Pittsburgh Gazette.

WEDNESDAY MORNING:—DEC. 30, 1863.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

OFFICIAL PAPER.

UNION CITY TICKET.

FOR MAYOR:

JAMES LOWRY, JR.

CITY CONTROLLER:

JOHN McCARGO.

CITY TREASURER:

WILLIAM EICHBAUM.

Arrival of the Vigilant Steam Fire Engine.

The new Steam Fire Engine, built by the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, for the Vigilant fire company of this city, has arrived, and was taken to their engine house on Third street yesterday, where it was fitted up under the superintendence of Mr. S. E. Furlong, agent of the Amoskeag Company. Mr. Furlong informed us that this engine is the handsomest and best ever turned out by his company. She was built at a cost of $4,000, and weighs 7,000 pounds. She has two cylinders, eight inches in diameter, and twelve inch stroke; two double acting pumps, twelve inch stroke, and four and one-fourth inches in diameter, and capable of discharging 800 gallons of water per minute. Her boiler is encased in panelled walnut, as is also her tank, the former containing 349 copper flues. She has besides the large air vessels on the tank, two small cylindrical shaped air vessels, one on each side, which prevent the jerking, jarring motion so often to be found in machines of this kind, and when full geared, throws four streams of water. Her air vessels, lamps, plates, rods, &c., are handsomely silver plated, and the smoke stack is encased with a cupola of planished irons, relieved by a broad band of german silver.

On the summit of the main chamber is a handsome silver plated lamp, which of itself cost $130. The front glass of this lamp contains the letter V cut into it; on the two sides are the Pennsylvania coat of arms, surmounted by the word "Vigilant," and the back glass contains a view of the city of Pittsburgh. The summit of the lamp is set with a golden eagle. On either side of the seat is also a handsome silver plated lamp. The brass cap on the head of the tank has for a design a single eye, the insignia of Odd Fellowship, although in this instance we do not know that this meaning is attached to it. The breaks are so arranged as to be used by the driver, against the front wheels.

The Vigilant Company are now in complete working order. Their house is in excellent condition; they have got a new carriage, on which we noticed a new hose. They have got three splendid horses, and a very convenient stable, and in fact, their entire arrangement for efficiency is complete. Their efforts to perfect their organization have been untiring, and we hope that those efforts will be properly appreciated by those who are destined to reap the benefits of their exertions.

School Exhibition.

An exhibition was given by the pupils of the Excelsior School, West Pittsburgh, on the 24th of December. The exercises were selected declamations and dialogues, with tableaux, and vocal and instrumental music. Before the hour for commencing the exercises had arrived, the school room was filled by one of the most intelligent audiences ever there assembled. The pupils were marched upon the stage, tastefully arrayed in white, which had a most beautiful effect, in contrast with the green foliage of the trees represented in the scenery by which they were surrounded. The members of the Board, members of the Councils and other distinguished individuals occupied seats on either side. The Principal, County Superintendent, choir, and pupils occupied the platform. The effect of the whole arrangement was strikingly beautiful. The performances were all very good, and were well received, some of the performers being interrupted again and again by applause. The vocal music was by Mrs. Smith, and the Misses, and Masters McGrew made music on the piano by Miss Jennie McGraw, with the Vienna march (duet) by the two Misses McGraw. This feature seemed to give great satisfaction to the audience. In addressing the pupils to be rewarded, the Principal appropriately considered the propriety of giving public testimonials. After distributing the bounty, a beautiful prayer, accompanied with an appropriate address, was given by Mr. Stephenson, the Principal, who replied in a most happy manner, and the exercises closed with an eloquent appeal for the cause of education by the County Superintendent, and the singing of the "Red, White and Blue." The piano used on the occasion was kindly furnished by Seidle & Bro., Smithfield street.

Mrs. George Vandenhoff's Readings.

Lafayette Hall was filled to overflowing last night with such an audience, as probably the novel attraction which had been announced could alone have brought out. A beautiful and gifted woman reading from the inspired pages of the poets such well-chosen passages as would best set forth the "characteristics of woman—her women—could hardly have failed to have the high attractiveness which the crowded hall and galleries, last night, proved so abundantly that it actually had. We cannot mention in detail the manifold evidences which the audience gave of its susceptibility to the gentle influences which the double spell of beauty and song ever and anon flung over it—suffice it to say that the warmth of the appreciation was at times so expansive, as evidently to affect the reader—and impress the on-looker with the conviction, that Mrs. Vandenhoff is very likely to feel as kindly towards a Pittsburgh audience hereafter, as her husband confessed he did, after considerable experience of our people, and many visits to our city.

An Excellent Proposition—How to Fill the Quota.

In our advertising columns will be found a generous proposition from a well-known citizen of the First Ward, Allegheny, having for its object the enlistment of volunteers to fill the quota of that ward. If this example was followed by others who are not exempt, as well as by the wealthy thousands who are, the quotas of all the wards might soon be filled up. The plan is a good one, for two reasons—first, the money cannot be squandered and the volunteer's wife left destitute; and, secondly, the substitute has every inducement to serve faithfully. We commend the plan to the consideration of all those interested in recruiting our armies and at the same time avoiding the draft.

"WHAT IS IT?"—The wonderful exhibition in Sylvan's building, corner of Fifth and Smithfield streets, is daily drawing crowds of ladies, gentlemen and children. The Giant General is very pleasant and agreeable; the fat girl, unlike most of her predecessors, is neither unwieldy nor ungraceful. The Albino family are a great curiosity in their way, and very intelligent. The sixth is "Madoramal" image, but as for the remaining curiosity, "What is it?" It is neither a boy nor a monkey, but something between the two. It appears to possess apple intelligence, and is certainly a study for the curious. Go and see for yourselves, and you will be better able to judge.

COMMENCEMENT.—It was our good fortune to be present at the closing exercises of the vocal music class connected with the U. P. Church, Rev. Pollock, held at Turtle Creek, on Saturday afternoon, December 26th. The singing was conducted by their teacher, Mr. W. F. Slack. Just before the close of the concert Mr. Slack said it had just occurred to him that a good opportunity here presented itself for doing some good for our sick and wounded soldiers; he proposed that a collection be taken up, the proceeds to be given to the Christian Commission. This collection, taken up on the spur of the moment, amounted to the handsome sum of twenty-six dollars.

COLLATERAL INHERITANCE TAX.—W. C. Leslie, Esq., executor of the estate of the late Richard L. Ewall, has just paid to the County Register, Wm. J. Richardson, Esq., the sum of $10,462—being the amount of collateral inheritance tax due the State, under the act of Assembly, which provides that five per cent. of the property of any person who dies without issue (or lineal heirs) shall be paid to the Commonwealth. Mr. Ewall's estate was bequeathed to his sister, Mrs. Irwin, of Lawrenceville, and was valued at $211,640.

UNION REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.—The Union Republican Convention yesterday made the following nominations for the Fourth Ward of this city: Select Council—William H. Brown. Common Council—Nathaniel Holmes, John H. Hare. School Directors—Michael Whitmore, David M. Long. Assessor—A. V. Thompson. Assistant Assessor—Alexander Speer, James Vernor. Judge of Election—William W. Speer. Inspector of Election—W. A. Kirkadden. Constable—John Morrison.

DENTAL INSTITUTE, No. 251 Penn street, is the place where you can get the best cheap dentistry in the city. Don't forget the place, No. 251 Penn street, near Hancock.

Report of the City Solicitor.

The following is the annual report of the City Solicitor, which was presented to Councils on Monday evening, and ordered to be published. It is a very interesting document, and evinces that the legal affairs of the city are in competent hands, and that they have been managed with great ability. That portion of the report in reference to the compromise of the railroad indebtedness is very gratifying, and will be read with interest. The entire report will be carefully perused by all those concerned in the welfare of the city:

To the Select and Common Councils of the City of Pittsburgh:

GENTLEMEN:—In compliance with the ordinance prescribing the duties of City Solicitor, I submit this report of the legal business of the city during the last year:

I—CURRENT ASSESSMENTS.

At the beginning of the year the City Treasurer placed in my hands for collection, all the outstanding claims for grading and paving, and for the construction of sewers. There were seventy-seven cases of this kind, embracing claims on seventeen different streets and alleys, and all except fifteen cases were for work done in 1858 and 1859. In several cases no liens had ever been filed against the properties, and in a good many others, in consequence of errors in the descriptions, of mistakes in the name of parties, and the difficulties incident to putting into operation a new system, collections have been slow and troublesome. The property holders on Union alley also contend that that alley is a private alley, and that the city had no right to pave it, or build a sewer therein, and hence refuse to pay for those improvements. And until a decision of the court can be obtained on the question, nothing can be collected on those cases. On the other cases, however, I have collected and paid over to the City Treasurer, two thousand five hundred and eighty-six dollars and forty-seven cents.

On the first of April the Treasurer placed in my hands the book containing the general assessments for grading and paying made in 1858. There were originally about twenty-five hundred assessments. At the time the book was placed in my hands, about eight hundred cases remained unsettled, and several hundred of them were in litigation. I caused notice to be served upon the delinquents, and succeeded without impleading any additional one, in collecting a considerable amount. But several of the parties refused to pay until a final decision should be obtained from the Supreme Court, on the legality and validity of the assessments. I had three cases, the *City vs. Jane Moore*, the *City vs. Andrew McKinney*, and the *City vs. M. Cole*, which had been tried in the District Court more than two years ago, and held back on questions of law reserved, brought up for argument, and obtained judgments in favor of the city. These cases were then taken by the defendants, to the Supreme Court, and final judgments were obtained sustaining the legality and validity of the assessments. While these cases were pending I deemed it best not to issue any new writs or add any additional costs in such cases. But now the delinquents can have no excuse whatever for not paying and if payment be longer delayed, they can have no reason for complaint if costs are added. I have settled 272 of those cases, and collected and paid over to the Treasurer on this account $19,162 58, and collected and paid over to the Prothonotary, $1,102 71 costs in those cases. There yet remain unsettled 400 cases, and the balance remaining unpaid is about thirty-five thousand dollars, ($35,000.) This list embraces all the difficult and doubtful cases, involving perplexity, more trouble and labor in their settlement than all the others. And in consequence of errors in the assessments, of the death of parties, the transfer of properties, and of prior liens and judicial sales, doubtless a considerable amount will be lost. But with attention, promptness and perseverance, perhaps two-thirds of the amount may yet be collected.

II—RAILROAD STOCKS AND NOTES.

At the time of the last report of the City Solicitor, there remained still in the name of the city eleven thousand shares of stock in the Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Company, and one hundred and forty-four shares in the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway Company. All the others had previously been sold on *fi. fa.* executions from the Circuit Court of the United States. The trustees to whom these stocks had been assigned in trust for certain purposes, sought to dispose of them in pursuance of said trust, and of a special Act of Assembly authorizing them to do so. But they did not succeed in consequence of the difficulties interposed by those who were struggling to defeat the completion of the Railroad Bonds. These remaining stocks were then levied upon and sold in the same manner as the others had been, so that now the city is the owner of stock standing in her own name. But the Trustees still claim all these stocks, and if judgment should be sustained, the city will yet be the substantial owner of all those stocks, and they will be made available to a large amount in the hands of men with the bondholders. A Bill in Equity has been pending for more than a year in the U. S. Circuit Court, involving the validity of these sales and the title of the Trustees. It was hoped that that case would have been decided at the last November term of the Court. But at the instance of the parties claiming the stock under the Marshal's sale, and against the remonstrance of the Solicitor for the city, the case was continued until next May term. That case embraces only a portion of the stock sold, but as its decision would settle the principle controlling all the sales, it was deemed unnecessary to institute other suits until that should be decided.

Last January another set of mandamus executions was issued from the Circuit Court against Councils to compel the payment of certain judgments on railroad bonds, and in the same way followed by another set of rules for contempt against the members of Councils. The cases came up at the November Term for argument, and although the attorneys for the city were ready and willing to argue the question, the cases were continued, at the instance of the plaintiffs, and in all probability will never be called up again.

At the May Term of the Circuit Court, additional judgments were obtained against the city on the coupons of railroad bonds, to the amount of $41,329.92. And at the November Term, other judgments of the same kind, to the amount of $27,506.66.

III—CONDEMNATIONS.

During the year the Finance Committee and the Controller have been laboring earnestly to effect a compromise with the bondholders, in accordance with the act of Assembly and the ordinances upon the subject. The difficulties in the way were numerous and formidable. After protracted negotiation, exciting a good deal of feeling, judgments to any large amount had been obtained against the city, and the bondholders, eager for payment, and confident of success, would give no ear to compromise. A large portion of the bonds were owned by foreigners, who were inaccessible except through agents in this country, who were uniformly so suspicious and so much disposed to communicate to their clients the facts of the case, on the terms proposed by the city. Some of these were also involved in the controversy about the stocks, and insisted upon their being surrendered before they would talk of compromise. The efforts of the Trustees to get control of the stocks caused other difficulties, and occasioned considerable delay. Considering these delays, dispositions and difficulties—and they are not all, for there were still always a serious character—it is that strong fact that still in progress we made during the first six months of the year. But by the energy and perseverance of the Committees and Controller, the work of compromise and the exchange of the new for the old Bonds, at length commenced. The number of Bonds issued and exchanged, and now in the process of being issued, is 448,121 more have been definitely arranged, and are expected to arrive in a few days, when the new ones will be exchanged for them, making in all 673 Bonds, or $673,000 of the principal of the Railroad debt, besides the interest thereon, which is about thirty-five thousand dollars, ($35,000.) This has been passed both Houses of the Legislature, but has not yet received the official signature of the Governor. It was sent with some opposition. Still can hardly believe that any one who is well acquainted with the new act of legislation would find fault with the new act, or cavil at it. How it would injure any one, while it will give a great many people trouble and vexation, I believe it will give no one any benefit, and cause such people vexation and care to the city.

IV—MISCELLANEOUS.

The case of Mrs. Painter vs. the city, for the death of her husband, occasioned by falling into the St. Clair street sewer, while it was being constructed, was tried in the District Court, and resulted in a verdict against the city for $2,000. In the progress of the trial it became necessary to have a client to gather facts and information, subpoena witnesses and see that they are in attendance when wanted. Much inconvenience, sometimes even endangering the success of the cause, has been experienced by the present and former Solicitors of the city, in not having some one to act the part of client in thus preparing for, and assisting in, the trial of cases. And from the amount and character of the labors that will devolve upon the Solicitor for next year, it will be impossible for him to discharge his duties properly without some assistance of this kind. I would, therefore, recommend that provision be made by ordinance for some one whose duty it shall be to attend to matters of this kind when called upon by the Solicitor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. F. WHITE.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 28, 1863.

The Proposed Tax on Crude Petroleum.

The proposition, as we understand it, is to tax crude oil ten cents per gallon, to repeal the draw back for exportation as at present allowed on refined oil on which the tax has been paid, and to allow the exportation of refined as now under bond.

REFINERS WILL THEN STAND THUS: Assuming first, That it requires three gallons of crude to make two gallons of refined, and we believe this is justified by the experience of refiners generally.

Second. That the proposed tax is assessed on the gallons of crude delivered at the refinery. The tax of ten cents on crude becomes fifteen cents per gallon on the refined burning oil, government guage at the refinery; add the present direct tax of ten cents per gallon, making the round tax of twenty-five cents per gallon at the stills on every gallon used for home consumption. Refiners who, as a class, are highly patriotic, (we know of no exceptions,) won't complain of this; as to home consumers it is cheap to them at one dollar a gallon,—the cheapest and most beautiful artificial light ever given to man. Refined oil removed under bond for exportation, will go abroad burdened with a tax of at least sixteen cents per gallon,—we think no one cent per gallon for leakage and difference of guage. Advocates of the tax may assert that there is nothing which can successfully compete with Petroleum; and that it will bear any tax which Government may see fit to place on it. We propose briefly to show them in error.

Our Canadian neighbors have large fields of Petroleum—the quality of which is not equal to ours, but at an additional cost of two or three cents per gallon in refining, capable of producing as large a percentage of burning oil fully equal in quality to the best American, refined from Pennsylvania crude.

The Albert mine, in New Brunswick produces coal, yielding from the ton of 2,240 lbs. from 110 to 125 gallons Crude oil, from which a burning oil is produced, claimed by many to be superior to that from Petroleum.

The Portland Kerosene Oil Company have manufactured most of their refined oil from this coal for the last two years. The Downer Kerosene Oil Company for the past six months have been running all their retorts on the same coal, both of these manufactories are amongst the very largest in this country, the crude and 6 cents on refined, with a drawback of 3 cents on refined exported, Government inspectors guage at vessel's side. This is equally positive and conclusive, that the Canadian product, equal to taxing him 5 cents a gallon, to favor the English or Canadian refiner from coal or Petroleum, and to the English refiner of American petroleum, it gives an advantage over the American refiner, of 4½ to 5 cents per gallon, while to the English refiner who makes his oil from coal or Canadian Petroleum, it gives a bounty of 11 to 12 cents per gallon, the difference on crude 7½ on refined at the works, or at vessel's side 8 cents—direct tax at the same place is 6⅔—equal to 14½; less drawback of 3 cents leaves a tax on refined oil on shipboard of 11½ cents. This tax being equal to a bounty to Foreign Refiners of 11½ cents per gallon on refined all oil made from their own or Petroleum—the foreign refiner, at American crude oil having to pay the tax on crude of 5 cents; it amounts to 7⅔ at his works, so that his bounty is only about 4½ cents.

We believe that the gentleman who advised this method of taxation, did so in the belief that it was the most fair for both producer and refiner, and calculated to give the Government most revenue.

The only parties who will be benefitted by this increased taxation on exports, are parties who may hold crude and refined oil when the tax takes effect. They will be profited to the extent of ten cents a gallon on what crude they may hold, and on refined, either in bond or free, fifteen cents a gallon,—ten cents a gallon—enough to save some of them from a very respectable loss on high priced stock. We would not intimate that they are the advisers of this tax. Still, they are undoubtedly anxious that the Government should obtain all the revenue they can, and many of them being intimately acquainted with the Petroleum business, it would be nothing remarkable if their advice had been sought and given without a thought of their own interest. Be this as it may, if the tax goes on "our occupation's gone" as refiners of Petroleum, except for the home trade.

We appeal to every producer and refiner in the country to act, speak and write, and that quickly. The original plan, we believe, was to hurry this matter through Congress before January first, have it become a law, and take effect immediately. Fortunately there were gentlemen on the Committee of Ways and Means who wished to know what they were doing, and the thing did not pass as expected, but let no delay occur, bring every influence to bear against it. Our great mission is to give light; let us do it, and in season, eliminate all your congressional friends by committee, by letter or in some way. This done, our position fairly understood, and we have no fears of an unjust legislation.

We suggest a change in the present law so that refiners here and east if they wish to remove their oil from refineries, may do so by placing it in fire proof government warehouses, under charge of a Government store keeper, and when removed for home consumption the tax to be paid, and if any additional tax must be paid, let it be unrefined for home consumption; place no tax of any kind on crude.

REFINER.

ESCAPE OF A MURDERER.—Our readers doubtless remember the revolting murder of the McCoy family in Madison, last summer, and the subsequent arrest, trial, conviction and sentence of Frederick F. Forster as the murderer. He was sentenced to be hung on the 26th of next February, and was confined in the county jail to await the execution of the law. On the night of the 24th he made his escape from the jail and his not yet been recaptured.

SALES OF STOCKS, by David A. McIlwaine, auctioneers, at No. 54 Fifth street, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 29th:

Exchange Bank	$43 25
Citizen's Bank	65 75
Mechanic's Bank	62 25
Allegheny Bank	57 00
Merchants' and Manufacturers' Bank	55 25

Also, two acres of ground, two miles from the city, on the Butcher's Run road, for $1,375.

SUPERB OIL PAINTINGS.—Our readers are reminded of the sale this morning, at 10 o'clock, of the superb oil paintings which have been on exhibition at the auction rooms of Davis & McIlwaine, Fifth street. The catalogue consists of 122 pictures, and every one of them a gem. In artistic execution, careful finish, and choice of subjects, they are admirable. Comfortable seats are provided for the attendance of ladies.

REMEMBER LA SONNAMBULA.—By special request Miss Sallie Holman has consented to appear as Amina in the above opera, for this evening only, it being the occasion of her first benefit in our city; and we are assured by the managers it cannot possibly be repeated during the present engagement, as a different opera is announced every evening this week.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES.

THOMAS PARRY, Plain and Ornamental Slate Roofer, and dealer in Pennsylvania and Vermont slate of the best quality at low rates. Office at Alex. Laughlin's, near the Water Works, Pittsburgh, Pa.

KIN-NI-KI-NI-K-W—INDIAN SMOKING TOBACCO.—This Tobacco, used by the North American Indians, is manufactured from the finest quality of tobacco, and commingled with the most healthful and odorous Roots, Barks and Herbs, indigenous to the Rocky Mountains, in such proportion, as to impart to its distinctive character, and secure for it wherever it becomes known a hearty welcome. A long residence among the Indians of the Rocky Mountains, insured an acquaintance with their habits, customs, and modes of life, and among other things, an insight into the composition of their smoking tobacco, and a knowledge of the means by which the exquisite aroma is produced, which renders it so pleasing to the smoker, and so acceptable to those who are not. Smokers who once become acquainted with this tobacco will never be without it. Sold by all tobacconists and by the manufacturer, E. H. Hunt, 511 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. de18:1m.

FOR FALL AND WINTER WEAR.—The Summers past, and by the morning's frost, we begin to apprehend, that fall and winter will shortly be upon us, and we must provide ourselves with the material to keep us comfortable. A nice fall suit, or a good and well-made overcoat are the very thing, and we do not know of any place where our readers would suit themselves better than at Messrs. W. H. McGee & Co's clothing establishment, corner of Federal street and Diamond Square, Allegheny. They have just received a complete assortment of gentlemen's furnishing goods, and a great variety of new patterns for waistcoating, &c.

GENTLEMEN, have you examined the fall and winter stock of goods at the Merchant Tailoring establishment of Sam. Graham & Co., No. 54 Market street?

A fresh supply of goods every week.

Have you examined the prices of goods at the Merchant Tailoring establishment of Sam. Graham & Co., No. 54 Market street; if not, it is not time you really did, and save 20 per cent. in your clothing bill.

Every garment warranted a perfect fit.

SAMUEL GRAHAM, GEO. MCCLURDES.

KENTUCKY BELLES APPRECIATE.—MRS. ANNE Nants, of Louisville, Ky., says in a letter: "When in New York, last summer I purchased by way of experiment some of Mrs. S. A. Allen's celebrated Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum, which I have found valuable. I now write to have you send me a dozen of each by express, for the use of my friends." Sold by druggists everywhere. Depot 193 Greenwich street, New York.

JUST RECEIVED AND READY FOR SALE.—The fine assortment of Fall and Winter Clothing lately received by Messrs. John Wise & Co., Merchant Tailors, No. 146 Federal street, Allegheny. The stock of clothing consists of the finest variety of gents' palatot overcoats and sacks of cassimere, for which all patterns is tasteful and fashionable. We would invite all of our readers to give the above gentlemen a call.

ATTENTION, COMPANY!—Volunteers, who are desirous to retain their health unimpaired during the campaign, must see to it themselves, do not trust to the Army Surgeons, supply yourselves with HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT. Every Soldier should carry a Knapsack contains them. Only 35 cents per box or pot.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT. For sale at Fulton's Drug store, Fifth street.

OMNIBUS and carriage calls will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 410 Penn street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance.

C. SILL, Dentist, 245 Penn street, will attend to all business of his profession.

DIED!

CASE.—On Tuesday, 29th instant, at ½ before 2 o'clock, MOLLIE J., wife of John F. Case, Esq.

The funeral will take place WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, at 2½ o'clock, from the residence of her husband, No. 8 Clark street.

MILLIKEN.—On Tuesday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, ANNA MARIA, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. MARQUIS MILLIKEN, in the 25th year of her age.

Her funeral will take place THIS AFTERNOON, at 2 o'clock, from her late residence.

BRESNAN.—The funeral of Captain EDWARD BRESNAN will take place THIS MORNING, at 10 o'clock, from the First Baptist Church, corner of Grant and Third streets. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend without further notice.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

JOHN COCHRAN & BRO., Manufacturers of IRON RAILING, IRON VAULTS AND VAULT DOORS, WINDOW SHUTTERS, WINDOW GUARDS, &c., Nos. 91 SECOND and 92 THIRD STREET, bet. Wood and Market.

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

Particular attention paid to enclosing Grave Lots. Jobbing done at short notice. a9d

GOLD PENS RE-POINTED EQUAL TO NEW, on the receipt of 25 cents. Circulars for the John on Pen sent on application, by mail or otherwise.

E. S. JOHNSON, Manufacturer and Office, de31:1m 15 Maiden Lane, New York City.

N. HOLMES & SONS, DEALERS IN FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC BILLS OF EXCHANGE, CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT, BANK NOTES AND SPECIE, No. 57 MARKET STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Collections made on all the principal cities throughout the United States. a2d

HENRY H. COLLINS, FORWARDING AND COMMISSION MERCHANT and wholesale dealer in CHEESE, BUTTER, SEEDS, FISH, and produce generally, No. 25 WOOD st., Pittsburgh, Pa.

FAMILY DYE COLORS.

PATENTED OCTOBER 13, DEC.

Black, Black for Silk, Dark Blue, Light Blue, French Blue, Chrome Green, Dark Green, Light Green, Drab, Fawn, Orange, Dark Drab, Light Drab, Purple, Royal Purple, Scarlet, Crimson, Pink, Maize, Buff, Salmon, Slate, Solferino, Violet, Yellow, Fawn Drab, Lt. Fawn Drab.

For Dyeing Silk, Woolen and Mixed Goods, Shawls, Scarfs, Dresses, Ribbons, Gloves, Berages, Hair, Feathers, Kid Gloves, Children's Clothing, and all kinds of Wearing Apparel.

A SAVING OF 80 PER CENT. For 25 cents you can color as many goods as would otherwise cost five times that sum. Various shades can be produced from the same dye. The process is simple, and any one can use the dye with perfect success. Directions in English, French and German, inside of each package.

For further information in Dyeing, and giving a perfect knowledge what colors are best adapted to dye over others, with many valuable recipes, purchase Howe & Stevens' Treatise on Dyeing and Coloring. Sent by mail on receipt of price—10 cents.

Manufactured by HOWES & STEVENS, 420 Broadway, Boston.

For sale by druggists and dealers generally. se31:1m

MANHOOD: HOW LOST! HOW RESTORED!—Just published, in a sealed envelope. Price Six Cents. A Lecture on the Nature, Treatment and Radical Cure of Spermatorrhœa, or Seminal Weakness, Involuntary Emissions, Sexual Debility, and Impediments to Marriage generally; Nervousness, Consumption, Epilepsy and Fits; Mental and Physical Incapacity, resulting from Self-Abuse, &c., by ROBT. J. CURTIS, M. D., author of the Private Book, &c. "A Boon to Thousands of Sufferers." Address, under seal, in a plain envelope, to any address, post-paid, on receipt of six cents or two postage stamps, by "DR. CH. J. C. KLINE, 127 Bowery, New York, Post Office Box 4586. se31:3m&w7t-1-w

DUNCAN, SHERMAN & CO'S Night and Day Express Line ships South, Louisville, and Eight Ville on every separation from St. Louis, Wednesday, Saturday and Tuesday. For said freight or cabin passage apply to JAS. P. WILLIAMS, 84 Wood street, corner of Fifth. [illegible]

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 29, 1863.

THE POTOMAC ARMY GONE INTO WINTER QUARTERS

The Army of the Potomac has finally settled down much-bound into winter quarters, at Cedar Mountain. The key to the position there is held by our forces. The people all over that section are in a state of starvation, and daily throng our camps to procure provisions, which our commissaries are ordered to sell them at government prices, in this way many are relieved, while also, the nests of guerrillas are enabled to obtain supplies and protract their thieving and murdering system. The firing heard on Friday, was caused by extending our picket lines.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS CEASED.

The exchange of prisoners has again ceased after 500 had been brought from Richmond. The rebels refuse to hold any interviews with Gen. Butler, and give no notice that they will not respect any flag of truce which covers him. This was a determination of a cabinet meeting at Richmond, at which it was resolved to print the declaration of outlawing against him.

Gen. Ould expressed his satisfaction with Gen. Butler's plan of exchange, and was willing to act on it. Indeed they had commenced exchanges under it before they had learned of the appointment of Butler as Commissioner. Under it they had agreed to make no discrimination against colored soldiers and their officers, except slaves. They refuse to exchange slaves on any terms. Gen. Butler now proposes to put an end to all further intercourse with the rebels on the subject, and resort to coercive measures to compel them to terms.

TAX ON TOBACCO, PETROLEUM, AND DISTILLED SPIRITS.

The Committee of Ways and Means have under consideration more particularly the tax on tobacco, petroleum and distilled spirits. The tax on tobacco will be placed on the manufactured article, to what extent is a matter of discussion, but all the members favor a high rate. Some of the members are in favor of putting the tax on spirits as high as double that of the present tax. The question as to petroleum is whether it should be put on crude or the manufactured article. The policy will be to avoid taxation on raw products if possible.

IMPORTANT CHANGES.

Important changes have been made in the Army of the Potomac, to be followed by others. Gen. Ingalls, Chief Quartermaster, and Col. Clarke, Chief Commissary, have been relieved from duty and ordered to report here. These changes have grown, it is believed, out of the recent revelations of the Quartermaster's Department at Alexandria. Investigations of a rigorous character are going on in the Quartermaster's Department. Secretary Stanton hopes to have this branch of the service well reprovisioned in the Old Capitol prison before many days. The Augean stable is going to be thoroughly cleansed.

COL. TRUMAN'S REPORT.

Col. Truman, connected with the Sanitary Commission of St. Louis, has just arrived here and made his report to the War Department in regard to the contrabands on plantations now in our possession in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas. He represents that their treatment by our people is outrageous. He has been clothed with proper authority, in conjunction with Mr. Mullen, agent of the Treasury Department, to visit each plantation and remedy at once the existing evils.

GEN. AVERILL'S RAID.

Files of Richmond papers to the 22d inst., say much excitement had been occasioned by Gen. Averill's daring raid, and all the accounts of the vast destruction of property by his command are fully confirmed. It was thought at one time he was endeavoring to reach Danville and liberate the Union prisoners there. The rebels were confident of capturing him, and declared that if he escaped their cavalry had better be re organized.

REBEL OFFICERS.

Daniel Davis and Thomas D. Arnesy, rebel officers, charged with recruiting within our lines, have plead guilty to the charge, and have been sentenced to confinement at hard labor, in Fortress Monroe, or in another prison, as may be directed, for fifteen year each.

A large REGIMENT.

Richmond papers of yesterday have been received here. They contain nothing of importance. The Senate appears to be troubled in making out a clear view on the exchange question. The *Enquirer* devotes several columns to correspondence thereon.

AGAIN IN OPERATION.

Gen. Averill's raid produced great consternation in Southern Virginia. His damage to the Virginia and East Tennessee Railway was not as much as was at first supposed, as the President of that road gives notice that it is again in running order to Bristol, Tenn.

CONDEMNED HORSES.

Col. Sawtelle, of the Cavalry Bureau and government purchaser of cavalry and artillery horses, has been relieved. Out of eight hundred horses bought in New York and sent to General Rutler, seven hundred were condemned. General Butler has obtained permission to go into the open market.

COLORED TROOPS.

In order to facilitate the enlistment of colored troops, the county of St. Mary's, in the State of Maryland, and the counties of Northampton and Accomac, in the State of Virginia, have been annexed to the Department of Virginia, under command of the General commanding that department.

GEN. KELLY.

Gen. Kelly has advised the War Department of the safe return of the several columns sent out to interrupt the communication with East Tennessee. They brought in about five hundred prisoners and a large amount of property.

RICHMOND PAPERS DISGUSTED.

The Richmond papers are disgusted with the failure of the rebel plans to capture three forces and say their escape is sufficient evidence of the necessity to reorganize their cavalry.

ACQUITTED BY COURT MARTIAL.

H. C. Edwards Lester, arrested as a spy at Harpers Ferry last summer, and held in durance there ever since, has been acquitted by court martial, no evidence having been brought against him.

ARRESTED.

Captain Alexander, commandant at Castle Thunder, Richmond, has been arrested for extorting money from the prisoners confined there.

THE OFFAL OF ARMY BEEVES.

The offal of army beeves slaughtered here, was let to-day to the highest bidder, at $12,60 a head.

CORNWALL'S EMBEZZLEMENT.

It is now understood that the Government will not be a loser by Cornwall' embezzlement in the Redemption Bureau.

DISMISSED FROM THE SERVICE.

Lieut. Willy, of the 88th Ohio Infantry, was dismissed from the service on the 24th inst., for drunkenness.

COL. STRIGHT.

Had escaped from Libby Prison, but was subsequently recaptured.

REMAINED OVER THE HOLIDAYS.

Some of the members of the Committees remained here through the holidays.

Rebel Steamer Run Ashore.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The steamer Tritonal reports that when off Bermuda she was taken for a federal cruiser by the rebel steamer Flora. The latter in her efforts to escape ran ashore, damaging her hull so badly that she has been obliged to go to Halifax for repairs.

Foreign News.—Arrival of the Steamers Adriatic and City of Manchester.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 28.—The steamer Adriatic, from Galway on the 22d, arrived here at three o'clock this afternoon. Her dates are five days later than those by the City of Manchester.

The government employees at Sheerness who assisted in fitting out the Rappahannock for the rebels, have been discharged for violation of the neutrality law.

The names of persons serving on any rebel vessel, who belong to the naval reserve, are ordered to be stricken from the list, to forfeit all privileges, and not to be allowed to re-enter the service.

The steamer Vanderbilt had returned to Cape Town, remained there till Oct. 22d, and then visited Penguin Island, the rendezvous of the Confederates, where she seized the British steamer Saxon in British waters. It is said, and the supposition is she was laden with the cargo of the federal ship Conrad. The Saxon was sent to New York in charge of a prize crew.

It was reported that the mate of the Saxon was shot by a federal officer.

Lincoln's message and amnesty proclamation was generally regarded as impracticable.

The Liverpool *Post* says Lord Lyons, in a message to Earl Russell, predicts the termination of the war in three months.

The message of Jeff. Davis is regarded as showing no signs of yielding on the part of the South.

It is stated that the Rebel Government has made due provision for the payment of the $15,000 Cotton Loan Bonds, to be drawn for in March next. The rebel financial European agent writes to the London *Morning Herald* to show that the Richmond authorities are taking measures to support their credit.

Liverpool, Dec. 21.—Cotton quiet and unchanged. Breadstuffs generally inactive. Flour quiet. Wheat heavy. Corn quiet and steady. Provisions quiet and steady. Beef has a declining tendency. Pork steady. Bacon and lard steady. Sugar firmer. There were no sales of coffee. Petroleum quiet, crude firmer.

London, Dec. 21.—Breadstuffs dull and declining. Sugar and coffee firmer. Consols closed at 91¼@91¾, for money; Ill. C. shares 27@28c discount; Erie 62@64.

LATEST VIA GALWAY.—*Liverpool, Dec.* 22.—Cotton quiet and unchanged. Breadstuffs opened dull, and holders demand a reduction. Corn quiet at 29s. Provisions quiet and steady.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29th.—The steamer City of Manchester has arrived this evening. Her news was mainly anticipated.

Official letters from the Duke of New Castle to the Governor of Alabama state that in great emergencies belligerent vessels may enter any port on permission of the resident officials specially delegated, instead of on permission of the Governor solely.

The Paris *Constitutionnel* says, Lord Woodhouse was instructed to tell the King of Denmark that he may rely on the assistance of England in the event of the integrity of Denmark being threatened.

It is reported that 22,000 Swedish troops, headed by the King, were in motion.

The Emperor Napoleon had made a brief and special speech on opening a session of the Senate. A paragraph in the address, relative to Mexico, met with some objection, but was finally adopted, after a Ministerial stand that the government was approaching the establishment of a stable government in Mexico.

Firm, resolute and rapid peace paragraph, relative to the Polish and European Congress, was debated at length, and produced a strong anti-Russian sentiment, and a counter protest against going to war for the Poles.

It is stated that the new French loan is to be raised by public subscription.

It is also stated that the new rebel envoy to France has a mission to notify the French Government of the recognition by the Confederate Government of the empire of Mexico, and also to try and prevail on the Emperor to recognize the South in return for such an acknowledgment.

The Holstein question remains without any changes.

It is supposed that Denmark would not forcibly oppose the federal execution. In fact it is said that the Danish troops will be withdrawn from Holstein, but the king of Denmark will not acknowledge the federal execution.

Liverpool, Dec. 21.—The *Post says*: We consider ourselves in a position to state that Lord Lyons, in reply to Earl Russell's dispatch from Washington, announces that the war will be terminated within the next three months. The Confederate leaders in the greatest extremities will generally have to propose an armistice. In our informant, we have the fullest possible confidence. Possibly Mr. Lincoln's proclamation has reference to facts on which Lord Lyons grounded his conclusion.

The synopsis of Lincoln's message and proclamation, received by the ste