[Continued from the First Page.]

with the express consent of the people of those islands. This treaty still remains under consideration in the Senate. A new convention has been entered into with Denmark, enlarging the time fixed for final ratification of the original treaty.

Comprehensive national policy would seem to sanction the acquisition and incorporation into the Federal Union of the several adjacent continental and insular communities as speedily as it can be done peacefully, lawfully, and without any violation of national justice faith, or honor. Foreign possession or control of those communities has hitherto hindered the growth and impaired the influence of the United States. Chronic revolution and anarchy there would be equally injurious. Each one of them, when firmly established as an independent republic, or when incorporated into the United States, would be a new source of strength and power.

Conforming my administration to these principles, I have on no occasion lent support or toleration to unlawful expeditions set on foot upon the plea of republican propagandism, or of national extension or aggrandisement. The necessity, however, of repressing such unlawful movements clearly indicates the duty which rests upon us of adapting our legislative action to the new circumstances of a decline of European monarchical power and influence, and the increase of American republican ideas, interests, and sympathies.

It cannot be long before it will become necessary for this Government to lend some effective aid to the solution of the political and social problems which are continually kept before the world by the two republics of the island of St. Domingo, and which are now disclosing themselves more distinctly than heretofore in the island of Cuba. The subject is commended to your consideration with all the more earnestness because I am satisfied that the time has arrived when even so direct a proceeding as a proposition for an annexation of the two republics of the Island of St. Domingo would not only receive the consent of the people interested, but would also give satisfaction to all other foreign nations.

I am aware that upon the question of further extending our possessions it is apprehended by some that our political system cannot successfully be applied to an area more extended than our continent; but the conviction is rapidly gaining ground in the American mind that, with the increased facilities for intercommunication between all portions of the earth, the principles of free government, as embraced in our Constitution, if faithfully maintained and carried out, would prove of sufficient strength and breadth to comprehend within their sphere and influence the civilized nations of the whole world.

The attention of the Senate and of Congress is again respectfully invited to the treaty for the establishment of commercial reciprocity with the Hawaiian kingdom, entered into last year, and already ratified by that Government. The attitude of the United States towards these islands is not very different from that in which they stand towards the West Indies. It is known and felt by the Hawaiian Government and people that their Government and institutions are feeble and precarious; that the United States, being so near a neighbor, would be unwilling to see the islands pass under foreign control. Their prosperity is continually disturbed by expectations and alarms of unfriendly political proceedings, as well from the United States as from other foreign powers.

A reciprocity treaty, while it could not materially diminish the revenues of the United States would be a guarantee of the good will and forbearance of all nations until the people of the islands shall, at no distant day, voluntarily apply for admission to the Union.

The Emperor of Russia has acceded to the treaty negotiated here in January last for the security of trades-marks in the interest of manufacturers and commerce. I have invited his attention to the importance of establishing, now while it seems easy and practicable, a fair and equal regulation of the vast fisheries belonging to the two nations in the waters of the North Pacific Ocean.

The two treaties between the United States and Italy for the regulation of consular powers and the extradition of criminals, negotiated and ratified here during the last session of Congress, have been accepted and confirmed by the Italian Government. A liberal consular convention which has been negotiated with Belgium will be submitted to the Senate. The very important treaties which were negotiated between the United States and North Germany and Bavaria, for the regulation of the rights of naturalized citizens, have been duly ratified and exchanged, and similar treaties have been entered into with the Kingdoms of Belgium and Wurtemberg, and with the Grand Duchies of Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt. I hope soon to be able to submit equally satisfactory conventions of the same character now in the course of negotiation, with the respective Governments of Spain, Italy, and the German Empire.

Examination of claims against the United States by the Hudson's Bay Company and the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, on account of certain possessory rights in the State of Oregon and Territory of Washington, alleged by those companies in virtue of provisions of the treaty between the United States and Great Britain of June 15, 1846, has been diligently prosecuted, under the direction of the joint international commission to which they were submitted for adjudication by treaty between the two Governments of July 1, 1863, and will, it is expected, be concluded at an early day.

No practical regulation concerning colonial trade and the fisheries can be accomplished by treaty between the United States and Great Britain until Congress shall have expressed their judgment concerning the principles involved. Three other questions, however, between the United States and Great Britain remain open for adjustment. These are the mutual rights of naturalized citizens, the boundary question involving the title to the island of San Juan, on the Pacific coast, and mutual claims arising since the year 1853 of the citizens and subjects of the two countries for injuries and depredations committed under the authority of their respective Governments. Negotiations upon these subjects are pending, and I am not without hope of being able to lay before the Senate, for its consideration during the present session, protocols calculated to bring to an end these justly exciting and long-existing controversies.

We are not advised of the action of the Chinese Government upon the liberal and auspicious treaty which was recently celebrated with its plenipotentiaries at this capital.

Japan remains a theatre of civil war, marked by religious accidents and political severities peculiar to that long isolated empire. The Executive has hitherto maintained strict neutrality among the belligerents, and acknowledges with pleasure that it has been frankly and fully sustained in that course by the enlightened concurrence and co-operation of the other treaty Powers, namely, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, North Germany, and Italy.

Spain having recently undergone a revolution marked by extraordinary unanimity and preservation of order, the Provisional Government established at Madrid has been recognized, and the friendly intercourse which has so long happily existed between the two countries remains unchanged.

I renew the recommendation contained in my communication to Congress, dated the 18th of July last—a copy of which accompanies this message—that the judgment of the people should be taken on the propriety of so amending the Federal Constitution that its amendments shall provide:—

1. For an election of President and Vice-President by a direct vote of the people, instead of through the agency of electors, and making them ineligible for re-election to a second term.

2. For a distinct designation of the person who shall discharge the duties of President, in the event of a vacancy in that office by the death, resignation, or removal of both the President and Vice-President.

3. For the election of Senators of the United States directly by the people of the several States, instead of by the Legislatures, and

4. For the limitation to a period of years of the terms of Federal judges.

Profoundly impressed with the propriety of making these important modifications in the Constitution, I respectfully submit them for the early and mature consideration of Congress. We should as far as possible remove all pretext for violations of the organic law, by remedying such imperfections as time and experience may develop, ever remembering that "the Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all."

In the performance of a duty imposed upon me by the Constitution, I have thus communicated to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommended for their consideration such measures as have seemed to me necessary and expedient. If carried into effect, they will hasten the accomplishment of the great and beneficent purposes for which the Constitution was ordained, and which it comprehensively states were "to form a more perfect Union, establish justice insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

In Congress are vested all legislative powers, and upon them devolves the responsibility as well for framing unwise and excessive laws as for neglecting to devise and adopt measures absolutely demanded by the wants of the country. Let us earnestly hope that before the expiration of our respective terms of service, now rapidly drawing to a close, an all-wise Providence will so guide our counsels as to strengthen and preserve the Federal Union, inspire reverence for the Constitution, restore prosperity and happiness to our whole people, and promote "on earth peace, good will towards men."

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Washington, Dec. 9 1868

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

OFFICE OF THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, Wednesday, Dec 9 1868.

The Money market continues quiet and the rates are without change. Call loans rule at 6@7 per cent. First-class commercial paper ranges from 9@10 per cent. per annum. The banks continue to discount moderately for their customers. The Stock market was extremely dull this morning, but prices generally were steady. Government securities were a fraction lower. City loans were without change; the new issue sold at 100.

Railroad shares were inactive. Camden and Amboy sold at 128¼@128¾, a slight advance; and Lehigh Valley at 55¼, no change; 54¼ was bid for Pennsylvania Railroad; 66 for Norristown; 49¾ for Reading; 57 for Minehill; 36 for North Pennsylvania; 30 for Elmira common; 42 for Elmira preferred; 30 for Catawissa preferred; 25 for Philadelphia and Erie; and 48 for Northern Central.

City Passenger Railway shares were unchanged. 47 was bid for Second and Third; 17 for Tenth and Eleventh; 43½ for Chestnut and Walnut; 66 for West Philadelphia; 10¼ for Hestonville; 33¾ for Green and Coates; and 29¼ for Germantown.

Bank shares were firmly held at full prices. 245 was bid for North America; 150 for Philadelphia; 30 for Mechanics'; 166 for Southwark; and 112 for Kensington.

In Canal shares there was very little doing. Lehigh Navigation sold at 28¼, a decline of ¼; 9¼ was bid for Schuylkill Navigation common; and 72 for Morris Canal preferred

PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES TO-DAY
Reported by De Haven & Bro., No. 40 S. Third street

FIRST BOARD.

$100 City 6s mun.d b..10¾		100 sh Leh Nav.....	28¼
16 sh C & A.....	128¾	4 sh Leh V R	54¼
2 do.....	128¾	20 do.....	55¼

—This morning's gold quotations, reported by Narr & Ladner, No. 30 South Third Street:—

10·00 A. M.	135¾	11·35 A. M.	135¾
10·24 "	135¾	12·10 P. M.	135¾
11·05 "	135¾	12·45 "	135¾

—Messrs. William Painter & Co., bankers, No. 36 South Third Street, report the following rates of exchange to-day at 12 o'clock:—United States 6s, 1881, 114¾@114¾; U. S. 5-20s, 1862, 110¾@111¼; do., 1864, 107¼@107¾; do., 1865, 107¾@107¾; do. July, 1865, 110¼@110¾; do July, 1867, 110¼@110¾; 1868, 110¼@110¾; 10-40s, 105¾ @105¾. Compound Interest Notes, past due, 119·25. Gold, 135¼@135¾.

—Messrs. De Haven & Brother, No. 40 South Third street, report the following rates of exchange to-day at 1 P. M.:—U. S. 6s of 1881, 114¾@114¾; do., 1862, 110¾@111; do., 1864, 107¼@107¾; do., 1865, 107¾@107¾; do., 1865, new, 110¼@110¾; do., 1867, new, 110¼@110¾; do., 1868, 110¼@110¾; do., 5s, 10-40s, 105¼@105¾. Due Compound Interest Notes, 19¾; Gold, 135¼@135¾. Silver, 131@133.

Stock Quotations by Telegraph—2 P. M

Glendinning, Davis & Co. report through their New York house the following:—

N. Y. Cent. R.....	125⅝	West Union Tel...	36½
N. Y. and E. R.....	37¾	Clev. and Toledo R	103⅝
Ph. and Rea. R.....	38⅝	Fol. & Wab. RR.....	57¼
Mich. S. and N. I. R.	87	M. & St. Pl. R. com	65½
Clev. & Pittsb'g R..	84⅞	Adams Ex. Co.....	48
Chi. and N.W. com	77¼	Wells, Fargo	26
Chi. and N.W. pref.	80¼	U. S. Express.....	46
Chi. and R. I. R.....	107¼	Tennessee 6s, new..	68⅝
Pitts. F. W. & Chi.	110⅝	Gold.....	135½
Pac. Mail S. Co.....	115⅝	Market irregular.	

SIX PER CENT. GOLD INTEREST, PRINCIPAL ALSO REPAYABLE IN GOLD.—First mortgage bonds, based upon the valuable franchises, grants, railroad, equipment, etc., of the Central Railroad Company of Iowa, now nearly completed, and forming one of the most productive lines of traffic in the world. The way traffic alone is large and remunerative, independently of the immense through business soon to follow.

A portion of this loan is offered to investors at 103 per cent. and accrued interest in currency. The bonds have semi-annual gold coupons attached, payable in January and July.

Information, etc., to be had of

DE HAVEN & BROTHER,
Dealers in Government Securities, Gold, etc.
No. 40 South Third street.

Philadelphia Trade Report.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 9.—Cloverseed meets a limited inquiry, with small sales of new at $7@7·50. Prices of Timothy are entirely nominal. Flaxseed is taken on arrival by the crushers at $2·60@2·62.

In Bark no further transactions, and we quote No. 1 Quercitron at $42·50 ⅌ ton.

In the Flour Market there is but little activity, the demand being limited and confined to the high grades for the supply of the home consumers at $7·50@8·25 for Northwestern extra family; $9@10·50 for fair Pennsylvania and choice Ohio do. do.; $11@13 for fancy; $6@6·75 for extra; and $5·25@5·75 for superfine. Rye Flour sells in a small way at $7·75@8. Corn Meal is quiet.

Wheat is in limited request at the late decline. Sales of 1000 bushels fair and good Western red at $1·98@2; and amber at $2·10@2·12. Rye has advanced; sales of 1200 bushels at $1·55 for Pennsylvania. Corn has declined and is dull. New comes in slowly; sales of 3600 bushels at 91@97c. for new yellow; $1 for very dry; $1·15 for old do.; and $1·14 for Western mixed. In Oats we notice sales of 4000@5000 bushels at 69@71c. for Western; 66@65c. for light Pennsylvania; 1000 bushels New York Barley sold at $2·10.

Whisky is in limited request; sales of 150 barrels, tax paid, at $1·06.

LATEST SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

For additional Marine News see Inside Pages.

(*By Atlantic Cable.*)

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 9.—The steamship City of Baltimore, from New York, arrived yesterday.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.....DECEMBER 9.

STATE OF THERMOMETER AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

7 A. M.....31 | 11 A. M.....36 | 2 P. M.....36

CLEARED THIS MORNING.

Brig S. & W. Welsh, Watson, Trieste, D. S. Stetson & Co.
Schr James S. Wattson, Houck, Newport, C. J. & J. H. Eastwick.
Schr Benjamin Simmons, Godfrey, Salem, G. S. Repplier.
Schr E. G. Willard, Parsons, Portland, Borda, Keller & Nutting.
Schr Union Flag, Maloney, Charleston, S. C., Lathbury, Wickersham & Co.

ARRIVED THIS MORNING.

Steamship Whirlwind, Iver, 36 hours from Providence, with mdse. to D. S. Stetson & Co.
Schr Maria Pierce, Bellett, 1 day from Delaware City with grain to James Barratt.
Schr J. S. Wattson, Houck, from Lynn.
Schr H. Simmons, Godfrey, from Salem.

MEMORANDA.

Ship Joseph Fish, Stackpole, was discharging at Cailao 14th ult.
Barque Ella Moore, Masters, hence, at Queenstown 2d inst.
Brig Rosalia, Tanarino, hence, at Venice 21st ult.
Schr Thomas Borden, Wrightington, hence, at Fall River 7th inst.
Schr James Jones, Porter, for Philadelphia, cleared at Jacksonville 31 inst.
Schr Argus Eye, for Philadelphia, sailed from New Bedford 7th inst.
Schr Frank Herbert, Crowell, for Philadelphia, cleared at Boston 7th inst.

WEDDING INVITATIONS, ENGRAVED IN the newest and best manner.
LOUIS DREKA, Stationer and Engraver,
9 15 No. 1038 CHESNUT Street

SILK CHAIN POPLIN,
DOUBLE WIDTH,
REDUCED FROM $1·75 to $1·12½.
CURWEN STODDART & BRO.,
NOS. 450, 452, and 454 N. SECOND Street.

SILK-FACED SPINGLINE,
REDUCED FROM $1·00 to 81½ Cts.
CURWEN STODDART & BRO.,
NOS. 450, 452, and 454 N. SECOND Street.

INDIA SHAWLS,
ON EXHIBITION AN EXTENSIVE STOCK,
AT LESS THAN USUAL PRICES.
CURWEN STODDART & BRO.,
12 9 3t NOS. 450, 452, and 454 N. SECOND Street.

SECOND EDITION

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

The Legal Tender Acts—Testing their Constitutionality—The President very Indignant—An Election Ordered in Virginia—The Removal of Political Disabilities.

Financial and Commercial

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatch to The Evening Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Argument on the

Constitutionality of the Legal-Tender Acts

was continued in the Supreme Court to-day, the lawyers engaged against the acts opening on that side. The court room, as on yesterday, is filled with Senators and members and prominent lawyers.

Attorney General Evarts

is in court to-day, and should the opposition lawyers get through it is probable he will speak for the Government.

E. B. Washburne,

of Illinois, now acting as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations in the place of Thad. Stevens, deceased, called a special meeting of that Committee to-day for the purpose of considering the estimates and recommendations in some of the Secretaries' reports.

It is the intention of Mr. Washburne to cut everything down with a view to

Retrenchment.

This is done with the view of exhibiting hostility to the present administration, as the appropriations made at this session will be for Grant's administration.

The President is Indignant

at the report of the premature publication of his message this morning by a Democratic paper in New York. It was obtained under written pledge that it should not be published until delivered to Congress. It will be read in both houses to-day.

The Reconstruction Committee

held its first meeting this morning. They agreed to report a bill providing for an

Election in Virginia

on the 20th of January next to ratify the State Constitution, and also a bill removing the political disabilities from twenty-one Rebels of Virginia, and also from Chief-Justice Moses, of South Carolina.

The House Military Committee

this morning authorized its chairman to report a large number of bills and urge their passage. None of them are important, except the bill revising the Articles of War and Discipline for the United States army, and one authorizing the sale of reservations and the erection of fortifications in the West.

FROM NEW YORK.

Burning of the Townsend Block in Syracuse.

Special Despatch to The Evening Telegraph.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 9.—About one o'clock this morning a fire broke out in the Townsend Block, originating in a paint shop, which contained inflammable matter, and which gave a very rapid speed to the flames. The loss is very heavy, but well insured, principally in Eastern companies. The following are the sufferers:—Frank Curran, plumber; Pease, Johnson & Pisisted, hardware; Hawkins, Stewart & Co., stoves and hardware; Sniper & Fross' saloon, and Whitney's paint shop. The aggregate damage is estimated at $60 000.

FROM NEW YORK.

Copies of the President's Message Distributed—Its Authorized Publication Forestalled.

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Copies of the President's Message for the press were furnished to the General Agent of the Associated Press at daylight this morning, with the express proviso from the President that they were not to be given to the editors until 11 o'clock. At 9 o'clock, however, a paper in the city not belonging to the Associated Press issued an extra containing the Message, perhaps obtained from some source in Washington other than the President himself, who strictly enforced the necessity of secrecy until the hour mentioned. The injunction of secrecy being thus removed, the document was furnished to all parts of the country immediately from this office.

This Afternoon's European Markets.

By Atlantic Cable.

LONDON, Dec. 9—P. M.—Consols for account, 92⅝. American securities firm. Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, 39⅝; Erie, 26⅝.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 9—P. M.—Cotton firmer. Middling uplands, 10¼d.; Orleans, 11¼d.; sales 12,000 bales.

LONDON, Dec. 9—P. M.—Sugar quiet and steady, both on the spot and to arrive.

HAVRE, Dec. 9—P. M.—Cotton on the spot unchanged; afloat, 120 francs.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 9.—The steamship City of Limerick arrived yesterday from New York.

Conviction and Sentence of Deacon Andrews.

PLYMOUTH, Dec. 9.—The jury in the case of Deacon Andrews returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to imprisonment for twenty years.

A Destructive Fire.

NEWBURYPORT, Mass., Dec. 9.—Bayle's extensive hat manufactory in this city, was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is about $80,000, and is nearly all insured in Boston companies.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Stocks steady. Chicago and Rock Island, 107⅝; Reading, 98⅝; Canton Co., 48¾; Erie, 37⅝; Cleveland and Toledo, 103⅝; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 88⅝; Pittsburg and Fort Wayne, 111. Michigan Central, 119⅝; Michigan Southern, 87; New York Central, 1 6⅝; Illinois Central, 114; Cumberland preferred, 38; Virginia 6s, 57⅝; Missouri 6s, 86; Hudson River, 107⅝; 5-20s, 862 11th day 1864, 107⅝; do. 1865, 107⅝; do. new 110⅝; 10-40s 105⅝; Gold, 135⅝. Money, 6@7 per cent. Exchange, 109⅞.

NEW YORK Dec. 9—Cotton firm: sales of 1200 bales at 24¼@24¾c. Flour firm and advanced 5@10c., sales of 10 000 barrels State at $5·80@7·90; Ohio at $6·65@9·25. Western at $5·80@7·90; Southern at $7·25@12; California, $6·75@12. Wheat quiet, and advanced 1@2c. upon steady; sales of 28,000 bushels at $1·92@1·97½. Oats dull at 78@80c. Beef quiet at $25·50@26. Lard firm 18¼@18¾c. Whisky dull.

UMBRELLAS
OF THE LATEST AND PARIS
STYLES,
FOR
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS,
FOR SALE.
WM. A. BROWN & CO.,
No. 246 MARKET Street,
12 9 1m PHILADELPHIA

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

PROBABLE HOMICIDE.

The Work of an Insane Man.

At an extremely early hour this morning the people living in the vicinity of Tenth and Christian streets were in a great state of excitement, owing to a report that an old lady named Mrs. Fanny Craig, residing in Oliver street, had been murdered by her son. The house was surrounded in a few minutes, and shortly after a policeman arrived, who received certain information on which he immediately went into the building, and, ascending to an upper story, took a son of the old lady, named Hugh Craig out of bed. He was dressed, and his clothing and hands were besmeared with blood.

On descending to a lower room the policemen found Mrs. Craig lying in bed with her throat cut from ear. Blood was flowing very freely from the wound, and calling in some of the neighbors, she was removed to the adjoining house, when a physician was sent for. He advised her removal to the Hospital, where she now lies in a critical condition.

Hugh, when arrested, acted very strangely, and manifested much concern about a little box, which he insisted upon taking with him to the Station. By this time it is rumored that he was insane; and when he was asked about the deed he replied; "Never mind; wait until it comes to trial." He carried the box, which contains a savings' fund book and a policy of insurance, with him to the Station.

The policeman returned to the house and found in Mrs. Craig's bedroom a table-knife, which was covered with blood. The wounds of the injured lady on her arrival at the Hospital were pronounced dangerous, and medical aid was promptly on hand. She states that Hugh is 28 years of age, a printer by trade, but for some time he has been desirous of obtaining some other employment, and has for nights sat up until daylight reading and studying.

That he has during that time shown strong symptoms of insanity, but that it was of such a nature that she did not fear him. Last night she retired as usual, and at 4 o'clock was awakened by him being at her bedside, and before she could rise up he clutched her and drew the knife across her throat. He left her room, and she fell back in a swoon. She speaks very kindly of him, and says that he has always been a dutiful son, manifesting the utmost concern about her welfare. He went to California some time ago, for the purpose of making sufficient money to insure her comfort for the remainder of her life, but returned without having accomplished his object. Alderman Bonsall has committed him to await the result of the injuries of his mother.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER'S CASE.—At noon to-day, before United States Commissioner Henry Phillips, Jr., John McDermott had a hearing upon the charge of aiding and abetting in the unlawful removal of whisky to a place other than a bonded warehouse.

Charles Gilpin, residing No. 219 Girard avenue, testified—Am a furniture car man; have hauled whisky occasionally; remember hauling a trunk at which Mr. McDermott assisted in the unloading; it was on the last day of November, about nine o'clock in the morning; first saw the whisky I hauled in Salmon street above Ann; the barrels were in the kitchen of the house; saw no inspection marks on the barrels; when I put the barrels in the wagon there were stamps and brands on them; McDermott put the brands on them; think I saw defendant with the stamps in his possession; he gave the stamps to another man who put them on the barrels; don't think the man was an United States officer; his name is Dan McGlaughlin; heard him called by that name; saw another stamp in McDermott's possession besides those put on the barrels; a man I did not know helped load the barrels; the defendant accompanied me in the wagon to Nos. 110 and 112 South second street, A. J. Catherwood & Co.; we unloaded the barrels on the pavement; the porters of the establishment came out and rolled the barrels in; the barrels were perfectly tight barrels; before I left the place of delivery I saw Revenue Officer Babington on Second street; have seen him since.

Defendant held in $2 000 bail to appear and answer.

THE METHODIST FAIR.—It must be borne in mind that the great Fair now in progress at Horticultural Hall, for the benefit of the Home for the Aged and Infirm of the M. E. Church, closes on the evening of Saturday, and that, consequently, but two or three days yet remain in which to pay it a visit. As it opened successfully, let it close successfully. Although very many things have been disposed of, the display of useful and fancy articles is still magnificent. From the almost endless variety of goods on exhibition no person can fail in finding something to tickle his fancy; and then he has the knowledge that, in purchasing, he is aiding a most laudable work. The splendid gallery of paintings, the beautiful fountains, and the fine music, all assist in rendering the Fair attractive.

EXTENSIVE FIRE.—At twenty minutes of ten o'clock, this morning, a fire broke out in the picker room attached to the shoddy factory of Seth Humphrey, on Chesnut street, above Thirtieth. The firemen were quickly on the ground, and to them belongs the credit of having saved the entire building, although they inflicted considerable damage by the quantity of water poured into the place. The loss of Mr. Humphrey, which is principally by water, will be covered by insurance in the Royal, Hartford, and other companies. The structure belongs to the Parrish estate, and is but slightly damaged. It is covered by insurance.

HEAVY ROBBERY.—Some time during last night the store of L. Dannenbaum & Co., importers of silks, ribbons, and other millinery goods, was broken into and robbed of material valued at $800. The thieves effected an entrance through the door leading to the dwelling part of the building. They then tore away a step, by which they gained admittance to the cellar. From there they got into the store by sawing out a portion of the floor.

A DAMAGED INFANT.—Last night a male infant was found in an alley in the rear of No. 1505 Perth street, in the Twentieth ward. From injuries which were visible on the head, it is supposed that it had been thrown in the alley by some one who was passing along the street.

FIRE.—A lot of frame shedding on a lot at Twenty-third and Pine streets was destroyed by fire shortly after 12 o'clock this morning. The structures were used as stables for horses, cows, and hogs. Three cows and two horses were consumed. The latter animals belonged to M. Rafferty.

WENDELL PHILLIPS, whose name alone is sufficient to attract a large audience, will deliver his lecture on "Daniel O'Connell," at Concert Hall, this evening. An interesting and instructive lecture may unquestionably be expected.

FAST DRIVERS.—James Mitchel and George W. Thomas have been held to keep the peace by Alderman Hood. They were driving at a rapid rate over the Nicolson pavement on Broad street.

FAIR IN AID OF THE AGED AND INFIRM OF THE M. E. CHURCH AT HORTICULTURAL HALL.—An excellent chance is offered to secure to-day Bargains at this Fair. There are thousands of articles to select from, and they are disposed of at *amazingly low prices.*

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

Professor Rufus Adams' Readings.

A good audience was in attendance at Concert Hall last evening to listen to the reading of Professor Rufus Adams. The selections were given in excellent style, and the applause was hearty. The scene from the *Merchant of Venice* was particularly good, and the manner in which it was rendered would indicate that Professor Adams was a close Shakespearian student. The selections last evening were judicious and sufficiently varied. To-morrow evening Professor Adams reads in Baltimore, and in the course of a few days in Brooklyn, Bethlehem, and other places.

The City Amusements.

AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC Madame La Grange will appear this evening as "Norma."

AT THE WALNUT Mrs. D. P. Bowers will appear this evening as "Pauline," in *The Lady of Lyons.* The performance will conclude with the farce of *A Roland for an Oliver.*

AT THE CHESNUT the circus troupe will give a fine equestrian and acrobatic performance this evening. James Robinson, the great bareback rider will appear.

AT THE ARCH Colonel Fitzgerald's new drama of *Wolves at Bay* will be performed this evening.

AT THE THEATRE COMIQUE a great number of interesting performances will be given this evening.

AT THE AMERICAN an attractive variety entertainment will be given this evening.

DEAFNESS.—EVERY INSTRUMENT THAT science and art have invented to assist the hearing in every degree of deafness; also, Respirators; also, Crandall's Patent Crutches, superior to any others in use, at P. MADEIRA'S, No. 115 S TENTH street, below Chesnut. 9 9m

TO LET—THE FIVE-STORY BROWN STONE STORE, No. 120 N. THIRD Street. Possession on the 1st of January next.
Apply at No. 266 S. FRONT Street. 12 9 3t*

THIRD EDITION

CUBA.

By Cuba Cable.

Progress of the Insurrection.

HAVANA, Dec. 9.—Advices from Neuvitas to the 3d instant have been received. Count Balmaseda, in command of the Spanish forces, left Puerto Principe on Friday, the 27th November, with 1500 infantry, 200 cavalry, and eight pieces of artillery, for Nuevitas. The next morning he encountered the insurgents, who retreated after two hours' fighting.

Balmaseda reached San Miguel, a small town near the bay of Nuevitas, on Tuesday, fighting all along the line and driving the insurgents. He admits considerable loss, with four officers killed and three wounded. During the march he destroyed several plantations.

Colonel Lopez, with his command, has abandoned Las Tunas and arrived at Manati. Count Valmaser, at the head of a large insurgent force, is reported to be marching on Santa Espiritu. Advices from St. Jago de Cuba are to the 30th ult. Heavy fighting had taken place at Guantanamo, where the Spanish forces have been reduced. It is supposed the insurgents will attack St. Jago soon.

Canadian Affairs.

HALIFAX, Dec. 9.—It is reported that Mr. Howe has received propositions from Sir John A. McDonald, with a statement showing financial modifications to be recommended to the Dominion Parliament in favor of Nova Scotia.

The *Chronicle* advocates the formation of Repeal Leagues, and calls upon the Repealers of Halifax to set the ball in motion.

The *Citizen* contradicts by authority the statement that the House broke up the Repeal organizations of New Brunswick.

A terrific gale passed over Halifax on Monday night, and about thirty vessels were damaged in the harbor.

The Erie Railway Case.

ITHACA, Dec. 9.—In special term of the Supreme Court, yesterday, Judge Boardman dissolved the injunction granted by Justice Cardozo restraining Receiver Davies from taking possession of the Erie Railway.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Heenan Homicide.

COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER—Judges Brewster and Ludlow.—In the case of William Neens, charged with the murder of Timothy Heenan on the 12th of last June the required number of jurors was obtained this morning and the trial began. The Commonwealth do not pretend that the prisoner fired any of the shots at Heenan, but allege that he was with Patrick and Tracy Boyton in venting of the murderous, when the difficulty occurred, continued with them, looked into Smith's tavern for Heenan, and finding him there reported to Eaton and his contederates outside, and was one of that party until the murder had been committed; and they contend that he accompanied Eaton and Palmer back to Smith's tavern where Heenan was, with the fixed design of murdering him, and acted in concert with them as their scout, aiding and abetting the murder, and therefore though his hand did not inflict a single wound, yet he was equally guilty with those who fired the shots.

The same evidence that was given in Eaton's trial last week is to be submitted to the jury in this case.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—Judge Allison and Peirce.—The Orphans' Court argument list was up this morning.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—Judge Cadwalader.—Bankruptcy business was before the Court to-day. The jury were discharged until to-morrow.

The Alexander Case.

Reasons for a new trial of Colonel George W. Alexander have been filed, among which it is declared that the District Attorney, in his closing speech to the jury stated things that were not in evidence and tended wrongfully to prejudice the minds of the jurors against the defendant, and also gave the testimony of the witness Feller undue weight; that the defendant has since discovered evidence tending to falsify the testimony of Detective Brooks; and finally, that the verdict of the jury was against the evidence before them.

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST IN GOLD.—The First Mortgage fifty-year seven per cent. Sinking Fund Coupon Bonds of the Rockford, Rock Island, and St Louis Railroad Company, principal and interest payable in GOLD COIN, *free of Government tax* are for sale at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall street, New York, at 95 per cent, and accrued interest in currency.

Pamphlets, giving fuller information, may be had at the office.

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PHILADELPHIA, Twelfth Month 8th, 1868.
Messrs. Farrel, Herring & Co., No. 629 Chesnut Street—Gentlemen: It is with great pleasure that we add our testimony to the value of your Patent Champion Safe. At the destructive fire on Market street, on the evening of the 3d inst., your store was the centre of the conflagration, and, being filled with a large stock of drugs, oils, turpentine, paints, varnish, alcohol, etc., made a severe and trying test. Your Safe stood in an exposed situation, and fell with the burning floors into the cellar among a quantity of combustible materials. We opened it next day and found our books, papers, bank notes, bills receivable, and entire contents all safe. It is peculiarly gratifying to us that our Safe came out all right as we had entrusted our most valuable books to it. We shall want another of your Safes in a few days, as they have our entire confidence.
Yours, respectfully,
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FOURTH EDITION

WASHINGTON.

The President's Message in the Senate—What is Thought of the Document—Senator Conness Moves to Suspend its Further Reading.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—After prayer and the reading of the minutes of yesterday, the President presented a communication from Treasurer Spinner, transmitting his annual report, and also a communication from the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting his report, both of which were laid on the table.

Mr. Pomeroy presented the petitions, one of the citizens of Nashua, New Hampshire, and the other from citizens of Massachusetts, praying that if any amendment be made to the Constitution in regard to suffrage, it be such as to extend the privilege equally to males and females. Tabled.

Mr. Williams, by consent, introduced a bill to aid in the construction of the Oregon branch of the Pacific Railroad, which, on his motion, was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Sumner introduced a bill to carry out the Reconstruction acts in the State of Georgia, which, on his motion, was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Robertson (S. C.) the Senate took up the bill for the relief of the political disabilities of F. J. Moses, Chief Justice of South Carolina.

Mr. Edmunds said that he had objected to the consideration of the bill on Monday, because he did not know then the facts upon which it was based, but he had since become entirely satisfied that Mr. Moses was deserving of the proposed clemency, and that the loyal people of the country would be willing to extend it to him, and, therefore, he would make no objection to the passage of the bill.

Mr. Robertson said he desired the passage of the bill because it would only be doing justice to Mr. Moses, whose chief disability arose from his having been a State Senator before and during the war for twenty-five consecutive years. At the end of the war he had been elected a Judge of the Supreme Court of South Carolina, and in that position his decisions had given satisfaction to both parties.

Mr. Davis (Ky.) moved to amend the bill, so as to extend the same relief to all other citizens of South Carolina laboring under political disability.

The motion was lost, all the members present voting in the negative, except Messrs. Bayard, Davis, Dixon, Doolittle, Ferry, McCreery, Norton, Patterson (Tenn.), and Saulsbury.

Mr. Davis remarked that the bill would be more acceptable to him if it was amended as he had proposed, but that even then he would vote against it, because he held that there was no fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, the proposition purporting to be such amendment not having been ratified by three fourths of the States.

The bill was then read a third time and passed. Yeas, 46; nays, 6.

A message was received from the House of Representatives, that they had passed the bill regulating the duties on imported copper and copper ores, and an act restoring the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the War Department. Laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Edmunds, the Senate took a recess until 1 o'clock.

On reassembling the President