Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 5.

CITY AFFAIRS.

☞OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.☜

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the *Gazette*, by G. E. Shaw, Optician, No. 65 Fifth street—corrected daily:

	IN SUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.		33
12 " M.		40
6 " P. M.		42
Barometer	29 5-10	

Fire in Allegheny--Destruction of Irwin & Co.'s Rope Works--Frightful Leap of a Girl--Loss about $80,000.

On Thursday evening, about dusk, fire was discovered issuing from the main building of Irwin & Co.'s rope works, located on what is known as Smoky Island, in the Allegheny river, opposite the Point. The building being of frame, and stocked with combustible material, such as hemp, oakum, tar, etc., the flames spread with great rapidity, and in a few minutes it was completely enveloped. The main building was three stories in height, in the rear of which was a "walk" running down the river a distance of twelve hundred feet, and one story high. The whole structure was elevated upon a heavy trestle work, reaching above high water mark.

The alarm was promptly spread, and the engines were soon on the ground, but it was impossible to save the main building, owing to the rapidity of the flames. The firemen, however, succeeded in staying the progress of the fire along the "walk," thus saving about one hundred feet of the lower end. The roof of the building was consumed like a bridge, or a steamboat, causing a great light and intense heat, and filling the air with falling sparks. The sight was grand, but of short duration.

Two young women were employed in the third story, one of whom had just left for supper. The other, Miss Susan Kesterwiley, had not left the room. She rushed to the stairway as soon as she heard the alarm, but the smoke and flame were so thick in that end of the room that she did not dare to venture down by the stairs. A moment's hesitation, and the fearful thought flashed upon her that she must jump from a window or perish in the flames. She rushed from one window to another, in that large room, but shuddered at the prospect before her, as she would have a distance of from 25 to 30 feet to fall! Her situation was observed from below, and men and women cried aloud to her to jump out or she would be burnt to death. Still she hesitated, but the devouring flame and the suffocating smoke soon forced her to decide, and she raised the sash and got out. Again she faltered—standing amid the issuing smoke, holding on to the sash, and looking down from her giddy perch upon the exciting scene below. Again the cries of "jump!" "jump!" sounded in her ears, and like one who abandons a burning vessel, expecting only to find death in a less terrible form, she let go her hold and made the frightful leap! Several men stood immediately below, but as she descended through the air they fled from beneath her. At the same instant when these courageous men were fleeing, a noble-hearted girl named Hannah Sharp was rushing directly under, with upraised hands, and was just in time to break the fall—the two girls going to the ground together. On being taken up, Miss Kesterwiley was found to be seriously injured. No bones were broken, but she was badly hurt internally, and was removed to the boarding house of Mrs. Susan Kennedy, on Marion avenue, where she had been stopping. Miss Sharp was badly stunned, and somewhat hurt about the head, but not dangerously. Dr. Herron attends Miss Kesterwiley, but can give no definite opinion as to her condition at present. Her spine is injured, and she may not recover. She is an orphan, and came here some time since from Indiana county. She was saved from instant death from two causes—the fact that she jumped in an erect position, her skirts acting as a parachute; and the partial breaking of the fall by Miss Sharp.

The works were owned by Messrs. John Irwin, H. L. Bollman, and Elisha Fulton. They were erected about a year since, at a very large outlay of capital. The building, machinery, stock, etc., were valued at between $75,000 and $80,000. We understand that the owners have an insurance of $20,000. They had a contract from the Government, and were running their works during a part of the night. Their machinery was very valuable, and will be almost a total loss. The building was expensive, and was covered, roof and sides, with sheet iron.

Mr. Irvin was the pioneer in the rope business here, and at one time did a very large business throughout the west and south. Some years ago the ground upon which his works were located, in the First ward, Allegheny, was vacated and divided into building lots, and the rope business abandoned. During the twenty-five or thirty years in which he conducted the business, he suffered severely from fire—his works having been burnt twice, if we remember correctly, and his warehouse, in this city being twice destroyed. His great energy overcame all difficulties, and in the decline of life he projected and erected the present works, which now lie a heap of ruins. They were built amid great public opposition, as the right to occupy the ground in the bed of the river was denied by many, although he claimed an equitable title. The origin of the fire is uncertain, but it was undoubtedly accidental.

Meeting of Allegheny Councils.

The Councils of Allegheny held a regular monthly meeting last evening—members generally present.

In *Select*, the following business was transacted:

Petition from M. McGonnigle, asking for compensation for additional labor performed as Clerk of the Markets. Referred to Market Committee, to report.

Reports of the Committees on Streets, Police and Water, with resolutions for the payment of sundry bills, read, and resolutions adopted.

Communication from the MAYOR, relative to the present mode of emptying filth into the Allegheny river, and recommending the removal of Mr. Scott, as he has not discharged his duties properly. Councils were also requested to modify certain ordinances, particularly the one in reference to disorderly conduct. The communication was referred to the Ordinance Committee, with instructions to report an ordinance or ordinances covering the whole ground.

Memorial from the Poor Directors, asking Councils to take some action for the relief of the families of volunteers in the army. Referred to Committee on Poor Farm, to report.

Communication from James Park, Jr., Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Controllers, asking Councils to pay over $337 33, due to said Board, as fines and forfeitures under the liquor law. Referred to Finance Committee, with power to act.

Mr. Wm. Walker, of the Third Ward, tendered his resignation as a member of Council, having removed to the country. The President, and several other members, paid Mr. Walker a very high compliment for the ability, faithfulness and liberality which he had always exhibited in attending to the business and interests of the city. The resignation was accepted, as his removal rendered him ineligible.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing payment of balance of judgment, interest and costs in the case of Wm. Magee for use vs. Allegheny; and also the costs and expenses in the case of Allegheny vs. M'Gonnigle, and M'Gonnigle vs. Allegheny.

Resolution to appoint Committee of five—two from Select and three from Common Council—to audit the city accounts. Adopted, and Messrs. Ashworth and Kirkpatrick, of S. C., and Messrs. Francis, Whiston and J. Brown, jr., of C. C. appointed.

Resolution instructing the Street Committee to contract for the grading and paving of Pitt alley, from Ohio street to Gay alley, and Gay alley from Federal street east to Pitt alley. Referred to Committee on Streets, with power to act.

In *Common Council*, resolution of inquiry relating to the time of extinguishing the city lamps. Referred to Committee on Gas.

Resolution instructing the Committee on Gas to have four lights kept burning at night in the old market house—two on each side. Adopted.

A number of resolutions were adopted, authorizing the payment of sundry bills, after which Councils adjourned.

☞ OBITUARIES CARDS will be taken at the Gazette office, No. 405 Liberty street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance.

Pittsburgh Female College--I. C. Pearsons, D.D., Principal.

The present institution is in a very prosperous condition, and is steadily gaining in public favor. The faculty is composed of seventeen carefully selected teachers, some of whom have eighteen to twenty years experience. During the term just closed two hundred and twenty-one pupils were in regular attendance.

The Literary Entertainment of the Browning Association of this institution took place last evening at the Liberty street Methodist Episcopal Church.

The exercises were opened with prayer by the Rev. A. J. Endsley, pastor of the Church.

Music by Miss Clara Reese, who performed several patriotic airs admirably.

"God's Library"—An impressive essay by Miss Sade F. Parry, replete with pure and lofty sentiment—glancing rapidly at many objects of the sublime and beautiful in the moral and natural universe, under the unique and striking image of "God's Library."

"Horizons"—An essay, by Miss Lydia A. Robinson—beautifully expressed, but a little transcendental.

Song—"Come and rest, ye weary." By Miss Rosie Krider and Miss Kate Kincaid. Very pretty.

Discussion—Question: "Are the existing divisions of the Church favorable to the growth of Christianity."

Affirmative—Miss Prescilla M. Verner.

Negative—Miss Anna F. Simpson.

Both sides were ably and admirably maintained. The first lady based her argument upon the hard and inexorable logic of existing facts, maintaining that from the very constitution of the human mind, truth cannot but be viewed from different standpoints and through diverse mediums; and that this diversity of views need not, and does not, retard the development of christian character. The lady who took the negative side of the question spoke in strong and eloquent terms of the enemies of God, of Truth—"one faith, one hope, one baptism;" and constrained her hearers, at least for the moment, to believe with her that the existing divisions among Christians are not favorable to the growth of Christianity. And both these ladies proved another point, which it was not their immediate object to prove—that the education which can develope such logic and such language is by no means superficial.

Song—"Make me no gaudy chaplet"—Miss Rosie Krider and Miss Kate Kincaid.

Essay—"The Best Policy"—By Miss Hannah R. Christy—a vigorous and very original production, well expressed, and which dealt some hard blows at a certain, or we should rather say an *uncertain*, class of politicians.

Music—"A Bridal Song"—Miss Essie J. Krider. Good.

"Thanksgiving Day," a Poem, by Miss Cora J. Stevens, full of good, touching sentiment; thoughts joyous, sublime, sad—playing upon the chords of the heart as a master of music would touch a harp. There may have been faults, but if so, we were in no mood to note them.

Song—"The Soldier's Return"—Miss Anna F. Simpson.

President Pershing, at the close of the exercises, tendered thanks to the audience for their marked attention, and announced that the Winter term would commence Tuesday next; after which Bishop Simpson, President of the Board of Trustees, pronounced the Benediction.

Radicalism.

We had prepared a somewhat extended notice of Rev. A. Clark's lecture on "Radicalism," delivered in the Methodist Protestant Church, East Common, Allegheny, on Wednesday evening, but a press of news has compelled us to forego its publication. The lecturer treats his subject in a masterly manner, and some of the finer passages are as bold in thought as they are elegant in diction. The delivery of the lecture is pleasing, as the author has devoted much attention to the study of elocution, and has succeeded in attaining a practical knowledge of the art. The lecture has been well received wherever delivered, and should not be surprised to hear of Mr. Clark receiving a call from some of the Eastern Churches here and elsewhere.

BLACKWOOD FOR NOVEMBER.—Mr. W. A. Gildemeister, 45 Fifth street, has received from the publishers, Messrs. L. Scott & Co., New York, the number of Blackwood for November, just republished for American readers. The contents are—Cantains; the Scot in France; Chronicles of Carlingford; Clough's Poems; the Land Revenue of India; Thiers on Waterloo; a Deathless Love; the Origin of the American War—There is no article in the number so weak as the last one—that being, almost as a matter of course, both weak and foolish. The review of Thiers on Waterloo, as a historical and military, and that of Clough's Poems as a literary, essay, will be read with interest. Wingate's poem and Bulwer Lytton's "Cantonians" are also sure to please. Nor will the "Scot in France" be justly passed over with indifference.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES.

GROVER AND BAKER'S SEWING MACHINE, for family and manufacturing purposes, are the best in use.

A. F. CHAPONY, General Agent,
No. 18, Fifth street.

ATTENTION Co. B.—You are requested to meet at the armory on Federal street, on Saturday, 6th inst., at 1 o'clock p. m., in full uniform, for parade for target practice and drill. A full turn out is requested. By order of the CAPTAIN.

FOR FALL AND WINTER WEAR.—The winter is upon us, and we must provide ourselves with the material to keep us comfortable. A good and well-made overcoat is the very article, and we don't know of any place where our readers can get one that will look as well, and at the same time withstand the most severe weather, as at W. H. McGee & Co.'s, corner of Federal street and Diamond Square, Allegheny. Their stock of overcoatings, business and dress clothing, pantaloons of all descriptions, are well assorted, and of the latest style. The gentlemen's furnishing goods department is all that a purchaser would wish. Call on McGee & Co. if you desire a nice suit.

SAMUEL GRAHAM, merchant tailor, would most respectfully inform his friends and the public generally that he has returned from the East with his new stock of fall and winter goods. His stock consists of the latest styles of cloths, cassimeres and vestings, selected from the latest importations. Gentlemen desiring a neat fitting garment, and at prices lower than at any other tailoring establishment in the city, would do well to give him an early call. Samuel Graham, merchant tailor, No. 54 Market street, one door from Third.

SMALL FOX has already sacrificed some of our best and bravest troops. Soldiers, listen to the voice of reason, supply yourselves with Holloway's Pills and Ointment. The pills purify the blood and strengthen the stomach, while the ointment removes all pain, and prevents pit marks. Only 25 cents per box or pot. 231

NOTICE to the property owners of this city is hereby given, that any repairs needed about their houses will be done promptly, if they leave their order at Cuthbert's Carpenter and Joining Shop, on Virgin alley, just above Smithfield street.

Dr. C. T. SINTENIS, German Teacher and Translator. Address Post Office box 48.

DIED:

ACHESON—On Thursday, December 4th, 1862, at 1¼ o'clock a. m., of diphtheria, WILLIS I. KIDD, son of Marcus W. and Sophia D. Acheson, aged 2 years and 6 months.

Funeral from the residence of the parents, No. 136 Wylie street, on FRIDAY, 5th inst., at 2 o'clock p. m.

THE St. Josephs (Mo.) *Herald*, published in the vicinity of the place where General McNeil recently executed ten rebel guerrillas, says of the demand for the surrender of that officer: "We wish we had a thousand McNeils in the land. If Jeff. Davis wishes to exchange Federal officers, let him begin the work. Guerrillas are sent into this State from the Union men in the back as they pass along the highways, attending to their business. Gen. McNeil ordered ten of them to be shot. We wish the number had been greater. It is high time that Missouri was rid of bushwhackers and bushwhacking sympathisers. Gen. McNeil has fearlessly done his duty. Let the Government stand by him, and let Union men everywhere put their feet on men who sympathize with Jeff. Davis in his attempts to prevent the punishment of guerrillas."

THE LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1862.

APPOINTMENTS.

The list of newly appointed Brigadier Generals are still secret. The following additional appointments, however, become public: Cols. Vandever, 9th Iowa; Williams, 3d Iowa; Lowe, 5th Iowa; Burry, 3d Iowa Cavalry. It is understood that some changes are being made in this list, and appointments cannot, therefore, be regarded absolutely safe till the list is sent to the Senate. There will be difficulty in confirming any of them. The present law expressly limits the number of Brigadier Generals to two hundred. The appointment of more is regarded by military men as an absolute necessity, since the late levies; but the law must be repealed before they can be confirmed, and some will oppose the repeal of the law, believing that we have too many Brigadier Generals now.

GENERAL SIGEL.

Pope's references to Sigel, in his dispatches lately brought in Halleck's reports, has created the bitterest possible feeling among Sigel's friends, who freely accuse Pope of duplicity, and quote as one evidence of it his speech in Chicago, made shortly after he had in these dispatches to Halleck declared Sigel unreliable and unfit for command, in which speech he professed the highest respect for Sigel as a soldier and a gentleman. They say they now are determined to have all the charges against Sigel cleared up.

Later.—Gen. Sigel has demanded a Court of Inquiry to investigate the charges brought against him in Pope's dispatch, published in Halleck's report. Now, the fight opens.

POPE'S TESTIMONY IN PORTER'S TRIAL.

In Fitz John Porter's court-martial to-day, Pope was examined. His testimony went to establish the truth of the charges against Porter of wilfully disobeying orders, and refusing to engage the enemy on the battle field. A pretty clear case seemed made out against Porter, but his counsel, in cross-examining Pope, involved him in contradiction, which will somewhat damage his evidence. They got him to admit that five days after the battles were over, he told Porter he had nothing against him of sufficient magnitude to warrant any proceedings. When asked why he told Porter he refused to answer.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

Congress did little to-day beyond listen to eulogies on the late Senator Thompson, of New Jersey. Those by Ten Eyck and Latham were peculiarly happy.

Business comes in slowly, the Committee being unable, as yet, to mature much. Both houses would have adjourned over till Monday to let the Committee work, but for the desire to receive Chase's report to-morrow.

A remonstration against West Point Academy was tabled in a manner which shows that as yet there is little danger of the abolition of that institution. The number is increasing, however, of influential men, who declare they will never vote for further appropriations for it.

TEN BEEF-TEA (SWINDLE.

The efforts in the Cincinnati papers to explain away the late attempted beef-tea swindle on Medical Department, is utterly false. The material was mere starch, and was represented by Wayne as granulated beef. Medical men say it would have been very injurious in cases for which real granulated beef would have been beneficial. The swindle was thus attempted on sick soldiers, as well as on the government. Some Philadelphia firms have also been detested in furnishing grossly adulterated liquors for army medical use.

SUCCESSORSHIP TO SMITH.

The successorship to Smith in the Cabinet still excites speculation. Several heads of the bureau in the Department are said to favor Usher. Senators Wright, McKee, Dunn and Defrees, also talked of Holt, and believes he stands the fairest chance yet with the President. The Indiana delegation do not insist that the successor shall be taken from their State.

SUICIDE OF CAPT. ELWOOD.

The suicide of Capt. Elwood, on account of his arrest, continues to elicit complaints against the whole system of arrests as practiced throughout the North by the military authorities. The opposition in Congress will make it a pretext for the violent abuse of the Administration. Elwood was an officer in the regular army, from Ohio, and was appointed from civil life.

PRISONERS RETURNED ON PAROLE.

Four prisoners taken by Stuart in his first raid into Pennsylvania, returned from Richmond to-day, on thirty days parole. They make the usual complaints about ill treatment, being robbed of their blankets, etc., and give the usual representations about the suffering and scarcity of provisions among the rebels.

THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA COMPLAINING.

An intercepted correspondence of the rebel Governor Bowen, of Louisiana, and Jeff. Davis, shows a bitter feeling, in consequence of Davis having prohibited trade with New Orleans, thus causing great suffering, as was supposed, among the people.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Under the present organization the movement against the Department of Agriculture, inaugurated by Mr. Lane, of Indiana. The Senate bill is urged on the ground that as at present organized the Department is of no use to anybody except men who have offices in it.

ANOTHER IMBROGLIO.

It is pretty evident that we shall soon have another military imbroglio on hand similar to the present ones about Porter, Buell and McDowell.

MR. SEWARD'S CORRESPONDENCE.

The publication of Mr. Seward's diplomatic correspondence was unexpectedly delayed for some reason that nobody understands.

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

[Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 6, 1862.

A special to the *Press*, dated yesterday, says it is believed from official advices just received here from the Army of the Potomac, that a great battle will be fought at Fredericksburg to-day or to-morrow.

General Banks' expedition has sailed from New York whither, no one, save the authorities, know.

We shall strike the enemy heavily from many points simultaneously very soon.

Gen. Hooker has sent an application to the War Department asking a command for Gen. Stone. It was returned endorsed "not granted."

Two brigades of rebels now occupy Winchester. They say they do not intend to evacuate the place. Gen. J. R. Jones is in command. D.

From Montreal.

MONTREAL, Dec. 4.—The thermometer, this morning, has fallen to 40° above zero. Navigation has been closed, the last river steamer leaving to-day for winter quarters. To-day is observed as Thanksgiving throughout the Province.

XXVIIITH CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1862.

HOUSE.—Mr. Van Wyck, of N. Y., gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to amend the Revenue law by reducing the tax on hemlock tanned leather to four mills per pound.

The Committee were called upon for their reports, but there was no reply.

Mr. Aldrich, of Minn., introduced a bill to grant the proceeds of the sales of certain public lands to aid the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Referred to the Select Committee on that subject.

Mr. Wickliffe, of Ky., offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee of the Judiciary inquire into and report on the following subjects:

First—Under what law there has been appointed a Military Governor for the District of Columbia.

Second—What power does he possess or exercise, and under what law has he derived his power.

Third—What salary or compensation has been paid him, and under what appropriations.

Fourth—What is the entire expense of such a Military Governor, including all sums paid for guard houses and prisons, and for house rents, servants, soldiers and assistants under his control.

Fifth—Whether the said office of Military Governor has interferred with or obstructed the administration of justice and law by the civil or judicial tribunal within the District of Columbia, and state the facts of such obstructions.

Mr. Wickliffe moved the previous question, which was not seconded; yeas, 33; nays, 62.

Mr. Wickliffe—"Have I a right to say anything?"

The Speaker replied—"If a debate arises the resolution goes over."

Mr. Wickliffe—"When can I look for the resolution to come up?" (Laughter.)

The Speaker—"The Chair cannot answer."

Mr. Wickliffe—"I'll offer it every morning, if in order."

Mr. Biddle, of Pa.—"I desire to offer an amendment."

Mr. Washburne moved to debate the resolution.

The Speaker informed the gentleman that he could deprive the gentleman from Pennsylvania of the right to the floor.

Mr. Biddle proposed an amendment, which Mr. Wickliffe accepted, also inquiring under what authority the said Military Governor extended his power to Pennsylvania, or any other State.

Mr. Biddle moved the previous question.

Mr. Olin, of N. Y., moved to lay the resolution on the table. Carried; yeas, 85; nays, 46.

Mr. Ashley, of Ohio, said that during the late canvass in Ohio a number of private and confidential letters, written by him to the Surveyor General of Colorado, touching the latter's application and appointment to office, had been published, in connection with a newspaper comment, charging him with swindling and defrauding the government. He sought an investigation into his conduct, conscious that he had discharged his duties with fidelity as a Representative. It was due that this should be accorded. He therefore offered a resolution for the appointment of a select committee of five to investigate the truth of the charges referred to, and to inquire into the whole subject matter, and to send for persons and papers, and to employ a stenographer.

Mr. Richardson, of Ill., said there were no specific charges in the resolution into which the Committee would examine. If the Committee were going to investigate there should be something more than vague and floating rumors and statements.

Mr. Thomas, of Mass., asked that the letters referred to be read in order that the House might understand on what the charges are made.

Mr. Lovejoy, of Ill., also thought that the charges should be set forth, and that witnesses should be examined under oath.

Mr. Dawes, of Mass., was of the opinion that the resolution should embody a list of the letters.

Mr. Cox, of Ohio, said a copy of these letters had been sent to him as well as to other members. Many of the gentleman's constituents demand an investigation, with a view of his expulsion if the charges were true. His colleague should demand an investigation, if the letters which he (Mr. Cox) presented were genuine. If so it was the duty of his colleague to explain them, in order that he may occupy an honorable seat. His colleague has been re-elected to the House, and his constituents, as well as the public, justice and decency, required that a full examination should take place. The House ought not to set a precedent in examining the subject as proposed, unless they had before them something more than a common clamor.

Mr. Ashley withdrew his resolution with a view of modifying it so as to meet the objections as to its phraseology.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire and report on what measures are necessary for the better care of the sick and wounded soldiers.

Mr. Hutchins, of Ohio, offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire and report as to the propriety of dispensing with the West Point Military Academy, and instead thereof, aiding in the endowment of military schools in the several States. The resolution was rejected yeas 48, nays 78.

Mr. Aldrich, of Minn., offered a bill to reduce the Congressional mileage. Referred to the Committee on Mileage.

Messrs. Nixon, Steele and Perry, of N. J., severally delivered an eulogy upon the death of Senator Thompson. The usual resolutions of respect were adopted, when the House adjourned till to-morrow, when the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will be sent in.

SENATE.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, offered a resolution requesting the President, if compatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Senate all correspondence, telegrams, letters and reports concerning the military operations of the army of the Potomac, and all correspondence, telegrams and reports relating to the surrender of Harper's Ferry, and the testimony taken before the Investigating Committee upon such surrender.

Mr. Ten Eyck, of N. J., announced the death of his colleague Mr. John Thompson. He spoke briefly of the good qualities of the deceased Senator. Mr. Thompson was born in Philadelphia, Sept. 25th, 1800, and was nearly 62 years of age when he died. He was always a prominent man of the State of New Jersey, a true patriot at heart, and a supporter of his country in its hour of trial, when he sternly denounced the crime of secession and the traitors who endeavored to destroy the Union. Mr. Ten Eyck offered the customary resolutions, and Messrs. Latham, of Cal., Price, of Minn., Field, of N. J., and Anthony, of R. I., also delivered brief eulogies.

Mr. Hale, of N. H., offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of providing by law that appointments in the volunteer naval service shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

Mr. Wright, of Indiana, offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the propriety of reporting a bill requiring that all soldiers hereafter discharged shall be discharged within the limits of their own State. Agreed to.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 3.—The steamboat City of Hudson took fire this morning, soon after her arrival from Norfolk, but the flames were extinguished with but slight damage to the vessel.

It is rumored that a reconnoitering party from Suffolk, in command of Col. Spear, of the 11th Pennsylvania cavalry, had a skirmish off Black water yesterday, capturing a rebel battery and taking forty prisoners without the loss of a man.

The steamboat New York, with a flag of truce, left this afternoon for City Point with one hundred rebel prisoners.

A storm commenced here this morning.

We learn from those who have had an opportunity of seeing for themselves that Petersburg, and along the route between there and Richmond, is being strongly fortified by digging rifle pits and throwing up earthworks. Large forces are at work upon them day and night.

We also learn from a reliable source that the channel through the Stone Blockade at Charleston is temporarily obstructed by the use of railroad iron, so that the rebels can readily remove it for their own use.

From Cairo.

CAIRO, Dec. 4.—Memphis papers say that Gen. Holmes crossed from Arkansas to Mississippi; at Vicksburg, last week, with a force estimated at 40,000 men.

The guerrillas are still very troublesome in the vicinity of Memphis. They continue to burn cotton and press men into the Confederate service. They have also picked up a number of stragglers from our army.

The expedition which left Helena last week is said to have numbered 20,000 men.

Important from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The following has been received at the headquarters of the army:

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD NEAR ASHEVILLE, December 31, 1862.

To H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief:

The enemy deserted their fortifications yesterday, destroying all the stores that they could not carry away. The weather is bad and the stream somewhat swollen, making it difficult to cross. Some of the cavalry swam the river, however, and occupied this place last night. To-day pursuit was made to Oxford, coming on the rear guard of the enemy. The skirmishing lasted two hours, resulting in the capture of some sixty rebels. The pursuit will be continued to-morrow, but the roads are so bad it is impossible to get up supplies for a longer continuance of it. Gen. Sherman is crossing at Wyatt.

[Signed,] U. S. GRANT, Maj. Gen.

The chevalier Bartenatta, umpire of the Joint Commission for the adjudication of claims against Costa Rica, to-day notified the Secretary of the Commission, as follows:

I will receive no observations, either verbal, printed or written, from either party interested after the 15th of the present month.

The President sent a brief message to the House to-day, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, relative to the collision of the war steamer San Jacinto with the French Juez steamer Maria, off the coast of Cuba in November last. He recommends an appropriation of $9,500 for the reparation of damages to the latter. Through neglect on the part of the officers of the San Jacinto, in accordance with the verdicts of a naval commission, composed of officers of this country, France and Italy and the United States Consul at Havana, and the Consul of France.

The fact is elicited from the Surgeon General's Office that there is no such office as Surgeon-Generalists known to the army or navy. The title has been unwarrantably assumed.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will be sent to Congress at noon to-morrow. Every precaution has been taken to guard against the premature disclosure of its contents.

The court martial in the case of Gen. Fitz John Porter was in session again to-day, Gen. John Pope being the witness under examination. The substance of his testimony was that it was his firm conviction that if Gen. Porter had obeyed his orders promptly he could have entirely defeated if not captured Jackson's army.

Senator Wilkinson, of Minn., to-day presented an earnest but respectful protest to the President, against a pardon or reprieve of the condemned "Indians in that State. After reading this paper to the President, Messrs. Windon and Aldrich being present, heartily endorsed his protest and desiring to join therein with Senator Wilkinson, thereby making it the unanimous action of the entire Republican delegation.

The following is the resolution submitted by Hon. Thadeus Stevens, of Penna., in the House to-day:

Resolved, That if any person in the employment of the United States, in either the Legislative or Executive branch, should propose to make peace, or should accept or advise the acceptance of any such proposition on any basis than the integrity and entire unity of the United States and their territories as they existed at the time of the rebellion, he will be guilty of a high crime.

Resolved, That this government can never accept the mediation or permit the intervention of any foreign nation in this rebellion in our domestic affairs.

Resolved, That no two governments can ever be permitted to exist within the territory now belonging to the United States, and which acknowledged their jurisdiction at the time of the insurrection.

From North Carolina.

NEWBERNE, N. C., Nov. 28.—Yesterday was observed as Thanksgiving by the troops and loyal citizens of this department, by order of Maj. Gen. Foster, commanding. All places of business in Newberne were very generally closed, and the day passed off without disorder.

Twenty-one men of the Maine artillery deserted on the night of the 25th inst., in a sail boat, taking with them their muskets, cutlasses and pistols. The difficulty appears to have been about their pay.

Petitions requesting Gov. Stanley to order an election for the remainder of the term of the present Congress are in general and active circulation in eastern North Carolina.

Dr. Hunt, a skilful surgeon of the 27th regiment, Mass. Vols., was shot by the guerrillas on the Jamestown road near Washington, N. C., a few days since. His two companions barely escaped the same fate, one of them, however, being wounded. This wanton murder has produced intense excitement. Many arrests are being made by the Federal authorities.

Gen. Foster is determined to stop the smuggling operations which has been carried on extensively by professed Unionists, and his energetic measures have gone far to remedy the evil.

Rev. James Means, of Massachusetts, Chaplain to the U. S. Hospital here, has just been appointed to the responsible and laborious position of Superintendent of Contrabands, a post for which he is excellently fitted.

Lieut. H. B. Foster, a brother of Charles H. Foster, of North Carolina, has been promoted to the position of Assistant Adjutant General to Major General Peck, commanding the United States forces at Suffolk.

Late papers from Raleigh, received here, indicate a strong feeling of disgust with this bloody war, and a growing and prevalent desire for honorable peace.

Our forces have taken possession of the village of Greenville, on the Tar river.

Pirate Alabama--Public Debt.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held to-day, a letter was read from Secretary Welles, stating that an additional force will be dispatched in search of the pirate Alabama, as soon as possible. There is no authority for granting commissions to private vessels to search for the Alabama, or other piratical vessels or privateers. The Chamber of Commerce adopted resolutions asking the government to send several war vessels to cruise on the eastern coast of South America.

A Washington dispatch to the *Post* says: Secretary Chase's report will be sent North by this evening's mail. His estimate of the publicdebt will exceed $1,050,000,000 on the 1st of July next.

Latest from California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—The Grand Jury of San Francisco have indicted thirty-six gamblers. This has caused quite a stampede among the sporting fraternity. A rigid anti-gambling law will be the principal reform measure asked of the next Legislature.

The President's Message was published in the San Francisco and Sacramento papers this morning, it having been telegraphed from Chicago in eight hours.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—The Ophir silver mine company have declared a December dividend of $72 per foot.

Gen. Wright has ordered troops to protect the Humboldt region.

Arrival of the Saxonia.

NEW YORK, December 4.—The steamship Saxonia has been signalled below.

Markets by Telegraph.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4—Evening.—Flour unchanged; there is 10c difference between the buyers and sellers; superfine is held at $5 20@5 25. Wheat is unchanged and firm at $1 05@1 12 for prime red and white. Corn sold at 44@45c. Oats held at 47@50c. Whisky sold at 32c and in good demand. Hogs active; heavy at $4 60@4 70, and light is held at $4@4 50; receipts 12,000. No sales of mess pork. There is an active demand for lard prices are ¼@¾c higher, and closing with few sellers, at 6¼@6¾ country sold at 8½@8¾c, delivered at points in the interior, and city at 8¼c. There is a good demand for bulk shoulders at 5c, but they are held at 5½@5¾c; light hams, 11¼c, and in good demand. Heavy hogs sells at 6¾c. Groceries unchanged.

Gold advanced to 131; silver 123; demand notes 125, and exchange is dull at par.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4—Evening.—Cotton unchanged; sales of 300 bales at 67½@67c. Flour advanced; 21,000 bbls sold. Wheat advanced 1@3c; sales of 250,000 bush choice white Kentucky at $1 78. Corn has advanced 1c; sales of 145,000. Provisions—pork is buoyant at $15 25@15 37½. Whisky firm.

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

The river was falling slowly at this point yesterday, with six feet by the pier mark last evening. The weather continues cloudy and cold and apparently settled.

There was not a single arrival from below yesterday, and, as might be expected, business was not very brisk on the wharf. There are several boats due, some of which will, doubtless, arrive to-day. The Parthenia and Malnotta, from Cincinnati, will be among the first to arrive.

The Nellie Rogers, for Cincinnati, and the Emma No. 3, for St. Louis, cleared last evening with an excellent trip. They both had all the freight they could take and quite a number of passengers.

The Louis Martin came up from the Marine Railway yesterday, where she has been undergoing repairs. She will leave for Evansville to-morrow at 4 p. m.

We regret to learn that Capt. Marratta, of the steamer Emma No. 2, is unwell and confined to his room. His position on the boat, for the present, will be filled by Capt. Ransom.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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Manufacturers of SHEATHING, BEARINGS AND BOLT COPPER, PRESSED COPPER BOTTOMS, RAISED STILL BOTTOMS, SPALTER SOLDER; also Importers and dealers in METALS, TIN PLATE, SHEET IRON, WIRE, &c. Constantly on hand, TINNERS' MACHINES AND TOOLS.

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mh11:lydaw2

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Manufacture all kinds of STEAM ENGINES AND MILL MACHINERY, CASTINGS, RAILROAD WORK, STEAM BOILERS AND SHEET IRON WORK.

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Have on hand a variety of new Patterns, fancy and plain, suitable for all purposes.

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