THE TELEGRAPH
IS PUBLISHED EVERY DAY,
BY GEORGE BERGNER.

TERMS—SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION.

The DAILY TELEGRAPH is served to subscribers in the City at six cents per week. Yearly subscribers will be charged $4 00.

WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.

The TELEGRAPH is also published twice a week during the session of the Legislature, and weekly during the remainder of the year, and furnished to subscribers at the following rates, viz:

Single subscribers per year Semi-Weekly..$1 50
Ten " " " ..12 00
Twenty " " " ..22 00
Single subscriber, Weekly..... 1 00

THE LAW OF NEWSPAPERS.

If subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.

If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the office to which they are directed, they are responsible until they have settled the bills and ordered them discontinued.

Pennsylvania Daily Telegraph.

"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS—NEUTRAL IN NONE"

VOL. XVI HARRISBURG, PA., SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 4, 1862 NO. 100

BY TELEGRAPH.

From our Morning Edition.

From Washington.

The Charges Against Gen. Benham.

Settlement of the Land Claim Between Gen. Lane and Gans Jenkins.

Compensation of Members of Congress.

Report of the Superintendent of Public Printing.

ARRIVAL OF UNION PRISONERS FROM RICHMOND.

GEN. McCLELLAN'S HEALTH.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.

The correspondent of the Associated Press did not, as is publicly alleged, repeat or circulate the report that Gen. McClellan has dismissed the charges brought by Gen. Rosecranz against Gen. Benham; nor has he, until now, said a sigle word upon the subject. The facts are briefly these: The charges involve the conduct of Gen. Benham, as to the pursuit of Floyd, and the cause of the escape of the latter with his army. Gen. Benham has denied the truth of the charges, and asked for a court-martial, but this was refused at the present time, from the fact the chief witnesses attached to the army of Western Virginia, are now serving in Kentucky, and cannot even temporarily be withdrawn. In other words the trial is postponed to await the convenience of their attendance without detriment to the public interests.

The long contested land claim between Gen. James H. Lane and Gans Jenkins, involving the title to a valuable quarter section of land adjoining Lawrence, Kansas, has been finally decided by the commissioners of the land office, commissioner of Indian affairs, and the Secretary of the Interior, unequivocally in favor of General Lane. The merits of the case have been exhaustively presented on both sides by eminent legal advice and involved the original parties in a personal conflict on the claim resulting in the wounding of Gen. Lane and the death of [illegible]

The case has excited great interest throughout legal circles and the various departments of the country at large. The decision vindicated the rendered on the last [illegible] his right to the property was

At the commencement of this year [illegible] presented to the attorney of Mrs. Jenkins the sum of $1,500 as a free will new year offering of kindness and sympathy.

The opinion of Comptroller Whittlesey, acquiesced in by Secretary Chase, is, that according to the present law regulating the compensation of members of Congress, they can receive mileage only for the regular sessions.—Therefore the mileage for the July extra session remains to be provided for by future legislation. It may be stated that several Senators were paid the two mileages before the opinion was officially furnished for ministerial guidance.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Harrington has been absent from the Department for a week or ten days past on account of sickness.

It appears by the Report of the Superintendent of Public Printing, John D. Defrees, that the Government Printing Bureau has been conducted with the utmost efficiency and satisfaction. The wisdom of Congress in superseding the former arrangements by the present establishment is fully indicated. As compared with the prices formerly paid to public printers there has, during the past seven months, been an actual saving to the Government of $60,000.

Capt. Dickinson of the 3d Infantry regulars, and Captains Skillington and Monson of the New York 79th, late prisoners in Richmond, have arrived at Washington.

A committee of representatives of the New York City Banks reached this city to-day to confer with Secretary Chase on the financial policy which should be adopted by the Government.

The Committee on Ways and Means of the House are drawing up a bill providing for heavy excise duties to be levied on materials of luxury.

Secretaries Seward and Chase have offered their aid, in reply to applications, to procure cotton seed for growth in Southern Illinois and in other parts of the West, where it is thought cotton can be cultivated.

The *National Republican*, of this morning, contains the following:

"We are happy to state, on the authority of Dr. Verdi, the attending physician of General McClellan, that the General is convalescent and doing well, and that there has never been any cause for serious apprehension in his case. We saw Dr. Verdi at 7 o'clock last evening. He stated to us at the same time, that Gen. Marcy was quite well, not confined to his bed, and would have been out yesterday, if the weather had been pleasant."

MICHIGAN STATE LEGISLATURE.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

DETROIT, Jan. 3.

The extra session of the Michigan Legislature convened at Lansing yesterday. The Governor's Message suggest the liquidation of a direct Federal tax. by releasing the Federal Government from reimbursing the State on account of war expenses to an equal amount.

Twenty-four thousand men have been furnished by Michigan for the war, of which ten regiments are for three years, one battery of artillery, and one regiment of three months volunteers have been raised at the expense of the State, costing $539,000, of which $92,000 have been refunded by the United States Government.

In view of the manifest disposition of foreign powers to intermeddle with our domestic affairs he recommends that provision be made for the organization of uniform militia to constitute an active force, their speedy enrollment to be subject to draft at any time, and while not favoring the erection of extensive fortifications advises the Legislature to urge upon Congress the immediate necessity of establishing, at some convenient place in the North-West, an arsenal and manufactory of arms and munitions of war, and also a naval station to be located in Michigan, as being the most advantageous, both for the extent of her coast and her unrivalled resources for ship-building.

In alluding to national affairs he attributes our complications abroad and troubles at home to the inactivity of the army, and says the people will not tamely submit to see our armies used to protect the slave property of the rebels when the most active means should be taken to suppress the rebellion, sparing nothing and apologizing to nobody for our actions.

Destructive Fire in Philadelphia.

Burning of the Office of Howard's Express and the American Telegraph Company.

NARROW ESCAPE OF LIVES

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3.

About three o'clock this morning a fire was discovered in the extensive granite building No. 105 South Third street, and No. 248 Chestnut streets, the structure having two fronts. On Chestnut street the building is six stories in heighth, and on Third street five, and is one of the most substantial edifices in the city.

On Third street the basement is occupied by John Trenwith, dealer in newspapers and periodicals. A portion is also occupied by the American Telegraph Company as a storage room. The telegraph battery was kept in the vault, under the pavement.

The first story was occupied by the American Telegraph Company as an office and the fourth story by the same as an operating room.

The remainder of the building was occupied by Messrs. Obertenffer & Fretytag.

On Chestnut street, the basement and first floor were occupied by Howard & Co.'s Express, and the Harnden & Howard Express Companies, and the second, third, fifth and sixth, by Messrs. Oberteuffer & Freytag, importers of foreign dry goods—French, German and Swiss fabrics, consisting of silks, white goods, laces, ribbons, &c. The fourth floor formed a part of the telegraphing operating room, the building being in the shape of an L.

The fire broke out in Trenwith's newspaper depot, on Third street, and burned very fiercely. All the stock and fixtures of this room were destroyed. The loss is estimated at two thousand dollars, upon which there is no insurance.

The contents of the other portion of the cellar were also destroyed, and the telegraphic battery was completely ruined.

The office of the Telegraph Company, which had been recently been fitted up, was completely wrecked, but, fortunately, the operating room escaped, except a slight injury to the instruments, from rust, which was speedy remedied. The loss of the company will be about $1,000. Insured in the Fire Association.

[illegible] been in the Express office. The rooms to have furniture, ordinary account books, way bills, letters, and a quantity of loose papers were all destroyed. The principal books and money packages were in the fire proof, and were saved. But few packages for shipment were on hand, three large loads having been sent to the depots, last evening. The goods received by the late trains were not taken into the building, but were upon the sidewalk. About two hundred packages of different descriptions, stored in the cellar, principally unclaimed goods, were destroyed. Their value cannot be estimated.—The total loss of the express company will be about $2,500. No insurance.

The building is owned by Dr. David Jayne. Loss about $2,000. Insured in the Royal and other companies.

The occupants of several of the adjoining buildings suffered by water.

At the time the fire broke out four young men were on duty in the fourth story—telegraph room. They were Wm. F. Snyder and Marion Smith, operators and George Maull and Edward Summers, office boys. The hatchways having been open, a dense smoke soon pervaded the room and the retreat of the young men by the staircase on Third street was cut off. The atmosphere was momentarily becoming more suffocating, and the chances of escape were exceedingly slim. The endangered persons made their way to the windows on Chestnut street, by which they obtained fresh air. Through great exertions they succeeded in attracting the attention of the firemen below, on Chestnut street, and arrangements were at once made to release them from their perilous situation. The scene at this moment was very thrilling. A short delay and the unfortunate individuals would have been compelled to leap to the ground or suffer death by suffocation.

FROM PORT ROYAL.

Preparations for Another Naval Expedition.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.

Letters from Port Royal to the 30th ult. state that Commodore Dupont is preparing for a new naval demonstration. The gunboats are concentrating there, and the sailors are practicing with a large number of launches in the work of landing troops. About ten thousand soldiers could be spared from Hilton Head, in addition to Gen. Stevens' Brigade, to operate against Charleston, Savannah or the rebel forces at Cosawachie. The latter is most likely the point to be attacked.

FROM BALTIMORE.

Prepartions for the Reception of the Union Prisoners from Richmond.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 3.

Passengers by the Old Point boat state that a flag of truce had come down from Norfolk, but brought no news.

The Union prisoners from Richmond were expected to reach Fortress Monroe to-day and will probably arrive here by the boat to-morrow morning. Arrangements are making to give them a grand reception here and there will be a military escort and our Union citizens will also make a demonstration worthy of the occasion.