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I..LEADING ARTICLES: The Foreign Policy of France; Hoffman on Habeas Corpus; Kentucky Kidnappers; Sham Conservatism; The Banks Expedition; Monsieur Tonson Again! A Misstatement Corrected; Stephens, V. P.; Our Heroes; Gen. Burnside's Report; The Cabinet; Disunionism Factitious; The Movement on Fredericksburg; A Fire in the Rebel Rear; The Thompson Correspondence; Editorial Paragraphs.

II..WAR NEWS SUMMARY.

III..GENERAL NEWS SUMMARY.

IV..THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS—THIRD SESSION: Proceedings in the Senate and House of Representatives.

V..THE VICTORY AT KINSTON: Gen. Foster's Official Report.

VI..THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE, ARK.: Splendid March of Gen. Herron's Army; 7,000 Unionists Against 25,000 Rebels; A Long and Obstinate Contest; Brilliant Bayonet Charges of the Iowa and Wisconsin Boys; Grand Effort to Crush Our Little Army; Opportune Arrival of General Blunt.

VII..OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE REBEL GEN. LEE.

VIII..GEN. McNEILL AND THE GUERRILLAS: Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

IX..LATER FROM NEW-ORLEANS: Registered Enemies of the Union Allowed to go Inside Rebel Lines; They are Immediately Conscripted when There; Another Assessment to Support the Poor; The Recent Congressional Election; Great Suffering in Mississippi; Jackson in Danger of Capture; It is the Key to Vicksburg. Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

X..THE CHANGES IN THE CABINET: Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

XI..FROM WASHINGTON: Special Dispatches to The N. Y. Tribune.

XII..FROM GEN. BURNSIDE'S ARMY: Letter from Major-Gen. Burnside; His Reasons for Fighting the Battle of Fredericksburg.

XIII..FROM EUROPE.

XIV..THE FREDERICKSBURG BATTLE: Report of the Committee on the Conduct of the War; The Testimony of Gen. Burnside.

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XVI..DICKENS'S NEW CHRISTMAS STORY: Somebody's Luggage—His Leaving It Till Called For.

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XIX..POULTRY: How to Feed, How to Kill, How to Dress, How to Pack, and How to Send Poultry to Market.

XX..THE WHITE WILLOW: Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

XXI..TALK ABOUT FRUIT.

XXII..REBEL CORRESPONDENCE: The Private Letters of the Late Secretary of the Interior; A Politician's Ideas of Presidential Candidates; A Rebel Sympathizing Officeholder on Removals from Office—He also Gives Information to the Enemy; Another Engaged in the Same Business; Fernando Wood's Secretary Working Up Anti-Coercion Meetings—Another Officeholder Posting Up Thompson; Thompson Corresponds with Buchanan on Lincoln's Administration.

XXIII..AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

XXIV..TO OUR FRIENDS.

XXV..WAR ITEMS.

XXVI..POLITICAL.

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XXVIII..CITY NEWS.

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U. S. PATENT OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 15, 1862.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that the following rules have been adopted for the purpose of conforming to the requirements of the Act of Congress of July 1, 1862, entitled "An Act to provide Internal Revenue to Support the Government and to pay Interest on the Public Debt," and the decisions of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

1. A stamp, or stamps, of the value of *one dollar*, will be required upon all Powers of Attorney dated after the First Day of January, 1863, authorizing an attorney or agent to transact business with this office relative to applications for Patents.

2. All assignments of Patents, whether stamped or not, will be recorded, and the fact whether or not the instrument recorded is stamped will be noted upon the record.

3. No assignment directing a patent to issue to an assignee, or assignees, dated after the 1st day of January next, will be recognized by this office, unless every sheet or piece of paper upon which such assignment shall be written, shall have affixed thereto a stamp of the value of *five cents*.

D. P. HOLLOWAY, Commissioner.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, December 6, 1862.

ON the PETITION of JULIUS KING, formerly of Bordentown, now of Hoboken, New-Jersey, praying for the extension of a patent granted to him March 20, 1849, for an improvement in "ADJUSTABLE CUT-OFF," for seven years from the expiration of said patent, which takes place on the 20th day of March, 1863,

It is ordered, that the said petition be heard at the Patent Office on MONDAY, the 24 day of March, 1863, at 12 o'clock m., and all persons are notified to appear and show cause, if any they have, why said petition ought not to be granted.

Persons opposing the extension are required to file in the Patent-Office their objections, specially set forth in writing, at least twenty days before the day of hearing. All testimony filed by either party to be used at the said hearing must be taken and transmitted in accordance with the rules of the office, which will be furnished on application.

The testimony in the case will be closed on the 16th day of February, 1863; depositions and other papers relied upon as testimony must be filed in the office on or before the morning of that day; the arguments, if any, within ten days thereafter.

Ordered, also, that this notice be published in The National Intelligencer, Washington, D. C., and Tribune of New-York, N. Y., once a week for three successive weeks; the first of said publications to be at least sixty days previous to the day of hearing.

D. P. HOLLOWAY,
Commissioner of Patents.
d11 law3w

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, December 12, 1862.

ON the petition of DAVID SMITH, of New-York, N. Y., praying for the extension of a Patent granted to him May 22, 1849, for an improvement in Manufactoring Drop Stock, for seven years from the expiration of said Patent, which takes place on the 22d day of May, 1863:

It is ordered, that the said petition be heard at the Patent Office, on MONDAY, the 2d day of March, 1863, at 12 o'clock m.; and all persons are notified to appear and show cause, if any they have, why said petition ought not to be granted.

Persons opposing the extension are required to file in the Patent Office their objections, specially set forth in writing, at least twenty days before the day of hearing. All testimony filed by either party to be used at the said hearing must be taken and transmitted in accordance with the rules of the office, which will be furnished on application.

The testimony in the case will be closed on the 16th day of February, 1863; depositions and other papers relied upon as testimony must be filed in the office on or before the morning of that day; the arguments, if any, within ten days thereafter.

Ordered, also, that this notice be published in The National Intelligencer, Washington, D. C., and Tribune, New-York, N. Y., once a week for three successive weeks; the first of said publications to be at least sixty days previous to the day of hearing.

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AT THE MOST REASONABLE PRICES.
We are sure of your patronage if you will give us a call.
STRASBURGER & NUHN,
Importers,
No. 65 Maiden-lane,
Corner of William-st.

Dry Goods.

HOLIDAY FURNISHING GOODS.
PARISIAN SCARFS AND TIES,
KID, CALF, BUCK AND CLOTH-LINED GLOVES,
WHITE AND FANCY RINGWOOD GLOVES,
SILK AND LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS,
THE NEW-HAVEN PATENT SHIRTS,
SUPERFINE SILK AND GINGHAM UMBRELLAS,
SHAKER-KNIT UNDERSHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
SILK, MERINO, COTTON AND FLANNEL
UNDERSHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
SHAKER-KNIT AND ENGLISH HOSIERY,
ARMY AND NAVY SHIRTS,
SILK, SATIN AND MILITARY STOCKS,
SILK CAPS AND NIGHT SHIRTS,
THREE AND FOUR PLY COLLARS,
At the SHIRT AND COLLAR DEPOT,
Nos. 87 and 89 William-st,
One door north of Maiden Lane.
THEODORE C. GRANNIS, Agent.

CHEAP SILKS and DRESS GOODS,
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS.
3,000 yards MEDIUM and LIGHT-COLORED SILKS, suitable for evening or street dresses, at 75 cents per yard.
8,000 yards RICH and HEAVY SILKS at 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 per yard.
4,000 yards RICH BLACK GROS DE RHINE and BLACK FIGURED SILKS at very low prices.
Also,
10 CASES NEW DRESS GOODS.
3 cases plaid alpacas, pretty styles, only 20 cents per yard, worth 37½ cents.
3 cases Manchester and Pacific DeLaines, in new and beautiful styles.
4 cases best make of Calicoes at less than wholesale prices.
Also,
French Merinos, Ottoman and Empress Cloths, Paramattas, Poplins, De Beges, and a full assortment of Domestic Goods for family use, which will be offered at very low prices for cash.
CHAS. BEARD & Co., No. 301 Grand-st.

AT DE PERCEVAL'S, No. 657 Broadway.—All kinds of CHILDREN'S CLOAKS, Dresses, Blankets, Sacques, Chemises, Corsets, Infants' Waists, Aprons, Bibs, Baskets, &c., Garibaldi Costumes, Ladies' Embroidered Chemises and Nightgown Yokes; also, Ladies' Ready Made Undergarments, Fluted Handkerchiefs.

Initials and Coat of Arms Embroidered on handkerchiefs, table linen, and bed clothing; cotton and silk Embroidery made to order; Stamping for embroideries and braiding executed perfectly.

CURTAINS AND WINDOW SHADES
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
SOLOMON & HART,
No. 359 BROADWAY,
Invite the particular attention of parties furnishing for the Holidays to their large stock of
UPHOLSTERY and FURNISHING GOODS.
Their extensive facilities enable them
TO FILL ORDERS WITH THE GREATEST EXPEDITION.
Their stock, in point of extent and variety, is unrivaled, and is offered at
VERY LOW PRICES.

PIANO and TABLE COVERS
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
EVERY STYLE AND QUALITY.
AT EXTREMELY LOW PRICES.
SOLOMON & HART,
No. 359 BROADWAY.

INDIA-RUBBER GLOVES CURE CHAPPED HANDS, SALT RHEUM, &c., and render them soft, smooth, and snowy white; are impervious to hot or cold water, and are an excellent protection in all kinds of housework. For sale by the trade generally.
GOODYEAR'S I. R. GLOVE M'FG. CO.,
No. 205 Broadway.
Dealers in all kinds of Rubber Goods, Wholesale and Retail.

CHOICE FURS, at No. 49 Broadway.—SIGMOND GOGE,
Manufacturer of Ladies' Fine Furs. Sable, Mink, and Real Russian Goods, in the latest styles, on hand.

HEMP CARPETS and BURLAPS.
For sale by
LAWTON BROTHERS, No. 25 Cliff-st.

AT $3, $3 50, $4, and $4 50.—SHOES and GAITERS. At JONES'S Nos. 10 and 12 Ann-st. P. S.—Please call and examine before purchasing.

BEADS! BEADS!! BEADS!!!
AND FANCY GOODS.
M. P. BROWN, Importer, No. 166 Pearl-st., N. Y.

Sales by Auction.

A. M. MERWIN, Auctioneer.

BY BANGS, MERWIN & Co., Irving Building, Nos. 504 and 506 Broadway.—Sales of Books, Stationery, Pictures, Works of Art, Fancy Goods, Furniture, &c.
FRIDAY EVENING Dec. 26, at 6½ o'clock.
STANDARD AND MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS—Comprising a great variety, including a collection of valuable THEOLOGICAL WORKS. Also Illustrated Books, richly bound, Juveniles, &c.
SATURDAY EVENING, Dec. 27, at 6½ o'clock.
STANDARD AND ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.—A great variety of fine library editions, and elegantly Illustrated Works, superbly bound; handsome Juvenile Books, &c.; also, a collection of Staple and Fancy Stationery, Blank Books, &c.

Financial.

AT a Meeting of the BOARD of DIRECTORS of the NEW-JERSEY ZINC COMPANY, held at Jersey City this the 12th day of December, 1862, a DIVIDEND of FOUR PER CENT was declared on the PREFERRED STOCK, and FOUR PER CENT on the COMMON STOCK, payable on the second day of January next, at the Transfer Office of the Company, No. 168 Liberty-st., N. Y. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 20th inst. to the 2d prox.
A. H. FARLIN, Treasurer and Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE CHICAGO AND ROCK ISLAND R. R. Co.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

A DIVIDEND of THREE PER CENT and the United States Government Tax on the same, has been declared, payable to the Stockholders of this Company, on the 12th January, 1863. The transfer books will be closed on the 31st inst., and opened on the 10th January next.
FRANCIS H. TOWS, Secretary.

BANK of NORTH AMERICA.—NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1862.—DIVIDEND No. 23.—The Board of Directors have THIS DAY declared a dividend of three and one half (3½) per cent (free of Government Tax), payable January 3. The Transfer Books will be closed from December 26 to January 3.
JOHN P. YELVERTON, Cashier.

BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK—DIVIDEND.—A semi-annual dividend of THREE AND A HALF (3½) PER CENT, free from Government tax, has been declared on the Capital Stock of this Bank, payable on and after Jan. 5.
H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

THE PARK BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared the usual SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND of FOUR PER CENT (free from Government tax), payable on and after the 2d of January next. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 25th inst. to the 2d of January, inclusive.
CHARLES A. MACY, Cashier.

TRADESMEN'S BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

DIVIDEND.—A semi-annual dividend of THREE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT on the capital stock of this Bank has been declared, free from Government tax, payable on and after 2d day of January next.
ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1862.

TWENTY-SIXTH DIVIDEND.—A semi-annual DIVIDEND of FIVE (5) PER CENT, free from Government tax, will be paid to the Stockholders of this Bank on the 2d day of January ensuing.
The Transfer Books will be closed from the 24th inst. until the day of payment. By order of the Board.
J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

CONTINENTAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1862.

THE Board of Directors have declared a DIVIDEND OF THREE PER CENT, free of Government tax, and payable on and after MONDAY, the 5th January, 1863. The transfer books will be closed from date to January 5, inclusive.
E. W. TALMAN,
Assistant Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY,
Tontine Buildings, No. 82 Wall-st.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1862.

23D DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a DIVIDEND of THREE (3) PER CENT out of the earnings of the Road for the three months ending the 31st inst., and ONE (1) PER CENT additional out of the earnings of steamers, sailing-vessels, &c., payable to the Stockholders or their legal representatives on and after the 8th January next.
The Transfer Books will be closed from the evening of the 26th December until the morning of the 7th January.
HENRY SMITH, Treasurer.

ST. MARK'S FIRE INS. CO., OFFICE No. 67 Wall-st.,
NEW-YORK, D