The Press.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1865.

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

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

JEFFERSON DAVIS AND HIS AGENTS.

Upon one subject there seems to be a singular approach to unanimity—that WIRZ, the inhuman keeper of the Andersonville prison, and the cruel Tennessee butcher, CHAMP FERGUSON, deserve the severest punishment for their unparalleled crimes. Even the New York *News* "whistles" FERGUSON "down the winds," while putting in the plea that WIRZ is about to be sacrificed to a cultivated thirst for revenge. There seems to be no doubt that FERGUSON will hang; and if the half is true that is *admitted* against WIRZ, he will enjoy the same felicity. The article from the London *Times*, elsewhere copied, being the views of the new American correspondent of that paper, treats of JEFFERSON DAVIS in connection with the awful offence for which WIRZ is soon to be adjudged, in a strain of uncommon fairness. As between WIRZ and FERGUSON, we take the latter for the lesser demon. Not to consider that FERGUSON killed his victims by single spies, and generally in an instant, we dare not forget that WIRZ had reduced his cruelty to a science—that his study was to prolong the lives of his hundreds of victims not by kind offices, but to see how much of his hellish fiendishness they could endure. The wish of the angry Emelia to the betrayer of her mistress, Desdemona—"May his pernicious soul rot half an inch a day"—seemed to be the motto of WIRZ whenever a Union soldier was brought prisoner into Andersonville. We have printed the proof of this man's brutality, and we have seen Southern men hang their heads in shame when asked whether the stories of his ferocity could be true—in shame because they could not deny them and would not defend him. It will appear, we think, that ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS appealed to JEFFERSON DAVIS to set the Andersonville prisoners free rather than keep them to once their comrades starving and dying before their eyes, and to feel that their doom, unless released, was equally sure. The appeal was haughtily refused. And this brings us to the point. FERGUSON was as clearly JEFFERSON DAVIS' agent as WIRZ stands ready to show that he was. FERGUSON was one of the Tennessee assassins selected to kill the friends of ANDREW JOHNSON, and doubtless to reach JOHNSON, the most conspicuous, and by DAVIS the most hated Unionist in the State. He knew that his system was exactly typical of the Satanic animosity of DAVIS for the defenders of the old flag in that State. And just as the mountaineers of East Tennessee were hunted and burnt out, and shot down, by order of DAVIS, just so was FERGUSON commissioned to enact his bloody brigandage. WIRZ is to be defended on the theory of having acted under orders. Whose orders? By those of JEFFERSON DAVIS, of course. The same plea would be set up by WINDER, if he were now living to make it, and by DICK TURNER, and by the strong-hearted NORTHROP, the rebel Commissary General. So that at last, even if the instruments escaped, the principal would be held. On this head, read the correspondent of the London *Times*. That writer is no less truthful when he shows that, in *despite* of all these evidences of rebel cruelty, "*the Northern people are impatient to be friends with the South.*" They do not hold the people of the South responsible for these unspeakable atrocities, and they are eager to prove that their olden love is warmer than ever from the long separation produced by the war. But this feeling only intensifies the stern determination to punish the men who first betrayed the Southern men into rebellion, and then inflicted these savage wrongs and cruelties upon their Union prisoners of war.

AN IMPERATIVE DUTY.

The *Bulletin* of last evening, speaking upon the subject of which we wrote yesterday—the importance of selecting honest and capable candidates for the different executive and representative positions to be filled at the coming election—remarks:

"If half the stories are true which are current in political circles concerning the last City Convention of the Union party, there is unmistakable need of action on the part of the non-political elements of society to take the control of these all-important matters out of the hands of the professional politicians who abuse them so shockingly. A few hours activity during this week on the part of half a dozen reputable citizens of each precinct would accomplish this. Such men could readily arouse their neighbors to a sense of the necessity of attending to these preliminary movements, which control and direct all subsequent action, and thus secure, at the delegate election next Tuesday, the return of competent delegates, who, in their turn, would select candidates for State and City who would be ashamed to vote. The character of our city delegation at Harrisburg, as a whole, has long been a subject of reproach and chagrin on the part of country members; while every good citizen regrets with shame the inefficiency of many of the men to whom, as members of Councils, the best interests of Philadelphia are confided. All these things are within our own control. Let us hope that the delegate elections next week will mark the commencement of an era of reform, and let every citizen resolve that he will bear the infinitesimal share of trouble required to secure that result."

Sound advice, and *not* to be disregarded unless the National Union party desires continual negligence and corruption in our public bodies. There is one way to reach and to eradicate the disease. Let the members of the several Union Leagues, and especially those of the chief institution itself, devote themselves to these primary elections, so as to secure unexceptionable nominations. They have been reared by four years valuable experience in the patriotic assistance they rendered the Government in its struggle with the rebellion. This experience taught them to know the people, their wants, and their wishes; it also gave them some knowledge of party organization. The war being at an end, the duties of the loyal citizens, and especially the duties of the members of the Union Leagues, are not ended. Far from it. Their responsibilities are greater than before. They must not confide the mighty tasks resulting from the close of hostilities to weak, selfish, or corrupt men. And if they employ the influences they wielded so effectually against the rebellion, the primary elections will secure good candidates and great majorities to the National Union party.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

When English newspapers become angry, their rage is terrible. Their indignation has been roused by the refusal of the Atlantic Telegraph Company to permit any reporter, except Dr. W. H. RUSSELL, who was to have acted as historiographer, to go in the Great Eastern on her cable-laying expedition. They accuse the company of a design to prevent the publication of anything but their own particular report, which was to be followed by an extended Diary of the Expedition, for which Dr. RUSSELL was to receive $5,000, and which was to have been published, in an illustrated volume, jointly by the Atlantic Telegraph Company and Messrs. DAY & CO., lithographic publishers to the Queen. The magnificent volume, also written by Dr. RUSSELL, and most superbly illustrated, describing the marriage of the Prince of Wales, was published by Messrs. DAY, and made a large profit to them.

The *Morning Star*, a London daily paper in the interest of Mr. JOHN BRIGHT, informs its readers that three reporters from leading American journals "arrived in London about the time when it was intimated the first start with the cable would probably be made. After staying five weeks at Morley's Hotel, these gentlemen were informed, without the slightest apology, that they could not be permitted to be on board the Great Eastern, and they had to return to America, their mission unfulfilled." The same paper gives some additional particulars of the manner in which (as we formerly mentioned,) a gentleman actually employed on the electrical staff was "bundled out" of the Great Eastern minus his baggage, when it was discovered that he wrote for the press. His name is HARRISON, and he is not a literary but a scientific man. He was attached to the staff of the chief electrical engineer on board the Great Eastern, and had occasionally contributed to the columns of the *Engineer*, a first-class organ of high position and repute. He had no engagement to write for any other journal. The moment it was known that he could and might write, he is said to have been literally snatched up, on deck, without a moment's warning, and thrown down into the last boat that was leaving the Great Eastern outside of Valentia Island, his trunks and carpet-bag being taken on, from want of time to get them out of his state-room. In short, the London newspapers have scarcely a favorable word for the Atlantic Telegraph Company, of whose exclusiveness they bitterly complain.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

The only clear and comprehensive account of the policy and proceedings of the Freedmen's Bureau which has yet been published, is furnished by the speech of General HOWARD, delivered at a recent meeting of the Maine Freedmen's Relief Society, at Kennebec, Maine. The act of Congress organizing the Bureau was necessarily vague and general in its provisions. Mr. LINCOLN, keenly alive to the importance of the subject, and feeling that the fate of the whole emancipation movement might greatly depend upon the character of the Commissioner selected to guard the interests of the freedmen, after much anxious thought and inquiry, decided to confer that appointment upon General HOWARD, who was then in active service in the field, and unconscious of the intentions of the President. He was chosen solely on account of his peculiar fitness for the position; and subsequent events have fully demonstrated that he is "the right man in the right place." He brought to his arduous task a benevolent and philanthropic spirit, happily united with much practical knowledge, sound common sense, enlarged views, unflagging zeal, and incorruptible integrity. He has sought information from every quarter, and listened patiently alike to the appeals of Northern enthusiasts and of the owners of Southern plantations. He has called to his aid, as assistant commissioners, the army officers he thought best adapted to his peculiar work, who are in turn assisted by numerous sub-agents and medical officers. After successfully overcoming many minor difficulties, the influence and power of the Bureau have been extended over all the rebellious States, and it exercises a direct supervision over the whole body of freedmen. Its head is the protector and guardian of the emancipated bondsmen in a much better defined and more closely connected way than the President is the "Great Father" of the Indians of our country. The all-important question of labor he has endeavored, as far as possible, to settle by the ratification of contracts between the landowners and workmen of the South. The contracts must be fairly made and faithfully kept, both parties being protected, and both parties having convenient opportunities of appealing to Assistant Commissioners and their agents for such intervention as may be necessary to ensure the industry of the employed, or just and humane treatment from employers. The system has thus far worked well. Systematic provision has also been made for the negroes, who, abandoning their old plantations, and following our armies, have collected in cities and towns, or formed independent negro settlements. Some have been distributed upon lands abandoned by their former owners during the rebellion, and farms of about forty acres are allotted to each, or they have been forwarded to localities where a remunerative demand for their labor was known to exist. There are also a few Government farms furnishing employment to the negroes, in consequence of the uncertainty of titles to abandoned lands at this period, and the consequent risk of either selling or leasing them to new occupants. The best proof of the advantageous results of this policy is furnished by General HOWARD's positive statement that "*the National Government is now obliged to keep and take care of fewer negroes than white people.*" A volume is embraced in this single sentence. It settles the long vexed question, "what will become of the negroes if they are set free?" conclusively. They have been reared to toil, are not ashamed of it, and need only protection from injustice and familiarity with the simple business transaction involved in securing a purchaser for their labor and collecting their wages, to become not only a self-sustaining, but a useful and highly productive race.

Beyond the adjustment of the great labor question upon which all else chiefly hinges, the Bureau co-operates as far as possible with the charitable associations of the North in facilitating the education of the negroes. Teachers are allowed to purchase the Government ration at its cost price. It has been discovered that in most instances the negroes prefer to sustain their instructors with their own labor. In the expressive language of General HOWARD, "they don't like to be pauperized, or regarded as paupers, and if they can do something to aid in teaching themselves, they are glad to do it." They need aid in organizing schools, and need teachers, but manifest a disposition to render their schools self-sustaining after they are once firmly established. The Bureau also issues rations to voluntary associations which conduct orphan asylums, and in sustains homes and hospitals where the aged, infirm, decrepit, and maimed find refuge and support. In all well-founded complaints of cruelty and injustice, it promptly intervenes on behalf of the freedmen; and although it cannot, of course, prevent outrages, it has effectually demonstrated that negroes have "rights" as well as white men in the South, and that the proudest and naughtiest of their old taskmasters cannot harm a freedman with impunity. The Assistant Commissioners are authorized to adjust difficulties between white and colored men, after a full hearing of negro testimony. Crimes can no longer be committed with impunity on plantations. The following extract illustrates the practical workings of this reform:

"In Mississippi a man murdered his former slave. He was taken up for the crime, but the judge issued a writ of *habeas corpus*, and he was set at liberty. To save rearrest he could go to a county where there was no judge, and he would thus be safe. The assistant commissioner telegraphed me the facts, and the judge was threatened with arrest for false imprisonment. At my request the Secretary of War directed the department commander to arrest the person for the murder and try him by military court, and if the judge again attempted to issue a writ of *habeas corpus*, to arrest him also. I have not heard the result of the case, but have no doubt the man was tried.

"In Alexandria, a judge declined to receive the testimony of a colored man. His horse had been taken away from him. The agent of the Bureau interfered, and wrote the facts to me. I wrote a letter to the Mayor of the city, requesting that all such cases should be turned over to the provost courts. He not only refused to do so, but also to answer my letter. I wrote to the department commander on the subject, detailing the facts, and he accordingly drew up an order, which he never had occasion to use, for the authorities there found out that we were in earnest, and all such cases are now transferred to provost courts."

Thus it will be seen that emancipation is practically enforced everywhere. The commands stationed at numerous convenient points in the rebellious States can always be readily appealed to; and there are special officers connected with the army who are charged with the duty of ascertaining when such appeals are necessary. The people of the North are thoroughly determined to make freedom national, and the people of the South are rapidly learning this fact; and, to do them justice, submitting to it with a good grace in many instances. There are prejudices to combat as well among some of the officers and men in the Union army as among communities taught to regard slavery as a sacred institution, but there is a vigilant organization, well backed and supported, always ready to check and punish acts of violence or oppression. Judging from the whole tendency of the modern legislation of Congress, the watchfulness of our Government, and the activity, scope, and efficiency of the Freedmen's Bureau, we think there is little danger that slavery can ever be revived in any shape. Most of the negroes will earn their living as hired men—but as freemen, and with their freedom effectually guarded.

A QUARREL ENDED.

In the fall of 1862 the Governments of England and Brazil had a serious quarrel, chiefly arising out of the haughty bearing and unjustifiable conduct of Mr. CHRISTIE, the British Minister at Rio Janeiro. The result was a total cessation of diplomatic relations between the two empires, and the recall of their respective representatives from Rio and London. When the particulars were known in England, the liberal press generally and strongly censured the course pursued, or sanctioned, by the British Government. Earl RUSSELL, however, having a *penchant* for tyrannizing over weak parties, sustained Mr. CHRISTIE. The matters in dispute were referred to the King of the Belgians, who, though uncle to Queen Victoria, reported strongly against the action of England. This decision was pooh-poohed by Lord RUSSELL, who finally consented to refer the case to the King of Portugal, who has amicably adjusted the difficulty—though Brazil does not receive all the satisfaction she was entitled to. However, the quarrel is ended, and Mr. EDWARD THORNTON, C. B., the British Minister to the Argentine Republic, has been appointed to proceed, on a special mission of conciliation, to the Emperor of Brazil.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to read the story of the failure of the late attempt to lay the Atlantic Cable, as briefly and graphically told in the diary of CYRUS W. FIELD, without admiring the skill and perseverance displayed on board the Great Eastern, and regretting that the guerdon of success so faithfully earned was not achieved. Enough was done in repairing the faults discovered during the voyage, to justify the faith many of the stockholders felt in the enterprise. But so many gigantic difficulties obstruct its completion, that, much as we would applaud men who would overcome them, we should not be astonished if the company was compelled to abandon the task as hopeless. Such does not, however, appear to be their present intention.

Gov. Brownlow and John Bell.

Governor Brownlow thus writes to his paper, the Knoxville *Whig*, from Nashville, August 5:

I have had a long interview with John Bell. He is ten years older, in appearance, than when the war began. His teeth are out, and that affects his speech. His hair and whiskers are very gray, and he is very much stooped, and leans upon his staff like an old man is expected to do. I treated him very kindly. He talked very freely about the rebellion, and in opposition to it. He says the secessionists in the South are all *lunatics within any lucid intervals*—that is to say they are crazy all the time. I believe it is a principle in law, that if a lunatic has lucid intervals at times, he is responsible for acts perpetrated in those intervals, and medical writers say that lunatics without lucid intervals are incurable.

I accompanied the old gentleman to the headquarters of General Thomas, and after a short but agreeable interview with the General, we went to the office of the Provost Marshal General, where the old gentleman took the amnesty oath, and placed himself right on the record.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Professor John W. Draper, of New York, has completed a new and most important work, entitled "Thoughts on the Future Civil Policy of America," which will be published in one volume crown 8vo, by Harper & Brothers, in a few days. In "The Intellectual Development of Europe," which has gone through four editions in this country, and has been repeatedly reprinted and translated abroad, he showed that the intellectual progress of the nations of Europe illustrates the fact that *social advancement is as completely under the control of natural law as is the bodily growth of an individual*, and in his forthcoming volume he applies that principle to the case of America. At a crisis when our Republic is undergoing a great change, such a work attracting attention to the effects of physical agents and laws on the advancement of nations, is well timed. From the past we may look into the future—with almost the certainty of science. Another well known book, written by Professor Draper, who occupies the chair of Chemistry and Physiology in the University of New York, is "Human Physiology, Statical and Dynamical; or, the Conditions and Course of the Life of Man." This, also, is well known and highly valued in foreign countries as well as in this.

Harper & Brothers announce, in two volumes, crown 8vo, a "Narrative of a Year's Journey Through Central and Eastern Arabia," by William George Palgrave. The journey was made in 1862-63. Their new edition (the fourth) of Harper's Hand-Book for Travellers in Europe and the East, is now ready. It has been written, by Mr. Fetridge, from personal observation and knowledge, and enables the traveller to dispense with Murray's Hand-Books, which are costly, and sometimes, to say the truth, a little anti-American.

A short time ago we noticed three important publications of Charles Scribner & Co.: Lord Derby's translation of Homer's Iliad, Lingard's History of England, and Forsyth's Life of Cicero. In a few days a third edition of Homer and Cicero will be issued, and the second edition of Froude is in the press. Mr. Scribner has corrected the Homer by the revised text of the fifth English edition. It is probable that there may be a blue and gold edition also. To suit the fancy of book collectors, 100 large paper copies of each of the three works will be printed. Their subjects well adapt them for illustration.

D. Appleton & Co. have supplemented their "New American Cyclopædia," by the publication of a yearly volume. This is entitled "The American Annual Cyclopædia," and the volume for 1864 has just appeared, and may be obtained from Mr. J. K. Simon, 33 South Sixth street. It is a full and faithful record of the events of last year—one of the most important in the history of civilization—and includes all events of importance, in the Old World as well as in the New; political, military, naval, scientific, mechanical, geographical, mercantile, religious, and literary. The arrangement is alphabetical, of course. Portraits of General Grant, Sherman, Thomas, and G. H. Thomas, with numerous maps and wood engravings, illustrate the volume.

We notice the appearance of a new edition of a very interesting book, "The President's Words," published by Walker, Fuller, & Co., Boston, and on sale by Parry & Mc Millan, Boston. It is a pocket volume, containing Mr. Lincoln's more memorable sayings, as well as many political aphorisms from his speeches, addresses, and letters. It has the advantage, too, of being well indexed.

At what is called the "Commencement" (though it merely is the conclusion of the year's studies) at Harvard University, the Phi Beta Kappa Society invited Mr. George H. Boker to deliver the Poem, which he did on July 20th. The invitation may be considered particularly complimentary, inasmuch as Mr. Boker's own Alma Mater is Princeton, where he graduated. The subject of his poem was "Our Heroic Themes," and he rendered ample justice to it. Ticknor & Fields having published it, we take leave to extract a beautiful tribute to the martyred President:

Nor in your prayers forget the martyred Chief,
Fallen for the gospel of your own belief,
Who, ere he mounted to the golden throne,
Asked for your prayers, and joined in them his own.
I knew the man. I see him, as he stands
With gifts of mercy in his outstretched hands;
A kindly light within his gentle eyes,
Sad as the soil in which his heart grew wise;
His lips half parted with the constant smile
That kindled truth, but toned the deepest guile:
His head bent forward, and his writing ear
Divinely patient right and wrong to hear:
Great in his goodness, humble in his place,
Firm in his purpose, yet not passionate,
He led his people with a tender hand,
And won by love a sway beyond command.
Summoned by lot to mitigate a time
Frenzied with rage, unscrupulous with crime,
He bore his mission with so meek a heart
That Heaven itself took up his people's part;
And when he faltered, helped him ere he fell,
Ending his efforts only by its spell.
No king this man, by grace of God's intent;
No, something better, freemen—President!
A nature modelled on a higher plan,
Lord of himself, an inborn gentleman!

Pass by his fate. Forget the closing strife
In the vast memories of his noble life.
Forget the scene, the bravo stealing nigh,
The pistol shot, the new-made widow's cry,
The palsied people, and the tears that ran
O'er half a world to mourn a single man.
But oh! remember, while the mind can hold
One record sacred to the life of gold,
The gentle heart that beat its life away
Just as young morning donned his robe of
rosy
Stole through the tears beneath his golden
trend,
And touching vain the eyelids of the dead!
Remember him, as one who died for right,
With victory's trophies glittering in his sight;
His mission finished, and the settled end
Assured and owned by stranger, foe, and
friend.
Nothing was left him but to taste the sweet
Of triumph sitting in the nations seat;
And for that triumph Heaven prepared its
courts,
And cleared its campaigns for unwonted
sports;
Summoned the spirits of the noble dead
Who fell in battle for the cause he led:
Soldiers and chiefs awakened from the clay,
And ranged their legions in the old array.

From Mr. A. Winch we have received the August number of the *Federal American Monthly*, published in New York. It is a periodical of no great merit—a fourth-rate magazine, in fact. What puzzles us, who fancied that we knew all the magazines in this country, is that this appears to be No. II of Vol. LXVI. That the *Federal American* should have suspended month after month during thirty-eight years, and no one have a knowledge of the fact (for the pensive public share our ignorance,), is, indeed, a "mysterious mystery."

ANOTHER SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.—A laudable movement is now on foot at Fortress Monroe, Va., having for its object the erection of an enduring and honorable monument to the many thousand soldiers who are buried in and about old Camp Hamilton. It is proposed by the Board appointed for that purpose to collect the remains together into Hampton Cemetery, where some two thousand soldier dead already lie buried, and after this labor of love is completed, to erect a suitable memorial, in granite, to the martyrs there sleeping their last sleep. The cost of the monument will not exceed $5,000.

A GRAND INVITATION HOP

AT THE

CITY BY THE SEA.

PATRIOTIC DECORATIONS AND SPLENDID ILLUMINATION.

NEARLY THREE THOUSAND LADIES, GENTLEMEN, AND CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE.

A SOCIAL AND AGREEABLE TIME GENERALLY.

PYROTECHNIC DISPLAY AND SUPERIOR MUSIC.

EXCELLENT POLICE REGULATIONS.

BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE.

On Wednesday evening, the guests at the United States Hotel, at Atlantic City, gave a grand invitation hop and promenade to the ladies and gentlemen sojourning at the famed City by the Sea. Those who inaugurated the very agreeable entertainment are well-known gentlemen of Philadelphia, and it may be truly said they left nothing undone to ensure the pleasure of all the participants. The following is a copy of the invitation issued by them:

UNITED STATES HOTEL, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., August 15th, 1865.

SIR: You are respectfully invited to attend (with your ladies) the Grand Invitation Hop, to be given by the guests at the United States Hotel, on Wednesday evening, August 16th, 1865. Enclosed please find ticket of admission.

Very respectfully,
SAMUEL J. CHRISTIAN,
Chairman of Committee on Invitations.

Managers—E. H. Fitler, Robert Clarkson, Hon. John Cadwalader, John C. Cooper, William H. Kern, George H. Ashton, H. C. Howell, Robert B. Johnston, S. J. Christian, D. A. Woelper, Joseph W. Bullock, M. Hall Stanton, William Ernst, Louis Grosholz, T. B. P. Dixey, J. T. Way, Joseph Eshrick, E. Sheppard, Jacob S. Stretch, Henry L. Elder, William H. Kemble.

To meet the emergency likely to arise, in the increase of the number of visitors, the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company made every arrangement, and the result was that the large numbers of ladies and gentlemen who took passage in several trains on Wednesday afternoon, to attend the "Carnival," were agreeably accommodated. At eight o'clock in the evening an efficient brass and string band, stationed in the beautiful and level lawn, flanked by the immense wings of the hotel, discoursed most eloquent music, being a series of well selected and most popular dancing pieces. The great blue dome above was brilliant with stars; the atmosphere was cool and delightful. The many boarders at the first-class houses were enrobing themselves for the great event of the evening, and by ten o'clock, when the ballroom scene opened to the enraptured view of the gay, gallant gentleman standing near us, as he stood enraptured, exclaimed—a big sermon in a few words—"How wonderful are Thy works, O Lord!" But soon "Old Sol," the mighty ruler of the planets, appeared above the waters' edge, a mist soon formed, the sunlight picture faded from view beneath a dull gray canopy, and Neptune settled into the caverns of the deep, Mars subsided into calm serenity, and Vulcan extinguished his forge.

THE DEPARTURE.

Early breakfast was served to many of the guests of the United States, and at seven o'clock and eight minutes, the "iron horse" gave a snort, and six cars-loads of passengers bade adieu to the far-famed city by the sea. The train arrived shortly after nine o'clock, and the passengers were ferried on a miserable boat across the Delaware. This ferry company is a distinct institution from the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company. One excellent boat belongs to it, and the sooner another of the same sort is obtained, the better will it please the travelling community.

CAPE MAY.

Arrival of Secretary Seward and Family.

CAPE ISLAND, August 17.—Secretary Seward, Attorney General Speed and wife, Lieut. Col. Wilson, Medical Inspector, and wife, arrived at 8 o'clock this morning, on the steamer Northerner, from Washington. They are quartered in the Congress Hall Club Cottage, with Frederick W. Seward and family. Frederick's health has been much improved during his stay here.

The Secretary and Attorney General attended the laying of the corner-stone of the Episcopal Church, on Washington street, to-day.

LARGE EXCURSION.

CAPE ISLAND, August 17.—An excursion party, from Salem, numbering six hundred and nineteen persons, arrived here at twenty-two minutes after eleven o'clock, schedule time, on the West Jersey Railroad. This is the largest number of passengers that ever arrived by rail on the Island.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

To the Editor of the Press:

May I ask you to call the attention of your readers to the following communication, taken from the *Bucks County Intelligencer*? And I hope every loyal and Union paper in the State will publish it, so that our citizens throughout the State may know where to send their contributions in aid of the "Soldiers' Home." And here let me say that the "Soldiers' Home, of Philadelphia," is not (as has been represented by some parties) a home for Philadelphia soldiers only, but is a *State institution*, and its doors have been open, *and will continue to be open, to soldiers from any part of our State just as freely as to a Philadelphia soldier!* Indeed, since its organization it has provided for and cared for many soldiers from other States—from the East, and from the West—who had been maimed and crippled in the service of their country, and whom the managers could not turn from their doors, although they did not belong to Pennsylvania. I am surprised that the ladies and gentlemen who have been engaged in this holy work of love and mercy, near two years, should now meet with obstacles in the shape of a conflicting organization. And I feel assured it is only necessary for our citizens to know the facts to induce them to direct their contributions into the proper channel. I would also call the attention of your readers to the circular for the "Fair for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home," in your paper to-day; and they will feel satisfied, from the names connected therewith, that this institution is worthy of their warmest support and confidence.

A FRIEND OF THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

PHILADELPHIA, July 15, 1865.

MR. EDITOR—DEAR SIR: In this city there is a Home for discharged soldiers and sailors, known by the name of "The Soldiers' Home of Philadelphia." It is located at the corner of Race and Crown streets. This Home is a corporate institution, having been chartered by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania. The Home has been in active and efficient operation for nearly two years, during which period it has ministered delicately to the relief of the wants of a large number of maimed, diseased, and necessitous discharged soldiers and sailors of the Union army and navy. The organization of this Home is complete. It has passed through the test of trial, and has been found equal to the arduous duties of its founders and to satisfy those who have contributed the means for its support. Its working machinery now moves with the accessful manner for those unfortunate patriots who are the recipients of its vast benefits. At this time it is full to its utmost capacity. The necessity for greater space, more extended accommodations, more rooms, and all that constitutes a Home for the unfortunate, is rapidly becoming more apparent. More applicants present themselves than can be accommodated. To turn them away is more than painful.

The management of the Home is confided to a board of managers composed of gentlemen, and to an auxiliary board composed of ladies. The lady board of managers, for the purpose of obtaining funds with which to make the Home extensive with the wants of the necessitous discharged soldiers and sailors, a few months ago inaugurated a movement for the holding of a fair for the benefit of the Home in Philadelphia, to commence about the close of October next. It is intended that this fair shall be conducted in the unassuming manner, and shall be second only to the Great National Sanitary Fair held in this city a year ago. The fair will have contributors from every hamlet, town, and city in the State, and every county of Pennsylvania will be represented by a table, manned by contributors from some of the citizens of those counties. Not only this, but there will be contributions from every State, and from every country now represented by tables, over which will preside *some of the patriotic and benevolent citizens* of those States. The expectation is that the fair will be one of extraordinary interest, and its pecuniary product will be a munificent sum.

The ladies are active in the good work; they are laboring with surpassing industry, and such is their will and earnestness in the cause as to make success certain. Some have given them one entirely of benevolence, humanity, and patriotism. They freely give their time and services, without charge or reward. These ladies are numbered among the most patriotic, benevolent, enterprising, intelligent, and worthy of our City and Commonwealth. As I may appear, these ladies are meeting with an obstacle in accomplishing the success of their laudable and humane work, and the obstacle which is increasing their toil and anxiety. This obstacle is the encounter with paid male collectors, who are behind, and who have paid funds (and in some instances they unfortunately have been successful) for a Soldiers' Home *which does not exist, which there has not been obtained or ever asked a charter, and which in all human probability will end where it began.*

These paid collectors receive their compensation, or wages, in other words in the form of a commission of *ten per cent.* on all amounts which they collect. Hence the Home whose benevolence would prompt him to give to one of those paid collectors $1,000 for their proceeds from some object, would have to collect but $900, and $100 to the collector for asking for the donation.

The matter is vastly different with the Lady Board of Managers of "The Soldiers' Home of Philadelphia." They solicit funds and other aid for a Home *which is an institution of the State—a charitable institution—a living institution of the full tide of operation*, whose wards are open to the inspection of citizens six days of the week. Every dollar, nay, every cent, which may be given to these ladies will reach the treasurer of the Home without one fraction, or a cent being deducted for collecting. To which will a generous, benevolent, and patriotic public contribute? The answer is easy. This statement, in our official capacity, we have felt it necessary to make to disabuse the mind of the public of any erroneous impressions which may have been made by the paid collectors for a Soldiers' Home which has not any existence, and which, as we have already stated, will, in all human probability, end where it began.

MRS. D. HADDOCK,
President of Board of Lady Managers of "The Soldiers' Home of Philadelphia."
MRS. A. HORNER, Secretary.

— AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—On Monday afternoon some lads at Camden, N. J., found wrapped up in a piece of old carpet, and stuck into a crevice in a wall, three steel plates, used for printing counterfeit bank notes. One of them is a counterfeit $5 of the State Bank of Newark; one a $5 counterfeit of "The Chicopee Bank," Springfield, Mass; and the other is supposed to have been designed for printing the back of the Union Bank of Dover. The plates were well executed, and were encased in wax to prevent their becoming rusty. They are supposed to have belonged to the counterfeiters Finch and Walker, who were arrested recently at Dover, N. J., where they had a counterfeiting establishment.

THE WOOL TRADE.—The wool trade in Ohio is still moving slowly. The past ten days have shown a slightly improved condition of the fleeces offered, and the average has been raised fully 65 cents, many lots selling at from 70 to 75 cents, while yet the majority of the purchases have been at 60 cents and under. A correspondent writes us from Jefferson county: "Wool dealers are showing themselves a little—a very few good lots have been taken at 75 cents. Farmers are anxious at that price; some are disposed to hold at 80 cents. Wool could have been bought easier in June than now." From Harrison county we learn that during the ten days prior to the 2d, fully 100,000 pounds of choice wool were bought there at from 70 to 75 cents. After that date the sales fell off, but no disposition was evinced by growers to sell at a lower figure. In Licking the trade is still dull, and buyers are not yet offering over 60 cents. In Madison, the past week, the movement is reported as pretty brisk at 65 cents. The whole sales in the State, so far as our reports extend, indicate an improvement of fully 10 cents per pound during the past two weeks.—*Ohio Farmer.*

LARGE POSITIVE SALE OF CARPETINGS, COTTON YARN, &C., THIS DAY.—We invite the special attention of carpet manufacturers, dyers, and dealers to the offering of 8,000 pounds Southern made *cotton yarn*, damaged by fresh water, to be peremptorily sold, by catalogue, on four months' credit, *this morning*; together with a large and attractive assortment of fine ingrain Dutch hemp, list, cottage, and rag carpetings, commencing at eleven o'clock, by John B. Myers & Co., auctioneers, Nos. 232 and 234 Market street.

— AN English paper reports a successful action brought by a woman against a man, to recover a guinea for damage caused by defendant's careless management of a cigar which he was smoking on board one of the Thames steamboats, and by which he had set fire to a shawl belonging to the plaintiff.

The Successor of Mayor Henry.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: The declination of the Hon. Alexander Henry, as a candidate for renomination, has caused universal regret. His unswerving integrity and courteous bearing, together with his upright public life and private virtues, have endeared him to the whole community. In retiring from office to private life he carries with him the love and esteem of the people, and the proud satisfaction that no act of his has ever stained his robe of office. Who shall be his successor? It will be the duty of the Union City Convention to name him. In the selection of a proper candidate—with the right kind of a nominee—success will crown our labors. Let the Convention realize this fact, and be careful to give us a gentleman possessing the requisite qualifications to make an able and efficient officer. Whoever he may be, it is all important that he be a gentleman, educated, intelligent, honest, possessing a sound judgment and great discretion.

In addition to the foregoing qualifications he should have a thorough knowledge of the wants of a great metropolis like ours, and, at the same time, be conversant with the varied duties of the office and municipal legislation. And this knowledge should, if possible, be derived from actual experience in our municipal legislature. It may be asked, Where is there such a man? Without desiring or intending to say aught to disparage the claims of any gentleman named, we are free to say that the nearest approximation to these views may be found in the person of James Lynd, Esq., the able President of Select Council. Five years' experience as a member of Councils, (three of which he has been President of Select Council,) have enabled him to become *au fait* in everything pertaining to our great city. Besides this, he is dignified and courteous in his demeanor, a scholar by education, a lawyer by profession, and upright and honorable in his character. In conclusion, we commend James Lynd as a worthy successor of Alexander Henry. MANY CITIZENS.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The stock market has quite recovered from the blow it received early in the week by the defalcations which so greatly excited the mercantile community and involved it in the embarrassment; it will show more for many months yet. We have made particular inquiry on the street to ascertain whether the standing of any of our Philadelphia merchants or brokers has been in any way jeopardized by the recent robberies and failures in New York city, and we are happy to state that so far from there being any cause for apprehension of such failures here, that scarcely a dollar is owing to this city by the firms rendered bankrupt by the forgeries. The worst of the panic is over, and we are entering again upon the usual routine of daily business. There is no want of confidence anywhere shown between the brokers of this city, nor is there, among the business men generally, a less disposition to extend the usual credits so necessary to mercantile transactions. Where losses have occurred they have invariably fallen upon the mere speculators and gamblers of the market; the houses that pursue a sound, substantial, and legitimate business who have failed to be drawn into the vortex of reckless stock jobbing are to-day as sound as ever. The dealers in Government loans and other substantial securities are untouched, and must continue to be so under all contingencies and mishaps. If any one can weather successfully a fearful money crisis, such as was predicted a day or two ago to be our present experience, it is the dealer in the loans of the Government, for their value is beyond the reach of ordinary accidents. The New York journals announce that since the steed has fled the stable, the landlord is getting manufactured magnificent new bolts. We are assured by the *Tribune* there is a searching investigation now going on at each banking establishment into its management and accounts, permeating the minutest branches connected with the business. Bank directors have awakened from their dream of security, and have at length commenced to look after the operations of those gentlemen who keep their accounts and manage their transactions. Many defalcations of a minor character will, it may be fairly presumed, be brought to light in New York, and bank officials now in good standing, and occupying respectable positions in life, will be seriously implicated.

Government loans are generally steady in price, and the sales yesterday were moderate. The 1881s sold at 106½; the five-twenties at 105¾; registered ten-fortes at 91¼, and the seven-thirties at 99. State and city loans are held less firmly, and a lot of war-loan sixes changed hands at a decline of 1; the fives brought 90¼. New city sixes advanced ¼, while the municipals sold off a decline of ¼. The sales of company bonds were very limited; Lehigh sixes, '84, at 95; Camden and Amboy mortgage sixes, '89, at 99¼; Pennsylvania Railroad first mortgage bonds at 105; Reading sixes, '86, at 110, and the mortgage sixes at 91. The railway share list was inactive, except Reading, which was largely selling at about the yesterday's figures; Norristown advanced ½, and Catawissa common ¾. In the oil stocks there was less said, but prices are steady. In canal stocks there is a fair amount doing. There were further sales of Wyoming Valley at 52, and Schuylkill Navigation preferred at 31. Bank and passenger railroad securities are very dull. The following bids were made for city passenger railroad stocks: 46 for Tenth and Eleventh; 6 for Seventeenth and Nineteenth; 49 for Chestnut and Walnut; 89 for West Philadelphia; 10 for Race and Vine, and 31 for Green and Coates. And the following for the banks: 45 for Penn Township; 52 for Girard; 29 for Manufacturers', and 57 for City.

The Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company yesterday declared a dividend of three-and-a-half per cent. on the capital stock, clear of State tax.

The following were the quotations for gold yesterday at the hours named:

10.30 A. M.	141½
11 A. M.	142¼
11.30 A. M.	142½
12 M.	142½
1 P. M.	142½
3 P. M.	142¼
5 P. M.	142

Drexel & Co. quote:

U. S. Bonds 1881	106¼	106¾
U. S. Certif. of Indebtedness, new	97⅝	97¾
U. S. Certif. of Indebtedness, old	97	97½
U. S. 7-10 notes	99	99½
Quartermasters' Vouchers	96	97
Compound Interest Notes, June	105	105½
Gold	141½	142½
Sterling Exchange	154¾	155
5-20 B