Pittsburgh Gazette.

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FIRST EDITION.

TWELVE O'CLOCK M.

THE CAPITAL.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, December 4.

CONGRESSMEN ASSEMBLING.

About twenty Senators and thirty members of the House have arrived, and the number is increased by every arrival.

THE MESSAGE.

The President has written about two-thirds of his message. Some of the reports of the heads of departments are also unfinished.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

Some of the heads of Departments and chiefs of Bureaus have received printed copies of their reports. In all cases they will endeavor to prevent the publication in advance of their presentation to Congress. Members of the press receiving them in advance will be required to give assurance that they will observe this rule. Among the reports already printed are those of the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Comptroller of Currency, Treasurer and Register of the Treasury. The report of the Secretary of War was printed at the office connected with the Department, the report of the Secretary of the Treasury at the Treasury office and the remainder at the Government Printing Office.

Those immediately interested, after the close of the investigation, are satisfied that no portions of the President's message and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury have been surreptitiously obtained from the Treasury printing office.

CURRENCY VOLUME.

The outstanding circulation of legal tender notes is nearly $556,000,000, and of fractional currency, thirty-two millions. Total three hundred and eighty-eight millions. The total amount in use as a circulating medium one hundred and twenty-six millions. Total amount of all kinds outstanding, five hundred and sixty-five millions.

ARMY PAYMENTS.

The actual payments for the army, less re-payments, in each year for eight years, from 1861 to 1868, both inclusive, were $3,241,000,000. The largest amount was in 1865, namely, $1,031,000,000. In 1868 they were $123,000,000.

BONDS TO UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

It is stated, on what is considered reliable authority, that the President this afternoon ordered bonds to the amount of $1,280,000 to be delivered to the Union Pacific Railroad.

PATENT EXTENDED.

The Patent office to-day extended for seven years the patent of Cyrus Wheeler, Jr., for grain and grass harvesters.

DEBT STATEMENT.

The public debt statement will not be ready for publication until some time next week.

CUSTOMS.

The receipts of customs for the week ending November 30th, were $2,766,714.

A SNOW STORM

Commenced to-day about eleven and still continues.

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE.

Convention at Cincinnati—Third Day's Proceedings.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

CINCINNATI, December 4.—The President called the Convention to order at ten o'clock this morning.

On motion of the Committee on Admission, the Mobile Chamber of Commerce was admitted, and its delegates, Messrs. Stewart, Smith and Walker, were admitted into full membership.

The President then addressed the meeting. He said a good deal of the most important business yet remained to be considered, and trusted no member would talk of dispersion so long as there were any matters which remained undecided, and that those who felt compelled to leave should make an effort to stay, showing no haste to evade their responsibilities, whereby their deliberations would have their due weight with the people and with Congress. He then renewed his former suggestions as to the form of proceeding, that every gentleman, when arising, instead of saying "Mr. President," should announce his own name and place distinctly. Also, as to the vast importance of the motion brought up yesterday from the Board of Trade of St. Louis, and other matters. He asked the concurrence of the Board in his former suggestion. This was, that each member of the Board should have priority of speech, and then he would call on the individual members of each delegation in alphabetical order, so that each delegation should have an opportunity of speaking, whereby they could arrive at the views of merchants from all parts of the country. His object was to preserve regularity. If no objection was raised, he would act accordingly on all the weighty matters that pressed for their consideration. If, after the roll was called, there were any other members who wished to reply, they might be allowed to speak.

The Chairman on Admissions then presented a report on the claim of the Board of Trade of Norfolk, Virginia, for admission. It was an old and important body, and clearly entitled to admission, but their credentials were not under seal. He proposed the delegates be admitted to the floor, with the privilege of speaking, but not voting.

Mr. Brandt complained of Mr. Nazreo's extreme technality.

The motion was put, and the votes cast were thirty-five ayes to twenty-nine nays.

The Chairman of the Committee on Admissions again presented the claims for admission of the delegates from Springfield, Ohio. The delegates were admitted to the floor and permitted to speak, but not to vote. The delegate from Council Bluffs, Mr. Johnson, was also admitted under the same exception.

The Cairo Board of Trade was admitted, by 23 ayes to 6 nays, into membership, though no delegates have presented themselves.

The application of the Mobile Board of Trade was also presented, a communication being received by telegraph.

Mr. Hincken, of New York, objected. We were drifting into an unconstitutional course; we have no evidence whether this application came from a steamboat or insurance company. We had nothing to do with any individual interests, but with general commerce; we have organized for exclusively commercial purposes. Not admitted.

Mr. Dalton, of Milwaukee, was excused from attendance.

American Shipping—This matter came up from yesterday. It arose from a recommendation proceeding from the New York Produce Exchange, to the effect that American shipping can be restored to its position of the supremacy of the ocean, from which it was driven by the rebellion, and from the want of proper legislation.

Mr. Hincken, of New York, wanted every one here, and every one in the United States, to know that American ships no longer convey the vast produce of our soil. The decline of our tonnage has been about one and a half millions of tons. The proposition is that we be allowed to buy vessels wherever they can be obtained at the cheapest rates, and sail them under the American sail. We could buy any article anywhere, and import it by paying a duty, but not a ship nor a steamer will come here claiming free trade. We should be allowed to do what England and France has done, but we are willing to pay an *ad valorem* duty on all foreign ships brought and sailed by American sailors.

The report, which was long, was ordered to be printed and made a special order for to-morrow.

The Committee on Telegraph reported the following:

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade recommend the adoption by the general government of measures to cheapen and extend telegraphic communication between different points of the country, by making it part of the postal system.

The resolution was postponed, to come up after the shipping question.

Mr. Myers, of St. Louis, thought it desirable that Congress should, by legal enactment, restore the currency of the nation to a specie basis, and redeem the unpaid and depreciated promises of the Government by resuming specie payment at the National Treasury as early as practicable. Mr. Myers made some remarks on the advantages that would result from such a course.

The Chair stated that the best way to hear from all on the subject was to have delegates speak in alphabetical order of their several Boards.

A delegate from Albany stated that his delegation was in favor of specie payment.

Mr. Loney, of Baltimore, offered a resolution recommending to Congress the passage of a law forbidding the sale of any gold in the United States Treasury for legal tender notes or other currency, and requiring the Secretary to dispose of the surplus coin for six per cent. gold interest bearing bonds of the United States to the highest bidder, and all bonds so purchased immediately cancelled.

Mr. Loney also offered a resolution that, *Whereas*, There had been recently great pressure in the money market, caused partly by natural and partly by artificial means, which had the effect of deranging business and depreciating the value of products of the land; and whereas the banking basis of the country being legal tender notes, which cannot be increased while the the various bonds and other securities thrown on the market are increasing rapidly; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Board recommend to Congress the passage of a law requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to buy at six per cent. gold interest bearing bonds of the United States, at the following rates: In the year 1869, one hundred and ten at one hundred par; in the year 1870, at one hundred and twelve for one hundred par; in the year 1871, at one hundred and fourteen for one hundred par; in the year 1872, at one hundred and sixteen for one hundred par, and all bonds so purchased to be cancelled.

Mr. Carr, of the Baltimore Corn Exchange, declined to give his views at present.

Mr. Ropes, of Boston, gave a comprehensive exposition of his resolutions, which were in favor of the early resumption of specie payment. He offered a resolution that it was the duty of the government to make provision for the gradual withdrawal of legal tender notes, not arbitrarily, but to allow holders to exchange for bonds bearing interest.

Mr. Nazero made a few remarks. He believed the difficulties in the way of resumption of specie payment were more imaginary than real. The Government could do it in six months, with vigorous measures, and he submitted a resolution to this effect.

Mr. Randolph, of Chicago, said he was opposed to any measures that would make two classes of money. Legal tender notes should, as soon as possible, be raised to a gold value. He offered a resolution, that the true policy of the Government in attempting to resume specie payments is to adhere to national integrity, and this cannot be done by entertaining any suggestions looking a partial repudiation of its obligations.

Mr. Turpin, of Chicago, followed with his views.

Mr. Munn, of Chicago, took the floor. He said, the first thing that should be done was to retrench the expenses of the Government. In the next place to reduce the rate of interest on the debt. The great body of the debt bears six per cent., more than any Government on the earth is compelled to pay. He thought the Government was not morally bound to pay bonds in gold, unless it be to its interest. He was in favor of a new loan at lower rates, or to pay them in the same currency that the people are obliged to receive for debts.

Mr. Howe offered some remarks to the same effect.

Mr. Geo. T. Davis, of Cincinnati, agreed in the main with the St. Louis resolutions. He only differed as to measures. The Government should do as business firms. If they can't pay their debts at once, get an extension of time and go to work husbanding their resources. We have resources beyond measure, and two or three years of successful crops growth and prosperity in the South would help us out of present difficulties.

Mr. McGraw, of Detroit, thought it was not expedient to attempt specie payment until gold sufficient shall accumulate in the Treasury to pay all indebtedness as it matures.

Mr. Brannin thought resumption was possible within two years. His plan was a more economical expenditure by the Government, and the expenses would be reduced at least one hundred millions, which could be applied to the retirement of legal tenders, and require the banks to keep a specie reserve equal to the legal tender reserve now required. He differed with the resolution in part, which recognizes the difference between gold and currency contracts.

The Chair read a communication from Hon. Chas. F. Wilstach, Mayor of Cincinnati, inviting the members to an entertainment to be given this evening by the official authorities of the city. It was unanimously accepted.

THE SUPPER TO CONVENTION.

The social supper to the National Board of Trade by Cincinnati, at Pike's Opera Hall, showed another sight to that it presented on Wednesday. Now four tables were spread along the Hall and were loaded with all the delicacies and substantials of the season with abundance of the best native wines. The waiter attendance was also attentive and ample in numbers. The Hall was decorated with evergreens and shields for each State. Thos. F. Wilstach, Mayor of Cincinnati, presided. On his right hand sat the President of National Board.

Mr. Fraley, President of the National Board gave the following toast: "Cincinnati, the Queen City of the West—beautiful and cordial—may her prosperity in the future be equal to her prosperity in the past."

Jonah Keck, President of the Council, gave "the Old Timber State."

J. B. Brown, of Portland, Me., returned the thanks of Portland to Cincinnati and other cities for the aid they had sent Portland after her serious loss by fire.

"South Carolina—the home of a Marion and a Rutledge."

Responded to by Mr. Cable, of Charleston, who concluded with a sentiment:

"Agriculture, Commerce and the Mechanic Arts—they add wealth and prosperity to any people."

Mr. Charles F. Farrington, of Richmond, Va., replied in an eloquent speech, hoping, now that the war was ended, the two sections of the country would live in harmony and unity.

At the conclusion the band struck up first "The Bonny Blue Flag," followed with "Yankee Doodle," amid great applause, and finished with the "Star Spangled Banner." The whole audience rose to their feet and expressed the most unbounded enthusiasm.

RICHMOND, VA.

Argument in Motion to Quash the Indictment Against Jefferson Davis—The Court Divided on the Point Raised, the Chief Justice Favoring the Motion to Quash Proceedings.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

RICHMOND, December 4.

In the United States Circuit Court to-day, Chief Justice Chase presiding, on the motion to quash the proceedings against Jeff. Davis, R. H. Dana, for the Government, proceeded to show the Fourteenth Amendment, pleaded in bar of punishment by the defendant, was not a penal statute, but merely a change in the political system to secure trustworthiness in office and preserve purity in the admiuistration of the Government. It was a measure of precaution to secure the country against filling offices with persons who once filled them and broke their oaths. If it had been intended to inflict punishment, it would have been the utmost folly of legislation, seeing that while it would, if viewed as the defendant's counsel viewed it, lighten the punishment of the leaders who had held office and broken their oaths. It would leave people who never held office exposed to penalties of death and imprisonment, as provided in the Constitution before the adoption of the amendment. It was an expression only of public will as to the fitness of persons who engaged in the rebellion, after breaking their oath, to hold office again. It was not intended to act as an amnesty, nor was there a single word uttered in the Congress that framed, nor northern Legislatures that adopted it, to warrant such construction. So far it was intended as a trial test by which such men may be reached and guarded against who had proved unfaithful to their pledges to the Government. It could not be pleaded in bar of conviction for treason, seeing it had applied to those only who had, after taking the oath of office, engaged in insurrection and rebellion. It is levying war against the Government. Of this the defendant stands charged. It would be strange if Jeff Davis could, as he might under this plea, come to the bar, and acknowledging he was guilty of treason, deny his liability to be punished, because of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Mr. O'Connor followed Mr. Dana. He showed from the very nature of the great civil war that it was impossible to follow it up by trials for treason, conducted with the fairness required by law. How utterly repugnant to the world's idea of humanity is it, that after being recognized during the war as in all respects equal and honorable men, the leaders of the conquered force should be searched out in peace to be hung as traitors. He maintained that the Government and people had never intended to do this, and it was for this reason that the Fourteenth Amendment had been adopted. It was a constitutional provision and executed itself, and those who fell under it were now suffering the punishment. He asked the Court to give the construction to the Fourteenth Article that the American people intended it should bear, and to accept the great and benificent mercy in the construction which they had put upon it, and which tends to advance what all good men who are believers in universal suffrage should be accompanied hand in hand with universal amnesty of supposed offenses arising out of the unfortunate controversy in which universal suffrage may be said to have had its origin and establishment.

The Court adjourned until to-morrow.

After the adjournment of the United States Circuit Court to-night counsel were recalled, when Chief Justice Chase announced the Court divided, he (Chase) being in favor of quashing the indictment and District Judge Underwood opposing. Thereupon this division was certified to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Chief Justice Chase leaves for Washington to-morrow morning.

—A Washington special says: The Secretary of the Treasury opposes a forced resumption of specie payment. Up to December 1st, $827,629,350 of Seven-Thirty notes have been funded into six per cent. Five-Twenty bonds. Of this amount there have been funded of the first series $295,565,100; second series, $330,188,290; third series, $197,875,450. This leaves outstanding of this class of securities but $2,363,150. The Secretary estimates the expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 35, 1870, to be $250,000,000, though the War Department, in the event of an Indian war, will call for several additional millions. The report shows that between November 1, 1867, and November 1, 1868, the public debt, less cash in the Treasury, has been reduced $35,625,102 82. Estimates of the revenue for the next fiscal year are eighty millions less than this year, owing to a reduction in taxation. The interest on the public debt for next year will be one hundred and forty millions, or ten millions less than last year.

—A special dispatch from Dunlap, Iowa, situated on the C. & N. Y. Railway, says that on the morning of November 27th, Yellow Snake, Chief of the Omaha Indians, visited that place. During the evening he was drugged with liquors by a party of roughs with the intention of robbing him. During the night a quarrel occurred and during the fight Yellow Snake was struck on the head by one of the party, smashing his skull in. He succeeded in getting to where there are several hundred Indians encamped, about four miles east of town. He expired on Wednesday morning. Nothing was done in the matter until Thursday night, 3d inst., when several were arrested. One of the principal parties is still at large. The Chief was always noted as being very friendly, and strictly honorable. His band comprises some fifteen hundred warriors, who, according to reports, are gathering in fast, and are greatly excited. They buried him on Thursday.

—Letters from Port au Prince confirm the report of the capture of an America schooner by Salnave and the confiscation of the cargo, notwithstanding the protest th American Consul. An English vessel had also been seized, and British and French frigates had gone there to protect foreign interests. There was some excitement in consequence.

SECOND EDITION.

FOUR O'CLOCK A. M.

FROM EUROPE.

Mr. Gladstone Appointed Prime Minister of Great Britain—John Bright Asked to Join the New Cabinet—The Baudin Excitement in Paris.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Mr. Gladstone was at audience with the Queen yesterday, and formally accepted the appointment as Prime Minister. There was a large gathering of Liberalists at Mr. Gladstone's residence last evening.

The *Times* thinks that Lord Romilly will be Chancellor of Exchequer, and Roundell Palmer Master of Rolls.

Sir Robert P. Collier will probably be Attorney General in Mr. Gladstone's cabinet. John Bright has been asked to join the new ministry.

FRANCE.

LONDON, December 4.—The *Moniteur* gives an account of the attempted demonstration at the Mont Martre Cemetery on the anniversary of Baudin's death, fully confirming the reports previously received from Paris. The *Moniteur* says the crowds were dispersed by the police, who found it necessary to make only a few arrests.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Dec. 4.—Gen. Laureano Sanz Y. Soto has accepted the appointment as Captain General of Porto Rico, on condition that reinforcements of regular troops be sent to that Island. Capt. Gen. Dulce will sail for Havana on the 15th inst.

ARRIVED.

LIVERPOOL, December 4.—The steamer Nova Scotian, from Quebec, arrived to-day.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

LIVERPOOL, November 4.—Cotton: sales for the week ending yesterday 85,000 bales, including 23,000 bales for export, and 14,000 bales on speculation. The stock amounts to 368,000 bales, including 45,000 bales American. The amount afloat for this port is 254,000 bales, including 78,000 from the United States. The market to-day is tending downward; sales 10,000 bales middling upland on spot at 11½, to arrive at 10¾@10⅞, Orleans 11⅝. The Manchester market is heavy. Breadstuffs—Wheat dull at 12s. for California white, 9s. 6d. for No. 2 Red Western. Flour 25s. 6d. for western. Corn dull, at 38s. 9d. for mixed western. Oats 3s. 8d. Barley 5s. Peas 46s. Provisions—Pork dull at 87s. Beef dull at 87s. 9d. Lard flat at 65s. 6d. Cheese quiet at 66s. Bacon steady at 55s. Produce quiet and unchanged. Turpentine dull at 28s.

LONDON, December 4.—*Evening.*—Consols, money, 92½; account, 92¾; 5-20s, 74¾; Erie, 20¼; Illinois, 96¾; Frankfort bonds, 79¾@79½.

LONDON, December 4.—Sugar quiet and steady. Whale Oil £38. Linseed 58s@58s 6d.

ANTWERP, December 4.—Petroleum quiet at 53 francs.

PARIS, December 4.—The weekly statement of the Bank of France shows the bullion in vault increased to thirteen million francs.

PARIS, December 4.—Bourse firm. Rentes 70f. 80c.

HAVRE, December 4.—Cotton closed with a declining tendency.

ST. LOUIS.

Alleged Railroad Corruption—Action by City Council.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

ST. LOUIS, December 4.—Resolutions were introduced in the City Council to-day, setting forth that the city and county of St. Louis each own five hundred thousand dollars of stock in the Missouri Pacific Railroad, upon which has been paid annually for seventeen years aggregating two million and twenty thousand dollars, for which no dividends or other returns have been received; that it is currently reported the officers and directors of the road have profited by furnishing supplies to the Company and farmed out contracts to themselves and to others at such terms as deprived the road proper of its profits; that the Managers of said Company have squandered the Company's money in endeavoring to influence the Legislature of the State to do as they request; also established rates of freight on the road which discriminated greatly against the interests of St. Louis; and providing for the election of a special committee of five to investigate the matter and other subjects pertaining to the management of the road; also requesting the County Court to join the city in the investigation and procure if possible a meeting of the stockholders of the road for an examination of its affairs.

The Erie Railroad Imbroglio—Injunction Against the New York Central Railroad.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 4.—The Erie matter, before Judge Sutherland, was to-day allowed to stand over, Judge Cardoza not having yet decided the case before him.

The suit in which Judge Barnard to-day issued an injunction against the New York Central Railroad, charges the company with an over issue of stock to the amount of $3,451,400, of which $2,537,000 were issued on the surrender of convertible bonds and the balance without any authority. The complaint is made by one Isaac N. Jenks, who says the warrant of capital, as prescribed in the consolidated agreement, was $23,035,600. The Company is restrained from paying any dividends upon stock in excess of the latter sum, or permitting any votes to be cast on said stock at the ensuing election.

Gen. Grant in New England.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

BOSTON, December 4.—Gen. Grant visited Lowell to-day, arriving there in company with the Mayor and a Committee of the city government. The party visited the Merrimack and Lawrence carpet mills. It was a holiday in the city. The school dismissed and the mills suspended work. Many streets and residences were profusely decorated and the streets were lined with thousands of people who loudly cheered the visitor as he passed along. The inspection of the mills occupied two hours, when the General took a train for Boston. A collation was partaken of in one of the cars on the trip down. On his arrival here he visited several of the leather warehouses, and then drove to his hotel, where, in the afternoon, he gave a public reception. In the evening he was the guest of William Gray, at dinner. He will go to Providence to-morrow morning.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—The receipts from Internal Revenue reach nearly a million a day now.

—An old lady, named Mrs. Hanlon, was run over and killed by a street car in Louisville, yesterday.

—The loss by the destruction of Neal Dow's tannery at Portland, Me., is estimated at $30,000, insurance $22,500.

—The murderers of the two negro girls in the eastern part of Jefferson county, Ky., will be tried under the Civil Rights bill.

—At Syracuse, N. Y., yesterday, two employes in Greenway's brewery, Edward and Dennis Hancock, were suffocated by gas.

—The high school building at Fond du lac, Wis., was burned on Thursday evening, supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

—Judge Fullerton has discovered new proofs of fraud in New York, and wants the Secretary of the Treasury to order an investigation.

—General Lippincott having been elected Auditor of Illinois, has resigned his position as Doorkeeper of the National House of Representatives.

—The Theatre Comique, on Broadway, New York, occupied by White & Spencer, was damaged by fire to the extent of $15,000 yesterday morning.

—The New York *Times* warns the people against investing money in the alleged newly discovered gold fields in Duchess county, in that State.

—R. D. Bogart, a Paymaster's Clerk in the navy yard, has absconded with $17,000 of the government funds. He has lost the money in gambling.

—The New York *Tribune* regards the recommendation by the Electoral College of Tennessee of Horace Maynard, as a fit member of Grant's Cabinet, as unwise and indecorous.

—A fire in Clyde, Wayne county, N. Y., yesterday destroyed property to the value of $25,000, including a hardware store, several restaurants and small stores; insurance, $11,000.

—The Boston *Journal* thinks the Speakership of the next House of Representatives should be given an Eastern man. Its principal reason is that the West has got about everything else.

—The New York *Herald* says that it was offered the report of Secretary McCulloch and the forthcoming President's message for a consideration recently, but declined being a receiver of stolen goods.

—The Pacific Railroad Company are preparing a statement in answer to the report of the Special Commission, in which they hope to disprove many of the statements made in that report unfavorable to the road.

—The Machine House of the Western Maryland Railroad Company, at Union Bridge, Carroll county, Md., was burned Thursday night. All the locomotives and cars were saved. Loss $10,000.

—Governor Fenton, of New York, has commuted the sentence of death imposed on Catharine Johnson, of Buffalo, for the murder of Bridget McDermot, to imprisonment for life in the State's prison.

—It is stated that Fisk is about to sue the papers that published garbled accounts of his Erie Railway nocturnal trip for damages, and his counsel, it is reported, has already procured an attachment against one journal.

—On the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, at Townsend Station, Ohio, Thursday night, a passenger train ran into a freight train, the mishap being occasioned by a misplaced switch. Barney Potter, a head brakeman, was killed.

—The fire on Market street, Philadelphia, is said to have been the result of carelessness. A boy went into the cellar with a lighted candle and the gas from some coal oil ignited and exploded, setting the whole place in flames in a few minutes.

—The Workingmen of Rochester, New York, held a large meeting Thursday night, to protest against the contract system of labor in the penal institutions of the State. The Mayor presided, and several gentlemen addressed the meeting.

—The Congressional sub-Committee on whisky frauds is still sitting with closed doors at New York, and it is said they expect to present a startling report to Congress, during the early part of the session, which will induce a radical change in the revenue laws.

—The first annual convention of the New Jersey State Woman's Suffrage Association, was held at Vineland, on Thursday. Mrs. Lucy Stone, Rev. Antoinette Brown Blackwell, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jackson Davis, and other lesser lights took part in the proceedings.

—The shipments of coal by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, from Roundout to New York, this season, aggregate one million six hundred thousand tons, an increase of two million tons over last year. It is said the rise in coal has netted the dealers two millions more than they would otherwise have cleared.

—A heavy snow storm commenced at St. Louis on Thursday evening and continued until yesterday morning. From six to eight inches of snow fell, but it melted rapidly. The storm extended west to Kansas, and from two to six inches of snow fell at different points. At St. Joseph, Mo., the storm was very heavy, more snow fall than for many years.

—The Lower House of the North Carolina Legislature considered the resolutions for investigating the charge of bribery. The Senate resolutions were finally adopted by a small majority. The investigation will now proceed. There was much opposition to the resolutions. Grave disclosures are expected. Both Houses adopted a resolution for a recess from December 21st to January 4th.

—A match was made at St. Louis, yesterday, between William M. Davis, who was whipped by Mike McCoole two years ago near this city, and Tom Allen, of Cleveland, for one thousand dollars a side. Articles of agreement were signed and the first installment of three hundred dollars put up in the hands of Jack Looney, the fight to take place on the twelfth of January between forty and sixty miles from St. Louis.

—The Alabama Senate has passed a bill making the wearing of disguises and masks by any number of men a crime, punishable by fine and imprisonment. A bill was introduced and referred to open judgments rendered by any of the Courts of the State where the cause of action existed prior to the 25th of May, 1865. The House is engaged on the revenue bill. The Legislature has refused to adjourn on the 12th of December.

—At New York a heavy snow storm commenced about eleven o'clock last night. Weather reports received from various parts of the country report that snow or sleet was falling at Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Fortress Monroe, Buffalo, Chicago and Cheyenne, rain at Richmond and Cincinnati, and indications of a storm at Oswego, Albany, Boston and St. Johns, N. B. Wind north-east at all points.

—At Leavenworth, Kansas, on Thursday night, the saddlery store of B. S. Richards and the furniture store of Abernathy Brothers, adjoining, were entirely burned. Richards' loss is $6,000; insurance, $3,000. Abernathy loses about $30,000; insured for $13,000 in New York and New Haven, the Underwriters and Ætna. The Mercantile Library and Rhey & Co., hatters, sustain damage to the amount of about one thousand dollars.

—It is stated that President Johnson has refused to give advance copies of his message to the press, but will arrange so that copies shall be issued from the Internal Revenue offices at noon of the day of its delivery. A good portion of the message, it is said, has been surreptitiously obtained and will probably be published in advance by the Philadelphia *Ledger*, Boston *Post*, Baltimore *Sun*, Cincinnati *Enquirer* and New York *World*.

—A committee of ladies from New York called upon Gov. Geary at Harrisburg, on Friday morning, to urge him to pardon Hester Vaughan. The ladies were courteously received and informed that their action had long since been quietly anticipated by thousands of humane and philanthropic citizens, mostly ladies of Pennsylvania, and that any further agitation on the subject would be unnecessary, as the case was thoroughly understood and the Governor's action was determined on.

—A special dispatch from Omaha announces that the temporary Railroad bridge across the Missouri river at that place, which was only completed on Tuesday last, was swept away by floating ice on Thursday evening. Four hundred loaded freight cars had been taken across the bridge before its destruction. This is the second temporary bridge that has been destroyed in a like manner. The Railroad authorities will at once rebuild the bridge, which is greatly needed for the speedy transmission of freight from the Chicago and Northwestern Railway to the Union Pacific road.

—Governor McCormick delivered his annual message to the Arizona Legislature at Tuscan, November 16th. He says the population of the Territory has increased in the past year, and the taxable property is one-third greater than in 1867. No great progress can be made so long as the Apache raids continue. He compliments the regular troops for their bravery. He asks additional forces, especially of troops familiar with the country, and favors the Southern Pacific Railroad as a means of subjugating hostile Indians and opening the country. The Territorial debt is twenty thousand dollars in currency, which will be reduced one-third before the close of the year. The Wickerburg and Cababi mines pay well.

"Indexing the Records."

MESSRS. EDITORS—We have heretofore stated that the Commissioners, Messrs. S. H. Geyer, B. F. Lucas and George Shiras, Jr., appointed by the Honorable Judges of the District Court, to carry into effect a special law, passed by the last Legislature, for the purpose of re-indexing the records in the Recorder's office, awarded the contract to Eb. Williams, Jr., Esq., at six and one-half cents per line, or $2.21 per page. The contract appears, however, not to have met with the approval of the Court, the fact having transpired, on investigation, that another party, equally competent as well as responsible, proposed to do the work for three and one-third cents per line, or $1 per page, or in other words proposed to examine, transcribe and district 202,000 lines for $6,733.33, while the award was made by the Commissioners to the party proposing to do the work at six and one-half cents per line, or in other words for $13,130.00, thereby saddling upon the tax payers the difference between the proposed bids, which is nothing more nor less, according to the estimates made by the Honorable Judges of the District Court on the 30th day of last May, than the sum of $6,396.67.

We understand that John J. A. Young, an old friend and thorough going business man, is the person who proposed to do the work at 3½ cents per line or $1,00 per page. His proposal was rejected by the Commissioners, because they thought it too low, notwithstanding he (Mr. Young) proposed to furnish some of the best security in Allegheny county for the faithful performance of the required duty. From what we know, we think that Mr. Young is competent to take charge of, as well as perform, almost any ordinary task in the transcribing line, or the hunting up of old documents, few persons being better acquainted with the typography of the county than he is. Therefore he is peculiarly adapted to overcome the great and only obstacle in the making out of a correct set of indexes for the central, northern and southern districts, as required by the law. Why the Commissioners should have passed by a responsible proposal, and award a contract, thereby agreeing to pay out of the pockets of the dear people the sum of $6,396 67, we cannot imagine. But now that petitions are being circulated and numerously signed by disinterested parties, who, for obvious reasons, are unacquainted with the merits of the case, praying that the Hon. Judges of the District Court may confine the contract as awarded, we hope that they will compel, at their earliest convenience, the Commissioners to rescind the contract as awarded, and at the same time instruct them to award the contract according to the letter and spirit of the law.

LAWYER.

Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. Edwin Adams, the talented and pleasing actor, took a benefit at the Opera House last evening, on which occasion he had a very fair audience, which would doubtless have been much larger but for the unpleasant weather. "Narcisse, the Vagrant," was the piece presented, with Mr. Adams in the title role. The piece will be repeated this evening. At the matinee this afternoon "Romeo and Juliet" will be the attraction.

PITTSBURGH THEATRE.—The attendance at the old Theatre last night was not so large as it has been heretofore, owing doubtless to the inclemency of the weather. A splendid bill is announced for to-night, including three pieces, in all of which Miss Kate Fisher will appear.

VARIETIES.—The attendance at Trimble's Varieties continues to increase, and will so long as Manager Williams presents such attractions as he has presented during the present week.

MUSEUM.—Parents should not fail to take their children to Burnell's Museum and Parlor Menagerie. It is a very entertaining as well as instructive exhibition for children, and there are a great many curiosities to be seen there of interest to older persons. It is open day and evening.

THE BELL RINGERS.—A first class entertainment will always attract an appreciative audience, an assertion which was clearly proven last evening by the audience which, undeterred by the inclemency of the weather, assembled in the Academy of Music to witness the third performance of the Peak Family of Bell Ringers. We are glad to see those entertainments so well patronized, as it is a gratifying evidence of the intelligence and good judgment of our amusement loving public. The Bell Ringers will close their stay here to-day with a grand matinee this afternoon and an evening performance. Let them have such a benefit as will make them bear away pleasant recollections of Pittsburgh and its vicinity.