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F. B. PENNIMAN, T. P. HOUSTON, JOSIAH KING, } Editors.
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NO GOVERNMENTAL POWER, embodied in the Constitution, is more clear and unmistakable, than that of impeachment, conferred on the two Houses of Congress. That power has heretofore been exercised on several occasions, but always upon persons holding comparatively subordinate positions. So far as the office-holders thus disciplined were concerned, no complaint of injustice or hardship was ever uttered. The common sentiment of the country has steadily opposed proceedings against them. And the feeling has been general that for any official impeached and displaced, at least an hundred have richly deserved like degradation. But, after all, the chief peril to the Constitution, to the public welfare, to the perpetuation of civil liberty, has not arisen from the short-comings or overt crimes of men in low or medium stations. The greatest danger has emanated from the Executive chair. And this is the uniform experience in all countries and ages. Deliberative assemblies may, indeed, degenerate into instruments of faction. Instances of this infirmity are not wanting in history. But serious encroachments upon popular freedom have almost invariably come from the opposite direction—from the chief executive officer craftily or by force extending his prerogatives and magnifying his authority. So far has this gone in the United States, during the last thirty years, that the President has come to claim and use a much larger measure of power than any limited monarch in Europe has dared to assert in the last two hundred years. These usurpations have been justified, naturally enough, under pretence of conservatism. That is the plea invariably urged for despotism. But that this plea should be urged here mainly, if not exclusively, by those who claim to be Democrats, may well excite surprise not unmingled with contempt.

In this posture of affairs it is most suitable that the bolt of impeachment should fall on the head of a President, and particularly on the head of that one who has done more than all his predecessors combined, not only to bring the office into disgrace, but to render it a formidable menace to civil liberty.

It has been held that PATRICK HENRY, in those accesses of fervor which marked his opposition to the ratification of the Federal Constitution, was swayed by unfounded and unmanly apprehensions—especially when, upon reviewing the large measure of authority actually conferred on the President, and the liability always existing that more would be arrogated than was given, he exclaimed, "Your President will become a King." The experience of the nation since then has shown that he was not mistaken in estimating the tendency to executive encroachment encouraged by the very terms of the Constitution itself. Indeed, so palpable has this become that Mr. SEWARD has not scrupled to declare that the people of this country regularly elected a King every four years. This has become the actual working of the government, though it was not the intention of its founders. Of all monarchies, an elective one is the worst of all to be deprecated. The history of Poland is full of admonition and warning on this head.

It is time the tendency towards imperialism was checked; and the way to do this is by impeachment. This consideration has pressed upon us strongly for two years past. Hence, while most of the Republican journals flippantly dismissed impeachment as a "farce" or a "sham," we steadily regarded it as a stern necessity, if Republican institutions were to be preserved among us, not simply in form and seeming, but in substance and reality. The President's violation of the Office Tenure Act furnishes no stronger reasons for proceeding against him than existed before—in his misappropriation of the funds arising from the sale of confiscated estates; in his management respecting sequestrated Southern railroads; in his abuse of the pardoning power; in his prostitution of patronage; in his threats against the legislative department; and in his assumption of exclusive authority over the revolted States. Indeed, we doubt not ultimate and impartial history will adjudge that the grounds upon which Congress has finally decided to proceed against the offender are feebler than those it rejected as insufficient at the opening of the present session.

What is most needful is an example which shall henceforward deter the President—whoever he may be or by which party soever elected—from stretching his authority beyond the strict letter of the Constitution. In this judgment, we doubt not, all considerate and thoughtful Democrats concur as fully as Republicans. Mere politicians, swayed by temporary passions, excited by personal hopes, or impelled by flaming animosities, may object. But these constitute a slim minority—clamorous, indeed, but not worthy to be taken into account in determining a case so momentous to the republic and to civil liberty everywhere and for all time.

THE REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION, which will assemble at Harrisburgh on Wednesday next, will probably express a preference for some citizen of this Commonwealth as the candidate for the Vice Presidency. Delegates to that body have been chosen, who are divided in opinion between three different individuals—that is CURTIN, GROW and GEARY. The State Convention will select the four delegates at large to the National Convention, and no more, the bulk of the delegates being appointed by conventions or conferences within the respective districts. It is manifest, therefore, that any expression of preference on the part of the State Convention, while confessedly of high authority, will conclude and bind only the four delegates at large. The district delegates will not only be at liberty, but will doubtless feel constrained to follow either the local instructions or the local preferences, as the case may be. Hence, it is presumable that the same diversities of preference which are now apparent in the State will be exhibited at Chicago in May. This want of unanimity may lead to a setting aside of all the gentlemen named in Pennsylvania for the second place on the national ticket. Such a result can hardly be avoided unless the minority in the State Convention, on whichever side it may be found, shall waive their predilections, and so make an unanimous recommendation, and unless the district delegates shall consent to lay aside local and personal preferences, and heartily sustain at Chicago the individual who may receive the endorsement of the State Convention.

DELEGATES to the Republican State Convention at Philadelphia, on the 11th, going by the Pennsylvania Central Railroad and paying full fare, will receive from Col. JORDAN return tickets free.

THE PROJECT RENEWED.

At the session of the Legislature for 1867, it will be remembered, a bill was introduced into the House to tax all Transportation Companies, which also mined and traded in coal, twenty-five cents for each ton sent by them to market. The wording of the bill was as general as the terms in which we have now stated its scope. Only three Companies were in the category described. These were the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company; known as the New York Companies, and carrying coals exclusively from Luzerne county.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company was chartered by the State of New York; received State aid in constructing its canal from Rondout, on the Hudson, to a point on the Delaware opposite the mouth of the river Lackawaxen; and is, we believe, the only Company so aided that ever repaid the moneys or credit so advanced in that Commonwealth. Mr. MAURICE WURTS, of Philadelphia, at an early day, was constituted a corporation sole, with right to improve the navigation of the Lackawaxen by building dams and locks; so creating a slack water navigation, which the Legislature reserved the power to take possession of on certain conditions. The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company became the assignee of Mr. WURTS, and so obtained a standing in Pennsylvania. Mr. WURTS had no authority given him to mine and traffic in coal. He was, at most, only made a common carrier. The Canal Company, by its charter, was empowered to mine and sell coal. Being in this state under Mr. WURTS' assignment, it used all the rights here which its New York charter conferred, and so became a transgressor. As the time drew near for the Commonwealth to resume the privileges granted to Mr. WURTS, a Legislative Committee was appointed to investigate and report upon the expediency of such resumption. It decided that taking the Lackawaxen section of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, (as the WURTS improvement came to be known,) on the conditions prescribed, was altogether inexpedient. But, in the course of the aforesaid examination, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company was made aware that it was exercising rights in this Commonwealth to which it had no title; that it was, in fact, using its New York franchises within our borders without authority. At the following session of the Legislature, a bill was introduced waiving the State's right to resume the franchises granted to Mr. WURTS, and authorizing the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company to proceed in Pennsylvania under its New York charter. There was a prodigious fight over this bill; but it is safe to affirm that not more than one member of either House comprehended the meaning and scope of it, and that the Governor, who finally approved the bill, was equally in the dark. They supposed it was a surrender, without consideration, of valuable rights belonging to the State, when the design was simply to domesticate here the New York charter of the Canal Company. By the passage of that bill the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company became a Pennsylvania corporation; a fact public men at Harrisburg have not discovered up to this time.

The Pennsylvania Coal Company grew out of the consolidation of several companies created by the Pennsylvania Legislature. In form it is strictly a Pennsylvania company. All its elections are held within the State, and a definite proportion of its officers are citizens here. This company owns a railroad, extending from Pittston, on the North Branch of the Susquehanna, to Hawley, on the Lackawaxen, where it strikes the Delaware and Hudson Canal. From this point to tide water on the Hudson, it has, by contract, the right to use one-half the lockage on the said canal. In fact, it employs not more than thirty boats, preferring a railway transportation of which it has the option. This is by a branch road of its own construction, from Hawley, down the Lackawaxen, fifteen miles, to its confluence with the Delaware, there intersecting the Erie Railway, over which it runs trains either to Newburg or New York.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company also exists exclusively by authority of our own laws. Scranton is the centre of its operations, from whence it extends east and west. Towards the east it runs an independent line of railway down to Easton, or near thereto; and from thence a third rail on the Central Railroad of New Jersey to accommodate its broad guage. Thus it reaches Newark Bay at Elizabeth, and runs on to Jersey City. From Scranton its independent road runs west to Great Bend, in Susquehanna county, where it intersects the Erie Railway, by which it reaches Binghamton. From this point it sends coal, by the Chenango canal, to Utica, and by railroad, direct to Syracuse. It also follows the Erie to Owego, and thence, the branch to Ithaca, where it freights down the Lake to Central and Western New York.

But all three of these Companies are, in reality and substance, New York. Their stock is mainly held in New York; their main offices are there; and the management proceeds from thence. The laws of this State, so far as essential to the existence of the Companies, are complied with, but that is all.

It was claimed, last year, that these New York Companies had powers which none of the strictly Pennsylvania Companies enjoyed; the latter being simply common carriers, and hence making no gains by merchandizing in coals. When the bill above referred to was introduced, the current impression was that it was designed in the interest of speculators in legislation; that is, that the purpose was to make the three Companies buy off, at a high price, the promoters of the bill. Such proved not to be the fact. The bill originated in the Treasury Department as a revenue measure. The tax was reduced from twenty-five cents a ton to four cents, in which shape the bill became a law. Estimating that these Companies mine and sell three millions of tons a year—which is near the true mark—this tax yields one hundred and twenty thousand dollars annually; and this, in addition to the taxes previously paid.

Within the last few days a bill has been brought forward to increase the tax to twenty cents a ton; or, say, six hundred thousand dollars a year. If this movement is honestly in favor of the Treasury two questions arise. Can these Companies afford to pay this assessment? Ought it to be confined to these three Companies?

It is, doubtless, true that these three companies take vast wealth out of the State every year, which is divided up among stockholders resident elsewhere. In this way Luzerne county is kept comparatively poor. The other system by which individual owners mine and sell coals, the transportation companies serving only as common carriers, produces very different results. The wealth produced by this coal traffic is at once brought back within our borders, and is a perpetual source of revenue to the counties in which the holders of it reside. Let any one take the income returns of Luzerne and Schuylkill counties, and institute comparison between them, and he will see that Luzerne falls almost immeasurably behind Schuylkill in actualized wealth. The New York system impoverishes, while the Pennsylvania system enriches our own people. This is a consideration legislators ought not to overlook.

It is not straining a point to say that these three New York Companies hold franchises that ought not to have been conferred on them or any other corporations, and that in the present enlightened condition of public opinion, will not be granted to other corporations. Individual operators in their respective neighborhoods are entirely at their mercy, having no outlet of their own, and being constrained to accept such price for the coals mined by them as the companies nearest their lands see fit to offer.

But, it must not be concealed that under the Pennsylvania system individual operators have made vast gains. Individual operators can be named who have returned, year after year, more than half a million of dollars as net gains. It would not hurt these men, any more than it would hurt the three New York Companies, to contribute liberally to the resources of the State Treasury.

The fact is that all coal mined in the State ought to be put under contribution for public purposes. There are points of objection to this policy, springing out of its apparent tendency to detract from the local advantages of our manufacturers. But we apprehend this tendency is more imaginary than real. At all events, a tax cannot be imposed on such coals as go out of the State, while what is consumed inside remains unburdened. The federal Constitution stands in the way of such discrimination.

Whatever may be the intention as to the bill now brought forward—whether it is really in the interest of the Treasury or of legislation-mongers—whether designed to help the Schuylkill region by laying burdens on the Companies operating in Luzerne—we do not know. In the absence of reasons for inferring a sinister intention, it is but just to infer that the purpose of the bill is laudable. But we cannot refrain from submitting that the whole question of taxing coals ought to come under legislative review, and be dealt with upon broad principles.

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

Intelligent citizens who have carefully observed the indications of public opinion in Ohio during the past six months cannot be surprised to learn that the Republicans of that State, in Convention, on Wednesday, declared in favor, First, of making all future issues of United States bonds expressly liable to taxation as other property; Second, of arresting the contraction of the currency, the volume of which should be commensurate to the wants of the people; and, Third, of the inviolability of the public faith to its creditors, but declaring that the Five-Twenty bonds may legally, and should be justly and rightfully made payable in the currency of the country which may be a legal tender whenever those bonds are redeemed. From our knowledge of the tone of the Republican press, and of the opinions prevalent among the masses of the party in Ohio, we have no doubt that these resolutions were adopted by more than a majority vote—probably with something near an entire unanimity, and that they faithfully represent the conclusions of the great body of the party. The text of the resolution relative to bond-redemption is as follows:

Resolved, That the Republican party pledges itself to the faithful payment of the public debt according to the laws under which the five-twenty bonds were issued, and said bonds should be paid in the currency of the country which may be a legal tender when the Government shall be prepared to redeem such bonds.

Upon the question of taxation of bonds, the Indiana Convention proposed to subject the present issues to their share of the public burthens, except where expressly protected by existing enactments, while the Ohio Republicans confine the question only to future issues. Substantially, these positions agree, since the adoption of either secures the approval of the other by the Government.

To the position which Indiana and Ohio have thus taken, the reader may prepare himself to see the Republicans of the other States of the West and Northwest bringing those States, one after another, when their Conventions are held. Those States will cast very nearly one half the entire vote in the National Convention at Chicago, and their constituents will demand the earnest efforts of their delegates to embody similar declarations in the platform of that body.

It is proper to state these facts and the just inferences which we draw as to their bearing upon political calculations, that our readers, citizens of Pennsylvania, and most of them Republicans, may exactly understand what to expect, when they meet their western friends at Chicago. These questions will come up, backed with great numerical force and will have to be disposed of. The Republicans of those States will say—and probably with truth—that they will be in danger of losing their State elections, and of periling the vote for President in November, unless they can squarely take the ground of Equality in Taxation and One Uniform Currency for the discharge of public and private obligations. As to expansion or contraction of the currency, an agreement can easily be reached on the basis of things as they are, prohibiting any further tinkering legislation and leaving the question subject only to the necessities of the Treasury itself. But it is easy to see that the other and main points will be insisted on by the West and Northwest, and it is by no means sure that they will not succeed in incorporating the planks to suit them in the Chicago platform.

The whole question of the redemption of the principal of the Five-Twenty bonds in coin or currency would be practically settled by a return to specie payments. A decision by the Supreme Court, upon what are known as the Legal Tender suits, from the Pacific slope, —which have been partially argued, but are not expected to reach a final judgment before next winter—that the legal tender notes are unconstitutional, and that gold and silver are the only lawful money, would have the effect to bring the Treasury to specie payments at once, and that would end the whole question, at whatever cost to the country in the way of a pressure upon all its financial and industrial interests. Treasury resumption means universal resumption, and brought about in that way, without being generally anticipated and prepared for, would cause a tremendous shock to the business of the country. It is idle, however, to borrow any trouble about that. What the Court may decide next winter, one way or the other, is of no consequence whatever in dealing with the immediate questions of to-day,—questions which will govern the State elections in Ohio, Indiana and Iowa in October, and will powerfully influence those of Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota, which dispose of the State and Presidential issues at the same polls in November.

We lay entirely out of view any possibility or probability that the Western view of these questions may be adopted to any extent in the Middle or Eastern States. These communities are wealthier, and, as holders of invested capital in the bonds of the government, are more inclined by their interest to take the contrary view. But it is well to consider that in these States wealth is not confined to one party and that the masses of all political opinions are very likely to think for themselves, and their ideas of what may be for their interest will naturally lead them to side with the Western view. They will have it fully expounded to them by Democratic journals and stump orators, whose Convention at Harrisburg the other day adopted and endorsed it to the fullest extent. The question cannot be kept out of the canvass in Pennsylvania, unless our friends decline to make it a party issue by occupying identical ground themselves. If they make an issue upon it, they will have to rely for their support upon facts of which we are ignorant and upon principles not yet familiar to a common understanding. When that same Democratic Convention also declared that the exemption of any government bonds from taxation is unjust and inequitable, that means the repudiation of contracts, and illustrates the pertinency of our suggestion that none of these questions can safely be entrusted to their control.

Looking upon these questions as rising fast in political importance, and recognizing the wisdom of our western friends who repudiate once for all the proposition to draw party lines upon them, and who, appreciating their intrinsic importance, have determined that *their future solution is safer for all interests in the hands of the Republican party*, which is now about to assume that entire control of the government to which its majority of numbers has long since entitled it—and reminding our readers that not above and beyond these questions, but side by side with them, a part of them intimately and necessarily interwoven, goes the express and absolute recognition of all existing contracts with the public creditors—we invite their serious consideration upon the positions taken by the Republicans of the great States of the west. We recommend that consideration in the interests as well of Public Faith and Public Policy as of Republican Success.

WHEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON started on his career of treachery towards the party by which he was elected, he appeared to have vividly before him the parallel cases of TYLER and FILLMORE. In some of his public addresses he alluded to the fate of those his predecessors as furnishing warnings as to the willingness of democrats to applaud treachery so long as they found it profitable, and to desert the deceiver when he could not be made further available. He evidently saw the right, but had not sufficient steadiness to pursue it. He was not long in becoming the thing he stoutly professed he despised. While his power remained unbroken; while he had patronage to bestow, or appeared to have it; while he could be used as an instrument for creating divisions in the Republican ranks; while his course operated to reinvigorate the spirit of revolt in the Southern States, and to beget hopes that reconstruction would ultimately be accomplished on conditions which would be a virtual endorsement of the rightfulness of the rebellion, the democrats crowded about him, defending his wildest excesses, approving his most high-handed measures, and urging him forward to the commission of new and yet flagranter outrages upon his honorable pledges.

As soon as he was hedged about by new enactments, and, especially when Congress, long incensed, finally resolved to strike the blow unaccountably withheld, the democrats, with one accord began to desert him. Already he stands pretty much alone. Those who remain about him stand only on the order of their going, and will soon find opportunity to take themselves away.

It is possible Mr. JOHNSON has latterly indulged hopes of becoming the presidential nominee of the Democratic National Convention. What vagaries may beset and influence a mind like his, and beset with chronic infirmities, can easily be conceived. Men in high places never hear the truth except by accident. Their ears are filled with pleasant falsehoods, and they are furnished with evidence for believing respecting themselves, what they most want to believe. But, whatever assurances Democratic leaders may have privately given Mr. JOHNSON, and whatever reliance he may have placed on the controling power of public patronage, the Democrats have clearly not designed to make him their standard-bearer. The qualities he has disclosed are not at all to their liking, except when exerted by one for whom they are not responsible, and against their opponents. They would as soon trust a bull in a china shop as Mr. JOHNSON at the head of an administration elected by them, and by which they expected to be advantaged as a party. Hence, the unanimity with which they now wipe themselves of all responsibility for what he has done and for the fate impending over him.

CHIEF JUSTICE CHASE discharged faithfully his duty to the Constitution, to the Court and to each of the parties in the trial of Impeachment, in stating the suggestions in his communication to the Senate on Wednesday. This body, however, had the clear right to decide for itself the question presented by the Chief Justice, and did accordingly decide, the same day, that its rules of procedure in the trial could be adopted by the Senate before its organization as a Court. On Friday, however, after further consideration, the question being again suggested by the Chief Justice, then sitting as its presiding officer, the Court, as such, formally adopted the same rules, a single Democrat only voting in the negative. The cavilling objections of Mr. Johnson's friends are thus prudently silenced, and the country will be entirely satisfied with this disposal of the question.

THE PRESIDENT it is said, proposes to call a large number of witnesses in his defense, and his friends talk confidently of prolonging the trial for months. But this matter, like others in the Impeachment, will not be controlled by his wishes alone. When he makes his appearance on Friday, he will probably be allowed reasonable time—certainly not over ten days—to prepare his defense. The trial itself will not be protracted by any delays or difficulties in proof, except as to the last two articles, and is in reference to these that the cloud of witnesses, said to be at Mr. Johnson's call, are to be made use of. We see, therefore, good cause to believe that the first day of April will find the trial progressing rapidly to its conclusion, unembarrassed by any successful resort to frivolous objections or dilatory pleas.

OFFICIAL RETURNS from the Alabama Election show the defeat of the Constitution by about three thousand votes. One unfortunate result of this will be the postponement of her restoration to all her "practical relations" for several months. Another submission will be necessary and the requisite legal preliminaries therefor will unavoidably be protracted. In the present look of affairs in the South it will not be surprising if Alabama, whose Convention was the first to complete its labors under the Reconstruction Laws, should be the last to be restored to the Union, unless Mississippi claims that place.

IT IS REPORTED that Gen. Steedman has violently harangued a State Convention of Democratic ex rebels at New Orleans, sustaining the President and advising a forcible resistance to Congress. "Jim" and his hearers well understood all that sort of thing. They had all the fighting they wanted for their natural lives in the late "unpleasantness," and have no idea of trying it again. But he was perhaps half in earnest, as, if all stories be true about this warlike Collector of Revenue, he has already begun his campaign.

THE ORDINANCE granting a loan of one million dollars out of the Treasury of Baltimore city to the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company, was yesterday passed by both branches of the Council of that municipality. This will enable the Company to at once construct their road from Connellsville to Cumberland. President W. O. Hughart deserves much credit for effecting this large and important loan.

THE nomination of Mr. S. S. COX as Minister to Vienna, will not be confirmed while the impeachment is pending. There is also reason to hope that it will be ultimately rejected, as not in any aspect entitled to the support of a Republican Senate.

THE SUMMONS TO THE PRESIDENT.

The summons to ANDREW JOHNSON, to appear before the Court of Impeachment, with the instructions to the Sergeant-at-Arms endorsed thereon, which was duly served upon Mr. JOHNSON on Saturday, reads as follows:

The United States of America, ss.—The Senate of the United States to Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, *greeting:*

Whereas, The House of Representatives of the United States of America did on the 4th day of March exhibit to the Senate Articles of Impeachment against you, the said Andrew Johnson, in the words following: (Here follow the articles.) And demand that you, the said Andrew Johnson, should be put to answer the accusations as set forth in said articles, and that such proceedings, examinations, trials and judgments might be thereupon had as are agreeable to law and justice. You, the said Andrew Johnson, are, therefore, hereby summoned to be and appear before the Senate of the United States of America, at their chamber, in the city of Washington, on the Thirteenth day of March, at one o'clock, afternoon, then and there to answer to the said articles of impeachment; and then and there to abide by, obey, and perform such orders, directions and judgments, as the Senate of the United States shall make in the premises, according to the Constitution and laws of the United States. Hereof you are not to fail.

Witness, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and presiding officer of the said Senate, at the City of Washington, this sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the independence of the United States the ninety-first.

The following is the endorsement of the summons:

The United States of America, ss: The Senate of the United States to Geo. T. Brown, Sergeant-at-Arms, greeting: You are hereby commanded to deliver to and leave with Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, if conveniently to be found, or if not, to leave at his usual place of abode, or his usual place of business, in some conspicuous place, a true and attested copy of the within writ of summons, together with a like copy of this precept. And in whichsoever way you perform this service, let it be done at least four days before the appearance day mentioned in the said writ of summons and precept with your proceedings thereon endorsed, on or before the appearance day mentioned in said writ of summons.

Witness—The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and presiding officer of the Senate, at the City of Washington this sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the independence of the United States the ninety-first.

THE PRECIOUS METALS.

The report of Mr. J. R. BROWNE, the Mining Commissioner who has been for the year past employed in investigating the condition of the mining interests of the Pacific slope and of the mountains, was transmitted to Congress a few days since. This report closes with a review of the whole field, and his reasons for predicting an increase rather than a diminution of the yield hereafter. The Commissioner remarks:

"No uneasiness need be felt as to a decrease in the source of supply. After many years of travel over the mining regions, I feel justified in asserting that our mineral resources are practically without limit. Explorations made by competent parties during the past year in many parts of the mineral region hitherto unknown demonstrate the fact that the area of the mineral deposit is much larger than was ever before supposed. It is safe to assume that of the claims already recorded in the settled parts of the country, and known to be valuable, not more than one in a hundred is being worked; and of those worked perhaps not more than one in fifty pays anything over expenses, owing to mismanagement, inefficient systems of reducing the ores, want of capital, cost of transportation, and other causes susceptible of remedy. In many districts of Nevada silver ores of less value than one hundred dollars a ton cannot be worked by mill process so as to pay expenses, and there are districts in Idaho and Montana where gold-bearing ores will not justify working unless they yield from forty to fifty dollars per ton. With such wealth of treasure lying dormant, it cannot be doubted that by the increased facilities for transportation and access to the mines soon to be furnished by the Pacific railroad and its proposed branches, and the experience in the treatment of ores and the scientific knowledge to be acquired in a national school of mines adequate to the necessities of the mining population, the yield must eventually increase."

WHEN MR. JOHNSON, on his way to Washington to be inaugurated as Vice President in February, 1865, declared to Col. Matthews, at Cincinnati, his purpose to resuscitate the Democratic party, the treason which he already meditated to the other party which elevated him was in its very nature so basely unprincipled, so indicative of a moral sense incurably depraved, that his subsequent descent into the still lower and blacker depths of treason to a loyal country was but a natural, inevitable result—and, probably, also then contemplated.

GEN. HANCOCK, it is reported, is to be relieved at New Orleans, and the President is to give him the command of the new Atlantic Military Division which Sherman and Thomas declined. At Washington, it will be the President's aim to embroil him with the General-in-Chief, and if this should come about Hancock would soon find himself the victim of his false position.

MR. PENDLETON'S chances with the eastern Democracy are hopelessly "gone up." What little merit his one idea had as an electioneering dodge has been lost since the Western Republicans have put the true issue in its only sensible and practicable light, and Pendleton has no other claims, either in his present opinions or his past record. They will have no use for him.

WASHINGTON gossips are speculating upon the resignation, by Senator Wade, of his position as President of the Senate, in order that he may be able to vote as a Senator upon impeachment. It will be quite time enough for Mr. Wade to consider his duty in that matter when he ascertains that such a vote will be decisive upon the findings of the Court.

A COMMITTEE of the Ohio Legislature recommends that the Agricultural College fund be entirely devoted to the erection and support of a single institution, for which further donations will be invited from citizens.

Judge Chase and the Senate.

A special Washington dispatch to the Chicago *Tribune* says: There is some needless excitement over the communication by Chief Justice Chase to the Senate of his views as to the proper organization of a court of Impeachment to try the President. The members of the committee and others Senators were well aware of the position of the Chief Justice before their rules were reported to the Senate. His expectation seems to have been that the rules would be informally agreed upon by the Senators merely as a basis for presentation to the Court when organized. It is known that most of the Senators entertain a different view, and regard their powers as more extensive, and the fact of their having proceeded to adopt the rules after a knowledge of the position likely to be taken by the Chief Justice, seems to indicate that his opinion will not influence their action in the matter. The precedents, in all the cases in which the Senate has heretofore acted as a Court of Impeachment, are in favor of Mr. Chase's view that the rules can only be adopted after the Court is organized. On some other points the English precedents seem to be against him, as elaborately presented in the debate on the subject by Roscoe Conkling.

—The Pall Mall *Gazette* has a paragraph which shows the oppressiveness of the English Game Laws. It says: "A laborer is stated to have been charged the other day at the Chorley Petty Sessions with stealing a dead pheasant, the property of the Earl of Derby." There had been a shooting party at Rainford; the beaters had overlooked the bird, and the prisoner, passing by some time afterward, had picked it up, without, as he declared, 'any felonious intention.' The police met him with the pheasant in his hand, but there was nothing to show that he was not carrying it to the keeper's lodge, or to the nearest police station. The bench took a favorable view of the case for the prisoner. The Chairman said that the Magistrates intended to be very lenient, as it was the prisoner's first offence, and that they would merely give him a month's imprisonment with hard labor, hoping that it would be a warning to him. The Derbyshire *Advertiser* says that the man has actually been sent to prison.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Revivals of religion in the Evangelical churches seem to be general throughout the country. Scarcely a community is without this revival power. Almost all our exchanges contain items of this character, secular as well as religious papers. In some sections of the country, the influence of these extraordinary visitations of the Spirit of God upon the public mind, is remarkable, and of rare occurrence. Such has been the power of the religious awakening in a large Western city, that it has put a pretty effectual stop to balls, parties, &c. An instance is given of a ball announced to come off last week at one of the most popular and respectable houses in that city. A splendid supper was prepared; but the guests came not—they were nearly all at one or other of the churches where meetings were being held. From the same cause, it is supposed, not over forty or fifty persons attended a fashionable concert at the Opera House of that place. Another noticeable feature of these revivals of religion is, the large number of male adult converts and heads of families.

The joint committee of the Old and New School Presbyterians, noticed some days since, meets in Philadelphia next Wednesday. We observe the names of Drs. Charles C. Beatty, of Steubenville, Ohio, and W. D. Howard, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of this city, among the clerical members of the Old School representatives. Hon. Robert McKnight is the only layman of this body from this section. Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL. D., of the District Court, Pittsburgh, will represent the interests of the New School body in the joint committee.

The *Christian Intelligencer* thinks it a waste of zeal to try to draw the Reformed (late Dutch) Church into a union with the Presbyterians. It assumes there is not the slightest desire on the part of the Reformed Church to limit Christian fellowship, and none to merge its identity in any Presbyterian organization large or small.

The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, in Ohio, has issued a circular setting apart Sunday, the 15th, as a day of fasting and prayer to God that the cause of intemperance may be done away in the land. The ministers of the State are requested to preach at that time, earnest pointed sermons upon the duty of Christians in view of this great evil.

Rev. Mark Trafton, after serving an Independent Memorial Church for a year, has returned to the itinerant ministry of the M. E. Church, and is to be stationed at Providence, R. I.

The court in the case of Rev. S. H. Tyng, Jr., have reported, recommending that he be reprimanded by the Bishop, in a Church, before at least three clergymen. It is stated that three of the court were in favor of suspending him from the sacred office, but yielded to the strenuous opposition of the two other members. The question, it appears, is not settled yet, as it goes up to the General Convention.

The New York *Independent*, in an article on "Revivals," states that during last week, 8,201 cases of hopeful conversions are reported in the Methodist papers. The number reported in other denominations are much less, but large, including about 2,000 among the United Brethren, 1,000 among the Presbyterians, and nearly a thousand among the Congregationalists, the Baptists and the Lutherans.

A Presbyterian Church at Harrisburg, Pa., supports two home missionaries, paying $250 to each per annum.

The number of marriages performed in Philadelphia by clergymen during 1867, according to the report of the Board of Health, was 6,084, nearly one-fourth of which, or 1,516, were solemnized by ministers of the M. E. Church. It appears the Catholic element is the next greatest in numerical strength, as 931 were married by them. The Episcopal came in next, and report 786. Next to them came the Presbyterians, 627; then the Baptist, 546.

Two of the Mission Conferences, organized in the South, by the Methodist Episcopal Church, since the war, have just held their annual sessions, one in Georgetown, D. C., and the other at Charleston, S. C. Great success has attended the ministration of the word in the bounds of both. The increase of members in the former, from 1864, when the Conference was organized with eight thousand members, is full twelve thousand, about two hundred and fifty per cent. The increase of members and probationers alone in the South Carolina Conference, during the year, was eight thousand five hundred and twenty-two, or nearly one hundred per cent. During the same period the increase of church edifices has been fifty-five, or over hundred and sixty per cent. Bishop James, the presiding officer, during his sojourn at Charleston, was the guest of Major General Canby, the military commander of that department.

A mass meeting of the Germans, friendly to the Excise and Sunday law in New York, was held Sunday afternoon week at the Cooper Institute, Consul Bierwirth, an honored and influential merchant, presided. Strongly worded resolutions were adopted in favor of the law, for the benefit derived by closing within thirteen months two thousand four hundred and twenty-five of the worst places of dissipation and vice in that city and Brooklyn. A committee of German ministers were appointed to present the action of the mass meeting to the Legislature at Albany, and carry petitions against the repeal of the Excise Law.

The Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge Massachusetts, has five professors, two resident, Rev. Dr. Stone and Rev. A. V. G Allen, and three non-resident, Rev. Dr. Wharton, of Brooklyn, Rev. Dr. Potter, of Boston, and Rev. Mr. Steenstra, of Newton Corner.

The American Congregational Union aided last year sixty-seven meeting houses. The pressure of applications is still very great.

A Sunday school established by a devoted elder of the Presbyterian Church, near Waverly, N. Y., has recently been favored with a remarkable revival, in answer to prayer. Already fifty are hopefully converted, and the interest is unabated. A very interesting feature of the work is, says the New York *Christian Advocate*, that it is carried forward, not under the lead of any minister, but by the happy co-operation of three earnest laymen, representing the Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist Churches. Why may not other laymen perform a similar work.

Rev. Charles Cooke, D. D., formerly of this city, and now pastor of Mount Zion M. E. Church, Manyunk, has been greatly favored with revival power in his church. Seventy have joined the church within six weeks.

Bishop Stevens, who was recently injured by a railroad accident and detained at Wilkesbarre, is fast recovering. He will, however, be disabled for active service for a considerable length of time. At his request, the Standing Committee will procure temporary assistance of some of the other Bishops, most likely Bishops Randall of Colorado, and Lee of Delaware, will perform Episcopal duties during the present month.

Rev. Dr. Paddock, of Detroit, who was recently elected Missionary Bishop of Oregon and Washington Territory, declines to accept.

The New York *Independent* recently made an editorial thrust at indecent publications and pictures. Strange to note, the same issue contained a vulgar advertisement, worse than the obscene pictures and papers exposed at news-dealers stores. "Eusebius," in the *Christian Intelligencer*, says he was chagrined, mortified and vexed, and was in a proper mood to wring the neck of the ignorant manager and proprietor, and slap the smooth face of *Theodore the Bowen erges*.

On a late Sunday afternoon, Rev. William B. Wood, pastor of the new Baptist Church at Doylestown, Pa., baptized eight persons at the borough dam, notwithstanding the intense cold weather prevailing at the time.

The new Constitution of New York allows women to vote for trustees of congregations. The New York *Observer* says this has no reference to the election of any officer of the Church proper, pastors, elders, &c., which is determined by the usages of the churches.

The following interesting item, taken from an account in one of the Canadian papers, of the dedication of a new English Lutheran Church, in Welland county, Ontario, (Canada West,) we would commend to our readers, as an evidence how our German population are "rooted and grounded" in the faith of their fathers:

"But what gives special interest to this little flock, *consisting of but nine families*, is that they are the descendants of two members of our Church, named Hans Near (Nehr) and Nicholas Michael, who emigrated to Canada West from Rhinebeck and Claverack, on the Hudson, New York, in 1797, or 1798. One person, Mary Catharine Michael, is yet living of those who first came from New York. Though now more than eighty eight years of age, she makes use of her old German Lutheran hymn book prepared by the patriarch, Muhlenberg. It is well bound and preserved, and was printed in Germantown, Pa., by Christopher Sauer, in 1760. It contains the gospels and epistles of the church year, with a short prayer after each gospel. It also contains Luther's Catechism, with a short and excellent application. Another of her household treasures is a copy of Luther's Catechism, published in Philadelphia, by Carl Cist, in 1791. These families were in no connection whatever with the Lutheran Church, except through these invaluable little manuals of doctrine and devotion, for more than sixty years, and yet the result of a few years of missionary labor in their neighborhood was the organization and establishment of an Evangelical Lutheran Church! What an argument for the method of our fathers in laying a foundation in the faith, instead of the ephemeral feelings of the hour! Let not this little church in the wilderness be forgotten by the Brotherhood, but be affectionately commended to the future care and protection of God. Much has indeed been lost and scattered widely, but God can yet gather the scattered, and bring back that which now seems hopelessly lost."

Cheyenne City.

"A letter to the Chicago *Republican* gives, in the annexed extracts, a vivid idea of the rapidity with which new towns spring into a vigorous existence along our trans-continental railway:

The first timber (a 2x4 scantling) was set on end on the 21 of August last. Then came the rush for corner lots, good locations, the center of business. Men were wild; excitement ran high. In a short time that which had been a mere plain where the white man had seldom if ever visited, now assumed an appearance of life which surprised even the most hopeful. Stores, built of wood, brick and stone, sprang into existence as if in a dream. Hotels were built and filled in a week. Saloons, gay, gorgeous and magnificent, were opened on every hand. Dwellings also came in for their share of attention. Banks, printing offices, places of business of all kinds, arose on all sides, until to-day Cheyenne lays claim to a population of 8,000 (I think that 5,000 or 6,000 would not be out of the way,) and all done within five months.

Cheyenne is 518 miles west of Omaha, 110 miles north of Denver, 520 miles east from Salt Lake City, 30 miles east of the highest point of the road in crossing the Black Hills, not the "highest point of the Rocky Mountains," as we read, but 190 miles east from the highest point of the Rocky Mountains, 180 miles east from the famous Sweetwater Gold Mines; 120 miles west from the great beds of iron and coal which lie west of the Silver Belt, bordering on the extensive gold fields of the South Pass, Sweetwater and Wind River regions, all of which will be of great benefit to the place in future. It is true that Cheyenne is located at the base of the mountains—notwithstanding it is hard to see it—especially if you happen to look while in the city; for it is at this point that begins the grand grade or ascent of the mountains, which, according to the survey, averages 70 feet to the mile, but at no place reaches over 80 feet.

We could hardly expect a city only five months old to boast of first class hotels, banks, &c. But it is true that Cheyenne has one good hotel, and another building—135 feet square, five stories high—to cost $147,000, three banks, three daily, tri-weekly and weekly newspapers—and well supported at that; first class stone and brick stores; fire-proof warehouses; fine dwellings; a good school house; stocks of goods which cost a quarter of a million of dollars; fine saloons, gambling houses—finished and furnished in gorgeous style, some twenty or more hotels, of more or less pretensions, and everything else in the building line which one would expect to find in a city of six or eight thousand inhabitants. The buildings of Cheyenne are estimated to have cost more than $3,000,000, which I should think a fair estimate. The city is the present terminus of the U. P. R. R., or at least trains run no further, although the road is completed 23 miles further west.

Tight Lacing.

From the *Conversazione*, a department of the *Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*, we take the following account of the remarkable experience of "A Tight Lacer" in reducing the size of her waist from twenty-three inches to fourteen. She says, "I went and ordered a pair of stays, made very strong and filled with stiff bone, measuring only fourteen inches round the waist. These, with the assistance of my maid, I put on, and managed the first day to lace my waist into eighteen inches; at night, I slept in my corset without loosing the lace in the least. The next day my maid got my waist to seventeen inches, and so on, an inch smaller every day, until she got them to meet. I wore them regularly without ever taking them off, having them tightened afresh every day, as the laces might stretch a little. For the first few days the pain was very great, but as soon as the stays were close, and I had worn them so for a few days, I began to care nothing about it, and in a month or so I would not have taken them off on any account, for I quite enjoyed the sensation." The writer finishes her letter by saying, that although she has grown older and the bloom of youth has gone from her cheek, her figure remains the same, and she possesses a charm of which age cannot rob her, and that she has never regretted the step she has taken.

But the subject is not yet finished, for other correspondents of the *Conversazione* are not to be outdone by the fourteen inch waist. One records that her waist measures thirteen inches, and another triumphantly asserts that she has reduced hers to twelve inches, producing the result by tightening the laces four or five times a day for more than a year. Even this is not the saddest part of the story, for "Mater" writes concerning the corset question for *infants*, and recommends an elastic belt, to compress to the required size the delicate and pliant frame of the child!

We look with pity upon the ignorance of the Chinese who find beauty in the unnaturally small feet and tottering gait of their women; we excuse the barbarity of the Flat-headed Indians who bind boards to the heads of their infant children; but it is difficult to find words to express our sense of the wickedness and frivolity of those who are willing to inflict upon themselves and helpless infants such torture for the purpose of producing a form which nature never intended should characterize a well developed woman.

Death of Dr. William Gibson.

Dr. William Gibson died at Savannah, Ga., on Monday last. Although long withdrawn from his active professional pursuits, Dr. Gibson is still well remembered in this community as one of the most distinguished surgeons among the many men who have adorned the medical and surgical professions of Philadelphia. For nearly half a century he occupied the Chair of Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania, and held the Emeritus Professorship at the time of his death. In his time he was a tower of strength to that institution, and by his rare talents and great skill, both as an operator and instructor in surgery, long maintained the supremacy of this University among the medical schools of this country. Dr. Gibson was a native of Maryland, and received his professional education in Edinburg, after graduating at Princeton College. At the time of his death, which resulted from an attack of erysipelas, he had passed his eightieth year. He has long been missed from the profession which he so brilliantly adorned, and, at his advanced age, his death was not unexpected. But the announcement will recall his memory to the large circle of professional and other friends, of two generations, who were accustomed, in bygone years, to share in the honors which he conferred upon his chosen science by the great abilities which he so strongly developed and so long exercised in its behalf.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

—A somewhat hard case has been decided at the Cours d'Angers. According to the terms of the French law, the child of a widow, if born three hundred days after her husband's death, is considered as legitimate. Madame Mercier, a widow, pleaded for the recognition of her son, born three hundred days and six hours and a half after the decease of her husband. The decision of the court was that the child was illegitimate. This prevents the child from inheriting his share of M. Mercier's property, which he would otherwise have claimed.

THE BEGGAR GIRL.

Look at her! look at her!
On the cold street;
Look at her! think of her!
With her bare feet.
Pavements are glare with ice,
Snow-flakes are dying,
Wild winds are sweeping her—
See! she is crying.

Tatters hang over her
Shivering form;
Scarcely they cover her
Back from the storm;
Onward she trudges now,
Poor little elf!
Basket upon her arm
Large as herself.

Oh! lady passing by,
Hast thou no pity?
What if her father drinks
Down in the city!
What if her mother brawls
On the street corner!
Christ blessed the little ones—
Oh! do not scorn her.

One of thy laces,
One of thy jeweled rings,
One of the glittering things
Aiding thy graces,
Would fold her little feet
In nice warm stockings—
See how they mark the street:
Blood drops! how shocking—
Would give her food and drink,
Save her from that dread brink
Which thou art leaning.

See! she is beautiful,
Might be an angel,
If thou wouldst only be
Her bright evangel.
Pluck her from depths of sin,
Count not the cost;
Kind lady, bring her in,
Ere she is lost.
Make her thy jewel bright
Near heaven's throne,
Then shalt thou hear His words:
"Servant, well done!"

TABLE TALK.

—Emigration is falling off.
—Seward has bought Samaria.
—Jeff. Davis is in New Orleans.
—Cardinal Antonelli is to retire.
—New Orleans owes $13,500,000.
—A railroad to Mexico is talked of.
—Stifter, the German novelist, is dead.
—Judge Carter was formerly a printer.
—The fruit promises well in Illinois.
—Egypt wants to borrow $13,000,000.
—Nashville is infested with burglars.
—The elephant race is rapidly dying out.
—Black Feet Indians are raiding Montana.
—The sun will be eclipsed in August next.
—East Tennessee has a whisky insurrection.
—Mrs. Lincoln is not crazy, as reported.
—Mrs. Francis D. Gage is paralyzed and poor.
—Hannibal Hamlin is stumping New Hampshire.
—The "Michigan Central" route is to be straightened.
—Corned beef, in Philadelphia, means salted horse flesh.
—A fashionable bridal outfit is said to cost nearly $5,000.
—New Orleans rejoices in the discovery of gas wells.
—Montreal is to furnish another corps of Papal Zouaves.
—Japan has a heap of trouble in the way of revolutions.
—Joseph Vermeulin is champion billiardist of Illinois.
—Wild ducks and geese abound in Jackson county, Mo.
—The Dall city gold discovery turns out to be a humbug.
—Impeachment has cemented the Republican party everywhere.
—North Virginia is paying much attention to wool growing.
—A six inch vein of lead has been discovered at Millersburg, Ky.
—An Ohioian has constructed an adjustable self-feeding mill machine.
—The wife of the editor of the Chicago *Times* has obtained a divorce.
—There were over seventeen thousand births in Philadelphia last year.
—The Metropolitan hotel, at Peoria, Illinois, was recently destroyed by fire.
—A ghost is alarming Scottsville, Va. A reward of $500 is offered for its capture.
—A little child fell into a cess pool in New Orleans and was suffocated to death.
—A cow in Alma, Illinois, swallowed thirteen pounds of ten penny nails and died.
—Tennessee has pardoned two hundred petty thieves to get more prison room.
—A. H. Stephens on reaching for a door bell, in Philadelphia, fell and was severely injured.
—The New York Chamber of Commerce is about to celebrate its one hundredth anniversary.
—Ex Gov. John W. Dana, of Maine, with six other Portlanders, recently died of cholera at Rio Janeiro.
—Gault's fine statue of Jefferson will be inaugurated at Charlottesville, Va., on the fourth of next July.
—Over fifty three thousand rations of food were distributed in February, by the soup house at Cincinnati.
—A lad named Richard Brooks, of Steubenville, Ohio, was badly burned by the explosion of an oil lamp.
—A New York hackman has had his license broken for swindling a traveler. Should have had his head broken.
—Desmoines, Iowa, has elected a Democratic Mayor—the result of a dissension in the ranks of the opposition.
—Hancock's game of feeding rebel papers with governmental advertisements has been stopped by Gen. Grant.
—A Philadelphia court has decided that it is involuntary bankruptcy to make an assignment for the benefit of one's creditors.
—John Render, of New York, bayonetted his wife to death and then went after a physician, telling him she had taken suddenly ill.
—The outside delegates to the recent Democratic Convention at Harrisburg, are charged with rifling several pockets at the market place.
—Babe-omania, the practice of leaving little innocents on the cold charity of the world and colder steps of humane citizens, prevails to an alarming extent in Louisville.
—Oliver Campbell, formerly agent for Palmer's circus, has been arrested in Chicago on a charge of victimizing the concern some $12,000. Campbell is a Philadelphian.
—A proposition is pending in Congress to call in all the fractional notes under twenty-five cents, and to issue a new ten cent piece of the same material and relative weight as the present five cent nickel coin.
—A table has been prepared comparing the revenue from distilled liquors for the last four months of 1866 and 1867. The figures show a falling off of $3,070,805.
—A Boston lady tripped and fell while waltzing, falling so heavily as to drive three large pins of her chignon through her skull into her brain. She will not recover.
—During the past twenty years California has furnished $900,000,000 in gold; Nevada, $90,000,000; Montana, $65,000,000; Idaho, $45,000,000; Colorado, $25,000,000.
—A Chicago philanthropist proposes that marble front tenement houses be erected for letting to persons of refined tastes and slim salaries. Bosh; let them live and love in a cottage.
—The mantles of Virginia statesmen appear to have been of stout and serviceable material. Jefferson's fell on Pendleton and now we are told that Patrick Henry's fell on Mr. McCreary.
—The census of 1880 will probably show fifty States in the Union. Colorado wants in now, seven other Territories are on probation, two new Territories are to be organized, and California and Texas are to be sub-divided to make three more new States out of them.
—A lady dropped six hundred dollars on the streets in Brooklyn. A ragged little girl picked it up and restored it to the owner. With a gush of liberality and benevolence the lady rewarded the honest child with a cent.
—A whalebone corset saved the life of the wife of D. L. Brown, of Troy, New York. The wicked Brown plunged a knife into her bosom but a whalebone warded it off and instead of reaching her heart, only left a deep flesh wound.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—It is stated (in a special to the New York *Herald*) that Jeremiah S. Black, Attorney General Stanbery, and Benjamin, of Massachusetts, have been positively determined upon as counsel for President Johnson in his approaching trial. Several additional gentlemen will be associated with those already selected, but as they have not yet been consulted or given any assurance of acceptance in the event of being chosen, nothing definite has as yet been done. The President will submit his whole case to his counsel. They will act for him, and their acts will be considered his acts. The counsel have had several consultations with the President and among themselves, but no conclusions have been arrived at as to the details of the defence.

—The opposition papers of New Orleans are still apologizing for the conduct of Jefferson Davis and Hancock, on the occasion of the firemen's parade. Not one of them condemns it. Gen. Hancock's policy seems still more ruinous. City notes have depreciated to twenty-five cents discount, and a panic exists in the city. The Mayor of the city, anticipating trouble, issued a proclamation, indirectly charging General Hancock and leading rebels with the responsibility of any event that may occur. The people are anxiously hoping that Grant will send a safer and abler commander to minister affairs in that District.

—The British iron ship Viscata, which left San Francisco, California, on the 7th, for Liverpool, with a cargo of wheat valued at over ninety thousand dollars, went ashore just outside of Golden Gate. A portion of her cargo was thrown overboard, and the vessel became embedded in the sand.

—The ice in the Maumee river, opposite Toledo, commenced moving at two o'clock yesterday. There is as yet no unusual flood, and a wide channel having already been opened below the bridge, it is not probable that any serious damage will result.

—Among the officers elected at Memphis, Tenn., Saturday, were four colored. Less than four hundred whites voted the Radical ticket. It is said that a number of the defeated candidates will contest the election of their opponents.

—A snow slide five or six miles in length, near Cisco, on the Central Pacific Railroad, killed six Chinamen, buried seven locomotives, and destroyed considerable other property.

—The United States Senate now comprises fifty-four members—Republicans, forty-two, Democrats, twelve. Necessary for the acquittal of the President, nineteen votes.

—Eight large distilleries and rectifying establishments were seized at New York on Sunday night by government officers. The property taken possession of is valued at half a million dollars.

—Louis Schaffer, cashier of the Milwaukee County (Wisconsin) bank, committed suicide by shooting himself, yesterday. Cause, losses by speculation. The bank loses nothing.

—The proposition to subscribe stock to the Nashville and Pacific Railroad was defeated Saturday at the election in Nashville, Tennessee. It carried in Wilson.

—John M. Campbell, local editor of the Memphis *Avalanche*, was committed to jail yesterday by Judge Hunter, on account of a recent contempt case.

—The Radical ticket is reported defeated in Williamson, Tennessee. In Murfreesboro the Radical ticket, including three negroes, was elected.

—The Alabama Convention unanimously recommended the nomination of General Grant for President. No suggestion was made as to Vice President.

—Fayette and Hardeman counties, Tennessee, have gone Democratic. The town of Bolivar gave only one vote for the Republicans.

—The Catholic Church in Sidney Place, Brooklyn, was burned on Sunday. Loss, $50,000. Several valuable paintings were destroyed with the building.

—Wooster's patent hoopskirt tape factory at Birmingham, Conn., was destroyed by fire on Saturday night. Loss $30,000; partially insured.

—At a meeting of the New York Board of Fire underwriters yesterday it was resolved unanimously that a rebate of fifteen per cent be made to the assured.

—The Hoboken (New Jersey) ferry boat Morristown was burnt on Sunday. Fortunately no body was aboard.

—James Brith was shot and killed near Waverly, Tenn., a few days ago by some unknown party.

—The steamer Europa, from Glasgow, arrived at New York yesterday.

—The wheat crop of middle Tennessee promises to be very fine.

—The Legislature of Kentucky will adjourn to day *sine die*.

"THE BOYS."

"The boys are coming home, to-morrow!"
Thus our rural houses said,
Whilst Lou and I shot flitting glances,
Full of vague, unspoken dread.
Had we bitter cause for quiet,
Either fled the city's sound,
But to change it for the tumult
Of those horrid country boys!

Waking one with loud hallooing
Early every summer day;
Shooting, robbing, teasing kittens,
Frightening the wrens away;
Stumbling over trailing flounces;
Tumbling volumes of gold and blue;
Clamoring for sugared dainties,
Tracking earth the passage through.

These and other kindred trials
Fancied we with much dismay;
"Those boys, those boys, those boys, to-morrow!"
Sadly whispered Lou and I.

I wrote those lines one happy summer;
To-day I smile to read them over;
Remembering how full of terror
We watched all day the opening door.

They came—"the boys!"—six feet in stature,
Graceful, easy, polished men;
I vowed to Lou, behind my knitting,
To trust no mother's word again;
For boyhood is a thing immortal;
To every mother's heart and eyes;
And sons are boys to her forever,
Change as they may to you and I.

To her no line comes sharply marking
Whither or when their childhood went,
Nor when the eye glance upward raising
Leveled at last their downward bent.
Now by the window, still and sunny,
Warmed by the rich October glow,
The dear old lady waits and watches,
Just as she waited years ago.
Always she speaks in gentle fashion
About "my boys"—she always will;
Though one is gray and one has vanished
Beyond the touch of time or ill.

A National School of Mines.

The Senate Committee to which was referred Senator Stewart's bill providing for a National school of mines, reported back the same, with several amendments, providing that the tax levied upon gold and silver bullion in the States west of the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains shall be used for the maintenance of the school, instead of that of the whole country, that the management of the Institution shall be under the control of eight directors, to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall hold office for four years; that Sherman Day and William Ashburn, of California; F. A. Tuttle, and D. Welty, of Nevada; A. C. Gobbs, of Oregon; A. J. Simmons, of Montana; and John Pierce, of Colorado, shall constitute such Board from July, 1868, to July, 1870. An amendment to the sixth section authorizes the faculty to require, as a part of the regular course of instruction, the service of the pupils for a prescribed period in practical mining and milling.—*Washington Chronicle, Feb. 21.*

—The fate of Barnum's animals attracts newspaper attention and paragraphing. It is stated that on Wednesday the giraffe was found dead in the stable to which he had been removed. He had succumbed at last to the wounds received in extricating him from the flames, aggravated as they were by the partial suffocation he had endured, and exposure to the weather after his removal from the building. No one who saw that beautiful animal brought from the fiery furnace can ever forget the sight. The poor brute had fallen down a short flight of stairs, and when he reached the street his jaw was broken, there was a deep cut over one of his eyes, and the great animal frightened by his terrible surroundings was but a huge mass of helpless, suffering flesh. His eyes was lighted, but with mute agony, and he submitted passively to the hands of the dozen men required to force him through the street to a place of safety. The $20,000 at which he was valued is added to the great sum of the disaster; but the baby elephant, which on Tuesday was thought to be dying, is now out of danger and will be saved to his owner. This little animal has throughout acted in a most commendable manner. He allowed himself on the night of the fire to be led from the building without making any resistance. He stood patiently in the street for an hour waiting in the intense cold for the next move, and has now added to his achievement by getting well when everybody said he must die.

AMONG the animals burned at Barnum's Museum were four lion cubs, four leopards, two hyenas, one white bear, two lynx, four porcupines, two large lions, one panther, two black bears, one Ibex, one Brazilian tiger, four kangaroos, two white peacocks, together with all of the birds, parrots, monkeys, &c., on the upper floor, were also burned. The giraffe was burned so badly that it is not expected to live during the day. It was valued at twenty thousand dollars. The seal rescued from the fire at the old Museum was burned. The wardrobe of the Museum was nearly new, having been collected since the fire of two years and a half ago, and was valued at $5,000. The loss of the owners of the Museum is estimated at $400,000, on which there is an insurance of $150,000. The safe is in the ruins, and the names of the companies are not known. One hundred and thirty-five persons are thrown out of employment by the fire. The company had in preparation a piece for which a large outlay had been made in machinery and scenery. This was all destroyed. It was valued at eighteen thousand dollars. A pair of tigers burned were valued at twenty-five thousand dollars. A number of persons connected with the Museum sustained private losses.

A DIRGE.

ANONYMOUS.

Let me clothe my limbs with sackcloth and strew ashes o'er my head,
Let me close the doors of mourning, lest this wretched thing be said:
Lo! the hearth is cold and naked, and its light forever fled!

Let me dig thy grave, unwitnessed, in the lingering winter snow,
And conceal thee as a treasure: so that none alive may know
What the world has lost, or whither its supremest creatures go.

I could never think thee mortal: when I looked into thine eyes,
I beheld a wondrous vision through the gates of Paradise—
All the light, the life ecstatic, of the fairest inner skies.

Nay, thou art not dead as others: thou hast only lent thy worth!
To make beautiful and vital what was once but senseless earth,
And thou'lt give its dust a spirit, an immortal second birth.

For since earth contains thy beauty, she has grown a holier thing;
She will waken fairer, sweeter, in the coming days of spring
When the early blossoms open and the wandering songs take wing.

We shall see within the violet thy glittering lids unclose;
In the lily-of-the-valley shall thy purity repose;
And yet later thou shalt triumph in the splendor of the rose.

So that men will say thy foot steps must have been among the flowers,
And will fail to miss thee wholly, through thy gift to Nature's power,
In the long soft summer mornings and the tranquil evening hours.

Only I shall have the secret, and the fatal truth shall know,
By this grave I dig to hide thee in the tardy winter snow—
By this vacant desolation—by this utter, endless woe!

An Attack Upon the Ballet and Modern Fashions.

An article entitled "The Farewell of the Fig-Leaves," in the March number of the *Northern Monthly*—attributed to Miss Olive Logan—is by far the ablest attack on the ballet that has been elicited since the "Black Crook" first displayed its demoralizing attractions. The writer, who has evidently had an extensive stage experience, assails not only the ballet, but the exposures tolerated by the extreme fashions of the day.

A single paragraph will give a good idea of the treatment of this subject.

"A somewhat weary distance may seem to have been traveled over in this rather *resume* than statement of the obligations at once binding woman to modesty and her guardians to assist her in the maintenance of that quality; but it is to be feared that before all is said the connection with the special subject of improper personal exposures may be only too evident. For there is small occasion of treading on the painful if not dangerous ground of specification, to prove either that there only exists one forfeiture of modesty more assured than that incurred in throwing the sacredness of the person open to the public gaze—or that there does not exist even one road more inevitable toward that impurity following immodesty. There is a lust of the eye mentioned by that same commonly neglected authority before quoted quite as guilty as that which follows, and more destructive, because hundreds may be contaminated at once; and the ever-recurring test of brotherhood, comes up again, inevitably to illustrate the atrocity of pandering to it. In the marriage contract what husband will fail to claim that the woman whom he takes to his arms and heart contracts to keep the glories of her womanhood sacred to his only eye? And what father or brother will fail to visit with the severest reprobation the first advance toward undue revelation of form of either daughter or sister, simply because he, in common with the husband, recognizes such exposures, if continuing, as incompatible with purity of soul and threateningly dangerous to purity of body?

"It might puzzle even an imaginative writer to concentrate in a few words more sneering but grieved bitterness than that expressed, many years ago, during a temporary reign of the disease now persistent, by a certain husband who was accosted with a question while looking on at a dance in which his very *decollete* wife was figuring: 'What very handsome and very magnificently formed lady is that yonder, in the green and pearls?' asked one of the other guests, an acquaintance of the husband but a stranger to his family. 'That? Oh, that is my wife; or, at least, I thought that it was up to-day. But, by the Prophet! I am inclined to think, by the way she dresses to-night, that she is the wife of every gentleman in the room.'"

[From the Home Journal.]

Turning Down Card Corners.

We have received the following from Mr. Gimpredo, the artist-engraver, in regard to what is considered *en regle* in turning down card corners. His opinion in such matters is worthy of attention:

"Much has been said of late respecting the fashion, or custom abroad, of turning down the corners of visiting cards. A correspondent of your paper inclines to the opinion that that custom is so general in Paris that a lady receiving her friend's card with either of the four corners broken down, can tell, at a glance, the object of the call; this is an error, for, as a general thing, there is no rule; the wording printed on the back of the card has been varied to suit the taste of those using the following words on cards—as, for instance, in French it has been used, *Felicitation*, in the right upper hand of the card; *Condolence* on the lower right hand; *Visite* on the left upper corner, and *Conge* on the left lower corner of the card; and I have seen this wording placed just in the opposite direction. A translation of the French has also been made and used in the Spanish language. In English it has been used in various manners—some having it condolence, visit, adieu, and congratulation. The letters P. P. C. on a visiting card—meaning *pour prendre congé*—to take leave—are not much in use now. Such cards are often enclosed in envelopes and sent to one's friends just on the eve of a long journey. Most of your readers are unquestionably quite familiar with the initials R. S. V. P. on invitation cards, meaning, *repondez, s'il vous plait*, or, 'Send an answer if you please.' This idea has also been expressed in plain English, 'The favor of an answer is requested.' In the matter of invitation cards being issued in the name of the mother, or parents, instead of using the daughter's name, I quite agree with your last correspondent, that when parents are at home it is in much better taste to issue party invitations in their own name. For wedding parties or receptions they should always be in the name of father and mother, both having equal interest in the marriage of their daughter. I will make mention of an original idea of the late N. P. Willis, namely: In the corner of his visiting card, in neat script letters, he had placed, 'The wish, but not the time for a call.' This idea is quite pretty, showing that you have not quite lost track of your friend, but it is rather too business-like to become much in vogue. We remember printing only one pack of these cards for Mr. Willis, and do not think the idea was ever adopted."

The President's Defense.

A Washington special says: Those in the ring say that the President's lawyers feel perfectly satisfied with their case; that they intend to show that the whole practice for all administrations has been to remove, under the Constitution, and that the Tenure of Office bill is an act so palpably unconstitutional as to justify Mr. Johnson in disregarding it, the same as if an act had been passed saying that he should send no message to Congress when the Constitution says he shall. To meet Butler's and Bingham's articles, however, they find no precedents, and these really give them considerable trouble. It is understood that the counsel for the defense will first challenge various Senators; for instance: Wade, on the ground of interest, and Sumner, Chandler and others for having expressed an opinion. Next, they will contend that the Senate is a court and that the President has a right to have a full court present, and that ten States with their twenty members of the court are absent. If the votes on these two points should be strongly against them, and few now doubt they will, then their next step, it is thought will be for a long continuance. It is stated by some in the President's counsel that he may offer his resignation on the ground that such votes bode no good to him, and that a resignation would save him from the political disabilities following impeachment. As to the challenge of Senators, the Board of Managers have looked into the question closely, and find that all precedents in England and this country are entirely against any such rights. No factious delay is expected on the part of Mr. Johnson's lawyers, as some of them are men who could not afford to be thus used.

—The London *Engineer*, a most valuable scientific paper, has opened up a subject that will appeal to many thousands in interest—the nomenclature of rating the power of steam engines. At present an engine is said to be of so many "horse-power," but every one understands that this phrase has, by the development of the machine in these days, become vague and almost unmeaning. Men talk about "actual horse-power" and "nominal horse power," and no man buys an engine without knowing that its real force far exceeds its nominal rating. The mere fact that WATT selected a force of 33,000 pounds, exerted at a rate of one foot per minute, (the statement to which he had reduced the average labor of a horse 250 pounds at the rate of two and a half miles per hour,) and took that as the unit of measurement for the horse's great rival, steam, meant something then. But actual horse-power, depending on the steam pressure of the piston and the velocity of its action, is a thing easily varied in the same engine by changing the steam pressure, and depends even more on the size of the boiler than on that of the cylinder, by which it is now calculated. Horse-power, then, means—anything you choose. The proposition is, to agree upon a new unit of force and to call it a "What." The suggestion is good, if practicable. It is easier to propose such a thing than to settle and fix its conditions.