigan (Mr. Chandler) would have stood up like the last of the triounes, and invoked death on such an offender; and he knew at a glance that the chairman of the Committee on Finance (Mr. cuese 12.22) would have seen through all the goissmor exarculed of the last of the triounes, and invoked death on such an offender; and he knew at a glance that the chairman of the Committee on Finance (Mr. cuese 12.22) would have seen through all the goissmor exarculed of the Senator. In the service of the House on a former Secretary of the farment majority if the House. He did not ask for a censure of the Secretary. He only asked for a rebuke of the system which the Secretary says he has harnessed into the service of the Government. It was not harnessed into the service of the Government, but into the service of G. B. Morgan, and he drove that team very profitably.

Mr. Hale then read the letters of Robert B. Minturn, and Cyrus W. Field, that the commission for the purchase of ships was 2½ per cent, at the highest; but on a large purchase an arrangement was generally made, by which the commission of enty I and 1½ per cent, was allowed. He contended that the Secretary had conflued the large purchase of vessels to one agent, and to one city, that of New York, at the highest rate of commission, and the whole country was discouraged when they saw the money of the Government thus wasted. He believed the liberties of the country were in greater danger to-day, from frauds and profligacy, than from the rebels. If we want victories we must commence on the floor of Congress. The people are willing to be taxed any amount for the s

He would say oh, Christ! who with small cords drove out the money-changers from the Temple of Jerusalem, is there no scourge of laceratien for those who turn the temple of our liberties into a den of thioves?

Mr. DIXON (Rep.), of Connecticut, said he did not wish in any way to paliate fraud. No man was more opposed to fraud. He was entirely independent of the Secretary of the Navy. He had asked no favors of the Secretary, and had had no consultation with him or any of his friends in regard to this matter. The Secretary had sent the whole information to Congress. The fact was that a large amount of money had been saved to the Government. A large number of vessels had been purchased, every one of which was seaworthy, and worth more in the market to-day than when they were bought. This was an unusual purchase, and the Secretary was obliged to lose no time. Action must be had immediately The Secretary sadmitted, everywhere, to be a man of the purest integrity, and this was the only complaint that can be made against him, even of mistake in judgment. He then read from the letter of the Secretary, showing that the prices paid for various vessels were very low. He thought the report of the Naval Committee was written rather in

read from the letter of the Secretary, showing that the prices paid for various vessels were very low. He thought the report of the Naval Committee was written rather in a spirit of accusation. It seemed as if they were hunting for some public officer to find fault with. He contended that the Secretary had done the very best he could do, under the circumstances, and that Mr. Morgan was the very best agent that could have been selected. The vidence before the committee shows this. He referred to the unseaworthy vessels that had been purchased by naval officers and were refused by Mr. Morgan with all the vessels purchased by Mr. Morgan were seaworthy and purchased at less prices. Yet we were called on now to censure the Secretary of the Navy because he selected the best agent he could find, and that agent had made the best possible purchases for the Government and saved a great amount of money, simply because this agent has in some way made a large amount himself by commission. We havehad no reverses in the navy. He believed this was due to the true, honest, and peerless mind at the head of that department.

Mr. WILSON moved as a substitute for the resolution reported by the commission on the purchase is naves inverseling and not he purchase is inverseling and heavent to be resorted to averent

penration depends on his commission on the purchase is unwise, inexpedient, and never to be resorted to except

till to-morrow.

The civil appropriation bill was then taken up.

The amendment in regard to the printing of the treasury notes by the American Bank-Note Company being mder consideration, Mr. PEARCE (Dem.), of Maryland, read the corre Mr. PEARCE (Dem.), of Maryland, read the correspondence between the department hore and the assistant treasurer at New York, and said it showed that the department had acted with the utnost care and integrity in the whole matter. He thought it was but due to the parties concerned to make this explanation, in order to refute the various charges which have been made in regard to this case without the least foundation in fact.

The further consideration of the bill was then postpened temporarily.

The bill to authorize the additional issue of United States notes was then taken un and passed. The bill to authorize the additional issue of United States notes was then taken up and passed.

The bill to authorize the issue of ten millions of demand notes was taken up.

On motion of Mr. ANTHONY (Rep.), a part of the appropriation for seeds, &c., was ordered to be applied to the preparation of flax as a substitute for cotton. The bill was passed.

Mr. JOHNSON (Dem.), of Tennessee, handed to the clerk the despatch of Flag Officer Foote announcing the capture of Fort Henry, which was read to the Senate.

Mr. SHERMAN (Rep.), of Ohio, reported a joint resolution for the payment of the expenses of the commission appointed to investigate the military claims in the Department of the Vest. It was passed.

rtment of the West. It was passed. On motion of Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, the bill to define the pay and emoluments of officers in the army was taken up.
The Senate then adjourned till Monday. HARSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. STEVENS (Bep.), of Pennsylvania, said that the United States note bill, passed yesterday, provided for the payment of the interest on the bonds senai-annually, in coin. This, he said, was inadvertently inserted, and (by the unanimous consent of the House) he, to-day, amended the bill by striking out these words, leaving it to the convenience or option of the Treasury Department to pay the interest in coin or paper.

Mr. HOLMAN (Dem.), of Indiana, from the Committee on Government Contracts, reported a joint resolution declaring that certain lands were granted to Missouri, on condition that Government troops and military supplies be transported over such resiliencials as might be constructed from the procreds of the sales thereof, free of charge; but, in consideration of the fact that the ability of the Hamilian and St. Joseph and the Pucific Railroads has been greatly impaired by the public enomy, the Sucretary of War is authorized to make such an arrangement with these roads for transportation as may be just and reasonable, during the existence of the robellion; provided that the charges do not exceed those fixed by the War Department.

Mr. HOLMAN showed the necessity for the adoption War Department.

Mr. HOLMAN showed the necessity for the adoption of the resolution, and maintained that the Government could not transport troops, munitions, and supplies as economically, were it to take possession of the roads, as private narties.

that advantage was taken of its trembling necessi-by speculators. He spoke of the cattle contract de in this city, whereby \$50,000 was realized on 2,000 of Alexander Cummings, of New made in this city, whereby \$50,000 was realized on 2,000 head; of the agency of Alexander Cummings, of New York; of the immense amount of money paid out to him without any vouchers; of his purchase of linen pataloons, London porter, Scotch ale, and Dutch herrings, for the use of the army. He next spoke of the charter of the steamer Catitize, whereby a vessel worth \$18,000 as chartered to Government for \$10,000 a month, and \$50,000 to be paid in the event of her loss by war risks, intimating also that she was loaded for private speculation, to be run at the expense of the Government. He showed that her purchase was secured by four separate notes, signed respectively by John E. Dovlin. Thurlow Weed, G. C. Davison, and O. B. Mattison. He next alluded to the horse contracts made at Huntingdon, Pa., where, on the purchase of 1,000 horses, the Treasury was robbed of over \$60,000; that horses of all ages, from two to thirty years, and of all diseases, open and secret, were frauduently passed and branded; that a luge contract brokerage system at the commencement of the difficulties was sought to be established whereby 5 per cent. was to be paid on contracts, As a friend of the Administration which he aided to elect, he claimed the right, is the name of a commerce crippied, also purglayed, finances disturbed, and a treasury ampty—in the name of that gallant army of five hundred thought and the conditions and the testable and the angel to the testable and the agency whe this day on the testable and a treasury ampty—in the name of that gallant army of five hundred thought of the conditions and the conditions and the testable and the agency was a property to the conditions and the conditions are the conditions and the conditions are considered to the agency was any whore the day of the testable and a treasury ampty —in the name of that gallant army of five hundred thought and the conditions and the conditions and the conditions are considered to the condition and the conditions are considered to the conditions and the cond

—in the name of that gallant army of five hundred thou-sand men, who this day, on the tented field, are waiting to rescue a loved country, through fire and blood—in the name of five hundred thousand hearthstones made dreary for the loved ones away—the thrice five hundred thou-sand friends auxiously looking, fearfully expecting, tremblingly hoping—to insist that this Administration stall drive corruption from the land, and treason from st all drive corruption from the land, and treason from the capital.

He then spoke of Mr. Morgan's agency, showing that, although he had paid less than the owners asked, he had also paid more than the vessels cost; that in some cases vessels were charged to the Government at a higher price than the owners received; that the arrangement of Socretary Welles, allowing Mr. Morgan to take two and a half per cent from the seller, was placing him in antagonism to the Government which employed him; that the per centage was in fact taken from the Government, and the \$70,000 which Mr. Morgan had received in five months really belonged to the treasury; and although the Secretary claimed that none of the sellers censured him, Mr. Van Wyck referred to the case of the Mercedenta, where the owners claimed to have been wronged by this Secretary claimed that none of the sellers censured him, Mr. Van Wyck referred to the case of the Mercedenta, where the owners claimed to have been wronged by this system of purchase, and they had notified the Becretary in this case that Mr. Morgan claimed and obtained \$2.500 as cemm'ssions, when he did nothing toward nogotisting the sale. Mr. Morgan claimed to have been asked for this vessel \$130,000, and the owners testified that they had allowed the Department to fix the price. The sale of 5 000 Hall's carbines, by Simon Stevens, to General Fremost, was an inexcusable bargain, by which, without any risk of investment of capital, Mr. Stevens in one day was to realize \$50.000; that in the Department of the West, through the agency of Quarternaster McKinstry and his inspectors, the Government was plundered of many thousands; that although the generals and Cabinet ministers were bowed beneath the weight of increasing responsibilities, this reckless horde were undermining the very ground on which they stood. He commented on the subject of army transportation, saying that, by an order of the late Secretary of War, the railronds were allowed two cents per mile for soldiers, and local raise for freight, and, so great were the profits, that the Western roads had paid a bonus of from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for the privilege of transporting single regiments. The pirates

two cents per mile for soldiers, and local rates for freight, and, so great were the profits, that the Western roads had paid a bonus of from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for the privilege of transporting single regiments. The pirates who infest the ocean are not more to be despised than the plunderers on land. He referred to the traitors who were suffered to remain in the capital, and denounced the policy whereby slaves, who ferried our wounded soldiers over the Potomac, at Ball's Bluff, were returned to chains and stripes, while the traitor masters who wounded them were protected in their constitutional rights. He concluded by declaring that we should never surrender to the rehels in arms; that we should atand in defence of the Union and the flag.

"Until the last red blade was broken,
And the last arrow in the quiver."

Mr. DAVIS (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, said no man was more earnestly desirous than himself of bringing to justice—namely, his own brother. He asked the committee and the House to unite with him in his efforts to have Captain Davis, assistant quartermaster, who is charged with crime, arrested, court martialed, and, if found guilty, and the pensity is death, have bim shot. His brother knew nothing of the charge of defrauding the Government and soldiers until it was published to the world through the report of the Investigating Committee. He (Mr. Davis) had in vain songht to have his brother's transactions inquired into, and had been before the committee with that view, but he was told that it would cost \$500 to bring Captain Davis to vindicate his reputation. All these investigations will amount to nothing unless means are taken to punish the world cost. His brother's reputation was worth more to him than that of any other man living. All that he asked was that if his brother is quilty, punish him; and if he is innocent, let the fact be declared.

Mr. DAWES (Rep.), of Massachusetts, said he could appreciate the sensitiveness of the gentleman touching the representation of his brother, Capt. Davis. He says tha

Mr. DAVIS replied, that he had simply intimated that Bir. DAVIS replied that he had simply intended that his brother knew nothing of the charges of fraud against him till it was published. The committee had interrogated him as to Gen. Fremont's body guard, whether they rode on bay horses, with drawn swords—how they were dressed, &c. His brother stood before the country as a felon. He repeated, that he only asked that he be punished if guilty, and righted, if innocent.

Mr. CAMPBELL (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, said that Cant. Davis was examined as to the affairs of the Ouartermacter's Department, but was not at any time informed that his own character was implicated. From that time he had labored, through his brother, to have a fair inquiry into his conduct.

Mr. DAWES read from the testimony to show that In impury into his conduct.

Mr. DAWES read from the testimony to show that Capt. Davis purchased from his son in Philadelphia cortain blankets, and repeated that Capt. Davis could appear before the committee to set himself right.

Mr. VAN WYCK made some explanation on the subject to set himself and the committee right.

Mr. HOLMAN (Dem.), of Indiana, also said that Capt. Davis had had facilities of being heard before them. He submitted the following resolution:

Resolved. That fecretary Cameron in employing Alexander Cummings, without legal guarantee, to make purchases, without restriction, of large amounts of military supplies, and Secretary Welles, in employing Mr. Morgan, without requiring guarantees, for the purchase of a large number of vessels, the compensation depending on the prices paid instead of employing responsible officers, have adopted a policy highly injurious and descrutive to the public service and interest, and deserving of the censure of this House.

At this point, Mr. SEDGWICK (Rep.), of New York, sent up the despatch received from Flag Captain Foote, by the Secretary of the Navy, informing the latter of the capture of Fort Henry. Applause, both on the floor and in the galleries, succeeded the reading of the despatch.

The motion, at the earlier stage of the proceedings.

and in the galleries, succeeded the reading of the despatch.

The motion, at the earlier stage of the proceedings, that the consideration of the report be postponed till Tuesday of first week then agreed to.

Mr. BLAIR (Bep.), of Missouri, the committee of conference on the disagreement of the two Houses on the amendments to the bill making the appropriation for the ferences of Washington, made a report, which was agreed to. It provides that no volunteers or militia, in any State or Territory, shall be mustered on any terms or conditions, to continue in service therein, beyond 10,000 in Missouri, and 4,500 in Maryland, according to the former authorization.

zation.

Mr. BLAIR explained that the committee did nothing with regard to home troops in Kentucky, for the reason that the bill on which the raising of them depended was pending in the Senate.

Several private bills were then passed, when the House adjourned till Monday. THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING. ARCH-STREET THEATRE—Arch street, above Sixth— Aline; or, The Rose of Killarney"—"The Irish Emi-CONTINENTAL THEATRE—Walnut street, above Eighth. TEMPLE OF WONDERS—N. E. corner Tenth and Chestaut streets.—Signor Blitz's Entertainment.

ASSEMBLY BUILDING—Tenth street, below Chestnut.—
"Panorama of America and the Great Rebellion." SKETCH OF IRON-CLAD VESSELS.

OUR NEW FRIGATE. The construction of the mammoth iron-clad war steamer, by Mesers Cramp and Son, of Kensington, has suggested the publication of a brief historical sketch of

marks as to the progress thus far made with our iron-clad thip in particular.

The great utility of the fron-clad ship consists in its being able to stand any length of time before a fortress and to sustain its fire, which, since the discovery of the explosive cannon ball and shells filled with liquid iron, to say nothing of red-hot shot, was looked upon by all naval officers as the most hazardous of undertakings. There science had endowed the cannon ball with the faculty of owing up and setting fire to any quantity of inflamma ble matter. But these days are over. Instead of the nearly closes itself—we have now the conical and explostye missile, which leaves behind it a gap through which a horse and cart might be driven Who does not recolect the terrible effect they produced at the time of the Crimean war, when the Russian fleet, armed with Paix-Turkish fleet anchored in the harbor of Sinope?

ORIGIN OF IRON-CLAD VESSELS.

And it was just this Sinopian disaster that was destined to be a turning point in the srt of modern military warfare—thanks to the keen sagacity of Louis Napoleon, who from defeat could evoke an instrument of victory. Struck with the perilous condition in which the Paixhun gun had placed his "wooden walls," he sought a means of obviating this danger. Iron-cased ships had been used by the French at the siege of Gibraltar; but as steam had not yet been applied to navigation, and as they were too clums; to obey the wind, they proved to be of very little use, and were finally abandoned. But the difficulty which existed fifty years before, having been removed by the introduction of the modern motive power, there were no plete success. plete success.

Accordingly, a few days after the naval battle of Sinope, he issued a decree ordering the construction of three iron-clad steamers, which were called La Devastation, La Lave, and La Tonnante. They were of light draught, with bombproof decks, and cased with iron all over, except in the neighborhood of the prow. They had a single range of canons, placed a little above the water edge, with a very low porthole. They wars sant to the Crimes, and co-operated with the Anglo-French fleet, in front of which they stood on the 14th of October, 1855, at the bombardment of Kindurn, then occupied by the Russians. Such was the effect of their fire that in twenty-five minutes the enemy was silenced, his gunners nearly all killed, his pleces dismounted, and the ramparts thomstree partly demolished. This was due to the advanced elves partly demolished. This was due to the advanced position they occupied in front of all other vessels—a position which enabled them to aim with more accuracy not to cause greater damage; but, before all, it was due to the impunity with which they stood the fire of the Russians, whose shots, falling powerless against their iron armor, allowed the officers and gunners on board to THE APPLICATION OF STEAM TO THEM:

The fact of iron plates resisting the largest balls having been satisfactorily tested, another problem remained to be solved. La Devastation, La Lare, and La Tonnente, having a special object—that of serving as floating butteries—had not here built in view of going to soa; their
machinery was in consequence small, and of vary-little
power, and their shape rough and heavy. The idea of a
fast-sulfulg iron-plated vessel had not yot been readized;
against it was arrayest the majority of the officers of the
navy, who did not think it possible for an iron, steamer
to possess the same speed as wooden ones. The iron
frigate La Glabre, built a year after the Crimean war,
showed how groundless was their beiter. Lia Gioire,
entirely chal with iron, proved to be as swift a vossel as
any other vessel of the same burden, and was, besides,
proof against red-hot bullets, round and conical cannon
balls—in fact, against all kinds of projections. cial object—that of serving as floating but-CONSTRUCTION OF IRON-CLAD SHIPS BY ENGLAND.

It was not long before England, following the example of France, built the Warrior, an iron-planed vessel of & Mr. HoLMAN showed the necessity for the adoption of the resolution, and maintained that the Government could not transport troops, munitions, and supplies as economically, were it to take possession of the roads, as private parties.

After a debate, the resolution was recommitted to the Committee on Government Contracts.

Mr. Holman, from that committee, reported a resolution requesting the Secretary of War to interm the House the an onuts paid to each of the soveral railroad companies for the transportation of troops and supplies, since the commencement of the present distincties, sogether with other information on the subject.

Mr. Van Wyck (Rep.), of New York, moved that the House proceed to the consideration of the report of the Committee on Government Contracts. Referring to the tragedy at Baltimore, on the 19th day of April, 1761,

which they have a singularly destructive effect. The energy with which the building of the Royal Jak is now carried on leaves little room to doubt that she will be completed and shoat in very little more than twelve when the pulse of the nation for a moment stood still, he PROBLEMS FOR MEN OF SCIENCE.

PROBLEMS FOR MEN OF SCIENCE.

Successful as iron-clad vessels have proven themselves, however, it would be wrong to presume that they are not still capable of vast improvement. Their immense weight and consequent draught of water has been made a vital objection to them in general. The manner in which this difficulty is avoided, in the case of our Philadelphia floating battery, is well known to the public; but we shall, perhaps, refer to it again.

Another problem which scientific men have failed to satisfactority solve is as to the most advantageous method of affixing the armor-plates to the vessel, and the best relative position for them to occupy with regard to each other; for, upon these two points, experience has damonstrated that the resistance of the iron to the shots very greatly depends. Furthermore, the thickness of the plates, and the quality of timber to be used in the vessel's frame, are subjects which yet remain to be decided—and which can only be decided by a thorough series of experiments, conducted by persons of experience and scientific acquirements.

THE KENSINGTON FRIGATE.

THE KENSINGTON FRIGATE.

By the terms of the contract entered into with the Navy Department, by Messes. Merrick and Son, of Southwark, our Philadelphia frigate is to be completed by the 15th of next July. It is not probable that the unfavorable weather of the past month will delay her beyond that term; although when we visited Messes. Uramp's shipyard yesterday, a desolate stretch of snow, covering timbet. vessel, workshops—everything—was pointed to, with the accompanying remark, that it "would cost two hundred dollars to clear that away, before the shipwrights could resume their work.

Even in the snow-storm however, the vessel had a noble, massive look, that drew many spectators about her. There was comething wonderfully impressive in her vast size, that made the men whe climbed up giddy ladders to her bulwarks look more like Lilliputians than theworld-famed Philadelphia mechanics that they were! There was, likewise, something wonderfully impressive in her vast weight, so that many visitors wondered that she had not driven her props into the ground through to snow, like so many tent-pins, and many others wondered how many men would be killed the day she was launched—as though it were merely a question of numbers.

THE MYSTIC FRIGATE AND THE PHILADEL. THE KENSINGTON FRIGATE.

how many men would be killed the day she was launched—as though it were merely a question of numbers.

THE MYSTIC FRIGATE AND THE PHILADEL-PHIA FRIGATE.

Much having been written of the new iron-armed frigate building at Mystic, Councetient, we annex the tollowing details respecting her: She is to be thoroughly iron clad, and will have a new pattern of port-holes which have given rise to great expectations. She will draw not less than ten nor more than sixteen feet of water. She will have no beak projecting under water in front of her prow, and is, therefore, not intended as a ram, to run down vessels at sea. She will be armed with a small bowsprit, nucle of iron, to project forward, and her bow will be cased and made extremely strong; and, in whatever position placed, she will present nothing but curved lines. As to her armament, it has not yet been decided upon; but, in all probability, she will carry two pivet rified guns of the largest calibre—say eighty-pounders—and twelve thirty-two pounders, also rified. These pleces will be so disposed that no one will be obliged to stand on the upper dock when the action will take place. She is to be of 1,000 tons burden, and will weigh three thousand tons.

Our Kensington frigate is to be 3,500 tons burden. Her armament, we believe, has not yet been fully determined, but she will carry at least 16 guns of eleven-inch hore, and will, doubtless, have several deck pivot guns. Notwithstanding her immense weight, she has been so modelled as to draw but fifteen feet of water, besides having the additional adventage of greater steadiness in a heavy sea. She is two hundred and thirty feet long, sixty feet beam, twenty-five feet hold, and will have three full decks.

When the construction of the frigate was broached as

THE NEW FRIGATE'S ARMOR PLATES.

THE NEW FRIGATE'S ARMOR PLATES.

When the construction of the frigate was broached, a doubt was expressed as to the ability of our iron manufacturers to turn out plates of sufficient size for the purpose. It is a legitimate cause of State pride that this doubt has been most successfully confuted. We are informed that in a short time Pennsylvania forges could turn out a sufficient number of these plates to fortify very vessel in the navy.

The plates have been designed by Messra. I. P. Morris & Co., and are being made by the Bristol Forge Company, and by Messra. Bailey, Brown, and Con pany, of Pittsburg. They are fifteen feet long, twonty-eight and a half, and thirty and a half inches wide, and four inches in thickness. A hammer, weighing two and a half tons, is employed in their manufacture.

No fears need be entertained as to the sufficiency of their thickness. By experiment thas been ascertained that plates but one inch thick have resisted sannon balls of two hundred pounds weight from an Armstrong rifled gun. The only effect of this tremendous missile has been to loosen the plates, but in no case to penetrate them.

From the forge the plates are transferred to the foundry, where they are separacy planed by the most powerful description of machinery. In this manner their rurfaces and ends are made smooth, straight, and of the exact dimensions—the latter, at the same time, being grooved with a mortice and tennon joint, as in the case of an ordinary flooring-board. This groove is one inch in width, and half an inch in depth. The entire casing of the vessel will thus be fitted together, and there will be no bolts, rivets, nor crevices upon its exterior face to be battered or broken by an enemy's projectiles. Interiorly the plates are attached to the wooden frame by means of screws.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE PLATES—THEIR

neans of screws.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE PLATE3-THEIR WEIGHT, ETC. WEIGHT, ETO.

They will extend four feet below the water-line, and eighty-five feet fore and aft of the contro-line, making one hundred and seventy feet of plauking. The iron is to come up to a line with the spar-dock, above which there will be a light rail. The sides of the ship, with a view to cause the shots to glance, have an angle of thirty degrees, from three feet above the load-lines.

The weight of the frigate, with such a coat of mail as this encasing her, will, of course, be something enormous. We are assured, however, that it will be less than that of the Evoluth steel-plated frigate Wayrior, the sides of We are assured, however, that it will be less than that of the English steel-plated frigate Warrior, the sides of which are two feet three inches in thickness. Of this the steel-plates are five inches thick: the wooden framework, of course, occupies the remaining twenty-two inches. HER MACHINERY, SPEED, ETC.

The machinery will be of the same general description as that of a first-class sloop-of-wer; the main exception heing that she will have four bollers and a "blower." The latter is a mechanical contrivance which is intraduced for the purpose of making the boller steam, in case the smoke-stack shou doe shot away or dunaged by any accident. It works upon the principle of producing a draught by the compression of air, and will be found an invaluable adjunct of the machinery. The entire vessel is heing constructed under the careful supervision of Mr. Henry Hoover, Naval Constructor. The construction of her machinery has been entrusted to Mr. C. E. Wood, Chief Engineer, than whom there is none more capable for the responsible duty. She will have two very powerful sugines, and one large brass propuler wheel.

In the matter of speed, it is calculated that she will be able to "hold her own" with any craft with which she may have occasion to measure lengths. She is to be propelled at the rate of ten knots an hour, so that it would seem the advantages of her enormous size have not been obtained by any alarming sacrifice of that most important consideration—speed. Nevertheless, it is true, in general, that the fact of a ship-of-war being no longer rated according to the number of guns she carries, would seem the according to the number of guns she carries, would seem the fact of a ship-of-war being no longer rated according to the number of guns she carries, would seem the fellow of July. That has all in all, she is the heart of the Close of July. That has all in all, she is the most creditable specimen of naval architecture that our shipwrights have ever placed together, and a most glarious career awaits her.

A correspondent, versed in maritime matters, sends us the following suggestive communication: The machinery will be of the same general description

AN ABLE COMMUNICATION ON THE SUBJECT Every one has read; says he, for the last few years, of the progress of experiments in steel-plated men-of-war, and we have had detailed accounts of English and Franch ships, and elaborate discussions on their comparative merits. The testimony seems to be conclusive, that this ships, and elaborate discussions of their comparative merits. The testimony seems to be conclusive, that this plating is to change the character of all navies; in fact, that a navy of wooden ships is no longer a navy worth having, if they are to be expressed to stacked allips. It seems to be a settled thing, that steel plates of 1½ inches in thickness, and properly backed, will withstand the 100-pounder Armstrong gun at point-blank rangs. The vessels, plated on their sides, are generally protected on decks by a covering, which is intended to shed any shat which may strike. Besides these desirable qualifies, the ships have protection for rilement. In the great stavens battery the men serving the guns are to accomplish their duty by the aid of mechanism, which allows them to remain in a place of perfect security. Assuming all this to be true, and we believe it to be true, it follows that, unless guns can be so improved as to advance in capability of destructiveness in proportion as material is combined to resist their power, all firing at a ship provided with the most appreved armor would be a mere waste of ammunition. A ship so protected, and armed, as intended, with the heaviest cannon, is not only a fortification, but it is a line of forts: it is more—it is a perfect line of circumvallation. If such a ship, in action, should progress two miles, it would be equal, if not to a fortification of that length, at any rate it would be equal to a fortification not much less, and might be equal to a fortification on much less, and might be equal to a fortification on much less, and might be equal to a fortification of that length, at any rate it would be equal to a fortification of the length, at any rate it would be equal to a fortification of the length, at any rate it would be equal to a fortification of the length, at any rate it would be equal to a fortification of the length, at any rate it would be equal.

tion of that length, at any rate it would be equal to a fortification not much less, and might be equal to much more, from capability of locomotion. Such a ship could destroy any number of wooden ships which might be op-ENGACEMENT BETWEEN TWO IRON-CLAD Another reflection is suggested by the adoption of armor for ships. How is a steel-plated ship to engage a steel-plated ship? Their guns can do no execution on each other, and sailors, marines, and everything destructible are under cover. What is to be done when such ships, if hostile, mast? Are they to sailute and retrie in search of smaller for, or such by to fight? If they such ships, if hostile, mast? Are they to white and ratire in search of smaller fry, or are they to fight; If they fight, it would be the combat of two Achiles, without even vulnerable heels. If these ships are all that is claimed for them, there are but two ways for them to engage each other—either to sheer off, and, like two knights at tournament, charge each other, when the probability is that both would go dawn; or clast to cleas and board, when victory would depend, not upon the involnerability of the ships, nor upon the collere of their guns; and yet that is what these ships are built for. It follows that a steel-clad ship could not protect a convoy of ordinary transports against the attack of another steel-clad ship. The protector could do nothing but witners the destruction of his convoy. It results, then, that a steel-clad ship is useful only as opposed to wooden ones or fortifications.

IRON-CLAD SHIPS TO PROTECT IFARBORS.

IRON-CLAD SHIPS TO PROTECT MARRORS It seems to me that the peculiar province of steel-clad ships is the protection of harbors. The enemy could never make a Isading in their presume, unless we suppose the whole of his forces to be embarked on similar vessels, which is impossible with the most wealthy maton, or unless we suppose the force-to be a very small one. A single steel-clad ship issuing from a harbor, and encountering a fleet of transpoorts, however well protected, could single steel-clud ship issuing from a harbor, and encountering a ficet of transports, however well protected, could destroy them. For the defence of a harbor, fir a steel-clud ship ancounters a similar one, the cambarants who possess the shore would have an immense witzninge, in the ability which they would have to put such masses of men on their ships as to overpower all resistance in an attempt to board the other. It is easily seen, then, that the protection of harb rs and coasts is the true sphere for the action of steel-clud ships. We cannot be too eager to provide this protection. Government has so far had its attention entirely taken up with a pressing need for gunboats. It has done well—it has done wonders; but another need as pressing has arisen for steel-plated ships for our harbors. Let us have forts, but let us have floating steel forts, too. They are forts that do not require workmen to be sent to a certain point to erect them, but forts build wherever men and material are at hank and to be stationed where vor needed. Such forts might sail soon enough to hold a Southern harbor, when there would not have been time to gain a foothold to throw up more than

STEAM AS A MEANS OR DEFENCE.

It has occurred to us frequently, that an arrangement in war steamers might be made, by which hose playing boiling water might be directed on an enemy in an attempt to boart him, or to repel a bearding attack. I think the same thing applicable to all regularly constructed fortifications of massonry, wherever the ground admits of an attempt to storm a breach or to eachlade, It would be too much to expect of human nature, that it would board a ship or mount a breach under a stream of boiling water thrown. Irom an ongine.

Need it be said that if our views are correct, Delawars bay and river could be well protected by a steel-clad ship—a fort one hundred miles long, counting from the mouth of the bay to the city of Phitsdelphia? VIOLATING A STATE LAW. William H. NI-VIOLATING A STATE LAW.—William H. Nichole, who keeps an employment offsee, at No. 106 north Front street, was arrested yeslerday atternoon, upon a warrant issued by the Mayor, for a violation of the State law prohibiting the enlistment of men for military organizations outside the limits of the Commonwealth. He was also charged with inducing manars to anilet without the consent of their pacents. Nichols had handbille issued desiring five hundred men for the Maryland Homa. Guard, and offering \$100 boundy. The case was heart by Mayor Henry. The evidence showed that the sons of Mr. George Stockham and Samuel Sabin, both uncheditation, where the same of age, had been sent off by Nichols. Xiving Sabin told his failer that he was going yest by get work. The accused was held in \$5,000 ball to anawer at court, and in default was committed.

COLLECTION OF STATE ARMS -Captain O. COLLECTION OF STATE ARMS.—Capitain, Raily is in the city engaged in collecting the arms belonging to the State. He is acting under the orders of the Adjutant General of the State. Capitain Baily will remain in the city about two weeks, and, during his stay, will be located at No. 1118 Callowhill street. He has been engaged for some time, in different parts of the State, in gathering the muskets owned by Penpsylvania. DABING THEFT.—The dwelling of Mr., Henry Cox, at Mill and Cumberland streets, in Germantown, was entered, on Thursday afternoon, and robbed of two shawls and other wearing apparal. The thief entered through the front door, which inchancidentally been left unfastened. Mrs. Cox heard some movements in the house, as she supposed, but all the doors were locked. Derences or the City. The amount expended by the Committee on the I of no and Protection of the City, during the past week, was \$302.40. A por