The Press.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1862.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

Quite a number of papers, referring to the occupation of Columbus, Ky., by the Union forces, congratulate the public that another important base of operations has thus been secured. It has occurred to us that the most important "base of operations" lies not so much in the possession of disloyal cities and towns as in the possession of the means to purge them of their disloyalty. What more important basis of operations, for instance, could be secured than the confidence and unanimity, and self-denying spirit of a people like this, resolved to crush an insidious and desperate foe that has sought to entrench itself within their own dominions? Compared with such bases of operations as these all the technicalities of military resource sink into insignificance, and suggest only the iron sway of Might, where Right should be omnipotent. Let us thank God that Might and Right are both on the side of the Union!

A week or two ago we published a stringent order from General Paine, then commanding at Cairo, in which he commands a subordinate officer to "hang one of the rebel cavalry (captured a few days before) for each Union man murdered, and after this two for each, and also continue to scout, capture, and kill." Major General Halleck has just issued a stringent order disapproving of the conduct of General Paine, in which he says: "It is contrary to the rules of civilized war; and, if its spirit should be adopted, the whole country would be covered with blood. Retaliation has its limits, and the innocent should not be made to suffer for the acts of others over whom they have no control."

The Navy Department has received more official reports from Commodore Foote of the doings of our gunboats on the Cumberland river. The Commodore despatched Lieutenant Bryant with the gunboat *Cairo*, up the Cumberland river, to make a reconnoissance in the vicinity of Nashville. Lieutenant Bryant discovered that the rebels had a battery six miles below Nashville mounting fifteen guns, but when they evacuated the city they threw some of the guns into the river, and then decamped. A strong Union feeling manifested itself among the people on the banks of the river, but the gunboats are the terror of the rebels. The telegraph line has been completed to Nashville, and Postmaster Markland has sent a despatch to the Post Office Department in which he states that he has raised the stars and stripes over the Nashville post office, and is ready to discharge the duties of his office.

The Fortress Monroe boat arrived at Baltimore yesterday. The steamer *Express* had gone up James river for the purpose of receiving more Federal prisoners, but the rebel boat did not appear, and she had to put back to the fortress. Subsequently, the rebel steamer *Jamestown* steamed down to the *Express*, with a flag of truce, to ascertain the cause of her appearance in the river on two successive days. The matter was explained to the rebel officer, when the latter asserted that he had no knowledge of any prisoners being expected, but that he would return to Richmond and inquire into the affair. So the matter ended, and it is, therefore, uncertain when Col. Corcoran and the other prisoners will arrive at Fortress Monroe. It is stated that the rebel steamer *Nashville*, which recently left Southampton, has run the blockade, and arrived safely at Wilmington, North Carolina.

A Rochester paper, describing the arrival of Gens. Buckner and Tilghman in that city, on their way to Fort Warren, says that when they arrived at the hotel the bookkeeper brought in the register for the party to sign their names. Gen. Buckner signed it first, and then passed the book to Tilghman, saying, "Floyd, he wants your autograph." Tilghman playfully replied, "Don't call me Floyd; I am a better man than Floyd ever was." Tilghman's first name is Lloyd. He writes a bold, heavy hand, on the "Hancock" order.

A despatch from Cairo informs us that a great light was seen in the vicinity of Columbus on Saturday evening. It is supposed that the rebels have burned everything in the town of an inflammable nature. They are probably following the advice tendered by Toombs, Cobb, & Co., to the people of Georgia.

An important order, designed to facilitate the restoration of commercial intercourse with the Southern and Western States in which the flag of the Union now waves, was issued yesterday from the Department of Missouri. It will be found in full in our telegraphic columns, and is in itself a striking commentary upon the vigor with which the Government is quelling the insurrection.

Mr. Thurlow Weed writes a letter to the London *Star* of February 13th, in which he gives the following account of the manner in which John B. Floyd was brought to resign his place as Secretary of War under Mr. Buchanan, which he had used to further the ends of treason:

"In February, Major Anderson, commanding at Fort Moultrie, Charleston harbor, finding his position endangered, passed his garrison, by a prompt and brilliant movement, over to the stronger fortress of Sumpter; whereupon Mr. Floyd, Secretary of War, much excited, called upon the President to say that Major Anderson had violated express orders, and thereby seriously compromised him (Floyd,) and that unless the Major was immediately remanded to Fort Moultrie he should resign the War Office.

"The Cabinet was assembled directly. Mr. Buchanan, explaining the embarrassment of the Secretary of War, remarked that the act of Major Anderson would occasion exasperation in the South; he had told Mr. Floyd that, as the Government was strong, forbearance towards 'erring brethren might win them back to their allegiance,' and that that officer might be ordered back. After an ominous silence, the President inquired how the suggestion struck his Cabinet?

"Mr. Stanton, just now called to the War Office, but then Attorney General, answered: 'That course, Mr. President, ought certainly to be regarded as most liberal towards 'erring brethren;' but while one member of your Cabinet has fraudulent acceptances for millions of dollars afloat, and while the confidential clerk of another—himself in Carolina, teaching rebellion—has just stolen nine hundred thousand dollars from the Indian trust fund, the experiment of ordering Major Anderson back to Fort Moultrie would be dangerous. But, if you intend to try it, before it is done I beg that you will accept my resignation.'"

"'And mine,' added the Secretary of State, Mr. Black.

"'And mine, also,' said the Postmaster General, Mr. Holt.

"'And mine, too,' followed the Secretary of the Treasury, General Dix.

"This, of course, opened the bleared eyes of the President, and the meeting resulted in the acceptance of Mr. Floyd's resignation."

Congress Yesterday.

SENATE.—Mr. Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, presented a resolution from the Legislature of Pennsylvania, relative to the defences of the Delaware river and bay. Referred.

Mr. Harris, of New York, presented petitions, numerously signed, asking that the rank of major general be conferred on General Wool.

The bill requiring captains of vessels sailing to foreign ports to take the oath of allegiance was passed.

Mr. Fessendon, of Maine, made a report from the conference committee on the bill for the better organization of the cavalry. The report provides for a reduction of the number of regiments to forty, and the allotment of two months' pay to officers thus discharged. The bill was laid aside.

The bill for the organization of staffs of divisions was passed.

A joint resolution was adopted authorizing the President to appoint as many assistant adjutant generals, and other officers of staff, as may be deemed necessary.

HOUSE.—Mr. Stevens, from the Ways and Means Committee, reported a bill to provide an internal revenue for the payment of the interest on the public debt, and for the support of the Government. This is the long-delayed tax bill. It was made the special order for Wednesday week.

Mr. Sedgwick, of New York, offered a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the President, if not unadvisable, to transmit to the House copies of correspondence or other information relative to the condition of Mexico.

Mr. Vallandigham offered a resolution requesting the President to inform the House whether any offer had been made to the Allied European Powers, or any of them, to assume the public debt of Mexico.

An important bill, to secure a clearer definition and more firm establishment of the maritime rights of nations, was introduced by Mr. Cox, of Ohio, and ordered to be printed. It reaffirms the principles decreed by the Congress of Paris, in 1856, with the amendments of Mr. Marcy, and proposes a convention of the great Powers of England, France, and the United States.

The State Legislature.

SENATE.—The bill reorganizing the Board of Controllers of Public Schools of this city was reported with an amendment, and passed to a third reading.

HOUSE.—Petitions from this city were presented, asking the passage of a law securing to farmers certain rights in the markets of Philadelphia.

Also, remonstrances against the incorporation of the Philadelphia and Frankford Railway Company.

Also, petitions for the passage of the act incorporating said railway company.

The Condition of the South.

The letters found upon the prisoners captured by our armies, or in the rebel camps, sometimes throw considerable light upon the state of affairs in the South and assist us in forming correct estimates of the actual condition of Secessia. Intermingled with their allusions to domestic affairs, are not unfrequently to be found references to public movements or graphic delineations of the peculiarities of Southern society.

A letter is before us now, which was addressed to the captain of one of the rebel vessels destroyed by the Burnside Expedition, in Pamlico sound, by a friend, writing from a town near Mobile, Alabama, under date of January 31. It expresses gloomy forebodings (which proved prophetic) of the fate of what he termed "the mosquito fleet" of Commodore LYNCH. The writer felt considerable uneasiness, too, about Mobile, and, although an ardent rebel, gave free expression to his disgust and dissatisfaction with the reckless and thoughtless manner in which precautionary measures were delayed, and with the gross intemperance of the officers and men who compose the rebel army. Speaking of the defences of Mobile, he said:

"We have been making some preparations to meet the enemy, and have some eight thousand or nine thousand men, *but they are only imperfectly armed*. I see with what want of wisdom many things are put off from day to day; and *begin to think that Providence must do much for us*. I am more and more intolerant of strong drink. I see constantly how men muddle their brains, confuse their ideas, and neglect their duties, for strong drink—*officers over stimulated, men drunk*, and everybody in the street talking nonsense, idling, and drinking."

The writer here doubtless gave utterance to a complaint that, while it may be true to some extent of other camps, is a peculiarly well-founded charge against the rebel forces. He proceeded to declare that the whole South will arm in the present war. After describing the enlistment of four preachers, he said: "*every man, irrespective of years*, in our county, able to bear arms, has been called upon by the brigadier general; and the whole population is aroused." He alleged that a stubborn and indomitable spirit of resistance animates them, and declared that they say "we may have to fight for years, to meet many disasters; we must have years of taxation and hard times, but never will we yield to the Yankee." He felt it necessary, however, to slightly qualify this burst of enthusiasm by declaring that "though there be some peculators and mean men, they are in small proportion to the whole mass."

The drafting process is evidently frequently resorted to, and age is no protection against it where the power of bearing arms exists. It is well known that Governor HARRIS, of Tennessee, recently ordered a conscription of the whole militia force of that State; but it was not very freely responded to, however. In Virginia, too, the whole adult male population of many districts has repeatedly been called out, as well as in portions of North Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, and South Carolina. How annoying and oppressive this system of making forced levies must prove, may readily be imagined. That it causes great discontent, and in many cases much hardship, cannot be doubted.

The whole population of the South is kept in a state of constant alarm by these repeated calls for unwilling troops, and by the probabilities of invasion from almost every direction. When these raw levies are forced to the field they are supplied with arms, which, in most instances, are far inferior to those used by the Union armies, and their trepidation is considerably increased by their knowledge of this inequality. Around their homes they know that want must linger in consequence of the presence of the blockade; and they cannot but dread that danger, too, either of insurrection on the part of the slaves, or unexpected movements of our armies, will menace their firesides. Those who embark in the "Confederate service," under all these disadvantages, not only find themselves poorly fed and poorly clad, but they have great difficulty in obtaining the monthly pay in Confederate notes, which is nominally allowed them; and the news of our numerous victories is constantly announcing to them the power of the great nation they are still vainly attempting, with their imperfect resources, to defy.

Spring Trade.

A despatch, published in THE PRESS yesterday, states that seven hundred thousand dollars' worth of cotton has fallen into our hands at Nashville, and that the Treasury Department has taken measures to have it brought North. To some extent the impression prevails that the prospect of a supply of cotton, now rendered probable by the victorious progress of the Federal army, will create an immediate decline in the prices of all kinds of cotton goods. For obvious reasons this effect will not be realized. We have been at some pains to speak advisedly in the matter, and our conclusion is, that no possible supply of cotton can materially change the price of manufactured goods during the trade season now opening. In the first place, the aggregate products of our factories for the present season, both here and in the New England States, scarcely exceed one-fourth of their usual average, or less, by a very large percentage, than the demand for them has ever been from what are now known as the loyal States alone. The present supply, therefore, is, clearly, not adequate to the demand, and it is now too late to make up the deficiency from the raw material. It is on this account that the comparatively few jobbing houses in Philadelphia—and the still fewer in New York—that have heavy stocks on hand are not only holding them firmly, but buying all they can at the old prices, believing, as they do, that under no circumstances can the prices be reduced, in first hands, within the next sixty or ninety days, from an increased supply of cotton, even if the latter should sell down to pre-rebellion prices. For these reasons, the Spring trade, though somewhat late and limited, will be healthy, vigorous, and profitable. Of course, the prospective decline which must eventually follow will check mere speculative operations, and necessarily limit the sales to the country, to the nation's present wants. Nevertheless, the current demand must be met, and as there is no surplus supply, but rather a deficiency, there is quite as much probability of desirable styles of cotton fabrics advancing, as that they will decline.

We have deemed it proper to say this much in order to dissipate the wrong impression above referred to. So far as the chances of trade this Spring are concerned, we believe that the prospects of selling goods, by those who have them to sell, were never more flattering. In this category we are pleased to find a large number of substantial Philadelphia houses, on Market, Third, Chestnut, and Front streets, who, almost against hope, have survived the perils of the war. To these, and others, we would suggest, in this connection, that the advertising columns of THE PRESS present facilities for reaching the trade in all accessible parts of the Union unequalled by any other Philadelphia journal. Without boasting, we may here state, that the increase in our circulation, within the last twelve months, is without precedent in the annals of daily journalism, and the daily increase of names, from every section of the country, upon our subscription books—which are open to inspection—we have reason to believe, is greater, fourfold, than that of any of our contemporaries.

AUCTION SALE OF BOOTS, SHOES, &c.—The early attention of purchasers is requested to the large assortment of boots, shoes, brogans, rubber shoes, and sandals; also, stock of shoes, &c., of a city dealer, embracing first-class seasonable goods, of city and Eastern manufacture, to be peremptorily sold, by catalogue, for cash, commencing this morning, at 10 o'clock, by J. B. Myers, & Co., auctioneers, Nos. 232 and 234 Market street.

SALE TO-DAY.—STOCKS, REAL ESTATE, &c.—Thomas & Sons' first spring sale, including several estates by order of Orphans' Court and others—will be sold to-day, at the Exchange, at twelve o'clock noon. See pamphlet catalogues and advertisements.

SALE OF FURNITURE.—Birch & Son, No. 914 Chestnut street, have a sale, by catalogue, this morning, of superior new and second-hand household furniture, piano-forte, &c.

MONUMENT TO COL. MONTEUIL.—James G. Smith, of Providence, R. I., has contributed one hundred dollars to the fund for the proposed monument to Lieut. Col. Vigier de Monteuil, killed at the battle of Roanoke Island.

Public Amusements.

The grand military and naval ball bids well for to-night, as it is expected that the entire City Troop will appear in uniform; that Governor Curtin and lady will be present, and that many influential civil and military people will participate in the fête. The arrangements are adequate, music and other essentials having been properly provided, and we doubt not that all will be leased, and the occasion honored.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, March 3, 1862.

When the news of the secession of South Carolina reached Washington city, it was greeted with delirious joy by a brilliant evening party assembled at the residence of Jefferson Davis. A distinguished officer of the navy, who had been in the habit of visiting Senator Davis and his lady, dropped in during the evening, and was informed of the event which had excited so much gratification. And when he manifested no pleasure at the announcement, he was informed by Davis that there was no time for delay, and that if he accepted service in the rebel ranks, he would, in course of time, be made an admiral. "Stick to me, my friend," said Davis to the gallant seaman, "and I will make your fortune. In a short time all the Cotton States will be out of the Union, and these will be followed by the Border States, thus constituting a great, independent, and flourishing Empire." Finding him obdurate to such appeals, one of the ladies of the coterie approached him. "Why," she asked, "should you falter now? Why not take the advice of Gen. Davis? The secession of South Carolina is but the beginning of a revolution *long prepared for*. We have everything arranged. Not only will the Southern States be ours, but in a short period we will establish in that region a mighty monarchy, and with the aid of foreign Powers, and our own bravery and inexhaustible resources, will take possession of Central America and Mexico, buy or take Cuba from Spain, and add to our dominions such of the West India islands as we desire. Give up your reverence for the mere symbol of a flag. Take sides with us against the vulgar Northern hordes, and so accomplish the future *that is in store for you*." As he left the house, indignant at these bold declarations of those who had been fostered and protected by the Government, the lady politician entered her carriage, to convey the thrilling intelligence of the treason of South Carolina to the friend and ally of the Secessionists, James Buchanan.

This incident, which I have from undoubted authority, is useful as showing not only that secession was prearranged by the traitors, but that during the steps preceding its public development James Buchanan was in concert with them, cognizant of, if not a party to, their schemes. South Carolina seceded in December, and on the very day that the news of her treason reached this city, December 21, 1860, I thus spoke of the criminal indifference of James Buchanan, in the face of this mighty peril:

"The Administration of the Government is in the hands of the enemies of the country! The President of the United States has ceased to be the Chief Magistrate of a free people, and may be called the chief of those who are seeking to enslave a free people. He is quoted by the Secessionists, if not as their active, at least as their quiescent ally! He refuses to exercise his functions, and to enforce the laws! He refuses to protect the public property, and to reinforce the gallant Anderson at Fort Moultrie! He sends the Secretary of the Interior to North Carolina, with the intention of forcing that loyal and conservative State into the ranks of the Disunionists! While sending General Harney to Kansas, with a large military force, to suppress a petty border insurgent, he folds his arms when General Scott, and his brave subordinates in South Carolina, appeal to him for succor! His Attorney General argues with all his ingenuity against the power of the Federal Government to enforce the laws of the country! His confidants are Disunionists! His leaders in the Senate, and in the House, and Disunionists! And while he drives into exile the oldest statesman in America, simply and only because he dares to raise his voice in favor of the country, he consults daily with men who publicly avow, in their seats in Congress, that the Union is dissolved, and that the laws are standing still! Is it not time, then, for the American people to take the country in their own hands, and to administer the Government in their own way?"

It would be an old story to revive the monstrous dereliction of President Buchanan in the midst of a crisis which he could no more ignore than if an earthquake had opened the ground at his feet. The incident I have quoted is one more evidence of the fact that he was aware of the conspiracy and refused to arrest it. Nor is it a novelty to say that it was the intention of Jefferson Davis and his fellow-conspirators to establish a monarchy in the South. Permit me to quote a passage from my letter of December 20, 1860, predicting this design:

"Should the Cotton States go out in a body, we shall then witness the beginning of an experiment to establish, on this continent, a great slaveholding monarchy. With few exceptions, the leaders of the Disunion cabal are men of the most aristocratic pretensions—men who, notwithstanding what their past political course has been, and their assumed party relations, easily adopt the habits and titles of the European nobility. South Carolina, which is at the head of Secession, is almost a monarchy herself. Her representatives in both branches of Congress, for years past, have acted upon the idea that the people of the free States are servile, and Mr. Hammond, the most candid and straightforward of the set, denounced the laboring white masses of the free States as the mudsills of society. The venerable Andrew P. Butler, who represented South Carolina in the United States Senate until his decease, was an aristocrat in every sense of the word; and it is unnecessary to refer to Mr. Porcher Miles, of the Charleston district, Mr. Bonham, Mr. Keitt, General McQueen, and others who have served in the lower branch, to prove that they too are unconscious imitators of the counts and dukes of the Old World. The people of South Carolina never vote for Presidential electors, that duty being discharged by their Legislature, which body also chooses the chief magistrate of the State, who is a magnate on a large scale. Their judges go to court in official robes, and are preceded by an officer with a drawn sword, and the mayor of the populous city of Charleston affects all the airs and graces of the Lord Mayor of London. South Carolina, while voting the Democratic ticket for years past in the Presidential election, has done so with a kind of reluctant condescension; and her public men, from Mr. Calhoun down, have ignored all the popular movements of the day. That State is, therefore, the fitting pioneer of Southern monarchy, and those who follow in her train in other parts of the South, will, if they speak their honest sentiments, not deny that they heartily sympathize with her in the purpose which she undoubtedly cherishes. What a procession of palatines, and earls, and baronets we shall have after the organization of this new Government! The material is ample. Who that knows the tastes and opinions of such men as John Slidell, ex-Governor Manning, James M. Mason, R. H. Toombs, C. C. Clay, Wigfall, Iverson, Chesnut, and Hammond, can doubt that they will eagerly adopt the example which has been set to them by the Governments of the Old World, and found a new order of nobility, the basis of which shall be the institution of slavery, and the degradation of the white people of the Southern States? Should they succeed in their plan of dividing the Union, they will be compelled to establish a standing army. Their Government will be one of force, differing from that salutary public opinion which has been heretofore the foundation of the American republic. To maintain a standing army will require onerous and odious taxation, a powerful Executive, and a subservient and fettered people. After they have passed through the delicate and difficult process of constructing their edifice, they will then be called upon to elect a King. I have little doubt that by general consent this high honor will be offered to Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, unless, in the meanwhile, his patriotic heart should revolt from the task which will unquestionably be set for him, and should act that better part which has been expected at his hands by the great body of the American people.

Jefferson Davis, however, was too deeply involved in crime to retreat, and, shortly after, he left his seat and commenced the career he had marked out for himself. Every subsequent step has only served to confirm the prophecy I ventured in the passage above quoted. The whole conspiracy is animated by the bitterest hatred of the popular principle, and if it had not been arrested by the force of public opinion in the free States, and by the irresistible progress of our arms, it would have culminated not simply in a monarchy, but in a remorseless despotism? And where is this miserable effigy of a Government now? Bankrupted, broken, and tottering to its fall amid the derisions of the civilized world. May I not once more quote from myself to show how thoroughly the anticipations I formed, in regard to this crime against God and man, have been realized by events? On the 4th of December, 1860, "Occasional" said:

"The gentlemen who are engaged in the pious work of attempting to ruin the country, and dissolve the Union, are beginning to realize that they have undertaken a somewhat difficult task. As they approach the prose of their enterprise, its poetry vanishes. It is very easy to draw the plan of the battle, but very arduous to carry it out; and there is a vast difference between the philosopher who theorises in his study and the artist who toils to give life and substance to his theory.

"These men relied upon the belief that the popular affection for the Union had died out. There had been so much sneering at Washington and Jefferson, and the patriots of the Revolution, on the part of many of our writers, and such a fashionable habit of ridiculing the glittering generalities of the Declaration of Independence, that they imbibed the notion of making an easy conquest of the Government. They are now daily discovering that 'Yankee Doodle,' 'Hail Columbia,' and the 'Star Spangled Banner' are substantial things. Laughed at by superfine logicians, and repudiated by those rare casuists who think Calhoun the embodiment of public virtue, the traditions, the associations, and the victories of the past, are more deeply enshrined in the national heart to-day than at any former period of our history. The hand of God is against these Disunionists. They feel it, and see it in the indignation of the masses; in the terrible awakening of the wrath of the oppressed nations of the earth; in the rapid obliteration of all party lines, and the formation of one great Union covenant—one vast Union army; in the thunders that roll from the judiciary; from the pulpit; from the press; from the student's closet and the mechanic's bench; from high and low; from rich and poor. They feel it in the irresistible strength of the argument against them, and in the wickedness and weakness of their own. They feel it in the wretchedness of the foundation upon which they vainly hope to build their shameless Southern Confederacy. It is such considerations as these that lead me to indulge the hope, even in this gloomy hour, that my country cannot be destroyed. Its enemies must, henceforth, grow weaker and weaker, its friends stronger and more numerous. Here, in the Federal Capitol, where the peril must be met face to face, let us form a central brotherhood, dedicated to the Union, and invoke the citizens of every village, and town, and city, to follow our example. Let us leave Presidential elections and the distribution of patronage to the politicians, and think only of our threatened country. All good men will go with us. There is not an American heart that will not beat responsive to our call; there is not an American pen that will not be inspired by our labors. The people wait for such a movement. They long for a loud, strong, thrilling voice in favor of the Union; and when they are once awakened to a sense of their country's danger, they will rise like the tempest in its wildest fury, and sweep the spoilers of their nation's honor into instant and lasting oblivion."

OCCASIONAL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

General Sigel to be Nominated a Major General.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

THE TAX BILL.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, March 3.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is being rapidly rebuilt, and will soon be in running order. About forty miles of iron and cross-ties have been carried off by the rebels.

The Death of Gen. Lander.

Gen. LANDER received unremitting and affectionate attention during the last hours of his illness. He continued unconscious until 5 o'clock P. M., when he died, quietly and without pain. He expired in the arms of Brigade Surgeon SUCKLEY, his bed surrounded by the members of his staff and weeping attendants.

Gen. SHIELDS has left this city to assume the command of the division lately commanded by the lamented Gen. LANDER.

General Sigel to be Nominated as Major General.

It is understood that Col. F. P. BLAIR had an interview with the President to-day, on the subject of the appointment of Gen. SIGEL as a major general, the result of which was the determination of the President to send the name of Gen. SIGEL to the Senate at once, for confirmation.

Liberia and Hayti.

The newspaper statement that the House Committee on Foreign Affairs have decided to report against the recognition of Liberia and Hayti is untrue. The committee have taken no action whatever on the subject.

The Railroad to Martinsburg.

It is expected that we will have railroad communication with Martinsburg, Va., within the next three or four days.

General Wool.

A strong effort is being made, both in Congress and out of it, to make Gen. WOOL a Major General. It is thought that the President will send his name into the Senate for promotion.

Military Matters.

General HOOKER arrived here this morning from Liverpool Point. General HUNTER arrived last night from Missouri. General SHIELDS leaves to-night for the command made vacant by General LANDER.

The remains of General LANDER are expected to arrive here this evening.

The ground is still covered with snow, with a drizzling rain falling, making the streets and roads muddier than ever.

Confirmation by the Senate.

GEORGE W. MORGAN, of Ohio, to be brigadier general of volunteers.

From Nashville.

Assistant Postmaster General KASSON received the following despatch from Nashville, on Saturday. It shows that the line is in operation from there here:

"NASHVILLE, March 1.—The United States flag is floating over the post office here. I am in charge of the office, and will retain it until relieved.

"A. H. MARKLAND."

Miscellaneous.

GEORGE J. FURNESS, formerly connected with FURNESS, BRINLEY, & Co., an auctioneer firm in Philadelphia, and a brother of Rev. WILLIAM H. FURNESS, died this morning, at Willard's Hotel, after a short illness of typhoid fever. At the time of his death he held a clerkship in the Post Office Department, which has already been filled by the appointment of Mr. B. F. WILKINS.

Mr. ASHBY, of Ohio, will make a report to-day, from the Territorial Committee of the House, in favor of abolishing the State Governments in rebeldom.

The committee of conference agreed, this morning, on the bill making the number of cavalry regiments forty instead of seventy-eight. This bill abolishes those regiments now located in the different States. The bill is a law, the report having been adopted. The saving to the Government will be about $5,000,000. The Senate Post Office Committee have adopted the House bill allowing packages other than letters and papers to be carried in the mails.

The Tax Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—The following is an abstract of the tax bill, as reported to the House to-day:

It provides for the appointment, by the President, of a Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with a salary of five thousand dollars. His office is to be in the Treasury Department, with a suitable number of clerks. The country is to be divided, as the President may direct, into convenient collection districts, with an assessor and collector to be appointed by the President for each district, who shall have power to appoint such deputies as may be necessary. The bill provides for a duty—

On spirituous liquors....15 cents per gallon.
On ale and beer....$1 per barrel.
On stem and leaf tobacco....3 cents per pound.
Do. to said when manufactured....5 cents.
On cigars....5, 10, and 20 cents per pound. (according to value.)
On lard and linseed oil, burning fluid and crude coal oil....5 cents per gallon.
On refined coal oil....10 cents per gallon.
On gas per 1,000 cubic feet....5 cents.
On Bank-Note Paper....5 cents per lb.
On Writing Paper....2 "
On Printing Paper....3 mills "
On Soap....5 "
On Salt....4 c. per 100 lbs.
On Sole Leather....1 cent. per lb.
On Upper Leather....½ " "
On Flour....10 cents per bbl.
All other manufactures, 3 per cent. ad valorem.
Railroad passengers, 2 mills per mile of travel.
Commutation tickets, 3 per cent.
Steamboat travel, 1 mill per mile.
Omnibuses, ferryboats, and horse railroads, 3 per cent. on gross receipts from passengers.
On advertisements, 5 per cent. on amount of receipts annually.
For use of carriages, annually, from $1 to $10, according to value.
On gold watches....$1 per annum.
On silver watches....50 cts. "
On gold plate....50 cts. per ounce.
On silver plate....3 cts. "
On billiard tables....$20
On slaughtered cattle....50 cents each.
On hogs....10 "
On sheep....5 "
On Licenses—Bankers....$100
Auctioneers....20
Wholesale Dealers....50
Retail Dealers in Liquors....20
Retail Dealers in Goods....10
Pawnbrokers....50
Rectifiers....100
Brewers....50
Hotels, Inns, and Taverns (graduated according to rental)....from $5 to 260
Eating Houses....10
Commercial Brokers....50
Other Brokers....20
Theatres....100
Circuses....50
Bowling Alleys (each alley)....5
Wholesale Pedlers....50
Other Pedlers....$5 to 20
Coal Oil Distillers, &c....20
On incomes, 3 per cent. on all over $600, deducting the income derived from dividends, &c., which are taxed separately.
On railroad bonds and dividends of banks and saving institutions....3 per cent.
On payment of all salaries of officers in the civil, military and naval service of the U. S., (including members of Congress)....3 per cent.
On legacies and distribution shares of the personal property of deceased persons, (according to the degrees of relationship)....1 to 5 per cent.
And stamp duties on all kinds of legal and commercial papers, all patent medicines, telegraphic messages, and all goods by expresses.

The tax bill contains one hundred and five sections, and is one of the longest of any kind ever before prepared, months of preparation having been bestowed upon it.

FROM GEN. BANKS' COMMAND.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., via Washington, March 3.—From 600 to 1,000 barrels of flour, belonging to the rebels, have been seized and stored here.

A woolen mill, owned by Davis, which has been manufacturing rebel clothing, was also seized, with a considerable stock of goods.

Richard Washington, a brother of the late John A. Washington, is now confined at Harper's Ferry.

Nothing of importance transpired in our lines last night or yesterday.

Our national interests in this section appear to be in prosperous progression.

From Nashville.

LOUISVILLE, March 3.—Railroad communication between here and Nashville, (except over the creek ten miles north of Nashville,) was damaged by the rising of the water on Saturday. It will be repaired to-morrow.

An election was held at Nashville, on Saturday, for municipal officers. It passed off quietly. The retiring mayor issued a proclamation assuring the citizens that they would receive the protection of the United States troops if they quietly pursue their accustomed avocations.

Several rebel prisoners have been brought to Nashville, and twenty-five negroes, seized by the rebels in the vicinity of Bowling Green, have been recovered at Nashville and sent back. General mail communication is established to Bowling Green, and for military letters to Nashville, and Colonel J. J. Miller, the Government mail agent for Kentucky, is making energetic efforts to extend the mail facilities to every part of Kentucky.

Buckner at Fort Warren.

BOSTON, March 3.—The rebel Generals Buckner and Tilghman arrived in this city at 5 o'clock this afternoon, and were immediately conveyed to their quarters at Fort Warren.

THE BURNING OF COLUMBUS.

Rebel Account of the Occupation of Nashville.

THEIR ONLY HOPE IN BEAUREGARD

THE TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE WITHOUT A QUORUM.

JEFF THOMPSON ON A SECRET EXPEDITION.

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT ISLAND No. 10.

CAIRO, March 2.—(Special to the St. Louis *Democrat*.)—A great light was seen in the direction of Columbus last night, and it is generally believed that the rebels there have burned everything of an inflammable nature.

The Memphis *Appeal* of the 28th ult. has the following:

"We have information from Nashville up to noon on Wednesday that General Buell and Com. Foote had arrived and occupied that place. The United States flag was raised over the dome of the Capitol, and floats there now. But one other Federal flag was exhibited, and that was from the shop of a Yankee jeweller, who had long been suspected of disloyalty. The feeling in Nashville is strong Southern. A deep gloom seemed to cover the community, and the citizens avoid intercourse of any kind with the invaders. Two British flags have been raised by property holders, thus evincing their intention to claim the protection of that Government (!)

"The sick are being removed to Columbus. We are pleased to learn that Beauregard is making preparations to resist the attack, which now seems so imminent, on Columbus.

"The reported capture of General Bushrod Johnson, at Fort Donelson, was incorrect. He arrived at Nashville on Saturday, having escaped from the hands of the enemy.

"Jeff Thompson left his old headquarters the day before yesterday on a secret expedition. He will turn up somewhere.

"Both houses of the Tennessee Legislature met on the 27th, but adjourned for want of a quorum."

Concerning Jeff Davis' message, the *Appeal* says: "He is free to confess the error of his past policy, and the extent of the disasters which have followed from it. He thinks war will soon be made on the advancing columns of the enemy, and that we will attack, pursue, and destroy, instead of being attacked, pursued, and destroyed. The spade will be dropped, and the bayonet resumed. In other words, the policy of Fabian Davis will yield to that of the Napoleonic Beauregard. In view of these facts we can see a light gleaming through the dark clouds that at present environ us, which will burst forth, in less than sixty days, in a full resplendent lustre."

The rebels are said to be fortifying Island No. 10, thirty-five miles below Columbus, to which place they will fall back on the high ground to be found on the island, which is well adapted for planting batteries to command the river.

Prominent officers of the United States army believe that Columbus was burnt last night.

The Restoration of Commerce in the Southwest.

IMPORTANT ORDER OF GENERAL HALLECK.

ST. LOUIS, March 3.—The following important order was issued this morning:

DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI,
ST. LOUIS, March 3, 1862.

In order that commerce may follow, with the post office, close upon the advance southward of the armies of the Union, the following regulations are established for the present conduct of restored intercourse between the loyal section of the Department of Missouri and the country on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers.

First. Steamboats and other Western craft running in trade and travel on these rivers to or from the port of St. Louis, or within any other port within this department, must, in addition to the customary registration and enrollment required by the revenue laws of the United States, take out a special license for their renewed intercourse, which is now provided in the regulations established in January last for the trade and transportation of the Mississippi river.

Second. Such license must be issued to the superintendent of transportation in the city of St. Louis, but can be applied for to any surveyor of customs within the department, whose certificate that all the requisite conditions have been complied with by the applicants must accompany the application when forwarded to the superintendent. And the aforesaid boats engaging in trade and transportation under such license are, of course, subject to the revenue laws of the United States, and must comply faithfully with the regulations and instructions of the Treasury Department now in force, or which may hereafter be adopted, for the control of the commercial and personal intercourse of those sections.

With the view to render uniform the customs now in a measure governing the trade and travel of the interior, and to subserve the ends of order and law, it is further enacted—

First, That the permit system—made necessary by the persistent efforts of persons in the loyal States with those engaged in the rebellion, and by pedlers and corrupt traffickers—many of whom come from disloyal States and sections expressly for this purpose, to send goods, medicines, and other supplies through to the insurrectionists—shall be enforced on the Tennessee and Cumberland, as it is on the Ohio and Mississippi.

Second. That the examination and sealing of the baggage of travellers, introduced mainly by reason of the frequent and illegal conveyance of packages of letters to and from the North and South, after the rebellion had destroyed the postal facilities of these sections, be extended by the custom-house officers so as to embrace travel on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers.

Third. That water crafts, railroad cars, and all ordinary wheeled vehicles, be, until otherwise ordered, prohibited from carrying into the country on the Tennessee and Cumberland baggage not sealed, and merchandise not covered by custom-house permits, or shipped by military authority.

These orders are issued only as a measure of safety to guard against illegal or improper intercourse and exchanges of commodities, and not intended to impose additional expenses or burdens of anything upon trade, or impede in any manner the freedom of legitimate and proper transportation or travel. Consequently,

First. No charge shall be made by the superintendent of transportation for the license required to be taken out for the time being.

Second. Blank forms will be supplied to the several surveyors of customs within the department for their use, without cost to the parties making applications for license.

Third. The surveyors aforesaid will use liberally, though cautiously, the discretion with which they are entrusted in the issue of permits to cover goods, wares, and merchandise going forward for commerce or family supply.

Surveyors, and other officers of the customs, if resisted in the proper discharge of their duties, will call for aid upon the commander of the nearest military post or encampments; and at places where there are no custom-house officers or agents, such commanders are authorized and required to exercise all necessary precautions to prevent the transmission of letters and other mail matter by any other than the regularly-established post office channels and agencies, or the transportation of merchandise or supplies of any description not covered by custom-house permits or going under the sanction of the military authorities.

By order of Major General HALLECK.

N. M. MCLEAN, Adjutant General.

Army Theatricals.

When not engaged in drilling or on duty, the soldiers in the army of the Potomac amuse themselves in a variety of ways. The spare hours in camp, especially during the inclement weather, have been to a great extent profitably employed by most of the men in reading, writing letters to their families and friends, and discussing the absorbing topic of the times. Many hours, also, have been whiled away in telling and in listening to stories or "yarns" around the cheerful camp-fires. The bands belonging to the different regiments have proved a perpetual source of pleasure to our troops.

A correspondent of the New York *Herald*, speaking on this subject, says theatrical performances have been gotten up in camp, and have met with much success. In the Fairfax Seminary building, the former mess-room of the students has been used, by some of the enterprising persons in General Kearney's brigade, for theatrical representations. But in General Heintzelman's division, the regiments composing the brigade recently commanded by General Sedgwick, now by General Birney, have erected an extensive structure, which is fitted up in most respects like a well-appointed theatre.

Captain Gavitt, of the Thirty-eighth New York Regiment, took the initiative in the matter. At a meeting of the officers in the brigade, about the middle of last December, the suggestion to have erected a spacious building on Colonel Ward's camp ground, to be used alternately for lectures, balls, and theatrical representations, was immediately approved. Funds were raised, and so was the building. It is one hundred feet long, sixty feet wide, and thirty-eight feet high. It has an extensive gallery. The stage is twenty-eight feet deep.

Besides this main structure, there are side buildings one hundred feet long, and fifteen feet wide. These are intended for the transaction of business, and for supper rooms when balls are given. Detachments from the regiments in the brigade have erected this theatre. It is built of large logs to the height of twelve feet, the upper portion being of frame, and substantially put together. It cost nearly four thousand dollars. A considerable portion of that amount was expended for lumber. The building is lighted by one of Kitchen's gas apparatus, purchased in New York, and valued at over a thousand dollars. The gas is manufactured on the premises, and costs the merest trifle. Including the centre chandelier, side lights, and footlights, there are, in all, about one hundred and forty burners. The inner walls are covered with canvas.

Colonel Ward, and most of the officers and men in the brigade, have taken considerable interest in the enterprise. An association, called the Lyceum Association, has been formed, with the colonel as president. The theatre was recently opened, on which occasion every part of the house was crowded. The prices of admission are fifty cents to the dress circle and twenty-five to the parquet. The dress circle is patronized by the officers, and the parquet by the privates. There are a number of ladies in the division, who generally attend the performances. It is expected that the receipts will soon cover the expenses of the building, and that whatever profits may accrue will be placed in a fund for the relief of the families of the soldiers.

There are a number of actors in the brigade, who take prominent characters, the inferior characters being played by amateurs. On Thursday night Miss Susan Denin commenced a brief engagement, in the play of the "Eddystone Lighthouse," assisted by Mr. Rogers, who performed the part of the low comedian. Captain Wm. Morgan, of the Third Maine Regiment, sustained the character of the *Elf* with credit. The Stevens brothers, of the Fortieth New York, or Mozart Regiment, played well in "Box and Cox," the afterpiece.

If the present managers do not devote the building too exclusively to theatrical performances, nor call in the aid of nigger minstrels of the "baser sort," as at the commencement, the enterprise can be made the means of healthful amusement to the men, and consequently quite successful. It is certainly astonishing to see such an elegant and commodious structure "in camp." On Sundays it is used for religious service. After the army moves forward it will be valuable either as a storehouse or a hospital.

XXXVIIth CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, March 3, 1862.

SENATE.

THE HOMESTEAD BILL.

The homestead bill was received from the House.

SENATOR FROM INDIANA.

Mr. LANE (Rep.), of Indiana, presented the credentials of Hon. Joseph A. Wright, who has been appointed Senator from Indiana in place of Bright, expelled.

Mr. Wright appeared and took the oath of office.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Mr. WILMOT (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, presented several petitions for the emancipation of the slaves.

Also, a resolution from the Legislature of Pennsylvania relative to the defences of the Delaware river and bay. Referred.

Mr. WILKINSON (Rep.), of Minnesota, presented a petition from citizens of New York, asking Congress to reduce the States of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida into the condition of Territories.

Mr. HARRIS (Rep.), of New York, presented petitions, one of which is signed by all the State officers of New York, asking that the rank of major general be conferred on General Wool.

THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mr. CHANDLER (Rep.), of Michigan, from the Committee on Commerce, reported the bill requiring the oath of allegiance to be taken by the captains of vessels sailing to foreign ports, which was taken up and passed.

ENLISTMENTS IN THE REGULAR ARMY.

Mr. WILSON (Rep.), of Massachusetts, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to encourage enlistments in the regular army, with an amendment concerning staff officers. The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. GRIMES (Rep.), of Iowa, moved to amend so as to repeal the act authorizing the appointment of additional aids. The bill was then laid aside.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CAVALRY.

Mr. FESSENDEN (Rep.), of Maine, made a report from the committee of conference on the bill for the better organization of the cavalry. (The report provides for forty regiments of cavalry; also, that the officers discharged under the provisions of the bill shall receive two months' extra pay.)

Mr. WILKINSON (Rep.), of Minnesota, moved to strike out the provision allowing the officers two months' extra pay.

Mr. KING (Rep.), of New York, moved to amend so as to make it one month's pay to both privates and officers.

Mr. NESMITH (Dem.), of Oregon, thought it best to reduce the cavalry force as much as possible. They were a most useless branch of the service. A large number of them were armed with sticks, with a red rag stuck in the end.

The bill was laid aside.

STAFFS OF DIVISIONS.

The bill for the organization of the staffs of divisions was taken up and passed.

APPOINTMENT OF OTHER STAFF OFFICERS.

Mr. WADE (Rep.), of Ohio, offered a joint resolution authorizing the President to appoint as many assistant adjutant generals and other officers of staff as in his judgment the service may require. Adopted.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

A communication was received from the Secretary of War, transmitting the orders and information relative to the command in Kansas, &c. Also, a communication transmitting the aggregate number of volunteers from each State; also, the expenses of that department.

THE CONFISCATION BILL.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Dem.), of California, proceeded to speak at length on the confiscation bill. He referred to the condition of the country, and claimed that all desired the return of peace; but peace could not be obtained by subjugation, or by the principles set forth in this bill. Such principles would only perpetuate the relentless war which must result in extirpation before we could have peace. He referred to the counsels of clemency to enemies given by ancient Grecian and Roman statesmen, and also quoted from modern authors on international law—Vattel, Grotius, and others—in favor of clemency, and against the destruction of private property. He claimed that the policy of this Government, as well as the counsels of the greatest and best men of the country, were opposed to confiscation. He referred to the inaugural of the President, and the instructions of the Secretary of State, as in favor of clemency. He said this bill was in violation of all international law, and no such act was ever passed by a civilized nation. The general usage of civilized war was not to touch private property or land, and such was the usage of this Government in the Mexican war; and he contended that the people of this country had as much right to the privileges allowed in war as those of any other country. He contended further, that the bill was unconstitutional, as it was a bill of attainder, and such a bill of attainder as is without a parallel in history—operating on a whole class of people, and not against a few individuals, as cases of attainder in England act. It was a bill to send agents of the Government to seize the property of a million of people without proceeding before any court. Nothing was so disastrous to a country as to organize an army of informers to scour the country and pry out property to seize on. Such a policy as this would never cure the evil. It would only make a large body of desperate men. Every true man who had ever tasted freedom would rather die than submit to such degradation. He could not contemplate the result of freeing the vast population of slaves at the South, and turning them loose on the country, without fear.

Without concluding, Mr. McDougall gave way for the purpose of allowing the Senate to go into executive session.

The Senate subsequently adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. DAWES (Rep.), of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Elections, made a report on the petition of S. Ferguson Beach, asking to be admitted to a seat as a representative from the Seventh Congressional district of Virginia. The committee offered a resolution, declaring that Mr. Beach is not entitled to a seat. The subject was laid over for future consideration.

THE TAX BILL.

Mr. STEVENS (Rep.), of Pennsylvania, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill providing an internal revenue for the support of the Government and to pay off the interest on the public debt. [This is the tax bill which is published in another column.] The bill was referred to Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and made the special order for next Wednesday week. Ten thousand additional copies were ordered to be printed for the use of members.

Mr. STEVENS said that, as considerable impatience has been expressed by the public at the delay in reporting the bill, he desired to say that the Committee of Ways and Means did not obtain possession of the estimates and facts to enable them to judge how much revenue was necessary, until the first week in January. The committee then had before them the appropriation bills, which were all passed ten days ago, being earlier than is usual in the session. The committee were also engaged for some time on the currency question, including the treasury-note bill. The tax subject was referred to a sub-committee, who worked as assiduously as possible during every hour that they were not engaged in the House. He believed they had worked more hours every day since that time, than any laborer, mechanic, or manufacturer, in the United States.

When the sub-committee completed their labors the entire Committee of Ways and Means had to go over the bill carefully, article by article, item by item, until they had adopted it as their unanimous report. He did not ask any commendation for the committee, but desired that when the subject came to be considered and reviewed a benevolent indulgence would be extended to them. He desired the extra copies of the bill ordered to be printed, to be distributed for the consideration of the people who are to sustain the burdens, and that Congress may have the benefit of their suggestions.

OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.

Mr. SEDGWICK (Rep.), of New York, offered a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the President, if it be not inconsistent with the public interests, to transmit to Congress copies of correspondence, or other information, relative to the present condition of Mexico, and the alleged design of the Allied Powers in invading Mexico to establish a monarchy.

OBJECT OF THE WAR.

Mr. HOLMAN (Dem.), of Indiana, offered a resolution declaring that, in the judgment of this House, the unfortunate civil war into which the Government of the United States has been forced by the treasonable attempt of Southern Secessionists to destroy the Union should not be prosecuted for any other purpose than the restoration of the authority of the Constitution and welfare of the whole people of the United States, who are permanently involved in the preservation of our present form of government without modification or change.

Mr. LOVEJOY (Rep.), of Illinois, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Carried—yeas 60, nays 58.

YEAS.

Aldrich (Rep.),	Cravens (Dem.),	Morrill (Rep.), Vt.
Alley (Rep.),	Cutler (Rep.),	Patton (Rep.),
Arnold (Rep.),	Davis (Rep.),	Pike (Rep.),
Ashley (Rep.),	Delano (Rep.),	Pomeroy (Rep.),
Babbitt (Rep.),	Duell (Rep.),	Rice (Rep.), Me.,
Baker (Rep.),	Ely (Rep.),	Riddle (Rep.),
Baxter (Rep.),	Fessenden (Rep.),	Sargeant (Rep.),
Beaman (Rep.),	Franchot (Rep.),	Sedgwick (Rep.),
Bingham (Rep.),	Frank (Rep.),	Shanks (Rep.),
Blair (Rep.), Pa.,	Hooper (Rep.),	Stevens (Rep.),
Blake (Rep.),	Hutchins (Rep.),	Trowbridge (R.),
Buffinton (Rep.),	Kellogg (R.) Mich.	Van Wyck (Rep.),
Burnham (Rep.),	Lansing (Rep.),	Verree (Rep.),
Campbell (Rep.),	Loomis (Rep.),	Wallace (Rep.),
Chamberlain (R.),	Lovejoy (Rep.),	Walton (R.), Me.,
Clark (Rep.),	McKnight (Rep.),	Wheeler (Rep.),
Colfax (Rep.),	McPherson (Rep.),	White (R.), Ind.,
Conkling, Fred. A. (Rep.),	Mitchell (Rep.),	Wilson (Rep.),
Conkling, R. (Rep.)	Moorhead (Rep.),	Windom (Rep.),
Conway (Rep.),	Morrill (Rep.) Me.	Worcester (Rep.)

NAYS.

Bailey (Dem.), Pa.	Harrison (Union),	Perry (Dem.),
Biddle (Dem.),	Holman (Dem.),	Richardson (D.),
Blair (U.), Va.,	Horton (Rep.),	Robinson (Dem.),
Browne (U.), R I	Johnson (Dem.),	Rollins (U.), Mo.,
Brown (U.), Va.,	Kellogg (R.), Ill.,	Sheffield (U.),
Calvert (U.),	Knapp (Rep.),	Shellabarger (R.),
Clements (U.),	Law (Dem.),	Smith (Dem.),
Cobb (Dem.),	Lazear (Dem.),	Steele (D.), N.Y.,
Corning (Dem.),	Leary (Union),	Stratton (Rep.),
Cox (Dem.),	Mallory (U.),	Thomas (R.) Mass.
Crisfield (U.),	Maynard (U.),	Thomas (U.), Md.
Crittenden (U.)	Menzies (U.),	Trimble (Rep.),
Diven (Rep.),	Nixon (Rep.),	Vibbard (Dem.),
Dunlap (U.),	Noble (Dem.),	Wadsworth (U.),
Dunn (Rep.),	Noell (Dem.),	Webster (U.),
Goodwin (Rep.),	Norton (Dem.),	Whaley (Union),
Granger (Rep.),	Nugen (Dem.),	Wickliffe (U.),
Hale (Rep.),	Odell (Dem.),	Woodruff (Dem.),
Hall (U.),	Pendleton (Dem.),	Wright (U.)
Harding (U.),		

WASHINGTON AND GEORGETOWN STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The House then passed a substitute for the Senate bill incorporating the Washington and Georgetown Street Railway Company.

CLAIMS UPON DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

The House passed the Senate's joint resolution providing for the payment of the awards of the commission for claims growing out of the military movements in the Department of the West.

UNEXECUTED ORDERS FOR ARMS.

Mr. ROSCOE CONKLING (Rep.), of New York, offered a resolution, which he said he wanted to debate, requesting the Secretary of War to suspend all unexecuted orders for arms to companies, manufacturers, or individuals until the further action of Congress, or until they shall be either suspended or annulled by its authority.

The resolution, at Mr. Conkling's request, was laid over.

HOME FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.

On motion of Mr. DUNN (Rep.), of Indiana, the Committee on Military Affairs were instructed to inquire into and report on the establishment at Madison, Indiana, of a home for disabled soldiers.

THE NATIONAL LOAN.

On motion of Mr. PENDLETON (Dem.), of Ohio, it was resolved that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to communicate to the House the amount of the subscriptions to the National Loan authorized by the act of the 17th of July, 1861, the amount of money paid on such subscriptions, and the purposes to which they have been appropriated.

MEXICO.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM (Dem.), of Ohio, offered the following, which, at his own request, was laid over for the purpose of debate:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform the House, if not incompatible with the public interests, whether any offer has been made by the Executive to the Allied Powers of Europe, or any of them, to assume the public debt of Mexico, or any part thereof; also, whether any offer has been made by the Executive to Great Britain, or any other foreign Power, of the free navigation of the Mississippi, limited or unlimited; and if so, in either case, to communicate the terms to the House.

THE CONFISCATION BILL.

Mr. ALDRICH (Rep.), of Minnesota, offered a resolution directing the Committee on the Judiciary to report back the bill for the confiscation of all property of rebels, and their aiders and abettors, and for the liberation of their slaves, and enjoining on all military commanders the seizure of all the enemy's property made subject to capture by the said bill.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM proposing to debate the resolution, it lies over.

MILITARY TRIAL AND PUNISHMENT.

Mr. ALDRICH also offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report back the bill subjecting certain persons to military trial and punishment. It lies over for a similar reason.

MARITIME RIGHTS.

Mr. COX (Dem.), of Ohio, introduced the following joint resolution in relation to maritime rights:

Whereas, International law cannot acquire any considerable extension except by the collective work of the nations, either assembled in Congress or by the combined negotiation of the principal nations;

And whereas, The events connected with the *Trent* affair have given rise to the discussion of maritime rights by the principal Powers of the world, all interested in their authoritative settlement, and in that discussion the friendly offices of the Emperor of France were tendered to us, for the purpose of adjusting the question involved on a clear and liberal basis, looking to the amelioration of the rights of neutrals upon the sea:

Therefore, be it resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled—

First. That the National Legislature acknowledges the friendly intentions and enlightened views of the Emperor of the French in the said interposition.

Second. That it favors the most liberal propositions with respect to maritime rights, and the abolition of such usages as restrict the liberty of neutrals and multiply the causes of dissensions in the world, believing that humanity and justice demand that the calamities incident to war should be strictly limited to the belligerents themselves, and to those who voluntarily take part with them; but that neutrals abstaining in good faith from such complicity ought to be left to pursue their ordinary trade with either belligerent.

Third. That the present time is propitious for the resumption of negotiations to secure these objects, and especially for the concurrence of the nations in the benignant articles of the declaration of the Congress of Paris of the 16th of April, 1856, with the amendment proposed by Mr. Marcy, viz:

1st. Privateering is and remains abolished, provided that the private property of the subjects or citizens of a belligerent on the high seas shall be exempted from seizure by the public armed vessels of the other belligerent, except it be contraband.

2d. The neutral flag covers an enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war.

3d. Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under the enemy's flag.

4th. Blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective.

Fourth. That the people of the United States entertain the hope that the great maritime Powers of France and England, relinquishing their present objections growing out of their ill-advised recognition of our insurgent States as belligerents, will consent to the propositions of the Paris Conference, as the United States have so constantly invited, and as Mr. Marcy proposed to the Government of France on the 28th day of July, 1856, with such a liberal expansion of them that the private property, not contraband, of citizens and subjects of nations in collision, shall be exempted from confiscation equally in warfare waged on the land and in warfare waged on the seas, which are the common highways of the nations.

Fifth. That the efforts of the late Secretary Marcy and the present Secretary of State to have those maxims engrafted as fixed principles of international law, were eminently wise and just, sanctioned by our traditionary policy, and conducive to the welfare of the Republic and to the highest interests of peace and civilization.

Sixth. That for the accomplishment of this result it would be both courteous and wise for our Government to consider the proposal of the eminent publicist of France, M. Hautefeuille, for a Congress of the Maritime Powers which, by uniting in one body the scattered forces of all neutrals, may secure to each the respect and security which they cannot obtain while remaining isolated, and that thus they may be enabled to maintain as a lasting element of the law of nations that maritime equilibrium so long sought by the United States of America, and so important to the freedom of commerce and the repose of the world.

On motion of Mr. COX (Dem.), the resolutions were ordered to be printed.

The House passed the Senate joint resolution declaratory of the intention of the act of July, indemnifying the loyal States for the expenses incurred by them in raising troops, so as not only to apply to debts contracted before, but since the passage of the act.

TREATY WITH INDIANS.

Mr. WATTS, delegate from New Mexico, introduced a bill which was referred, authorizing the making of treaties with the Apaches, Navajoes, and Utahs in that Territory.

FACILITATION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. THOMAS (Rep.), of Massachusetts, called up the bill to facilitate judicial proceedings in adjudications on captured property, and for the better administration of the law of prizes. The bill was passed.

The House then adjourned.

NOTE.—In our report of the debate on Friday last, upon the organization of engineer volunteers, mention was erroneously made of Mr. Wilson, of *Indiana*. The report should have read Mr. Wilson, of *Iowa*.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, March 3, 1862.

SENATE.

The Senate assembled at seven o'clock P. M., and were called to order by the Speaker.

Mr. CONNELL presented a remonstrance against the passage of the supplement to the charter of the North Philadelphia Plank Road Company.

BILLS PRESENTED.

Mr. PENNEY read a supplement to the lien law relative to churches.

Mr. HIESTAND, a bill to extend the charter of the Columbia Bank.

BILLS CONSIDERED.

The bill relating to gas companies was taken up, but, after some discussion, was postponed.

The bill reorganizing the Board of Controllers of the Public Schools of Philadelphia was reported with an amendment, and passed to a third reading.

A supplement to the charter of the McCauley Mountain Railroad Company was considered and passed.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House was called to order at three o'clock by the Speaker.

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES.

Messrs. WEIDNER, TATE, and POTTEIGER, presented petitions from citizens of Philadelphia praying for the passage of a law to secure to farmers certain rights in the markets of Philadelphia.

Messrs. JOSEPHS, MOORE, COCHRAN, DENNIS, GREENBANK, WILDEY, ABBOT, and McMANUS, presented remonstrances against the passage of the supplement to the charter of the North Philadelphia Plank Road Company.

Messrs. Hoover, Quigley, Greenbank, Hess, and Rowland presented petitions relative to the rights of farmers in the markets of Philadelphia.

Messrs. Hopkins, Wildey, and Abbot, remonstrances against the passage of the act to incorporate the Philadelphia and Frankford Railway Company.

Mr. DUFFIELD presented a petition, signed by three hundred citizens and business men of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth wards, asking for the passage of the act to incorporate the Frankford and Philadelphia Passenger Railway Company.

Also, remonstrances from the Board of School Directors in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth wards, against any change in the manner of electing the members of the Board of Controllers of the Public Schools in Philadelphia.

Mr. McCOY reported, with amendments, an act incorporating the Frankford and Philadelphia Passenger Railway Company.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. DOUGHERTY read a bill authorizing certain railroad companies to locate their roads in certain cases.

Mr. GREENBANK, a bill regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors.

Mr. COCHRAN, a further supplement to the act incorporating the North Philadelphia Plank Road Company.

Mr. JOSEPHS, a bill to prohibit the running of locomotives through the city of Philadelphia by the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Company.

Also, a bill for the extension of Fifteenth street.

Mr. TATE, a bill to repeal certain parts of the revised penal code.

Mr. LICHTENWALLNER, a bill to prohibit the irregular practice of surgery.

Mr. DENNIS presented a petition from officers of certain military organizations, of the First Division Pennsylvania Militia, asking that money expended by them for accoutrements be refunded by the State.

The House then adjourned.

Arrival of the Steamer Borussia.

NEW YORK, March 3.—The steamer *Borussia* arrived at this port this morning. Her advices have been anticipated.

DENTAL SURGERY.—On last Friday Dr. J. L. Suesserott, Professor of Principles of Dental Surgery and Therapeutics, in the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery, in Philadelphia, delivered a very able valedictory address to the graduating class, and, at their request, has allowed it to be published. Accordingly, it appears in pamphlet form, with the imprint of Lippincott & Co., as publishers. In the medico-dental science Philadelphia takes the lead, not only in this country, but everywhere, and the college of which Professor Suesserott is an ornament, because an accomplished, skilful, and proficient teacher of the art, has obtained, as it deserves, the highest reputation. His valedictory, avoiding the too-common fault of wrapping up a few ideas in a crowd of high-sounding sentences, gave excellent advice to the graduating class, each member of which will do well to keep the document at hand, and frequently peruse it. The graduates of 1861-'62 are nineteen in all—from Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Vermont, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New Jersey, Louisiana, South America, Germany, and England. The annual session for 1862-'63 will commence on the 1st of November, and end on the 1st of next March.

THE CITY.

[FOR ADDITIONAL CITY NEWS, SEE FOURTH PAGE.]

MEETINGS LAST NIGHT.

Meeting in Behalf of the Contrabands, at National Hall.

Last evening National Hall, Thirteenth and Market streets, was comfortably filled with a highly respectable audience, among whom were a number of colored persons, a meeting having been called for the purpose of considering means for bettering the condition of the free blacks in Virginia and South Carolina; and also for the purpose of suggesting means for their permanent employment.

The Right Rev. Bishop Potter was called upon to preside. On taking the chair, he said the object of the meeting was to bring before them the claims of one of the most needy classes of our people. Within the lines of our military forces in North Carolina and Georgia are between ten and twenty thousand men, women, and children, who have been relieved for the time being, but are in danger of demoralization.

Owing to the consumption of the corn on the plantations by our troops, many of them are threatened with starvation. They are in need, also, of instruction, and of means of earning their own subsistence. The time for raising the cotton crop is now at hand, and we have an opportunity of showing that free African labor can take charge of our fields. He did not desire to pledge himself to any crude propositions in regard to emancipation. That remains in the hands of Providence. If we are content to leave it, there we will at last, I trust, be shown the proper solution of this problem.

The Rev. Dr. Rowe was then called upon for prayer. He besought Almighty God to look down on this land in the day of its adversity, and to impart to all our people a cheerful submission to this day of trial. Look down with favor, O Lord, upon the proceedings of this meeting; instruct those who are to instruct us, and grant to those whom Thou hast appointed to be our rulers that wisdom which comes from above. Make us all patient to await the development of Thy purposes; let us not be impatient, but may we wait and cheerfully submit to all Thy righteous pleasure, and in the end everything will be made conducive to the progress of this land. Hear us in our prayers, and grant us that which Thou seest we need, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!

Rev. Dr. Tyng, of New York, was then introduced. He thought the presiding officer had well characterized the object of the meeting. We come to speak of the condition and plead the cause of from fifteen to twenty thousand freed men of South Carolina. [Applause.] We come to represent a class of persons that should have our sympathy as much as any class on the face of the earth. We do not come here to speak of emancipation. We would not enter into the question whether the present war should be for the extirpation of slavery. The question before us was not in reference to a class of persons to be freed. Thank God, we take the hands of freed men to-night! [Applause.] Our armies have taken possession of over 200 plantations in South Carolina. This avowed property, as it was called, is property no more.

No more a peck of corn per week for men who were giving their very hearts' blood towards the accumulation of wealth for others. They are now, however, still more in want. They lie before you for your consideration to-night. He was bold to say that at this moment there was actual starvation among certain families of them. They were not only poor, but deeply dependent and needy. Their little stock of food was gone, and all the clothing. A portion of them had been employed by the military on certain works, but this number would not exceed 1,000 or 1,200. The residue are scattered about, suffering severely. They have no money to purchase the necessaries of life and nothing growing in the soil, and before many weeks go by they will be actually starving. There never was a more sympathetic case. They are crying for relief—their very instincts seem to cast them on our care. See how these poor creatures met our fleets as they sailed up their rivers, with their bundles on their shoulders, and hailing the Star Spangled Banner [applause] which others had cast down. They had no fears of the displeasure of their masters, and in defiance of all the threats that they were to be caught by the Yankees and sold as slaves to Cuba, these men threw themselves into the arms of our soldiers and claimed that protection which we are bound to give them. They have special and peculiar claims upon us—they have confidence in us. Their past sufferings and bondage deserve our care. They are not hostile captives taken in war—they are the children of innocent weakness. They are to be our salvation or our doom. What account have these Government agents given of their character? Says Mr. Pierce: "I have travelled up and down among them daily, and never heard a profane word from one." The report of Mr. Pierce is most affective. He was with them at their religious meetings. Their love of music we all know, and their interest in beautiful songs. He could never forget the plaintive sound of the negroes, singing their hymns beneath the trees, when he was South, years ago.

His solemn faith was that we were entering on a period when we should give to these poor creatures their proper position. If the South had brought them from heathenism, as they claimed, the North has a higher honor conferred upon them—bringing them to freedom. We cannot get rid of the connection in which we are linked with them. Their susceptibility of improvement has been well demonstrated. Mr. Pierce speaks of their great willingness to labor, and of their industry and energy when properly instructed. The speaker felt it was a solemn conviction of duty for him to agitate this subject. He would now set before them means of relief. First of all was needed bread and meat and clothing, which are indispensable at this moment—they are to be educated—they are to be set up as a race upon the basis of their own abilities and attainments. They need clothing at once, and are suffering for medical aid.

The speaker read a number of the reports recently made by Government agents on the condition of the contrabands, and suggestions as to how their condition might be bettered. Unless some means are suggested by which they can support themselves, they are liable to become a burden on the Government. He alluded to the association recently established in New York for the relief and improvement of the freed blacks, and of the plans suggested for their support and advancement. Auxiliary committees are asked for in other cities who will work in harmony with the New York committee. Secretary Chase has most highly approved of the association and its plans. Parties have already sailed for Port Royal with about forty male and female teachers and superintendents, under the auspices of the association. Government has engaged to do all it can. We cannot do a greater evil than to enter on this duty supposing that this is a class of persons who will always be on our hands. If, at this day, the Government would trust their fidelity, they would themselves sweep the rebellion from the land. [Loud applause.] For a while, and for the present, we have everything to do. May every heart be open, and every hand be liberal, until our great task is finished. The speaker closed amid great applause.

Professor Lindsay next addressed the meeting. He had been recently at Port Royal, and he could state that he was an eye-witness to all that had been narrated by the previous speaker. He had accompanied his friend Mr. French to South Carolina, and had a fair opportunity of seeing these poor people. When they landed at Beaufort he visited a number of deserted houses, in one of which the old family portraits were still left hanging. He saw a troop of Massachusetts horsemen ride through one of their most aristocratic streets, which reminded him of the time when, a few years since, a person from this very State had been ignominiously driven off because he came in behalf of those whose skins were a little darker than his own. At that time the mayor of the city was not able to protect him. Yet the sight of the present state of affairs, with a remembrance of the past, made the speaker feel sad.

He visited the school of Dr. Peck, which had been established in spite of the local laws of South Carolina. He has from 60 to 70 pupils, and they are taught by colored teachers. Dr. Peck told the pupils it was necessary that they should support their teachers, which was done. This shows how willing they are to take care of themselves. He also visited on the islands about twenty plantations, which have been almost entirely despoiled. They would meet daily large numbers of the army wagons taking away the corn. The black men generally were in a state of bewilderment. They have no homes, and exclaim, "Massa, what are we to do?" While it is true they are willing to be employed, yet it is also true they have nothing at which they can work—that is, those on the plantations. Great lack of medicine, and great suffering among the sick were found.

The poor slaves, being entirely deserted, when sick are totally neglected, except when treated by the army physicians. The speaker thought that if every Northerner could but pass two weeks on a Southern plantation he would not only become an emancipationist, but an *extirpationist*. He fully endorsed the report of Mr. Pierce. The negroes can, under judicious management, support themselves. The slaves he believed to be in the main a truthful people. The number of contrabands he thought had been under-estimated. At Hilton Head, the Government has built long rows of houses, and in one end have fitted up a school and a church. He attended the Sunday school and found over two hundred there trying to learn their letters. One old woman about sixty years of age said she wanted to learn to read in order that she might read her Bible before she died.

This association, in New York, has already sent out sixty missionaries, Christian men and women. They go from an impulsive duty. There is one man that goes from my own church that the speaker would be willing to place in any position. This man resigns a good post, with a good salary, to go to the field which God has pointed out to him. This enterprise cannot fail; it has the prayers and the Church of Christ to sustain it. We can think of no way in which we can more fully sustain the Government than to support an institution of this kind. Our military men are bewildered, and do not know what to do with the poor blacks who are flocking in on them and eating their rations up. The question is, now, not what we shall do with the slave, but what shall we do with the nation's unfortunate. Above all, let us get rid of the idea that the negro is a different thing from us. He thought the Freedman's Association one of the grandest schemes ever entered into, and one which should elicit their interest and liberal support. It will send out from New York the steamer *Atlantic*, freighted with hopes and expectations for these poor people. [Applause.]

Upon the conclusion of the speaker, an unknown man, dressed in military uniform, arose from among the audience and asked that he might be allowed a few moments on the floor. He announced his name as Colonel Abraham, of the Home Guard of Minnesota. He differed slightly with the speakers of the evening, that we had only the slaves of South Carolina to look after; he thought we had those of the whole South in charge. He then alluded to the Northwest, its troops in the field, &c., and closed amid great applause.

The following resolutions were then read and adopted:

Resolved, That we have heard, with the liveliest interest, the statements which have been made respecting the freed blacks in South Carolina and elsewhere, whose condition we have been convened to consider; that we recognize the claims which, on the score of humanity, they have upon our sympathies; and that we hold ourselves ready to co-operate with the Government, and with all benevolent people, in efforts to provide for their wants, and to promote their welfare.

Resolved, That it has given us pleasure to learn that initial steps have been taken in New York and other Northern cities to organize into activity the good will of the people on this subject, and that we have every assurance that in all just and well-considered measures that may be adopted to promote the end in view, the people of Philadelphia, and of the State of Pennsylvania, may be counted on for hearty co-operation.

Resolved, That a permanent committee of sixteen be appointed, with power to add to their number, whose business it shall be to receive and forward to their proper destination contributions in clothes and other articles and donations intended for the benefit of the blacks; and to adopt such general measures as may seem to them best to carry out the object of this meeting.

Resolved, That the appeal which is made to us by the present exigency addresses itself to our loyalty as citizens as well as to our benevolence as Christian men; and that we shall be wanting in fidelity to our common country if we withold our aid from the efforts which are now making, with the sanction of the Government, to organize the newly-liberated blacks for useful labor and habits of self-subsistence, and to educate them for the exercise and enjoyment of the functions of freedom.

The following was the committee appointed:

Stephen Colwell,	Rev. Dr. Newton,
Philip P. Randolph,	Ellis Yarnall,
James L. Claghorn,	E. W. Clark,
Rev. Thos. Brainerd,	Rev. J. Wheaton Smith,
James A. Wright,	Charles Rhoades,
Mordecai L. Dawson,	J. Huntingdon Jones,
Benjamin Coates,	Francis R. Cope.
J. M. McKim,	

The meeting then adjourned.

Meeting of the Board of Trade.

STATISTICS OF THE PETROLEUM TRADE.

A special meeting of the Board of Trade was held last evening. Mr. H. C. Hickok made an address on the subject of the Oil Trade of Western Pennsylvania. He said that he had been astonished at the small number of Philadelphians who visited the oil region. In two years he had only seen two persons from this city at the oil wells. Nearly all the oil is being got out by parties from other States—the first refinery having been started by a company from Pontiac, Michigan. He believed the supply of oil to be as inexhaustible as the supply of coal.

The oil field on Oil creek is about nine miles square. All the wells here are fountain wells. He had seen within a few days 150 barrels in vats, 15,000 barrels at a station on the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, and 22,000 barrels at Oil City, awaiting transportation.

The weekly product is now 75,000 barrels, and there might be twenty wells sunk where there is now one. The wells might be made to furnish 200,000 barrels a week. The flow of oil seems to be on the increase. The famous Brawley well required eleven months to complete it. On the day it reached the depth of 523 feet it yielded 655 barrels of oil. Since September last it has yielded 43,000 barrels.

The Empire well gives 3,000 barrels per diem.

It is believed that the deeper the wells are sunk the greater will be the production of oil—that is, up to 1,500 feet.

The Birman oil field, in India, contains 400 wells, and has yielded 400,000 annually from time immemorial. This field covers a space of five miles by three.

It is very difficult to make a barrel that will hold this oil. He had seen it drawn through the head of a good barrel at the rate of a gallon an hour by the heat of the sun. In the summer season the flowing wells are closed up, the operators being mostly farmers, and the demand for oil being smaller than in winter. Nearly four million feet of lumber have been used on Oil Creek since the business commenced for buildings, derricks, &c. The amount of capital invested has been nearly two millions of dollars in two years. Nearly all the oil finds its way to New York, by way of Buffalo, though the distance to Philadelphia is less, even when going by way of Pittsburg. The speaker said he believed the present *pipe* bill before our Legislature was a snake gotten up by some New York speculators. They propose to convey the oil, by a pipe, from Oil creek to Kittanning, forty miles, but the real object is believed to be to secure the whole oil trade for New York city. The Senator who had introduced the bill had no knowledge of it, but had received it from some parties unknown to him in Philadelphia.

The demand for this oil has been so great in New York, that the Camp-makers have been unable to supply the demand. At the present time crude Petroleum is worth 40 cents a gallon in Liverpool, and is worth 1 cent a gallon at the wells. A letter from our Consul at Antwerp says that the oil is coming into use in France. The estimates for this year are 500,000 bbls for the Pittsburg refineries, and 100,000 bbls. for a French company.

There are refineries springing up all over the country. Twelve are now open in Erie, twelve in Venango county, one in Cleveland, and several in Pittsburg.

Mr. Hickok declared that the term coal oil was a misnomer. He did not believe there was any connection between this oil and coal. No coal can be found anywhere in the vicinity of Oil creek. In England or Scotland there is no natural deposit of oil from the cannel coal. It is believed that the deposits of oil are much older than the coal deposits.

Mr. John Alexander, a large operator in the oil region, made a few remarks corroborating the statistics of Mr. Hickok. He resides at Eighth and Walnut streets, and will furnish any information on the subject.

DEATH OF A UNION PRISONER.—Information has been received in this city of the death of Corporal W. Humphreys, of Co. C, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, which took place on the 18th ult., at Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He was a Philadelphian and much esteemed by a large circle of friends who mourn his loss. His family was joyfully anticipating his arrival with the rest of the exchanged prisoners, when the sad intelligence was communicated to them by a prisoner who was a companion in captivity.

NEW METHODIST CHURCH.—A part of the membership of Union M. E. Church have withdrawn from that congregation, and organized the Arch-street Methodist Church. They meet at the northeast corner of Broad and Arch streets. Some of the most influential Methodists in town head this movement.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A deaf and dumb man, named Charles Hugg, while walking on the Trenton Railroad, above Tacony, yesterday morning, was run over by the cars and killed. He was taken to Bristol, where an inquest was held. He resided in Deal street, Eighteenth ward.

FIRES.—Last evening about half past seven o'clock a trifling fire occurred at No. 111 Onas street, below New Market, Eleventh ward, a dwelling occupied by Michael Burns.

The foundry of Isaac Sheppard & Co., at Marshal street and Girard avenue, also took fire last evening in the cupola and was slightly damaged.

A SOUTHERN MINISTER.—Last evening the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Beaufort, S. C., preached in the Baptist church in Thirteenth street, below Coates. Mr. Wilson is a sound Union man—a rare thing for a South Carolinian. He will preach at the same place next Sunday evening.

A SPLENDID TROPHY.—Colonel Kurtz, of the Twenty-third Massachusetts Regiment, has forwarded to the Massachusetts Government a splendid flag taken from a Georgia regiment at Roanoke Island. It is made of heavy pongee silk, with the three longitudinal stripes, red, white, and red, and a blue field in the upper corner, bearing on one side in gilt the motto, "Liberty or death," surrounded by eleven stars, and upon the opposite side the initials "S. G." enclosed in a wreath of oak leaves.

ONE of the Dartmoor prisoners, Mr. Benjamin Marshall, is still living, in a hale old age, at Troy, New York.