BALTIMORE DAILY COMMERCIAL.

VOL. 1.---NO. 76. HURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1865. THREE CENTS.

DAILY COMMERCIAL.

Published every morning, except Sundays, by

WM. WALES & Co.,

WM. WALES, C. C. COX, R. M. NEWPORT.

Terms:—NINE DOLLARS per annum.

OFFICE, 20 SOUTH STREET, Baltimore, Md.

Also published at the same office, the

Baltimore Tri-Weekly Commercial,

TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY MORNINGS,

Terms:—SIX DOLLARS per annum.

Also published at the same office, on Fridays, the

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CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

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OF

Books. Books. Bracelets. Bracelets. Cigar Cases. Cigar Cases. Albums. Albums.

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Cabas. Cabas. Reticules. Reticules. Vases. Vases. Card Cases. Card Cases.

AT

Watch Stands. Watch Stands. Paper Cutters. Paper Cutters. Ring Cases. Ring Cases. Spinning Tops. Spinning Tops.

JOHN NEEDLES & SONS.

de22-1wlp **No. 43 N. Charles Street.**

NEWS OF THE DAY.

FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival of the steamship City of Washington, at New York, from Liverpool on the 13th, via Queenstown on the 14th, we are in possession of four days later news from Europe.

Pending the official enquiry into the Jamaica affair, Governor Eyre has been suspended from his functions, and Sir Henry Stork appointed temporarily in his stead. The papers all varied in their opinions as to this change in the executive administration of the island. The *Times* says General Eyre's position will be that of Governor "on leave," and the *Morning Post* thinks that the suspension will have a bad effect upon the negroes.

On the 12th inst., O'Donovan occupied the entire day in his own defence be,ore the Fenian Court. He was extremely insolent in his remarks, and sought to exhaust the patience of the Court. He was, however, found guilty, and owing to his similar conviction six years ago, was sentenced to penal servitude for life. The governor of the Richmond jail has absconded.

It is reported that France has given England six months' notice to terminate the extradition treaty, in consequence of the strict formalities required before any French offender is given up.

The Emperor of Austria is visiting his subjects. At Pesth, Hungary, he was enthusiastically received, and in response to a speech of welcome said that he visited them full of confidence and expected their confidence in return.

Trouble with the Chinese Government is anticipated owing to the death of Burgeoines. The authorities now state that he was drowned while in irons. The American Consul declares that the treaty with the United States has been violated.

Head Centre Stephens is in Paris.

A Lon don paper states that Napoleon has apprehensions that Maximilian will follow the Empress, and he has accordingly prevailed upon the Mexican Minister at Paris to proceed at once to Mexico and endeavor to dissuade Max. from abdicating.

The same paper thinks that Max. will be in Europe on or before the new year.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Government property at City Point and Alexandria will soon be sold.

Thirty more regiments of troops will soon be mustered out.

A miser recently died in Ohio from grief at his heavy income tax.

Many Northerners are buying land near Augusta, Georgia.

The receipts at the Internal Revenue Bureau yesterday amounted to $615,000.

The Mississippi Senate has adopted a resolution for the erection of a monument at Jackson in memory of the rebel dead.

Some Americans have recently constructed a telegraph across the Andes to connect various cities of Columbia, South America.

The Dominican Republic is in a sad condition. Completely desolated by the recent Spanish invasion, the people are almost destitute.

We publish a Washington letter in another column in regard to the exorbitant hotel charges in that city.

The Methodist Church was founded in America in October, 1766. Next year will witness the centennial anniversary of American Methodism.

An investigation into the cause of the Alexandria riots, on Christmas day has been induced by General Augur.

Two new journals—one for the French and the other for the Spanish residents of New York—will begin publication with the new year.

John C. Breckinridge, Gen. McCausland, Harry Gilmore, and many other minor Confederate officers, are domesticated at Toronto.

Major General Curtis, Col. Simpson, and Hon. Wm. M. White, as Commissioners of the Government, have gone to inspect the 40 mile section of the Pacific Railroad completed beyond Omaha city.

Mr. B. B. Sherman, Treasurer of the Lincoln Memorial Fund, requests all Assistant Treasurers to make returns to him at once, preparatory to closing the trust.

One of the reliable Washington special correspondents, who reported that Gen. Grant would sail immediately after the holidays for the Rio Grande, now contradicts the statement.

The Nashville (Tenn.) *Banner* very sensibly advises that abuse of the Yankees be now discontinued, because "all of us will be Yankees fifty years hence."

W. C. Bussell, postmaster of Somerville, Mass., says that the business of his office has fallen off, and he wants his salary reduced. Good for Bussell.

The Spanish Admiral off the coast of Chili has grossly insulted Mr. Nelson, our Chilian Minister. The entire diplomatic corps take sides with Mr. Nelson.

At the lowest estimate there are now in the District of Columbia at least 50,000 negroes (6,000 more than in all New England) against about 80,000 whites.

If the amendment to the Constitution, making the number of voters, instead of the population, the basis of representation, is carried, the Southern States will lose about twenty-two Congressmen.

Mrs. C. C. Clay is again in Washington, and on Wednesday evening had a short interview with the President, endeavoring to expedite the trial of her husband if she cannot effect his release on parole.

H. C. Smith, a hospital steward in the U. S. army, charged with destroying official records, was yesterday dishonorably discharged the service by order of the Secretary of War.

Two newspaper reporters in Richmond were garroted on last Thursday evening by five ruffians. The garroters got for their pains a bundle of paper, a pen-knife and ten cents.

It is said that General Gideon J. Pillow is building a large school house and providing teachers for his former slaves. He owned some two or three hundred.

The sheriff of Memphis, Tenn., has been authorized to raise a posse of one thousand white citizens to patrol the city and county during the holidays, for the preservation of the public peace and safety.

—The Signal Corps, which performed such valuable services during the war, has been entirely broken up. But it will soon be reorganized on a more permanent footing, in connection with the regular army.

—The evidence in the notorious Strong divorce suit having been closed, Mr. Graham summed up the testimony for the defence yesterday, and delivered his argument in behalf of the unfortunate lady.

The President has appointed Brig. Gen. Thomas Kilby Smith, of Ohio, for meritorious conduct and gallant services during the war, to be a major general by brevet in the service of the United States, with rank to date from March 13, 1865.

The statements to the effect that the remains of Wirz had been exhumed from their place of burial in the Arsenal grounds, and had been forwarded to the friends of the deceased at Richmond, are wholly without foundation. The grave of Wirz is undisturbed.

Accounts from Arizona represent that mining operations are almost at a stand-still on account of the hostility of the Indians who swarm around the settlements. Complaints are made that the large military force in the Territory has spent the season in idleness and accomplished nothing.

We learn from Cincinnati that Bishop Rosecrans, while on his way home, a short distance out of the city, was set upon by highway robbers, and in effecting his escape was shot, the ball taking effect in his leg, not, however, causing a serious wound. No clue to the ruffians had been discovered.

Provisional Governor Sharkey, of Mississippi, has been received by the President, and Governor Humphreys has been directed to assume the duties of Executive of that State. Five of the seven Provisional Governors appointed by the President have now been removed by him to make way for the gentlemen elected and their successors by the people—viz: those of Alabama, Georia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Mississippi.

Stocks generally were dull yesterday. Gold opened at 145 and closed at 145¼, an advance on quarter on Wednesday's quotations. Governments were strong, 7-30's being active, the sales footing up $27,000. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad shares sold at $111. No sales in Northern Central or City Passenger Railway.

Secretary McCulloch's interview with the moneyed men of New York is said to have been entirely satisfactory. The banks offered him, says a Washington special, a temporary loan of $100,000,000, which he will probably accept. He contemplates funding $50,000,000 or $100,000,000 certificates of indebtedness, compound interest notes, and the first series of 7-30's, which fall due next July.

Dr. John W. Hughes, who has been on trial at Cleveland, several days, for the murder of Miss Tamzen Parsons, in Bedford, Cuyahoga County, on the 9th of August last, has been convicted of murder in the first degree. He heard the verdict with apparent indifference. The murder was one of the most shocking, all things considered, ever committed in Ohio.

A delegation of planters are now in Washington, endeavoring to obtain an appropriation from the Government to rebuild the levees from Vicksburgg to New Orleans. They were destroyed by both sides during the war, and it will cost several millions to rebuild them. Hundreds of thousands of acres of cotton lands are under water that can be reclaimed if this work is done.

Captain George W. Cutler, the poet, formerly of Kentucky, died at Providence Hospital on Capitol Hill, Washington, on Christmas. His remains were interred with Masonic honors by St. John's Lodge. He was a descendant of a Massachusetts family, and was born in Quebec, Canada. In early life he practiced law in Kentucky, and at the breaking out of the Mexican war, raised a company and joined Taylor's army. He figured in Washington in the days of Know-Nothingism as an orator and took part in the movement.

A savings bank for colored people established only three months ago in Louisville, Kentucky, has received in deposits over $30,000. About $7,000 have been received from colored soldiers, originally from Kentucky, but now on duty in Texas. This bank is a branch of a national company called the "Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company," chartered by Congress and approved by President Lincoln, March 3, 1865. President Johnson highly commends it and has directed the Secretaries of the Treasury, War and Navy, to give it all proper facilities.

A bill is before the Legislature of Alabama to incorporate an "Emigration White Labor Agency," which shall have authority to appoint agents in all the States of the United States, for the purpose of hiring white laborers for the planters of that State. It is meeting with opposition, but has passed the Senate. Mr. Wilkins, in opposing the bill, argued that the white laborers proposed to be introduced would be of poor character, and less valuable to the cotton planter than the labor of the freedmen, already at hand, who cannot and should not be driven out, being more suitable for laborers than any set of men in any country.

The Mobile *Register* of the 19th inst., in an article on the government cotton agency system of the South, pronounces that institution a total failure, a great public, private, commercial and social misfortune, and a source of the hugest robbery and corruption. It says that the agents seize all the cotton in private hands they can find, on charge of its having belonged to the rebel government, and then, as a general thing, appropriate it to their own emolument, and that from this example the planters and other citizens have also been led extensively into the cotton stealing business. The paper also asserts that of the one hundred and twenty thousand bales af rebel government cotton surrendered by General Dick Taylor to General Canby, scarcely ten thousand bales have been or ever will be received by the national government, the remainder having been stolen.

LATEST TELEGRAPH NEWS

TO THE

DAILY COMMERCIAL.

LATEST FROM EUROPE

Four Days' Later News.

O'DONOVAN, FENIAN, IMPRISONED FOR LIFE.

Removal of Governor Eyre at Jamaica.

VACANCY FILLED BY SIR H. STORK.

Extradition Treaty to be Terminated

FRANCE GETTING HUFFY AT ENGLAND

The Emperor and Mexico Matters.

DEPARTURE OF THE EMPRESS.

Apprehensions that Maximilian is About to Follow.

THE ANXIETY OF NAPOLEON

Max. to be Prevented from Abdicating.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.

NEW YORK, December 27.—The steamship City of Washington, from Liverpool on the 13th, via Queenstown on the 14th, has arrived.

The steamers Moravian and City of London had arrived at Liverpool.

Governor Eyre, of Jamaica, has been suspended from his functions pending the official inquiry into the affairs of that island, and Sir Henry Stork has been appointed temporarily in his place. The latter was to sail for Jamaica on the 18th inst. The *Times* says Governor Eyre's position will be that of Governor "on leave."

The *Morning Post* thinks that Eyre's suspension may have a bad effect on the negroes.

At the Fenian Court, on the 12th inst., O'Donovan occupied the whole day in his own defence. He was insolent and sought to exhaust the Court.

It is rumored the Governor of the Richmond jail has absconded.

FRANCE.

It is reported that France has given England six month's notice to terminate the extradition treaty, because of the strict formalities required before the French offender is given up.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Austria arrived at Pesth, Hungary, on the 17th, and was received with much ceremony and enthusiasm. In response to a speech by the Burgomaster, he said he visited them full of confidence and expected full confidence in return.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI, Oct. 26.—Burgeoines' death is likely to give trouble. The Chinese Government reports now state that he was drowned while in irons. The American Consul declares that the treaty with the United States has been violated. Piracy is increasing to an alarming extent.

Commercial Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 13.—Cotton—Sales of the past three days, including Wednesday, 37,000 bales, of which 13,000 bales were to speculators and exporters. The market is strong and prices are tending upward. American Cotton is ½d dearer since Friday.

Breadstuffs—Flour is inactive and prices unchanged. Wheat is in limited demand, and prices are unchanged. Corn is flat—in some instances 3d lower; mixed 39@43s.

Provisions—Beef is in more demand, for old. Prime new Mess 120@126s. Pork quiet. No American in market. Bacon is 2@3s lower. Lard is quiet and a shade easier. Tallow is quiet and partially 3@6s lower.

Produce—The market is quiet.

The Latest.

[By telegraph to Queenstown.]

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The Fenian, O'Donovan, owing to his similar conviction six years ago, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life.

A joint note of England and France, proposing certain terms for the settlement of the Chilian difficulties, was received at Madrid on the 9th. The result was not known.

A letter received in Liverpool confirms the statement that Stephens is safe in Paris.

The London *Observer* regards Napoleon is apprehensive that Maximilian will follow his Empress to Europe, and has prevailed upon the Mexican Minister at Paris to proceed to Mexico and endeavor to dissuade Maximilian from abdicating. He would sail on the 15th.

The *Observer* thinks he is not to be intimidated, and that Max. will be in Europe before the new year.

An Austrian imperial decree extends an amnesty to all convicted for complicity in the Polish insurrection.

It was expected that the Bank of England would raise the rate of discount to 7 per cent.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 14.—Cotton—Sales to-day 20,000 bales, including 7,000 bales to speculators and exporters. The market closed buoyant with a further slight advance.

Breadstuffs are quiet and [illegible]

Provisions are steady [illegible]

LONDON, Dec. 14.—[illegible] closed at [illegible] 87¼ United States 5-20's 63¼.

Very Late from China and Japan—Piracy on the Increase.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—Hong Kong advices of the 20th ult., are received. The steamer Montauch was reported captured by pirates while on her way from Shanghai to [illegible]. Piracy in the vicinity of China is on the increase. Foreign relations with China are quite out of joint owing to the Mandarin Worshipping policy, which is characterized as the career of Sir F. Bruce.

Intelligence from Japan [illegible] is very satisfactory. The quarrel between the Tycoon and Prince Nagate [illegible] had been announced to leave for Direct Suez. The inducement being the enormous price of silk worm eggs. Silk seems to be a plentiful crop, and preserve in China.

FROM BRAZIL.

Withdrawal of the Paraguayans Across the Parana.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The steamer North America, from Rio Janeiro, Dec. 2, via Pernambuco and St. Thomas, arrived to-day. The Emperor returned on the 9th ult. from Rio Del Sad, causing great rejoicing. Coffee was lower. Flour advancing.

The Paraguayans have withdrawn entirely across the Upper Parana out of Corrientes. The Brazilian fleet is at the mouth of the Paraguay. The allied army crossed the river to Corrientes and was on its march to the Parana, near Gaza. It will be sent in vessels up that river to the point selected for further operations.

SECOND DESPATCH.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Later news from South America via St. Thomas, to the 24 Dec., is received. The fortieth anniversary of the birth of the Emperor was observed in Brazil with popular regardings. The Emperor released a number of prisoners.

The American emigrants, chiefly Southerners, represented by Col. Wood, have solicited a site from them near Ravaguard. It lies between two small rivers, and can have railway connection with the capital. A vast tract of 8,000,000 acres of unoccupied government land has also been selected. It is expected that the flow of emigration from the United States lately, composing the confederacy, will soon set in.

There is no change in the position of military affairs. No new battle battle had taken place.

The New State of Colorado.

ATCHISON, KAN., Dec. 27.—Messrs. Chaffee and Evans, United States Senators from Colorado, have arrived here, and report uniform confidence among the people of Colorado in the prompt admission of that State into the Union; every important condition of the enabling act having been complied with. The Legislature has passed a joint resolution, requesting the President, if he did not deem himself authorized to proclaim the State in the Union, to urge its early admission upon Congress. A resolution guaranteeing the ratification of the anti-slavery amendments to the Constitution was also passed.

Fenian Brotherhood—A Senator's Views on the Situation.

WORCESTER, Mass., December 26.—P. A. Sinnott, a Senator in the Fenian Brotherhood, declares himself for a Congress. He alleges that the Senators who impeached the President were under arrest five days previous to their act of impeachment; that their reporters have been guilty of malfeasance, and that O'Mahoney must clear himself of the dirty charge of complicity with the English Government, and that every extravagance he has committed has been by the consent of the Senators.

Important Rumors from Washington.

[Special Despatch to the Evening Post.]

WASHINGTON, December 26.—There are rumors that Secretary Harlan will soon resign, to be succeeded by Senator Doolittle.

It is reported that the Appropriation Committee intend to report to the House a bill providing for the assumption of the war debt of the loyal States by the General Government.

Marine Disasters.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The steamship Idaho, hence for Mobile, is ashore on Bamgali, full of water. The passengers and crew are landing safely, and with favorable weather, part of her cargo will be saved.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Dec. 27.—The bark Flora of Baltimore, is ashore three miles north of Squam Inlet. Her cargo of cotton and iron will probably be saved. The vessel is still tight.

Kentucky Fenians.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 27.—The Fenians of Kentucky held a State Convention at Covington to-day. All the circles but two were represented. Speeches were made by the State Centre, P. Bannan, and others, and resolutions fully endorsing Roberts' Senators, Secretary of War, and repudiating O'Mahoney, were adopted and signed by all the delegates present.

Speaker Colfax.

NEW HAVEN, Ct., Dec. 27.—Speaker Colfax is here, the guest of Hon. N. D. Sperry, who gave him a dinner and public reception this afternoon, at which there was present Gov. Buckingham, Gov. Averill and many other distinguished gentlemen. Music Hall was crowded to hear Mr. Colfax deliver his lecture. He goes to New York to-night.

A Family Poisoned.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—To-day, a man named McLaughlin and his family, consisting of his wife and three children and niece, were poisoned by partaking of coffee containing a large quantity of laudanum, which had been placed in it. McLaughlin and one daughter narrowly escaped death, and the former is still in a precarious condition.

Explosion of a Steam Boiler.

DUBUQUE, Dec. 27.—Messrs. Jaeger & Co.'s distillery was blown to fragments to-day by the explosion of the boiler in the engine room. Most of the employees were at dinner, there being but three persons in the building at the time. The [illegible] were killed, but none others seriously injured. Loss $80,000; insurance against fire $25,000.

An Editor under Arrest.

RALEIGH, Dec. 24.—R. W. Waring, editor of the Charlotte *Times*, who was arrested by the order of General Ruger, arrived here this morning. The arrest was made, it is said, on account of articles that have recently appeared in the *Times*. It is supposed he will be admitted to bail.

From Arizona.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Advices from Arizona represent that there is constant fighting between the Apache Indians and the white settlers. Twenty-eight soldiers, sent out on the 1st of September, are missing.

A Baltimore Rough.

NORFOLK, Dec. 27.—Joseph Edwards, a Baltimore rough, was shot at the Oxford Theatre last evening by a soldier, whom Edwards had first discharged a pistol at.

Naval Store Destroyed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26th.—C. B. Dibble & Co.'s naval store, on Pearl street, was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is $40,000.

ALABAMA.

Inaugural Address of Gov. Patton.

In his inaugural address Robert M. Patton, Governor of Alabama, says that "at the beginning of the year 1861 Alabama contained nearly 1,000,000 inhabitants, and all branches of industry and trade were prosperous. Villages, towns and cities were flourishing, and internal improvements were rapidly and satisfactorily going forward; 997,000 bales of cotton were produced in 1860, and Alabama had become the largest cotton-growing State in the Union, producing about one-fifth of the entire American crop." The results of the war proved most disastrous, for the Governor adds:

"Of the wide waste and ruin which the war has wrought upon our once happy country, Alabama has suffered a full share. Of her brave sons who entered the army it may be safely stated that from thirty-five thousand to forty thousand perished in the service.—In natural wealth Alabama, in one species of property alone, that of slaves, is not less than $250,000,000; and the aggregate amount of losses of the various other descriptions of property must be equally as much.—Hence we find that in this State alone we have sustained a loss in actual and substantial wealth of at least $500,000,000.

* * * "I think we may all profit much by contrasting the prosperity and happiness which our country enjoyed at the beginning of the recent war with its present crippled and almost ruined condition. In doing this we shall forget the contentions, bickerings, passions, excitements and dissensions through which we have passed; or, if we cannot forget, at least let us rise above them. Let us be as one man, and if we are unable to recover that which has been lost, it becomes us to bend our united energies in saving and improving that which remains to us.

"The war closed with Andrew Johnson as President of the United States. The South lay prostrate and helpless at the feet of Federal power. During the war the legislation of Congress was necessarily tinged with the passions of the times, and upon the return of peace there were found upon the national statute books some of the most stringent and proscriptive laws for the punishment of persons and confiscation of property. There was no backstop way by which we could escape the penalties of those rigorous enactments, and that was through the pardoning power of the President."

The Governor discusses other points as follows:

RECONSTRUCTION.

"The reconstruction or restoration policy of the President was duly submitted to the people of Alabama, and has been unhesitatingly accepted by them. It may be safely asserted that, as far as the work of reconstruction has progressed in this State, it has been in strict conformity with what was understood to be the policy of the General Government. Without undue murmuring and in perfect good faith, our people have patriotically conformed to all the exigencies of the situation. They fully and fairly accept the results of the war with all their legitimate consequences.

THE STATE DEBT.

"In the year 1845 the bonded liabilities of Alabama amounted to over $10,000,000. This heavy indebtedness was created, in part at least, by a system of banking, the general operations of which were detrimental to the public interests. But, by a wise and judicious policy, this heavy debt has been so far reduded that our liabilities on account of State bonds of the present time amount to only $3,445,000. These bonds are payable as follows: $2,109,000 payable in the city of New York and bearing only 5 per cent. interest; $648,000 payable in London and bearing also 5 per cent. interest; and the remaining $688,000, payable likewise in London, bearing an interest of 6 per cent. per annum. This is comparatively a small debt, which comes completely within the financial control and management of the State,

FREE LABOR.

"A sudden radical change has been wrought in our labor system. The extinction of slavery is one of the inevitable results of the war. The relation heretofore subsisting between the whites and blacks has been totally changed. The negroes are now free, and this stubborn fact is fully and universally recognized. How far governmental action may be able to promote the common interest of the two races in their suddenly changed condition is a great problem which time alone can solve.

"The normal vocation of the negro is that of a cultivator of the soil. The soil and climate of Alabama are peculiarly adapted to the growth of cotton—that great staple which wields a most potent influence in the commercial world. Land-owners are dependent upon the negroes for the labor which is necessary to produce cotton. Hence, the negroes have but to avail themselves of the advantages which they possess as cultivators of cotton lands to make themselves an independent living. In their new condition, their future happiness or misery depends entirely upon themselves. They will find no disposition on the part of the whites to oppress them, or withhold from them any of those rights to which they are entitled as freedmen."

DEATH OF CAPTAIN WEST.—This morning, Captain Clement L. West died at his residence, on H street, between 17th and 18th streets, after a short illness.—Captain West made many friends by his fine social qualities. He had considerable reputation as an architect, and was acquainted with a number of modern languages. For a long time he was connected with the architect's office, Capitol Extension, and during the war was appointed an Assistant Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain, and superintended the work on the Capitol Extension for a considerable time.—*Washington Star.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Washington.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Daily Commercial.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.

Christmas—Hotels of Baltimore and Washington—Railroad and Steamboat Disasters—Amenities of the Sea.

In this city, as well as elsewhere throughout the country, dark clouds and cherful faces were at war with each other, in the celebration of Christmas day; but the bright faces triumphed and for neither snows nor storms could repress the joyful, jubilant spirit which animated the popular heart. The chiming bells that summoned the devout to the temple of worship made the air glad with their music, and the merry shouts of young America told that no shadows had fallen on the buoyant, gladsome heart of youth. It was the good fortune of your correspondent to be present amidst the gay and festive scenes that marked the celebration of the day in your beautiful and hospitable city of monuments. Your churches were open, your houses were open, and the generous hearts of your people were open. Notwithstanding the darkness of the skies and the half molten snow, there were radiant faces beneath the clouds, and in the snow were to be seen thousands of footprints of little feet and big feet that traced the path of festivity and joy, and the people of Baltimore, always distinguished for the earnestness and graceful energy of their public manifestations, well maintain their enviable reputation for every thing that lends grace and beauty to festive commemoration.

One of the most inviting and genial points of attraction was the Maltby House. The elegant barroom was hospitably thrown open, and the most delicious nectarine egg-nogg was copiously and gratuitously dispensed to hosts of appreciative friends, who, having interchanged congratulations, dispersed without having in the slightest degree disturbed that decorum or marred that dignity for which the excellent hosts of your city are so highly and so justly distinguished. Subsequently a most magnificent dinner was served for the entertainment of the guests of the house and their friends, and the gusto with which it was approached, manifested that all mouths and hearts were fully imbued with the spirit of the occasion. A paragraph reciting the items of the voluptuous bill of fare might be interesting to your readers, but it would impose too much on your valuable space; and, besides, it would not be charitable to tantalize the dwellers in the five dollars-a-day hotels in this great city with such a recitation.

While upon this subject, it may be asked why it is that this excellent hotel, with its excellent tables, its soft beds, and attentive servants, can entertain its guests at rates so much below those of this city, where the table and other hotel accommodations are so greatly inferior. The public houses of Baltimore are celebrated for their sumptuousness of fare and moderate charges, and it is to be regretted that their example, so worthy of imitation, does not exert a salutary influence on kindred establishments in this city, whose chief aim seems to be the depletion of the *pockets*, rather than the repletion of the *stomachs*, of those who unfortunately have to come within the pale of their tender mercies.

It is to be hoped that some remedy may be devised for the correction of this evil of exorbitant prices and poor living, in the public houses in this city, the metropolis of a great and affluent nation. But it is vulgarly said that use is second nature, which means, simply, that we have become habituated and reconciled to almost any increased privation or evil. This homely truth is sadly illustrated by the familiarity with death, in its various forms, and the consequent indifference to the destruction of human life to which the popular heart has become schooled, during the period of social disturbance and sanguinary strife through which our country has just passed. The havoc produced by the late terrible war, and the demoralizing incidents of that melancholy internicine conflict, seem to have surpassed, in a great measure, that sensibility to the sufferings of humanity and the destruction of human life for which we, as a people, have heretofore been so highly distinguished. The frequent railroad disasters and steamboat collisions, involving the loss of human life, and which appear to be so little regarded by the public, too sadly indicate the extent to which the demoralizing influence has extended.

But now, that the red clouds of war have passed over our beloved land, and the cerulean canopy of peace is spreading above us, may we not hope that the humane temper which once prevailed may soon return to the popular heart, with all the high characteristics of humanity and civilization, and that the strong arm of law and justice may be interposed for the protection of life and limb, against the culpable negligence and criminal recklessness of railroad and steamboat employees. Almost every morning we are advised, through the columns of the press, of some thrilling disaster of that sort, involving the loss of human lives; but the intelligence passes like a summer cloud, leaving no shadow behind, except upon the poor heart stricken by the thunderbolt, which mourns in secret and silence the sad bereavement with which recklessness has overwhelmed a sorrowing household. The writer alludes to this subject the more feelingly from the fact of having, himself, recently been placed in positions of peril by collisions on land and water. The first was a collision on the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad, from which, with a lacerated leg, he barely escaped with his life, and the other was by a collision on Chesapeake Bay, in which he suffered only a painful sympathy and solicitude on behalf of helpless women and children, which, happily, was of brief duration.

With the latter occurrence there are some pleasant recollections, which will always be agreeably cherished under the head of amenities of the sea. A few evenings since I left Fortress Monroe for Baltimore, in the fine steamer Adelaide, of the Old Bay Line. The weather was somewhat boisterous. The sun had just gone down into a bed of clouds that looked angry, and the winds breathed rudely against the strong ramparts, within the walls of which the idol of the Southern people pined for liberty. As I turned my face from the shore to the dark waters that were foaming, as it were with rage, I thought that the bold sailors, who cleared the waves with their frail and tiny craft, would be safer in the harbor of Hampton Roads than in encountering out [illegible] there exposed, in the haze and darkness of night, to the countless dangers of the deep.

As our noble boat proudly breasted the wind and the wave, the night grew more dark and hazy. Having partook of a sumptuous supper, I retired to my state-room with a view of resigning myself to the care of Somnus and the skill of our vigilant captain. I had no sooner entered than I heard a shrill monitory whistle from the lips of Miss Adelaide, and knowing that it meant danger, I hastened on deck, but before I had taken many steps, a shock from stem to stern gave notice that a collision of some sort had occurred. On advancing to the bow of the boat, I saw a schooner, with all canvass spread, sweeping around on our starbord side, and heard the crew calling out lustily, "Come take us off! come take us off!" It was inferred therefrom that the unfortunate vessel was in a sinking condition.

Our Captain, with commendable promptitude and energy, manned his boats and sent them to the relief of the schooner, which, however, ran for land, hoping thus to avoid the capacious jars of the mighty deep. In that hope, unluckily, as the sequel told, she was doomed to disappointment, as she went down in deep water, with the salvation only of the crew. The collision must have resulted from gross negligence on the part of the schooner, as the lights of our steamer were brightly burning, and night have been observed, distinctly, for half a mile or more.

The occurrence naturally threw the ladies aboard into a state of alarm which very much impaired the pleasure of the trip and disturbed the repose of the night, which would otherwise have been delightful on board the smooth and gently sailing Adelaide.—But there was another vessel which performed a part, that must not be forgotten or overlooked in that thrilling drama. The gallant steamer George Leary, of the New Line of Norfolk steamers, hearing our signal of trouble, immediately hastened to our relief. She must have been at the time a mile or more distant from us, but at the sound of our whistle she changed her course and came gracefully and beautifully to our side, generously inquiring if she could contribute in any way to the safety or relief of the Adelaide.

As I stood alone, on hurricane deck, and looked abroad upon the dark tempestuous wilderness of wind and waves, and thought of those who might be a watery grave amidst the darkness and desolation that reigned around, my heart overflowed with sympathy for those who might be exposed to the perils which brooded everywhere, even on the sea, in the darkness of that tempestuous night. But when, solitary and alone, I stood upon the wheelhouse of our noble steamer, and saw the lights of the gallant George Leary, and then heard the music of her paddles mingling with the storm, and then saw her come gently and gracefully to our side, and then heard the voice of her noble commander ask what service he could render, my heart swelled to bursting, with emotions of the sublimest kind, while I exclaimed, fervently, though silently, God bless that man and his noble steamer!

Having soon ascertained that the Adelaide had not suffered any serious injury, the boats separated and, as the George Leary retired, we kindly follow in our wake and generously watch over us during the night, three hearty cheers were given for her by those in the bow of our boat; and the name of Capt. Blakeman, and his gallant and graceful steamer will be pleasantly remembered by all who were on board the good steamer Adelaide, on that memorable occasion; and those good fortune it was, on the dark bosom of the deep, amidst the terror and romance of wind and waves, to see and to feel how beautiful, how graceful and impressive, are the amenities of the sea.

DELTA.

The Riot in Alexandria.

From the Alexandria State *Journal* of Tuesday, we take the particulars of the riot which occurred in that city on Christmas day, and which was briefly mentioned in the *Commercial* yesterday morning.

No city ever presented a greater scene of riot and disorder than did Alexandria yesterday. Whisky flowed in streams from many of our restaurants, and from some it was dealt out as liberally to the colored people as to the whites. Early in the morning it was observed by our quiet citizens that all the young "reconstructed" gentlemen of the city were armed, and the gravest fears were expressed lest a collision should take place between them and the colored people before the day was over. These fears were not without foundation, for rioting commenced at an early hour in the forenoon, and at one o'clock, P. M., had assumed such fearful proportions that Mayor Wade found it necessary to call upon the military authorities for assistance to suppress it. Capt. Hambrick, to whom the Mayor made his application, telegraphed Gen. Augur for orders, and that gentleman at once telegraphed back to use what number of troops was thought necessary to suppress the rioting then at its height in the city.

Three companies of Hancock's veterans were at once ordered out, and proceeded to arrest every one found engaged in rioting and disorderly conduct. The military did not commence their operations any too soon—indeed not soon enough—for many persons had been seriously and dangerously wounded before they appeared on the scene of action. Notwithstanding the Mayor requested of the military authorities that all persons engaged in riotous conduct be admonished to go peaceably to their homes, it was found necessary to arrest between fifty and a hundred of the ring leaders of the various disturbances then going on throughout the city, who were mostly sent to the slave pen, where they were compelled to remain during the balance of the day and night. Some of them were this morning released, while the more guilty are still in confinement.

So many reports were prevalent this morning of shootings and cold-blooded murders, that any one listening to them would have thought that the darkest and bloodiest days of the French Revolution had been re-enacted in our midst. But we are happy to be able to contradict a majority of the reports which were so freely bandied about this forenoon. If one-half of them were true, we could not have the courage to recite them. Some fifty or one hundred colored men were badly beaten, but, so far as we have been able to learn, two were so badly injured as to preclude the hope of recovery. One of these was John Anderson, who was shot in the head, and the other was Robert E. Sanders, who had his skull badly fractured. Both of them are now in hospital, and at 1 o'clock neither of them were expected to live longer than a few hours. About a dozen persons are independent living. In their new condition, their future happiness or misery depends entirely upon themselves. They will find no disposition on the part of the whites to oppress them, or withhold from them any of those rights to which they are entitled as freedmen."

FROM WASHINGTON

The Graves of Our Soldiers.

THE NEW FIVE CENT CURRENCY.

Colombian Minister at the White House.

THE ARMY ORGANIZATION

The Indian Tribes.

POST OFFICE AFFAIRS.

&c. &c. &c.

CARE FOR THE GRAVES OF THE SOLDIERS.

Some months ago, Quartermaster General Meigs issued an order to his assistants to make special reports of the localities and condition of soldiers' cemeteries known to them, with recommendations of the means necessary to provide for the preservation of the remains interred therein, from desecration. Since that time, the "Roll of Honor," or the names of soldiers who died in defence of the American Union, has been published, and recently the names of the officers and soldiers found on the battle-fields of the Wilderness and of Spottsylvania Court House, Va. Of these latter, nearly 800 names, 210 are those of soldiers from Pennsylvania, 80 from New York, and 62 from Massachusetts. Head-boards have been erected to their graves on the battle-field of the Wilderness. Two cemeteries have been laid out, enclosed by a paling fence. The sites are well adapted for the resting place of those who fell in the vicinity, having been selected where the scenes of carnage appeared to be the greatest. It was no unusual occurrence to observe the lines of our men close to the abattis of the enemy; and, in one case, several skeletons of our soldiers were found in their trenches.

Hundreds of graves on these battle-fields are