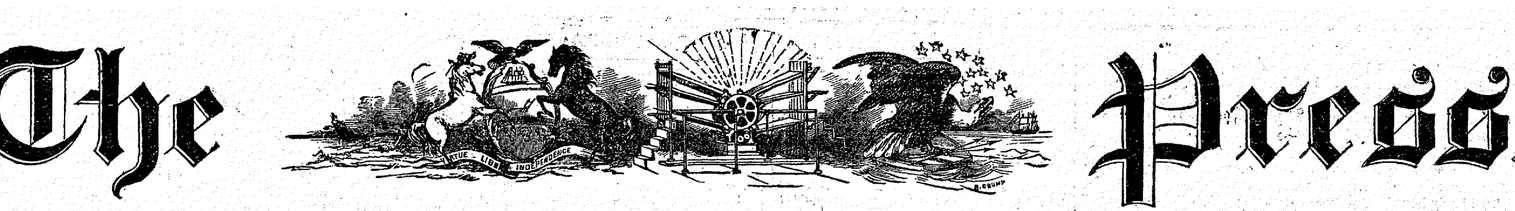
THE PRESS,
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY,
No. 111 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.

THE DAILY PRESS,
Twenty Cents Per Week, payable to the Carriers.
Mail Subscribers out of the City at Eight Dollars Per Annum, Four Dollars for Six Months, Two Dollars for Three Months—invariably in advance for the period ordered.
Advertisements inserted at the usual rates. Six lines constitute a square.

THE TRI-WEEKLY PRESS,
Mailed to Subscribers out of the City at Four Dollars Per Annum, in advance.



THE WAR PRESS.
(PUBLISHED WEEKLY.)
THE WAR PRESS will be sent to subscribers by mail (per annum in advance) at $2.00
Five " " " 9.00
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Larger Clubs than Twenty will be charged at the same rate, $1.60 per copy.
The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from, as they afford very little more than the cost of the paper.
Postmasters are requested to act as Agents for THE WAR PRESS.
To the getter-up of a Club of ten or twenty, an extra copy of the Paper will be given.

VOL. 6.—NO. 129. PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1863. THREE CENTS.

RETAIL DRY GOODS.
PRICE AND RELIABLE
FURS
OF OUR OWN
IMPORTATION
AND
MANUFACTURE.
CONSISTING IN PART OF
HUDSON'S BAY SABLE,
ROYAL ERMINE,
DARK SABLE MINK,
REAL CHINCHILLA,
DARK SIBERIAN SQUIRREL,
IN EVERY FASHIONABLE STYLE,
FOR LADIES, MISSES, AND CHILDREN.
FURS MADE TO ORDER.
J. W. PROCTOR & CO.,
No. 930 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA.
USEFUL AND ACCEPTABLE
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR
PRESENTS.
E. M. NEEDLES,
No. 1034 CHESTNUT STREET,
Invites special attention of Purchasers of PRESENTS to his
COMING HOLIDAYS,
Extensive stock of articles suitable for that purpose.
FOR PRESENTS:
Ladies' and Gents' Colored Bordered Handkerchiefs.
Do do Hemstitched do
Do do In 2, 2½ and 3 inch wide hems.
Do do Printed Borders,
Do do French and clear Lawn,
Do do In all kinds of Lace.
Ladies' Handkerchiefs, of all kinds.
Gents' Handkerchiefs, of all kinds.
Children's Handkerchiefs, of all kinds.
The best assortment of Handkerchiefs in the city.
FOR PRESENTS:
Thread Lace Veils, $2 and upwards.
Camblric Lace Veils, $1.50, and upwards.
Points Lace Collar Sets, $1.50, and upwards.
French Work do, all prices.
PRESENTS
In all other kinds of LACE GOODS:
Lace Collarettes and Barbes.
Ladies' Robes and Waists.
Lace by the yard.
All kinds Lace Sleeves.
Do Bride and Flouncings.
Do Embroideries.
ALSO,
30 dozen Cambric Handkerchiefs, Embroidered with initials, just received.
10 dozen Cambric Ruffled Handkerchiefs, Embroidered Colors.
10 dozen Valenciennes Lace Handkerchiefs:
Gents' and Children's Printed-bordered Handkerchiefs.
Ladies' Ivory Initial Cuff Buttons.
5-4 French Muslin, 2 yards wide, for Party Dresses, at old prices.
A Complete Stock of WHITE GOODS AT LOW PRICES.
Linen Napkins at Old Prices.
Any of the above will make a useful and beautiful CHRISTMAS PRESENT, and Buyers will find it to their advantage to inspect my stock before making their purchases, as, with previous years, it is believed that Old Goods and cheaper than present wholesale rates.
JAMES R. CAMPBELL & CO.,
IMPORTERS AND CASH DEALERS IN
DRY GOODS,
AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
727 CHESTNUT STREET,
Have just received, and are now offering, magnificent assortment of
SILKS, SHAWLS, AND DRESS GOODS,
ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THIS SEASON.
COOPER & CONARD,
S. E. COR. NINTH & MARKET STS.
CLOAKING CLOTHS.
SUBLIME QUALITY.
Johnny's Frosted Beavers.
Medium-priced Frosted Beavers.
Thick and fine French Beavers.
Plain, Castor, and Union Beavers.
Mohair and Sealskin Cloakings.
Superfine Cassimeres, viz.:
Silk Mixed—Black, and fancies—
Boys'—Extra heavy—Union—Meltons, &c., &c.
5-4 Coatings and Overcoatings.
Velvets in fancy Vestings.
BALMORALS.
One hundred pieces Scotch Delaines.
Auction lots fine Black Alpacas.
Fine Merinoes and Poplins.
Black Poplins, 37c., $1, $1.25.
Plaid Blankets and Flannels.
BOYS' CLOTHING.
Experienced Cutter, Inspected Cloths, and Good work—Garments made to order.
COOPER & CONARD,
S. E. corner NINTH and MARKET Streets.
EDWIN HALL & BRO.,
26 South SECOND Street,
Have reduced the prices of
Fancy Silks,
Rich Printed Dress Goods,
Choice Shades of Merinoes,
Beautiful Colors of Reps or Poplins,
All-Wool De Laines,
All Kinds of dark dress goods reduced.
Also,
Fine Long Broche Shawls,
Open Centre Long Broche Shawls,
Real new styles of Blanket Shawls.
5-4 Lyons Silk velvets, pure Silk.
DRY GOODS FOR GENTLEMEN.
Rep. Poplins,
French Merinos,
Colored Mousselines,
Petit De Soies,
Foulard Silks,
Blanket Shawls,
Balmoral Skirts,
Black Silks,
Fancy Silks,
Black Bombazines,
Worsted Plaids,
Cheap Delaines,
French Chintzes,
Shirting Flannels,
Broche Shawls,
Blue Blankets,
Crib Blankets.
SMITH, FIELDS, SUTTON & CO.,
CHESTNUT and EIGHTH Streets.
J. STEEL & SON HAVE A LARGE assortment of DRESS GOODS, suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
Rich Fancy Silks; Plain Silks, choice colors.
Plain and Figured Black Silks.
Plain and Figured Lustring Poplins.
Plain and Figured Merinoes.
Plain Bolerian Cashmeres, at 37½c, worth 62.
WINTER SHAWLS, in great number.
MOHAIR SCARFS, BROCHE BORDERS.
CLOAKS—Of New and Fashionable Styles, made of Black Velvet, Frosted Beaver, and Black Cloths.
Call and examine our stock. We guaranty to give satisfaction, as we sell nothing but good articles, and at lower prices than they can be bought elsewhere.
Nos. 713 and 715 North TENTH street.
CLOTHES-WRINGER.
THE GREAT CLOTHES WRINGER.
"PUTNAM
SELF-ADJUSTING CLOTHES WRINGER"
is warranted to be superior to any other in use.
EVERY FAMILY SHOULD POSSESS A CLOTHES WRINGER,
BECAUSE,
1st. It is a relief to the hardest part of washing-day.
2d. It enables the washing to be done in one-third less time.
3d. It saves clothes from the injury always given by rubbing.
4th. It helps to *wash* the clothes as well as *dry* them.
WE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO PROCURE ONE OF THIS KIND,
BECAUSE,
First. The rolls being of vulcanized rubber, will not rust and cold water, and will neither break nor tear the clothes.
Second. The frame being of iron, thoroughly galvanized, all danger from rust is removed, and the liability to shrinkage, swell, split, &c., so unavoidable in wooden machines, is prevented.
Third. The spiral springs over the rolls render this machine self-adjusting, so that small and large articles, as well as articles uneven in thickness, are certain to receive equalizing pressure.
Fourth. The patent fastening by which the machine is fastened to the tub, we believe to be superior in simplicity and efficiency to any yet offered.
Fifth. It will fold up into a square, from one-half to one-and-a-quarter inches in thickness, without the least alteration.
RETAIL PRICE:
No. 1, $6.00; No. 2, $6.00.
Agents wanted in every county.
Reliable and energetic men will be liberally dealt with.
For Sale at the
"WOODENWARE ESTABLISHMENT"
OF
A. H. FRANCISCUS,
No. 433 MARKET St. and No. 5 NORTH FIFTH St.,
Wholesale agent for Pennsylvania.
CARPETS AND OIL CLOTHS.
FOURTH-STREET CARPET STORE,
No. 47 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.
J. T. DELACROIX
Invites an examination of his stock of Carpetings in which will be found
250 PIECES BRUSSELS CARPETINGS.
Less than present cost of importation.
Also, 200 pieces extra Imperial, three-ply, superfine, medium, and low-grade Ingrain, Venitian, Hall, and Stair Carpetings at retail, very low for cash. no8-2m
SEWING MACHINES.
WHEELER & WILSON
SEWING MACHINES,
628 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA.

FANCY ARTICLES.
CLARK'S
ONE-DOLLAR STORE,
602 CHESTNUT STREET.
Silver-plated Ware, Jewelry, Photograph Albums, Travelling Bags, Pocket Books, Port Monnaies, Cabas, &c., for 50 to 100 per cent less than the regular prices.
The following is a partial list of articles which we sell at ONE DOLLAR EACH. The same goods are sold at other places from $2 to $3 each:
YOUR CHOICE FOR ONE DOLLAR!
Ladies' Sets, new and beautiful styles.
Do. Pins,
Do. Ear Rings,
Do. Sleeve Buttons,
Do. Guard Chain,
Do. Neck do.,
Do. Gold Thimbles,
Do. Finger Rings,
Do. Pencils,
Do. Pens with case,
Do. Bracelets,
Do. Medallions,
Do. Charms,
Do. Pearl Port Monnaies,
Do. Morocco do.
Do. Wire do.
Do. Purses,
Do. Card Cases.
Infants' Armlets,
Do. Neck Chains,
Gents' Vest Chains, different styles,
Do. Sleeve Buttons, do. do.
Do. Studs, do. do.
Do. Pins, do. do.
Do. Scarf Pins, do. do.
Do. Scarf Rings, do. do.
Do. Finger Rings, do. do
Do. Pen and Case,
Do. Pencil, revolving.
Do. Tooth Pick, revolving.
Do. Watch Keys,
Do. Chain Hooks,
Do. Chain Charms,
Do. Pocket Books,
Do. Bill Books,
Do. Port Monnaies, &c.
SILVER-PLATED WARE.
YOUR CHOICE FOR ONE DOLLAR!
Set of Table Spoons,
Do. Dessert Spoons,
Do. Tea do.
Do. Forks,
Pair Butter Knives,
Do. Napkin Rings,
Knife and Fork,
Goblets,
Cups,
Sugar Bowls,
Cream Cups,
Syrup Cups,
Butter Dishes,
Castors with Bottles,
Salt Stands, &c.
YOUR CHOICE OF ANY OF THE ABOVE ARTICLES FOR ONE DOLLAR.
NOTICE.—In order to meet the wants of our numerous customers, we shall keep a stock of the finest Plated and All-Gold Jewelry, together with an assortment of *heavy-plated* Ware, Watches, and a variety of Photograph Albums and Fancy Goods, which we will sell at prices which will defy competition. Ladies and Gentlemen are invited to call and examine our stock. Every attention paid to visitors whether they wish to purchase or not.
Remember CLARK'S
ONE-DOLLAR STORE,
602 CHESTNUT Street.
GIFT BOOKS.
IMMENSE ATTRACTIONS!
IMMENSE ATTRACTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!
AT THE GREAT ORIGINAL GIFT-BOOK EMPORIUM,
439 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia.
THE ONLY "GIFT-BOOK ENTERPRISE" IN EXISTENCE!
IT HAS OUTLIVED ALL COMPETITORS!
NEW BOOKS! NEW GIFTS! NEW FEATURES!
ELEGANT ANNUALS! BEAUTIFUL GIFT BOOKS!
SUPERB ALBUMS! FINE BIBLES, PRAYER AND HYMN BOOKS! All the Popular NOVELS and MAGAZINES! STANDARD and MISCELLANEOUS WORKS, in endless variety. The whole forming a fund of CHOICE READING FOR THE MILLION! A full line of PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, of every variety of size, style, quality, and price! CARTES DE VISITE in great profusion. A MAGNIFICENT ARRAY OF NEW AND COSTLY PRIZES!
The business of the establishment is conducted upon the same principle, with some improvements, introduced and pursued by Mr. GEORGE G. EVANS, which has given such universal satisfaction. Notwithstanding the great advance in the price of paper and other material, we continue to sell at the OLD PRICES, and also to bestow upon each patron
"TWO GIFTS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!"
Please remember that our *Visitors are treated politely whether they wish to purchase or not*—a very commendable and satisfactory rule of action. Call and be convinced.
de20-tial
PAINTINGS, ENGRAVINGS, &c.
STUART'S PORTRAITS
OF
GEORGE AND MARTHA
WASHINGTON,
COPIED IN OIL COLORS BY E. C. MIDDLETON,
Of Cincinnati, (formerly of this city.)
These Portraits are produced by *an entirely New Process*, and are more beautiful and life-like than the finest brush paintings, and are furnished to Subscribers only, at a remarkably low price.
What can be more appropriate for a
CHRISTMAS PRESENT
Than a pair of these Paintings? They must be seen to be appreciated, and we shall be whenever we may exhibit them to any in this city who will address him, through the Post Office.
Address,
A. BARLOW,
de16-3w
COMMISSION HOUSES.
COTTON YARN.
STRIPER COTTON YARN, No. 10,
FOR SALE BY
FROTHINGHAM & WELLS,
oc2-tf
SHIPLEY, HAZARD, & HUTCHINSON,
No. 112 CHESTNUT STREET,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
FOR THE SALE OF
PHILADELPHIA-MADE GOODS.
se26-6m
LADIES' FURS.
LADIES' FURS
FOR
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
JOHN A STAMBACH,
IMPORTER AND MANUFACTURER OF
LADIES' FANCY FURS,
No. 826 ARCH STREET, BELOW NINTH.
HAS NOW OPEN
A splendid stock of Russian and Hudson Bay and Mink Sable, Royal Ermine, Chinchilla, Siberian Squirrel, and other styles of FURS, suitable for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR PRESENTS. de15-1ia7
FURS! FURS!
GEORGE F. WOMRATH,
NOS. 415 AND 417 ARCH STREET,
HAS NOW OPEN
A FULL ASSORTMENT
OF
LADIES' FURS,
To which the attention of the public is invited. no19-2m
HOTELS.
THE GIRARD HOUSE
IS NOW OPEN,
And its proprietors solicit the patronage of the public.
JAMES S. WORTHINGTON.
KANAGA, FOWLER, & CO.
de30-3t
BRANDRETH HOUSE,
Corner of BROADWAY, PARK PLACE, and LISPENARD STREETS, NEW YORK.
CONDUCTED ON THE EUROPEAN PLAN.
The above Hotel is located in the most central part of Broadway, and can be reached by omnibus or city cars, from all the steamboat landings and railroad depots.
The rooms are elegantly furnished. Many of them are constructed in suits of communicating parlors and chambers, suitable for families and parties travelling together.
Meals served at all hours.
Single Rooms from 50 cents to $1 per day.
Double Rooms from $1 to $2.50 per day.
de2-6m JOS. CURTIS & CO.
F. I. G.
ZINC, ARMY, AND TOILET MIRRORS,
The best in the world for finish and durability.
B. M. S.
The best brand Silk-finished
VELVET RIBBONS.
Sole Agent, BENJAMIN M. SMITH,
155 DUANE Street, near West Broadway,
se30-3m New York.
BOWEN & CO., LITHOGRAPHERS AND PRINT COLORISTS, Southwest corner of CHESTNUT and ELEVENTH Streets, are prepared to execute any description of Portrait, Landscape, Natural History, Architectural, Autograph, Map, or other Lithography, in the most superior manner, and the most reasonable terms.
Photographs, Portraits, Natural History, and Medical Plates, Maps, and any other description of Plates, colored in the best style, and warranted to give satisfaction. Particular attention to Coloring Photographs. oc23-tf
TERRA COTTA WARE.
Fancy Flower Pots.
Hanging Vases.
Fern Vases, with Plants.
Orange Pots.
Ivy Vases, with Plants.
Cassolets Renaissance.
Lava Vases Antique.
Consols and Cariatades.
Marble Busts and Pedestals.
Brackets, all sizes.
With a large assortment of other FANCY GOODS, suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS, most of which are manufactured and imported for our own sales, and will not be found at any other establishment.
A. A. HARRISON,
1010 CHESTNUT Street.
"LUCIFER" OIL WORKS
100 bbls. "Lucifer" Burning Oil on hand.
We guarantee the Oil to be non-explosive, to burn all the oil in the lamp with a steady, brilliant flame, without crusting the wick, and but slowly. Barrels lined with glass enamel. WRIGHT, SMITH, & PARSALL,
Office, 515 MARKET Street
fe21-tf
THE WILCOX & GIBBS
FAMILY
SEWING MACHINES
have been greatly improved, making it
THE ENTIRELY NOISELESS,
and with Self-adjusting Hemmers, are now ready for sale by FAIRBANKS & EWING,
715 CHESTNUT Street.
se27-tf

WATCHES AND JEWELRY.
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
We have now on hand a
SPLENDID ASSORTMENT
OF
WATCHES, DIAMONDS, SILVERWARE,
AND
JEWELRY,
OF ALL KINDS AND PRICES.
SUITABLE FOR
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR
PRESENTS.
We invite special attention to the moderate prices of our DIAMONDS.
LEWIS LADOMUS & CO.,
No. 802 CHESTNUT STREET.
de12-tjal
AMERICAN WATCHES.
I. B. MARTER,
AGENT FOR THE
"AMERICAN WATCH COMPANY,"
NOW OFFERS, EXPRESSLY ADAPTED FOR
HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
A MAGNIFICENT STOCK OF
AMERICAN WATCHES,
FOR
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
AT MODERATE PRICES.
No. 712 CHESTNUT STREET,
SECOND FLOOR, OPPOSITE MASONIC HALL.
de9-1m
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
G. RUSSELL,
No. 22 NORTH SIXTH STREET,
Offers a choice assortment of
WATCHES, DIAMONDS,
FINE JEWELRY,
AND
STANDARD SILVER WARE,
Suitable for Holiday Presents, at the
LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES. de2-1m
ELI HOLDEN,
Dealer in fine
AMERICAN AND IMPORTED WATCHES
JEWELRY, AND CLOCKS,
708 MARKET Street.
oc31-5m*
AMERICAN WATCHES
IN
GOLD AND SILVER CASES.
JOS H. WATSON,
No. 326 CHESTNUT Street.
au1-6m
WATCHES, JEWELRY, &C.
A FRESH ASSORTMENT
AT LESS THAN FORMER PRICES.
FARR & BROTHER, Importers,
324 CHESTNUT Street, below Fourth.
MILITARY GOODS.
MILITARY GOODS,
EVANS & HASSAL,
MILITARY FURNISHERS,
418 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
A complete assortment of General, Field, and Line Officers' Swords, Sashes, Belts, Passants, Epaulettes, Canteens, Haversacks, Field Glasses, Spurs, Candlesticks, Chapeaus, Hats, Caps, Drums, Bells and Guidon Flags, Camp Knives and Forks, Baldrics, Gum-cloth Overcoats, &c.
Also, a full line of
WHOLESALE & RETAIL.
GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.
FLANNEL AND CLOTH OVERSHIRTS!
FINE LINEN AND MUSLIN SHIRTS,
On hand or made to order, of the most approved cut, and warranted to fit.
GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS,
The largest and best assortment in the city.
UNDERCLOTHING, HOSIERY, GLOVES, TIES, &c.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS,
ALSO
SCARFS, NECK TIES, GLOVES, &c.,
In Great Variety.
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—OPENING
a splendid assortment of
GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,
suitable Presents for Gentlemen.
J. W. SCOTT,
No. 814 CHESTNUT Street,
Four doors below the Post Office.
DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.
ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO.,
Northeast Corner Fourth and ARCH STREETS,
PHILADELPHIA,
WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS,
AND
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS
IN
FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC
WINDOW AND PLATE GLASS,
MANUFACTURERS OF
WHITE LEAD AND ZINC PAINTS, PUTTY, &c.
AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED
FRENCH ZINC PAINTS.
Dealers and consumers supplied at
VERY LOW PRICES FOR CASH.
no27-3m
CABINET FURNITURE.
CABINET FURNITURE AND BILLIARD TABLES.
MOORE & CAMPION,
No. 261 South SECOND Street,
In connection with their extensive Cabinet Business, are now manufacturing a superior article of
BILLIARD TABLES,
And have now on hand a full supply, finished with the MOORE & CAMPION'S IMPROVED CUSHIONS, which are pronounced by all who have used them to be superior to all others.
For the quality and finish of these Tables the manufacturers refer to their numerous patrons throughout the Union, who are familiar with the character of their work. an25-3m
CAUTION
The well-earned reputation of
FAIRBANKS' SCALES
Has induced the makers of imperfect balances to offer them as "FAIRBANKS' SCALES," and purchasers have thereby, in many instances, been subjected to fraud and imposition. Fairbanks' Scales are manufactured only by the original inventors, E. & T. FAIRBANKS & CO., and are adapted to every branch of the business, where a correct and durable Scales is desired.
FAIRBANKS & EWING,
General Agents,
MASONIC HALL, 715 CHESTNUT ST.
ap10-tf
517 ARCH STREET.
C. A. VANKIRK, & CO.
Have on hand a fine assortment of
CHANDELIERS
AND OTHER
GAS FIXTURES.
Also, French Bronze Figures and Ornaments, Porcelain and Mica Shades, and a variety of
FANCY GOODS
SUITABLE FOR
HOLIDAY GIFTS.
Which they will sell at reasonable prices.
Please call and examine goods. de13-tf
LIQUEURS.—50 CASES ASSORTED LIQUEURS, just received per ship Vandalia, from Bordeaux, and for sale by
JAURETCHE & LAVERGNE,
203 and 204 South FRONT Street.
se4

The Press.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1863.

Cotton Famine in France.

The cotton famine prevails, with increasing severity, in France. In that country it is estimated that nearly 6,000,000 cotton-spinning spindles were in use, before the supply of raw material ceased, as against 30,750,000 spindles in Great Britain. The number of persons depending upon this manufacture in all France is about half a million—a sufficient number, if out of work, to alarm the Government. In the Department of the Lower Seine, by the last accounts, 100,000 cotton-workers were wholly idle, and it was expected that, in the following week, this number would be increased to 350,000. There is proportionably less cotton on hand in France than in England, where the speculators keep it in store, to sell it at famine-prices for home or foreign consumption. On the other hand, the French *ouvriers*, or workpeople, bear privation and suffering far less patiently than the English. Hunger, as much as any thing else, has caused Revolutions in France. Probably, the facts here stated may account for the Emperor NAPOLEON'S anxiety to obtain a supply of cotton from the South. He can care little—in truth, he does not care at all—for the interests of the South. All he wants is cotton, on which the starving operatives may work.

Imperial Courts.*

The Riverside Press, at which Mr. Houghton emulates the exquisite typography of the famous Baskerville, has not produced a finer volume than "Imperial Courts," edited by W. H. Bidwell, New York. The paper and typography are of Boston, the binding and publication are of New York, the greater number of the engravings are Philadelphian—*Sartain*-ly so. The title-page is richly illuminated in gold, purple, and vermilion. The volume, of 427 pages, imperial octavo size, is handsomely bound in Turkey morocco, full gilt, and in Turkey antique, and can be sent by mail or express, put up in a neat box, without postage or any other charge to the purchaser. We draw attention to these particulars to show how well adapted this is as a gift-book, this being the holiday season when such presents are rife.

"Imperial Courts" are here illustrated by the unusually large number of forty-two engravings on steel, by John Sartain and George E. Perine. They all bear upon the history of six great European nations—France, England, Russia, Prussia, Sardinia, and Austria. These illustrations chiefly are portraits of Emperors, Empresses, Kings, Queens, Princes, Warriors, Statesmen, and Cabinet Ministers, and, in some instances, historic events, as represented by great artists, are added. The result is a historic gallery of great variety, which, even without the explanatory letter-press, is full of interest. Taken in national connection, these engravings are almost a series.

For example, Charlemagne may be said to open the French section. There are three scenes in the Bourbon line, viz: The Condemnation of the Princess Lamballe; Louis XVI. Threatened by the Mob on their Visit to the Tuileries, and, after the famous painting by Paul Delaroche, Marie Antoinette going to Execution. The next scenes are, The Morning of the Eighteenth Brumaire; Napoleon Inducing Pope Pius VII. to Sign the Concordat, and the melancholy scene of the Divorce of the Empress Josephine. Then, from the photographs by Brady, a double portrait of Prince Napoleon and his wife, Clotilde; full-length portraits, by Winterhalter, of Napoleon III. and the fair Eugenie, and a reproduction, after the same courtly artist, of the celebrated picture of the Empress Eugenie and the Ladies of her Court—namely, five French, one Italian, one English, and one American lady of rank and beauty. The historic illustrations of England are still more numerous, commencing with Queen Philippa interceding for the lives of the Burgesses of Calais, and Richard III. trying to persuade the Duke of Buckingham. Next we have Henry VIII. flirting with Anna Boleyn, followed by Queen Elizabeth of England, and Mary of Scotland, and, after Deveria's picture, the arrest of Lady Jane Grey. Here, too, copied from Benjamin West's well-known painting, is Cromwell dissolving the Long Parliament. Then succeed a number of portraits: Victoria, with Prince Albert, and the Prine of Wales; Viscount Palmerston, Duke of Wellington, Earl Russell, Earls of Clarendon and Elgin, Lord Lyndhurst, and Sir Robert Peel.

There are five portraits of Russian celebrities—the Czars Alexander I., Nicholas I., and Alexander II., the present Empress of Russia, and Count Orloff.

Prussia is represented here by the reigning King and Queen, and by the Crown Prince and his wife, the Princess Royal of England. Italy shows Victor Emmanuel and Count Cavour. Austria contributes portraits of the Emperor and his wife, and a historic representation of the Empress Maria, whereon resulting with Prince Kaunitz, her Prime Minister. Lastly, there is a portrait showing Nasser-ed-Dini, Schah of Persia, in his magnificent robes of state. The Schah, who succeeded his father, Mehemed Schah, in 1849, is only thirty-three years old, and the most cultivated of Eastern monarchs.

Such are the pictorial contents of "Imperial Courts." The letter-press, worthy of them, is chiefly supplied by Mr. W. H. Bidwell, who modestly calls himself only the editor, whereas he has written the greater portion of it. There is an Introduction, by Bryant, the poet, which, considering that the volume is likely to become a perennial gift-book, not very judiciously alludes to the politics of the day. Mr. Bidwell has done his own part most judiciously. He has travelled, which gave him the opportunity of seeing a great many of the illustrious or eminent persons whose portraits he gives, and whose memoirs he has here supplied. Now and then, as with the gorgeous coronation of the present Czar and Czarina at Moscow, he has relied upon other authors who had witnessed what they vividly described, but, for the most part, he has himself supplied the historical and biographical account, and that in a manner which has left nothing to be desired. His most successful productions here have been his sketch of Eugenie and her Court-beauties, Napoleon I. on the 18th Brumaire, the sad scenes of the first French Revolution, and, most picturesque and dramatic of all, the fatal Ambassador's Ball in Paris. Among the best executed biographies here are those of the Imperial and Royal persons, and of Wellington, Palmerston, Peel, and Count Cavour.

To our taste, this is *the* best gift-book we have seen this year. It does infinite credit to all engaged, by head, hand, and capital, in producing it, and is especially creditable to its publisher, Mr. Charles Scribner.†

* Imperial Courts of France, England, Russia, Prussia, Sardinia, and Austria. Richly illustrated with Portraits of Imperial Sovereigns and their Cabinet Ministers, with biographical sketches, and an introduction by William Cullen Bryant. Edited by W. H. Bidwell. One volume imperial octavo, pp. xiv. 411. New York; Charles Scribner, Philadelphia; W. P. Hazard.

† Mentioning books that are handsomely got up, we should include Dr. J. G. Holland's poem of "Bitter Sweet," with some forty-five wood engravings, by the best artists, from original drawings by E. J. Whitney. It is a wholesome poem as well as a handsome volume, within and without, and the English pictorial books equal it. Ruth's baby-song, "What is the little one thinking about?" in the First Movement, is already safe in ten thousand heads and hearts. We only wonder that so good a poet as Holland could put *Fatima* as a rhyme to *dreamer*, which is Cockneyish. "Bitter-Sweet," we should add, is another of Mr. Scribner's publications.

An Impolitic Resolution of the School Board.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: Feeling a deep interest in the educational system of our city, and having attentively pursued the proceedings of the late meeting of the Board of Control, I propose to call the attention of the public to the following resolution, which, if passed, must greatly lessen the usefulness of our public schools, and cast the inhumane and atrocious manner in which it is carried on, with His most signal displeasure. War, such war as even the persecuted South has never yet suffered; civil war, not sectional, bloody, and brotherly war, is raging at its own doors; war of those who have not against those who have, will yet rage at its own hearthstones, and convert its fairest fields into howling deserts. There are men yet living who will see the flames of the first Revolution rekindled in all their homes in the Northern States. If such a community as Fredericksburg, pure and innocent beyond comparison, are reduced to such suffering, what will be the fate of the polluted Northern cities—the Sodoms and Gomorrahs of a depraved and infidel race?

PRESIDENT DAVIS' PROCLAMATION.

[From the Richmond Whig, Dec. 24.]

The President has done no act since his installation in office more in accord with the popular sense of right and justice than the proclamation he has issued, denouncing as an outlaw and an enemy of mankind Butler, the Beast, and dooming him to swift and ignominious death should he, by any chance, fall into our hands. This manly and dignified order has our unqualified approval. We regret only that circumstances have so long delayed its issue as to create a suspicion injurious to the character of the Executive for nerve, and derogatory to the resoluteness of purpose and vigor of action with which we are waging our contest for independence. The proclamation vindicates the self-respect of the country, and gives warning to the enemy that, though justice may be delayed, they are not to suppose that their acts of lawlessness and atrocity are overlooked, or will escape the retributive punishment that the laws of God and man affix to the perpetration of crimes such as these. It is the direct hope of all that, in the present instance, the monster against whom the proclamation is directed may not escape the fate it designs for him. The ends of human justice will not be attain d if Butler, the Beast, fails to meet a dog's death at the hands of the people whom he has so outraged.

Fire at Cincinnati—Twenty Families Rendered Homeless.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 31.—A fire broke out last night, at 10 o'clock, in a house at Eighth and Sack streets, occupied by twenty families, the members of which barely escaped with their lives, losing everything but the clothing they had on their persons. The flames spread and communicated fire to three adjoining frame buildings, which were quickly destroyed. The loss amounted to $10,000.

STATES IN REBELLION.

Christmas Raid of the Rebels—The Situation of Affairs on the Rappahannock and James Rivers—Editorials and Telegraphic Despatches from the Richmond Journals.

From Richmond papers of the 24th ult. we make the following interesting extracts:

ANOTHER HAUL UPON THE YANKEES.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 24.]

On Saturday morning last a detachment of the cavalry of General Wade Hampton, under the command of the General in person, made a rich haul on a Yankee train in the neighborhood of Occoquan. They captured a train of wagons twenty-seven in number, laden with the choicest articles for the gay Christmas season. Many of the articles captured were labelled "Christmas presents for Gen. Burnside," and consisted of fine brandies, cigars, and wines, and, indeed, everything calculated to elevate the fallen spirits of the Yankee chieftain. Besides these, there was a good supply of sutlers' stores, embracing boots and shoes, gauntlets, and nearly every other article necessary for the comfort of man during the cold season.

In addition, one hundred and seventy Yankees, who were guarding the train, were made prisoners, and arrived in this city yesterday. They also captured the notorious John C. Underwood, who has been acting as a pilot for the Yankees since the war commenced in the counties of Fauquier, Prince William, and others on the Potomac border. When discovered he was closely concealed in a lady's wardrobe, with the door locked. The proprietress of the wardrobe was very indignant at the soldiers who broke open the door and dragged Underwood from his concealment.

FROM FREDERICKSBURG.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 24.]

The passengers who arrived in the city yesterday afternoon, by the Fredericksburg train, bring us no later information with reference to the condition of affairs above. It is stated that all is quiet, and the fact that a bloody battle has recently been fought is scarcely realized. Our troops are said to be in the best possible spirits, and ready for any emergency, though they do not contemplate another collision with the forces of Burnside very shortly.

FROM THE SOUTH SIDE.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 24.]

On Thursday last three Yankee gunboats ascended the Nottoway and Blackwater rivers, but were driven back by the forces under General Pryor. They were subsequently reinforced by two others, and at last accounts the five were lying ten miles below Franklin, in the Chowan, and supposed to be preparing for another attack.

The Petersburg *Express* says that the Yankee accounts of the recent fight at Zuni and Joyner's Ford make out a much more disastrous result to the Yankees than we supposed. Two hundred killed and wounded, and they opposed by a mere handful of Confederates, was indeed a glorious result.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS TO THE RICHMOND PRESS.

THE AFFAIR AT LEXINGTON, TENN.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 23.—A special despatch to the Rebel from Tuscumbia, December 23, says:

A gentleman arrived here today with the corpse of his brother, killed in a fight at Lexington, Tenn., says General Forrest attacked and routed the Federals there on the 19th, capturing a battery, horses, and all, and four hundred prisoners, five hundred carbines, two hundred horses, several hundred saddles, and a considerable amount of commissary stores.

The citizens reported the enemy five thousand strong, mostly new recruits. Our loss was trifling.

A man here says the Yankees had returned from Okalona.

ARRIVAL OF UNION PRISONERS IN RICHMOND.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 24.]

By a special train yesterday, from Gordonsville, one hundred and eighty Abolition prisoners arrived, and were lodged in the Libby Prison. They were captured a few days ago, by General Wade Hampton, in the vicinity of Dumfries.

THEATRICALS IN RICHMOND.

RICHMOND VARIETIES—One door below the Exchange Hotel.

Acting and Stage Manager ..... D'Orsey Ogden

Wednesday evening, Dec. 24, 1862.

Third night of the new play of the

GUERILLAS.

CONFEDERATES.

Captain Arthur Douglass ..... Walter Keeble
Henry Douglass ..... C. H. Morton
Blanton Douglass ..... G. Morton
Lieutenant Ogden ..... F. M. Bates
Wiry Willey ..... E. Gorman
Jim Gentry ..... A. W. Wise
Clayton ..... G. Beckham
Jerry (servant) ..... J. W. Thorpe
Jack ..... E. G. Isham
Mrs. Douglass ..... Mrs. C. DeBar
Rose Maylie ..... Miss Katie Estelle
Ellen Graham ..... Miss M. Jackson
Mrs. Raymond ..... Miss Dunham

FEDERALS.

Major General Fremont ..... Jas. Harrison
Colonel Bradley ..... H. Smith
Fremont's Orderly ..... R. J. Brown
Bill Stokes ..... Q. Mariman
Yills Joe ..... C. Welton
Two Sons ..... Miss Rosamond Clarendon
Dance ..... Miss M. Partington

RICHMOND MONEY MARKET.

RICHMOND, Dec. 23.—SPECIE AND BANK NOTES.—Quotations remain unchanged—viz: Gold, $1.90@2.25 premium; silver, $1.60@2. Virginia and North Carolina bank notes, 25@30c.; South Carolina and Georgia, 27½@30c. premium. The inside figures represent the buying rates; the extremes the selling rates.

A GALLANT IRISHMAN AT FREDERICKSBURG.

[From the Richmond Whig, Dec. 24.]

The following extract from a private letter will show that Meagher met his match at Fredericksburg. In a gallant son of the Emerald Isle, Colonel Robert McMillan, of the 24th Georgia. We should like to see McMillan at the head of the lamented Cobb's Legion, pitted against Meagher or Corcoran in an open field:

"But the rejoicing ceased for a time, and mourning sat on every countenance, as four grief-stricken Irishmen passed down the lines, bearing the heroic Cobb, who had fallen in the fiercest charge of the enemy. Lieutenant Colonel Cook, commanding Phillips' Georgia Legion, was killed at this period of the action. A fixed resolution seemed at once to possess every heart to avenge the death wound of their fellows, and it devolved upon Colonel Robert McMillan, of the 24th Georgia Regiment, to lead them in the effort. An opportunity now offered. A column, stronger than before, met the first, was seen to advance. Flash after flash was seen upon the opposite river bank. Shell after shell fell around us, which were responded to from the heights in our rear. Col. McMillan directed the small arms to cease until the enemy should come within musket range. The artillery continued its thunder, the musketry rema