Pittsburgh Gazette.

VOLUME LXXXIII. PITTSBURGH WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1868. NUMBER 311.

FIRST EDITION.

TWELVE O'CLOCK M.

NEWS BY CABLE.

Latest Phase of the Eastern Question—Arrangements for the Conference Completed—Steamship Disaster Canard.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, December 29.—The *Morning Post* publishes the correspondence between James G. Bennett, Jr., of New York, and Mr. Asbury, of London, looking to an ocean yacht race between the Dauntless and Cambria. In its comments the *Post* prefers the Azores track as one much better adapted to test the sea-going qualities of the vessels and the seamanship of their masters, than the regular Trans-Atlantic route. The writer exhorts the owners of the British schooner yacht to join in the race, and says the Sappho will participate.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 28.—It is confidently asserted that the Porte opposes the holding of the conference.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A circular from the Sublime Porte, just issued, confirms the report of the Sultan's refusal to participate in the projected conference, if the Cretan question is to be discussed.

The Russian Government has denied giving authority to the Greek government vessels to use the Russian flag for any purpose whatever.

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—It is stated that the basis of the discussions of the Paris conference are the autonomy of Crete, the suspension of the energetic measures enunciated in the Sultan's ultimatum, and an agreement to support the just demands of Turkey.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—Reports have been received here of a collision between a band of invading Greeks and a Turkish force in the Turkish province of Albania. The Greeks were victorious.

PARIS, December 29.—The details of the conference have all been agreed upon, and sessions will commence in this city on Saturday next.

MARINE NEWS.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The emigrant ship, Starry Banner, bound for New York, was totally lost in a gale Dec. 21st, seven hundred miles west of the coast of Ireland. Forty-two people were saved on rafts and have arrived at Boulogne, France. The Captain and rest of the crew and passengers, one hundred and twenty-two souls all told, were lost.

LONDON, December 29.—*Evening.*—The report of the foundering of the emigrant ship Starry Banner is a hoax, although published by the entire press of London to-day. The original dispatch announced the safe arrival of several passengers at Boulogne, but a telegram from that city, in answer to an inquiry for full particulars for the Associated Press, conveys the assurance that there have been no such arrivals as reported.

LONDON, December 29.—The steamer Atlanta, from New York, arrived day before yesterday.

QUEENSTOWN, December 29.—The steamer City of Paris, from New York, arrived yesterday.

QUEENSTOWN, December 29. The steamer Palestine, from New York, arrived here to-day.

SPAIN.

MADRID, December 29.—General Cabellero has been ordered to take troops to the provinces of Seville and Gefra to prevent any trouble. The country, however, is entirely tranquil. The Government has contracted a loan with Erlanger.

ITALY.

FLORENCE, December 29.—General Garibaldi has written a letter formally declining a commission in the Greek army, which had been tendered him by the Grecian Government in view of the threatened war.

FRANCE.

PARIS, December 29.—The legal tribunals have forbidden the use of the title *Moniteur* to the new official organ.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

LONDON, December 29.—Tallow 49s. Sugar 36s.

ANTWERP, December 29.—Petroleum 54 francs.

HAVRE, December 29.—Cotton buoyant, *tres-ordinaire* on spot at 124 francs, low middlings afloat at 123 francs.

LONDON, December 29—*Evening.*—Consols, 92¾; 5-20s firmer, at 74⅞. Stocks are quiet and easier; Erles, 26⅞; Illinois, 95; Atlantic & Great Western, 450.

FRANKFORT, December 29.—U. S. bonds, 78⅛@78⅝.

PARIS, December 29.—Rentes 69 francs 77 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 29.—*Afternoon.*—Cotton is firmer at an advance of ¼d, with sales of 15,000 bales; middling uplands, 10 @10¾d, and Orleans, 11d. Manchester market for yarns and fabrics is firmer. Breadstuffs—Wheat is firmer but not quotably higher; No. 2 red western, 9s 10d@10s. Corn, 38s 3d@38s 6d. Peas are easier but not quotably lower. Other articles are unchanged. Provisions—Pork, 87s 6d. Beef, 105s. Lard, 65s. Cheese, 69s. Bacon, 52s. Common Rosin, 5s 6d. Spirits Turpentine, 27s. Tallow, 48s 3d.

LONDON, December 29—*Evening.*—Consols 92¼ for money, and 92⅝ for account. Five-twenty Bonds 74¾. Erie, 26½; Illinois, 95; Atlantic and Great Western, 43. Railway stocks quiet and steady. Calcutta Linseed 57s. Tallow declined to 48s.

LIVERPOOL, December 29.—Cotton closed firm. California white wheat 11s. 9d. Flour 26s. 6d. Corn declined to 38s@38s. 3d. Other articles unchanged.

CUBA.

Design to Poison Government Troops by Insurrectionists.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—The following report is made by Spanish officials in relation to the use of strychnine by insurrectionists. The revolutionists cooked a quantity of provisions, which had previously been prepared with strychnine, and then retreated, expecting the Spanish troops on their arrival at the rebel camp would eat the food.

NEUVITAS, Dec. 26, *via Havana, Dec.* 28.—Valmazda left Miguel on Tuesday morning, marching in a southerly direction, with 2 200 men. Fighting was probably commenced on Wednesday.

Marine News.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—The steamship Siberia, from Liverpool, has arrived.

NEW YORK CITY.

Card from James Fisk, in Reply to Mr. Bowles—The Alabama Claims—Banquet to Prof. Morse.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 29, 1868.

Jas. Fisk is out in a card averring that the attack on him in the Springfield *Republican* was the occasion of the arrest of Mr. Bowles. Fisk thinks he was justified in so doing. Fisk says: "In order to protect my rights, I appeal to the law, which is the highest expression of human wisdom for the good government of mankind. If error has been committed, those who made this law committed it. I regret that the wife of Samuel Bowles, Esq., of Springfield, Mass., was disturbed or even annoyed by her husband's temporary absence. As for the sympathy of the sycophantic hordes of office-seekers and small-beer editors, who clamor around the jail gates for their comrade's release, their abuse I expected, and I am indifferent to it. Mr. Bowles proposed the game himself and I *bowled* him over the first *innings*. I think it will be generally conceded that I have as much right to defend my personal character as any newspaper has to attack it. At all events I shall do so with the most inflinching determination until it is proved to the contrary. Mr. Bowles need not fear but that I will bring him to trial before a judicial tribunal, and then 'let justice be done though the heavens fall.'"

It is stated that there is not a word of truth in the reported basis of agreement between America and England on the Alabama claims. A messenger from Reverdy Johnson with the treaty as far as agreed upon, will arrive at Washington within a few days.

The complimentary banquet to Professor Morse come off this evening. Chief Justice Chase presided. Among the guests were Edward Thornton, British Ambassador, Governor Curtin, Attorney General Evarts, Judge Pierrepont, and a number of other distinguished persons. Speeches were made by Messrs. Chase, Thornton, Evarts, Goodwin, Smith, Governor Curtin, General McDowell, and others.

THE INDIANS.

Reports from Generals Sheridan and Hazen.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

ST. LOUIS, December 29.—General Sherman has received dispatches from General Hazen, at Fort Cobb, to the 7th inst., and from General Sheridan to the same date. General Hazen says that since General Custar's fight, he has had no trouble in distinguishing between the friendly and hostile bands. He pronounces all the Cheyennes and Arapahoes as unfriendly and hostile. The Kiowas are divided half and half. The Camanches are all, or nearly all unfriendly. The Apaches, the Kichies, the Caddoes, the Wichitaws, and affiliated bands, numbering about three thousand, are clustered around and near Fort Cobb, claiming Government protection. The hostile have separated from the friendly tribes and gone over to the head of the north fork of Red river, near the mouth of Sweet Water. They number some one hundred warriors, and General Sheridan was to have left Camp Supply, on the Canadian river, for Fort Cobb on the 7th, and it was expected that in three to five days from that date, he would be in communication with General Hazen, and be able to strike the hostile Indians, without interfering with the friendly tribes. Satanta, the principal chief of the Kiowas, is represented as not having gone to the hostile camp. General Sheridan, however, regards Satanta and his band as the most hostile and treacherous of the Plains Indians, and believes no lasting peace can be had with them while they are at large. He has, therefore, given orders to kill them; or, if captured, to imprison them at Fort Gibson.

CHICAGO.

Fire in a Boarding House—Two Men Killed by Jumping from a Window.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

CHICAGO, December 29.—About half-past five o'clock this morning, a fire broke out in Mr. Nicholas' boarding house, located above store No. 49 Franklin street, in this city. It originated in the careless use of kerosene oil in kindling a fire in the cooking stove. The flames spread with such rapidity that escape by the staircases was soon rendered impossible. Three men and a woman jumped from windows in the fourth story upon the roof of a two story building, and escaped with slight injuries; but two brothers, Wallace and Louis Card, aged fifteen and eighteen respectively, met a different fate. Standing in a front window, on the fourth story, they joined hands and leaped headlong into the street. One was instantly killed, his head completely bursting by the concussion, and the other died within fifteen minutes afterwards. The pecuniary loss was slight.

San Francisco Items.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

SAN FRANCISCO, December 29.—The Custom officers seized a quantity of opium, valued at forty thousand dollars, for violation of the revenue laws. The drug was brought from China by the Great Republic, and an attempt was made to smuggle it through.

Charles Walcott Brooks, Japanese Consul to San Francisco, started overland to Boston to-day.

Captain Emmerson, of the ship Kingston, died on the voyage from Bombay. He was a native of Bucksport, Me.

Flour; slight export demand, the lowest rate being $4,75a5,75. Wheat; sales good shipping $1,75; choice $1,80. Legal Tenders 74.

Steamers Reported Sunk in Red River.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW ORLEANS, December 29.—The steamers St. Nichols and Monzoon are both reported sunk in Red river, with partial loads of cotton, making three Red river boats lost this month. The St. Nicholas struck on the dam at the falls, placed there by General Banks' army.

Cotton Steamer Snagged.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

MOBILE, December 29.—The steamer Jewess, with three hundred and fifty bales of cotton, was snagged and sunk in the Alabama River, three miles above the city, this morning. The greater portion of the cargo was saved damaged. No lives lost.

Application of Fourteenth Amendment.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

RICHMOND, December 29.—R. T. Daniel, City Commonwealth Attorney, was to-day removed by the military authorities and L. H. Chandler appointed in his place. This is the first action under application of the fourteenth amendment.

Railroad Aid Voted.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

RUTLAND, Vt., December 29.—At a meeting of the citizens of this town, held to-day, the town voted aid in the building of the Portland & Rutland Railroad to the amount of 300,000.

SECOND EDITION.

FOUR O'CLOCK A. M.

THE CAPITAL.

Intelligence from Crete—Gaiety at Executive Mansion—Reply of Senator Morton to Horace Greeley on the Question of Specie Payment Resumption.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, December 29, 1868.

FROM CRETE.

News from Crete has been received by letter to November 24th. On the the 19th, while engaged in the transportation of munitions of war just landed by the Erosis at Phœnix, in Sphakia, the Cretans were suddenly attacked by numerous Turkish forces and an obstinate encounter ensued, continuing the entire day. The Cretans succeeded in saving nearly all their munitions. The Turkish loss was estimated at one hundred and fifty men. The Cretans lost three warriors and carried away sixty-seven wounded.

REPLY TO MR. GREELEY.

Senator Morton, of Indiana, has replied to Mr. Greeley's letter addressed to him on the 21st inst., and concludes his response as follows: "The fact is our bond-holders understand perfectly well that whatever may be the law on the question, the bonds, or any considerable part of them, cannot be paid in coin while the currency remains depreciated. It is folly to talk about paying the bonds in gold, if the Government cannot procure gold enough wherewith to redeem the greenbacks. The redemption of notes and a return to specie payment is a necessary condition precedent to the payment of the bonds in gold, and they look much more to the return of specie payment and the establishment of our finances on a solid basis, than to the mere form of the contract as to how they shall be paid. Gold payments should begin with the debt that is due, which is the currency, and not by shaving bonds that will not be due for fourteen years. The currency lies at the foundation of the whole financial structure, and if it be unsound, the structure above must be insecure and dangerous. When it becomes good, by being made convertible into gold, the national debt may be funded, by which one-third of the present volume of interest can be saved and the nation will carry the burden with an increased ease until its final discharge shall come."

ORDNANCE REPORT.

The Joint Commission on Ordnance has nearly completed their report with regard to the failure of heavy guns, and will submit it to Congress shortly after the holidays.

THE EXECUTIVE MANSION

Was a scene of unusual gaiety and pleasure to-night. Three or four hundred children were entertained by the juveniles of the house.

LIGHT HOUSE ENGINEER.

Major J. B. Wheeler is detailed as engineer of light-houses in that part of the Eleventh District embracing Lake Michigan.

ST. LOUIS.

Counterfeiter Arrested—Death of a Centennarian—Steamboat Insurance—Pugilists Arrested—Scan. Mag. Case—Extravagant City Expenditures.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

ST. LOUIS, December 29.—Robert Sullivan was held in four thousand dollars bonds to-day, by United States Commissioner Eaton, for having and passing counfeit money.

A lady, named Mary Waters, died to-day aged one hundred and two years.

The Board of Underwriters have appointed a committee to report on the subject of raising the standard of steamboat running in the Missouri river, as suggested by Gen. Donaldson, Chief Quartermaster at this point.

Wm. Davis, the pugilist, who is to fight Tom Allen, of Cleveland, on the 12th of January, and his trainer, Bill Blake, were arrested on a charge of assault with intent to kill Mike Ryan and Joseph Tyrrell on Christmas, an account of which was telegraphed at the time. Davis and Blake say they acted in self defense and are ready for trial.

A married lady of this city, mother of five children, the heroine of two shooting affairs and a divorce case, was arrested this evening in an assignation house, being caught *in flagrante delictu* with a river pilot. The lady was locked up in the calaboose on the charge of adultery.

The extravagant expenditures of money by the city officials, as recently brought to light by reports made to the City Council, has produced a good deal of interest among the tax payers and citizens generally, and several informal meetings have been held to consider the state of affairs. The matter culminated to-night in a meeting composed of citizens of all parties, at which a Municipal Reform Association was organized. A constitution was adopted which declares the object of the Association to be to secure a reorganization of the city government regardless of political or personal considerations, and effect an honest administration of public affairs. Commissioners were appointed to canvass the claims of candidates for office, and frame a charter and laws to be submitted to the Legislature for their action.

Seven gambling houses were raided to-night by the police, and several hundred dollars worth of property captured.

CINCINNATI.

Important Will Case—Visiting Officials—City Improvement Project.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

CINCINNATI, December 29.—Before the Probate Court to-day was a suit to enforce the trust created by the will of Lewis Morse, which the widow and heirs broke by default. The trust gives one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hamilton county and $30,000 to endow a College for indigent youth. Attorney General West asks that a Receiver be appointed to take care of the property and enforce the trust. The defendants demur. Eminent counsel are employed.

The Mayor of Indianapolis and other officials are visiting the public institutions here.

Resolutions were presented in the City Council to-day, asking the legislature to authorize the city to appropriate $1,750,000, for a park, wharf and avenue improvement; also, to change the State constitution so as to allow appropriations for the Southern Railroad.

MEMPHIS.

The School Fund Embezzlement—Release of Mr. Rutter on Bail—The Arkansas Militia.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

MEMPHIS, December 29.—Geo. P. Rutter, President of the Tennessee National Bank, arrested on a warrant from Nashville for alleged defalcation in missing school fund, was taken before Judge Lee on a writ of *habeas corpus* and released on bail in five thousand dollars for his appearance. It will be remembered in this connection that the loss of this fund, which was returned to the present State government after the war by Governor Harris, who had carried it South, caused the suicide of Comptroller Sanford. It is believed the present arrest of Rutter and the investigation will disclose the disposition made of the funds. Rutter's solicitor is making a searching investigation.

Three hundred colored militia have occupied the town of Hopefield, opposite this city. This morning at daylight a portion of them was sent to occupy Marion and Mound City. The citizens of the latter place say they commenced pillaging as soon as they entered. No reason is known or assigned for their presence.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—Speaker Colfax and wife were in Boston on Monday.

—The Illinois Teachers' Convention met yesterday at Peoria. It is very numerously attended.

—Dr. William S. Bishop, Surgeon of the United States Naval Asylum at Philadelphia, died on Monday.

—The colored citizens of St. Paul, Minn., project a grand jubilee on New Year's day, to commemorate their recent enfranchisement.

—R. Johnson & Co.'s dry goods store, in Lacon, Marshall county, Illinois, was destroyed by fire Wednesday night. Loss heavy.

—At London, Canada, a fire, on Saturday, in the store of Frank Smith & Co., destroyed goods to the value of $40,000. Loss covered by insurance.

—At Loddon, Canada, a man named Jones, convicted of the murder of his niece, was hung on Tuesday morning. He denied his guilt to the last.

—James M. Morrison, one of the eldest and wealthiest citizens of Chicago, died of heart disease Monday evening. He left $750,000, a wife and one child.

—Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* declined a public dinner, tendered him by Gov Bullock and other prominent citizens of Boston.

—The steamer Tarifa, from Liverpool for Boston, in a heavy gale on the 19th, broke her rudder head, parted her rudder chains, and was afterwards steered entirely by spars.

—A letter from St. Domingo, dated December 14th, says the defeat of the Ogandoz squad at Los Mataz by the Government troops leaves President Baez in full and peaceful possession of the whole country.

—The lifeless body of William Saladine, a prominent brewer of Chicago, was found suspended from the ceiling of his brewery, in that city, yesterday morning. No cause for the suicidal act is known. His business was good and his domestic relations were happy.

—The American Express Company office, at Peekskill, N. Y., was entered by burglars on Monday morning and the safe blown open and robbed of twelve hundred dollars. The office was then set on fire and was consumed, together with the City Hotel and a grocery store, involving a loss of about $15,000.

OHIO ITEMS.

MAJOR DUNLAP, Ross county, raised this year, thirty-six thousand bushels of corn.

A company has been organized at Circleville for the erection of a first class hotel at that place.

Mr. H. H. BARNEY, who has been connected with the Circleville public schools as superintendent for over seven years, has resigned his position.

A company has been organized in Bellaire, Belmont county, for the purpose of manufacturing glass. The capital stock is $100,000, in shares of $200 each.

ALFRED STILL and Miss L. C. Wear, aged respectively eighteen and fourteen years, eloped from Millersburg, a few days ago, and were made one, in Aberdeen, Ohio.

SOME fellow, name not given, recently created a tremendous excitement in McConnelsville by leaving a wife and six children and eloping with a young widow. The scoundrel gathered up all his worldly effects, under one pretense or another, amounting to some $9,900, which he took away with him, leaving his abandoned wife penniless.

A CORRESPONDENT of the McConnellsville *Herald* is of the opinion that there is a charter in existence for a company calling itself the Muskingum Valley R. R. Company, granted for the purpose of constructing a road from Zanesville to a point at or near the mouth of the Muskingum river, and thence to a point opposite Parkersburg, and wants that charter looked up and a road built.

THE Vinton *Record* says: We learn that a young lad, aged about 14, named Thos. Scott, who resides in Jackson county, three miles south of Hamden, killed his father with a club on Friday evening last. It appears the father came home drunk, commenced abusing the family, when the son seized a club or piece of wood, striking his father four licks, each one of which fractured the skull, causing death in a short time.

ON Thursday afternoon last, a little daughter of Mr. Henry Smith, who resides about two miles from Chillicothe, accidentally fell into a kettle of boiling lard. Her screams brought the father at once to the spot, but too late. Prompt assistance was rendered the little sufferer, and everything that parental love or medical skill could suggest was done to alleviate her pain and save her life, but all in vain. She lived only about three hours after the accident.

THE St. Clairsville *Gazette* says: The lovers of the wonderful in nature can gratify their curiosity by calling at Patterson's drug store, to see a wonderful large bone, supposed to be from the Mastodon—a race of animals long since extinct. This bone was found on the banks of Salt Creek, Muskingum county, a few weeks ago. By a change of the waters of the creek it was exposed. A tooth weighing seven pounds was also found. Parties design making search in the spring for more remains.

Railroad Accident.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

LONDON, Canada, December 29.—The sleeping car attached to the night mail train on the Great Western Railroad, from Niagara Falls, ran off the track at Eastwood this morning and rolled down an embankment eighteen feet. The car contained eighteen persons, twelve of whom are more or less injured, two of them, it is feared, fatally.

CLIPPINGS.

THE American people annually earn about $7,500,000,000.

BEAUTIFUL extract—handsome young lady just pulled out of a mudhole.

A TROY lawyer got for his fee in defending a counterfeiter fifty dollars in spurious money.

A POULTRY riddle-maker asks, "Why is a hen immortal?" and answers, "Because her son never sets."

"I HATE to hear people talk behind one's back," as the thief said when the policeman cried "stop thief."

THE man who fell from grace was picked up by a policeman. His reputation and his breeches were severely bruised.

NEARLY all the iron manufacturing establishments in Troy, N. Y., have been closed up, work having been suspended.

A "PERPETUAL Trust Company" has been incorporated in Massachusetts. How much it costs to be perpetually trusted isn't stated.

A CONSIDERABLE quantity of red snow fell a few days ago along the Missouri river, about twenty-five miles below Leavenworth, Kansas.

THE yachts Palmer and Dauntless, which will probably sail for the American prize cup next spring, are laid up at Stonington for the winter.

A TEXAS editor wished to liken something to a "zebra's hide," and the inexorable compositor insisted upon making it a "Texas bride."

THE longest span of the proposed New York and Brooklyn bridge will be 1,600 feet, nearly 600 feet longer than that of the bridge over the Ohio at Cincinnati, and 800 more than that at Niagara.

JERAD C. BROWN, of Somers, Conn., having lost five sheep by foxes, poisoned one of the carcasses with strychnine, and on the following morning found four foxes lying beside the dead sheep.

THE Illinois State Penitentiary, at Joliet, has been self-sustaining during the past year and a half. Its earnings during that time have been $334,278.08. Its inventory of property now on hand foots up $426,197.78.

MORE combs are made at Milan, Italy, than any other town. That city uses, in this important industry, 4,000 horns per week, or 208,000 per annum. These horns are mostly obtained in Italy, but a portion are obtained from South America.

GALVESTON, Texas, now claims twenty-five thousand inhabitants. It boasts of six hundred business firms, six lines of steamships, five of sailing ships, two banks, six private bankers, two insurance companies and three cotton press companies.

THE New York *Journal of Commerce* wants Philadelphia to "learn how not to get the new City Hall built short of ten years' time and five millions of money," by sending for the "sloths and leeches" who have had charge of the new City Hall of that City.

THE battle ground of Spottsylvania is now overgrown with rough underbrush and scrub pine, which is fast covering the marks of war. The long succession of earthworks from which Grant's army forced General Lee, hardly 300 feet apart, are nearly obliterated.

A WASHINGTON spiritualist had a revelation from Thad. Stevens, through a "medium," on the morning of the eulogies. To the question whom he preferred as speakers on the occasion, Thad. complacently replied, "I don't care a d—n, as I won't have to listen to them."

ONE Boston dealer very expressively intimated his superiority to his neighbors in one respect, for while their placards announce "this stock at cost," "less than cost," "one-half the cost of importation," he displays a sign reading the rarer truth, "selling at cost and more too!"

A VIRGINIA paper publishes the following marriage notice: "In front of the parsonage in Crab Bottom, Highland county, on horseback in the big road, by Rev. Stephen Smith, Mr. George A. Halteman, aged sixteen, and Miss Barbara J. Waggoner, aged twenty-four, all of Highland county."

B. P. CILLEY, of Manchester, N. H., has a miniature picture of his grandfather, General Enoch Poor, painted by Baron Kosciusko. It was drawn in a church at Trenton, during services, on the fly-leaf of a hymn book. It really possesses good artistic merit, as well as historic interest.

EXPERIMENTS are constantly being made by scientific men at Woolwich and Chatham in England, in the various explosive compounds—gun-cotton, nitro-glycerine, &c. These experiments, with those made in other countries and by private individuals, must soon throw new light upon this very important subject.

IT has been said that the destiny of the world often hangs on the merest trifles. A mere miff between Charles Bonaparte and his love Letitia might have broken off a marriage which gave birth to Napoleon and the battle of Waterloo. Suppose a little miff had taken place between Adam and Eve—what then?

The presentation of a pair of "wan-minsan," or "public umbrellas," is one of the greatest honors which can be bestowed upon a resident of China. The only European who has ever received such distinguished consideration is Mr. Davidson, an English merchant at Ningpo, who has recently returned to Europe.

A VERY valuable island on the coast of Georgia and Florida, near the mouth of the St. Mary's river, and also near Fernandina, it is stated, has been purchased by Senator Sprague, of Rhode Island. It contains 9,000 acres, and is very fertile. The probable object in making this purchase is to cultivate Sea Island cotton.

"MR. TIMOTHY," said a young lady, who had been showing off her wit at the expense of a dangler, "you remind me of a barometer that is filled with nothing in the upper story." "Divine Almira," meekly replied the adorer, "in thanking you for that compliment, let me remind you that you occupy the upper story entirely."

THE origin of the game of billiards is credited both to France and Italy—the date about 1560. The famous C. Cotton, who was the Hoyle of his day, writing in 1674, informs us that billiards were at that time so popular in England that few important towns were without public tables, and many private families had them in their houses.

ALL the little ex-sovereigns of the North German Confederation, and nearly every member of a noble family, enjoy a postal "franking privilege." The members of the Prussian Chambers have recently lost this privilege, and they now demand that all others shall lose it also. The government seems ashamed, thus far, to grant their request for a list of those who exercise it.

THE man who defeated Mr. Gladstone in Lancashire is so corpulent that no belt could be found long enough for him when an official sword became necessary in a recent public ceremony. *Punch* says the electors "prefer a big man to a great one," and advises Mr. Gladstone to fatten up for the next election, offering to dine four times a week with him "at the national expense."

A CITIZEN of Burlington, Vt., has invented a clock that runs by electricity and never requires winding. It has only three wheels, no weights or springs, and it is claimed that it has little friction, is not affected by heat, cold, dampness or jarring. A single clock and battery can be connected with any number of dials and indicators, in the same building, or even along the whole line of railway.

WHAT was started in Atlanta for an elegant opera-house has been converted into a capitol for the State of Georgia. The building is five stories high, the upper one being covered by a French roof. The ground floor is occupied by stores, and the basement by a saloon and billiard room. The future Legislators of Georgia will not have far to go for their paper collars and cocktails.

A SCHOOL TEACHER of Harrison county, Wis., who had charge of a fine school house, about two weeks ago discovered that there was a large hole burned through the bottom of the heating stove, and made up his mind at once that it must be closed, else the house would be burned. He accordingly plugged up the hole with splinters, and left the house for the night. During the night the splint caught fire and dropped on the floor, set fire to the building, and burned it down.

A LADY and gentleman of Troy, New York, whose connubial bliss is perfect in everything, save the presence of children around the domestic fireside, were examining some illuminated mottoes in a book store, the other day, when the wife picked out one bearing these words: "God bless our home." The husband thought that very good, but still not exactly what they wanted. Looking a little further, he picked up this one: "Suffer little children to come unto me."

THE late Baron Rothschild, dining once at his club in Paris, heard some one say, "Horrible bore—lent X. ten thousand francs—have not even got an acknowledgment, and he's gone to Constantinople." "Write to him," said the Baron. "Have done so; and it don't answer—he does not answer." "Then, *mon cher*, write to him thus: 'Dear M. X., when the Turks and Turkesses leave you a little leisure time, send me the twenty thousand francs I lent you.'" "But he only owes me ten thousand." "Precisely! he will write and say so, and then there's your acknowledgment."

WE find in a French paper a statement that at a recent social dinner in the United States the hostess requested twenty-five young gentlemen and twenty-five young ladies present to write on a slip of paper the name of the gentleman or lady whom he or she would select for his or her partner during life. Eight couples expressed reciprocal attachments, and eight engagements were made then and there, as Mr. Rufus Choate would express it. Five of the happy couples acknowledge that in no other way would they have dared to announce their preference. The other slips were destroyed by the hostess. And all this, according to the veracious Figaro, took place in the United States.

AN ACTION was recently raised in Chicago, by the trustee of a fireman who had committed suicide, against a Hartford (Conn.) Insurance Company, under an accident policy of $2,000 on the life of the deceased, which contained a clause that the company should not be liable for death by suicide, whether felonious or otherwise. The plaintiff did not contend that a death by suicide, even without such a clause (whether the assured was in his right mind or not,) would have been an accidental death within the meaning of the policy; but his position was that the assured, having been injured by an accident at a fire, on May 4, 1867, by which mental derangement was produced, and having taken poison while he was so mentally deranged, the company was liable, and the accident was the cause of death. The Court held that the proximate and not the remote cause of death was the one assured against, and in this case there was no direct connection between the accident and death, so as to make the company liable on the policy.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW ORLEANS, December 29.—Cotton is active and ¼c higher, with sales of 10,000 bales middlings at 23¾@24c. The receipts amounted to 4,365 bales, and the exports to 14,707 bales. Gold, 135. Sugar and Molasses are active and unchanged. Flour is firm and unchanged. Corn; sales of white at 78c, and yellow at 80c. Oats firm at 70c. Bran, $1,40. Hay is quiet, and sales were made of prime at $26a27. Pork is dull and held at $28,25. Bacon is scarce with jobbing sales only being made; shoulders are held at 14c, clear rib sides at 18c, and clear sides at 19c. Lard is quiet and firm, with sales of tierce at 18¼c, and keg at 19a19½c. Whisky and Coffee are unchanged.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., December 29.—Beef cattle—receipts, 452 head; the supply is very light, owing to the recent large demand for poultry; for some of the best cattle 12 per cent. advance was obtained, but there was no change in common grades; sales of extra at $13,a13,50; first quality, $11,50a 12,50; second quality, $10a10,50; third quality, $7,50a9,50. Sheep and lambs—receipts, 1,925 head; lightest during the year; prices unchanged.

CHICAGO, December 29.—In the afternoon provisions were moderately active with a firmer feeling. Sales mess pork, buyers for January and February, at $27,50. Lard, sellers for last half of January, at 17c. In the evening No. 2 wheat was firm at $1,12½. Nothing doing in other grains or provisions.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 29.—The Cotton market is firm; good ordinary 22½c; no finer quality offering.

THE Ohio State Temperance Alliance—Sons of Temperance, Temple of Honor, and Independent Order of Good Templars—have united in calling a State Temperance Convention, to meet at Columbus on the 13th and 14th of January, 1869. It is desired that every Division of the Sons of Temperance, every Lodge of Good Templars, every Temple of Honor, and every Temperance Society should send at least one delegate, and Churches, Sunday Schools and all moral and Christian organizations are invited to send representatives to participate in the deliberations. The object of the Convention is to devise means for aggressive movements to check the progress of intemperance.