FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1863.

We can take no notice of anonymous commu minations. We do not return rejected manuscripts. Wo Voluntary correspondence solicited from all parts of the world, and especially from our different military and naval departments. When used, it will

THE PROCLAMATION. ABRAHAM LINCOLN has proclaimed the downfall of slavery in the United States The Proclamation we print this morning announces his decree in brief, eloquent, and immortal sentences. It is not an argument. or a defence, or a declaration; it is simply the frank announcement of a brave and frank man. Those who expect to read an invocation to blood and massacre, and rapine will be surprised by the sincere and affectionate warning of the President to the people whose deliverance he proclaims. The beneficent power that declares freedom does not incite murder: it takes away the burden of national death from the hereafter, and makes the country of our children the country of freemen. This is the general thought that pervades the Proclamation; but that which is practical and immediate, is the conversion of this silent, oppressed, and anxious race into active allies of the Union. It adds a reserve force to the army of the Union, and makes three million of slaves three million of able-hodied recruits, who have only to see the Union banner to follow it with their lives. It takes away the labor that sustains the power of the South, and adds to the military power of the North. It is a war measure, and will add strength to our armies and glory to the object of the war. These ideas should be impressed upon the minds of all who read the Proclamation this morning. Let the people accept this great deed in the spirit that animates the President, appreciating the beautiful sentiments in which he declares it to be an act of justice warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, and invokes the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

Mercantile Failures.

Among the many facts worth noting in the late eventful year is the vast decrease in the number of mercantile failures, as compared with preceding years, and more especially with 1861, when the shock of war caused a universal toppling of credit and paralysis of business. From carefully prepared and authentic tables, we gather that the failures throughout the entire Northern States in 1862 have amounted only to 1,652, with liabilities of \$23,049,300. In 1861 they were... 5,935 Liabilities \$178,632,170

61,739,474 51,314,000 In 1859 3.113 265,818,000 Below we give similar statistics in regard to this city and the State of Pennsylvania: No. in Phila. 1862 60 861 389 1860 144 1859 105 1858 109 1857 280 21,294,363

6,107,936 2,589,000 10,002,885 5,258,398 3,466,000 32,954,000 In our neighboring State of New Jersey we may give the failures for these years as follows:

Liabilities. No. \$535,000,1861...146 438,500,1859....55 775,800,1857....86 The great disparity between 1862 and the years preceding it is due to the general contraction of purchases, owing to an uncertainty of sales, and also to the abundance of money, which has much facilitated collections. Beyond this, however, lies the fact that but few more persons have been engaged in mercantile pursuits, since the war commenced, than were needed by the wants of the community. Previous to the war, great overtrading existed, and many, by means of credit, conducted business upon a very slender basis of capital. At the least pressure upon the money market, their operations were seriously affected, and a downfall often ensued. The war, which crushed the former livelihood of these parties, at the same time afforded them new avenues for income, and we now find them numerously holding positions in the army, or contracting

to furnish its supplies. Of failures in the rebel States, we can say but little. They have unquestionably been many, and the commerce now carried on there is in very few hands.

On the return of peace, trade will be again. vastly overdone, great over-production will exist in manufactures, and precisely the old routine will follow, of good fortune to the few and disaster to the many, that has ever characterized modern civilization.

Pestage-Stamp Collecting. The collection of postage-stamps has be-

come a mania, in this country as well as in Europe. We have seen some collections of great value and interest, the stamps being all unused, and a small map of each country, with engraved portrait of its ruler, neatly inserted, so as to make each national collection very complete. In "The Stamp Collector's Manual," compiled and published by Mr. A. C. KLINE, of Walnut street, are descriptions of fifteen hundred varieties of postage-stamps. Dr. J. E. GRAY, of the British Museum, who has just published "A Hand Catalogue of Postagestamps; for the use of Collectors," enumerates no less than twenty works or articles which have been printed in England on the subject of stamp-collecting. Mr. KLINE's little book contains descriptions of the postage stamps issued in every country in the world, where the system is at work. The latest English papers tell us that postage stamps and post-office money-orders are about being used in Turkey. Collectors will find Mr. KLINE's little book of infinite

Postage stamps were first issued, Mr. Kine reminds us, on May 13, 1840. Dr. GRAY, the naturalist, who denied the existence of the Gorilla, because he had never seen one, claims the credit of having originated the system. He says, in the preface to his Hand Catalogue, "I believe I was the first who proposed the system of small uniform rates of postage to be prepaid by stamps, having satisfied my mind that the great cost of the Post Office was not the reception, carriage, and delivery of the letters, but the complicated system of accounts that the old system required, and having learned from the best writers on political economy that the collection of money by stamps was the most certain and economical." He has not mentioned how, where, when, or to whom the proposal was made, but intimates, without positively declaring, that Sir Row-LAND HILL, now Secretary of the English Post Office, borrowed the idea from him, and successfully worked it out. ROWLAND HILL, who, for reasons known to men of letters, (who remember how unscrupulously Dr GRAY misrepresented M. Du CHAILLU,) is a more reliable witness, in his own case, than JOHN EDWARD GRAY, has stated how and when the idea of cheap postage occurred to him. In 1837, during an extended pedestrian tour through the Lake country, in the northwest of England. ROWLAND HILL saw a postman offer a letter, postage ten pence, to a female waiter at a country inn. The woman looked at the address, and declined taking it. Mr. HILL, as an act of charity, released the letter. On opening it poor girl burst into tears, and said it was useless, as there was no writing within.

Her brother was in service far away, and

the only way they had of communicating

that each was well, was by sending an enve-

lope, properly directed, but not enclosing a

letter, which, though regularly not taken,

yet gave the welcome assurance that all

was well. ROWLAND HILL meditated upon

this hard case, and the result was his sug-

gestion of a uniform penny (two cents)

according to a rough estimate that we have made, the cost value of the 1,500 postage stamps described in Mr. Stille's "Stamp Collector's Manual," would be about \$65. As for collecting defaced postage stamps, it is mere waste of time.

Changing Opinion. Mr. LEATHAM, who is member of Parlia-

nent for Huddersfield, and brother-in-law to Mr. John Bright, has been speaking to his constituents, and, of course, discussed American politics. Unlike Mr. GLADSTONE and others, who should have known better than to champion the South, Mr. LEATHAM gallantly as well as eloquently supported the principles and the conduct of the North, and strongly denounced the Confederate Government for being based on the maintenance and expansion of slavery. The European Times (Liverpool paper of December 13th) candidly admits, in noticing this speech, that "in giving currency to these ideas, Mr. LEATHAM is merely expressing the sentiments of a large section of the Evangelical class of Christians, and it is clear that a reaction has set in against the South and in favor of the North, as compared with the feelings entertained on this ubject in religious circles twelve months ago." In political circles Mr. GLADSTONE's indiscretion of showing partisanship, though his official position ought have dictated the prudence of being silent, has helped to change inimical prejudices, as, in the commercial world, the Alabama's raid upon British property at sea has made its piracy not quite such a pleasant joke as it formerly was.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, January 1, 1863. I received a letter, a few days ago, from distinguished gentleman in Philadelphia, calling attention to the complaints arising from the non-payment of our soldiers, and asking some explanation. He referred me to the number of calumnies and misrepresentations which this alleged neglect had put in circulation, and particularly to the charges against the Administration of the disloyal papers in the free States. One of the main hopes of the sympathizers with treason is the demoralization of the army. If they can accomplish this, they believe that the Southern Confederacy will be recognized, and the East and West and our Pacific States divided into three or four conflicting provinces. I am gratified to state, however, that thus

far very little impression has been made upon the army, either by the inability of the Government to pay the troops in full up to the present time, or by the complaints of the disloyal newspapers. It is a fact singularly to the credit of the brave men in the army, that in contrast with and defiance of the falsehoods originating among the so-called Democratic politicians, they have maintained, and still maintain, a calm, confident, and patriotic attitude. Obeying, with alacrity, he orders of their superiors, and neve questioning the policy of the Administration. they submit with unmurmuring patience to all the rigors and privations of war. I have previously commented upon this sublime characteristic. It is probably the most effective argument in reply to the fabrications and intrigues of the political adversaries of the Administration, that the men who do most and endure most have, from he beginning, been the most earnest an sincere defenders of the President. It is easy to conceive, however, how restive the army must at last become in consequence of the inability of the Government to pay it punctually; and yet, to this, as to all other complaints of the kind, there is a reasonable, and, I hope, a satisfactory answer. No army of equal size in the world ever received so much pay, in the same time, as the Army of the Union

received up to the first of last July, previous

to which period every requisition was promptly met. Arrangements are now in progress by which all the accumulated debt to the troops will be rapidly liquidated. The Secretary of War yesterday directed that over five hundred thousand dollars should be anpropriated to pay the immediate wants of he troops, and a similar amount will continue to be set apart at short intervals, so long as there is any money (intended for other creditors, who will be compelled to wait) from which to draw. If Congress will promptly, in its coming session, give the support to public credit absolutely indispensable to the raising of large sums of noney, according to the recommendations of Secretary Chase, all will go well. The country, and the interests of the country, must be preferred to the banks and their interests. At all events, the banking capital nust be induced to take such forms as will best contribute to the security and amplitude of the public credit. What is needed is prompt and vigorous action at the hands of the National Legislature. Let us have a moderate tax upon existing bank notes, and the authorization of bank associations based upon the stocks of the United States, and equal value in all parts of the Union.

OCCASIONAL. The Emancipation Proclamation.

Special Correspondence of The Press.] WASHINGTON, January 1, 1863. The most memorable document in the history of our country, since the Declaration of Independence ins been, to-day, issued by President Lincoln, in ecordance with his notification of the 22d Septem ber last. Three million of slaves, subjected from their birth to the cruel injustice of compulsory labor without remuneration, to the lash, and to the aution block, have been declared free by the stroke o a pen. That pen deserves a diamond casket, and the proudest niche among the historic treasures of the

The proclamation excepts in its effect the city New Orleans, and certain districts of Louisiana which have recently elected members to Congress; lso, Western Virginia, Tennessee, and severa counties of Southeastern Virginia, which are likewise represented at Washington. Practically, however, freedom will likewise there take effect. Necroes of those localities, on hearing that their brethren throughout the land have acquired liberty, will not be apt to rest content in bondage, and will escape. The Border States, also, will be subjected to the same eventualities, and unless they speedily adopt measures for emancipation, slave olders within their limits will find their domains

bereft of the human property that has toiled, unre-

quited, for their pampered idleness. It is difficult to foresee the immediate effect of the President's colossal act. Doubters characterize it as waste paper, which will have no effect beyond the lines of the army. The sanguines believe that is a short period the news of their liberty will be universally known to the slaves of the South, and that hey will leave the families of their absent masters, n case compensation is not accorded them. This, it is argued, will necessitate the return of these last from the army to provide for those dependent on them and a general demoralization of the rebel forces ensue. If this should not as speedily take place as is hoped, cer tainly in the course of time its operation will be seen. Negroes may at first be deterred from flight by the uncertainty of finding subsistence, but gradi ally the experience of others within their know wages as a condition of continued obedience. To suppose, with many, that the great majority of slave will not for a long time hear of the proclamation, i absurd. If it comes to the knowledge of the whites in the South it will be rapidly communicated to the blacks; and this information will the more rapidly

to work upon fortifications at each point of rebel defence. The number of Southern slaveholders holding ter or more slaves may be estimated at ninety thousand. These persons may be considerably reduced in purse by the proclamation, but the majority will still re main in possession of large tracts of land, which through rapid emigration, will preserve their late alue, and in many cases exceed it The Proclamation also invites liberated blacks to enter the military and naval service of the United States, intimating that in the former their duties will be more particularly to work upon and guard fortifications, but by no means states that they will

spread, as thousands of negroes are now congregated

not be employed on active service in case of need. The ultimate result, therefore, of this great state paper will be a prosperity to the South hitherto undreamed of. Immigration from the Northern States, and from Europe, will flow rapidly in upon the close of the rebellion, the great resources of that section will be discovered and developed, and enterprises without number in its midst will invite the eager investment of capital. Nothing has yet stemmed the tide of population hither, but slavery. That in cubus removed, and the land of the magnolia springs into gorgeous life. No fears need be entertained o for her, after the postman had retired, the negro competition with Northern labor. Negroes now in the South will be needed there, and those in the North will speedily seck to enjoy in its mild latitudes a climate genial to their natures. The

new era is full of promise. THE DAVENDOR BRADINGS -At Musical Fund Hall, this evening, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Davenport give a series of Readings from the Poets, which, we not doubt, will be well attended. The poets to be read from are Mrs. Norton, T. Hood, Longfellow, Felicia Hemans, and George H. Boker. Mrs. Davenport will give one of "Mrs. Caudle's Curtain Lectures," by Jerrold, and, with Mr. D., the Trial Scene from "The Merchant of Venice." Mr. Davenport will also give selections from "Hamlet" An inpostage for each half-ounce, and the use of tellectual treat of no ordinary interest may be ex- genial and animated. Nothing transpires in regard postage stamps and envelopes. By the way, pected.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

SLAVES OF REBELS DECLARED FREE Blacks to be Received into the Army and Navy

A PROCLAMATION. WHEREAS, On the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing

among other things, the following, to wit: "That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixtythree, all persons held as slaves within any State, or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward and forever. free, and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts

to repress such persons, or any of them, in any effort they may make for their active freedom. That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people therein, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States, and the fact that any State, and the people thereof, shall, on that day, be, in good faith, represented in the Congress of the United States, by memhers chosen thereto at elections, wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State and the people thereof are not then in rebellion against the United States." Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me

vested as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and Government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing the said rebellion, do, on this, the first day of January, in the year of our Lordone thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and, in accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaim, for the full period of one hundred days from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit: Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if the proclamation were not issued.

And, by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within the said designated States and parts of said States, are, and henceforward shall be. free; and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the treedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free, to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defence, and I recommend to them that in all cases, when allowed, they labor faith. fully for reasonable wages. And I further declare and make known, that such persons, of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States, to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in lieved to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be

[L. S.] Done at the city of Washington, this, the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States of America the By the President: W. H. SEWARD. Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press," New Year's at the Contraband Camp. At eight o'clock last evening, about five hundred of the contrabands, at their camp, were called to gether by Mr. Nicholls, the superintendent Mr. N. explained to them the nature of the forthcoming proclamation, after which an original song, written by Mr. Morgan, a Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, on Lincoln's proclamation. The patriarchs among the contrabands, one after another, then related, in their peculiar style, their experience in Dixie. One described his sensations when his youngest child was being sold into slavery. Another saw rebels in all directions but towards Heaven; there he saw a hope of freedom. Another reminded his comrades that, in Dixle, they worked all day and gave no satisfaction, and compared it with their condition now. He had worked six months, and all he had made was his own, and that he would soon be able to educate his children. "But bredren," he continued, "don't be too bree Lazy man can't get to Heaven." Another said. "I'm got a right to rejoice; I'm a free man, or will be in five minits." (It only lacked five minutes of twelve.) Another rejoiced that God had not let the rebels submit to the laws until the proclamation was issued Two minutes before twelve they all knelt in silent prayer. An oppressive stillness continued for four minutes, when a prayer was offered for the preserva we shall soon have a sound currency, of | tion of the Union by the speedy overthrow of the rebellion. They then sang an original "Hallelujah"

The superintendent then informed them they were no longer slaves, that they were free men and women. One of the eldest replied, and congratulated his brethren that they were now men and women-not contrabands. John the Baptist, an old, colored, vigorous preacher, preached to them from the 20th chapter in "Revolutions."

The Question of allowing Tax Assessors Pay for Sunday. The act of Congress establishing a Bureau of In ternal Revenue gives a per diem of from \$3 to \$ to assessors and assistant assessors for every day employed. In rendering their accounts to the Tres sury Department, most of these officers have charged r every day of the month, Sundays included. Some of them, however, have expressed to the departmen their opinion that the law did not justify this con struction, and have made out their accounts without charging for Sunday. Different constructions of this law have been given by different officers in the Trea surv Department, and the question has been referred to Edward Jordan, Esq., Solicitor of the Treasury, for his opinion on the point as to whether assessor and their assistants are entitled to pay for Sunday.

Fight at the Convalescent Camp. A row occurred at the Convalescent Camp, near Alexandria, between the Pennsylvania and New York troops. The difficulty was caused in the dis cussion of the merits of their respective States. A ew shots were fired, but only one man was injured.

A Soldier Drowned. The body of LYTHE KEITH, a private in company 3, 4th Maine Regiment, was found floating in the Potomac near the Sixth-street wharf. A Georgetown Secessionist Arrested.

JOHN CARR, a Georgetown, D. C., Secessionist, has been committed to the Old Capitol prison for using disloyal language.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. Colonel Collis' Zourves in the Battle c FALMOUTH, December 31 .- The following letter rom General Stoneman, in relation to Col. Collis

Zouaves, speaks for itself: HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS, CENTRAL GRAND DIVISION, Dec. 19, 1862. The 114th Pennsylvania Volunteers (Zouaves), Colonel Collis, was conspicuous both in dress and gallantry in the action on the 13th inst., and I take reat pleasure in testifying to the fact to whi testify from my own personal observation. This regiment, together with the 63d Pennsylvania Johnsteers (Major Dunks), charged and held the crest in advance and on the right, most nobly, and un der a very galling fire, both of artillery and infantry, for which both regiments have my warmest thanks. GEORGE STONEMAN,

Brig. Gen. Army Corps. STATES IN REBELLION.

Slaves Working on the Richmond For-tifications—Robels Repairing the Rail-read in North Carolina—Death of a Union

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 31 .- The Newbern, N. C. Progress states that the Lynchburg Republican says that the call of the Secretary of War for 4,500 negroes to work on the fortifications of Richmond being promptly responded to, and the slaves for warded to the scene of their labors. The railroad from Newbern to Kinston is being apidly repaired under the management of John C. Merriam, Esq. The track has been completely restored from Cove creek to within six miles of Kinston, and the cars will be running to Kinston in ten

Wm. Caswell, of Newport, R. I., Co. A, 5th Regi

ment, died Dec. 12th.

to his future appointment.

Major General Butler. NEW YORK, Jan. 1.-General Butler, with his staff, and also Mrs. Butler, are in the city this evening. He leaves for Washington to-morrow, it s rumored, at the request of the President. Governor Seymour's inaugural address has no been received from Albany to-day. General Benjamin F. Butler arrived last evening at the St. Nicholas Hotel, and has received nume rous calls during the day from admiring friends. The General was in citizen's dress, and appeared

ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

General Rosecrans Captures Murfreesboro-Rebels Retreat to Tullahoma-Morgan Captures a Wagon Train-Forrest is no Advancing on Louisville. LOUISVILLE, Jan. 1.—General Rosecrans captured Turfreesboro on Tuesday morning, and now occu pies it, the rebels retreating to Tullahoma. The rebels made but little resistance, though General which was captured by the rebel Colonel Morgan, o

The startling reports which reached here about midnight, and caused considerable commotion throughout the city, of the approach of Forrest from the direction of Salt river, with a large body of cavalry, are entirely false.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Farewell Address of General Butler the Citizens of New Orleans—Attack by Guerillas—General Banks' Address on the Emancipation Proclamation - His Explanations and Instructions-Affairs on the Mississippi.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 .- The steamer S. R. Spaulding, from New Orleans, with dates of the 24th ultimo, arrived this evening. Among her passengers i Major General Butler and staff, excepting Colone Jonas A. French and Captain John Clark, who re General Butler, prior to leaving New Orleans

gave a reception at the City Hall, where hundreds o citizens and officers waited on him. General Butler also issued a farewell address to the citizens, in which he says that he leaves with the proud consciousness of carrying with him the blessings of the humble and lovel, under the cottage roof and in the cabin of the slave, and is quite content to incur the sneers of the saloen or the curses o the rich. He concludes by saying that "months of experience and observation have forced the conviction that the existence of slavery is incompatible with the safety of yourselves or of the Union." The steamer Empire Parish was fired into while loading sugar at the Marengo plantation by guerillas, killing C. McGill, assistant engineer, seriously wounding W. J. Reed, a New York merchant, and wounding three others.

On the 94th General Banks issued an address, appended to which is the President's proclamation of emancipation. In his address General Banks, after rehearsing the objects and effect of the President's proclamation, says: "It is manifest that the change suggested by the proclamation do not take place a any precise period, and General Banks calls upon all persons, citizens or slaves, to govern themselves accordingly. All unusual public demonstrations will be for the present suspended, and the provosi marshals are enjoined to prevent any disturbance of the public peace. The slaves are advised to remain upon the plantations until their privileges are definitely established, resting assured that whatever benefits the Government intends, will be secured

General Banks also instructs the officers to secur the strictest discipline in the camps. Attention is also called to the act of Congress forbidding the return of slaves by the army. The war is not waged for the overthrow of slavery, but to restore the constitutional relations between the United States and each of the States. If slavery is to be preserved the war must cease, and the former constitutional relations again be established, for no military man in the event of a continuance of the war, will counsel the preservation of slavery; the continuance of the war will leave no other permanent track of the rehellion but emancipation. A contest in public, as in social life, strengthens and consolidates brotherly affection. It is a baseless nationality that has not tested its strength against domestic enemies. The success of local interests narrows the destiny of a people, and is followed by secession, poverty, and degradation. The triumph of national interests widens the scope of human history, and is attended with peace, prosperity, and power It is out of such

Gen. Banks concludes thus: "Let us fulfil the conditions of this last great trial and become a nation, a grand nation, with sense enough to govern ourselves, and strength enough to stand against the world united." Up to the time of the sailing of the steamer nothing had transpired as to the intended movement of Gen. Banks, but it was known that a campaign

had been commenced with Baton Rouge as the base

There was nothing new from Vicksburg or Port

contests that great nations are born.

of operations.

OUR IRON-CLAD NAVY.

Trial Trip of the New-Iron-clad Ericsson Battery Nahant—She is a Complete Suc-cess—Condition of the Iron-clads now Pre paring for Sea.

Nahant, two guns, iron-clad Ericsson battery, which was launched at Boston, some weeks since, went on her trial trip a few days ago. The Nahant being in every respect a perfect copy of the Monitor and Passaic, which have been minutely described, it is only necessary to give an account of her voyage premising it with a statement of the condition to-day

of her nine sister ships. They are situated as fo Condition. Passaic Montauk. Patapsco..... Nahant Wechawken... Wilmington, Del Ready for duty.... Boston.
Ready for trial... Jersey City.
Almost ready... Chester, Pa.

Lannched..... On the stocks. Chester, Pa. The Nahant, on leaving Mr. Toring's works, ha her coal bunkers filled for twelve days' steaming, all her provisions on board—everything but ordnand tores—and proceeded to the Navy Yard, but wa prevented from going down the harbor on a trial trip

prevented from going down the harbor on a trial trip on account of the dense fog. On Saturday, however, everything proving favorable, she started at half past twelve o'clock, for the purpose of testing the vessel, the machinery, and the aguns, having on board, besides her builder, Rear Admiral Gregory, of New York, general superintendent of iron-clad vessels; A. S. Stimers, of New York, general inspector; and Captain West, of the Navy Yard, who superintended the ordnance department, and the officers of the vessel, was revolved the vessel. The furret of the vessel was revolved. the vessel. The turret of the vessel was revolved as she went down the harbor, and worked satisfac-The Nahant came to anchor off Long Island in the afternoon, and fired into the headlands on Moon Island. The principal object was to test the large Island. The principal object was to test the large gun, but the eleven-inch gun was fired twice, once with a shell. The large gun was fired three timesfirst with a charge of fifteen pounds, then with twenty-five, and lastly with a solid shot and a full service charge of thirty-five pounds, which shook the island like an earthquake, and sounded even louder than a near discharge of Heaven's artillery. Everything worked to a charm. There was no smoke inside the turret, and the noise was by no means un-

inside the turret, and the noise was by no means ur comfortable—far less noise than that of the smaller gun fired outside the turret. The machinery was tested, and found perfectly satisfactory. She minded her helm very quickly much better than any of that class of vessels that have been previously tested. The speed was entirely satisfactory. She is calculated for nine knots, but no test was made until the return, when the steam left after the trial was applied, and the vessel returned about six o'clock at the rate of seven knots against a two-knot current. The United States officials were enthusiastic in their admiration of the splendid success and capa-bilities of the Nahant. Admiral Gregory accepted her in behalf of the Government on her return, and she was pronounced the best of the class that has been built. The Nahant will go into commission o-day, and will leave for Fortress Monroe on Tues day or Wednesday, stopping one day at New York. Annexed is a list of her officers:

Acting Ensigns—Charles O. Rutter and Charles Clark. Assistant Surgeon-Charles E. Stedman. Assistant Paymaster—Edwin Putnam.

Commander—John Downes.

Acting Master-William Carter

Second and Third Assistant Engineers-T. Bordley and Abram Michener.
Rosnoke, six guns, iron-clad harbor battery, will co-morrow morning be reported to the Navy De-partment ready for Mr. Delano's operations on deck. The work on this splendid ship is now rapid-ly drawing to a close, and in a few weeks she will be the bearer of the heaviest armament of any vessel in the world. Yesterday two more of her immense in the world. Yesterday two more of her immense guns were brought to the Brooklyn navy yard by the Derrick. The entire six with which she is to be armed will weigh over 120 tons, without carriages. One solitary discharge of her broadside will throw twenty-seven hundred pounds of iron, or more than the entire discharge of a broadside from an old-fashioned eighty-gun line-of-battle ship. Nor are her attributes for offensive warfare her only ones. The iron on her sides is in solid plates, the perforation of which seems utterly impossible. The proprietors of the Novelty Iron Works have finished their work in the best manner. Captain Stephen C. Rowan, one of the most competent offi-cers in the United States navy, has been spe-cially selected by the Navy Department to com-mand this great ship. He is in town at pre-sent, and spends a great portion of his time in supersent, and spends a great portion of his time in super-intending the arrangements on board. The locality in which the Roanoke will be permanently station-ed is not as yet definitely fixed. It is said she will have a fine band on board, and be moored off the Battery, where a United States man-of-war is want-ed badly to represent our navy. Another rumor is that she will be the flag-ship of a fleet of harbor batteries, devoted to the protection of New York. Boston, and Philadelphia, and that she will make short cruises to sea. But nothing is certain as yet about her future movements, save that New York will be her headquarters.—New York Herald.

CITY SOLICITOR'S OFFICE. -F. Carroll Brewste Esq., the newly-elected City Solicitor, entered upon his duties vesterday, and has made the following appointments, which, it cannot be doubted, will give general satisfaction: Mr. David W. Sellers and Mr. Thomas K. Finletter are retained as assistant solicitors. Mr. Egbert K. Nichols is newly appointed, also as assistant solicitor, a gentleman of character, ability, and loyalty. Mr. James W. Powell, the new clerk in this important office, fully enjoys Mr. Brewster's confidence, and will be acknowledged as fully deserving the confidence of the public. It is a good team," on the whole, and will work wel

Auel's Sterkopticon.—This artistical and historical exhibition will certainly close on Saturday evening. There will, therefore, be only three more opportunities for the public to visit it, viz: this evening, to-morrow afternoon, and to-morrow evening. The Stereopticon, which is by far the best pictorial exhibition ever opened to the public in this city-there has not yet been anything like it in Europe—has not been so well patronized by our citizens as it deserves. They have been attracted to inferior shows, and have too much neglected this most nicturesque and instructive system of object teaching. Thoroughly complete, in all artistic phases, and clearly explained by a gentleman of education, it is the best popular instructor ever on view in this city.

THE LAST ROSE OF SHAVER -- WE C Everest has just finished a beautiful transcription of the "Last Rose of Summer." It is a musical gem, combining brilliancy, finish, and an exquisite excellence of expression. The author has preserved the melody perfectly, while the variations take in the whole compass of the piano, affording an opportunity for rare execution and skill. It will become very popular, as it presents in a more attractive form one of the sweetest of melodics.

the time of his death president of the Commercial Bank of Bristol. He was 55 years old. Rev. B. B. Babbitt, of Andover, Massachusetts, and Edward S. Babbitt, Esq., of Boston, are his sons. - M. Renar has received notice from the principal of the College of France that his annual lectures. which commence under ordinary circumstances the first week in December, are not to be delivered this

vear.

of wounds received at Fredericksburg, was a pro-

The Butler-Johnson Correspondence. JOHNSON TO BUTLER, JULY 22, 1862.

The shipment was in violation of the blockade, and if seized in delicto would have been liable to for-feiture. The proceeds, also, if received here on the return voyage, would have been equally liable. The vessels, also, would, either on the outward or The vessels, also, would, either on the outward or return voyage, have been in like measure liable. But the blockade having been successfully run, and the cotton sold in Havana, and the first and second of exchange drawn by the shippers' consignee in Havana and sent to London by shippers' order, to be paid to their credit in London, the first question is whether the third of exchange is to be esteemed the proceeds of the shipment and liable to seizure? I am of the opinion it cannot. The first and second of exchange having been paid by the drawees in London, and the proceeds passed to the credit of the shippers, the third is a mere nullity, valueless in the hands of the shippers. It was not, then, the representative of the cotton or its proceeds. The first was the property of the buyers in Havana. The second in the property of the shippers, because of the payment of the first or second of exchange, and the passing of its proceeds to their credit with their London bankers.

The offence of running the blockade is not, under the modern law of nations, a personal offence. It

the modern law of nations, a personal offence. It affects only the ship and the cargo. If these are not returned physically, or their proceeds on a return voyage, the offence escapes punishment. It turn voyage, the offence escapes punishment. It never attends the vessel or cargo further than to the termination of the return voyage. With the exception of the return voyage, the rule is well settled by modern authority—English, Continental, and American—that the offence is purged saless the vessel or cargo is captured in delicio.

Second. But there is another fatal objection to the payment exacted from Messrs. Kennedy & Co. When the third of exchange was returned here, the blockade no longer existed. It had been removed y order of the President, and the port declared to

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, NEW ORDEANS, July 22, 1862.

My Dear Sir: I have your decision in the matter of the money of S. H. Kennedy & Co., and while I shall pay back the money in obedience to it, if the partners take the oath of allegiance, I must dissent from the conclusions to which you have come tota animo.

animo.

The facts are briefly these: Kennedy & Co. were merchants doing business in New Orleans, the members of which were citizens of the United States. They shipped cotton bought at Vicksburg and brought to New Orleans from a Bayou on the coast whence steamers were accustomed to run the blockade to Havana, on board steamships: that were engaged in carrying goods from the neighborhood of New Orleans to Havana, in defiance of the laws and the President's proclamation, and under the further agreement with the Confederate authorities here, that a given per cent. of the value of their cargoes should be returned in arms and munitions of war Should be returned in arms and munitions of war for the use of the rebels.

Without such an agreement no cotton could be shipped from New Orleans, and this was publicly known, and the fact of knowledge that a permit for the vessel to ship cotton could only be got on such terms was not denied at the hearing.

The cotton was sold in Havana, and the net proceeds was invested in a dueft first second and

The cotton was sold in Havana, and the net proceeds were invested in a draft (first, second, and third of exchange), dated April 30th, 1862, payable to the London agent of the house of Kennedy & Oo., and the first and second sent forward to London, and the third, with account sales and vouchers, forwarded third, with account sales and vouchers, forwarded to the firm here through an illicit mail on board the steamer Fox, likewise engaged in carrying unlawfully merchandise and an illicit mail between Havana and the rebel States.

The third of exchange and papers were captured by the army of the United States, on the 10th day of May, on board the Fox, flagrante delictu, surrounded by rebel arms and munitions concealed in a beyon. May, on board the Fox, flagranic delictu, surrounded by rebel arms and munitions, concealed in a bayou leading out of Barataria Bay, attempting to land her contraband mails, and scarcely less destructive arms and ammunition, to be sent through the byways and swamps to the enemy.

During all this time S. H. Kennedy & Co. have not scent and the surround th not accepted the amnesty proffered by the proclamation of the commanding general, but preferred to remain within its terms, rebels and enemies.

Upon this state of facts the commanding general called upon Kennedy & Co. to pay the amount of net proceeds of the cotton (the third exchange of the draft), which, with the documents relating to this upleased to the proceeds. unlawful transaction, he had captured, as a proper forfeiture to the Government under the facts above stated, which was done. Upon the submission to you, whether the forfeiture was a proper one, you have decided that the money should be repaid because cause the jorfeiture was not proper.

Pardon me, if I respectfully examine the grounds of that decision. They are: First, that there was no capture of the

property or its representative actually running the blockade. Second, that there is no personal deliction of Kennedy & Co. in the acts done by them, which can render them subject to forfeiture; and third, that the blockade being raised by the proclamation of the President, and before the capture of the draft and paper, all deliction on account of the ransaction is purged.

Was not this third of exchange the very representative of the transaction in connection with the ac-count sales? If the first or second has been paid, then of course it becomes valueless, but there was no evidence that either the first or the second had been paid, nor could that have been done in tenday from Havana to London, in which case the third is the sole "proceeds" of the illegal transaction. Is not the third of exchange usually sent by consignee to the principal when the order is to transfer the fund to a distant house, precisely for the purpose of representing the transaction? In the hands of the owners, S. H. Kennedy & Co., were not these sevefirst, second, and third of exchange, can it be said that one is more valuable than the other to the hold-er? Kennedy & Co. did hold all these by themselves or their agents, all of equal value up to the capture. The hazards of the return voyage were guarded against by a shipment to England of one of the representatives of the cotton, but the commercial transaction was still in fieri in the transmission of its account sales and vouchers and representatives of evalue to the company here.

Even if I am right, however, it is unnecessary to elaborate the point further, because it seems to me that the decision turns upon a non-appreciation of the law as to what is the effect of the blockade. As applied to this transaction, the citations and arguments derived from elementary writers upon the law of nations are of no value. This is not the case of a resident subject of a foreign State attempting to clude the vigilance of a blockade by a foreign Power of a port of a third nation. The rule that a successful running of a blockade, or a subsequent raising of the blockade, purges the transaction, so far as punishment for personal deliction is concerned, is too familiar to need citation, at least by a lawyer to a lawyer. It would be desirable to see some citations to show there was no personal deliction in the transaction under consideration.

A traitor us commercial house directly engages in the treasonable work of aiding rebellion against the Government, by entering into a trade, the direct effect of which is to furnish the rebels with arms and ammunition. To this, they intentionally violated the revenue laws, postal laws of their country, as well as the laws prohibiting trade with foreign coun-

tries from this port, and are caught in the act, and fined only the amount of the proceeds of their illegal, treasonable transaction. Their lives, by every law, fined only the amount of the proceeds of their illegal, treasonable transaction. Their lives, by every law, were forfeit to the country of their allegiance! The representative of that country takes a comparatively small fine from them, and a commission of that same country refunds it, because of its impropriety.

Grotius, Puffendorf, Vattel, and Wheaton, will be searched it is wholeved in win for presented to searched, it is believed, in vain, for precedents for Why cite international law to govern a transaction between a rebellious traitor and his own Government? Around the State of Louisiana the Government. vernment? Around the State of Louisiana the Government had placed the unpassable barrier of law, covering every subject, saying to him from that State no cotton should be shipped, and no arms imported, and there no mails or letters should be delivered. To warn off foreigners, to prevent bad men of our own citizens violating the law, the Government had placed ships. Now, whatever may be the said for a moment that the fact that a traitor has successfully cluded the vigilance of the Government, that that very success purpes the crime, which

that that very success purges the crime, which might never have been criminal but for that success? The fine will be restored because stare decisis, but the guilty party ought to be and will be punished. A course of treatment of rebels and traitors which should have such results would be not only water," but diluted "rose water." The other reason given for the decision, that the blockade had been raised, is a mistake in point of fact, both in date and the place of capture. The cap-ture was not made of a vessel running into the port of New Orleans, where the blockade was raised, but from one of those lagoons where in former times, Lafitt, the pirate, carried on a hardly more atrocious business!
Something was said at the hearing that this money was intended by Kennedy & Co. for Northern

Sending it to England does not seem to be the best evidence of that intention: But of course no such consideration could enter into the decision.

Thave reviewed this decision at some length, because it seems to me that it offers a premium for treasonable acts, to traitors in the Confederate It says, in substance, violate the laws of the United States as well as you can; send abroad all the produce of the Confederate States you can, to be converted into arms for the rebellion—you only take the risk of losing in transitu, and as the profits are four-fold, you can afford so to do, but it is solemnly decided that in all this there is no "personal detiction," for which you can or ought to be punished, even by a line, and, if you are, the fine shall be re-I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER, Major General Commanding. Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON, Commissioner, &c., &c. JOHNSON TO BUTLER, JULY 26, 1863. I. There was no proof before me, by admission of parties or otherwise, that it was a part of the agreement under which their cotton was shipped to Havana, "that a given per cont. of value" "should be returned in arms and munitions

of war for the use of the rebels."

III. Another letter from the same to the same, Boston house of the actual sale of the cotton (250 bales) in Havana for net £1,780 sterling, and that had been remitted to London to be passed to the had been remitted to London to be passed to the credit of the New Orleans house; that you had compelled the house to pay the bill, estimating it at five dollars to the pound sterling; and that you had told them that you "did not confiscate the amount, but sequestered the same, subject to orders from your Government;" and they added, "we are thus deprived by this sequestration, and by the burning of other cotton of ours, by the rebels, of some seventeen or eighteen thousand dollars, with which we had intended paying you and others at the North debts due them;" and lastly, IV. In the only hearing of the case to which you invited me, after having done me the honor to ask me to decide between you and the claim agents, and when beside yourself and myself, one of the claim. when, beside yourself and myself, one of the claimants, S. H. Kennedy, and their counsel, Messrs. J. D. Rozier and Wm. H. Hunt, were also present when you stated that the shipment was made under the agreement, you now repeat, as to a return of a per centum in arms, &c. Mr. Kennedy positively denied that any such existed in his case, and, as yet, I have seen no cyidence of the fact other than your verbal statement, which, however I should hold all sufficient in regard to a matter of which you had personal knowledge, could not be received as evi-

dence under any known rule of evidence with which I am acquainted. * * * * *

Second. That the third of exchange and account sales were forwarded to the claimants through an illicit mail on board the steamer Fox, likewise engaged in carrying unlawful merchandlise between Hayana and the rebel States, "that the third of ex-Havana and the rebel States, "that the third of exchange and papers were captured by the army of the United States on the 10th of May, on board the Fox, flagrante delicto, surrounded by rebel arms and munitions concealed in a bayou leading out of Barataria bay, attempting to land the contrabund mails and scarcely less destructive arms and ammunition, to be sent through the by-ways and swamps to the enemy."

I. There was no proof before me that this mode of returning the draft to the claimants was selected

by them, or that they had any knowledge of it unti-"the army of the United States captured it" on the 10th of May. Conceding, argumenti gratia, that the facts, I if brought home to the claimants, as a part of the original plan, would affect the question I have decided, the conclusive answer to it is that the fact was not in any way proved. The United States, and you, as their honored representative, were the actors in the question. It was for you to establish, not by statement, but by evidence, every fact which you deemed material. My function was purely judicial. In discharging it, it was n y duty to regard alike all parties to the controny duty to regard alike all parties to the controversy. The money you had exacted was that of the claimants. You alleged that it was forfeited to the United States by some act of civil illegality, or of moral or legal crime. It was for you to make the charge good. Every fact tending to that end it was for you to establish. The absence of proof of it established the case of the claimants, and entitled them to a return of the money. If, therefore, the manner of the attempted transmission of the third of exchange and account sales in the Fox, with a contraband mail, even more destructive than arms or numunition, or, to use your words, "contraband mails, and scarcely less destructive arms and amnumition" (what kind of mail that was passes my comprehension), affected the question of sequestration or forfeiture, it was for you to verify it, not for the claimants to disprove it, or, as the judge between you for me to assume it.

Third. The only fact upon which you have put me right is, that the seizure was made before, and not after, the blockade was raised. -Major Babbitt, of the Rhode Island 7th Regiment, who died at Washington, D. C., on Tuesday, nent citizen of Bristol, for several years agent of the Bristol Steam Manufacturing Company, and was at

time of the seizure is immaterial. They had resched t long before my decision was given, and, having been paid by the drawees, the possession of the thirth by the claimants, or by you, claiming under them, gave no right whatever to demand of the claimants he amount of the bill; and the mailing at Havana of the first and second, directed to the proper par-ties in London, was equivalent to the receipt, unless it was made to appear that they never reached them.

them. Second. But you suppose that my application of the rule of national law, if I am right in the other particulars, "turns upon a non-appreciation of the law as to what is the effect of a blockade," and "as applied to this transaction ifs, derived from elementary writers on and arguments, derived from exements which of the law of nations, are of no argil.". Your reasons for this repudiation of the authorities which, in may simplicity, I cited, are that in this case "a traiterous commercial house directly engages in the treasonable work of aiding a rebellion against the Government of the state of th sonable work of aiding a rebellion against the Government, by entering into a trade; the direct effect of which is to furnish the rebels with sams and ammunition. To do this, they intentionally violate the revenue laws, postal laws of their country, as well as the laws prohibiting trade with foreign countries from this port, and are caught in the act, and fined only the amount of the proceeds of their tilegal tree. only the amount of the proceeds of their illegal trea-

sonable transaction."

First. I have already endeavored to correct the error of fact in the first part of this questice. There was no evidence before me when my decision was given, nor is there now, that the house of the claim-ants was a "traitorous commercial house," entering into a trade, the direct "effect of which is to furnish the rebels with arms and ammunition." On the contrary, the proof, the legal proof, is the other I. No such proof was or has been produced in

support of the charge.

II. It does not appear that the claimants ever II. It does not appear that the carmants or made any other shipments than the particular one.

III. They deny, and denied in your presence and mine, that they entered, in making the shipment, into an agreement to return a part of the proceeds in arms, &c., for the rebels. in arms, &c., for the rebels.

1V. It affirmatively appears that the entire proceeds were invested in scriling and remitted to London to be passed also in their entirety to the credit of the house. No treason, therefore, was perpetrated, unless the running the blockade with cotton to be sold, and the proceeds to be passed to the shipper's credit, and to be used in the payment of their loyal creditors residing in the loyal State of Massachusetts, was treason. Treason, under the Constitution of the United States, can "consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies giving them aid and comfort." giving them aid and comfort. The restoration of the Union, you will agree with me, will not repay us for the blood and treasure being so profusely expended to accomplish it, if it is to come to us deprived of the guarantees which

our fathers thought, and all experience proves, are so essential to human freedom, and especially of that so essential to human irredom, and especially of that guarantee which the definition of treason was ob-viously designed to offer. Permit me to say, my dear general, that no court in any part of our loyal coun-try would permit a prosecution for treason against Mesers. Kennedy & Co., upon the facts that were and Mesers. Kennedy & Co., upon the facts that were and are before me, to stand for a moment. The violation of the revenue laws, the postage laws, or "the laws forbidding trade with foreign countries," cannot be construed into the "levying war against" the United States, or "adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort." To offend in these particulars is to commit the offence which the special laws may define, and to subject the party to such punishment as the laws may provide. But such conduct is not treason, nor could Congress, the sole body vested with legislative power, make it treason. body vested with legislative power, make it treason, without totally and illegally disregarding the constitutional inhibition. If I am right in this view, your power over the parties was just that, and no other

that the law gives.

But, in this instance, you did not impose, nor assume to impose, a fine at all. You signed the specific thing, the third of exchange. You evidently considered that the representative of the original offending cargo. You requested that, and it was, the exact amount of what you considered its actual value that you held to be forfeited, or liable to beforefited to the United States, because of the original of the criments. forfeited, to the United States, because of the ori forfeited, to the United States, because of the original illegal shipment; you now, in the paper to which I am replying, take another ground; you abandon the right to the specific thing as forfeited; you rely upon the alleged traitorous conduct of the shippers, as justifying you in mulciing them in a penalty or fine; you now say that this fine was imposed in a spirit of mercy, "as their lives, by every law, was forfeited to the country." The question which you told one of the House you would submit to the Government was their liability to have the value of the bill sequestred—the specific bill—not value of the bill sequestred—the specific bill—no whether because of treasonable or other illegal acts you had a right to fine them to the amount of the bill, or to any other amount, or to impose upor them any other punishment.

As the representatives of the country, you now allege that, notwithstanding your assured heinous-ness of the offence, you imposed upon them a com-paratively small fine, and that I, as a commissioner of the same country, refund it because of its impre ricty.
You forget, General, that the question of your right in behalf of our common country, to impose a

fine upon the ground of previous crime, was never submitted to me. The blockade declared by the President, was b many persons said to be beyond this power, but th courts of the country have so far maintained and enforced it, and in doing this, as well against citi very authorities that you designate as wholly inap-plicable. To run a blockade is the same offence eized on the return voyage, is all that is subject forfeiture. But no offence is perpetrated for which the party can be otherwise punished. He is not liable personally, nor is any of this other property subject to forfeiture. I prefer to stand on the usages of our fathers,

those champions of constitutional liberty; who sacrificed property and life to secure it, rather than on the fitful, unregulated, unrestrained promptings of military power. I believe that the Union can only be restored—certainly sooner restored—by regarding he landmarks of the Constitution, by observing an and by forbearing to violate either upon any pre-ence of "military" or other "necessity." Let all e loyal men, and as with one heart, rally aroun the Government.

Alterations in Business.

We have to notice as the readers of our advertising columns will perceive, an unusually large number of changes in our business firms, that have taken place with the opening of the New Year. The copartnership heretofore existing betwee Messis, Oliver Howard Wilson, Samuel M. Anderson, and Edward' De Cernea has been dissolved b ual consent, the business of the firm to be set tled by either of the partners; and a limited partnership for a term of three years, has been entered upon by them, with the additional member of Wm. W. Holloway, of Bridgeport, Belmont county, Ohio, who is to be the special partner of the house, his contribution to the common stock of the new firm being twenty thousand dollars in cash. The style of the firm will be Wilson, Anderson, & Cernea, business, jobbing of dry goods. A limited partnership has also been formed b

tween Messrs, B. H. Bartol, and Alfred Kusenberg for a term of six years—the business intended to be onducted being the refining of sugar and molasses. The style of firm will be B. H. BARTOL, who is the general partner—the special partner being Mr. Alfred Kusenberg, who contributes to the common stock of the partnership, \$11,206.50. The partnership heretofore existing between Messis. James L. Southwick, George H. Sheble, and Edward A. Greene, under the firm of Southwick and a limited partnership formed between them with the additional name of Seth B. Stitt, who holds his position as the special partner of the new tributing to the common stock of the partnership, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The term of this alliance extends from the 1st instant, to March 31, 1868. Business, wool, and the manufac-

ture of woolen goods. The firm of De Coursey & Hamilton has also been dissolved by mutual consent for the purpose of entering into a limited partnership, the details of which are as follows: The new firm will consist of Messrs. Samuel G. De Coursey, Hugh Hamilton, Charles T. Evans, and Seth B. Stitt, the latter being the specia partner of the concern, and contributing to its common stock the sum of fifty thousand dollars. The firm has been constituted for the purpose of transacting the dry goods commission business; its style in future will be De Cooursey, Hamilton & Evans, and the term of the partnership three years. Still another limited partnership has been formed or rather renewed, to continue until Dec. 31, 1864, beween Messrs. Mathias M. Marple and George Gordon, the former being the general, and the latter the special partner, who paid into the common stock of the firm on the date of its original formation, February, 22, 1861, the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars. The style of firm hereafter, as heretofore, will be MATHIAS M. MARPLE; the general

business to be transacted is the buying and selling of arieties and fancy dry goods, at No. 53 North Third The limited partnership heretofore existing be tween Messrs, J. Theoph. Plate and Carl C. Schotter, (general partners) and Chr. F. Plate, (special partner) under the firm of J. T. PLATE & SCHOTT LER, for the purpose of conducting the importing and general commission business, has expired by its own limitation, and the same business will here after be conducted by the general partners for their own account, under the same style of firm as hereto

The firm of Isaiah Aldrich & Son has been dis olved by mutual consent, Mr. George W. Aldrich refiring, and a copartnership under the style of ALDRICH & YERKES, has been formed between Mesers. Isaiah Aldrich and Jones Yerkes, for the purpose of dealing in foreign and domestic fruits, and eneral produce, as commission merchants. Mr Yerkes announces that he will still continue the manufacture of refrigerators, &c., at No. 136 Dock street. The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. Keller & Emory has been dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Theo. D. Emory having removed to No. 209 South Fourth street, and Mr. Paul P Keller remaining at 327 Walnut street. A copartnership has been formed between Messrs Walter S. Newhall, Samuel Welsh, Jr., and Chas. C. Harrison, under the firm of HARRISON, NEW-HALL, & WELSH, for the purpose of conducting the

the Franklin Refinery. The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. P. Jenks Smith, H. Pratt Smith, John H. Williams, and Wm. P. Smith, dry goods merchants No. 513 Market street, has been dissolved by mutual consent, the business of the late firm to be settled by either of its members. The film of Edward K. Tryon & Co., wholesale gun merchants, No. 625 Market and 220 North Second streets, has been dissolved by the withdrawal of the senior partner, and a new firm has been formed between the sons of the retiring member Messrs. George W. Tryon, Jr., and Edward K. Tryon, Jr., under the style of TRYON & BROTHER, for the purpose of continuing the same business at the

Messrs. H. C. Trunick, Wm. H. Gregg, and Felix

Barr have associated themselves under the style of H. C. TRUNICK & Co., for the transacting of an importing and jobbing dry-goods business at No. 227 Market street and 216 Church alley. The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. F. F. Wolgamuth, Maurice Raleigh, and John Sullivan, under the title of "Philadelphia Webbing Company," has been dissolved. The business of the company will be settled by two of the partners, at No. 9 Bank and No. 12 Strawberry Messrs. Geo. W. Blabon & Co., oil cloth mer-

chants, North Third street, have admitted Mr. Wm.

same localities.

H. Richardson to an interest in their business. A copartnership has been entered into between Messrs. James S. Young and Thomas Altemus, under the firm of J. S. Young & Altemus, for the purpose of conducting the dry goods jobbing business, at No. 420 Market street. Messrs. W. D. and Robert F. Smith have formed partnership, under the style of W. D. Smith & Co., for the transaction of the brewing business at the old stand, northwest corner of Fifth and Minor old stand, northwest corner of Fifth and Minor streets, formerly occupied by their father, Mr. Robert Smith.

A new firm has been constituted by Messrs. James Monroe and Joseph E. Smaltz, under the style of with force an attempted violation of the blockade.

MONBOX & SMALTZ, for the transaction of the wholesale boot and shoe business, at No. 501 Mar-Messrs, Charles E. Jordan and Wm. C. Ross have formed a copastnership under the style of Jordan Ross, for the purpose of conducting the wholesale hat, cap, and straw goods business, at No. 35 Nogth Third street. The firm of S. Levine & Son, No. 235 Race street, has been dissolved by mutual consent, the business to be continued in future by the senior partner alone.

Messra Wm. E. Lockwood and E. Dunbar Lockwood have entered into a copartnership for the transaction of a general commission business, at No. 239 South Third street, under the name and style of E. D. Lockwood& & Co. Mr. George D. Parrish, wholesale foreign and domestic dry goods merchant, No. 312 Chestaut street, has admitted as a partner Mr. James Cresson Parrish; the style of firm now being, GEORGE D.

PARRISH & Co. Messrs. Magee & Hicks have admitted to ar interest in their business, Messrs. Isaiah Hicks and Chas. O. Swope Messrs. Brodhead & Brother, wholesale boot and shoe merchants, No. 211 North Third street, announce that they have extended their partnership for a further term. The special partnership between Messrs. J. R.

Philips, F. S. Philips and John M. King, has been dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. King. The two remaining partners have entered into a partnership under the name and style of J. R. & F. S. PHILIPS, for the purpose of conducting a jobbing cloth busin at No. 302 Market street The arrangement heretofore existing between Dr. William M. Uhler, and Powers & Weightman, at the chemical works of the latter in the Twenty-first ward, is announced to have ceased by mutual con-

M. Rogers and Samuel R. Evans, note-brokers, having been dissolved by the death of the former. Mr. Samuel B. Evans has associated with himself Mr. James W. Boyd, to continue the same business t the same place. No. 31 South Third street. Messrs. Nickerson & Moseley have associated with them in their business Mr. M. R. Harris: the style of firm in future to be NICKERSON, HARRIS, & Messrs, John C. Honkins and John McFluenv have formed a copartnership under the style of foun C. Horkins & Co., for the transaction of the

wholesale china, glass, and queensware business, at 612 Market street. The partnership heretofore existing under the name of Shultz, Peiper, & Co. has been dissolved by limitation, the business to be settled at No. 45 North Third street, by Mr. Peiper. Messrs. Walter F. Shultz and Albert C: Gardner have associated themselves, under the name of Shultz & Gardner, for the transaction of the boot and shoe business, at No. 45 North Third street. The copartnership heretofore existing between Messrs, Joseph F. Tobias and James Carstairs, Jr. has been dissolved by limitation, the business of the firm to be settled by Mr. Tonias, who will continue

he wholesale wine and liquor business at the old stand, Nos. 206 and 208 South Front street. Messrs, Charles S. Carstairs, and James Carstairs, Ir., have entered into conartnership for the transacion of a general commission and importing business, nder the firm of Charles & James Carstairs. The style and title of the firm of Weaver, Fitler, & Co., has been changed to FITLER, WEAVER, & Co., H. Fitler, Michael Weaver, and Conrad F. Clothier. The firm of Lippincott & Parry has been dissolved by Mr. Joshua Lippincott retiring, the remaining partner, Mr. Samuel Parry, having associated with nmself Messrs. Ellwood Johnson and Joshua W. Lippincott, and will continue the wholesale cloth business at the southwest corner of Second and Mar-

ket streets, as heretofore, under the style of Lippin-The firm of Harrold, Williams, & Co., bankers and exchange dealers, has been dissolved by mutual coned Mr. Elisha H. Hunt to its membership. Mr. James H. Peabody has been admitted as part

ner in the firm of George F. Peabody & Co. The firm of P. L. Ferguson & Co. having been dissolved by the death of Mr. Peter L. Ferguson, the ousiness will be continued by the surviving partner ander the name and style of Charles Ferguson. Mr. Charles Stokes has associated with him Messrs. Edward T. Taylor and William J. Stokes, and will bereafter continue the clothing and merchant tailoring business at No. 824 Chestnut street, under the Continental Hotel, under the firm of CHARLES | Boys' Ready-made Clot STOKES & CO Messrs. Ellis & Harrop, cloth merchants, No. 225 Market street, have associated with them Mr. Wm.

The copartnership heretofore existing in the name of Megargee & Brothers has been dissolved by mutual consent. The business will hereafter be conducted as heretofore, at Nos, 3 and 5 Decatur street, under the sittle of THEODORE MEGARGEE Messrs, Edward A. Adams, Henry P. Atkinson, and James M. Whitney, have entered into a copartnership for the purpose of transacting a general

R. Ellis, and will continue their business hereafter

under the name and style of ELLIS, HARROP, & Co.

jobbing dry goods business, under the name and style of Adams, Atkinson, & Co., at No. 33 North Third street. The conartnership heretofore existing between Robert M. Evans and Lewis L. Forbes, under the tual consent.

Messrs, Henry Dialogue and Samuel Greer have entered into a partnership for the purpose of carrying on the manufacture and sale of fire-hose and leather belting, under the firm of DIALOGUE S GREER, at No. 520 North street. The firm of Charles Ellis & Co. have associate with them William M. Ellicott, Jr., and have taken the warehouse on the northeast corner of Seventh and Market streets, where they will continue business as wholesale druggists and manufacturers o pharmaceutical preparations, under the firm name of CHARLES ELLIS, SON. & Co.

Fashions for December. If we may draw a conclusion from the prepara-ions made by the leading manufacturers of articles for ladies dress, we should be led to anticipate a severe winter; and, although warned by an old pro-verb, "not to judge by appearances," still, as faith-ful chroniclers of all matters referring to fashion, we re bound to notice the several novelties in material which are offered to the fair sex as a special protection against the expected inclemency of the season. Some of the new goods are perfectly novel, while others are merely old friends with new faces and names. Satin will be much worn this winter, as will also velvet and moire antique. The last-men ioned material is made in several new colors and designs; those with Pompadour flounces are per-haps the most elegant, and decidedly the newest. They are manufactured in a variety of shades, both light and dark: but are better adapted for evening light and dark; but are better adapted for evening wear. For toilettes de ville, silk and poplin are much worn. In both materials, the color of Russian leather is greatly in favor. For morning and indoor wear reps and drougets are still fashionable, are also a variety of new and old materials as which would scarcely be recognized by our readers under their new appellations. Evening and ball dresses are made in tuile or tarlatane, over silk or retire and the letter meaning the letter was in the letter meaning the second. satin, or either of the latter materials alone. It is naticipated that worked muslins will be revived For a young lady's ball dress, what can possibly be more elegant than the new gauze grenadine with satin stripes? It is excessively aerial in appearance, and is inexpensive wear.

Lace flounces or tunics will be much worn on ball dresses, but for toilettes de ville they are decidedly in had taste. We always considered them out of place for this purpose, and willingly announce their isappearance. On mantles lace has a very different ffect, and will still be the most habille style of nimming.
Soutache and passementerie are still and will long be favorife ornaments for cloaks and dresses. But-tons and tassels are much worn, and are made in a variety of different styles, which will suit any material or form. Speaking of trimmings, we welcome with great satisfaction the return of fringes, decidedly the most graceful ornament ever introduced. Our readers must not understand from this that we allude to the old style of straight silk fringes. Those now in favor are excessively be-coming, whether in silk or cheville. coming, whether in silk or chenille. They have splendid headings, and hang in tufts, separated by bendant buttons, or little mossy balls.
Fur is much worn on dresses and mantles; chinchilla is regaining its sway, and is considered more dress than Astracan, which has not lost*in favor since we last wrote; muffs, victorines, and cuffs are now made in the latter. Round boas are no longer worn; the furs intended for the throat are made in the shape of a large collar; they quite cover the shoulders, and are either pointed or round behind. These pelerines are made with or without long ends, but the latter are much the most distingue. Muffs, on the contrary, seem to disappear day by day, and if the present fashion continues they will soon not be of the slightest use. But a lady, however, always understands how to modify the fashions, and will never wear anything exaggerated. Plush is decided-y becoming a favorite material for bonnets and manles, and is even employed for trimming dresses. tles, and is even employed for trimming dresses.

The present shape of bonnet is, we think, the most elegant that has appeared for a long time. It is very narrow at the sides, very close to the cheeks, and, though still raised quite high at the top of the head, is very prettily rounded. The pointed form, we are happy to say, has totally, and we trust irrevocably, disappeared. The curtains appear to be little wider than they were a few weeks ago, but, we hope, will never recover their former preposterous dimensions. Bonnets are made in almost all materials—plush, terry velvet, silk, satin, figured materials—plush, terry velvet, silk, satin, figured tulle, and plain velvet. The trimmings are velvet, feathers, or flowers. Ribbon is very little worn, and only on quite morning bonnets. Feathers are more patronized than ever, both for bonnets and confures; patronized than ever, both for bonnets and confures; dresses are also trimmed with them, but not for outdoor wear. Terry velvet is not, of course, considered so habille for a bonnet as the plain royal velvet; in fact, the latter material mixed with satin or in fact, the fatter material, mixed with satin or taille, is the only style adopted when worn in dress. The new mantles are much smaller than was fashionable last winter; they are made in so great a diversity of form that it is a difficulty to select from them; we may, however, confidently state that the "polonaise" is the most elegant and desidedly the most dressy. This cloak is a species of half-fitting "polonaise" is the most elegant and decidedly the most dressy. This cloak is a species of half-fitting casque with sleeves; it is not so long as those formerly worn; it marks the outline of the figure without fitting, and it is much sprung out from the back below the waist, so as to allow for the tournure.

The Case of Commander Preble. REASONS FOR HIS DISMISSAL FROM THE SERVICE. The following official document sets forth the reasons for the dismissal of Commander Preble from the navy:

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 12, 1862.

"Sir: The board convened for the purpose of considering the case of Mr. George H. Preble, having reported that, in its opinion, Commander Preble did not perform his whole duty, and did not do his utmost to prevent the Oreto from entering the harbor of Mobile, has requested permission to give briefly some of the reasons which have guided it to this decision. is decision.
It ist. The failure to arrest the Oreto turns, in "ist. The failure to arrest the Oreto turns, in Commander Preble's three reports submitted to the board, upon his ignorance of her character, and his supposition that she was an English man-of-war. The practice of the sea supplies a mode of ascertaining the character of a suspicious vessel similar to the challenge of a sentinel on post. If the challenging or signal gun had been fired in the usual manner, at the usual time, according to common practice in such asset the real department. common practice in such cases, the real character o the Oreto would have been so far made apparent that Commander Preble would have been aware of the necessity of stopping her.

"2d. Owing to this neglect, the advantages of time and of position were lost; and both of these advantages were still further thrown away—first, by haling, which is not customary or proper in such circumstances; and, secondly, by waiting to fire more than one shot across the Orcto's bow. "3d. The board does not, by the three reports submitted to it, arrive at the conclusion that the Oreto's conduct was such as to justify her being mistaken

"5th. The proceedings in these service is the same with all nation fired by the stationary or cruisi the strange sail a determination hallenge to stop, and a desire to haracter. It is generally answ he strange sail places himself asaily approached.

"If, after this signal-gun has been blockeding vessel to warn the strange mer should fire a shotted gun then the man-of-war, of a foreign nation, wen re. "6th. Finally, Commander Preble could have boarded her; or, in she was in his power; and his his whole duty consists, in the board, in his not having employed dinary means of ascertaining her losing the advantages of time and ther by stopping to hail, and at second and third shot across her

"Very respectfully, your obedi "Rear Admiral and Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the CITY ITEMS

THE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL who contributed most effectively to the festivities of New Year's day, Mr. J. W orietor of the popular Restaurant, ner of Fourth and Chestnut streets, de nently to be mentioned. His preparation casion were, as usual, on the most su and from the flattering comments made tlemen, some five hundred in all, who tables during the day, we may safely a has not entered upon the New Year wi a laurel to his crown. It is now up mitted that he furnishes the best table and that, too, at more reasonable usually charged for first quality fare that the most fastidious epicure could in the best style, can always here be shortest notice. His meats of all kinds. the market affords; his butter, A No. 1 errapins, and salads, the finest in the wo wines delicious. We do not wonder, the Price has more first-class patronage | three dining saloons in Philadelphia FINE CARTES DE VISITE P Imperial, and Life-size Pictures, plain, Anished in colors, can be had in greatest at the popular ground-floor gallery of N No. 820 Arch street. Mr. Hipple is one of the No. 820 Anon Stronghly-skilled Joung attist ountry. Give him a call.

SUPERIOR TEAS AND COFFEES AT SONABLE PRICES.—Mr. C. H. Mattson, de Sonable Parison, designation, designation, designation and Tenth streets, is store a full line of the best black and green a fine article of Old Government Java, celebrated coffees, which he is selling at GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING Messra Charles Oakford & Son, under the ; Messrs. Onarico Occasional in mental Hotel, have now in store a super asse of all the choicest and most desirable;

Gents' Furnishing Goods. SPLENDID FURS SELLING OFFI Messrs. Charles Oakford & Son, Yos. 836 Chestnut street, under the Continent have still an elegant stock of rich Parsi and children, embracing all the different carieties, which they are selling at great prices, in anticipation of the close of the WIT AND WISDOM.—He who ! cold hearthstone will never be cheered by of the cricket. A State that lives by devouring its own vill soon have nothing left to feed on. Constant motion is a great law of nature, rebeing stationary—except pen, ink, and page, Many boys, when they go out into the call

roundabout way of keeping warm, The best way for both men and boys to keep wy is to wear the cheap and substantial garment up at the one-price clothing emporium of Gran Stokes, No. 609 Chestnut street, Philadelphia THE LAST CHANCE FOR A NEW YEAR PRESENT TO YOUR BOY .- One of the most av able and economical presents for your boy his of Winter Clothing. Charles Stokes tr Continental, has some of the best made Roys Co ing in this city, which he offers at the usual prices at which his other goods are sold clothing is all of new style materials, and terming best cutters. A private apartment, where he may select the goods. Charles Stokes, Va. Chestnut street, under the Continental. M

NAVIGATING THE AIR.-M. de Greek Bruges, asserts that after eleven years that has invented the means of flying in the arts direction. The machine is small, he says all enable man to move in the air " with the sain of the swallow and the vigor of the eagle." Groof has now only to mount his dving horse, turn a peg, let on the steam, and crosses Atlantic in about three-quarters of an hour, en Philadelphia, and after procuring a Sucier at the Brown Stone Clothing Hall of Resident Wilson, Nos. 603 and 605 Chestnut street, a Sixth, be back to Bruges in time for snews Wonders will never cease. EDWARD P. KELLY, Tailor, 142 S.T. street, formerly principal of Kelly & Brother.

ment of choice Winter Goods; also, Pattern oats and Business Coats, of all the furnity styles. Terms cash, at low prices. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS !- Get a beaut Steck Piano of J. E. Gould, corner of Sevent Chestnut streets. J. E. GOULD, corner of Seventh Chestnut streets, is the only one in Philadelphia

keeps the popular and truly beautiful Geo. Sa

Lukens, Kelly, & Bro., has on hand a large 5

ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS

UP TO 12 O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT. Continental Hotel-Ninth and Chesta Gaines, Cincinnati, O H B Wright & Barrows, Cincinnati, O John A Morie Thompson, New Yo el Emyser, Chicago Reeves, Richmond ork Elizabeth Northen, Vermont W Potter & la, N J Landerson, New York Girard House-Chestnut, below N

o C Heylman, Phila r Summers, Phila liss Cruikshank, Maryland P H Durkee & wf. U S A I C Green & wf. U S A H Sabatzky & la, St Louis

Merchants - Fourth street, below John M Stewart, Pa W A Wylie, Perry co, Pa I Smith, Washington H Curry, Pittsburg Stark, Hyde Park, Pa Mill, California Siah Bryan, Phila Heppick, Middletown y J Madeira, Manchoster SR Dunbar, Newport WH Toomey, Newport HH Markley & lady, Phila

American—Chestnut street, abou Sprankle, Altoona Mitchell t A antenem Mariaugh, Catasauqua V Murtaugh, Catasauqua R Shreve, New Jersey Woodhull C Benson, Baltimore B Champion, Philada St. Louis Hotel—Chestnut street, ab H Austin, Trenton, N J as McCabe, Wilmington

B S Gostie, Delaware
R D Dodge, US N
JD Elkins, New York
Saml Johnson
Miss K Haldeman, Lanc co
W M Dauforth, Buffalo
R W Birnie & la, Wilmg n
C S Howell, Toledo, Ohio The Union-Arch street, above J S Bursk & la, Lancaster
J H Patierson, Tyrone, Pa
Frank McGear, New Jersey
R J Tithcan, New Jersey
Gol R Fatchi, T States Union-Sixth and Market States Union—Sixth and Advances & wife, Wash a
E Spering, Columbia, Pa
Gee H Rumple, Columbia
H A A Grey, Columbia, Pa
H Loxman, Westmored to
Geo Mays, Clearfield co
Geo Mays, Clearfield co
John S Gleim, Huntingd m
A H Stoner, Mt Joy

David Harkey &

David Harkey &

Barley Sheaf-Second street, belo Comard, Solebury Comard, Warwick Bradshaw, Centreville Parcroft & la, N J Wilminson A Parcroft & Ia. A. J.
Wilminson, New Jersey
diss M Wilson, N. J.
Is Jones, Hathorough
drs A Walton, Blair co
drs McQuade, Blair co
divers, Blair co
Ur Bidle & dan, Blair co

Commercial-Sixth street, helow John E Girvin, Lancaster co E H Simpson, Milton, Pa L B Platt & wife, Delaware J A Conner, Wilming n, Del Black Bear—Third street, above Call D Harper, Olney, Pa J A Meyer, Leesport, Pa Saac Blecker, Myerstown Gideou Whetstone,

Baid Eagle-Third st., above Callo rs O F Huber, Allentown | B Walton, East rs O F Huber, Allentown | Mrs Walton, E rs V Hoffman, Allentown | Peter Brown, L National-Race street, above This J.M. Frank, Lancaster co M. Uhler & In. Pa E.H. Hunter Shiremanstown Il's Raudenbush, Reading J.R. Rus, Jr., P. J. Rus, Jr., P.

GEORGE STECK'S INIMITABLE PIANO FORTES, Grands and are rapidly taking precedence of all others power, evenness of touch, and pure quality of the should purchase without examining them classified the state of the The most eminent teachers are almost daily:

Prices to suit the times. SEVENTS and CHES ocll-stuth th