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

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Advertisements inserted at the usual rates.

THE TRI-WEEKLY PRESS,
Mailed to Subscribers, FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, in advance.

The Press.

VOL. 8.—NO. 115. PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1864. FOUR CENTS.

DRY GOODS JOBBERS.

CLOSING OUT!!

DE COURSEY, LAFOURCADE, & CO., 621 CHESTNUT STREET, ARE CLOSING OUT THEIR FALL AND WINTER STOCK OF MEN'S WEAR FAR BELOW GOLD VALUE.

COMMISSION HOUSES.

HAZARD & HUTCHINSON, No. 112 CHESTNUT STREET. COMMISSION MERCHANTS, FOR THE SALE OF PHILADELPHIA-MADE GOODS.

RETAIL DRY GOODS.

J. COWPERTHWAIT & CO., S. E. cor. NINTH and ARCH Streets.
THE GREAT BLANKET STORE.
BLANKETS AT RETAIL.
BLANKETS AT WHOLESALE.
BLANKETS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.
BLANKETS FOR HOTELS.
BLANKETS FOR THE ARMY.
BLANKETS FOR THE NAVY.
BLANKETS OF ALL SIZES.
BLANKETS OF ALL QUALITIES.
BLANKETS THE CHEAPEST IN TOWN.
BLANKETS TO SUIT EVERYBODY,
AT THE
BLANKET STORE,
S. E. cor. NINTH and ARCH STREETS.
no14-fmwtde31

CLOAK DISPLAY.
Our Cloak room contains a fine show of properly-made and elegant garments, for fall and winter wear.
HIGH VELOUR CLOAKS.
HANDSOME BEAVER DO.
FINEST FROSTED BEAVER DO.
BLACK TRICOT AND BEAVER DO.
FINE BLACK GARMENTS.
WATER PROOF CLOAKS.
CLOAKS MADE TO ORDER.
COOPER & CONARD,
se1-smw3m Southeast corner NINTH and MARKET.

CLOTHS! CLOTHS! CLOTHS!
W. T. SNODGRASS' CLOTH HOUSE, 34 South SECOND Street, AND 23 STRAWBERRY Street.
Has just received per latest importations a great stock of Woolens, including an extensive assortment of LADIES' CLOAKINGS AND GENTLEMEN'S COATINGS.
Also, a full stock of ARMY AND NAVY GOODS, AS FOLLOWS:
VELOURS, ALL SHADES AND PRICES.
ESQUIMAUX, VERY BEAUTIFUL.
TRICOTS, DRY AND HIGH FINISH.
CASTORS, DRY AND HIGH FINISH.
CHINCHILLAS, REAL SEDAN.
ESQUIMAUX, SOFT FINISH.
DOESKINS, HEAVY AND SOFT FINISH.
CHINCHILLAS, ALL COLORS, FROM $3 TO $12.
JERSEY COATINGS, LATEST STYLES.
DARK BLUE CLOTHS.
LIGHT BLUE CLOTHS.
INDIGO BLUE PILOTS.
INDIGO BLUE BEAVERS.
CASTORS, HIGH FINISH.
VELVET FINISH BEAVERS.
BLACK BACK BEAVERS.
3-4 and 6-4 INDIGO BLUE FLANNELS.
LIGHT BLUE FLANNELS.
And all kinds of Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings, Coatings, Cloakings, and all goods pertaining to the cloth trade. de5-1m

CURTAIN DEPARTMENT.
SHEPPARD, VAN HARLINGEN, & ARRISON, No. 1008 CHESTNUT STREET,
Have received from the late AUCTION SALES IN NEW YORK
A large addition to their splendid stock of
LACE AND MUSLIN CURTAINS,
BROCATELLE, SATIN DELAINES, REPS, TERRY JAPANESE CLOTH,
And the various other materials most desirable for
PARLOR, CHAMBER, DINING ROOM, AND LIBRARY CURTAINS.
Estimates for furnishing single rooms, suits of apartments, or a whole house, based on a large deduction from former prices, promptly furnished, and the work carefully and faithfully performed by experienced and reliable hands. de2-fmw10t

FINEST CLOAKINGS MADE.
Superb textile fabrics for Cloakings, comprising a magnificent assortment of all the popular styles, together with some exclusive goods more difficult to obtain.
Finest Chinchilla Beavers.
Finest Velour Cloakings.
Finest diagonal real Frosted Beavers.
Finest plain mixed real Frosted Beavers.
Every desirable shade of the above.
American Chinchillas, of good finish.
$3 00 Cloakings, of several sorts.
$3 50 do. do.
$4 00 do. do.
$4 75 do. do.
$5 00 do. do.
Black Tricots, of every grade.
Black Castor Beavers, do. do.
Black Doeskins, do. do.
Black fancy woven fabrics, of fine quality.
Ed heavy Silk Mixed Coatings.
"Harris'" best silk Mixed and other Coatings.
Fine goods for good business suits.
ALL PEOPLE.
BUSINESS MEN,
THE STYLISH,
ARTISTS,
OIL SPECULATORS,
BOYS, AND ALL OTHERS,
Can be suited with best and medium goods at very moderate prices. We claim to have as good a stock of CASSIMERES as any other house in town.
CLOAK ROOM
Has elegant and fashionable garments, second to none and superior to most. Our facilities for getting goods and long experience in manufacturing enable us to even improve on every former very successful exhibit of these desirable garments for ladies' wear.
COOPER & CONARD,
S. E. cor. NINTH and MARKET Streets.

REP POPLINS.
Solid colors, extra fine quality, for $2.
Plaid Poplins of unusual beauty, at $2.
Good quality wide plaid Poplins, $1.25.
Figured reps, Mohairs, and Merinoes.
127 pieces newest unique American Delaines, some of them choice and neat, others very gay stripe.
Over 100 pieces American prints, 31, 35, 38, and 40 cts.
Black Mohairs and Alpacas, 65 cts to $1.75.
Balmorals, fresh lot for misses, maids, and matrons.
Cloaks and Shawls in Cloak room.
Cloak display unusually good. Sales rapid.
COOPER & CONARD,
S. E. Cor. NINTH and MARKET Sts.

BARGAINS! BARGAINS!
1,000 yards Linen Crash, at 12½c.
1,000 yards Linen Crash, at 12½c.
5 lots of heavy White Flannel, at 56¼c.
3 lots of English Flannel, at 56¼c.
3 lots of all-wool Flannel, at 56¼c.
Respectfully call the attention of Hospitals and the Ladies' Aid Society to these Flannels, as they are a bargain.
JOHN H. STOKES,
702 ARCH Street.

1024 CHESTNUT STREET.
E. M. NEEDLES
IS DAILY RECEIVING
NOVELTIES
IN
LACES,
WHITE GOODS,
EMBROIDERIES,
VEILS,
HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.
In every variety and at REDUCED PRICES.
SUITABLE FOR THE FALL TRADE.
1024 CHESTNUT STREET.

BARGAINS! CLOSING OUT! BARGAINS!!
STOCK TO BE SOLD BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1865.
GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.
DRESS GOODS,
Every variety, suitable for
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
Handsome Silks at low prices.
Silks of all kinds at low prices.
Plain Merinoes and Poplins.
RICH PLAID POPLINS
Dress Goods of all kinds at low prices.
BROCHE AND WOOLEN SHAWLS.
Linen Hdkfs, Lace Collars.
French and Cambric Lace Veils.
H. STEEL & SON,
Nos. 713 and 715 North TENTH Street.

LOOKING GLASSES.
JAMES S. EARLE & SON,
816 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILA.,
have now in store a very fine assortment of
LOOKING GLASSES,
of every character, of the
VERY BEST MANUFACTURE AND LATEST STYLES.
OIL PAINTINGS, ENGRAVINGS,
PICTURE AND PHOTOGRAPH FRAMES.

THE HOLIDAYS.

HOLIDAY GIFTS
OF MAGNIFICENT AND ELEGANT DESIGNS.
DRESSING AND ODOR CASES,
Cigar and Puff Boxes,
BUFFALO COMBS, TOOTH, NAIL, AND HAIR BRUSHES,
SATCHELS, POCKET BOOKS,
SCISSORS IN CASES,
TABLE AND POCKET KNIVES,
RAZORS AND STROPS,
WITH A FULL ASSORTMENT OF
FINE CUTLERY
AND
PARIS FANCY GOODS.
SNOWDEN & BROTHER,
IMPORTERS,
23 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET.
de2-fmw6t&d12t

GRAND EXHIBITION OF
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!
G. A. SCHWARZ,
No. 1006 CHESTNUT STREET,
ABOVE TENTH, PHILADA.,
Respectfully informs his customers and the public in general, that he has opened now all his
NEW IMPORTATIONS
of German, French, and English
FANCY GOODS AND TOYS.
Having visited all the largest European Manufactories personally, I am confident that the VARIETY AND CHEAPNESS OF GOODS cannot be surpassed in this country.
All are invited to visit the store, whether they purchase or otherwise.
G. A. SCHWARZ,
Importer and Wholesale and Retail Dealer.
de10-smw8t

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
G. RUSSELL,
22 NORTH SIXTH STREET,
would invite attention to his stock of fine American and Imported
WATCHES,
In Gold and Silver.
GOLD JEWELRY
of the Latest Styles.
HANDSOME SILVER WARE.
warranted pure coin, &c., suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
G. RUSSELL,
de10 t31 22 North SIXTH Street.

USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
GOLD SPECTACLES, GOLD EYE GLASSES,
MICROSCOPES, OPERA-GLASSES,
SPY-GLASSES, STEREOSCOPES AND VIEWS,
MAGIC LANTERNS,
BOXES OF DRAWING INSTRUMENTS,
POCKET COMPASSES,
FANCY THERMOMETERS,
GLOBES, AIR PUMPS,
ELECTRIC MACHINES,
GALVANIC BATTERIES,
SPELLING BOARDS, with Movable Letters, &c.,
FOR SALE BY
JAMES W. QUEEN & CO.,
924 CHESTNUT STREET.
Illustrated Catalogues gratis. de10-12t

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
What could be a more acceptable Christmas Present
FOR A GENERAL,
FOR A COLONEL,
FOR A CAPTAIN,
FOR A LIEUTENANT,
FOR A SURGEON,
than a handsome PRESENTATION SWORD, SASH, and BELT, such as can always be obtained, in the highest artistic finish, at GEORGE W. SIMONS & BROS., Manufacturing Jewelers, Sansom-street Hall, 610 SANSOM Street, Philadelphia? no29-12t

CHRISTMAS COTTON UMBRELLAS.
Christmas Gingham Umbrellas.
Christmas Silk Umbrellas.
Christmas Alpaca Umbrellas.
Christmas Small Umbrellas.
Christmas Large Umbrellas.
Christmas Medium Umbrellas.
JOSEPH FUSSELL,
de10-6t Nos. 2 and 4 North FOURTH Street.

FINE WATCHES, JEWELRY,
SILVER AND PLATED WARE,
CORNER ARCH AND TENTH STREETS.
Brooches, Sleeve Buttons, Armlets, Bracelets, Scarf Pins and Rings, Tea Sets, Ice Pitchers, Waiters, Goblets, Forks, Spoons, &c.
Watches repaired and Warranted. Old Gold, Diamonds, and Silver bought.
no20-8m HARRISON JARDEN.

SCALES.
FAIRBANKS'
SCALES
WAREHOUSE,
715 CHESTNUT STREET.
de4-tf

HOLIDAY CONFECTIONS.
RARE AND FASHIONABLE
CONFECTIONS
FOR THE HOLIDAYS,
IN NEAT BOXES,
SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS
OR
FAMILY USE,
FRESH EVERY DAY,
AT
E. G. WHITMAN & CO.'S,
de2-1m No. 318 CHESTNUT St., below Fourth.

MILLINERY.
LADIES'
SILK HATS,
FRENCH SHAPES.
BIRDS, FEATHERS, FLOWERS,
AND
ALL THE NOVELTIES IN THE MILLINERY LINE.
THOS. KENNEDY & BRO.,
oc12-wfm2m No. 729 CHESTNUT Street.

MERCHANT TAILORS.
EDWARD P. KELLY,
JOHN KELLY,
TAILORS,
612 CHESTNUT STREET,
Will from this date (October 3d) sell at
REDUCED PRICES,
FOR
CASH.
oc5-tf

CARPETS AND OIL-CLOTHS.
1864. FALL 1864.
GLENECHO MILLS,
GERMANTOWN.
McCALLUM & CO.,
CARPET WAREHOUSE,
509 CHESTNUT STREET,
se18-3m PHILADELPHIA.
1864. 1864.
McCALLUM & CO.,
RETAIL DEPARTMENT,
519 CHESTNUT STREET,
se18-3m OPPOSITE INDEPENDENCE HALL.

CANTON MATTINGS.
JUST RECEIVED,
A LARGE INVOICE OF FINE
COCOA MATTINGS.
McCALLUM & CO.,
no15-1m 509 CHESTNUT Street.

CURTAIN GOODS.
WALRAVEN.
CURTAINS CURTAINS
NOVELTIES
IN
RICH CURTAIN GOODS,
WINDOW SHADES,
AND
FURNITURE COVERINGS.
WALRAVEN,
MASONIC HALL,
719 CHESTNUT STREET.
719 CHESTNUT STREET.

CURTAIN STORE.
1026 CHESTNUT STREET. 1026
BROCATELLE CURTAINS.
COTELINE CURTAINS.
TERRY CURTAINS.
MUSLIN CURTAINS.
SATIN DE LAINE CURTAINS.
REP CURTAINS.
LACE CURTAINS,
AND
WINDOW SHADES.
Our workmanship is unsurpassed.
C. M. STOUT & CO.,
no1-2m 1026 CHESTNUT Street.

SEWING MACHINES.
A GIFT FOR A LADY,
A GIFT FOR A WIFE,
A GIFT FOR A SISTER,
A GIFT FOR A FAMILY.
The most useful HOLIDAY PRESENT that can be made is
THE "FLORENCE."
AMERICAN INVENTOR'S GREAT TRIUMPH.
THE SEWING MACHINE PERFECTED!
All the objections to other Machines are overcome in the FLORENCE. It makes
FOUR DIFFERENT STITCHES
with the same ease, and with as little machinery as others make one. Besides, it has the
REVERSIBLE FEED MOTION,
a uniform, self-regulating tension of thread, and no springs, cog-wheels, or cams to get out of order. It does
ALL KINDS OF FAMILY SEWING,
from the heaviest woolens to the most delicate fabrics, using all kinds of silk, cotton, and linen thread, from No. 20 to 200.
NO OTHER MACHINE does so large a range of work as the FLORENCE.
NO OTHER MACHINE pleases the ladies so well as the FLORENCE.
IT IS THE HANDSOMEST AND THE BEST!
More than ONE THOUSAND of the FLORENCE have been sold in Philadelphia within the last few months. The FLORENCE is the only PERFECT FAMILY SEWING MACHINE, warranted to give entire satisfaction, or money returned. There is no one who owns a FLORENCE that would sell it at cost.
Obliging LADY OPERATORS give instructions at the houses of purchasers free of charge. Every Machine warranted, and kept in perfect order for one year.
Call and see its operations, whether you wish to purchase or not. Samples of sewing, with price list, sent free by mail.
FLORENCE SEWING MACHINE CO.,
630 Chestnut Street.
de12-tf

WILLCOX
&
GIBBS'
SEWING MACHINES,
715 CHESTNUT ST.
de-4tf

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.
HOLIDAY PRESENTS
FOR GENTLEMEN,
A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF
GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,
SUITABLE FOR
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
J. W. SCOTT & CO.,
de7-18t 814 CHESTNUT Street.

GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS!!
JOHN G. ARRISON,
Nos. 1 and 3 NORTH SIXTH STREET,
Is now offering an elegant and extensive variety of
GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS,
SCARFS, NECK-TIES, MUFFLERS, GLOVES, HANDKERCHIEFS, SUSPENDERS, &c.,
SUITABLE FOR
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
de7-tja3

SKATES.
WILSON'S SKATE DEPOT,
409 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia.
We have just received the largest and most desirable stock of
LADIES', GENTS', AND BOYS' SKATES
ever offered in this city, which we will take much pleasure in showing all who desire to enjoy the delightful recreation of Skating.
PHILIP WILSON & CO.,
de5-1m 409 CHESTNUT Street.

SKATES, SKATES, SKATES.
A full assortment of SKATES and SKATE STRAPS for sale at very low prices, at
W. W. KNIGHT & SON'S,
no26-tf 509 and 511 COMMERCE Street.

REMOVAL.
B. J. WILLIAMS,
MANUFACTURER OF
VENETIAN BLINDS
AND
WINDOW SHADES,
REMOVED from No. 16 (in consequence of fire) to
No. 35 North Sixth Street,
Where he will be very glad to see his customers and friends, until his old establishment is rebuilt. no30 11t

THE SALEM LEG.
UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.
CIRCULAR No. 5 has just been issued. Send for a copy to the
SALEM LEG COMPANY,
SALEM, MASS.,
and learn from it the reasons why this leg is steadily supplanting the many "best legs made in the world."
CIRCULAR No. 5 contains a DESCRIPTION OF THE LEG, its ADVANTAGES, TESTIMONIALS of SURGEONS and WEARERS, ACCOUNTS of numerous CASES treated by this original and ingenious method, TERMS, and all other needful information.
Soldiers entitled to a Government Leg can receive the Salem Leg WITHOUT CHARGE. no24-1m

WOOD, WOOD, WOOD.—OAK, PINE, and HICKORY WOOD, for sale at lowest cash prices. F. D. WATSON, no30-1m* VINE-STREET WHARF.

COTTON MACHINES FOR SALE.—1 set of Worker and Striper 36-inch cards, Jenks' make.
1 do. flat do., 36-inch do., Jenks' make.
2 Drawing Coiler Frames, 6 revolvers.
1 24-stand nine-inch Bobbin Speeder.
2 hand mules, 600 spindles each.
6 Ring-Throstles in complete order. Apply to
de7-6t* D. TRAINER, LINWOOD STATION, Penna.

A. F. CROSKEY, CHICAGO, ILL.—Alcohol, 95 ⅌ cent; Rye Whisky, proof; Cologne Spirits, 95 ⅌ cent; Columbian Gin, proof. For sale in lots of from 5 to 500 bbls.
JOHN H. CORL, Sole Agent,
No. 154 North DELAWARE Avenue,
de6-6t* Box 482 Post Office.

WOOD, WOOD, WOOD.—OAK, PINE, and HICKORY WOOD, for sale at lowest cash prices. F. D. WATSON, no30-1m* VINE-STREET WHARF.

The Press.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1864.

...om $3.50 to $2.50.
...educed from $2 to $1.25.
...AINES, reduced from
...OES, reduced from $2.25 to
...INOES, reduced from $2.50 to
...ERINOES, reduced from $3 to $2.
...ction in the prices of all of our WINTER now remaining on hand.
...AKS, SHAWLS, CLOTHS, SKIRTS, &c.
...pieces of very rich Single and Double- FLANNELS and CASHMERES for
Very rich ROBES DE CHAMBRES closing
...N HALL & CO.,
26 S. SECOND STREET.
...AND HEAVY COLORED
Wine Colors, Browns, Greens, Main Silks.

Discoveries in California, T..., Cuba, and ...

The prevailing ... scarcely excelled in the history of ... covery and specu... centre of petroleum ... diated throughout ... States. Not alone ... Western Virginia, but ... Indiana, Illinois, and M... discoveries, and new oil companies, localities in California have yielded a substance kindred to petroleum, if not in all cases the original article. In Texas a petroleum pond or lake is reported to exist, and Humboldt is quoted to show that in the Spanish-American States of Venezuela and New Grenada petroleum has long been an abundant natural resource. So with Cuba and the West Indies in general. It seems that the world is, as usual, only tardily awaking to its hidden riches, if we may believe all the new stories of petroleum. We give below some account of the most novel discoveries, omitting such details as seem to assist private speculations:

We learn from the Pittsburg *Commercial* that oil discoveries are being made and found in all the surrounding counties—Beaver, Venango, Lawrence, Clarion, Crawford, Armstrong, Indiana, Fayette, and Greene, and even our Butler neighbors are of the opinion that oil will be found in that county. They allege that all that is wanted to discover petroleum under their territory is the proper experiment. A great many wells have been commenced and bored down a few hundred feet, and then abandoned by the contractors because they did not understand the business and lacked the proper energy. In this connection, has it ever occurred to the people of Allegheny county that there may be good oil territory in their midst? If experiments were tried along the flats, creeks, and runs of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio valleys, there is no reason why they should not be made remunerative. At all events, if neither oil nor salt should be discovered, there is no doubt coal can be found, and that is bound to be the permanent paying staple of the neighborhood. It will cost much less to try the experiment of boring for oil in our vicinity than it would in any of the adjoining counties.

The oil fever is becoming a common complaint in Clearfield county, and the people are fully persuaded that oil will be found there in abundance. A company has been organized to bore for oil at St. Mary's, Elk county. A well was bored 300 feet, about three years ago, and then abandoned. The same company has reorganized, and is engaged in boring the same well deeper.

In Fayette county the oil excitement is on the increase. New companies, says the *Standard*, "are being formed, and those already existing are expanding. Several of our citizens have realized handsomely on their investments, and others are enjoying happy anticipations."

A PITCH LAKE IN TEXAS WITH PETROLEUM SPRING.

The *Mining Register* contains a letter from New York which says: There is in Texas, within one hundred miles of Houston, a small lake, about a quarter of a mile in circumference, near the centre of which an oily liquid, *petroleum*, boils up from the bottom. Years ago a writer in the Houston *Telegraph* predicted that, at some future day, it would be valuable to the people of Texas for the production of gas for their cities. This lake is filled with bitumen or asphaltum. Undoubtedly there is petroleum in Texas.

CALIFORNIA.

Rock oil has been largely discovered in California, according to Professor Silliman, &c., on the ranche of Ojai, near San Buena, in St. Barbara county, and the Professor believes them to be amazingly productive.

ILLINOIS.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* learns that oil has cropped out, or been "struck," in the neighborhood of the Illinois great coal field. Near the town of Gardner, sixty miles from Chicago, where a coal shaft is turning out a liberal yield of coal, the precious fluid is said to have made its appearance. It is becoming positively risky for an owner of land to sell it till he has bored it full of holes, lest he may unawares part with "oil territory."

VENEZUELA AND NEW GRENADA.

Letters to the *Mining Register* state that the two most northern nationalities in South America, which border on the Caribbean Sea, contain immense reservoirs of mineral pitch, from which gush fountains of petroleum. Copious streams of petroleum occur on the borders of Maracaybo Lake. This lake is 250 miles in circumference; near its margin is a mine of asphaltum, "the bituminous vapors of which (says *McCulloch's Geographical Gazateer*) are so inflammable that, during the night, phosphoric fires are continually seen, which in their effect resemble lightning. They are more frequent during times of great heat than in cool weather, and go by the local name of the 'Lantern of Maracaybo.'"

According to M. Bousingault, the naturalist, who also published a dissertation on bitumen, there are great basins of petroleum in the valley of Magdalena river, on the northern shores of New Grenada, and in Peru and Venezuela, near the coast.

Alex. Von Humboldt, in his researches and travels, 1799, says he observed at Cape Cirial, and near Cape de la Brea, a stream of naptha issuing from mica slate. He also observed that the product of springs in the large West India Islands covered a large surface of the sea.

CUBA.

In the early history of Cuba it is recorded that Havana was originally named by the early visitors and settlers, Carine—"for there we careened our ships, and we pitched them with the natural tar which we found lying in abundance upon the shores of this beautiful bay." Petroleum springs are in number near Havana, rising from fissures in the serpentine rocks at Guanabacoa, and have been known for two centuries. *Allan's Manual of Mineralogy* says the whole of Cuba is impregnated with bituminous matter to a surprising degree, in cells and cavities in the rocks. Note this paragraph, credited to *Essai Politique sur l'Isle de Cuba*: "Petroleum leaks out in some, indeed in numberless places in this delightful island, from amidst the fissures of the serpentine, and perhaps has deeply-seated sources. We are acquainted with abundant springs of petroleum between Holguin and Mayari, in the eastern end of the island, and also possess notices of others in the direction of Santiago de Cuba." The entire series of the West India and Windward islands present phenomena of petroleum springs, beds or veins of asphaltum, and accumulations of mineral pitch.

NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA.

In the books, petroleum springs are of record centuries old. It has been long honored for medicinal virtues and healing charms. It was known, too, that it was inflammable, combustible, illuminative. *But only four years have passed since a knowledge of its importance as a new substance in the world's commerce, and as a new necessity in the world's wants, was known to mankind.*

Fortune may be fickle, but she is not fastidious, as is attested by her impartial smile on the votary who hails from the region of dripping derricks, equally with the dapper suitor from the stock market. Human nature, however, is covetous, and speculation is epidemic and cosmopolitan. Hence the Venango region is not to be left in undisturbed possession of the market, nor will fortune confine her favors to one spot, when other localities exhibit the product of their wells, and become basins in confederated Oildom. In fact, new territory has been added to the dominion of Oil as fast as Garibaldi made the conquest of old States in the Italian revolution. And soon the general market will receive oil supply from both shores of the American continent, and from islands in the sea, for petroleum flows from many cavities in many lands.

PETROLEUM IN SOUTHERN INDIANA.

Over seven thousand acres of land have been leased in Perry county, Indiana, by a wealthy Louisville company, for the purpose of operating in the oil business. Operations on Little Blue river, Crawford county, are also going ahead, with every promise of success. We likewise learn that several leases have been taken in the southeastern portion of Harrison county, for the same purpose. Persons acquainted with the subject have no doubt that oil may be obtained in large quantities in many places along the southern border of the State, and that in a few years a large business will be done.

The Internal Revenue—Report of the Commissioner.

The report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue states that the amount of revenue produced by the act of 1st July, 1864, and the supplement to it, has considerably exceeded the estimates. The law, without the amendment increasing the tax on whisky from twenty to sixty cents per gallon, would have produced at least $100,000,000, which is $20,000,000 more than the estimates of the Secretary of the Treasury, and $15,000,000 beyond the maximum stated in the report.

MONTHLY RECEIPTS.

The following figures show the monthly receipts since May, 1863, prior to which date no separate account was kept:

May, 1863	$4,963,695 02	Dec., 1863	$9,034,501 0
June	4,488,411 99	January, 1864	9,177,765 2
July	5,298,967 18	February	9,350,004 6
August	5,664,265 35	March	8,149,953
September	6,136,204 43	April	10,945,111
October	9,511,768 64	May	12,498,402
November	7,953,983 08	June	14,094,868

The Commissioner expresses the opinion that the law as it stood June 29, 1864, would have yielded $125,000,000 for the current fiscal year. The act of June 30, 1864, has not thus far proved more productive than the law it repealed.

The revenue in August was thus but......$15,712,08
In September 15,319,77
In October 13,625,30

The receipts, however, do not represent the average receipts which may be reasonably expected for the remaining eight months of the fiscal year. The stock of spirits on hand in July has been considerably reduced, and an additional supply will soon be needed for the demand. The same may be said of tobacco.

The Commissioner then proceeds to give the reasons on which his opinion as to the revenue for the current year is founded.

THE INCOME TAX.

It appears that the amount of income tax collected last year was $23,650,038.98. He ... this figure to represent pretty fairly what ... of three per cent. under the provisions of ... law would produce. On this basis he ... $34,950,035 21 as the amount which a five per cent. tax would yield.

TAX ON SPIRITS.

Apprehensions that Congress may at the ... ing session reduce the tax on spirits, ...

SILVER WARE.
Of our own manufacture, of the finest quality and highest standard of Silver.
ALSO,
PLATED WARE.
A large and general assortment of superior Plated Ware, &c.
OLD SILVER bought and taken in exchange. Highest prices given. de12-18t

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
CHARLES DUMMIG,
No. 812 CHESTNUT STREET,
Begs leave to inform his esteemed customers that his present stock of
FANCY GOODS AND TOYS
Surpasses that of any former importation. Having selected with care every article himself, he can ... there is no similar establishment in the country ... As to prices, getting his goods ... the importers ... Europe ...

... June 30, 1864 ...

Figures from various ... are supported by an extended argument, the conclusion of which is that the amount of sales of merchandise and products in a year will be about eleven thousand millions—$1,100,000,000—on which a tax of one-half of one per cent. will produce fifty-five millions of dollars.

THE TOBACCO TAX.

The Commissioner then states at length the difficulties encountered in attempting to execute the provisions of the law which imposes duties on cigars; and concludes that a change in this part of the law is imperatively demanded, and suggests that an *ad valorem* scale be adopted. He adds, however, that it appears a question well worthy of consideration, whether it be not advisable to tax the whole tobacco product in the leaf. By the adoption of such a measure frauds can be more readily guarded against than now, and the annoyances to which the manufacturer is necessarily subjected by any efficient scheme of assessment and collection will be obviated. A light duty on the leaf, accompanied by an *ad valorem* duty reduced below the present rates, would answer a good purpose; and, by lessening the temptation to evasion, would facilitate collection. Either measure would be an improvement upon the present law. The Commissioner adds that there is a general concurrence of opinion among collectors and assessors in these views.

COAL AND CORN.

It is shown that the effect of the tax on mineral coals has been to encourage the importation of coal from Nova Scotia, whence, under the reciprocity treaty, it comes free of duty. The Commissioner suggests that if the tariff on coal were made to apply to coal imported from the British Provinces, as it would on a recision of the treaty, it would secure the market to our own producers and add to the revenue of the Government.

Numerous facts and arguments are adduced to show that a large amount of Indian corn is shipped to Canada, free of duty of course, under the reciprocity treaty, there distilled, and then sent back in the form of spirits. Also that tobacco in the leaf is thus sent there, manufactured, and then sent back again. The Commissioner then adds that a recision of the treaty would probably be quickly followed by an import duty on the tobacco and corn now entering free, the effect of which would be to check illicit border traffic and save to the Government several thousands of dollars.

TAX ON PETROLEUM.

The Commissioner suggests a tax of two or even three cents per gallon on crude petroleum oil, and thinks that the imposition of such a tax, with the reduction of the tax on refined petroleum from twenty cents per gallon to fourteen or fifteen cents, would yield a larger revenue than is now received, and also be beneficial to small distillers.

RAILROAD IRON.

The question of taxing railroad iron is carefully discussed, the report showing that in the year ending June, 1864, the importation was about one-half the amount made in this country; that our own mills are able to make all we need; and suggests whether the conditions, which invite such heavy importations of an article which gives employment so largely to our own skill and capital, do not demand legislative action in support of the interests of the revenue, especially in view of the decreased home production which they indicate.

PAYMENT OF THE DEBT.

The Commissioner closes with a statement showing that if the war were to end leaving us a debt of four thousand millions of dollars, and an annual expenditure of fifty per cent. more than in the year preceding the war, our present revenue law would yield enough to pay the current expenses of the nation, including the six per cent. interest on our debt, and leave a surplus which would extinguish the debt in ninety years, even with our present production and population; and in half of that time at our present prospective increase of production and population. This rate of taxation is cheerfully borne by a patriotic people during the great struggle for the nation's life; but on every reasonable theory of the future it is far beyond all probable needs, and may with safety be considerably reduced when the war is ended, if that end be soon.

LIFE IN ANDERSONVILLE.

Trial and Execution of Prisoners by their Fellows.

[From the Boston Journal, Dec. 9.]

We have received from Rev. J. M. Clark, one of the delegates of the Christian Commission, the following particulars of the execution of the prisoners, at Sumpter Prison, who were tried and condemned by their fellow-prisoners for robbery and murder. The statement is made by Leroy L. Key, who acted as chief of police, and under whose direction the execution took place. He says:

When I arrived there were some 4,000 prisoners, but the number increased till in September there were from 32,000 to 35,000. In August and September the deaths were from 75 to 125 per day. For a time the prisoners treated each other decently, but there were some bad fellows among them. These bad men increased in number, and began a series of atrocious wrongs against their fellow-prisoners.

1. They would decoy men into their tents with the promise of a blanket or an extra ration, or something desirable, and then rob and plunder them, and all resistance was in vain, as they had the victim fully in their power in their own tent.

2. They would go out in a body, and meeting a man in the street, would demand of him his money or whatever he had. If he would not give it up, it was forced from him. If he resisted, they beat him so that he would die of his injuries. The surgeon declared that not less than 75 men died from this cause alone.

3. Spotting a tent in the daytime, they would go out at night, five or six in number, enter the tent, and with a knife or razor threaten the victim till he "shelled out." Some men were thus severely wounded before they would "shell out."

4. Many men traded to make a little money to get an extra ration. These "raiders," going to the petty traders, inquired of them how they got along in their business, and then demanded of them a tax, saying "in two hours you must pay us $100, or more." If the man refused, they beat him.

These things ran on, and became worse and worse, until we could bear it no longer. "Raiders" numbered about the 20th of June 150 or 200, and it became absolutely necessary for the other prisoners to take some measures for defence; for the "raiders" swore that by the 4th of July they would have every cent in camp or kill the resisters.

Up to this time the Confederate authorities kept no order or discipline within the lines. I spoke to a few of my friends to organize a band of protectors against these raiders. We began to organize, and had proceeded to the formation of thirteen companies, with thirty men and a captain in each. Before the organization was complete, I was one day walking on the north side of the camp, when I saw ahead of me the chief of the raiders, and in pursuit of me five men on the "double-quick," with knives in their hands. The chief slapped me on the shoulder and turned me round, saying to me: "I understand that you are getting up a band to clean out the Irish." I replied: "The report is false and you are mistaken." "Well, you are getting up a band for some purpose; what is it for, if not to clean out the Irish?" Meanwhile the five men closed around us, forming a ring around Curtis and myself.

He again demanded to know the object of the band. Said I to him boldly, "We are organizing a band to clean out the raiders, and if you are one of them we intend to clean you out." They did not proceed to violence, but the leader put his knife into his left hand and with his right hand offered to shake hands with me. They then let me go. That night much raiding was done in the camp, and we heard in various quarters the cries of men, "Help! murder!" The cook-house was on the outside of the camp, on the stream above, and men were detailed from the prisoners on parole of honor to do the cooking. All rations were drawn into the lines of the stockade in wagons—rations of corn bread, a small piece of pork or beef, sometimes a pint of cooked beans to a man, not amounting in all to enough for one meal a day. Soup was probably allowed once a week, but we did not get it oftener than once in three weeks or a month, and then it was nothing but a little grease on a chip.

The condition of the prisoners was somewhat relieved by the arrival of some men captured at Plymouth, who had just been paid off, and who brought into camp thousands of dollars. By trading and bartering round, most of the men got some of this money. I regard it as an act of a merciful Providence that those men were captured and sent to Sumter Prison, for otherwise many more men must have died from starvation.

The day after Curtis stopped me in the street, word came that no more rations would be sent into camp until we delivered up the raiders into the hands of the rebel authorities; for they had raided upon the wagons, and had stolen the rations belonging to a detachment on the south side of the camp. We then perfected the organization of our band, and commenced seeking for and arresting the raiders. We laid hold of 160 or 200 men, who were known to be engaged in raiding, and turned them over. Out of this number, the worst cases, twenty in all, were retained outside the camp under guard, and the rest returned within the stockade. The arrests within were continued until the number of bad cases sent out was about 100. Captain Werz selected twenty-four sergeants from those that knew most of the matters in dispute, and out of this number appointed twelve jurymen and a judge advocate. The attorneys on both sides were appointed by the judge advocate, whose name was Peter McCullar, of the 8th Missouri.

The accused had a fair and just trial, and eleven men were proved guilty, but the chief criminality laid upon six men, of whom Curtis was the leader. These men were sentenced to be hung, and General Winder approved of the sentence, and ordered me to erect a scaffold and superintend the execution. I procured the lumber where I was directed, and with a detail of men erected the scaffold, and made all ready. The time fixed for the execution was Monday, 4 o'clock P. M., July 11, 1864. When the men were brought in and turned over to us, Capt. Werz took his guards outside and left the prisoners, the convicted criminals, in our charge. My guards were armed with a stout club, fastened to the right wrist by a cord. Six men were appointed executioners, and each took his stand upon the stage behind the criminal.

Most of the criminals were Roman Catholics, and a priest came in to attend them. He requested us to have mercy upon the men, and earnestly plead for them; and after he had got through Curtis asked me to spare him, as he had never done me any harm. I told him it was not for me to pardon him; I was appointed to see that the men were hung; but if he had any thing to say I would hear his confession on the scaffold. Then he said he would not stand it, and made a break for the lines, and ran about the camp until he was recaptured. He was brought back perfectly exhausted.

While Curtis was absent, the other criminals were taken on to the scaffold, and the ropes placed around their necks, the executioners standing behind them. Immediately after Curtis was brought back, he was delivered to his executioner, and taken on to the scaffold likewise. No confessions were made, but the men disposed of the property, and Curtis gave his watch to the priest, Father Whalen.

A vast number of the 33,000 prisoners of war were assembled around the scaffold. At length the order was given to pull the trigger, when five of them swung off and met their death. One rope broke and the prisoner was injured by the fall. He was brought up again, the rope adjusted, and as the drop was disarranged he was pushed off and met his death.

This terrible example put an end to raiding, and the prisoners were no more troubled with the assaults and depredations of the highhanded scoundrels. There were, however, a large number of men who disapproved of the trial and execution, from whom trouble was anticipated, as it was feared that at the execution a crowd would arise and attempt to rescue the criminals. A stillness as of death per-... it seemed as if the influence of a breath ... ve let loose the sympathizers with ... vented the execution. But the ... was triumphantly completed. ... executioners were imme-... lines, and a new chief

BIRDS AN... OF NORTH ...

—— Justices.

... natural gift for ... These works, as a whole, are ... at from the whole ... other of the same character on ... markable instance ... lantic. The birds are represented in ... in an article on ... or on the plants and trees most ... he had altogether thus presenting a rare variety ... viz: John Jay, views, of floral and other ... Oliver Ellsworth, mates and seasons, all of ... lored according to nature ... B. Taney. Of these, The great natural ... grass of the ... appointed chief justice by President ... land mountain ... on, and took his seat on the bench, bosom of ... things ... ected by the Senate, and William Cushing appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, but never acted as chief justice. He held his commission only about a week, and then resigned on account of ill health.

The case of Mr. Rutledge was as follows: Mr. Jay, while absent in Europe, in 1794, negotiating the British treaty, was elected Governor of this State. Washington, anticipating his resignation of the office, tendered the place to Mr. Rutledge, and on the receipt of Jay's resignation in June, 1795, immediately commissioned him. The *Intelligencer* says:

The appointment of the President and the promulgation of the British treaty as negotiated by Jay and ratified by the Senate, reached Charleston, the residence of Rutledge, about the same time. The indignation of the majority of the people of Charleston at the terms of the treaty knew no bounds, and Rutledge, sharing in this popular sentiment, addressed an excited assemblage on the subject in language of reprehension and reproach, which symbolized with the most violent diction of President Washington's political opponents.

As Judge Rutledge had been a no less trusted than able member of the Federal party, his "imprudent sally," as Alexander Hamilton styled it, was read with "pain, surprise, and mortification." Hamilton took up his pen in reply to Rutledge's onslaught on the treaty, and the entire Federal party, not knowing that he had received the appointment of Chief Justice before he had taken his stand against the convention of Jay, was indignant at his defection, or at the false complaisance of the President, as some supposed, when the intelligence of his appointment was made public, without its being known that the honor had been tendered to him before his opposition to the treaty was indicated.

In August, 1795, Mr. Rutledge presided in the Supreme Court. In November he started to hold a circuit in North Carolina, when he was overtaken by sickness, and his mind gave way. The rumor of his failing health conspired with the political rancor of the Federal majority in the Senate to procure his rejection by that body. "The Senate's refusal to confirm his appointment," says his biographer, "extinguished the last spark of his sanity," and he died in 1800.

PERSONAL.

—The Emperor Maximilian has written a letter to the Mexican Secretary of State, dated Nov 3d, in which he says: On returning from my laborious journey into the departments of the interior, during which I have received, in every city, town, and village, the sincerest proofs of sympathy, and the most cordial enthusiasm, I have derived two important truths. The first is, that the empire is a fact, firmly based upon the firm will of the immense majority of the nation, and that in it there is depicted a form of government of real progress, and one that suits best the wants of the people. The second is, that this immense majority is desirous of peace, tranquillity, and justice—blessings that it expects, and anxiously asks of my Government, and which I, keeping in view my sacred duties to God and the people who have chosen me, am resolved to give them. Justice will have for its foundation institutions suitable to the epoch, and in which I am laboring with unceasing zeal. To re-establish peace and tranquillity through all this fine, extensive country, and to promote with speed its prodigious riches, my Government is determined to employ all its efforts and energy. If, until now, it has shown forbearance to its political adversaries, to allow them time to know the national will and unite themselves to it, henceforth it is under the imperious obligation to combat them, for their banner no longer bears a political creed, but is only a pretext for robbery and slaughter. My duties of sovereign oblige me to protect the people with an arm of iron; and, in order to correspond to the wishes loudly expressed from all parts, we declare, as head of the nation, with a full conciousness of our sacred mission and of the duty imposed upon us, that all the gangs of armed men who still infest some parts of our beautiful country, desolating it, disturbing and threatening the hard-working citizen in his labor and liberty, must be considered as bands of banditti, and fall, in consequence, under the inflexible and inexorable severity of the law. We therefore command all functionaries, magistrates, and military commanders of the nation to pursue and destroy them with all their power. If our Government respects every political opinion, it cannot tolerate criminals who break the first of liberties which it is called upon to protect—that of person and that of property."

—A list of the officers who have held the position of general-in-chief of the armies of the United States since the formation of the Republic comprises the following names:

Brevet Brig. Gen. Josiah Harmar, from September, 1789, to March, 1791.
Maj. Gen. Arthur St. Clair, from March, 1791, to March, 1792.
Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne, from March, 1792, to December, 1796.
Brig. Gen. James Wilkinson, from December, 1796, to July, 1798.
Lieut. Gen. George Washington, from July, 1798, to December, 1799.
Maj. Gen. James Wilkinson, (again) from June, 1800, to January, 1812.
Maj. Gen. Henry Dearborn, from January, 1812, to June, 1815.
Maj. Gen. Jacob Brown, from June, 1815, to February, 1828.
Maj. Gen. Alexander Macomb, from May, 1828, to June, 1841.
Brevet Lieut. Gen. Winfield Scott, from June, 1841, to November 1, 1861.
Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, from November 1st, 1861, to July 23d, 1862.
Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck, from July 23, 1862, to March 12, 1864.
Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, from March 12th, 1864.

—The Panama *Herald* says that information has been received in San Francisco lately to the effect that Dr. Gwin, formerly United States Senator from California, has obtained, through the influence of the Emperor Napoleon, and in his interest, a commission from Maximilian as Governor General of the State of Sonora, with authority to induce emigration and settle the country, and power to grant lands.

—We learn from good authority that Admiral D. G. Farragut is now on his way to New York, on the flagship Hartford, and that the command of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron has been turned over temporarily to Commodore James S. Palmer. In all probability the Admiral, who has been recommended for the new rank of vice admiral, will not return again to the scene of his glorious exploits.

—Jem Mace has written a letter to the editor of *Wilkes' Spirit* indicating his purpose to visit America on a sparring tour, if he should receive encouragement to do so. He engages to exhibit his belt and cups, seven in number; adds in a postscript that he has lately sparred before the Prince of Wales and the *elite* of British nobility, and thinks that his engagement in this country would be highly successful.

—A large number of distinguished persons witnessed the performance of the opera of the "Jewess" on Friday night in Washington, among whom were the Secretary of State and Mrs. Frederick W. Seward, accompanied by Major General Hancock; Chief Justice Chase and daughters, accompanied by Colonel Tompkins, Chief of Artillery of the 6th Army Corps; Major General Banks and Mrs. Banks; the Hon. Mrs. Douglas, widow of the late Senator Douglas, attended by Colonel Cutts, of General Halleck's staff; the President's private secretary, Nicolay, and assistant private secretary, Hay; Major General Doubleday and Mrs. Doubleday; Mr. Edward de Stoeckl, the Russian Minister, and wife; Senor Asta Buruaga, Charge d'Affaires of Chili, and wife; De Geoffray, and Count De Colbert, and others of the French Legation; and several members of the British Legation.

—Gen. Steele, recently in command of the Department of Arkansas, is said, by a correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*, to have been removed because of his conservative policy, his negligence, and inefficiency. This is doubtful.

—Chief Justice Chase is the author of the phrase, "Congress has no more power to make a slave than to make a king." The sentence is contained in one of the resolutions adopted by the National Liberty (Free-Soil) Convention held at Buffalo, in 1856. Mr. Chase wrote most of the resolutions of this Convention.

—In noticing the organization of Hancock's new corps, the Harrisburg *Telegraph* pays the following handsome tribute to the General: "It is not saying too much, when we assert, that of all the young commanders in the armies of the Republic Major General Hancock is the most popular, personally, with the rank and file. He is the youngest major general in the service. He has inflicted more heavy blows on the enemy, than any officer under the new lieutenant general. During the first operations before Petersburg, when the immense plans were developing on the Weldon Railroad, Major General Hancock seems to have been the only officer who could properly carry out the purposes of his great leader, as he was entrusted with the direction of all the great movements then made."

—The Greensburg *Intelligencer* informs us that Hon. Edgar Cowan voted for Lincoln, and that he will be found, in the Senate, upon the side of the President's friends.

—Dr. Mary E. Walker has received the appointment of acting surgeon in the army, and has assumed duty as surgeon in the female military prison in Louisville.

—Mr. J. F. Weir, the artist, is engaged in painting a singular subject—a large picture of the interior of the foundry at West Point, with the workmen engaged in casting one of the Parrott guns.

—On the 30th ult. Robert Smith, private in the 7th Ohio Cavalry, was shot through the head while bravely discharging his duty on the banks of Duck river. Sergeant T. J. Smith, his brother, a member of the 9th Illinois Volunteers, was killed at the bloody battle of Resaca, on the march to Atlanta. Colonel Smith, of the 90th Illinois Volunteers, the sole surviving brother of the gallant dead, is now in Nashville with a wound yet unhealed. The father of these three brothers, an old man of sixty-three years of age, is now a private in the 2d Kentucky Volunteers.

A NOVEL "DEAD-HEAD."—On Conductor Kincarde's train, on the New York Central last night, a lady with a vast circumference of hoop occupied a whole seat as the cars went out of this city. Taking up tickets the conductor evidently suspected something when he came to this lady, and politely requested her to rise, as he thought she was sitting on something which had been left on the seat. She demurred, and he insisted. She said she wouldn't, and he said she must, and finally she did, and not only that, but she stepped out into the aisle, blushing tremendously, and insisting that she "didn't know it," when, lo and behold! a bouncing babe of the male persuasion, only sixteen years old, was discovered curled up on the floor! How the delightful creature had got there was a mystery to her, of course—as much so as was the presence, to Joseph, of a chicken in Joseph's hat. The lady was about to anathematize the young gentleman in the most approved manner of injured virtue, but he took the words out of her mouth by pleading piteously, "Please now, Auntie, pay my fare." Auntie did.—*Schenectady Star.*

The Rights of Colored Passengers.

[From the Friends' Intelligencer.]

In San Francisco, in the Twelfth District Court of California, Judge O. C. Pratt presiding, an interesting case came up for settlement on the 2d ult. A colored woman, who had been forcibly ejected from a horse car, had applied for redress, and the answer of the company to the court was, that their rules prohibited a negro or mulatto person from riding in their conveyances. The plaintiff moved to strike out this rule.

The Judge approached the subject as one of great public interest, and comparatively new to the judicial record. He remarked that "this absence of precedent excites but little wonder when it is remembered in how light esteem negro or mulatto persons have been holden for near two hundred years by the whites, in whose control have been placed and exercised the law-making and law-construing powers of the land." He spoke of the injustice of the Dred Scott decision, and said, "It has been already quite too long tolerated by the dominant race to see with indifference the negro or mulatto treated as a brute, insulted, wronged, enslaved, made to wear a yoke, to tremble before white men, to serve him as a tool, to hold property and life at his will, to surrender to him his intellect and conscience, and to seal his lips and belie his thoughts through dread of the white man's power. Was not the Government ordained to defend the weak against the strong; to exalt *right* above *might*; and to assure the rights of each and all, however lowly or exalted, and to make them, as far as possible, inviolate? And, finally, is what is asked by defendant in this case anything less than to make the court an instrument of *power* to trample upon *right*; and, if this is true, what support is offered us in so doing, except the invocation of prejudices which have no holier origin than in brutal propensities, and a willingness to assist in perpetuating a relic of barbarism?"

In reply to the plea that companies had a right to regulate their own operations, the Judge observed: "That railroad companies have a right to make rules for the proper management of their business is undoubted; but it is denied that such power extends to the establishment of regulations whereby, in effect, they provide and declare that duties imposed upon them by law *shall not be performed.* To regulate the mode of transacting their legitimate business is one thing, but to refuse through such regulation the performance of their just duties is another and very different thing."

After proving that the law which binds common carriers does not admit the excuse of color for the non-performance of duty, the Judge concluded in these words: "Opposition to doing a duty thought by the court to be unmistakably enjoined on the defendant, resting solely on prejudice against plaintiff's color and race, and the fancied or real absence of profit to defendant's business, should the duty be performed, can hardly be expected to receive countenance or assistance from tribunals established *to enforce rights and redress wrongs.* If public opinion on this subject is stronger than the law, let it take the form of embodiment in *legislation*, and then it can receive judicial recognition; but, in the meantime, our province is to judge plaintiff's legal rights, and defendant's duties, as we find them.

"Let the motion, therefore, to strike out be allowed."

Notwithstanding the increasing evidences of the desire to render to our colored population their just rights, they are still excluded from the common means of transit afforded by our street cars. It is well for us to examine how far regulations, so materially affecting the comfort and convenience of one portion of our citizens, are in accordance with the civil law, or with that principle of justice and right which should govern us on all occasions.

Price of Coal.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: The proprietor of the rolling-mill at Gray's Ferry, for the accommodation of his hands, concluded to buy coal for them, and furnish it at cost. A boat-load was ordered, and delivered on his wharf for $6.50, including *all* expenses. How is it that the public are compelled to pay $11 and $12 for the same coal?

Dealers here complain that the "Reading Railroad" take an unfair advantage of the necessities of the public. As this road asked last summer, and obtained from the United States Government, power to prevent *their* being compelled to pay exorbitant rates, might not suffering Philadelphia claim protection of the Government from the monopoly of the railroad company? P.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9, 1864.

THE CITY.

Who Shall Rule?

There can be no reasonable doubt that the great majority of the people of Philadelphia would like to see our streets well paved and clean, our sidewalks in good repair and unencumbered, and every man occupying his own premises without trespassing on the rights of his neighbor—or the public. This majority has expressed its will on this subject through its representatives in Councils, and its decision has been published in the shape of an ordinance prohibiting certain unlawful uses of the public thoroughfares for private advantage.

This ordinance is violently opposed by parties who are and have been for a long time indulging themselves in an unlawful use of ground which does not belong to them, and among other arguments employed in support of their opposition is, that they have no place of their own in which to display their goods, and therefore they occupy the public highway for the purpose. One man does business in a cellar, (and who does not know that a cellar is no place to exhibit wares with a view to attract passing custom?) and so, forsooth, he spreads them out on the sidewalk, which has been set apart for public use. If he should take the further liberty of spreading an awning over them it would be justifiable on the same principle, and if this was insufficient for their protection, why not build a *roof of shingle or slate? In other words*, why not extend his cellar-room upward and outward to the curbstone? And we can suppose a case in which a still more plausible claim will be urged. A poor man, rich in a numerous brood of children, finds scarcely room to turn round among them. The addition of a few feet, or even room enough for a cooking-stove and wash-tub, would be a great relief, and why should he not be allowed, with this nest of unfledged American citizens on his hands, to extend his premises two or three feet, leaving a space for people to pass without being bespattered with grease or soap-suds? Surely, a poor man has rights as well as the rich—the occupant of a cellar as well as the owner of a store.

Again, a lumber-dealer prospers and finds the three or four acres of his yard insufficient to store his large stock, and he piles up two or three sides of the street adjoining his yard with his surplus boards. Suppose the blacksmith would like to have an extra forge and anvil outside of his shop, or a carpenter his workbench, could they not make out as good a case as the grocer or the junk-dealer? When a business grows too large for one's premises he does not step over upon his neighbor's ground, but either reduces his business or buys a large lot or building. If the drayman's stable will accommodate only two horses, he does not buy another and put him in a stall of his neighbor without his leave. Yet this is just what many are doing, and they oppose the new ordinance because it will interfere with this wrong practice of theirs.

We are all very selfish, and in our eagerness to accomplish our lawful purposes we are very apt to overlook the interests or disregard the rights of others. There is an embryo principle of *Secession* oftentimes discoverable where it would not be acknowledged. When we have had our own way a good while, it comes very hard to let other people have their way, if it interferes with ours, though ours may be all wrong and theirs all right. This terrific war of our, with all its train of horrors, is nothing more nor less than the result of a wicked determination of certain people to have their own way. The Constitution of the Government, the laws of the land, the interests of the large mass of their fellow-citizens, and of the civilized world, were of less consequence, in their view, than the carrying out of their own selfish and ambitious designs. It is clearly the duty of every good citizen to yield his private interests to the public will, when fairly expressed by the constituted authorities of the city. He must be submissive to the laws, if he would claim their protection. If he would resist encroachments on his property he must cease to encroach on mine. I have a right to a free passage over every inch of ground appropriated to the public highway, and my neighbor may as lawfully take the whole of the side-walk, and force me to go on the cobble-stones as he can take a foot or an inch.

Our late glorious triumph of loyalty and right over treason and wrong inspires the hope that on this smaller scale of municipal policy our charter and ordinances will be sustained, and that the cardinal principle of securing the greatest good to the greatest number will not be overslaughed because of the clamor or resistance of trespassers or their allies.

MILITARY.

HANCOCK'S 1ST CORPS.

The following circular will explain itself:

HEADQUARTERS 1ST ARMY CORPS,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 3, 1864.
CIRCULAR NO. 2.

In reply to the numerous letters of inquiry from persons desiring to enter the 1st Corps, now being raised, the following is communicated as embodying all the information yet obtained:

I—AS TO ENLISTED MEN.

1. All enlistments and musters in are to be made in this city.

2. Any veteran, who has served two years, has been honorably discharged, and is physically qualified, may enlist in the corps for one, two, or three years.

3. Those enlisting will receive from the Government a bounty of $300 as soon as they are mustered in, and, in addition, the regular instalments from the Government, in proportion to the period of enlistment, as follows: $100 for one year's service, one-third paid on enlistment; $200 for two year's service, one-third on enlistment; $300 for three year's service, one-third on enlistment.

4. They will be credited to the quota of the district in which they or their families may be domiciled, and will, therefore, be entitled to local bounties.

5. Free transportation will be furnished them to Washington by any provost marshal. It is only necessary that the applicant should satisfy the provost marshal that he comes under the provisions of paragraph 2, and that the application is made in good faith.

6. On arriving in Washington, and reporting at the Soldiers' Rest, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad depot, veterans will be cared for and enlisted and paid promptly. They will be sent to the camp of organization at Camp Cliffburne, and will be formed into companies and regiments as they arrive—personal preferences being regarded when the good of the service will permit.

7. The best arms in the possession of the Government will be furnished these troops, and they will be allowed to retain their arms when honorably discharged.

II—AS TO OFFICERS.

1. Persons desiring commissions must make written application to the Adjutant General of the army, setting forth their post-office address, the date of original entry into service, and with what rank, the organization in which service was rendered, the date and cause of discharge, and the rank at the time of discharge. Testimonials from commanders may accompany such applications.

2. Should the papers be favorably considered, the

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(PUBLISHED WEEKLY.)
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applicants will be severally notified, by mail or telegraph, when to appear before the examining board, established by the War Department, and will receive appointments to such grades as the War Department may determine.

3. As soon as the letters of appointment are given, officers may be detailed to secure the enlistment of a certain number of veterans—their commissions, with rank and pay from date of acceptance of appointment, being given when the men are secured. It should be understood that the enlistments are to be consummated here, and an officer can do no more than to use his influence in persuading the men to come here and enlist.

Officers awaiting action on their papers can occupy the time in this way, and collect parties and send them on, securing a statement as to the number from the provost marshal. The proper credit will in all cases be given such officers.

The actual and necessary expenses of such officers will be refunded to them.

By order of Major General Hancock.

FINLEY ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant General.

BOUNTIES TO VOLUNTEERS.

The following amounts have been expended by the city for bounties to volunteers since the commencement of the war: In 1862, $375,993 29; in 1863, $165,950; in 1864, $6,255,551.71. Total, $6,796,500. This is an excess of $1,546,600 over the loans created for the purpose.

NAVAL.

NAVAL APPOINTMENT.

Commander Reed Warden, executive officer at the navy yard, has been appointed captain of the fleet under Com. Stribling. He is succeeded by Captain John P. Gillis as executive officer at the navy yard.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

It is well known that the United States Sanitary Commission does not confine its efforts to the relief of soldiers, but takes an interest in the welfare of their families. By application to its Solicitor, the widows and families of soldiers can have the legal business connected with the drawing of the Government pensions transacted gratis, and as the greater the publicity of this fact the greater the good, we print the following card:

The undersigned takes great pleasure in thus publicly acknowledging the courtesy and disinterested kindness of W. N. Ashman, Solicitor of the United States Sanitary Commission, in procuring for her in the hour of her need the pension to which she was entitled as the widow of the late Captain John D. Sloan, of Company I, 26th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, who fell while gallantly leading his men at the battle of Mine Run, Virginia. Although from her position, as the relict of a brave soldier, she would be justified in asking the consideration of those delegated to carry out the beneficent provisions for the relief of the widows and orphans of the fallen brave, she was unprepared for the exceeding kindness of the officer having that duty to perform, and in thus acknowledging his merit, she feels that she is not only discharging a simple duty but that she is manifesting the gratitude which to him is strictly due. Mrs. ELLEN SLOAN.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9, 1864.

THE UNION PASSENGER RAILWAY.

We learn that an experimental trip will be made on the Union Passenger Railway to-day or to-morrow, for the purpose of ascertaining the qualities of the road, and if it is in running order. Next Thursday the grand opening will take place, in a style commensurate with the energy of the gentlemen who control the affairs of the company. The railway extends over a vast portion of our city, and for a short time, at least while the novelty lasts, many persons will take a ride thereon simply for the pleasure of the excursion. This road has many advantages over any other in Philadelphia. It passes by many eminent or prominent buildings, parks, public and private institutions, with which thousands in our city are not even familiar. The Union Company, therefore, will afford a complete panoramic view of the important parts of our city that give life, character, and influence to Philadelphia. The route was originally published in *The Press* about one month since.

NATIONAL SKATING PARK.

The attention of the reader is directed to the advertisement, in this day's *Press*, of the National Skating Park, at Columbia avenue and Twenty-first street. The park possesses every advantage necessary to such an institution, such as comfort and convenience. Competent persons, it will be seen, will be present at stated hours, when the season permits, to give instruction in the beautiful, health-invigorating, and graceful art of skating. Exercise of this kind to many thousands of our citizens would add twenty-five per cent. to the term of their lives.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The "City Pastor" desires *The Press* to acknowledge the reception of the following additional contributions for the relief of families of volunteers: Anonymous, $10; "Friend to the Unfortunate," $5; H. M. K., $2.

FIREMEN'S MATTERS.

The following companies have already endorsed the nomination of David M. Lyle for the position of Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, viz: United States Hose, Assistance Steam Fire Engine, Friendship Engine, Humane Hose, Monroe Steam Fire Engine, Kingsessing Engine, Cohocksink Hose and Steam Fire Engine, Ringgold Hose, Washington Engine of Germantown, Washington Steam Fire Engine of Frankford, Independence Steam Fire Engine, Hand in Hand Steam Fire Engine, Franklin Steam Fire Engine.

The Tivoli Hose Company have purchased a property on Coates street, near Twenty-first, and intend erecting a suitable building for the accommodation of their apparatus thereon.

The Columbia Hose Company housed their new carriage last week.

FIRES.

During the snow storm that prevailed on Saturday morning there were three fires, one of which did considerable damage. About one o'clock a one-story frame stable, at the northeast corner of Sixteenth and Pearl streets, Fifteenth ward, was destroyed by fire. The building belonged to Thomas Little. Four horses, two valued at $200 each, and two at $150 each, perished in the flames. They were owned by Alexander Neider, Wm. Laycock, Pat. Sharler, and Thomas Ford. A quantity of gears and feed was also destroyed. The total loss was about $800, upon which there is no insurance.

At half-past one o'clock a fire broke out in a double two-storied frame building in the rear of Otis street, near Amber, in the Nineteenth ward, owned and occupied by John Lackey, carpet-weaver. The building contained sixteen hand-looms, a large amount of material and stock in process of manufacture, and a quantity of finished goods. The structure and its contents were entirely destroyed. The flames extended to another two-story frame building, also owned and occupied by Mr. Lackey. This was considerably damaged, and the stock and machinery were much injured by water. The loss of Mr. Lackey is partially covered by insurance in New York companies. The property is surrounded on three sides by dwelling-houses, and on the other by frame stables and cooper-shops. A strong wind was prevailing at the time of the fire, and but for the snow on the roofs and the storm, there would have been a serious conflagration.

At three o'clock a fire was discovered in a two-storied building located on a small street running from Milton street, below Eleventh, in the Third ward. The structure was owned and occupied by William W. Marley as a soap manufactory. In the upper portion a quantity of hay was stored. The building was pretty well demolished. An adjoining brick dwelling, owned and occupied by John Smith, was damaged in the upper part, and two or three dwellings on Eleventh street sustained some injury by water. The total loss is about $1,600, upon which there is no insurance.

On Saturday afternoon, about half past five o'clock, a fire was discovered in the Ebenezer M. E. Church, on Thirteenth street, near Vine. A few buckets of water extinguished the flames.

The alarm of fire at 6 o'clock on Saturday evening was caused by the burning of a barrel of oil in the machine shop of N. B. Archambault, at Beach and Vienna streets. A lighted candle, taken near the barrel, caused its ignition. Mr. Archambault and his engineer were badly injured while endeavoring to extinguish the flames. The loss will be about $2,000.

BURNED.

On Friday night last Julia Loper, ten years of age, was severely burned by her clothes taking fire from a stove, at her home, 1134 Lombard street.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

On Saturday evening Francis McDonald, 45 years of age, was crowded from the platform of a car, at Eighth and Green streets, and had his foot badly crushed. He was taken to his home, at 1839 North Sixth street.

THE POLICE.

[Before Mr. Alderman Morrow.]

PASSING AN ALTERED NOTE.

A female, giving the name of Ruth French, was arraigned on Saturday on the charge of having passed a United States Treasury one-dollar note, altered to $10. She was committed to answer.

DESPERATE FIGHT.

A desperate fight occurred on Saturday evening, at the malt house, on Callowhill street, near New Market, between a number of men. One of the parties was so badly beaten that he was not expected to recover. Several arrests were made, and the parties were locked up in the Eleventh-ward station-house to await a hearing.

[Before Mr. Alderman Welding.]

TAKING NEWSPAPERS.

An old man was arrested yesterday morning on the charge of stealing newspapers from a stand near Ninth and Chestnut streets. It is alleged that he has been doing this at times for several months. The accused was locked up; but the owner, regarding the theft as very petty, refused to appear. He simply desired the prisoner to keep away from his place. The accused was discharged on entering bail to be of future good behavior.

THE COURTS.

Supreme Court at Nisi Prius—Justice Read.

This court was in session for a short time on Saturday, and after disposing of a few unimportant rules and motions adjourned.

To-day (Monday), jury trials for the December sessions will begin.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Ludlow and Thompson.

In this court decisions were rendered by Judge Ludlow upon certain motions and rules, when the usual Saturday's motion lists were called.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Allison.

The session of the court was occupied with the hearing of habeas corpus cases. Among those heard was that of Robert J. Hume, asking to be discharged of a charge of the larceny of $2,600, the property of a man named McLaughlin, the keeper of a tavern, Locust street, near Eighth. The latter testified that the money lost was in a trunk in his bed-room; that on Thanksgiving night, at about 10 o'clock, the room was entered, the trunk forced open, and the money taken. The defendant, as McLaughlin testified, was in the tavern on that night, and two or three days thereafter came in and presented at the bar a one-dollar note, which McLaughlin identified as one among those he had lost, because of the peculiar manner in which a piece of paper had been pasted on the back. The Judge thought this testimony sufficient to show a case requiring explanation before a jury, and accordingly remanded the accused for trial.

Another case touching the custody of a little girl, about eight or nine years old, was heard on habeas corpus. The writ was issued at the instance of the mother, the child being now in the custody of the father, one J. McElhare. He resists the application of the mother for the possession of the girl upon the allegation that her mode of life renders her an unfit person to rear or have charge of a child; that she is a woman of dissolute habits, and the keeper of a disorderly and disreputable drinking house on South Tenth street. He also alleges that no ceremony of marriage was ever performed between them, and that she has no right to bear his name.

These allegations are all denied *in toto* by Mrs. McElhare, *alias* Alice Dunn, who avers that she is the lawful wife of this man; that the house she keeps is a respectable boarding house, carried on by her for a subsistence, which her husband has failed to provide. She alleges further that her husband is paying court to another woman, whom, if he can accomplish his object in this case, it is his design to marry.

The case, without being concluded, went over until next Saturday.

There was nothing further of interest, and the court adjourned.