The Press.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1864.

We can take no notice of anonymous communications. We do not return rejected manuscripts.

Voluntary correspondence solicited from all parts of the world, and especially from our different military and naval departments. When used, it will be paid for.

The American Navy.

The length of the very able document in vindication of the American navy, by Senator GRIMES, should not deter intelligent readers. The statement of facts is invaluable, and most interesting. The argument is conclusive. A comparison of our navy with that of Great Britain shows the difference of building a great navy in a few years, and maintaining one that is the result of the labor of generations. The letter of Mr. DONALD MCKAY exhibits clearly the superiority of American steam vessels, and by an impartial array of facts gives ample reason for pride in what the Navy Department has done since the war begun. Even if we are not a first-class naval power, we are on the point of becoming one, and the thorough report Mr. GRIMES has given should silence forever complaints that are made either in ignorance or malice. It is not asserted that mistakes have not been made—that frauds have not been perpetrated, but Mr. GRIMES is right in affirming that "the ability of this nation to build and prepare the ships necessary to maintain as effective a blockade as it has been able to maintain during the last three years, will hereafter excite the wonder and admiration of the world."

A Thought About Mexico.

When the Government of JUAREZ, without waiting for the surrender of the Mexican capital, retired into the less accessible interior of the country, the French "idea" in Mexico became every day a subject of more animated discussion. Although NAPOLEON's reputation for military success was purchased by thousands of lives and millions of money, yet the value of that reputation was worth much more to him than the price he paid for it. He must have discovered long ago that Mexico is not an easy country to hold. But, being able to hold it, the unequalled natural wealth of Mexico was the auxiliary reward of his endeavors; and all her natural resources, which would be extended and protected by the formation of roads and railways, and the suppression of robberies, would form an inexhaustible reservoir from which to draw. Mexico was to be to him another Algeria, whose mineral wealth, at least, should pay all expenses, and leave something over. The Mexican population were to become crushed by some small exertion, and the extended importation of foreign aid was to swell the aggregate of these efforts. The mixed population of Mexico, and the immense natural sources of wealth, were to aid the Emperor, the one being increased by immigration, and the other made of exchangable value by the enlarged labor thus directed to it.

It remains to be seen whether these results will follow, and whether the imperialist "idea" will be duly carried out. The republican clime of Mexico is hardly the climate in which an empire ought to thrive. The Government of the United States is unused to such contact, and cannot now be expected to regard it with peculiar relish. The doctrine that republican institutions ought to prevail through the length and breadth of the continent of North America is not a creed to which we pin our faith merely for a time. It is a cherished, devout belief, and, whether it is referred to as the language of a wish or that of a prophecy, it is always to be regarded as a belief which will mould circumstances rather than be moulded by them.

Mexico is beginning to be looked to by the English as one source of relief for the Lancashire distress. Already is being calculated the supply of cotton which may be grown upon the Mexican seaboard, and more English capitalists and engineers than ever are anxious to explore the mines which have already been so successfully worked. The custom which English merchants have done with Brazil has been more satisfactory than that of the neighboring States. Mexico, however, offers equal advantages, with the additional consideration of being destitute of the negro slavery system which has rendered Brazil demoralized and impotent. The policy of common sense which has so often been set forth by the British writer as the standard policy of Great Britain, is that which her traders will conceive as directing them to the shores of the recognized Mexican empire.

MAXIMILIAN having accepted the invitation of FOREY's nominees to assume the government of Mexico, with the title of Emperor, and with a constitution borrowed from France, it has been remarked that in the settlement of the question whether Mexico is to be an Austrian monarchy, a Latin empire, or a French dependency, it will be necessary, sooner or later, to deal with the hostility of the United States. With respect to the recognition by France of the Confederacy, it is by no means true that a French navy and Confederate army would render Mexico invulnerable against the utmost efforts of the North. But, whatever associations await these Governments, meanwhile the French Government and the French people are not united in sympathy. The French people do not relish the cost of conquest. They look upon the millions which have been spent as so much unnecessary outlay, and this view of the case is embittered by a consciousness that the duration of that very success is uncertain and precarious.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1864.

The address of Jefferson Davis to the rebel armies is characteristic of that specious demagogue, and a fair illustration of the manner in which the people of the seceded States have been cheated and oppressed by leaders who know that while the masses will be forgiven, in the event of peace they (the leaders) will be forced to fly to save their wretched lives. This business of appealing to Southern prejudices and passions is very nearly at an end; and it shows the desperation of Davis that he could find no other expedient to raise the drooping spirits of his followers. No one knows better than Davis the utter hopelessness of the rebel cause, and none living can so well realize the horrors of the rebel conscription. He felicitates himself, and thanks his troops for the readiness with which many of them have agreed to re-enter the hard service of the rebellion, and he tells them, with admirable complacency, "The people compares your spontaneous and unanimous offer of your lives for the defence of your country with the halting and reluctant service of the mercenaries who are purchased by the enemy at the price of higher bounties than have hitherto been known in war." Of course, Davis knew that he got back a number of his old troops because they had no place to go but to the army, and also because they had no opportunity to escape into the Federal lines so as to avoid the almost savage cruelties of the rebel conscription. One instance out of many of almost daily occurrence may be given, to show how this act of tyranny is regarded by the men who have tasted of the black and bitter cup of treason. A gentleman of large wealth, heretofore a prop of the rebellion, and ready to make any reasonable sacrifice to give it a fair trial, seeing that the conscription would be alike remorseless and exceptionless, contrived to escape from his home, with a sufficient sum to start business in a loyal State, although forced to surrender to the rebel confiscation law a large amount of valuable real estate. The prisoners escaping into our lines to avoid conscription are counted by thousands. The confessions of the leaders in the rebel Congress, that this act cannot be enforced without creating the greatest distress among the soldiers and the people, are notorious, for are they not almost daily printed in the Richmond papers? All these facts were as familiar to Jeff Davis as to ourselves. And it is the boldest and most heartless comfort to the fighting men in the rebel army to say that their condition is enviable in comparison with the brave Union heroes, who go to the field to fight for the old flag, because they are able to leave their families and relatives comfortable and happy! Nothing could be more eloquent than the contrast between the impoverished and starving people of the seceded South, while their fathers, and brothers, and sons are off in the battle-fields, and the prosperous and comfortable condition of the people of the loyal States. This contrast cannot be always kept from the oppressed men of the South. That the masses of the rebel army are ignorant, and have been kept in ignorance, we know full well; but truths like these will penetrate and take root, and produce a harvest of terrible retribution.

OCCASIONAL.

WASHINGTON.

[Special Despatches to The Press.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 16

The Philadelphia Union League and the President.

A large delegation, appointed by the Philadelphia Union League, laid before President LINCOLN this evening the resolutions unanimously adopted about the middle of January, at a great meeting of that influential association, endorsing the present Administration, and earnestly recommending Mr. LINCOLN for re-election. The resolutions were presented by MORTON MCMICHAEL, Esq., in an eloquent speech, which was kindly and characteristically responded to by the President.

Abolition.

Senator SUMNER yesterday read the first part of an able report to a special committee of the Senate on slavery, in support of a bill to give added sanction to the proclamation of freedom, and to repeal the now doubly-obnoxious fugitive-slave law.

Success of the Constitutional Amendment.

In a few days REVERDY JOHNSON, of Maryland, will speak at length in support of an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting slavery forever. The same amendment is sustained by Senators HICKS, of Maryland, and HENDERSON, of Missouri, both of whom were formerly opposed to such a measure.

Re-enlistments Increasing.

The President's recommendation, so wisely adopted by Congress, that the time for re-enlisting veteran volunteers be extended to the 1st of March, has greatly increased the numbers and efficiency of the army. Large numbers of old soldiers are daily re-enlisting in the Army of the Potomac, and, in many cases, for the armies of the South and West.

[DESPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

Congressional.

The increase of the salaries of the Assistant Secretaries, and the First, Second, and Third Assistant Postmaster Generals, in the Senate yesterday, will be vehemently opposed in the House.

The whisky debate is to be resumed again in the House. Both sides are confident of triumph. The whole contest is upon the proposition to tax whisky on hand.

The Reciprocity Treaty.

A communication from Lord LYONS, dated January 19, encloses a communication from the Governor General of Canada, with official reports relative to the recent seizure of live stock by the customs authorities at the Suspension Bridge, showing that during the first three-quarters of 1863 the imports into Canada West of live stock from the United States amounted to 1,319 horses, 6,608 horned cattle, 2,755 sheep, and 10,367 swine. Partial reports for the last quarter show a further import of 277 horses, 664 horned cattle, 2,507 sheep, and 7,517 hogs. An explanation is asked in view of so heavy importations long after the order was issued prohibiting the exportation of articles for which present policy required the detention. Secretary CHASE expresses surprise, in his reply of January 19, that the order of May 19 had so little effect in diminishing the exportation of live stock to Canada, and declares his intention of immediately correcting the negligence or misapprehension of the customs officers of the frontier, but cannot make an exception in favor of the parties who suffered loss by the seizure at the Suspension Bridge.

General CANBY, under the instructions of the Secretary of War, says the Executive orders were so far modified in September last as to allow the exportation of live stock from any State or Territory bordering on the Pacific. It is deemed inexpedient further to modify the order.

Destruction of Blockade Runners.

The Navy Department has received a despatch from Admiral LEE, dated on the flagship Minnesota, off Newport News, Va., Feb. 15, 1864, in which he reports the circumstances attending the capture and destruction by the blockading force off Wilmington of the following blockade runners.

The Wild Dayrell, Nutfield, Dee, Emily, and the Fanny and Jenny. The Admiral says upon the reporting of the Sassacus, Lieutenant Commander ROWE, she was ordered by me to duty as an outside cruiser, to cruise upon the line of bearing between New Inlet and Bermuda, and not farther eastward than the meridian of 70 degrees west longitude—a station where her reputation for speed would be severely tested, and one in which a very fast cruiser would prove a great stumbling block to blockade runners. The result has fully equalled my expectation, and the destruction of the steamers Wild Dayrell and Nutfield by the Sassacus, both new and fast steamers, the latter on her first voyage, are added to the long list of disasters to the blockade runners. Upon the morning of the 1st inst. Lieut. Commander ROWE discovered black smoke in shore of him, and, pursuing it, discovered the Wild Dayrell on shore near Stump Inlet. He boarded her, and found her to be partially filled with an assorted cargo. Her crew had abandoned her, and fled to the shore. After great exertions to get her afloat, in which he was assisted by the Florida, it was found impracticable, and she was completely destroyed.

Lieut. Commander ROWE estimates her value, with her cargo, at about $200,000. After completing the destruction of the Wild Dayrell, the Sassacus proceeded to take up her designated station, and at seven o'clock on the morning of the 4th a blockade runner was discovered to the north and west of him, distant twelve miles. Chase was at once given, and after a run of five miles the steamer was brought to under fire, and finding escape impossible, she was run on shore at 1 P. M., near New River Inlet. Her officers and crew escaped to the shore in their boats, one boat, however, being capsized and the crew drowned, with the exception of a Mr. MELL, the purser of the steamer, who was rescued from drowning by the boats of the Sassacus, which were immediately sent to take possession of the prize. She proved to be the Nutfield, from Bermuda, bound to Wilmington. In consular despatches from Mr. MELL, I learn that her cargo was munitions of war, arms, a battery of eight Whitworth guns, and pig lead. The guns and lead were thrown overboard during the chase. Finding it impossible to get the Nutfield afloat, after great exertion to that end, she was fired and destroyed. Some seven hundred rifles and a number of cavalry sabres, together with other articles, were rescued from her, and will be sent in for adjudication at an early date.

Lieut. Com. ROWE reports that the Sassacus attained a speed of thirteen and a half knots, and gained rapidly upon one of the fastest steamers yet sent out to run the blockade.

On the 6th instant the Cambridge discovered a steamer ashore and on fire about one mile north of Masonboro Inlet, which proved to be the blockade-running steamer Dee, from Bermuda, bound to Wilmington. It was impossible to extinguish the flames, or to get her off, and Commander SPICER, of the Cambridge, abandoned the attempt, and still further disabled her by firing into her. Seven of her crew were captured, and are now held as prisoners on the Cambridge. From them I learn that the Dee was commanded by G. H. BIER, formerly a lieutenant in the U. S. naval service. She was loaded with lead, coffee, and bacon, all of which, with the vessel, were completely destroyed.

At 5.50 A. M. on the 15th inst. a steamer was discovered from the Florida standing along the shore toward New Inlet. After pursuing and firing at her she ran ashore near Masonboro Inlet. Commander CROSBIE sent his boats and took possession of her. She proved to be the side-wheel steamer Fanny and Jenny, commanded by the notorious Capt. COXETTER, who, with the purser, was drowned in endeavoring to reach the shore. The remainder of her crew, 25 in number, were captured, and are now prisoners on board the Florida. The steamer was loaded with merchandise and coal. The enemy opened fire upon the wreck and upon the Florida with musketry, by which Paymaster J. J. KELLER received a severe but not dangerous wound.

Finding it impossible to get the steamer afloat, after much exertion, Commander CROSBIE ordered her to be fired, which was done under a severe fire of the enemy. The Florida received some damage from the enemy's fire, but it can readily be repaired.

At the same time that the Fanny and Jerry ran on shore another steamer was seen from the Florida ashore about one-half mile to the northward, which was also boarded by the Florida's boats, and proved to be the Emily, from Nassau, with a cargo of merchandise and salt. She was also fired and destroyed, as it was impossible to get her afloat. The Fanny and Jenny, Emily, and Nutfield were new vessels, and this is supposed to be their first attempt to run the blockade.

The Wild Dayrell has made one successful voyage, and the Dee is an old offender.

The Case of Consul General Giddings.

The documents in the case of Consul General GIDDINGS, involving his arrest, have been communicated to Congress, in response to a resolution calling upon the Secretary of State for the information.

Messrs. PERKINS and STEPHENS, counsel for Mr. GIDDINGS, in a communication to the Attorney General, speak of the arrest as an outrage and an attempt at blackmailing, the suit being for $20,000 on an alleged kidnapping of one REDPATH, and they express the opinion that a consul general with semi-diplomatic powers should be exempt from arrest.

The Attorney General sends the letter to Mr. SEWARD, saying that the subject does not concern the duties of his office. The Secretary of State, on November 21st, writes to Mr. BATES, disclaiming for consuls general any diplomatic immunity, and referring to the third article of the Convention of 1815, which declares that a consul may be punished or remanded home for illegal or improper conduct. Mr. GIDDINGS details the facts of his arrest, and states that he gave bail for $30,000, and instructed his counsel to move to quash the proceedings on the ground that a consul cannot be taken from the duties of his office at the writ of a private individual, and to claim ex-territorial privilege. In a subsequent letter he states that REDPATH claimed to be a citizen of New York; that he was destitute of means for food and lodging; he denied all knowledge of a public statement that he had commenced a suit for the issuing of a process to send him from Canada, and weeping bitterly, obtained pecuniary aid from Mr. GIDDINGS and a recommendation to other charitable persons. The next day REDPATH filed an affidavit, claiming damages for imprisonment.

He claimed that REDPATH had been importuned and pressed to such action by the editor of a Secession paper in Montreal, and others in the Secession interest, and that it was understood throughout Canada to be a vexatious proceeding, intended to be offensive to the United States.

Reduction of Salary.

Senator HALE has succeeded in getting the salary of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy reduced $500.

New Provost Marshal.

Colonel T. INGRAHAM, of the 38th Massachusetts Volunteers, has been detailed by General MARTINDALE as provost marshal of the military district of Washington.

The Enrolment Bill.

The House of Representatives have insisted on their amendments to the Senate enrolment bill, and appointed as a committee of conference on their part Representatives SCHENCK of Ohio, DEMING of Connecticut, and KERNAN of New York, and the Senate have appointed as their conferees Senators WILSON of Massachusetts, GRIMES of Iowa, and NESMITH of Oregon.

Illness of Senator Hicks.

Senator HICKS, of Maryland, still lies very ill at the National Hotel.

Funeral of Captain Ramsey.

The funeral of Captain ALAN RAMSEY, of the United States Marine Corps, took place this afternoon. The pall bearers were Majors NICHOLSON and CASH of the Marine Corps, Captains JONES and JEFFERS of the navy, and Captains CUTTING and RICHIE of General AUGUR's staff. There was no military escort, by request of the family, but one hundred marines, with side arms, followed the remains to the cemetery. A large number of army and navy officers were present.

The Virginia Constitutional Convention.

The Constitutional Convention of Virginia, now in session at Alexandria, effected a permanent organization to-day by the election of LEROY T. EDWARDS, of Norfolk, as president, and W. J. COWING, editor of the *Virginia State Journal*, as secretary.

The Case of Provost Marshal Todd.

Captain TODD, Provost Marshal of Washington, is at his office this morning, but is still under arrest.

The Government Gold.

There is an evident disposition on the part of Congress to grant authority to Secretary CHASE, to sell the surplus gold in the Treasury. His friends assert that the receipts at the custom houses, between now and July 1st, will be more than sufficient to meet the specie demands at that time, and that a judicious use of even half of the twenty-two millions of gold now in the treasury will put a stop to exportations in gold. Others fear that if this gold is taken from the Treasury, it will be sent abroad and will have a disastrous effect upon finances.

The Vallandigham Case.

Justice WAYNE's able opinion on the VALLANDIGHAM case, in the Supreme Court, is about to be published. It will command attention.

Old Virginia State Convention.

A convention to amend the State Constitution of Virginia met at Alexandria on Saturday and again yesterday. Delegates have been elected from Alexandria, Fairfax, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Loudon counties; the district of York, Warwick, and Accomac and Northampton.

The Hat-Body Patent Case.

The hat-body patent case is being continued to-day in the U. S. Supreme Court. Elaborate specifications and plans of machinery are to-day being explicitly explained to the court. The attendance of spectators is more than usually large.

Personal.

General SICKLES and General KILPATRICK are still in Washington.

CALEB S. WRIGHT, of Philadelphia, offers to charter the steamer General Hooker to the Government at the rate of *forty-five dollars* per day.

MURDOCH's reading last night, in the Senate Chamber, was quite a success. The President, Vice President, and a large and appreciative audience, richly enjoyed the reading, and Mr. JANVIER's new poem on "Gettysburg."

FORTRESS MONROE.

The Escaped Richmond Prisoners—Additional Names.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 16.—Twenty-six Union officers arrived here this forenoon, having escaped from the Libby Prison on the 10th inst.

In addition to the names already reported are Col. H. P. Kendrick, 3d Tennessee Cavalry; Lieut. Col. George G. Davis, 4th Maine; Lieut. Col. Alex. Von Weitzel, 74th Pennsylvania; Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, quartermaster; Major T. O. Collins, 29th Indiana; Major George Fitzsimmons, 30th Indiana; Lieut. Wm. Reynolds, 73d Indiana; Lieut. L. P. Williams, 73d Indiana; Capt. Matthew Boyd, 73d Indiana; Capt. Morton Tower, 13th Massachusetts; Capt. Michael Gallagher, 2d New York Cavalry; Capt. A. G. Hamilton, 12th Kentucky; Capt. J. C. Fisher, 7th Indiana Battery; Capt. J. F. Gallagher, 2d Ohio; Lieut. N. S. McKeon, 21st Illinois; Capt. Isaac N. Johnston, 6th Kentucky; Capt. W. L. B. Randall, 2d Ohio; Lieut. R. Y. Bradford, 2d Tennessee Cavalry; Capt. D. J. Jones, 1st Kentucky Infantry.

About twenty-five others, who escaped at the same time, were recaptured.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 15.—List of vessels passing the guard ship Young Rover to-day:

Arrived—Schooners Mary Standish, Capt Parker, Baltimore, to Boston; Anna Arms, Capt Hix, Baltimore to Boston; B Barker, Capt Higgins, Providence to Patuxent river; Ida Wild, Capt Foster, Boston to Patuxent river; Mary Dyer, Capt ——, Boston to Baltimore; J W Freeman, Capt Freeman, Boston to Baltimore; Eliza Rebecca, Capt Frye, Baltimore to Providence; Hunter, Capt Howard, Providence to Patuxent river; Speedwell, Capt Coffin, Boston to Deal's Island; Eliza Johnson, Capt Pniver, Baltimore to Boston; E B Manter, Capt Decker, Tangiers to New York; Albert Clary, Capt Freeman, Deals Island to New York; Danville, Capt Goodell, New York to Washington; brig Lucy Ann, Capt Hall, Baltimore to Cardenas; schrs United, Capt Anderson, Yorktown to Fortress Monroe; A M Ackan, Capt Acken, New York to Fortress Monroe; steamer Chas Osgood, Capt Geer, New York to Fortress Monroe; Shetucket, Captain Kelly, New York to Fortress Monroe; John A. Warner, Captain Cone, Washington to Fortress Monroe; J M Lewis, Captain ——, Washington to Fortress Monroe. Schooners J M Vance, Captain Burdge, Philadelphia to Fortress Monroe; Telegraph, Captain Higgins, Boston to Fortress Monroe; Sharpe, Captain Sharpe, Philadelphia to Fortress Monroe; Brig Waltham, Captain Riley, Baltimore to Boston. Schooners Henry French, Captain Davis, Washington to New York; Union, Captain ——, Baltimore to New York; Flora Rodgers, Captain Grant, Alexandria to New York; Alert, Captain Moore, Pocomoke river to Boston; Cheviot, Captain Cole, Washington to Hilton Head; E A Grasier, Captain Newcomb, York river to New York; Mott de Bell, Captain Burdell, Alexandria to New York; Telegraph, Captain McIntyre, York river to New York; Anna M Edwards, Captain Hinson, Philadelphia to Newbern.

Sailed—Schooners Kate Callahan, Captain Cramer, Philadelphia to Newbern; E M Perry, Captain Risley, Philadelphia to Newbern; Claude Gridley, Captain Reed, Washington to Hilton Head; John Dorrance, Captain Rice, Norfolk to Philadelphia. Sloop Eagle, Captain Name, New York to Fortress Monroe. Schooner B F Wright, Captain Brown, Boston to Fortress Monroe. Sloop Reindeer, Captain Cullen, Baltimore to Fortress Monroe. Schooner L S Levering, Captain Corson, New York to Fortress Monroe.

Three Union prisoners of war arrived here to-day from Danville (Va.) prison. They have been fifteen days on the route, and came into our lines via Suffolk.

Steamer S. R. Spaulding sailed for Beaufort this afternoon.

ARKANSAS.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 16.—The *Democrat's* special despatch from Fort Smith says that the coming State election will be held in about thirty-six counties. There will be no opposition to Judge Murphy. Arkansas will be represented in the Louisville Freedom Convention.

Captain Dunham, of General Banks' staff, has arrived from Little Rock with important despatches relating to the future co-operations for the extinguishment of the rebellion in the Trans-Mississippi Department.

An immense commissary train arrived from Little Rock yesterday.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 15.—Gen. Burbridge is reported as the successor of Gen. Ammen, as commander of the United States forces in Kentucky.

COLORADO TERRITORY.

DENVER CITY, C. T., Feb. 16.—Resolutions recommencing the re-election of President Lincoln were passed by both branches of the Legislature, unanimously, to-day.

James D. Clark, the pay-clerk of the branch mint in this city, absconded on Saturday night, with $30,000 in greenbacks and gold.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 16.—The preliminary circular setting forth the objects and purposes of the Mississippi Valley Sanitary Fair, which will be held in St. Louis, commencing on the 17th of May, appears in our papers this morning. The executive committee urgently request papers throughout the country to give it extensive circulation, and invite an attentive perusal by the people of all sections.

Cairo.

CAIRO, Feb. 16.—The 13th Wisconsin Infantry Veteran Volunteers, 400 strong, arrived from Nashville this morning, en route for home.

The municipal election here resulted in the election of the Citizen's ticket.

Four hundred men, recruits from Iowa, will arrive to-day, to go South.

Port Royal.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The steamer Fulton sailed this afternoon for Port Royal. Among her passengers is Samuel W. Mason, Esq., late of the Boston *Herald*, who takes with him materials for printing a new paper at Port Royal, to be called the *Palmetto Herald*.

The French corvette Philston arrived here this evening.

San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 16.—Greathouse, who was convicted of participating in the privateer Chapman case, took the oath of allegiance to-day, and was released from prison, Judge Hoffman having decided that the President's amnesty proclamation covers his case. Harpending, the only person captured on the Chapman who remains in prison, declines to take the oath.

Sub Treasurer Cheeseman sent East, in coin, $1,500,000 in Government funds by the mail steamer on the 13th.

Defeat of the Indians in New Mexico.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 16.—A Leavenworth despatch says advices from New Mexico, of January 31st, state that Colonel Kit Carson pursed the Navajoe Indians through Canon de Chelle, killing 23 and taking 150 prisoners. The expedition was very successful.

Governor Goodwin, of Arizona, organized the government of that Territory on the 29th of December.

General Blunt was preparing to leave for Fort Smith.

Veterans Returning.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The 27th Massachusetts Regiment reached here to-night on their return from to seat of war.

BOSTON, Feb. 16.—The Veteran 32d Massachusetts Regiment leaves to-morrow on their return, their furlough having expired. On mustering to-day at Faneuil Hall less than a dozen were absent, and most of these were by leave.

THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The Situation at Chattanooga and Knoxville.

SHERMAN'S PROGRESS EXCITING CONSTERNATION.

JACKSON NOT YET TAKEN.

Gen. Smith's Cavalry at Holly Springs, Mississippi.

GUNBOAT CO-OPERATION.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 16.—The *Gazette's* latest Chattanooga despatch, of the 12th inst., says rain has been falling furiously for the past 24 hours. The situation of Johnston's rebel army was unchanged.

General Sherman's progress excites great consternation among the rebels.

Eighty-four rebel deserters came in on Saturday. The trains run regularly on all the railroads.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 16.—General Foster passed through here yesterday.

Generals Schofield and Stoneman arrived at Knoxville on the 9th inst.

The situation at Knoxville is unchanged. The Union citizens report that Longstreet had the railroad in running order to Strawberry Plains.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S EXPEDITION.

ST. LOUIS, Feb 16.—A private letter from Vicksburg, dated the 8th instant, from an eye-witness, says that General McPherson's corps crossed the Big Black river, 15 miles from Vicksburg, on the 7th instant. General Hurlbut's corps took a parallel route from Vicksburg and crossed Messenger's Ford, five miles above McPherson's crossing, on pontoons. Each column is fourteen miles long. The force sent up was to prevent a flank movement to cut off our trains. The iron-clads will try to reach Grenada to co-operate with General Smith's cavalry and drive Forrest's rebel command towards Canton, where Bishop Polk's conscripts are. Jackson is said to be fortified with cotton bales.

This letter establishes the falsity of the specials from Nashville to New York, stating that General Sherman entered Jackson on the 5th.

A Memphis despatch of the 12th inst. says that General Smith's cavalry expedition camped last night at Holly Springs, and will probably next be heard from through secession sources.

The weather became very cold here last night, the mercury sinking from about 40, in the evening, to 4 degrees above zero at 8 o'clock this morning.

The Missouri Legislature adjourned *sine die* this morning.

MISSOURI.

General Rosecrans Before the Legislature

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 15.—The 15th Missouri, veteran volunteers, arrived to-day from Chattanooga, and were enthusiastically received by a large concourse of citizens, who escorted them through the streets.

They were also escorted by several civic societies to Turners' Hall, where refreshments were provided for them, and a flag was presented. The streets were densely thronged with people, and flags waved from nearly every house-top.

General Rosecrans visited Jefferson City to-day, and was formally received by Governor Hall, Gen. Brown, and a committee of both Houses of the Legislature, who escorted him to the Hall of the House of Representatives, where he made a speech to the joint session of the Assembly, upon the condition of affairs in Missouri.

He said the great object to be attained in the State now is the restoration of law and order, and invited the members to give him information of the condition of affairs in their respective sections, and their judgment as to the best means for accomplishing that end.

The telegraph is completed to Little Rock, Arkansas, via St. Louis and Fort Smith.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—1st SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1864

SENATE.

On motion of Mr. HARDING, of Kentucky, the bills granting lands to aid in the construction of a military road from the Dalles of Columbia river to a point at or near the mouth of the Owyhee river, and from Eugene City to the eastern boundary of the State of Oregon, were passed.

Statutes of Limitation.

The Senate, on motion of Mr. HARRIS, of Maryland, proceeded to consider the bill repealing the statutes of limitation in certain cases, which was passed.

The bill provides that whenever during the existence of the present rebellion any action, civil or criminal, shall accrue against any person who, by reason of resistance to the execution of the laws of the United States, or the interruption of the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, cannot be served with process for the commencement of such action, or the arrest of such person; or whenever such action, civil or criminal, shall have accrued, such person cannot, by reason of such resistance of the laws or such interruption of judicial proceedings, be arrested or served with process for the commencement of the action, the time during which such shall so be beyond the reach of legal process, shall not be deemed or taken as any part of the time limited by law for the commencement of such action.

Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, introduced a petition from the women of Ohio, praying for the repeal of the law requiring the rendition of slaves, and for an amendment to the Constitution, so that it can be no longer construed to favor slavery. Referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Mr. DOOLITTLE, of Wisconsin, presented a resolution from the Chamber of Commerce of Milwaukee, recommending the construction of a ship canal around Niagara Falls, on the American side. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. DOOLITTLE also introduced a bill to amend an act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers, which was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

This bill punishes the furnishing of spirituous liquors to Indians with an imprisonment not exceeding two years, and fines not exceeding three hundred dollars, and the forfeiture of the liquors—one half to go to the informer.

Territory for Colored People—Mr. Lane's Speech.

On motion of Mr. LANE, of Kansas, all prior orders were postponed, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill to set apart a portion of the State of Texas for the use of persons of African descent.

Mr. LANE said that the present war of slavery against freedom first opened in his own State, and in the contest against venal officials and a corrupt institution, they learned that slavery was the sum of all villainies. Guided by that experience, immediately upon the fall of Fort Sumpter he commenced urging, in public speeches and writings, the policy of emancipating and arming the blacks. But the public mind had been taught for generations to regard slavery as a thing sacred to the several States holding slaves, rendering it no mean task to bring the mind of the people up to a safe condition of support to measures of emancipation and arming the negroes, and he believed that had either of them been adopted at that time, they would have thrown into the hands of our opponents the political power of the country, and resulted in the triumph of the rebellion. The proudest page in the history of this Administration would be the record of the fact that the President had sufficient sagacity to restrain himself and his friends from issuing the emancipation proclamation of the 22d of September, when public sentiment was nigh ripe for it. The proclamations of Fremont and Hunter amounted to nothing except as indications of the course of public sentiment, and they would have been injurious had they been in operation in freeing the slave. The policy of the Administration relative to emancipation and arming of the negroes had been accepted by the loyal men of the country, but another step remained to be taken—an amendment of the Constitution, abolishing slavery altogether. The time had now arrived, when the last question in the programme—what shall be done with him? His social and political inequality with the white race renders it impossible for him to develop in our midst to that point to which he is capable, and to leave such a mass of disfranchised labor to the caprice and cupidity of the capitalist would present a temptation to introduce an aristocracy as dangerous to the republican form of Government as the present rebellion. We should give them a country of their own, with the rights springing from actual dominion of that country, and exercise over them, for the time being, a territorial government. By the provisions of this bill we would remove from amongst us a disturbing element and demon, and demonstrate to the world their capacity for self-improvement and self-government, and plant at the door of Mexico 4,000,000 of good citizens, who could step in at any time, with invited, to strengthen the hands of the Republic. He did not propose to remove them at the expense of the Government, but they should go as other emigrants go—at their own expense. Under this policy they would have a greater incentive to industry and economy; and from the day that the well-assured hope of such a destination was held out to them would date those stimulating efforts at elevation and culture which must precede the independence of the race. In conclusion, he would urge the withdrawal of white troops from Western Texas, supplying their places by colored troops, and giving transportation to their families. At the close of the war we should adopt the same policy in mustering out of service our regiments as was followed at the close of the war with Mexico, in respect to the troops in California. This method allowed half of the men to have a family of four, which would give at once 600,000 settlers. He submitted the bill, confident that the importance of its provisions will challenge the serious attention of every Senator.

The State of Arkansas.

Mr. MALLORY, of Kentucky, inquired whether he understood the gentleman to hold that Arkansas had been obliterated as a State, and must come back just as a territory is admitted into the Union.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, answered the question. The State of Arkansas was not extinguished. No citizens of Arkansas have lost any personal privileges of citizenship. A State may exist without a government. The Constitution assumed this when it compelled Congress to guarantee a republican form of Government. The Supreme Court had said that if a military Government were established in a State it would be the duty of the Government to abrogate and remove it. He asked the gentleman from Kentucky whether he recognized the Government under which Colonel Johnson claims to be a representative in Congress.

Mr. MALLORY, of Kentucky, replied that he recognized the existing Constitution as a form for the government of Arkansas, but whenever a gentleman came hither claiming to represent a State, and he had doubts upon the subject, he would refer the question to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, resumed his argument, maintaining that the re-establishment of State Governments is under the clause of the Constitution which says Congress shall guarantee, not may guarantee, a republican form of government. It is their duty to do so. With regard to the Constitution of Arkansas, the people in rebellion tore it to pieces, and the paper now spoken of is not a Constitution until we say so.

Mr HARDING, of Kentucky, asked whether, in Mr. Davis' judgment, Arkansas is in or out of the Union?

Mr DAVIS, of Maryland, would say Arkansas is in the Union so far that we are bound to maintain that no forms without the substance shall control her citizens. So far as we are responsible she must be governed by republican forms, and not by traitors who may claim to be the Legislature of Arkansas. The recognition of Arkansas must be a State must be by all branches of the Government; not by the Senate and House of Representatives separately; not by the proclamation of the President; not by a grave usurpation; and it must be without the encroachment of Executive power.

Mr. BOUTWELL, of Massachusetts, said he had a settled conviction that Arkansas and the other co-operating States in the rebellion have no legal existence as States of this Union.

Mr. GANSON, of New York, wished to know whether these States ceased to exist by virtue of the secession ordinances. If so, he would like to know at what points of time they ceased to exist and got out of the Union.

Mr. BOUTWELL replied that on this continent neither a colony nor a State ever existed excepting by the will of the people, and that no State can cease to exist as a State excepting by the will of the people. If you deny the constitutional power of the people to annul their own existence, you have to admit that whatever may be the constitutional right, the fact still remains that the power is in the people to destroy, and political parties do exist or not; there is no power in the universe to create the State of Arkansas, and to send Representatives here, without the consent and will of the people themselves. All law was against secession. But when an individual commits the act of self-destruction, and his body lies before you, it is in vain to reason that under the law he had no right to do it. Just so with Arkansas; she, by her own act, has ceased to exist as a State in the American Union. Although the State, by action of its own people, has ceased to exist, the Constitution still extends over the territory, unimpaired as before the act of secession was passed. The State of Arkansas can again exist as a State in the American Union, and be admitted to all the rights of other States. This must be by the act of the people in their right mind, without military force and coercion in the management of their State Government. He would, however, hesitate to give an affirmative vote for such admission until he found the majority of the people willing to conduct and exact justice to both black and white, and was satisfied that, in all particulars, the people mean to be loyal to the Government. The existence of human slavery being incompatible with a Republican form of Government, it was the duty of Congress to reject any State presenting a constitution which sanctions it.

Mr. KERNAN, of New York, believed it was the duty of all loyal men to endeavor to preserve the Union. He would appeal to gentlemen to say whether they were doing anything to this end when they were spending hours and days in discussing questions which could be postponed, and when other subjects were pressing and threatening the destruction of the Government and the ruin of the people. Three months nearly of this Congress have elapsed, and yet no bill has been passed to strengthen the credit of the Government. Let us, he said, address ourselves to practical questions if we mean to support the Government.

Mr. WILSON, of Iowa, said the gentleman from New York was not the proper person to deliver lectures to the House, considering that the gentleman and his friends had heretofore unnecessarily consumed much of the time of the House.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, said he had not sought to break a lance with the gentleman from Maryland, nor to wrestle with his friend and colleague from Massachusetts. He thought the latter was not true to the ancient name and glory of Massachusetts on the record. For himself, he (Mr. Dawes) had been brought up in a different school. He had stood shoulder to shoulder with the "old man eloquent" in securing to the humblest in the land a tithe the furthest nook and corner of the country a right not merely to come hither with their petitions, but to have them referred to a committee for the purpose of examining into the facts, and causes, and reasons for complaints and grievances, in order that they may be reported to the House. In the course of his remarks he pleaded the right of the people to representation, as provided for by the Constitution, and desired the credentials to be examined apart from the question of State reconstruction.

Mr DAVIS, of Maryland, made a few additional explanatory remarks.

Mr. SCHENCK, of Ohio, said the debate had disclosed the fact that under the question of admission of a member, there was a more important one, namely, whether there was a State entitled to representation or not? He therefore moved the reference of the credentials, with instructions to investigate, inquire, and report, by bill or otherwise, whether there is any such existing organized government in Arkansas as entitles the State and people to be represented in the Congress of the United States.

The motion was disagreed to—63 against 104.

The credentials were then referred to the Committee on Elections.

The House resumed the consideration of the Senate's amendments to the internal revenue bill.

The Taxing Liquors.

After remarks by James C. Allen and Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, the question was taken on the following Senate amendment, which was disagreed to—yeas 41, nays 106—namely: And upon all liquors that may be distilled after the passage of this act, and sold or removed for consumption or sale, on and after the first day of July next, and previous to first day of January next, 70 cents on each and every gallon; and on all liquors that may be distilled after the passage of this act, and sold or removed for consumption or sale, on and after the first day of January next, 80 cents on each and every gallon.

The House agreed to Senate's amendment striking out additional tax of 20 cents on adulterated spirits sold as whisky, brandy, &c.

House, by yeas 77, nays 73 agreed to Senate amendment striking out proposed tax on all spirits now on hand; without disposing of the bill the House, at half past five o'clock, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Our Commercial Relations.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the annual report of the Secretary of State on commercial relations between the United States and foreign nations, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. ELLIOT, of Massachusetts, submitted a resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Printing, providing for printing four thousand copies for the use of members and one thousand copies for the use of the State Department.

Representative from Arkansas.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, called up the question of referring to the Committee on Elections the credentials of James M. Johnson, of Arkansas, which Mr. Davis, of Maryland, had previously moved to lay on the table.

Mr DAWES, of Massachusetts, said that he had no personal acquaintance with Mr. Johnson, but that gentleman had been introduced to him by his colleague, Gen. Steele. It was known from other sources that he had served as a colonel of one of the Union regiments from the commencement of the war to the present time. While he was absent a convention met in Arkansas and formed a free State constitution—the first unwilling fruit borne by the rebellion. The voters of the Third Congressional district elected Col. Johnson as a representative in Congress by four or five thousand votes. The credentials were offered through the ordinary channel, but, with the honorable scars of warfare on him, and with the strange honor of bringing hither a free-State constitution, this gentleman was denied a hearing, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr Davis) having moved to lay the credentials upon the table, instead of permitting them to be referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Dawes, in reply to a question by Mr. Harding, said that Arkansas was divided into three Congressional districts, according to the law of Kentucky, before the breaking out of the rebellion.

Mr. STEELE, of New York, said he had received a letter of introduction to Colonel Johnson from General Steele, and by request had introduced Johnson to the gentlemen from Massachusetts.

Mr. DAWES said Johnson had arrived at Little Rock while the Convention was in session, and was requested to remain there until the adjournment, which he did, and was made by the Convention a bearer of despatches to this Government.

Mr. STEELE, of New York, knew nothing about the merits of the matter, but thought, under the circumstances, the gentleman having been endorsed by a highly responsible body of men, was entitled to a fair consideration.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, said his motion to lay the credentials on the table was not for the purpose of raising an issue between his friend from Massachusetts and himself. If the gentleman would move an inquiry as to whether there existed a State Government in Arkansas or not, nobody would more cheerfully acquiesce in the examination than he would. But when the gentleman moved the reference of credentials claiming to be from the State of Arkansas, and which credentials did not appear to be signed by officers of any State Government known to the United States, he (Mr. Davis) desired to say such reference of the credentials carried with it the implication of representing a recognized State Government. But we have no State Government brought before us, and there was none in point of fact. We must first ascertain whether there is a Government before we accept the credentials. There must be such a State Government as is recognized by all the departments of the General Government; otherwise we would be led into political complication.

Our gallant army in the field, with the Proclamation of the President and laws in aid thereof, insure freedom to the slave. Whilst the proposed amendment to the Constitution, which will no doubt be passed by this Congress and sanctioned by two thirds of the States, secures the colored man from re-enslavement, and this plan extends to him substantial freedom.

Thus, that question which has disturbed the peace of the nation during my entire life will be fully settled. Then the Republic can commence her career anew freed from all her clogs, with the shackles that dim her lights removed, with power sufficient, she will stand forth before the world a guide to the nations, with power sufficient to command the respect and the sufficient to secure the approval of the Divine Ruler.

The regular order was then taken up, the question pending being upon Mr. Howard's amendment, giving all soldiers of the same arm of the service the same rank, pay, and emoluments.

Amendments Regarding the Employ of Colored Soldiers

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, proposed an amendment giving all soldiers in the United States service the same pay, rations, clothing, emoluments, and bounty, from the 1st of March, 1864.

Mr. WILSON said he offered this amendment because, after the 1st of March, the benefits of the bounties will cease, and the bounty would be $100.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, proposed a long amendment. It provides, first, that the Government disband and disarm all the colored troops, and that if such colored men are employed, it shall be as laborers and teamsters, and that the loyal owners of slaves employed in these capacities shall be paid a just compensation, and that where a slave is lost in the service his master shall receive full value for him.

Remarks of Mr. Garrett Davis.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, proceeded to address the Senate on his proposition, at length. He said that some gentlemen on the floor had said, in the course of previous debate, that he (Mr. Davis) was very fond of recurring to the past. He would now recur to the past, and say how great was the contrast with the present. Then we had fraternity, unity, power, and the respect of the world. He loved to dwell upon the halcyon days of the past. Looking to the future, it seemed to him that the decline of the republic had commenced in the full bloom of its maturity. He had indulged the hope that it would be immortal until the new policy of the Administration was resolved upon. The President is now fearfully executing his new policy contrary to the pledges upon which he was elected to conduct the war. He admitted that it was the civil war now upon us which had brought the President to these enormous abuses of power.

The only hope of the people was in the election of another President, and this originated another motive for the continuance of the war on the part of those who were holding office. While our armies might be successful in the coming campaign, the rebellion was not subdued, as the rebels would break up into small partisan bands, and take the example of the Circassians of Russia, to defy the superior power. Then, before the war finally terminated, constitutional government and personal liberty would perish for a time, and perhaps forever.

The unappreciable privileges of liberty once lost are never regained without the shedding of seas of blood. No Government could be organized to endure in this enlightened age without a protection of private property. This was one of the great ends for which government was formed, and one of the great ends attempted to be secured by the Constitution.

In relation to his own State of Kentucky, how did the case stand? There were before the commencement of the rebellion 250,000 slaves. They were worth at least $640 each, or, as his colleague in the House had said, $800 per head, which, counting by the lower estimate, would be $160,000,000, or one-fourth of the aggregate wealth of Kentucky. This measure contemplates to deprive them of $160,000,000 worth of property guaranteed to them not only by their own Constitution, but by the Constitution of the United States and all the States, except Wisconsin. Was not this a subject of irritation? If the powers were exercised to deprive the State of Kentucky of this property ought there not to be the clearest authority for it? The President, nor the military officers acting under his authority, has not one particle more authority to liberate the slaves of the loyal masters of Kentucky than a judge of the Court of Washington, without just compensation to their owners. Mr. Davis denied the right of a United States officer to take private property in Kentucky, and place his own valuation upon it. The Government that would allow of such a procedure was tyrannical, as it violated rights and liberties of the citizen. The negroes should never have been enrolled. It was a great and fatal mistake, and the best thing we could do was to retrace our steps in this respect, as the rebellion has been strengthened to an incalculable degree by the employment of negro troops.

A message was received from the House, announcing their adherence to their amendments to the enrolment bill, and asking for a committee of conference.

On motion of Mr. WILSON, the Senate adhered to its amendments, and the chair was authorized to appoint a committee to meet that of the House.

Mr. DAVIS continued his speech at length in support of his amendments.

Without taking a vote on the pending question the Senate adjourned.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, February 16, 1864.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock A. M. by Senator TURRELL, who had been deputed by the Speaker to act in his absence.

The SPEAKER announced that that there was not a quorum of Senators present.

Mr. LOWRY moved that the Senate adjourn until to-morrow at 11 o'clock. Agreed to.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House was called to order by Mr. SMITH, of Chester, Speaker *pro tem*.

Private Bills.

The following bills were objected to, their consideration being thereby postponed for one week:

An act to vacate Nash street, in the Twenty-second ward of Philadelphia.

An act to incorporate the Tuscarora Water Company.

An act to incorporate the Plymouth Iron Company.

An act to authorize David Small to assign and pay over certain trust property.

An act for the relief of Alex. Doll, of Franklin county.

About fifty private bills, of no interest to Philadelphia, were passed finally.

The following were also passed:

An act to attach Erie county to the western district of the Supreme Court.

An act relative to the inspection of buildings and party walls.

The act authorizing the Lehigh Navigation Company to construct a railroad from Easton to Mauch Chunk was objected to and laid over.

A supplement to the Reading and Columbia Railroad was also objected to. Adjourned.

An Act to Incorporate the Seventh and Ninth Streets and Fairmount Passenger Railway Company.

Introduced into the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on Monday evening, February 15, 1864:

SEC. 1st. *Be it enacted, &c.*, That Elisha C Pauling, Thos. W. Price, Charles Thompson Jones, Amos Briggs, D. W. Gamble, Barclay Harding, William B. Mann, Joseph McGarry, Alexander F. Dixon, Hiram Miller, James A. Freeman, Joseph P. Manuel, Samuel F. Hancock, Henry W. Gray, Enoch Green, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to open books, receive subscription, and organize a company, by the name, style, and title of "The Seventh and Ninth-streets and Fairmount Passenger Railway Company, with power and authority to construct a passenger railway, beginning at Seventh and Morris streets, in the city of Philadelphia, thence running along Morris street west to Ninth street, thence north along Ninth street to Ridge avenue, thence northwest along Ridge avenue to Mount Vernon street, thence next along Mount Vernon street, thence west along Mount Vernon street to Twenty-third street, thence north along Twenty-third street to Coates street, thence west along Coates street to Fairmount Park; thence returning east along Coates street to Twenty-second street, thence south along Twenty second street to Wallace street, thence east along Wallace street to Ridge avenue, thence southeast along Ridge avenue to Spring Garden street, thence east along Spring Garden street to Seventh street, thence south along Seventh street around the west side of Franklin and Washington Squares to the place of beginning. Subject to all the provisions and restrictions of an act regulating railroad companies, approved the nineteenth day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, and the several supplements thereto, so far as the same is not altered and repealed by this act. And the said "Seventh and Ninth streets and Fairmount Passenger Railway Company" shall have the right to cross at grade and connect with any other railroad now built or that may hereafter be built in the city of Philadelphia.

SEC. 2. That the capital stock of the said company shall consist of two thousand shares, of fifty dollars each, and by request be had in the said company by a vote of the stockholders, at a meeting called for that purpose, of which meeting thirty days' notice shall be given in two daily newspapers in the city of Philadelphia, increase the capital stock to an amount sufficient to carry out the true intent and meaning of this said act for the purpose of completing and equipping the said railway; the said company shall have the power of borrowing any sum of money, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, at a rate of interest not exceeding seven per centum per annum, and to secure the payment of the same by the issue of a bond and mortgage of said railway, together with the corporate rights and franchises granted by this act, and to annex to the said bond and mortgage the privilege of converting the same into the capital stock of the said company at par, at the option of the holders, if they shall signify their election one year before the maturing of the same. *Provided*, that the said company shall issue no certificate of loan of a less denomination than one hundred dollars.

SEC. 3. That the said road shall be used exclusively as a passenger railway, by horse locomotion, and that the gauge of the said road shall be five feet two inches. And before the said company shall use and occupy the said streets, the consent of the Councils of the city of Philadelphia shall be given; and said consent shall be given, and deemed to be given, if the said Councils shall not, within thirty days after the passage of this act, by ordinance duly passed, signify their disapproval thereof. And the said Councils may, from time to time, by ordinance, establish such regulations in regard to said railway as may be required for the paving, repairing, grading, culverting, and laying of water and gas pipes in and along said streets, and to prevent obstructions thereon.

SEC 4. That it is hereby provided that the said Seventh and Ninth-streets and Fairmount Passenger Railway Company shall, in constructing their branch along the highways referred to, conform to the grades established by the Board of Surveyors of the city of Philadelphia, and be subject to any ordinances passed by the Councils of the said city relating thereto. *Provided*, That the streets thus occupied by the aforesaid railway company shall be kept in repair by the said company. *And provided further*, That said passenger railway shall have power to cross all railroad tracks of all railroad companies now incorporated, or hereafter to be incorporated, whose grade conforms to theirs.

SEC. 5. That the said railroad company shall not connect with any railroad other than for passenger purposes, and of the same gauge; and no freight or freight cars shall be permitted to pass over said railway, under a penalty of forfeiture of its charter. And the said company shall annually pay into the treasury of the city of Philadelphia, for the use of the said city, whenever the dividend shall exceed six per centum per annum on the capital stock, the sum of six per centum on the excess above six per centum thus declared.

SEC. 6. And it is hereby provided that the said company hereby incorporated shall have the right to run their cars upon any of the passenger railways now incorporated, or that may hereafter be incorporated in the said city of Philadelphia, upon such terms as may be agreed upon by the said parties interested. And if the said parties cannot agree, then the District Court of the City of Philadelphia shall, upon petition presented by either party, appoint two persons who shall fix the amount to be paid by the company hereby incorporated.

The Maryland Legislature.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 16.—The following complimentary resolutions to the Emperor of Russia and to Commodore John Rodgers, were passed in the Maryland Senate today.

Mr. Stirling offered the following joint resolutions, which were read the first time, and laid over under the rules:

Resolved, By the General Assembly of Maryland, That the thanks of the State are hereby tendered to Commodore John Rodgers, of Maryland, for his distinguished services during the rebellion, especially in organizing the iron clad fleet on the western waters in the attack on Fort Darling; in the heroic attempt on Fort Sumpter, under Admiral Dupont, and the memorable capture of the Atlanta, which has closed his past career, at once the pledge and inspiration of the future.

Mr. Fiery offered the following complimentary resolutions to the Emperor of Russia, which lie over under the rules:

Resolved, By the General Assembly of Maryland, that we owe it to the loyal people of Maryland and of the whole country, to express our sincere pleasure upon the occasion of this visit of the naval officers of Russia to our venerated capital, and through them to the Czar of Russia, our unfeigned thanks and heartfelt gratitude for the sympathy and moral support furnished us throughout a distressing and bloody civil war, and that we hail his Majesty as our acknowledged friend and co-laborer in the great work of lifting mankind from the degradation of serfdom, of striking the mitre from the heads of an hereditary nobility, and of elevating men gradually in the scale of moral and political advancement. And,

Resolved, That we congratulate our honored and distinguished guests, and also his Majesty, the Emperor of Russia upon the prospect of a speedy termination of hostilities in the United States, and that we reiterate our belief and firm trust in divine Providence and the justice of our cause, that we shall soon be peacefully and permanently reunited, and our Union restored, and our country once more looming up in vast and magnificent proportions among the most free nations of the earth.

THE CITY.

[FOR ADDITIONAL CITY NEWS, SEE FOURTH PAGE.]

MEETING OF THE FREEDMAN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION.—The members of this Association held their first public meeting at the Academy of Music last evening. The stage, parquet, and different tiers were crowded with ladies and gentlemen of the highest respectability, who listened with eagerness to the remarks of those who addressed the meeting, and manifested their desire for the total abolition of slavery by their frequent outbursts of applause when points of that character were spoken. The meeting was presided over by Bishop Simpson, who called on the Rev. Dr. Brainerd to open the exercises with prayer. After the blessing of God was invoked, the Bishop said: Ladies and gentlemen, in assuming to preside over this assemblage tonight, he could not be expected to occupy much of their attention by an address.

The cause which invites us here is no ordinary one—several millions of people, men, women, and children, slaves, have suddenly become free. They are people ignorant, degraded, and their utter helplessness and misery make their appeal to us for help more urgent and more powerful. Created by the same God; breathing the same breath of life; heirs of the same eternal destiny; if we close our ears against their cries and against their anguish, their tears and blood will call against us before the throne of the Almighty. The Association proposes to furnish food and clothing to these people; men actuated by a spirit of enterprise and Christianity contemplate to train these men and women, and teach them how to labor profitably and successfully; to send women, who, actuated by the same glorious spirit, will go to the freedwomen, and teach them how to perform the necessary avocations of life. This is the work which the society has engaged to perform, and the noble work calls for our attention to-night. He had been recently in the Southwest, and he passed through the State of Tennessee and saw some of the operations of the Association. The same thing he witnessed in a small degree in Alabama and Georgia. There spectacles are seen which call on the sympathy of every benevolent heart. The colored people are suffering greatly at present for food and clothing. They come from the lines of the enemy. They are, in parts of the country, ravaged by the presence and retreat of the different armies. For many miles on the border devastation has marked the track of the armies; everything has perished. These colored people, abandoned by their masters, and not strictly set free by the terms of the President's proclamation in Tennessee, are subject to the same degree of trial and privations. They come from all quarters. They come as refugees from the lines of the enemy in Georgia and Alabama, and they come without clothing. Sometimes on the very borders of freedom they are seized and taken back. But when they do escape they are destitute of the most common necessities of life. While he was in Nashville the distress was so great that in the winter's cold they are only able to receive fuel from the teachers who come to teach them to read, and who bring chips often for a distance of two miles, and this is all the fuel they can procure to cook their meals. With the spring this terrible necessity will pass away, but there is another subject which claims our attention. Strangely enough, all the colored people want to read. They have the greatest passion for it, and their eagerness is manifested in every way. They get possession of scraps of newspapers, leaves of tracts, pages of printed matter and can be seen at all times trying to spell words and learn to read.

They have schools among those of the colored people who are able to sustain them, and the only schools among the colored people in Nashville are among these freedmen. They are patient in their sufferings, and their fortitude is worthy of the highest praise. The men and women who go to teach them share their privations, and bear their sorrows. Even the generals in the army are animated by the spirit of kindness and sympathy for them, and General Grant has shown himself not only a conqueror in the blood-stained battles of the Union, but, by his attention to the blacks, he has earned the noble title of a victor over himself in cultivating the holier feeling of humanity. [Applause.] How strange is the march of events! Four years ago who could have seen such an audience assembled to listen to the story of the sufferings of the blacks! Then slavery was in power. It was defiant. It felt its power, and throwing its coils around the free organizations and institutions in the land, over the hills of the North, threatening to strike down its victims at the very base of Bunker's Hill. At its power organizations were disrupted, and political parties were split, churches were rent, and statesmen bowed down almost to worship. The cannon of Sumpter broke the spell. [Applause.] The nation awoke as from a sleep. The tall, strong man that came to the Presidential chair, breathing the pure air which he had inhaled in the free prairies of his home, not only did battle for the Union against the power of slavery, but, on the first dawn of 1863, placed his heel upon the head of the serpent, and, setting the seal of emancipation upon three millions of people, said that American slavery shall forever die. We are in a glorious cause. The ancient system could not mould slaves into freedmen. This was reserved for Christianity. He knew not how the war would end, or when, but he knew that the end would come, for the Lord reigneth. [Applause.]

J. Miller McKim, secretary of the Association, was then introduced. He said that he had arrived but a few days ago from a tour in the Southwest, whither he had gone for the purpose of ascertaining the condition and wants of the freedmen there. His operations were confined principally to Tennessee. He had much conversation with persons there on the great subject of slavery. There are at the present time about 25,000 freed slaves in the middle part of Tennessee. Of this number one third have enlisted, and are engaged in battling with our armies against the armed hosts of the rebels. Another third are employed as laborers, and in various other ways which they are best suited to. The remaining third are in a state of helpless dependence. They are chiefly women, children, and infirm men. These are a direct charge upon the sense of justice of the nation. Until domestic relations shall be established the burden of supporting these weak and infirm creatures must devolve, as in all cases, upon the strong. In the spring new appeals will be made to you. As it is, the number is receiving daily accessions. Families are arriving daily; when they come, it is generally in a state of destitution. They come into a part of the country where the usual occupations of life are to a great extent discontinued; also, where almost every inch of space is occupied. Frequently they cannot find places to shelter themselves, and, what is more, where the necessaries of life command the highest prices. The speaker dwelt for some time upon the destitution of the black people in that section of the country, and of the great work to be performed by the Freedmen's Association. His remarks were listened to eagerly, and frequently applauded.

The Rev. Dr. Brooks, an eloquent speaker, was then introduced. In the course of his remarks he said that although the slaves were set free by the proclamation of the President, yet they were not free from the taint of ignorance. Teachers must be sent there to enlighten their minds and to lead them to Christ. It is not too late, he said, for the church to become an abolition church, and we must do all in our power to prevent this great evil, which is contrary to the laws of God and humanity. He was followed by the Rev. Dr. Furness and the Rev. J. Wheaton Smith, who spoke earnestly and eloquently upon the subject of slavery, after which the meeting was brought to a close with the benediction.

THE SCHOOL FOR COMMANDERS OF COLORED TROOPS.—The value of the school of instruction, inaugurated in this city several months since, is about to be very happily realized. On Monday evening Col. John H. Taggart, late of the 12th Pennsylvania Reserves, and now instructor at this school, submitted a statement to the committee on supervision, containing the following statistical information: The whole number of students admitted is 210, of this 33 were admitted last week; 8 have been sent to Washington for examination, since last report, and within the week 20 more are expected to leave for the same purpose. The average attendance of students is so large as to overcrowd the room, there being 160 at the different sessions. A lecture at the Academy of Music was attended by the students last week, and there was also one drill on the parade ground back of the county prison, which was attended with the happiest results. Col. Taggart proposes to have a drill once a week out of doors. The total number of applications to enter the school since January 1st is 1,046, one-third of which were from privates and non-commissioned officers in the army. The classes in arithmetic and the higher mathematics of geography and history, under Professor John P. Birch, are very full.

So far the school has been a very great success, and the instruction therein obtained will result to the benefit of the country.

A telegraphic despatch was received from Washington last evening, announcing the following as the result of the examination by the Military Board at that place:

Sergeant Edward C. Geary, of Company E, 149th New York, on duty at the Satterlee Hospital, West Philadelphia, passed the examination as a colonel of the first class.

William W. Barke, civilian, of Frankford, Pa., passed as captain.

Charles Crissy, civilian, passed as captain.

Eben Whitney, civilian, passed as captain.

Albert Henry, private in company G, 145th Regiment P. V., passed as first lieutenant.

John Reed, late a private in Baxter's Fire Zouaves, 72d Regiment, P. V., passed as second lieutenant.

Charles McGinley, corporal in company L, 15th Cavalry (Anderson's) passed as first lieutenant.

All the students who have been sent down have passed the examining board at Washington. The attendance of the students average only about one month.

Nature endows some people with ten talents, some one, and others none. If there is natural military ability in any of the students it will be developed by a course of instruction at this school. Col Taggert has seen much active service since the commenement of the rebellion. He is very strict in regard to the drill. This is positively necessary; and, although he may seem hard, yet he never forgets that courtesy due from one gentleman to another.

THE PARADE OF THE TWENTY-SECOND.—In the list of military organizations likely to parade on the twenty-second inst., as mentioned yesterday, the 29th Regiment, P. V., was inadvertently mentioned as being under the command of Col. John K. Murphy. This regiment is commanded by Colonel William T. Ricketts, and is the one that planted the first stars and stripes on the heights of Lookout Mountain. All companies, battalions, and regiments, are requested to report to Capt. C. S. Haldeman, Assistant Adjutant General, to-day, at his headquarters, in Girard street, above Eleventh, so that he may issue his official order of the parade to-morrow.

CHARGED WITH MURDER.—The case of William H. Howe, charged with the murder of an enrolling officer in the Sixth Congressional district, is now on trial before the general court martial in session in this city. Lewis C. Cassiday and Edmund Randall, Esqs., are retained for the defence; Captain C. P. Clarke, judge advocate, for the prosecution.

FIRE.—A slight fire occurred yesterday morning in a dwelling occupied by Mrs. Dove in Laurel street. The loss was small.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

THE MONEY MARKET.

FEBRUARY 16, 1864.

Gold fluctuated considerably to-day; opening weak at 161, falling off to 159⅝, and closing at 160¼, with a steady market. Government securities, under a strong demand, partly speculative, rose about ⅛ per cent. for most all kinds. The money market is unchanged, the ease lately noted being more marked than ever.

There was a heavy speculative feeling at the Stock board, and prices are again on the advance. Oil and mining companies are engrossing the attention of operators. Oil Creek, after selling largely at 11@11¼ during the forenoon, rose before the close of business to 15¼; Coulter Mining rose to 4¾; Marquette to 4; Mandan sold at 7¼@7½; Girard at 7¼; Fulton Coal at 7¼; Green Mountain at 7; New Creek at 1⅝.

Reading rose to 63, closing at 62¾; Little Schuylkill sold up to 50½; Lehigh Valley to 9?; Beaver Meadow sold at 75½; Philadelphia and Erie rose to 38⅝; 33 bid for North Pennsylvania; Catawissa preferred rose to 41¼; Pennsylvania fell off to 70, dividend off; Norristown declined ¼; Huntingdon and Broad Top rose ¼.

Elmira sold at 37, the preferred at 52½; Chester Valley at 5; Minehill at 62¼; Passenger railways are firm; Thirteenth and Fifteenth sold at 40; Second and Third at 83½; Seventeenth and Nineteenth at 18½; Arch street at 34; West Philadelphia at 71½; Green and Coates at 44; Chestnut and Walnut at 61.

Susquehanna Canal rose to 25⅞; Schuylkill Navigation to 28, the preferred selling at 40; Union sixes sold at 30; Wyoming at 73; Government, corporation, and City loans were all firmly held with a moderate demand.

The market closed strong with an active demand.

Drexel & Co. quote:

United States Bonds, 1881	110 @110½
" " New Certificates of Indebt's	99¼@ 99½
" " Old Certificates of Indebt's	3¼@ 3½
" " 7 3-10 Notes	10 @10½p
Quartermasters' Vouchers	98¾@ 99
Orders for Certificates of Indebtedness	⅞@ 1dis
Gold	160 @160½
Sterling Exchange	175½@175½
U. S. five-twenties, full coupons	106⅝@107⅛

Jay Cooke & Co. quote Government Securities, &c., as follows:

United States sixes, 1881	109¾@110¼
U. S. 7 3-10 Notes, Aug	110 @111
" Oct	109¾@110½
U. S. Certificates of Indebtedness	103¼@103¾
U. S. new Certificates of Indebtedness	99¼@ 99⅝
Quartermasters' Vouchers	98⅝@ 99
Gold	159½@160¼
Five-twenty bonds full	106½@107⅛
Registered	106 @107

Deliveries of 5-20 up to January 8th inclusive.

Quotations of gold at the Philadelphia Gold Exchange, 34 South Third street, second story:

9½ o'clock	A. M.	160⅛
11½ "	A. M.	160⅜
12½ "	P. M.	160¾
1½ "	P. M.	160⅞
3½ "	P. M.	16 0¼
Closed 4½ "	P. M.	160⅛@160¼

Market closed firm.

The official averages of the banks in the city of New York for the week ending Saturday last, February 13, 1864, present in the aggregate the following changes from the previous weekly statement of February 6:

Increase of Loans	$2,013,483
Decrease of Specie	649,333
Decrease of Circulation	58 056
Increase of Undrawn Deposits	6,975,574

Including the exchanges between the banks through the Clearing-House, and including also the Sub-Treasury statement of Saturday afternoon, the following is the general comparison with the previous weekly report, and also with the movement of this time last year:

	Feb. 14, '63.	Feb. 13, '64.	Feb 6, '64.
Capital	$69,128,010	$69,722,508	$69,722,508
Loans	178,103,692	165,091,329	163,076,819
Specie	30,426,400	23,621,453	24,079,791
Circulation	8,763,317	5,916,797	5,974,763
Gross Deposits	211,910,731	218,443,240	204,751,208
Exchanged	44,189,851	71,568,624	70,905,164
Undrawn	167,720,880	140,464,616	133,849,042
In Sub-Treasury	9,834,529	34,210,563	35,223,715

The New York *Evening Post* of to-day says:

Gold opened at 160⅝, and, after selling at 161¼, closes at 160⅞. Exchange has sold at 176, closing at 175½.

The loan market is easy at 6@7 per cent. A number of heavy loans at 7 have been paid off this morning.

The stock market is irregular. Governments are active, bank shares quiet, and border State bonds strong. Railroad bonds are firm, and in New York Central and Erie bonds we note an advance of ½@1¼ per cent.

Railroad shares are very active, with more disposition to sell. Toledo and Fort Wayne are the strongest on the list.

Before the first session but little business was done, and there was less anxiety than usual to purchase. Gold sold at 161⅝@161⅜, and afterwards at 160⅛@160¾; New York Central at 133¾, Erie at 115@115½, Hudson River at 145½@146, Harlem at 113@114¾, Reading at 124¼@124½, Michigan Southern at 94¾@95, Illinois Central at 132@132⅝, Pittsburg at 116½@116¼, Chicago and Rock Island at 122@123, and Fort Wayne at 91⅜@91½.

The appended table exhibits the chief movements at the Board compared with the latest prices of yesterday:

	Tu.	Mon.	Adv.	Dec
United States 6s, 1881, regis	111	110⅜	⅝	..
United States 6s, 1881, coupon	110¾	110⅛	⅝	..
United States seven-thirties	110	110	..	..
United States 1 year cer., gold	103	103	..	..
Do. do currency	99¼	99½	¼	..
American Gold	160⅛	160⅜	..	¼
Tennessee Sixes	57	56	1	..
Missouri Sixes	73⅜	71	2⅜	..
Pacific Mail	220	220	..	..
New York Central Railroad	133½	133⅞	..	⅜
Erie	115	115	..	..
Erie Preferred	105⅛	105⅝	..	½
Hudson River	145¼	145¾	..	½
Harlem	113¾	114	..	¼
Reading	123⅞	123¼	⅝	..
Michigan Central	135	135⅜	..	⅜
Michigan Southern	94¾	94⅞	..	⅛
Michigan Southern guarantied	136½	137½	..	1
Illinois Central Scrip	131	132⅜	..	1⅜
Pittsburg	115⅝	117⅛	..	1½
Galena	116½	117	..	½
Toledo	144½	144	½	..
Rock Island	121	123¼	..	2¼
Fort Wayne	92½	90½	2	..
Prairie Du Chien	65½	66	..	½
Terre Haute	65	66	..	1
Northwestern	50⅜	51½	..	⅞
Canton	41	40¾	¼	..
Cumberland	57⅝	58	..	⅜
Toledo and Wabash	60	61	..	1
Quicksilver	54¾	52¼	2½	..
Chicago and Alton	86½	87	..	½

After the board the market was steady. Reading, Illinois Central, and Fort Wayne advancing ½@¾ per cent.

Philada. Stock Exchange Sales, Feb. 16.

(Reported by S. E. SLAYMAKER, Philadelphia Exchange.)

FIRST BOARD.

2000 U S 5-years op. reg. 107	400 Reading R.....b30 63
9000 do..........107	200 do..........b10 62¾
3000 Penna 5s..........94¼	100 do..........b30 62⅞
1000 do..........94½	600 do..........2dys 62¾
200 City 6s new..cash 105⅜	400 do..........b10 62½
200 do..........105⅜	100 do..........b20 62⅞
3000 Alle Co coupon 5s 75	133 Minehill R.......62¼
6 Little Schy R.......49⅞	4 Chester Valley.... 4
50 do..........b10 50½	5 do.......... 5
100 do..........b20 50	200 Elmera R.......... 37
50 New Creek.......1⅝	5 do..........pref 52½
1100 Fulton Coal.......7¼	50 Catawissa R. pref. 41½
100 Green Mountain.......7	650 do..........41
100 do..........b10 7	200 Hunt & B T R..........22
500 Girard Mining.......7¼	100 do..........b30 22½
100 do..........b5 7¼	257 Phila & Erie R.......38¼
200 do..........7¼	100 do..........s30 38⅝
250 Mandan..........7¼	200 Phila & Erie 6s.......105
600 Oil Creek..........11	170 N Penna R Scrip.......97
100 do..........b5 11	100 13th & 15th St R.......40
500 do..........b30 11¼	100 17th & 19th St R.......18½
357 Schy Nav pref.......40	100 Chest & Walnut R.......61
100 do..........b30 40¼	100 Green & Coates R.......44
300 do..........b5 40	50 Arch-st R.......34¼
20 Lehigh Scrip..........50½	
1000 Penna R 2d mort..108	

BETWEEN BOARDS.

25 West Phila R.......71½	200 Pittsburg Coup 5s. 70
100 Arch R..........34	100 Schyl Nav..........28
100 Phila & Erie R b30 38⅞	100 do..........37⅞
110 Wyoming..........73	1000 U S 7-30 Trea Note.110
7 Little Schyl R.......49⅞	100 Oil Creek..........b30 11¼
100 City 6s new..........105	200 do..........11¼
20 Norristown R.......55½	9 Second & Third.......80½
11000 Penna 5s..........94¼	

SECOND BOARD.

1000 U S 5-year op. reg. 107¼	300 Reading R.......b10 62¾
1000 do..........107¼	100 do..........b10 62¾
200 Schyl Nav..........28	5000 Penna Coupon 5s..100
2000 Union Canal 6s..b5 30	5000 do..........b5 100
150 Penna R..........70	150 Big Mountain 2dys 8¼
3000 City 6s new..........105	250 Mandan..........7½
100 Oil Creek..........13	19 Beaver Meadow....75⅞
100 do..........b30 13	12 N Bank Ky.....s5wn 108
9 Phila & Erie R.......38¼	100 Lehigh Valley..b5 90
100 do..........b30 38¼	62 City Bank..........54
100 do..........cash 38⅝	70 Lehigh Zinc.......b5 50
200 do..........b30 38⅞	100 Girard Mining..b10 7¼
145 Little Schyl R.. b5 50	2000 American Gold.......160⅛
400 do..........b30 50	100 Schuyl Nav pref. b5 40
250 Catawissa R pref. b5 41½	100 do..........40
12 Girard Bank..........48⅞	100 Fulton Coal.......7½

AFTER BOARDS.

100 Oil Creek.......b30 14½	50 Susq Canal..........25⅞

CLOSING PRICES.

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked.
U S 6s '81	..	..	N Penna R	36	36¼
U S 7-30 Notes	110	111	Do 6s	100	100½
Phila 6s	102	103	Catawissa R Con.	25	25¼
Do new	105½	105⅜	Do prfd	44	41½
Penna 5s	94	94½	Phila & Erie R	38½	38⅝
Read R ex. div	62⅝	62⅞	Second-st R	80	..
Do bds '70	105	108	Fifth-st R	60	..
Do bds '86 conv.	..	..	Tenth-st R	50	..
Do 6s '80 '43	..	..	Thirteenth-st R	40	40½
Penna R	70	..	Seventeenth-st R	18¼	18½
Do 1st m 6s	110	..	Spruce-st R	15	16
Do 2d m 6s	108	..	Chestnut-st R	61	62
Little Schuyl R	49½	50	W Phila R	70	72
Morris C'l consol.	68	69	Arch-st R	34	34½
Do prfd	135	..	Race-st R	20	21
Schuyl Nav Stock	27¾	28	Green-st R	44	46
Do prfd	39¾	40	Girard College R	30	31
Do 6s '82	90½	..	Lombard & South	17	..
Elmira R	37	38	Ridge-av R	20	..
Do prfd	52	54	Susq Canal	..	..
Do 7s '73	106	..	Mid Coal Fields	..	..
L Island R	43	45	Big Mountain	..	..
Lehigh Nav	60½	61	Green Mountain	..	..
Do scrip	60½	61	Fulton Coal	..	..

Semi-weekly Review of the Philadelphia Markets.

FEBRUARY 16—Evening.

There is no material change to notice in Breadstuffs, and prices remain about the same as last quoted. Bark is in steady demand. Cotton is very dull. Coffee is rather firmer. Coal continues dull and unsettled. There is no change to notice in Fruit. Codfish have advanced. Naval Stores continue scarce and high. Petroleum is rather firmer. Provisions are very firm, and prices are looking up. Seeds are quiet. In Sugar there is very little doing, but the market is firm. Whisky is dull and rather lower. Wool is inactive.

There is some little export demand for Flour, but prices are without change; sales comprise about 6,000 bbls at $6.75 for extra; $7@7.50 for common and good Pennsylvania and Western extra family, including 2,000 bbls do. on terms kept private. The retailers and bakers are buying at from $6@6.50 for superfine, $6.75@7 fo extra, $7@8 for extra family, and $8.50 up to $10 ℔ bbl for fancy brands, as to quality. Rye Flour is quiet; about 100 bbls sold at $6 50 ℔ bbl. In Corn Meal there is little or nothing doing in the way of sales.

GRAIN.—There is not much demand for Wheat, and prices are without change; about 16,000 bushels sold at 16?@168c for good and choice Western, and Pennsylvania reds and white at from 18?@195c ℔ bushel, the latter for prime Kentucky. Rye is selling in a small way at 130c ℔ bushel. Corn is more active, and prices are firm, with sales of about 20,000 bushels at 111@112c ℔ bushel, in store and afloat. Oats are without change; about 12,000 bushels have been disposed of at 86@87c, weight.

PROVISIONS.—The market is firm, and prices are tending up, but the sales are limited; about 900 bbls Mess Pork sold at $22@22.25 ℔ bbl for new; 600 bbls prime Mess sold to the Government at $21.24@21 70, and $20 for old Mess—now held higher. City-packed Mess Beef is selling at $15@17 ℔ bbl. Beef Hams are held at $21 ℔ bbl. Dressed Hogs are selling at $9@10 the 100 lbs. Bacon is scarce, and prices have advanced: sales of plain and fancy Hams are making at 13@15c ℔ lb; Sides, 10½@10¾c, and Shoulders at 9¾@10c ℔ lb for old and new. Green Meats are in steady demand, with sales of Hams in pickle at 12¾@13c, and Shoulders at 9¼@9½c, cash. Lard is in demand at former rates, with sales of bbls and tierces at 13¾@14c for old and new, and kegs at 14¾@15c ℔ lb. There is less doing in Butter, but prices are unchanged; sales of roll are making at 25@28c, and solid packed Pennsylvania and Ohio at 20@26c ℔ lb. Cheese is firm, and selling at 15@16c ℔ lb. Eggs range from 22@23c ℔ dozen.

METALS.—Pig Iron is in good demand, and prices are firm, with sales of anthracite at $42@46 for No. 1, and $44@45 ℔ ton for No. 2; Crane Iron Company now ask $50 ℔ ton for No 1; Scotch Pig is very scarce, and worth $50 ℔ ton. Manufactured Iron is selling at full prices. Lead continues scarce; a lot of Spanish sold, to come here, at 10¾c, cash. Copper—There is very little doing; small sales of yellow metal are making at 36c.

BARK.—Quercitron is scarce; small sales of 1st No. 1 are making at $37 ℔ ton.

CANDLES.—Adamantine are in good demand at 21@21½c for city-made and Western short weight, and 23c for full weight. Tallow Candles are firm at 14½@15½c ℔ lb.

COFFEE.—There is more demand, and prices are firm, with sales of 1,100 bags Laguayra at 33½@35c; Rio at 33@35c and St Domingo at 30@31c ℔ lb.

COTTON.—The market is rather better, but there is little doing; about 155 bales Middlings have been sold at 81½@82c ℔ lb, cash.

COAL is very dull and unsettled; sales are making, free on board, at $6.75@7.50 ℔ ton.

FRUIT.—3,000 boxes Oranges and Lemons sold at 80c up to $3.75 ℔ box, as to condition. Raisins are firmly held. There is less doing in domestic fruit. Green Apples are selling at $2 50@3 50 ℔ bbl; Dried Apples at 9@10c ℔ lb, and Peaches at 14@15c. Cranberries are selling at $9@11 ℔ bbl.

FISH.—Mackerel are in demand at full prices; 1,000 bbls Bay sold at $16, $10, and $7 ℔ bbl, for Nos. 1, 2, and 3. Sales from store are making at $16.50@18 for No. 1; $10@12 for No. 2, and $7.50@10.50 ℔ bbl for No. 3. Codfish have advanced; 2,000 qtls sold at $7 25 ℔ qtl. Pickled Herring are quoted at $6.75@7 ℔ bbl for Labrador.

FEATHERS are very scarce; good Western are selling at from 62@63c ℔ lb, cash.

GUANO.—There is more doing, but prices are without change; small sales of Peruvian are making at $100 ℔ ton.

HOPS are firmly held; small sales of first sort Eastern and Western are making at 27@33c ℔ lb.

HAY is selling at from $25@27 per ton for Timothy.

LUMBER.—Prices of all kinds are well sustained, but there is very little doing in the way of sales.

MOLASSES.—There is not much doing, but the market is very firm; small sales of Cuba Moscovado are making at 57@60c, and reboiled New Orleans at 48c ℔ gallon; 488 bbls New Orleans by auction at 69@71c ℔ gallon.

NAVAL STORES.—Spirits of Turpentine are firm; small sales are making at $3 10 ℔ gallon. Rosin, Tar, and Pitch are firm, but very scarce.

OILS.—Lard Oil is quiet; small sales of Winter are making at $1.20, cash. There is less doing in Fish Oils, and prices are rather lower. Linseed Oil has advanced, and sells at $1.50@1.55 ℔ gallon. Petroleum is rather firmer; small sales of crude are making at 28@29c; 1,400 bbls refined, in bond, sold at 45@46c, and free at from 52@55c ℔ gallon, as to quality.

RICE continues scarce; 100 bags Rangoon sold in Boston to come here, at 7¾c.

PLASTER is scarce. The last sale of soft was at $4 ℔ ton.

SALT is firm. One cargo of Turks Island sold, to arrive, on private terms.

SEEDS.—Clover is rather quiet. About 500 bushels sold at $8 75 ℔ 64 lbs., and small lots, from second hands, at $9@9 25 ℔ bushel. Timothy is selling at from $3.50@3 62 ℔ bushel. Flaxseed is selling at $3.35@3.40 ℔ bushel.

SUGAR.—Prices are firm and rather better, but the sales are limited; about 1,000 hhds Cuba and Porto Rico Island sold at 12⅝@13¼c, on the usual terms, and New Orleans at 13⅝@14c ℔ lb.

SPIRITS.—Brandy and Gin are selling at full rates. N. E. Rum is quiet at 107@107c ℔ gallon. Whiskey is dull and unsettled, with sales of barrels at 90@92c, and drudge at 88c ℔ gallon.

TALLOW.—There is less doing; sales of city-rendered are making at 11@12½c, and country at 11@11½c ℔ lb.

WOOL.—The market is inactive, and low grades have declined. Moderate sales are making at 75@75c for low grade, and 8?@83c ℔ lb, cash, for medium and fine fleece.

The following are the receipts of Flour and Grain at this port to-day:

Flour	1,600 bbls.
Wheat	8,200 bus.
Corn	6,000 bus.
Oats	6,100 bus.

New York Markets, February 16.

ASHES are quiet and firm at $8 85@8 87½ for Pots and $10 for Pearls.

BREADSTUFFS.—The market for State and Western Flour opened with increased firmness, and holders were asking an advance of 5@10c, but closed quietly and heavily at about previous prices.

The sales are 8,200 bbls at $6 25@6 45 for superfine State; $6 75@7 05 for extra do; $6.30@6 50 for superfine Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, etc; $6.85@7 50 for extra do, including shipping brands of round-hoop Ohio, at $7.25@7 50, and trade brands do, at $7.60@9 50.

Southern Flour is quiet and unchanged; sales 850 bbls at $7 5 @8 10 for superfine Baltimore, and $8 15@11 for extra ditto.

Canadian Flour is in demand and steady; sales 1,340 bbls at $6 75@7 for common, and $7.05@8.10 for good to choice extra.

Rye Flour is steady, with sales of 150 bbls at $5.50@6.60 for the range of fine and superfine.

Wheat is fully one cent better, with an active demand, chiefly for export; sales 174,000 bushels at $1 56@1 59 for Chicago spring; $1.57@1.61 for Milwaukee club; $1.62@1 63 for amber Milwaukee club; $1.66½@1 70 for winter red Western; $1 71@1.74 for amber Michigan; $1 95 for white Western, and $1 75 for white Canadian.

Corn meal is quiet, with sales of 325 bbls Jersey at $5 35@5 65.

Oats are a shade firmer, and in fair demand at 90@91c for Canada; 90@92c for State; 90@92c for Western.

Corn is dull and unsettled; for prime Western mixed $1 28 is offered, and $1 28@1 30 asked. We notice sales of 16,500 bus at $1 20@1 21 for Jersey yellow, and $1.24 for white Jersey.

Rye is dull at $1.28@1.33, with sales of 1,400 bus within the range.

Barley is steady, and in moderate demand; sales of 4,400 bus State at $1.32; 1,800 Eastern at $1.30, and 830 common do at $1.25.

New Orleans Cotton Market.

From the circular of W. G. Betterton, Esq., dated New Orleans, February 5, we obtain the following: The early announcement of the steamship Creole at the bar, with advices of a decline in New York, brought our market to a stand-still this morning, excepting the public sale, which went off at materially lower prices, showing a further decline in some grades of 2@2½c ℔ lb, and making the entire falling off from last week's quotations 2@4c ℔ lb on the grade, from low middling to strict middling, inclusive. The Continental's accounts came to hand at about the time of the sale. There has been a considerable increase in the supply offering, which could hardly be set down under 1,500 to 1,700 bales. The following are the particulars of the auction: 1 bale sweepings at 10c; 2 bales do at 11c; 2 bales pickings at 28c; 1 bale do at 33½c; 2 bales repacked at 57c; 3 bales do at 59½c; 5 bales do samples good ordinary at 63c; 4 bales do low middling at the same; 1 bale samples ordinary at 62c; 1 bale do ordinary at 67½c; 1 bale do low middling at 69c; 18 bales good ordinary at 70½c; 20 do at 70½c; 1 do reboxed at 74c; 24 do good ordinary (5 and 6) at 71½c; 20 do strict good ordinary at the same; 4 do at 72½c; 2 do mixed at 73c; 2 do strict low middling at 73½c; 14 do low middling at 73½c; 2 do at 74c; 1 bale middling at the same; 23 bales low middling at 74½c, and 3 bales strict low middling Sea Island at 84c. This makes a total of 955 bales. At the same sale 49 bales strict low middling were knocked down at 75½c; and 6 do Sea Island at $1 05, but both lots were said to have been bid in. At private sale, 6 bales samples sold, low middling sold at 69c; 4 do strict low middling at 73½c; and 1 do barely middling at 75c. The market closed so unsettled as to make it difficult to give definite quotations, but the following represent them as nearly as possible: Ordinary, 70@71c; good ordinary, 72@73c; low middling, 74@75c; middling, 76@77c; and strict middling, 78c.

New York Cotton Market—Feb. 16.

COTTON.—The inquiry has been fair and prices are a little better. We quote at 81½@82c for middlings, with sales of 600@800 bales.

New York Cattle Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Beef is active, and ½c higher; the prices are 9½@16c; receipts, 4,700 head. Sheep and lambs are active, and higher; sales at $4 75@13 ℔ head; receipts, 12,500. Swine sold freely at $8@8.50; receipts, 6,300.

CITY ITEMS.

IMPORTANT SPECIALTY OF THE GROVER AND BAKER SEWING MACHINE.—The fact has long since been satisfactorily established to the intelligent public that, for all family purposes, the Grover & Baker Sewing Machine is infinitely superior to any other in use; i. e., it hems better, braids better, tucks better, sews better, and embroiders (which no other Sewing Machine does at all) better than any of its competitors. Not only so, but it performs the unparalleled feat of *hemming, braiding, and embroidering all at the same time*. This is, indeed, a most wonderful achievement of mechanical ingenuity, and hundreds of our citizens are daily visiting the Grover & Baker Rooms, 730 Chestnut street, for the purpose of witnessing this interesting operation.

CAPITAL STOCK OF FURNISHING DRY GOODS.—We invite the attention of our readers, housekeepers especially, to the seasonable and admirably-assorted stock of Furnishing Dry Goods now offered at the well-known old Dry-Goods Stand of Messrs. R. D. & W. H. Pennell, No. 1021 Market street. In the articles of Marseilles Quilts, Dimity Quilts, in various colored borders; Honey-comb Quilts, Woolen Quilts, heavy-colored cotton quilts, comfortables, brown and bleached table linens, damask table linens, together with blankets and muslins of every description, this stock presents rare advantages to purchasers, both in assortment and prices. Their general stock of Dry Goods is also very superior.

BUY THE "FLORENCE," WITH BARNUM'S SELF SEWER ATTACHED.—The great merits of the Florence Sewing Machine are too well understood to require comment. We will merely add to-day that the "Barnum Self Sewer" (a most excellent arrangement, by which *the work guides itself*, thus avoiding strain on the eyes, bent posture, and fatiguing care, a matter of incalculable value, especially to inexperienced operators,) is now applied to *all* the "Florence" Machines without extra charge. They are also sold by the Company's agent, 630 Chestnut street, adjusted so as to be readily attached to all other Sewing Machines in use. Every one who has a machine can greatly enhance its value at a trifling expense, by securing one of "Barnum's Self Sewers." Call at 630 Chestnut street, and see them in practical use.

THE DRAFT.—One thing has at last been definitely settled with regard to the draft, either that the 500,000 have got to be made up by volunteering, or it (the draft) *must take place*. The draft worries some people. Not so the incessant draft that is constantly being made by our citizens upon Alter's Coal, at 935 North Ninth street. The latter makes everybody happy, because it saves them money and gives them the very best article.

MAGNIFICENT CLOTHING AT MODERATE PRICES.—Messrs. C. Somers & Son, the enterprising and well-known Clothiers, No. 625 Chestnut street, under Jayne's Hall, are now selling their magnificent stock of fine winter clothing *at greatly reduced prices* in anticipation of the opening spring season, for which they are making extensive preparations. Persons wishing *bargains* in the Clothing line should cut this "item" out, and act upon it.

A GREAT ESTABLISHMENT FOR GENTLEMEN.—Gentlemen of fashion and taste can have their wants, in the way of Furnishing Goods, supplied in the very best style at the popular stand of Mr. George ford Lukens, northeast corner Sixth and Chestnut. Mr. L.'s stock is fresh and beautiful, and abounds in *novelties* in the way of elegant scarfs, cravats, gloves, handkerchiefs, fancy shirts, and everything belonging to the Gentlemen's Furnishing line. All his prices are reasonable.

THE "PRIZE MEDAL SHIRT,"—This superior Shirt, invented by J. F. Taggart, and sold by George Grant, proprietor of the popular and elegant stocked Gentlemen's Furnishing Establishment, 610 Chestnut street, is THE *Shirt of the age* in beauty, and durability. There is no other shirt comparable to it. Gentlemen will please make a note.

THE PERFECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHY.—The art of Photography is under large obligations to Mr. Wenderoth (of the firm of Wenderoth & Taylor) for several of its most important applications. We yesterday examined, at their galleries, Nos. 912 and 916 Chestnut street, a variety of specimens of their exquisite new *Photomintature*, which we regard as the most admirable success in the way of making the human face and form, by the photographic process, we have ever seen.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.

Great Reduction in Prices.

Ladies' and Misses' Fine Cloaks.

Ladies' and Misses' Fine Cloaks.

Also,

Rich Furs of all kinds.

Rich Furs of all kinds.

In anticipation of the close of the season, we are now prepared to make a large concession from former prices on all our stock.

J. W. PROCTOR & Co.,

The Paris Cloak and Fur Emporium,

920 Chestnut street.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—X. Y. Z. The first suit of clothes upon record is that made of fig leaves by Adam, for his own wear. The style of Adam, however, improved in the matter of wearing apparel. Perfection, it is believed, has been reached in the nineteenth century, and if you would satisfy yourself upon this point, it is only necessary to pay a visit to the Brown Stone Clothing Hall of Rockhill & Wilson, Nos. 603 and 605 Chestnut street, above Sixth. We charge nothing for the advice.

IMPORTANT TO THE LADIES.—One of the partners of a well known and enterprising business house in New York, now in Paris, writes to his friends that he has purchased the exclusive right for the sale in the United States of America, of Monsieur Vidal man's celebrated *Floriline for preserving, beautifying, and strengthening the human hair*. This justly celebrated hair-dressing has occasionally found its way to the toilets of quite a number of our most fashionable ladies who have been travelling in Europe, who have had it sent to them by their friends in Paris, but to so limited an extent it is but little known. It is rumored by those in the trade that he has cost the above house the enormous sum of one hundred thousand dollars; and so unbounded is the confidence of the proprietors that this celebrated preparation will supersede all others of the kind in the American market that they are making the most extensive preparations for its introduction. It is understood to be free from alcohol or oil of any kind, and will, with a few applications, produce a head of hair of the most "ravishing beauty."

SOUND SENSE.—When you have nothing to say, say nothing; a weak defence strengthens your opponent, and silence is less injurious than a bad argument. If you do speak, speak to the purpose. State facts, as, for example, that the largest, best, and cheapest (because the best) stock of elegant clothing in the city is at the Bazaar of Fashion, Granville Stokes', No. 609 Chestnut street. Call and see.

EXCELLENT SMOKING TOBACCO.—It is a difficult matter to obtain a good article, anything like a good quality of Smoking Tobacco; but we recently tried an article sold by E. H. Hunt, 116 Chestnut street, which is equal to the very best we have ever placed in a pipe. It is the Kinnickinnick, originally prepared by the Indians, from the tobacco, mingled with roots, odorous barks, &c. Its flavor is pungent, yet delicious, and imparts to the air like incense. It lights easily, and keeps the fire a long time without incessant drawing. It is in every way it is worthy of the reputation it has attained. We commend it to all who remember the departing glories of "Lynchburg" and "Latakia," and who wish to obtain an article of that quality at a reasonable rate.—*Ed. Evening*