Hon. Wm. H. Seward

BALTIMORE DAILY COMMERCIAL.

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Gold Pens.

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A useful gift, not useless toys—
Something to have, something to hold;
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Each line they write they'll bless the pen;
The giver bless, and praise the taste
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A Good Gold Pen!

Gold Pens.

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MISCELLANY.

—The present wealth of the British Islands is estimated at thirty-six thousand millions of dollars

—An elephant and bull fight recently took place in Ubida, in Spain. The elephant stamped one bull to death, and crushed another with his trunk.

—Morris Ellsworth, convicted of the murder of his wife at Newark, N. J., will be hung in that city on the 10th instant.

—At a ball in Vienna an officer caught in a lady's crinoline, fell and broke his leg; she fell also and broke her leg.

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

—Dr. Rothvong, of Millersburg, Pa., was accidentally killed by a railroad accident at that place on Monday last.

—A French newspaper says only three of its subscribers are bald, and they are in arrears for subscription.

—A man in Manchester, Eng., horsewhipped his wife in the public street; but he was too respectable to arrest.

—A poor blacksmith in Ohio recently invested a few dollars in two acres of oil land, out of which, in a few months, he made $140,000.

—At a recent city election, Pithole, Pa., claiming 12,000 inhabitants; polled only 112 legal votes. The "oldest inhabitant" had hardly been there long enough to vote.

—Olive Logan, the actress, has filed a decree of divorce against her husband, Henry A. Delille, in New York city. The suit is not defended by Mr. Delille.

—Ex-Governor Clark, of Mississippi, has declined to receive any portion of the sum of money which has been raised by the citizens of his State for the benefit of himself and Mrs. Jefferson Davis.

—A drunken man in Greenville, Conn., cut away the stairway, and his family had to jump out of the second-story window to escape the blockade.

—The Toledo *Commercial* says that on Thursday evening, the house of James Smart, situated in the outside of Delta, Fulton county, Ohio, was burned, Mr. Smart and his wife perishing in the flames.

—A new city is springing up on the opposite side of the valley from Pithole City. It has not yet been baptised, and there is as much discussion over its proper cognomen as there usually is over the name to be given a new baby.

—A correspondent of the Clarksburg (West Va.) *National Telegraph* thinks that State has been unfortunately christened, and that it should have been called by "the beautiful and appropriate Indian name of Kanawha."

—A nice young man, in Sandusky, Ohio, to other day, obtained an introduction to a young lady on the ice, and shortly after stole her skates, which she had permitted him to assist her in taking off.

—The Boston *Post* says: "A New York millionaire, said to be afflicted with the leprosy, was cured by the President of the New York Medical University, and in his gratitude tendered him a $5,000 fee, but the doctor accepted but $1,500."

—The first theological seminary on the western continent was built on Service Creek, Beaver county, Pa., in 1794. It was a substantial log building, and is yet standing on the old site. A lithograph of it was recently taken.

—Governor Hamilton, of Texas, has issued a proclamation to the effect that all persons in the "amnesty exception list," who have received his recommendation for special pardon can resume their usual avocations.

—The Royal Irish Academy recently declined a gold cup of the value of £800, left them by the will of the late Smith O'Brien, on the ground that "they had not a discredit certain to put it into."

—The new fives, certificates, viz: Fractional currency will probably be issued this week. About $20,000 worth of defaced and mutilated currency is daily destroyed at Washington by burning, and $50,000 worth is printed.

—It is announced that a number of adopted citizens in New York have got up a petition for presentation to the Grand Jury, calling for an indictment of the President, Senate and Cabinet of an embryo Irish Republic.

—The sentences by General Courts Martial of William Jones, Government employee, and private William H. Hildebrand, of the Fifth Indiana Cavalry, to be shot to death, have been commuted by the President to confinement at hard labor in the Ohio penitentiary for ten years each.

—A train of six hundred bales of cotton was lately seized by the military authorities at Corinth, Mississippi. Part of it belonged to General Forrest, who was reported as having been shot by the guard. Forrest is now a partner of a cotton firm in Memphis, and the statement of his being shot was probably a ruse to cover a little more cotton-thieving.

—A servant in the employ of the Duke of Augustenburg has been dismissed for receiving money in return for reporting everything that was going on at the Prince's residence. He also purloined the Prince's letters. It is said that by this means he usually came to comprehend the merits of the Schleswig-Holstein question.

—A nurse girl at Preston, England, who painted badly, was about to be discharged by her master, who feared the child might get a cast in his eye, when she happened to go with some friends to see the Preston Exhibition. There she amused herself by taking galvanic shocks, which, strange to say, had the effect of removing the squint.

—Wildcats seem to abound in Litchfield county, Conn., this winter. Fifteen or twenty have already been killed in different towns. In Cornwall, on Christmas day, one was driven out into the open fields near J. R. Harrison's residence, where the house dog and another canine pitched in and gave him battle; but it was not until he had got a charge from a gun that the "varmint" was killed. Mr. Harrison and his boys have killed seven of these creatures.

The Boston *Traveler* says that the importation of boots and shoes from Europe is certainly disadvantageous to the country at large, but the individual purchasers of the $2,000,000 or $3,000,000 worth brought over within a few weeks cannot be blamed, so long as the price of those manufactured at home is so high. For some classes of work the manufacturers' profit alone has been nearly one hundred per cent. on the cost. Considering that the state of the market has been such as to enable them to turn over their money in a few weeks, we think they have had good reason to be satisfied, and should not complain of the importers.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

An interesting letter from Colorado will be found on the fourth page.

Morton McMichael, Esq., was inaugurated Mayor of Philadelphia yesterday.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania convenes to-day.

The receipts from Internal Revenue for six months ending December 30, were $175,556,458.02.

There are six regiments of Ohio troops still in the service.

Chief Clerk Hunter performs the duties of Secretary of State during the absence of Mr. Seward.

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

The funeral of the Hon. Henry Winter Davis takes place at 1 o'clock this afternoon from his late residence on St. Paul's street.

The Chicago *Tribune* denies the report of the engagement of Hon. Schuyler Colfax and the daughter of Lieutenant-Governor Bross, of that city.

The Columbus *Journal* says that Mr. John S. Rarey is recovering from his late attack of paralysis.

Mr. Ferguson Blair has accepted the position in the Canadian Cabinet made vacant by the resignation of Mr. George Brown.

Mrs. Hannah F. Lee, widow of the late Geo. Gardiner Lee, died in Boston on Wednesday, aged 85 years. She was the author of "Three Experiments in Living," and other popular works.

A late attempt to subjugate a schoolmaster in Livermore, Me., resulted in the teacher drawing a pistol and maintaining his dignity *vi et armis*. The disturbers paid $75 to settle the matter.

The completion of the census of Illinois reveals the astonishing fact that since 1860 the population of the State has increased about 500,000, or nearly 33 per centum.

Morris Ellsworth, a negro, convicted of murdering his wife, is to be hanged at Newark on the 10th instant, the court having refused to commute his sentence.

The New York Legislature for 1866 will assemble in Albany to-day, and soon as an organization is effected Governor Fenton's message will be presented to both houses.

A New Orleans despatch states that the military recently entered the District Court room at Jefferson, Texas, and rescued by force two Treasury agents, indicted by the grand jury for swindling.

A voluminous report, showing the history of the Union Pacific Railroad, and all legislation had in aid thereof, has been compiled at the Interior Department, and will shortly be published.

The United States Consul at Port Mahon writes to the State Department that the cholera has nearly disappeared from that province, and says that the mortality in Spain has been far greater than will ever be known.

A Hartford paper states that Mr. J. Dickinson Ripley, a nephew of Governor Buckingham, of Connecticut, was burned to death on the steamer Commonwealth. He was asleep in his stateroom, and could not be aroused.

The Michigan Soldiers' Monument Association has appointed Rev. George Taylor, of Ann Arbor, special soliciting agent for the State. He will enter upon his duties immediately, and the work of raising $100,000 for the proposed monument will be actively prosecuted.

The order requiring all bonded goods passing into the United States to be seized unless invoiced at the duty paid price in Canada, which has caused much excitement over the border, is now stated to have been issued without authority from Washington.

The Elmira *Gazette* states that the Northern Central Railway Company have purchased the Northern division of the Erie Railway, from Elmira to Canandaigua, and during the coming season intend laying the narrow guage track of the road on that line, so as to enable them to send through trains from Baltimore to Niagara Falls.

George Williams and another man, both burglars, attempted to kill a policeman and a citizen in New York, on Sunday morning, for disturbing them in their operations. Several shots were fired at the officer, and the citizen was attacked with a carving knife, but neither were hurt. Williams only was arrested.

The *Liberator* of last week contains the valedictory of Wm. Lloyd Garrison, who announces that this is the last number, the paper having been published thirty-five years. He says "the object for which the *Liberator* was commenced has been gloriously consummated." He does not indicate what he will do in his remaining years, though he hopes to be permitted to take a little repose.

Castle Thunder, at Richmond, has been used, since the first year of the war, as a military prison for the confinement of evil-doers of all kinds and grades, by the rebel authorities up to the evacuation, and by the Federal authorities since that time. It was vacated last week and turned over to its owners. The Libby Prison has been fitted up, and will hereafter be used as the general military prison in that city.

The extent of the California wine interest is comparatively little known in the Atlantic States. Every year increases the product immensely. The estimate for the present year is 350,000 gallons in Los Angelos county, 350,000 gallons in Sonoma county, and 300,000 in the remainder of the State, or 1,000,000 gallons in all—more than four times the product of the United States in 1860.

The Ohio Legislature met yesterday. The synoptical dispatch which we received yesterday of the Governor's message, presents some rather strange views on the Mexican question, expressing opposition to any efforts on the part of our government for the enforcement on Mexican soil of the Monroe doctrine, the precise signification of which dogma the Governor says "has never yet been agreed upon even among ourselves."

The White Cloud *Chief* says that a very disagreeable state of affairs exists at Nebraska City.—Murders and robberies are not of rare occurrence. During the last summer and Fall, the Copperhead paper of that city, edited by J. Sterling Morton, invited the disfranchised rebels and bushwhackers of Missouri to Nebraska. They accepted the invitation, carried the election in Nebraska City, and have succeeded in establishing a condition of society equal to the palmiest days of bushwhacking in Missouri.

The Kalamazoo *Telegraph* pulishes an article upon the project of extending the Grand Trunk from Port Huron to Chicago, in which it gives currency to the statement that the authorities of the Michigan Central Railroad have proposed to the management of the Grand Trunk Railway to build a double track from Kalamazoo to Chicago, to accommodate trains on both roads, provided the Grand Trunk makes its line from Port Huron by way of Lansing to Kalamazoo.

The discovery and arrest have recently been effected of the persons, who, on the evening of the 30th of October last, robbed the safe of United States Naval Paymaster Rittenhouse, at Panama, of fourteen thousand dollars in gold. The principals in the affair are said to be the keeper of a Panama groggshop, named Mark Bradley, and a boy attached to the United States ship Cyane. The robbery was effected by means of a key manufactured from an impression on paper of the one in possession of the paymaster.

The Chicago papers state that the California Overland Mail, heretofore transmitted via St. Louis and the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, thence across the plains to its destination, is to be conveyed via Chicago, thence west by the Chicago and Northwestern Railway to Boonsboro, Iowa; thence via the Western Stage Company to Omaha; and thence by Ben Halliday's Overland Line, via Fort Kearney, to Salt Lake, Idaho and San Francisco. This route affords a saving of forty-eight hours in time, and the mails will be transmitted free of cost to the Government.

The Strong divorce case was finally brought to its termination on Sunday, but in a manner rather unsatisfactory to the parties concerned. The jury, after being in deliberation for forty-eight hours, came into court and expressed the opinion unanimously that it was impossible for them to agree. They were therefore discharged by Judge Garvin. The point of disagreement was on the question relative to the adultery charged against Mr. Strong, ten of the members being in favor of rendering a verdict declaring his innocence, and the other two refusing their assent thereto. All of them agreed on a verdict in favor of Mr. Strong on the issues relating to the charges of adultery against Mrs. Strong.

Governor James L. Orr, of South Carolina, the Executive chosen by the people of the State at their recent election, issued on Monday last his proclamation announcing his assumption of the duties of office, by permission of the President, and instructing the citizens in regard to the Commonwealth's present status. He informs them that, though civil government is restored, the *habeas corpus* still remains suspended in the State, and the military power is therefore paramount in all matters of which it has special supervision, among which is the adjudication of all controversies in which the freedmen are interested. The Governor gives the blacks and whites both some good advice, telling the former that on their own sobriety, industry, honesty and good behavior alone must they now depend for happiness, and counseling towards them on the part of the latter, kindness, humanity and justice.

The anxiety of Maximilian's government to encourage emigration to Mexico from the United States is shown in the strong inducements to settlers held forth in the documents recently issued for widespread circulation by his "Imperial Commissioner of Colonization," the American ex-rebel Lieutenant Maury. Maury presents in glowing colors the wonderful natural resources of the country, which only need Anglo-Saxon brain and muscle for their development. Meantime we learn from a correspondent in the city of Mexico that both Maximilian and the Republicans are awaiting with the greatest anxiety the action of the Congress of the United States relative to their affairs. The Republicans are sanguine that they will soon be reinforced by an army from this country, while Maximilian expresses great desire for the most intimate friendship with us and our Government, and hopes, though not at all confidently, for recognition. He thinks, however, that if he could have a private conference with President Johnson and Secretary Seward he could soon bring them over to his side.

During the year 1865 the city afforded lodgings in the various police stations to 8,858 persons, of whom 6,085 were white men, 1,745 white women, 591 colored men, 437 colored women.

General Grant and staff attends the wedding of Major General Wilson, of cavalry fame, at Wilmington to-day.

Forty dollars was the current figure for Hacks in New York yesterday, scarce at that.

During the past year 15,000 arrests were made by the Baltimore Police force.

Governor Fenton could not pardon Ketchum's insanity. Edward goes to Sing Sing for four years and six months.

Assistant Secretary Chandler and the Hon. Harvey Wutterson of Tennessee have been sent on a special mission among the Treasury cotton agents in the Southern States, to investigate the many charges of fraud and corruption against them.

Major-Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, our new Minister to the Republic of Chili, sailed from New York for Aspinwall on Saturday, on board the steamship Henry Chauncey, on his way to the seat of the Legation in Santiago.

It is officially announced that the people of North Carolina have declared null and void the ordinance of secession by a vote of 19,977, against 1,940; 18,527 votes were cast to ratify the ordinance prohibiting slavery, and 3,696 to reject such ordinance.

Mrs. Captain Tyler has been headed by her brother, Mr. Gardner, who has obtained from the higher courts confirmation of the decision which deprives Mrs. T. of the sole control of her mother's property.

The *Sacramento Bee*, speaking of the opportunities for acquiring wealth in California, says: Great fortunes may be few, but there is certainly no country in the world where so many, in proportion, own the cottages they live in, and the stores in which they trade.

Business at the office of the Attorney General, with respect to the examination of applications for pardon, very sensibly diminished during the closing week of the past year. The only cases which are receiving attention are a few coming in under the special orders of the President.

The steamship Constitution, Captain Greenman, which sailed from Savannah on the 23d instant for New York, struck on Cape Lookout shoals on the morning of the 26th instant, and, after remaining there forty-eight hours, went to pieces, causing the loss of forty souls. Captain Greenman, twelve of his crew and one passenger, named W. P. Long, of Brooklyn, saved themselves on cotton bales.

The Army.

REGULATIONS.—The following circular has just been published:

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE. WASHINGTON, D. C., December 22, 1865.

General Orders, No. 80:

Sale to railroad companies under Executive orders of August 8th and October 14th (General Orders, Q. M. G. O., 56 and 62, 1865,) will be promptly reported to this office, addressed to R. R. Division.

As soon after completion of sale to any railroad as practicable, a statement of the account of such railroad with the United States, accompanied by the receipt of the company for the articles sold, with prices as appraised, and its bond duly executed, will be forwarded for file in this office.

The duplicate of receipt, and a copy of the bond, will be retained by the officer making the sales.

Every payment of instalment and interest, whether in cash or by accepted vouchers, will be reported on the day it is made, with a statement of the balance remaining due to the United States. On all such payments the usual three days' grace will be allowed.

The railroad companies will be credited with the amount of their duly certified vouchers, for any service rendered prior to the month current, whether in excess or not of the monthly instalment due; such credit to date from the receipt by the officer to whom the railroad makes its payments, of vouchers duly certified, examined and audited by the proper officer for settlement of transportation accounts.

The accounts of railroad companies will be examined by the proper officers without unnecessary delay; but no payments will be made to any railroad in the States lately in rebellion, except upon the certificate of the officer charged with sales of military railroad property for the military division or department that such road has not incurred any indebtedness to the United States, or if incurred, that its indebtedness has been discharged in full.

If so indebted, the vouchers, duly certified, will be referred to the officer who made the sales, to be credited as above.

The reports herein called for are not intended to supersede those already required by regulations and existing orders.

M. C. MEIGS, Quartermaster General,
Bvt. Major General, U. S. A.

Fearful Story of Hydrophobia—Death of Six Children from the Milk of a Bitten Cow.

[From the Madison (Wis.) *Journal.*]

Mr. Henry Drew, Assistant Superintendent of public Property, has related to us the particulars of a case of hydrophobia at the village of Waterloo, which surpasses in tragic interest almost any story of the kind we have read.

Some six or seven years ago a mad dog went through the village of Waterloo, Jefferson county, and bit a number of animals. Among others, he snapped at the leg of a cow belonging to Mathew Cock. The animal was examined, but no mark was found, and it was supposed that it escaped being bitten. The animal was afterward sold to a man by the name of Garrison, who used her milk very freely, as did two of his children. Some of the neighbors, including Mr. Drew's family, were also supplied with the milk of this cow.

At different times during the time since the cow was bitten, there has been inexplicable and fatal sickness among those using her milk, and two children of Mr. Garrison, two of Mr. Drew's, and two others have been attacked with spasms and died in agony. Mr. Garrison has also been attacked at times with spasms. The mystery of this sickness was solved by the death, with every symptom of hydrophobia, a short time ago, of the cow so slightly bitten seven years ago, and in whose system madness had been latent ever since.

NEGRO FREE LABOR—IMPORTANT STATEMENT.—The Commissioner of Freedmen's Affairs on Saturday received the following letter from a distinguished ex-general of the confederate army, who has several large plantations in the State of Arkansas, and on which he is engaged in the cultivation of cotton:

"It affords me great pleasure to inform you that I have been successful beyond my most sanguine expectations in engaging labor for all my plantations in Arkansas and Tennessee. I have already engaged about 400 freedmen, and have full confidence in making a success of the year's work. I have no fear of the freedmen in all cases a part of the crop of cotton, and I allow them land for cultivation for their own use without charge therefor. I could have engaged 1,000 laborers if I had needed that number. My brother, who adopted my plan of labor, has also succeeded admirably in the system of free labor. I have put one large plantation under white laborers from the North, upon precisely the same terms that I engaged freedmen. I felt anxious to try the system of white labor in growing cotton, and therefore I engaged labor of that character for one plantation.—Knowing the interest you feel in the success of the system of the freedmen, and feeling grateful for your kindness to me, I deem it a duty to communicate the result of my work thus far."

THE LATEST IDAHO STORY.—A letter of early October, from a gold miner in Idaho, reports these wonderful discoveries:

"A party that were prospecting on the War Eagle Mountain, about one mile south of the Ore Fino, found one of the richest gold and silver ledges ever found anywhere; or, as they say, it is richer than anything we read of in the history of mines. It is close to the Empire ledge, and is supposed to cross it. The new discovery is named the Poor Man's—it is from one to three feet wide. The Oregon Steam Navigation Company have got into it, and have taken five tons of the ore to the Sinker mill and worked it; there the five tons yielded over one ton of bullion. A man that stops in the house with me got four pounds of the rock and pounded it, and got about ounce worth of dust after retorting. They get blocks of native silver as large as candle boxes, and hammer it out like a wagon tire, and leave it all shining with free gold. Three parties claim this discovery, and a battle is expected at any time."

THE CHOLERA AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—The United States Consul at Constantinople, under date of December 6, laboring under the impression that the cholera had reached this country, encloses a communication to the Department of State, from the Levant *Herald*, published in that city, containing such useful hints in regard to the treatment of the dire scourge, the result of experience. The writer of the communication gives a prescription that has been used in that city with eminent success, viz: equal parts of laudanum, tincture of rhubarb, and spirits of camphor.

The United States Consul at Port Mahon advises the Department of State, under date of November 30, that the cholera has nearly disappeared from that province. A few cases only have occurred at Cindadella during the week ending November 30. The Consul adds that cholera in Spain has been much greater than will ever be made known.

A CURIOUS BOOK.—Perhaps the most singular bibliographic curiosity is that which belongs to the family of the Prince De Ligne, in France. It is entitled, "Liber Passionis Nastri Jesu Christicum characteribus nulla materia compositis." This book is neither written nor printed. The whole letters of the text are cut out of each folio upon the finest vellum; and being interleaved with blue paper, it is read as easily as the best print. The labor and patience bestowed on its completion must have been excessive, especially when the precision and minuteness of the letters are considered. The general execution in every respect, is pronounced admirable, and the vellum is of the most delicate and costly kind.—Rodolphus II., of Germany, offered for it in 1640, 11,000 ducats, which was probably equal to $60,000 at this day. The most remarkable circumstances connected with this literary treasure is, that it bears the royal arms of England, but it cannot be traced to ever have been in that country.

GHOST STORY.—The Western papers tell in good faith an incredible ghost story, and back it up by the sworn affidavits of several respectable persons at Grand Traverse, Michigan. A spiritual manifest at that place, whose husband was a stubborn disbeliever in the "manifestations," assured him in her dying breath that she should reappear to him in her body at his death to convince him of the truth of her belief. Several weeks after he was taken sick and a "spiritual" rumpus was kept up in the house until his decease, which soon followed. Just before his death, which occurred at midnight, heavy and irregular footsteps were heard in the hall, the door was burst open, and the remains of a human body, reeking with putrescence, stalked into the room, and in a muffled voice reminded the dying man of the promise, and, as he died, fell a horrid mass upon the floor. An examination of her grave proved it to be empty. The story created intense excitement, and the house where the affair was said to have occurred was burned by the friends of the family.

A VIRGINIA OLD RELIC—"*The Old Blue Bowl.*"—This old historical relic, holding thirty gallons, and which for so many years belonged to the Richmond Light Infantry Blues, of this city, we are glad to find was rescued from destruction on the ever memorable 3d of April, by an ex-captain of that famous old company. It is said that this bowl is upwards of eighty years old, and during its "long time" has contained between one hundred and fifty and two hundred thousand gallons of egg-nog, julip, punch, toddy, &c. It is now at "The Place," opposite our office and will be refilled with egg nog on the occasion of the reorganization of the old company, which is now under way.—*Richmond Times.*

RELIC OF CONFEDERATE TIMES.—In common with a host of others, we have a kindly feeling for many things Confederate. For some, however, we experience a hearty disgust. A friend ingenuiously presented us yesterday with a genuine Confederate cigar, which he assured us was made in this city during the siege. We tried to smoke it and paid dearly for the effort. The suction necessary to attract the smoke to our mouth, caused us the loss of a gold plug, and started two of our teeth to aching. We are in no humor to say more on the subject.—*Petersburg Express.*

LATEST TELEGRAPH NEWS
TO THE
DAILY COMMERCIAL.

WRECK OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Forty Lives Lost—The Captain, One Passenger and Twelve of the Crew Saved.

The following additional despatches, regarding the terrible calamity that has befallen the steamer Constitution, first announced on Saturday, have been received:

NEWBERN, N. C., December 30.—*The Times* has a private telegram from Morehead City, of the 29th inst., which says the steamer Constitution, Captain Greenman, from Savannah to New York, struck Cape Lookout shoals on the night of the 25th and went to pieces. She had 54 persons, all told, on board, including two ladies and one child. The Captain and 13 men were saved—the rest were lost. The steamer is a total wreck.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 30, 1865.—The steamer Constitution, Captain Greenman, left Savannah for New York on the 23d instant, with 24 passengers and 700 bales of cotton. She struck on the southern point of Lookout shoal on Tuesday morning, at four o'clock, where she remained 48 hours, and then broke up.

The captain, 12 of the crew, and one passenger, W. P. Long, of Brooklyn, New York, saved themselves on cotton bales. They landed at Cape Lookout Lighthouse at four o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and thence proceeded to Morehead City.

Forty persons on board the ill-fated vessel, consisting of passengers and crew, perished.

The survivors left Morehead City for New York this evening.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The Constitution was built at Mystic, Conn., in 1863, of oak and chestnut, and was strongly fastened with copper and iron, and was considered an excellent steamer in every respect: her strength was well tested by holding together for forty-eight hours after getting on the shoals. She was 944 tons register, and rated A1* in *American Lloyd's Register*. She was 184 feet in length, 33 feet beam, and 19 feet depth of hold; was brig-rigged, and her draught was 14 feet. She cost $120,000 to build.

Immediately after her completion she was placed in the service of the Government as a transport. She could accommodate 75 persons in the cabin, and a large number in the steerage.

Inauguration of the Mayor of Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1.—The inauguration of Mayor Morton McMichael took place to-day, at noon, at Independence Hall, in the hall of Common Councils. Previous to the ceremonies the retiring Mayor, Alexander Henry, was addressed by Fire Marshal Blackburn on behalf of the police force of the city, who presented him with a handsome gold watch and chain. Mr. Blackburn remarked that although the Mayor had discountenanced all gifts while occupying office, they trusted he would receive this testimonial as an evidence of their esteem when again becoming a private citizen. In his reply, Mr. Henry paid a high compliment to the police force, which had aided every endeavor of his to preserve the peace of the city during most trying periods.

The inaugural ceremonies were opened with prayer by the Rev. Geo. Boardman, after which the oath of office was administered by Judge Thompson. The Mayor, in his inaugural address, remarked that in his first official utterance he desired to express his high appreciation of the wisdom and ability which had marked the administration of his predecessor, and that he should endeavor to follow in the path so successfully pursued by him. He had serious responsibilities to meet, and grave obligations to discharge with territorial area exceeding that of any other American capital and population only second to what is claimed by New York.

Philadelphia possessed capacity for illimitable growth and expansion, and could not help increasing constantly and rapidly, both in numbers and extent, and if the people were only equal to their fortune before the close of the current century, they would count a larger population, dwelling in more and better houses and spreading over a wider surface than could be found in any other American Metropolis.—If we are equal to fortune, implied a doubt, which he intended first must be admitted. In recent years, we have not made instant or sufficient use of natural superiorities; while we deliberate, it not unfrequently happens that others act. It is manifest that all parts of the Union will be stirred into unprecedented action, and this state of things will inevitably tend to earnest competition among the principal centres of business, and they who bring to the contest the completest equipments and sustain themselves without the slighest faltering, will win the chiefest prizes. Without in any degree disparaging the merits of her rivals, Philadelphia should be at least among the foremost, both as a manufacturing centre, and with the opportunities she possesses for easy communication, both internal and foreign, if judiciously improved, as a distributing centre. Let us so act, that, if Philadelphia fails to reach that lofty station to which she is entitled, we shall stand acquitted before the tribunal of our conscience of all complicity. The Mayor then received the congratulations of the members of the Common Councils and many distinguished citizens, and entered upon his official duties.

TEXAS.

Affairs in the State.

NEW ORLEANS, December 28.—Affairs on the Rio Grande are unchanged. The Liberals are up the river Jalle.

F. D. Lubbock, lately released from Fort Delaware has reached his Texas home in western Texas.

The planters, farmers and freedmen are generally making contracts for new year satisfactory to both parties. In central Texas the prospects are not so good; the planters are discouraged.

General Gregory is making a tour, addressing the freedmen with a view to persuade them to make contracts for labor next year. There is much complaint about the mail service thoughout Texas. It takes seventeen days to get a letter from Houston to New Orleans, which can be traveled in three days.

Business in Galveston is dropping off. Goods are daily declining in price.

Early this month, at Jefferson, Texas, the military rescued by force, in open district court, from the sheriff, two Treasury agents indicted by the grand jury for swindling. The officer in command ordered the provisional judge of the court to release the agents, under the threat of punishment if he disobeyed. The judge declined obeying the order.

Telegraphic communication from New Orleans, north and east, is very irregular.

GEORGIA.

Trial of Lamar Progressing—Collision of Steamers at Sea.

SAVANNAH, Ga., December 28.—The steamer Zodiac, which left here for New York yesterday, collided with the steamer Virgo, bound to Savannah, when northward of Charleston.

Both steamers arrived here this evening, the Zodiac badly damaged.

The Lamar trial proceeded to-day. Messrs. A. T. Browne, senior and junior, Treasury agents, presented voluminous testimony.

TENNESSEE.

Late Tornado in Pulaski.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 30.—Latest information from Pulaski states that the loss of life and property is less than at first reported. Only one white person was killed, Miss Bradden. A Mrs. Johnson is thought to be mortally injured. One negro woman was killed, and seven negroes more or less severely injured. The tornado struck the northwestern part of the town, uprooting trees, destroying six or seven houses. A portion of Richland factory was destroyed, and several houses in a southwestesly direction were levelled with the ground.

Philadelphia Items.

PHILADELPHIA, January 1st.—This afternoon a condemned shell exploded at Penn Treaty Iron Work; Henry Conway, a young man, had one leg blown off and the other badly injured. This morning, Frank Mackanna, while standing at the door of his residence, was shot in the neck by Edward McNulty. J. Hutchinson Kay and William Hawkes, late clerks to Mayor Henry, Chief Ruggles, of the police force, and Fire Marshal Blackburn have been retained in office by Mayor McMichael.

The Fenians.

PHILADELPHIA, December 30.—Twelve out of the sixteen circles of the Fenian Brotherhood here will be represented by delegates at the New York Congress. Only two circles have endorsed the Senate, namely, the Sarsfield and Wolf Tone. Eight of the circles have passed resolutions positively endorsing O'Mahoney.

Governor Vance.

RALEIGH, Jan. 1.—Ex-Governor Z. B. Vance, whose parole has been extended to embrace the State, arrived here this A. M. It is reported that he is on his way to Wilmington where he means to reside. Kemp P. Battle, elected State Treasurer by the Legislature, entered on the discharge of his duties to-day.

The Strong Divorce Case.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—The jury in the Strong divorce case were discharged yesterday morning, being unable to agree.

From Mobile—No Fear of Negro Troubles.

MOBILE, Dec. 31.—The negroes are quiet and exceedingly friendly and peaceably disposed. There is no danger of any disturbance in this city.

Ship News.

BOSTON, Jan. 1.—Arrived the Colin McNeil and Starlight from New Orleans, and Hadley from Baltimore.

New Year's Day.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—New Year's day is observed here as usual. Business is generally suspended.

—The Columbus *Journal* says that while Mr. Charles Hardy, cashier of the National Exchange Bank, and Colonel James A. Wilcox, Provost Marshal General and Chief Mustering Officer of Ohio, were skating on the Scioto river, in that city, on Friday evening, they were attacked by four ruffians, one of whom is believed to be a deserter from the army. Mr. Hardy was severely beaten with a bludgeon, and the villains attempted to drown Colonel Wilcox through a hole in the ice. He, however, managed to escape. The assailants were afterwards arrested.—The only ground for the attack was the supposed anger of the deserter, who had been tried through Col. W.'s instrumentality.

FROM WASHINGTON

New Year's Day at the Capital.

The President Kept Open House.

Reception of the Diplomatic Corps.

Discrediting the National Banks.

WASHINGTON FENIAN CIRCLE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1, 1866.

THE PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION.

The *Star* of this evening gives the following account of President Johnson's reception:

The first public reception was given by President Johnson to-day. It was hoped that previous to adjournment Congress would appropriate a sufficient sum for refurnishing the White House, but it was found that the thirty thousand dollars which was appropriated for that purpose barely sufficed to pay off debts accumulated during the previous occupancy of the Executive Mansion, leaving nothing for present improvements. The east room is particularly defaced, and was unfit for a reception, but by the efforts of Mr. William Slade, steward of the White House, it was placed in a tolerably presentable condition.—The worn carpet in this apartment, as well as those in the other rooms, was covered with a neat spread, for the purpose of protecting it from further injury by the crowd, and the most soiled furniture was removed. The carpets in the ante-rooms were taken up, leaving the oil cloth, which is always laid down under them.

A platform was built from the window of the hall in which the staircase ascends, to the pavement, so as to enable the crowd to pass out without obstructing ingress, and the doors of the vestibule were removed, thus giving free access to the reception room.

In the Blue Room, where the President receives his visitors, elegant bouquets formed of white and variegated camelias, heliotrope, lilies and mignonette were placed in gilded flower stands, and on the lacquered tables of Japanese workmanship.

At an early hour this morning the United States Marshal, Mr. Gooding; his deputy, Mr. Phillips; the Commissioner of Public Buildings, Mr. French; and Mr. Richards, Superintendent of Metropolitan Police, were in attendance at the White House, completing the arrangements for the ceremonies. The detail of police consisted of sixty-seven men, who, in their new uniform and white gloves, presented a very creditable appearance. Forty were assigned to the Executive Mansion, under the command of Sergeants Hurley and Skippon. Twenty of them were stationed in the various apartments through which the guests were to pass. A number of police were also placed on duty at the residences of the Secretaries.

The Marine Band, under Prof. Scala, was seated in the principal ante-room, and during the reception performed the following airs: Hail to the Chief, Cora and Aria—Roberto, il Diavolo, Overte—William Tell, Aria—La Favorita, Settimino—Ernani—Waltz—Dream on the Ocean, Liberty Duetto—I Puritani, Duetto—La Traviata, Cavatina—Il Fuoso, Aria—Ernani, Cavatina—Harold, Grand March—Tanhauser, Star Spangled Banner, Hail Columbia, and Yankee Doodle. The gates leading to the grounds of the Executive Mansion were closed, and guarded by a detachment of Veteran Reserves.

Sir Frederick Bruce, British Minister, was the first of the Diplomatic Corps to arrive, and Secretary Stanton the first of the Cabinet. The others included in the 11 o'clock reception rapidly followed, and consisted of the members of the Cabinet excepting Secretary Seward, who sailed for the gulf on Saturday, and who was represented by the Assistant Secretary of State, (Mr. Hunter,) all of the Diplomatic Corps residing in the city, Chief Justice Chase and the Associated Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges Olin, Carter, and Wylie, of the District Court. Most of these dignitaries were accompanied by their families. A large number of Senators, including the President of the Senate, Mr. Foster, and Senators Morgan, Harris, Johnson, Saulsbury, Stewart, Rawlins, Booth, Morrill, Howard and Stockton, and members of Congress with their families were also present.

A few minutes before eleven, the President, accompanied by his daughters, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Stover, and two young ladies from Nashville, guests of the family, entered the Blue Room. Col. Robert Johnson, son of the President, was still, and unable to be present. The other attaches of the Executive office, Col. Moore, Col. Rives, Maj. Morrow, and Maj. Long, were in attendance, and entertained many of the guests while lingering in the reception room. Mrs. Patterson was dressed in black velvet, elegantly trimmed, and was ornamented simply by a white japonica in her hair. Mrs. Stover was attired in black silk, and was also without ornaments. Each lady held a beautiful bouquet of mignonette, heliotrope and japonicas.

Marshal Gooding stood on the left of the President and nearest the entrance to the reception room, and the acting Secretary of State on the right, the latter presenting the members of the diplomatic corps as they entered the apartment. The Commissioner of Public Buildings, Hon. B. B. French, presented the guests to Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Stover. After the members of the Cabinet, the foreign Ministers, the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, Senators and representatives in Congress, and the Judges of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and the Court of Claims had been presented, a few moments were occupied in mutual congratulations, the distinguished guests completely filling the Blue Room, and forming a most brilliant assemblage.

At half-past eleven the officers of the army, navy, and marine corps were received. General Townsend presented the officers of the army, who were preceded by Lieutenant General Grant and staff, and included Major Generals Meade, Gillmore, Meigs, Ingalls, Pessenden, Mott, Vincent, Hardie, Seth, Williams, Brice, Barnes, Howard, and others, and a large number of Brigadier Generals and subordinate officers. The officers of the navy and marine corps were next presented by Captain Fox, Assistant