leum is burned by the French as a fuel, and Caspian upon the world than any of their useful and neces naptha is world renowned; in Norway it serves the same purpose; in India and parts of Italy it is an illuminating agent, and is last supplanting the animal and vegetable cile; and there are those who suppose that the slime with which the artisans of the Tower of Babel built their great structure was composed of coal oil. Others, who added imagination to their science, tell us that the walls of Babylon were strengthened with it, and that when the judgment of the Almighty God fell upon Sodom and Gomorrah, the Immortal bade the rocks to open, and the burning springs of petroleum to cover them forever. There is a tradition that in Trinicad the Spaniards found a lake of pure petroleum. We know that it exists in Sicily, and that there are deposits in Italy, France, and England. But America has found it in the largest quantities, has refined and developed it, made it an article of commerce, and, after lighting up our houses, has taken its dregs and compounded some of the most beautiful dyes known to the chemist of

haberdasher.
A TEADITION OF VENANGO. There is a tradition in Venango county that the oil springs on Oil Oreck formed a part of the religious ceremony of the Seneca Indians, who for-merly lived on these wild hills. The Aborigines m their wells and mixed it with their ar paint, which is said to have given them a ware, and enabling them to retain the paint for a long time, and to keep their skin entirely impervious to water. The uses of this oil for their religi worship is spoken of by the French commander of Fort Duquesne, in a letter, an extract from which you will allow me to print: "I would desire," writes the commander to his Excellency, Gen. Montcalm, who jafterwards died at Quebec, "to assure yeu that this is a most delightful land. Some of the ishing natural wonders have been disred by our people. While descending the Allewheny, fifteen leagues below the mouth of the Conewango, and three above the Venango, we were invited by the chief of the Senecas to attend a relious ceremony of his tribe. We landed, and drew up our cances on a point where a small stream enpred the river. The tribe appeared unusually soemn. We marched up the stream about half a lemn. We install the league, where the company, a large band, it appeared, had arrived some days before us. Gigantic hills begirt us on every side. The scene was really sublime. The great chief then recited the conquests and heroism of their ancestors. The surface of the tream was covered with a thick scum, which burst te conflagration. The oil had been athered, and lighted with a toroh. At the sight of the flames, the Indians gave forth the triumphant Shout that made the hills and valleys re-echo again Here, then, is revived the ancient fire-worship of the East; here, then, are the children of the sun." Tracing the course of the French commander down the Allegheny river on our present maps, we find the small stream spoken of as evidently Oil Creek, and that upon marching half a league above that stream we will probably have reached Rooseville. where the Cherry Run flows into that stream, and where the largest oil wells have since been found. The "gigantic hills" are here still, and the "thick roum" which the Indians gathered, and which careui, prudent men now guard against conflagration nto peaceable tanks, and, instead of lighting up the wilderness for the exhibitions of uncouth

savages, sends joy and comfort into thousands or distant homes.

FRANKLIN AND OIL ORBER. We went from Franklin to Oil City in a small boat, called the Petrolia. It was intended to accommodate a dozen or twenty country farmers, and is now compelled to carry three hundred, very much iple of herring packed in a barrel. It was late at night before we started from Franklin, and our creeping boat gave little promise of an easy journey. Although the distance was but seven miles, the captain assured us that he could run it in three hours, so we huddled into the cabin as best we could, for even that was preferable to the cold, damp frost. We had a specimen of what might be called California life on board the Petrolia. The boat had scarcely started before a smooth-faced young gentleman unrolled a square piece of oil-cloth, painted red and checkered with numbers, which, he said, was a branch of the great Havan lottery; that the game was played in every private parlor in the Union, and respectable men and we men gave their days and nights to it; that there were sixty numbers, of which two-thirds were prizes, and the others blanks; and that upon paying the small sum of fifty cents any gentleman in the being remunerated in the sum of \$150. provided the number corresponded to certain numbers upon his cloth. "Gentlemen," he said, "this is the great Havana lottery, played in every parlor in the Union! Only fifty cents a chance, with a prospect ing more money than you would out of an el ville oil well! Will you have a throw, sir? Only fifty cents a throw. I only play this game for amusement-a very respectable game-not a man or wot. Just fifty cents for one throw, and if you hit prize you get your money back again and become ich." For two hours the game was continued, and young man with his cloth lost nothing by his kind was announced that a part of the machinery of the thad been broken, and before morning the captain hoped to repair the damage. My friend and myself, anxious to escape from the noise and discomnetmen who paraded a lantern, made preparation to start on feet to Oil Oisy. We wonten shore and began our midnight pilgrimage, feeling that even the hard frost was preferable to the huddled-up cabin and a dismal slests on the river. The night was very dark, and my first experience in Oil City was anything but pleasant. The roads were rough and imperfectly frozen; deep, deceptive ruts be-trayed the traveller into many an unfortunate slip and stumble. I should almost pre-fer the old Saxon ordesl of the burning oughshare to another tramp on the banks of tha river, and it was with a feeling of joy that we arrived at a small hotel upon the outskirts of the city, about an hour after midnight. Our accommo tions, poor as they were, were rendered pleasant by the genial temper of the old landlord. He had from Warren, he said, and opened the hotel, and had received so much custom that he had not had time to make any arrangements for the com-fort of his guests. In the morning we started off to view the far-famed Oil City. Can I describe this place? Do you imagine a city of banks and highways and dwellings, and rushing men and women eager to be rich, a city of Chestnut streets and Broadways and Pennsylvania avenues? If so don the idea, for Oil City is nothing more than a long, narrow mud-flat, that seems to sorawl at the feet of high shale rocks. It is the delta of the Allegheny river and the adjacent stream of Oil Creek. You do not find it in the census or upon the mans, for it has grown in a night. It lives in news. papers as a city, and as a habitation for men is nothing more than a collection of houses, lowroofed, dirty shantles, hastliy put up, without much regard to our natural disinclination old and rain; a city of hotels and offices, filled with booted, muddy, heavily-clad men, surr by tall derricks, that look like the shipping of New York or Philadelphia; and so, sprawling through the mud, far on to Titusville, for twelve or fifteen miles, it might be easily conceived to be a nest of moles burrowing in the mud, to find in the pricecurrents of foreign markets and the stock lists of foreign exchanges the recompense for depriving themselves of every imaginable comfort. If you wish to live in mud, to walk in mud, to ride in mud, to see nothing but mud, to have the color of your clothing obscured by mud, to inhale nothing but an air burdened with gas and petroleum, and to see what a livid, hungry, anxious genus of animals men are when they are bitten by this money getting tarantula, by all means come to Oil City and take up your abode in one of its hotels. Here King Petroleum reigns, seated upon his muddy throne, and sends off upon the shallow waters of this muddy river millions of wealth to beautify and gladde

all portions of the world. LITERATER AND EOMANGE OF PHTROLEUM.
All along the Ohio river, and taking the course of the Allegheny as far as Titusville, we find nothing but traces of the great oil enterprise. I think it is no exaggeration to say that for a space of two hundred miles, running from McConnelsville, in Ohio, to Erie, in Pennsylvania, every person that I met or with whom I engaged in conversation had no sub-ject more interesting than oil. This enterprise has cracy of its own. An oil man is as much an idiosvncracy as the coal miner or the chimney sweep. He talks of oil, dreams of oil, thinks of oil, and is gilb and profuse about petroleum, and carbon, and nap-tha, and benzine, and lubricating oil. He has his own slang phrases. He can tell the current news in unintelligible phrases, and say that Sherman's army shows good surface indications; that according to the latest news Grant had a fine show of oil, and that if Sheridan keeps on after the rebels he will strike a flowing well. In this enterprise, as in all others, we have the ridiculous as well as the sensible class of men. There are thousands, of course, who come into these countries and make their money, and quietly go home again without showing what I might be permitted to call any "surface indications" of their new prosperity. But the petroleum aristocrat or the oil prince, which ever phrase you may accept—the man who has lived his life in penury and gloom, who finds himself the possessor of an income which he has not the genius to spend, is an odd and laughable combination of humanity. We have all heard of the impression made upon English society in the last century, by the men who went out to India in last century, by the men who went out to India in the traces of Clyde's and Hastings' conquering armies and gathered great fortunes in the old depositories of Indian wealth. Our everyday conversation has taken a word from that period of sudden prosperity, and men now commonly speak of a "nabob" without thinking that with their grandfathers. without thinking that with their grandfa hers it was a term of envious contempt, and intended to express very much what is now intended when we speak of men who have grown rich as "shoddy" men and "oil princes. The nabob and the oil princes have pretty much the same characteristics. Living in Venango or Wirt has not given men the liver-com-plaint or the gout, (and no nabob in the old comedies was complete without these two unpleasant companions), but there is the same want of taste and delicacy, and an utter inability to comprehend the real uses of money in the effort to imitate Beau Brummell or Count D'Orazy, or to ride in equipages not even surpassed by the magnificent display of Mr. Belmont. I met some of these ridiculously rich men in my travels, and, as I write, my mind recalls the history of one ose name I do not care to ments story has been told to me a hundred times, and j on, but whose now a part of the romance of petroleum. Johnny Jones (this name is as good as another) was a sim. ple country boy in the service of a farmer whose acres ard to till, and therefore twenty years of Johnny's life were given to meagre crops and bad needs. He toiled among the wheat and corn until the grew up to manhood, with no other accomplishments beyond those necessary for a good heater or stage-driver. Johnny Jones, good hearted in his way, probably attended the village church with all or twelve o'clock in the evening. These boats of clothes and was in love with a country girl. He local conveyances, stopping at every little town married this country girl, and it is possible that and village on the banks and at every farm house, married this country girl, and it is possible that and village on the banks and at every farm house, with her knowledge of plain cooking and the mys- indeed, if they are halled. There are two hotels at teries of apple butter, and Johnny Jones' hard sl. Parkersburg which are generally patronized, and teries of apple outter, and Johnny Johns Hard St.

news and constant toll, they might have lived and at which reasonable accommodations may be had at Parkersburg the oil hunters generally take to their children and making no more impression horses and go to Burning Springs, just thirty miles

sary class. But the rain falls upon the just as well as the unjust, and it came to pass that Johnny enough to have them developed, and to retain an interest, which, for the last year, has paid him an income estimated at from three to five thousand dollars a day. I would not like to be responsible for the effect of an income of this kind upon any of my friends, nor should I care to have my own condu riticised were I to be in receipt of so many glorious greenbacks. Johnny Jones became insane with his new wealth, not in that sense which implies a Straight inchet, or close confinement in an infirmary, but with a far more terrible meaning. Johnny's sudden wealth carried him up into the clouds, and as the heaven of his early dreams had been sense-gratifying wealth, he hurried out into the world with his gains, and began to be a great man. Such a fish could not long be in the sea of American life without having around him a shoal of sharks, and so Johnny had not proceeded very far in his new ocean of prosperity before a shoal of well-dressed sharks—sharks with diamond rings and astonishing vests—sharks who knew the mystery of the gam-bling-house and the bagnio—took possession of him, and began to feed upon his substance. Of they went in their wild career. The poor country wife was left at home to do her plain cooking, make her apple butter, and astonish the neighbors by the display of several gaudy new dresses. Johnny went to Philadelphia, showering his favors upon hack-drivers who took his fancy, pleasant-spo-ken gambling-men, and ladies of miscellaneous and cosmopolitan attachments, and upon all that was wicked and vile and seducing in the great metro. nolis His ourser sytemand to Western and Eastern cities; and what with diamond rings and losses, and gambling saloons, and presents to all who asked them, in three months he managed to spend ninety thousand dollars. I am told that Johnny's new life wore deeply into his muscles and his sinews, and quite soddened his poor, feeble brain, and that. as a sequel to his career, some considerate friends who thought that his money might be more advantageously applied, obtained the interference of the law; and so Johnny's affairs are now in the hands of a receiver, and his money is paid to careful, pru-dent men, and his great gains are husbanded by others, while he is only permitted to spend a limited income, something, perhaps, like fity or one hundred dollars per day, which, with care and prudence, may enable him to pass through this period. of his great calamity, and become a respectable and

worthy old gentleman. HOW A WELL IS BORED.

This article would scarcely be complete if I did not tell you something about the mechanical process by which oil is obtained. The wells are of two classes flowing wells and pumping wells; the flowing wells eing those in which a crevice is struck by some orer, and the gases force the oil through the earth into the tank prepared for it. When a site is deterined upon for sinking a well a high wooden frame, called a derrick, is raised some thirty or forty feet high, covering some ten or twelve feet of ground at the base and gently sloping towards the top. The machinery is very simple, being a wheel or pulley with a windlass and crank connected by a pitman -thelend of a walking beam-which is connected with the derrick and works upon a pivot at the centre of the frame, some fifteen feet from the ground. This simple machinery being erected, a cast-iron pipe about five inches in diameter is driven into the ground, one joint following another, until the earth is penetrated and its further progress stopped by a rock. The earth is removed, and then a drill or a hard iron chisel about three inches in diameter and three feet long is attached to the end of a rope, and thus to the walking beam, which moves up and down and drills the ro by its mere weight alone. It is generally found that by the time the drill penetrates the rock water gathers, and the drill is fastened to the rope by a link called a "jar," so that the drill strikes with its full weight when drawn up by every motion of the walking beam. Connected with this drill is a sand pump with a copper tube about five feet long and omething smaller than the drill, so that it can be worked inside. After drilling awhile, the pulverized rock and water must be removed, and this is done by the sand pump; and whenever the pipe is filled with this mixture of water and rock it is drawn off by means of a rope passing from the pulley at the top of the derrick, and drilling is again commenced. After having made the hole and pumped out the sand, a second instrument, called a reamer, i driven in for the purpose of making it perfectly round. This is operated in the same way as the drill, and thus the well is gradually sunk. It is generally found that there are three rocks in this il country, commonly called sandstone rocks, and known as the first, second, and third. As I have man in the country that does not know how to play said, oil is found in either one of these formations, earance of gas escaping through the sand-pump, nd very often some traces of oil in the debris that ually removed. When the oil is found in ufficient quantities to justify the borer in believing that he has struck a crevice, or, in common words, found a well, a wrought from pipe, provided with a valve like that commonly used in a pump, is inseried in the castiron pipe, and run down the whole length, so that it forms a continuous tube om 300 to 800 feet long, as the depth of the well may be. The metallic pump box, covered with leathor, is inserted, and being connected by the rod to the walking-beam, whatever is in the well is pumped out, and thus the process gives what is known as the pumping well. When the crevice is so filled with oil that the mere natural force of the gases sends it to the surface, there is no neces

sity for this latter piece of machinery, the petroleum confess that we see little need of much finding its own way up and being conducted by a tube to large tanks. Although the pumping wells any question like that of Mr. Long's or never produced more than from 10 to 50 barrels a Mr. Davis' expulsion will come before lay, the oil obtained by them is generally of purer quality than the other, being more free from gas either House. The principal service that and water, and is more valuable. As the oil comes Congress can now do to the country is the from the earth it has the appearance of a dirty prompt transaction of business, and it is t, it becomes dark and greenish, sometimes of a blue, glistening appearance, and, as in Ohio and some parts of Virginia, it is black and heavy, as discussions of principles which in the earlier part of the war were useful as well though it were liquid asphaltum. The cost of drilling an oil well 600 feet is not less than \$7,000. The as unavoidable. price of the labor and material will, perhaps, increase this. Wells are generally drilled by parties who make a contract to do the job, increasing the the House of Representatives this session, price according to the greater depth desired. Thes and must command its profound consideraing, the machinery being always furnished by the tion. We allude to the amendment to the parties owning the land. I copy an estimate, which, Constitution abolishing slavery in the Unihaving been made some time ago, is perhaps 20 ted States. We hope for its passage, per cent. less than the usual figure : though we know that a few members COST OF PUTTING DOWN AN OIL WELL SIX HUNof the Opposition will struggle to con-One engine, ten-horse power, delivered on the centrate the full power of their party against it. But the House must feel the influence of the late elections, and there are many influential Democrats

nances..... Bell, well, band, wheel, and belting......)ne set tools.... nch and-a-half hawser, and quarter-inch hand pump rope.....ix hundred feet tubing, at 92 cents...... Fifty feet driving pipe, at \$7. 350
Five hundred bushels cosl, at 60 cents. 300
Two engineers, say sixty days, each at \$3. 380
Jontract to drillers, six hundred feet, at \$2.25 1,330 two-inch gas tongs.....

penses, such as accidents in breaking machinery,

getting tools fast in wells, and the charges by pro-

The oil being found, it is run into large tanks, and sold in bulk by agents at the well. Its value de pends on its quality. Some oils, especially those known as lubricating, command larger prices than others. Wells upon the banks of streams receive more for their oil than those requiring transportation. There is a class of men known as teamsters in this country, who carry the oil from the wells of the banks of Oil Creek to the Allegheny river, for which they receive large sums on account of the fearful character of the roads and the difficulty of obtaining horses. In some cases this consumes large part of the profits. Thus, the Reed Well is situated upon the site of Cherry Run, a stream that enters Oil Creek about a mile from its mouth The run is not navigable, and the transportation of this oil from the well to the mouth, where it can be placed in barges and shipped to Pittsburg, Titt ville, and Franklin, costs \$1.75 per barrel; so that at the well the price is \$8.50 a barrel, while at the mouth of the run it is \$10.25. The buyer must furnish his own transportation; that is, the owners of the well merely sell it in bulk. It would seem that economy should teach the owners of these wells to furnish their own means of transportation; but where they run from 200 to 600 barrels a day you generally find that there is enough to do to keep the oil from overflowing the banks and running into the stream, so that the profits of freight and shipwill thus see that in the mere discovery and shipburg large profits are made by at least two or three first, the producer, who finds it at the well : classes—first, the producer, who mudsit at the wen; second, the teamster, who charges one-fifth of its value for carrying it to the stream; and, third, the commission merchant, who buys it in the bulk, and either sells it in its crude state or sends it to the refinery. What would be called reasonable profits in ordinary business would be laughed at by these men in the oil region. A hundred per cent, is con-

sidered a very moderate gain.

Greene and Olarion counties are rich in oil and general interest. The heavy snow storm which in-terrupted our journey prevented us from visiting these districts. All the indications, and I converse with many men who had large interests in these regions, led me to suppose that the sister county of Clarion and the corner county of Greene might ri-

val the already proud Venango.

There are some practical suggestions that may be f use to such of my readers as care to visit this territory. To reach Parkersburg there are two routes altimore and Ohio Railroad, is the nearest; but the propensity of the rebels to interfere with its opeations, and particularly the recent raid upon New Creek by McCausland, makes travel on that route an exploit requiring courage. You leave Ba and go to Grafton. Here the Northwestern Virginia Railroad branches off to Parkersburg, running through the upper part of the oil region. On the Parkersburg road you can reach a within sixteen or twenty miles of any of the great wells, and thence, if you are fortunate, may be conveyed by horse or an open wagon called a buggy. nine out of ten of those who come to the oil district are compelled to travel on foot. The route most patronized is this: From Philadelphia to Pittsburg; thence, on the Fort Wayne and Chicago road, to Wheeling, which is a journey of abo otion of a young man who had a good suit | do not make any particular time, as they are mere

distant, over a reasonably good pike, and which may be easily travelled in a day. On this route there are one or two good inns, Butcher's inn, about Jones found the poor barren acres that were left to him by his foster mother to be mines of more wealth than were ever discovered in the El commodations are limited at these places, and the Dorado of the Far west. He had enough rude sense to keep him from parting with them for a frock or a string of feads, like some of his more ignorant brethren in West Virginia, and simply sold Burning Springs there is one in which the traveller may have an opportunity of finding how little of comfort or convenience is necessary for the wants of life. The general custom is for the traveller in this egion to take up his abode at the farm houses; and although the pople are rude and coarse, still they have a kind of well meaning hospitality which is sant in its way. If the traveller desires to visit some of the upper regions, he stops at Sisters-ville, in Tyler county, and thence with a horse and wagon proceeds to Middlebourne. This is the centre wagon proce of the upper oil district. Travelling accommodations and hotel-keeping are more abundant there than in Wood county, and the oil hunter may find a reasonably good bed and a tolerably good meal. If he desires to visit Bull Creek, the steamer stops at a little landing at the mouth of that stream; and as there are no hotels, no private houses, no farms and rather a surly community, he must depend and rather a surry community, he must depend upon his persuasive powers with pioneers and oil-diggers, and not particularly complain if he is com-pelled to sleep in a barn, wrapped up in his robes, or find shelter under some of the oil-well sheds. The most prudent course for a traveller to adopt in visiting any of these regions, is to go either to Marietta or Parkersburg, taking with him his own horse, and carrying a plain, rough suit of travelling apparel, and, if possible, a haversack with two or three days' rations. Thus, in marching order, he can very readily advance into the country without depending upon any particular base of operations, like the somewhat celebrated Sherman of the West And if he is fortunate, he may have a rough, unique, and if not pleasant, at least an interesting trip. From Marietta, a small packet runs up the Muskingum river as far as McConnelsville, and here, if he has a horse, he may make his base of operations,

and his own time to quietly reconncitre the country around about. The means of travel are so slight and the country so full of interest and difficult to examine that no visitor to the oil regions should calculate upon seeing what is to be seen in less than a week or ten days. As I did not go into Kentucky or Indiana, I am unable to give any particular information as to the means of reaching those points or travelling through that country. Parkersburg and Marietta, however, are the great centres of pusiness and intercourse, and here the traveller must begin, if he proposes to take a journey like the one I am deribing. The only danger of the West Virginia country arises from the fact that very frequently the guerillas interfere with the oil hunters. Wirt, Wood, Ritchie, and Tyler counties are safe, but beyond this, say about fifty miles from Parkersburg, my remarks will apply. They are not dangerous gentlemen, however, unless you have excited their anger by some act of undue loyalty or wear the uniform of the United States. The greatest danger that may happen you is the loss of a watch, a pocket book, or a horse. The Government of West Virginia, however, has taken strong steps to drive these annoying marauders away. Whenever a guerilla is caught, he is straightway shot; and this bold course, with the increasing strength of our army, is gradually making West Virginia as easy of access as Ohio or Pennsylvania. To Venango there are two routes. The nearest is

by way of the Erie Railroad to Corry, thence along the Atlantic and Great Western to Franklin and Gloat to Oil City. A road is about to be built directly to Oil City, which will be open in the spring. Another route is by way of the Pennsylvania Central to Pittsburg, and thence to Greenville, Meadeville, and Franklin. This is a tedious route, and the delays were very annoying, for we were compelled to spend twelve hours in travelling ninety-six mile To reach Greene county, go to Pittsburg, and take the boat on the Monongahela for Greensburg. To see the whole oil country, even as superficially as the writer of this article, will require about this weeks of time and one hundred and fifty or two hundred dollars.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1864.

The Opening of Congress.

support to the war we are assured, but it

time and thought to the national finances.

More than once the Secretary of the Trea-

sury has had reason to regret that Con-

gress did not sustain his measures, or, re-

jecting them, suggest others as good, and

we trust that in this short session the

legislation necessary to the improvement

of our financial condition will be promptly

transacted. That Congress will repeat the

decrees of the people, and again lay down

that unafterable creed to which the nation

repledged itself by the re-election of ABRA-

HAM LINCOLN, we do not doubt, but we

general discussion. It is not likely that

not specially called upon to repeat those

There is, however, one great and all-im-

portant measure which will come before

among its members, from whom we expect

large and broader views than were perhaps

possible before the late canvass was decided.

The fate of their party is no longer an element

of politics, and even as politicians they are

now free to act independently of the obso-

lete policy of the last session. It is in the

power of these gentlemen to gain last-

ing honor by the passage of this great

measure of justice and wisdom. They

may show that their party is not hopelessly

committed to the protection of slavery, but

that, whatever its opinions may have been

of the proclamations of the President, and

the measures justified by military necessi-

ty, it will gladly aid in the abolition of the

national disgrace by a plan which is pro-

The St. Albans Raiders.

A specimen of marvellous impudence is

the application to the Governor General of

Canada by the St. Albans raiders to obtain

a messenger to carry an open letter to

Richmond, for the purpose of obtaining

material for defence. A similar petition

has been addressed in their behalf to the

President of the United States. As we

understand, the reply of the Canadian Go-

vernor declines the application to him,

not regarding the prospected evidence as

immaterial to the case in Canada, and

only to be offered in the United States

courts upon extradition. The raiders

have offered the puerile plea that they

did not intend returning by flight into

Canada, and one of the Montreal papers is

silly enough to approve it. The Governor's

action is just. The case is one of robbery

and violence, under cover of British neu-

trality, and is ten-fold more aggravated

than if British subjects had been the despe-

radoes. Jefferson Davis' commission to

commit crime under British protection

makes the matter still worse, and here, if

England wished to find a real casus belli, is

her opportunity. Next we shall hear that

the New York incendiaries have legal

rights not to be hung or shot by martial

law, in case of capture. The atrocious silli-

ness of the Canadian case defles the com-

THE career of one of the rebel papers has

been singularly itinerant and on the wing.

The progress of our armies in the South-

west can be told from its stopping-places.

Thus far it is the Memphis-Hernando-Gre-

nada-Jackson-Morton-Atlanta-Griffin Ap-

peal, with a trail of some three hundred

miles. To this long Appeal must be

added Milledgeville, Macon, Augusta, and

Savannah, according to Gen. SHERMAN'S

time-tables. We have heard in poetry of

'Ocean's hoarse appeal," and suspect

where this desperate fugitive will at last

anchor. From Atlanta to the Atlantic is

ACCEPTING the verdict of the election as

oroof of the justice of the wisdom of the

people, the Louisville Journal has severed

rom the old feudal alliance with the De-

mocratic party. "That alliance has ex-

pired by its own limitation, and we shall

now deem it our duty to watch the course

of the Democrats. The voice which comes

ip from Tammany Hall, as indicative of

pass of description.

but a step.

vided for in the Constitution itself.

The Congress which reassembles to-day expected to strengthen the Executive arm of the Government by sound and sufficient legislation. That it will give ample

which might use it to their own, rather than the public advantage.

How far we have carried out this purpose we will leave the public to judge. We are satisfied that the influence we have exercised has been beneficial, and that we have contributed largely to raise the character of journalism to its present high standard. When the Ledger commenced its publication, the united editions of all the daily newspapers of Philadelphia was between seven thousand and eight thousand copies per day. Now, the editions of the morning and evening journals of this city, English and German, are not far from one hundred and seventy-five thousand copies per day, and the daily newspaper is an indispanable part of events.

ertions, and the influence and respect that the Ledger commands, its business and circulation now being greater than at any former period, assure is these efforts have not been in vain.

In doing this we have been aided in the various departments of the paper by gentlemen connected with us for years, many from the commencement of the Ledger, and to them we owe the duty of publicly expressing our sense of their valuable assistance and co-operation. Their services, we understand, will be retained by our successor.

Mr. Childs, the gentleman who succeeds us in the control and direction of the Public Ledger, is well known in the community as an enterprising, intelligent and successful man of business, entirely familiar with the publishing business, and the publisher now of the best literary journal in the country. His interests are identified with those of Philadelphia. He is thoroughly acquainted with the public wants, and will conduct the Ledger with the same high object for which it was established—the good of its readers and the advantage of the public. All the energies of the publisher, we feel assured, will the energies of the publisher, we feel assured, will be devoted to maintaining both the character and principles of the paper.

With this explanation, we bid the readers of the Ledger adden, assuring them of our best wishes for their prosperty and that of our city. Though disconnected hereafter with the Ledger, our feelings of interest in its welfare under the well-directed efforts of our successor, will be undiminished.

Respectfully,

WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1864. THE MEETING OF CONGRESS. There is now nearly a quorum of members of

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. preserved to prevent a premature exposure of it It cannot yet be ascertained with certainty wheth r the President's Message will be transmitted t Congress to-morrow, or on Tuesday.

THE DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS. The only reports yet printed are those of the Secretary of the Navy and Postmaster General. That the Secretary of the Interior will be placed in he printer's hands to morrow. The reports of the ther Departments are not yet completed. THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL-SHIP.

It was stated in the press telegram of Thursday that the Hon. JOSEPH HOLT had declined the appointment of Attorney General, in the place of En-ARD BATES, resigned. The report that the Hon. JAMES SPEED, of Kenncky, has been tendered the office, is to-day con. irmed by reliable authority, and it is believed he will accept the position.

The Hon. James Speed, the recently appointed Attorney General, arrived here to-day from Ken-

From reports which have reached this city, there ems to be no doubt that some of EARLY's forces have been sent to Richmond, within the past week y way of Madison Court House. ARRIVAL OF PRISONERS FROM THE SOUTH A gentleman who arrived from Annapolis to-night says that 5,000 exchanged prisoners have already eached that place from Andersonville, and the pay asters are busy settling their arrearages. rrivals are daily expected. Those who recently ame up in the Constitution and Cornac are con paratively in good health. PENSIONS.

At invesent soldiers who have been severely naimed have an advantage in respect to pension ver sailors who similarly suffer, and therefore one of the measures of the approaching session of Con-gress will provide a remedy for this manifest injustice or oversight in legislation IMPROVED RAILROAD CONNECTIONS. The new arrangements perfecting the connections

THE POSITION OF GENERAL THOMAS.

Escape of Villains from Jail. DANEURY, Conn., Dec. 3 — William H. Hanford, concerned in the abortion and death of Henrietta Leland, of Brooklyn, L. I., escaped from the jall in this town to-day. It is supposed that an accessory unlocked the door and let him out. George Brown, another prisoner, awaiting tris or rape, also escaped,

their intended policy, meets our entire reprehension." This manly acknowledgment is one of the growing symptoms of emancipation, not alone in the slave State

party. THE correspondents of the London Times, like their employer, have begun to make peace with destiny. The last letter in Mr. DELANE's paper acknowledges "that the most obvious danger which threatens to weaken the Confederacy is the decrease in men." Add to this the ability of Northern Generals. "The drain upon the population has been terrible, and is daily augmenting." Add to this that the rebels have been systematically beaten for the past year.

The Public Ledger. We can pay to our distinguished towns man. Mr. Swain, no higher compliment than the republication in full of his letter announcing his retirement from the Public Ledger. No one has done more to elevate and strengthen the power of the newspaper press than Mr. Swain, and it must be with a feeling of pride, perhaps not unalloyed with sadness, that now, after nearly thirty years of devotion to his profession, and the achievement of success almost unparalleled in the history of journalism. he turns aside in the fullness of his manhood from the active duties of newspaper life to enjoy his splendid and well-earned fortune. In his modest and unostentation way, Mr. Swain has done as much for Philadelphia as a city, and for journalism as a profession, as any man in our midst; and although no longer our brother, he shall always be our friend—one whom we shall never cease to venerate for his genius, his courage, and his honesty. Mr. GROBGE W. CHILDS, the successor of Mr. Swain, is well known as an enterprising and liberal business man, and having been connected with the publication of books for his whole life, he begins his work with an unusual intimacy with his new profession. Mr. CHILDS is a young man, full of energy and genius, and the Ledger, in his posses sion, will be sustained in its high and independent course. We welcome Mr. CHILDS into newspaper life, and wish him every possible success in the management of the Ledger. The following is the letter of Mr. Swain on taking farewell of his

readers: readers:

To THE READERS AND ADVERTISERS OF THE PUBLIC LEDGER:

The undersigned, proprietors and publishers of the Public Ledger, after nearly twenty-nine years of intercourse of a business character with its readers and advertisers, and of relations with the public of a kind probably not less intimate and mutually advantageous, feel to-day a regret, which, was assume may be also mutually shared, that these relations, pleasant to ourselves, are brought to sciose, though any feeling of this kind finds a compensation in the fact that we have sold the interest and ownership of the Ledger to George W. Childs, Esq., who henceforth will stand in the same relationship to all the Ledger's friends and readers as we have hitherto maintained.

In parting with so many kind fileads to the readers.

the Ledger's friends and readers as we have hither to maintained.

In parting with so many kind friends, it may not be egotistical in us to refer briefly to our course as publishers of a daily journal; and the direction we have given it while presiding over it. When the Ledger was commenced, on the 25th of March, 1836, newspaper publication had not assumed the importance which it possesses at the present day, and the influence of newspapers upon the public mind was not of that impressive and commanding character that it has since attained. The prices of public journals were too high to admit of their general effectuation among those most to be profited by them. Depending upon a limited circle of readers and pattons, the support they received was of too meagre a character even for their own improvement, and to qualify them for the mission which it is now acknowledged they serve, that of public instructors in the readlest and cheapest mode by which the public mind can be reached. Believing in this mission of the public press, the great uses to which it could be devoted, and the liniuence it would exert when brought to operate upon the mind of every reader, we determined to publish a paper at one cent per copy, so as to bring it within the means of every reader in the community, and (depending upon its own-merits as a public instructor) to ask no other support than that merit deserved, and the aid of no other influences, which might use it to their own, rather than the

morning and evening journals of this city, English and German, are not far from one hundred and seventy-five-thousand copies per day, and the daily newspaper is an indispensable past of the control instruction and suffernation. The One Ceit, or "Penny Paper," as it is called, has made hundreds of thousands of readers, and in making these readers, it has advanced the interest of every other newspaper in the city, as well as enlarged the information of the people, and contributed to the enterprise and prosperity of the city.

The Ledger can claim to have promoted every useful public improvement in Philadelphia during the last quarter of a century. It has suggested many of the most important of them, and carried them, against great opposition from quarters least expected. It lent its influence to unite the city in one municipality, by which the interests of the city have been advanced, and its order and proper police discipline have been better secured. It has presented and urged the great system of street rallepads, which contributes to the comfort and comony of every citizen. It suggested and urged the present convenient system of house-numbering, the advantages of which are universally acknowledged. It has shown the benefits of concentrating our public buildings, including the Post Office, so that the least loss of time is experienced in doing business with them. It has been the main instrument in revolutionizing the Fire Department, by the introduction of steam fire engines, with the fire alarm and police telegraph. It has advocated every rallroad enterprise which connects Philadelphia with the business of the interior. It has been the determined opponent of public disorder and mob violence, and it believes terior. It has been the determined opponent of public disorder and mob violence, and it believes that its discussions upon these subjects have largely helped to secure the peace and order which now

bess our city.

We have not space to enumerate all the good we have endeavored to effect publicly, and which we have generally succeeded in accomplishings. The growth and prosperity of the city and the good of its inhabitants have always been the aim of our extrains, and the influence and respect that the Ledger commands, its business and circulation now being creater than at any former period assure by

orts of our successor, will be undiminished.

Respectfully, WM. M. SWAIN & Co.

Congress in Washington, and many will arrive by orrow's morning train. The message of the Bresident was fully considered n extra Cabinet council to-day. The usual caution

ucky. SOME OF EARLY'S FORCES JOINED LEE'S.

and rendering the entire mail service North and West more certain than heretofore, and for two trains a day between Washington and New York in en hours, will go into effect on the 19th inst. The latest official information from Gen. THOMAS' army is that he has so concentrated his forces at the ortifications at Nashville as to be prepared for any ove which Hood may venture to make.

THE WAR.

of Kentucky, but also of the Democratic | DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE. SKIRMISHING NEAR NASHVILLE THE REBEL CAVALRY IN FULL VIEW ROM THE CAPITOL.

> NO APPREHENSIONS FELT IN THE CITY FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE BATTLE AT FRANKLIN.

THE ENEMY MANCEUVRING CAREFULLY.

THE LATEST NEWS FROM GEORGIA. SHERMAN FORTY MILES FROM SAVANNAH Arrival of a Co-operating Expedition under Gen. Fester

Heavy Firing Heard near the Charleston Railroad AFFAIRS ON THE JAMES RIVER. SUCCESSFUL MOVEMENT OF GEN. GREGG

CAPTURE OF STONY CREEK STATION Rout of the Rebels at Davave Wills A DARING PIRATICAL PLOT AT PANAMA rallied his faltering troops, and repelled seven suc-Rebel Attempt to Seize a California Steamer

CAPTURE OF ALL THE PIRATES. DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE. SKIRMISHING OF THE REBELS IN PRONT OF NASH-VILLE-HOOD MANGUVRING WARILY-RUMORS OP A UNION REPULSE. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 3.-This evening's Journa contains the following special despatch, which was received at noon to-day. It is dated last evening: "The enemy has been wary to-day, and has de-

monstrated with great caution against our outer line, which is carefully constructed, and extends from river to river.
"From the Capitol, on the roads south of the city, the enemy's cavalry have been in plain view all day on the Franklin pike. Just before dark our cavaire pushed out toward the enemy's line, causing him to "Afterwards the rebels, having received reinforce-

ments, took up their old line, and at once threw out skirmishers. Some skirmishing occurred, but neither party sustained any loss. No rebel infantry has been "Some artillery firing occurred this afternoon the left, but only a few shots were fired.

"The defences are being hourly strengthened and no apprehension need be felt for the safety of the city. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 8-1.20 P. M.-The rolling stock of the Louisville and Nashville Ra ordered to be sent here yesterday, but the order was countermanded to-day.

A rumor was in circulation on the street to-day hat our forces had met with a repulse at Clarks ville, Tennessee. The origin of the story was that the rebels made

a dash into Gallatin, yesterday, and captured about 200 head of beeves. Our forces are in pursuit of hem, and will probably capture the raid THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN, TENN,—FULL PARTI-CULARS FROM ANOTHER WITNESS. CINCINNATI. Dec. 3 .- The Nashville corresp dent of the Gazette furnishes the following tional particulars of the battle at Franklin: The plan of the battle was very simple. We had no time to get up a complete plan, as the enemy pressed us too sorely, and obliged his to fight him

The original plan was to withdraw the force of General Schofield until they met our reinforce-ments and give the enemy battle in the vicinity of Nashville: but the over-sanguine rebeis pressed no too hard, and when Schofield perceived that he could not avoid a contest he drew up his little army n line of battle in front of Frank At 3% o'clock in the afternoon the assault commenced. The rebel General Cheatham's corps was on the right Stewart's on the left, and S. D. Lee's orps, in reserve, in the centre. Cheatham threw his whole corps on Wagner's di-

vision with great impetuosity, and after half an hour's desperate fighting pushed Wagner back on the recond line, where they became mingled with cox's and Ruger's men on our left and centre. The rebels, encouraged by their success in driving Wagner back, advanced with loud cheers on our econd line. Their order was very peculiar: a semi circle, two regiments deep, extending all around our lines, and behind every alternate regiment were placed four others, so that the assaulting columns were six regiments deep.

The rebel General Hood appeared at about four clock P. M. at the head of his command and inting toward our lines, said: "Break those

ines, boys, and you have finished the war in Tenne see. Break them, and there is nothing to oppose your march from Nashville to the Ohio riv Loud cheers answered this appeal of the rebel eader, while the whole space in front of our lines was crowded with the advancing enemy. Capt. Lyman, commanding the artillery brigade and placed his batteries in a mest favorable position and from them storms of shot and shell were hurle into the charging ranks of the enemy.

With the most reckless bravery the rebels rushed on, and when within a few hundred yards of our works our boys opened upon them with so terrible a fire of musketry that it seemed as if nothing could live before it. No wavering was to be perceived in their advancing lines. On they came, running to the very parapet of our works, and struck their

bayonets under the logs on our battlements on the Jolumbus pike. The pressure was so great that some of Cox's and Wagner's men temporarily gave way.

Up to this time the brigade commanded by the rallant Colonel Opdyke, of the 125th Ohio, had been held in reserve. Colonel Opdyke, by orders of Gen. Stanley, rushed forward with his brigade to restore the broken line,

The rebels, who had crawled over our works, had not time to retire, and Coaches' and Wagner's men whose line had been broken but a moment before allied and attacked the enemy on the flank, while Opdyke charged them in from A desperate hand-to-hand fight ensued with bavo ets and the butt-ends of muskets. A hundred reels were captured here, and the line was restored llong our lines. The men of the 4th and 23d Corp vied with each other in bravery.

General Riley's brigade, of the 23d Corps, fairly covered the ground in front of it with rebel dead.

The rebel General Adams was killed, and, with his horse, fell into a ditch in front of the 104th Ohi

Seventeen distinct attacks of the enemy were re At dusk the enemy were repulsed at all points but the firing did not cease till 9 o'clock. At least five thousand rebels were killed, wound ed, or captured, while our loss did not probably each fifteen hundred. We have taken from the enemy thirty flags-some egiment (among them the 17th Ohio) taking half-a-

czen apiece. General-Schofield directed the battle from a fort on the north bank of the stream, where some heavy uns and the batteries of the 23d Corps were placed. The latter did great service in damaging the enemy's right wing. CAVALRY SURROUNDED, BUT CUT THEIR WAY THROUGH—CAPTURE OF TRAINS

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 8 .- The Journal publishes the ollowing:
"A Nashville letter states that on Wednesday evening Capton's brigade of cavalry, consisting of the 14th Illinois, 7th Ohio, 5th Iowa, and 8th Michigan cavalry regiments, was surrounded by the feels, and only escaped by the most desperate

ghting. "They cut their way through the rebel lines, and oined General Thomas in the rear of Franklin. The number of men made prisoners, and the loss in led and wounded was not light. it The same evening a train of cars was captured v the rebels at Brentford, nine miles from Nash ille, on the Tennessee and Alabama Bailroad.
"All the citizens of Nashville engaged in no os unsible business have been ordered to quit the city
"Six hundred and ninety-one rebel prisoners

taken at Franklin, arrived here last night, and will be sent to Camp Douglas as soon as possible." GEN. STANLEY'S WOUND NOT DANGEROUS. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 3.—Major General D. A. Stan ley left here for his home, at Yellow Springs, Ohio, this afternoon. His wound is somewhat painful, but not dangerous. Colonel Scott, the Surgeon Ge neral of Kentucky, thinks he will be able to re-enter he service in about fifteen days. The Nashville passenger train has arrived, bu rings no news.

THE REBELS EXTRENCHING THREE MILES SOUTH-WEST OF MASHVILLE-AN ATTACK EXPECTED CONGRATULATORY ORDER OF THE REBEL GEN NASHVILLE, Dec. 4.—There are no new develor ents to-day, save that an army still encircles the ity on the south and west, one wing resting on the Capitol. They are entrenching themselves in a

During to-day heavy skirmishing occurred on our left, and progressed along the line to the centre. Many persons witnessed the cannonading along he right of our lines. The general opinion is that Hood will attack the Federal force in frent of Nashville. A Federal cavalry force has patrolled the north bank of the river at the feres to prevent the cavalry crossing, as numerous unsuccessful attempts to cross have been ade by them.

sonville has been evacuated, the road has been interrupted, and a portion of the trains from there are advancing to this point by land. It is rumored here to day that Forrest has placed It is rumored here to day that Forest has placed a pontoon bridge aeross the river above the city, and that Marmaduke has occupied Johnsonville. Both these reports are without foundation.

The first block-house on the Chattanooga road, four miles from the city, defended by colored soldiers, under the command of Col. Johnson, of the 24th Colored Infantry, who surrandered Dalton

and was paroled, held out until this afternoon, when

they surrendered, Col. Johnson and a portion of his

ing on a train. The remainder were captured, and the train was fired into. The conduct tured, and the train was fired into. The conductor and others were killed. Col. Johnson escaped, and arrived in the city to night.

A reconnoitring party, sent out on Thursday, returned to-day, having gone 80 miles up the river. They report that no robels were seen or heard of crossing the river and appeared along the crossing the river, and none appeared along the

A rebel deserter who came in to-day reports that General S. D. Lee published an order to his men on Friday morning, complimenting them on their bravery, devotion, etc., thanking them for the victory at Franklin, and assuring them that if true to themselves, now in front of Nashville, they would soon be enabled to enter and take possession of the vast amount of stores contained there.

Two prisoners were brought in to-day—Lieutenant Hyckman, 9th Tennessee Cavalry, captured on the Harding pike, four miles from the city, and C. Garay, of Ford's 6th Georgia Regiment.

SKIRMISHING - NASHVILLE COMPLETELY EN TRENCHED.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 2.—Slight skirmishing has to ken place with the rebel cavalry all day. A complete line of entrenchments encircles th

A portion of our cavalry force encountered For rest's rebel cavalry, three miles from town, on the Franklin pike. The rebels could be plainly seen advancing towards them, and our troops retired to wards the city, It is rumored that Hood is endeavoring to cros the Cumberland with a large cavalry force.

Many experienced officers predict an engagem to-morrow. Our forces occupy the line around the city, and are in line of battle. Three soldiers were shot and killed by the guards in the streets to-night. Their names are Arthur L.

Cheary, I, — Kansas, John McCarty, 80th Indians.

Joseph S. Brand, 7th Illinois Cavalry.

THE WOUNDED GENERAL STANLEY SUCCEEDED BY GENERAL WOOD—OFFICERS WHO DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES. NASHVILLE, Den. 2 .- General Wood succeeds General Stanley in the command of the 4th Corps. Stanley being unable to take the field. His desperate bravery at the Franklin fight mainly contri buted to turn what threatened to be a disastrous repulse into a glorious victory. When a part of his command had run away before the enemy he rushed to the front, had a horse shot under him, and was himself wounded. He still led on the charge, waving his hat, and calling his men to follow. He

Col. Opdyke, of the 125th Ohio Regiment, com manding a brigade, specially distinguished himself during the engagement. Colonel Schofield, a brother of General Schofield, chief of artillery, distinguished himself by the admirable positions in which he placed the artillery, and the manner in which he fought then The great importance of the victory at Franklin cannot be overestimated, as it checked Hood's onward course, and gave the Union troops time to

make due preparations to meet him. ARBIVAL OF ESCAPED UNION PRISONERS KNOXVILLE, Dec. 3. - The following name escaped prisoners have arrived here within the last three days: Captains A. Grant, 19th Wisconsin; O. S. Goodenit, New York Cavalry; Lewis Nolen, 2d Delaware Artillery; A. Robbins, 3d Ohio; Lients C. A. Brown, 1st Virginia; C. B. Lewis, 1st New York-Dragoons; O. Powell, 42d Illinois; E. Gordon, 81st Indiana; J. H. Cowan, 1st Virginia Cavalry; Sergt. Moses Crow, 100th Pennsylvania, and Privates John J. Merrill, — Pennsylvania; H. A. Scott, 21st Wisconsin ; C. F. Patton. 18th Con-

These men escaped from different rebel prison and at different dates, and have been from one to two months en route, travelling by nights through the swamps and thickets, and over the mountai of the Carolinas and Georgia. SHERMAN.

ARBIVAL OF PRISONERS PROM SAVANNAH-SHERMAN FORTY MILES PROM SAVANNAH-ALARM IN GEORGIA. BALTIMORE. Dec. 4.—The American has a despate from Annapolis, dated to-day, which announces the arrival there of the steamer Baltic from Savannah, with five hundred men and twenty officers, ex-changed prisoners. Fifty-seven died en the passage, and more than two-thirds, it is thought, will

within forty miles of Savannah. All of Georgia was in alarm. The Savannah papers of the 30th ult., whilst admitting this, say that his progress has been checked. GOOD NEWS RECEIVED FROM SHERMAN BY THE GOVERNMENT-HIS TRIUMPHANT SUCCESS EX-

The latest news from Sherman was that he was

PRCTED. NEW YORK, Dec. 4 .- The Herald has received a special despatch from Washington, which says that entire line, the pickets seeming to have become Government officials are unusually jubilant over the news from Sherman. The Government possesses means independent of the Richmond papers, and man's progress. It is confidently believed that but has so far advanced beyond serious interm dons as to leave no doubt of his triumphant succ SAVANNAH DATES TO THE 30TH-SHERMAN RE RAL POSTER'S EXPEDITION FROM HILTON HEAD

LANDED UP BROAD RIVER-HEAVY PIRIN BALTIMORE, Dec. 4.—The American's Annapolis correspondents ays that the Savannah Republican of the 30th ultimo states that General Sherman's force were afew miles beyond Millen, and their cavalry had approached that place, but returned nolesting it. Sherman was resting his forces prepa ratory to his advance to the seaboard.

The United States forces which left Hilton Head, under General Foster, landed at Bird's Neck, about twenty miles up Broad river, on the 29th, and a por and Charleston Railroad, in the direction of the Great Swamp, but returned after a skirmish.

It was supposed that an attempt to burn the bridge would be made on the 30th, and heavy firing on that day was heard, and heavy smoke was seen in that direction. A FIGHT NEAR GRISWOLDVILLE—A COURT MAR-

TIAL FOR ALL WHO DO NOT "STAND UP FOR GEORGIA. CAIRO. Dec. 2.—The Grenada (Miss.) Picket co "MACON, Ga., Nov. 28.—A severe fight occurrencer Griswoldville to day. Our troops attacked and drove the Yankees into their entrenchment two miles this side of the town. Our forces behaved with great gallantry, and the militia fough like yeterans.

haved with great gallantry, and the militia fought like veterans.

"The picket line of the enemy is now three miles east of Griswoldville, and his infantry is still moving in the direction of Augusta.

"We are now in a position to repulse any attack the enemy may make on Macon." has convened a court martial at Grenada to tr those who did not respond to his call, and that the militia are much exercised in relation thereto. On the 26th of November the citizens of Jack Mississippi, were much alarmed at an apprehend raid by General M. L. Smith, who, with 2,500 Fed rals, had crossed the Big Black river on the previ

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH. AFFAIRS AT PORT ROYAL—SAFETY OF THE NORT DEATH OF A CORRESPONDENT-THE PUBLICA TION OF NEWSPAPERS TEMPORARILY PROHI

BITED. NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—The United States steam ransport Fulton, from Port Royal on Novemb oth, arrived at this port this evening. The steamship North Star, from Aspinwall, ar naving in tow her convoy, the United States gun peat Augusta, which vessel broke her piston-ro when four hundred miles eastward of Port Royal. The North Star has on freight \$500,000 in spec Among her passengers are ex-Senator Latham, of California, and Judge Field, of the United States Supreme Court. Francis W. Rice was also a passener, and has arrived in this city by the Fulton. He comes on business with the State Department, connection with the Salvador pirates.

Mr. Galen H. Osborne, the army corresp of the New York Herald, died at Port Royal on th vening of the 29th of November. His rem n board the steamer Fulton. By the arrival of the steamer Fulton we have in elligence from Port Hoyal to the 30th November. The publication of newspapers at that place has een prohibited for the present, and all the citizen rotection of the place. A movement of an unknown character had taken

place, and all regular troops there had been ordered away. An expedition was to sail from Port Royal on the day previous, but no information could be ob The Hilton Head correspondence of the Heral says that General Foster had proceeded to Broad river with an expedition, and landed five miles be low Pocotaligo bridge. They marched on and captured the bridge after a sharp fight, the rebels eva

uating their position A large quantity of cotton was found and de It is supposed that the rebel force along the coast has been temporarily lessened to conrce against Sherman. The naval correspondent of the Herald. Charleston, states that the blockade-runner Beatrice ran ashore and was destroyed on the night of the 27th. Thirty of the crew were capture Admiral Dahlgren and General Foster are in mmunication with General Sherman, who is sur posed to be moving on Savannah, and a joint force is being organized to co-operate with him, while other expeditions are moving on other important strategic points. It was reported on shore that Lee is marching

THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI. RETURN OF COL. TRRKES' EXPEDITION—CAPTURE OF ARMS INTENDED FOR PRIOR'S ARMY. Memphis this evening, with advices of the 2d lost. Col. Yerkes' expedition had returned to Memphis, after capturing 900 stand of arms at Osceola, which were being sent from Selma, Alabama, to General

The steamer Continental sunk at Devil's Island, the Mississippi river, to-day. the accident have been received AN EXPEDITION PROM MEMPHIS—A REBEL BRIGA-CAIRO, Dec. 2.—The steamer Belle of Memphis arrived last evening, An expedition from Men phis, under Col. Kerge, captured, on November 30 40 of Lyle's and Adams' men, 15 miles from Mem phis, on the Arkansas side of the river. Among the prisoners are three rebel captains, a lightenar Brig. Gen. Adams, and an adjutant:

DEPARTMENT OF THE CULF. SEMMES' ARRIVAL IN TEXAS CONFIRMED—N ORLEANS MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The brig Emma Dean, from Matamoros, confirms the arrival of the pirate Semmes at Matamoros, on the 10th of November, and his passage into Texas, en route to Richmond, The steamer Merrimac, from New Orleans on the 27th, has arrived. She brings no news. The Ariel, from New York, and Oriental, from Boston, arrived on the 28th. n unsettled; \$1.25 refused for middling. 18,500 bbls of flour for transhipment North arrived from the Key West on the 28th

GENERAL GRANT'S ARMY. ENERAL GREGG'S EXPEDITION TO STONY CREE THE FORT CARRIED-THERE CANNON CAP-TURED AND DESTROYED-1,200 RIFLES, 5,000 SACKS OF CORN. 400 BUSHRLS POTATOES, ETC. BURNED-DUVAL'S MILLS DESTEOYED.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY POTOMAC, Dec. 2.-From nformation obtained through scouts and deserters t was ascertained that the rebels were constructing a branch railroad from Stony Creek Station, on th Weldon Railroad, toward Dinwiddle Court House, and that quite a large lot of supplies had been ac committed at that place. Orders were consequently given to General Gregg's division of cavalry to ed in that direction, and destroy all property found. The column started at three and a half o'clock, yesterday morning. On crossing Rowanty's Creek, met the enemy's pickets, who at once retired. The command pushed on, passing Duval's Mills, where the 1st Brigade,

on, passing Davier, were put in position to protect the fianks. The 2d Brigade, Colonel Gregg commanding, advanced to Stony Creek, where the enemy were found in a strong position on the south side, with three guns sweeping the open fields on this side. The 4th, 13th, and 16th Pennsylvania took ie advance, and did most of the fighting. The 4th formed in line at the edge of the woods, and with loud yells charged across the opening till within fifty yards of the creek, when they dismounted, and, crossing the bridge, rushed up the bank and into the works before the rebels could get their guns to bear on the bridge. The enemy had previously torn up the planks on the bridge, making the crossing more difficult and tedious. Those who remained in the fort at once surrendered, while about a hundred attempted to escape, and were met by a squad ron of the 4th, under Captain Ervey, which had swam the stream at another point, and many of those trying to get away were killed or wounded. Captain Ervey has received great prais manner in which he executed this part of the move-ment. He received a severe wound in the arm. The 6th, meanwhile, Major Gwan comman

a similar charge and captured another work, taking a number of prisoners.

The 13th were also busily engaged, and captured six wagons and 22 mules. Three guns were found in the works, two of which were thrown into the creek, and the other, being too heavy to handle, was spiked. Had the bridge been in good concitien they would have all been brought away. All the build ings at the station were then fired and burned to the ground, besides the following supplies: Twelve hundred new Enfield rifles, a large quantity of ammunition, five thousand sacks of grain, five hundred bales of hay, a quantity of corn and cats, four hun-dred bushels sweet potatoes, fifty barrels coal oil, a quantity of bacon, camp and garrison equipage, and the railroad bridge, about one hundred and fifty feet long. The command was then ordered to fall back, which it did in excellent order. The enemy railied and followed the columns but notwithstanding repeated efforts to annoy, did not inflict any damage. The division retur

camp about eight o'clock in the svening, with the loss of only twenty-seven killed and wounded, all of whom were brought away. They captured 170 pri soners and five officers, among whom was Major Fitzhugh, who it will be remembered in connection with the raid into Maryland last summer, when he took one of our captains prisoner, and, after taking his boots off, made him walk some twenty mile barefoot. To bring to his mind his conduct at tha time, he himself was compelled to walk from Stony Creek to camp without his boots. General Davies was struck by a spent ball during the ac tion, but suffered no injury. The enemy had quite a stretch of road guarded, ties cut, and rails on the ground, ready to lay down, but it is believed that hey will now abandon the project, as they have learned that our cavalry can at any time strike it in a few hours. It is said that Hampton's cavalry had nearly all been sent off to oppose Sherman and that the stores found at the depot were for the supply of their horses, which are supposed to have been run off when our troops were found to be advancing. The entire affair was one of the most suc esful we have had during the campaign, and re flects great credit on all who were engaged. Capt Hayes, who commanded the 4th Pennsylvania, i highly spoken of for his gallantry on the occasion

with the column. They are of all ages, and very DEC. 3.—The prisoners were sent to City Point DEC. 3.—The prisoners washington. yesterday, to be forwarded to Washington. W. D. McG. THE USUAL QUIET REIGNING.
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Dec.

He had one brother killed and another wounded in

action. Nearly a hundred contrabands came in

1, 1864-10 P. M.-A great deal of artillery firing has prevailed to-day in the vicinity of the Jerusalem road, but without any result worth mentioning. At this hour an unusual stillness reigns along the MAZAUMBO TAKEN POSSESSION OF

PRENCH-REPORTED DEFEAT OF THE PRENCH NEAR ACAPULCO. SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 30.—Mexican advices by the steamer Sacramento say that on November 13t he French landed troops at Mazaumbo, and took formal possession of the town. The Governor of Mazatlan, with his forces, abandoned the place the night previous, so that no re-It is also reported that Alvarez had defeated az

imperial force marching on Acapulco.

A Daring Piratical Plot. SPORTANT ADVIORS FROM PANAMA-ATTEMPT OF PIRATES TO SEIZE A CALIFORNIA STRAMER-CAPTURE OF THE ENTIRE PARTY—COMPRSSION OF THE LEADERS. New York, Dec. 4.- The steamship North Star. om Aspinwall on the 18th via Port Royal, where she put in for coal and to leave the gunboat Augusta, her convoy, the latter having been disabled in a

gale, arrived here to day.

The North Star has \$360,000 in treasure. the North Star, has the following important intelli-There has been much excitement in Panama du. ring the past week, caused by the following inci-On the 25th of October the American consul in Panama received a despatch from Consul Shufeldt.

t Havana, stating that the same steamer bringing the despatch would also take to Aspinwall a party The agent of the company was notified of the plot, and sent the Guatemala to sea before the arrival of the pirates across the Isthmus. Conse-

quently they were obliged to remain at Panamatill the 10th of November, the day of sailing of the next steamer, the Salvador, In the meantime, further information was obtained, and a plan for tile capture of the whole party was matured.

Whilst waiting for the steamer, the rebels purchased 307 pounds of powder, put it in tin cans, and shipped it on the steamer in which they intended to

On the 10th the passengers embarked on the Salvador as usual, with their baggage. Immediately on going aboard they were taken into the main saoon, ostensibly to have their tickets examine Previous to this all the port holes, windows, staterooms, and doors had been closed, in order that no opportunity could be presented for skedaddling or niding papers, &c. signal was made, when Commander Davenport, of the United States frigate Lancaster, sprang on

As soon as they were collected, a preconcerted board with several full armed boat's crews, and announced to the astonished passengers that he had taken possession of the steamer. Sufficient evidence was at once discovered proving the reality of The Salvador was then taken to sea over three marine miles, accompanied by the Lancaster.
Papers revealing the whole affair, instructions

rom the rebel Secretary of the Navy Mallory, small arms of all kinds, handouffs, etc., were found in possession of the pirates, who were then transferred to the Lancaster, and the Salvador proceeded on her voyage. The Lancaster returned to Panama with the prisoners. Before reaching Panama the leader of the pirates made a full confession. The names of the pirates are O. E. Hogg, of Bal-timore, captain; E. A. Swain, executive officer; J. L. Black, paymaster; R. B. Lyon, salling master; John Hiddle, chief engineer; T. J. Grady, assistant engineer, and Joseph Higgins, paymaster's clerk. Hogg was recently captured in the clockade-runner Tristam Shandy. His instructions from Mallory show that he has a rebel commission, and sailed from Wilmington for Havana, where he made up his gang of pirates. They have conferres all along the coast, who were to join them. Hogg's instructions were, after getting possession of the steamer, to capture a California steamer, with its treasure, and if not able to get the treasure across the Isthmus, to deposit it with a reliable English house in Valparaiso or send it to Europe. The French man-of-war steamer Guatemals which arrived back at Panama on the 15th, reports seeing many suspicious persons anxiously awaiting the arrival of some steamer at La Liber tad and Acajutlo. They were undoubtedly accom. plices of the pirates. These latter had come across the country via Omoa. They have probably been arrested ere this, as the Government of San Salvador has been notified that they were pirates.

On the 12th, Admiral Pearsen, commanding the American squadron in the Pacific, accompanied by Consul McLee, of Panama, and Consul Rice, of Aspinwall, waited on the President of Granada.

Panama, to ask permission to pass the prisoners across the Isthmus in order to send them to New The President refused permission on the groun that he was not empowered to do so, but it is pre-sumed they will be taken across on the responsibility of the American consul. Fight with Skedaddlers

McConnelsburg, Pa., Dec. 3.-A fight occurred at Timber Ridge, near this place, yesterday, be-tween a portion of Co. F, 201st Pennsylvania Mounted Infantry, and some delinquent conscripts of this county. It having been ascertained that a number of them would be congregated at a shooting match, measures were taken to secure the party. ers advanced to the spot, and as Propost Marshal Houpt went forward to hold a parley, the conscripts cried out, "It is the provest marshal," and immediately a number of shots were fired at him, none of which took effect. The soldiers then opened fire, and a general fight ensued that lasted for about an hour. The deserver were finally driven over two hills, skirmishing belt kept up the whole way. Owing to the fact that the fighting was carried on principally in the woods the casualties were slight. The conscripts lost one man killed and two wounded; some of our men were injured. One of the wounded men fell into our hands. The remainder of the party, being familiar. with the country, fled to the mou tary forces were under the command of Clanton

termined to bring these outlaws and incondiaries to justice. The Official Vote of Wisconsin. MADISON (Wis.), Dec. 4.—The official canyass of the election in Wisconsin shows the following home vote: Lincoln, 88,906; McClellan, 62,404, The sol-

diers' vote is not yet all in.

this kind may be speedily looked for, as it is de-

ey, an efficient officer, and more affairs of

NEW YORK CITY Special Corraspondence of The Pro-New, Yr A TERRIBLE TRA was yesterday one cted within th Prison by a man named Don temporarily incarcerated on a cha ppears that he had the eat and went to a druggist far the poison, when his arrest was can Yesterday, according to the svid noticed by his fellow-prisoners of the room with a heavy from n some six or seven pounds, name, fearing from his actions him to relinquish it. Instead of and at length, turning sud errible weapon, with awful fo a sfeeping prisoner, scattering a blind man. Yet unsatisfied, a sleeper a frightful blow. By this vercome him. Fighting like a to the stairway, despite the fa

acad were slashed and cut from they gave him. At this juncture the police arrive torn away the benches, overset striving to fire the building lischarged a revolver at him however, and inflicting a dange Hill. After this they rushed used in down with their locusts. was strapped down to an iron b A coroner's jury was immediately and evidence was taken, resulting ; accordance therewith. Denover the crime, and stated that if he an would destroy himself T was apparently a method in his may rational deviliances in the act, w nfluence a jury to ignore the idea

tious ireanity, and procure explation ACCIDENT TO A STEAMSHIP The steamship Bremen, which salies rday for Southampton, has of her screw working loose with ailes from Sandy Hook. She will he to be repaired, and will sail the BALR OF GOVERNMENT SECT.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT 826
At the stock Exchange to-day
\$10,000 U. S. sixes 1867, ex int.,
1881, coupons, 113 % 214; \$27,000
tered, 107@107%; \$278,000 do. 5-20;
107%; \$325,000 do., new issue, 107;
pons, 98% 2100; \$5,000 U. S. sixes, 020;
1716,0074. THE LATEST QUOTATION POR GOLS EVENING.—Gold closed at Gallegae coard to-night at 227%.

The Union Pacific Ralirond ST. LOUIS, Dec. 2.—The first extursing the Union Pacific Railroad started from Wr. Kansas, the eastern terminus of the liat, of day last, and ran through to Lawrence, thirty eight miles. LARGE AND ATTRACTIVE SALE OF FRENCH DRESS GOODS, SHAWLS, Freshir DAY.—The early attention of dealers in the desirable assortment of French, Ger and British dry goods, shawls, furs, &c. remptorfly sold, by catalogue, on four mon cisely, by John B. Myers & Co., auction and 234 Market street.

LARGE SALE OF FURNITURE On Thur Mr. James A. Freeman will commence to House, on Chestnut street, above Seventi Glass, the proprietor, having retired from by ount of furniture is very heavy; the The amo ars of which may be found in the adv

CHESTRUT-STREET THEATRE. - Another cicault's tensational dramas, called "Jesse R or, The Relief of Lucknow," will be produce evening. The management has been at con-ble trouble and expense in procuring the or wardrobe of this piece, manufactured uni-supervision of Mr. Boucleault, and also the originally written for this play. From the siency of the stage arrangemen theatre, we may confidently expect that Brown" will be produced in admirable style. performance will conclude with the ever

> THE CITY. HILFTARY.

David Paul Brown, Esq., recently precents splendld "battle-banners" to the 10th Red United States Colored Troops, at City Point, ginia, in Schnowledgment of which, the chof the regiment has written to Mr. Brown thowing letter: HEADQUARTERS 10TH REGIMENT U. S. David Paul Brown, Esq.:
DEAR SIR: Your kindness in presenting beautiful flags to our regiment is duly appring to the Lieutenautiful flags to the Lieutenautiful flags to the Lieutenautiful flags to the Managard flags who appring the managard flags for the regiment. commanding, who received them for the r The officers and men desire me to return t Heavy and constant rains prevail throughout

commanding, who received them for the re.
The officers and men desire me to return the you, for this, another evidence of your love cause in which we are enlisted; and the mental culture in the content of the content

Chaplain 10th Regis MISCRLLANEOUS. THE NEW SHERIFF.

Mr. Henry C. Howell, the new Shellf eller upon his outles this morning. The billowing his appointments:
Solicitor—Charles Glipin, Esq.
Chief Deputy—Enoch Taylor.
Execution Clerk—Milliam R. Leeds.
Appearance Clerk—Morris S. Barber.
Denuties. Pirst District—James Bain, Jr., John W. Second District—Isaac M. Ashton, William Fifth District—John N. Hagey, Joseph S Auctioneer—Thomas Birch.
Messenger—Joseph Ribolet.
Prison Van—Joseph Watt.
Court Deputy—Joseph O, Smith, Jr.
Keeper of Debtors' Department—

COUNCIL COMMITTEE. The special committee to which was rejerted petitions of sundry citizens remonstrating as the ordinance which provides for the removal of the committee that the limit siness signs, &c., &c., will meet in the Council Chamber at 2 o'clock on Wedness noon, to hear all citizens who are interest subject, either for or against it. STABBING AFFAIR.

STABBING AFFAIR.

A drunken affray occurred in a restaurant at northwest corner of Ninth and Chestnut stryesterday morning, which resulted in the state of a man about 22 years of age, who gare his as George W. Weish. The wounded man was to the Pennsylvania Hospital. His wound is it back, and may be very serious, as it is not in whether the blade pierced the lung or not. A son who came to the hospital after "Weish" been taken there, said that his name was not would be the control of the control of

About 3 o'clock on Saturday morning a in house on Shippen street, below Ninth, took in The first story of the building was occupied poor family. The building was entirely destroy THE POLICE.

[Before Mr Recorder Eneu.] CONFIDENCE MAN. On Saturday afternon a man giving the a of Wilson, was arraigned on the charge of oil ing the sum of \$200 from a soldier, at the Conental, on the night of the Presidential election means of the confidence game. The soldier at his way home, located in one of the Eastern Sulter as expected to return in a short time, but not been heard from. The prisoner Wilson has in custedy of Detective C. Smith several in the accused was committed to await a further ing, to take place at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

MORE ARRESTS AT THE NAVY YAR On Saturday afternoon five persons, the he as many departments at the navy yard, were into custody on the charge of being implies some of the alleged fraudulent transactions is have been committed there. They were taken have been committed there. They were to the provost barracks. Four of the party pro-ly arrested have been sent to Fort Washing order of the court of inquiry or military tion, to await their trial by a court martis THE COURTS.

Court of Common Pleas—Judge Lud In the following cases, Judge Ludlowon Sstatedelivered decisions:

Building Inspectors vs. Boteson. Motion to cate. Order overruled.

Mintzer vs. Baker. Petition to send to Rest of Wills an issue to be modified. Prayer of the loner refused. of Wills an issue to the state of the state Court of Oyer and Terminer and

ter Sessions-Judges. Thomp Ludlow. On Saturday, in the Criminal Court, McKeever, convicted during the week of much be second degree, in naving killed Joseph Mers, boatswain of the English ship Lady Peel, on the 19th of August lest, was senten an imprisonment of tea. Years. an imprisonment of tea years.

James Woodside, convicted at the prevent he court of murder in the second degree ing killed Morris Prenderville on the 28:
last, was sentenced to an imprisonment of years. An officer, it seems, was attemated years and the condition of the whom he had a wastruggle was the result, and Prenderville an innocent passerby, was attacked by who with a knike inflicted upon decased more than the permanent interpretation. who wild a same immaged upon deces-upon the head which ha a short time pro-Jose Goston, alias Augustine Letiaite, August 25th of comparing with others to the manufacture of counterfeit Brazil money, was sentenced to an imprison months.

In the case of Charles Stewart, convic-the term of the robberty and widnapping: In the case of Charles Stewart, convince the term of the robbery and kidnapping of whom he had previously dragged, and he board a vessel just about sailing, a motion trail was argued by D. P. Brown, ESQ., in sendant, and by the Dishelet Attorney for I monwealth.

ACQUITMAL OF WALTON. In the case of Edwin Walton, whose (figled three days of the past week, upon a dimurder in the killing of J. N. Mayberty, and Poplar streets, on the night of the 3d last, the jury on Saturday came in with a pot guilty.

The December term of the Oriminal Court to-day, and will be held by Judge Allise?