The McDowell Court of Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 27, 1862.

The McDowell Court of Inquiry held its thirty-first session to-day.

The cross-examination of Gen. Sigel was resumed:

Question by Gen. McDowell. You have stated in the twenty-seventh day's proceedings that you proposed to Gen. Pope to march your corps to New-Market, instead of Manassas, as ordered by Gen. McDowell. State therefore whether it was not at your own proposal that your troops were countermarched?

A. It was the order of Gen. Pope which directed me to march to Centreville, and it was my proposal to Gen. Pope that I should be permitted to march by New-Market, as I was near the road leading by it to Centreville. This was the order by which I came back to nearly the same place I left in the morning. I asked Gen. Pope to be allowed to march by New-Market, to avoid a circuitous road to Manassas.

Q. Was or was it not, then, on your proposal that the troops were made to come back to the point they departed from?

A. Certainly, because I thought that the enemy was not at Centreville, but somewhere between Centreville, Groveton and New-Market, as I thought it was my object to march against the enemy by the shortest route.

Q. You state in reference to your being under the command of Gen. McDowell that you did not apply to Gen. Pope for orders when you sent your Adjutant to see him at Manassas, but that Gen. Pope gave you orders on your proposal. Did you report the fact to Gen. McDowell? A. I believe that I first received the order from Gen. Pope to march to Centreville, and afterward sent my officer back to him asking permission to march by New-Market, instead of by Manassas. I believe I sent to Gen. McDowell while we were on the march, or as soon as we had arrived near New-Market and became engaged with the enemy. I know that a conversation took place between an officer of Gen. King's Division and one of my own staff officers. I do not know whether this was the same officer whom I had sent to communicate with Gen. McDowell. I refer to my official report, which I think will give the circumstances.

Q. Was your report, proposition, or application to Gen. Pope, which you sent your Adjutant to make, a verbal one, or was he the bearer of a written dispatch, in which you yourself made directly to Gen. Pope the propositions referred to, and was Gen. Pope's order a written or verbal one? A. I am almost certain that the communication of Gen. Pope was a verbal one; whether my communication to Gen. Pope was verbal or written I cannot say; Capt. Meysenbery, my Adjutant-General, was the officer who carried it and brought the reply.

Q. With regard to the conference between your corps and General McDowell's have you not stated in your official report that you were ordered to take position at Manassas, with your right resting on the road leading from Warrenton to Manassas Junction? Who gave you this order? A. I received that order from Gen. McDowell; I understood it to mean that point in the railroad which is between Manassas Station and the junction of the Manassas Gap with the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. This order was in writing, and was received at 3½ minutes past 2 a. m. on the 28th of August.

Q. Witnesses have stated it was still dark when he left Gainesville. Was it not two hours after sunrise when he so left? A. I can't answer this question directly, because I don't know how long it took me to reconnoitre the country before me; I admit it was two hours after sunrise, or 7½ o'clock, when I was at Gainesville and wrote the dispatch to Gen. McDowell; witness could not remember how long he remained at Gainesville after he wrote the dispatch; he only waited for Gen. Milroy to call in his pickets and come into marching order; Gen. Milroy continued his advance; witness did not know how long he was away from Gainesville in his personal reconnoissances on the Centreville road; it was his cavalry escort who had met the enemy's pickets and reported to him the fact; he did not know how far he went; he did not personally see the enemy; his cavalry reported to him that some of the enemy's cavalry were on the road to Centreville; he received another report afterward from the part of his cavalry which he had sent to the right in the woods, that they had met the enemy's cavalry in that direction.

Q. If these reports of his cavalry scouts are all the evidence received, how did he acquire the knowledge of the enemy's train being between Manassas and Fairfax, and Anderson on the northern road, and the main force of the enemy at Manassas Junction?

A. I remember now that I had with me several of my scouts, one by the name of Sweitzer, who accompanied me on the march; I do not exactly know from what source I received all this information; it must have been, to my best knowledge, that the enemy was near Manassas Junction with a portion of his troops, while the main force was in the direction of New-Market and Centreville.

Gen. McDowell did not think the witness had at all answered his questions about the train, &c.

Witness resuming—It was a matter of moment with me; I do not remember where I got the information of the enemy's force; it may be that I received it from my officers, or prisoners I had taken; I can't say that I received it at all; I have proof in writing that one of my officers saw the enemy's train; he was sent out by me with cavalry to discover it; I do not know whether he reported back to me whether it was in the same place; I have indicated in my dispatch to Gen. McDowell whether it was or was not between Manassas Junction and Fairfax.

Q. When it left Gainesville, did your head of column go to the right or south side, or to the left or north side of the Manassas Railroad? A. We marched beyond Gainesville some distance—three-fourths of a mile, I believe—when we took the road which leads parallel and north of the Manassas Gap Railroad; we crossed on the south of the railroad, and marched on that side till we recrossed it in the march to New-Market; I am not sure that we passed by Bethlehem Church.

Q. Does the witness not remember, on the occasion of his coming to McDowell's tent on the morning of the 28th, prior to his leaving Buckland's Mills, that he was shown this order, No. 10, of Gen. Pope:

HEADQUARTERS STATION, Aug. 27—9 p. m.

MAJ.-GEN. MCDOWELL: At daylight to-morrow morning, march rapidly to Manassas Junction with your whole force, resting your right on the Manassas Gap Railroad, and throwing your left well to the east. Jackson, Ewell, and A. P. Hill are between Gainesville and Manassas Junction. We had a severe fight with them to-day, driving them several miles along the railroad. If you will march promptly and rapidly at the earliest dawn of day upon Manassas Junction, we shall bag the whole crowd. I have directed Gen. Reno to march from Greenwich at the same hour upon Manassas Junction, and Kearney, who is in his rear, to march to Bristow's at daybreak. The expedition, and the day is our own.

JOHN POPE, Major-General Commanding.

A. I am not sure that this was shown to me, but it may have been.

Q. Why did you fail to obey Gen. McDowell's order, which required you to march on Manassas Junction with your right resting on the Manassas Road? A. I do not believe that I disobeyed his order, because I understood that I should march to Manassas Junction, and having arrived there formed my corps so that the right rested on the Manassas Railroad. If I would have undertaken to march to Manassas Junction with my right always on the railroad it would have been an impossibility, according to my best judgment. There seemed also to be a contradiction in the order in saying that I should march to Manassas Junction, and at the same time rest with my right on the railroad. I understand the word rest to relate to the formation and not to the march of troops.

Witness then gave a minute account of the composition and disposition of his corps at the time he received the orders, at 2½ a. m. on the 28th.

The Court adjourned until Monday.

The Porter Court-Martial.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 27, 1862.

The Porter Court-Martial met this morning at the usual hour.

The examination of Gen. Morell was resumed by Mr. Eames for the defense.

About sunset on the 29th of August he received an order to attack the enemy at once, and while putting the men in position the order was countermanded; he kept them in position all night; except a few exchange of shots between skirmishers and pickets during the day, he heard no volleys in force till about evening, and these appeared to have receded; the only attack they could have made about sundown was on the enemy in their front; a flank attack could not have been made on the left, and it would have been impossible, in good order, to have got the artillery through the woods on the right by daylight; infantry might have got through; he did not hear Capt. Drake De Kay, on the 27th of August, state that Gen. Hooker's troops were out of ammunition, and that there was any necessity of an immediate move to his relief.

On the morning of the 30th, just before daylight, he received an order from Gen. Porter to lose not a moment in moving his column and following Sykes's Division. No brigades followed Sykes's, but Gen. Griffin's brigade, being detained to cover the movement of the troops in front of them, who marched by a road through the woods, and went by way of Manassas Junction to Centreville. Witness went with Griffin's brigade. Gen. Butterfield's and Col. Barnes's brigades went up the Groveton road. As soon as he discovered that Gen. Griffin's brigade was on the wrong road, he hurried to join the other brigades, having first advised Gen. Griffin's brigade, as soon as they had received their rations, to come to the front. He found his other brigades just as they were coming out of action. He was in daily and frequent intercourse with Gen. Porter. At no time did Gen. Porter fail to exhibit every possible zeal to comply punctually with the orders of Gen. Pope, and to co-operate in carrying out the latter's plans.

On cross-examination, Gen. Morell said if his brigades had followed Gen. Sykes's division, it would have taken them to the battle-field. Taking extra caution in protecting their rear caused Gen. Griffin's brigade, which was in the rear, to lose sight of these in advance. On the 27th, two of his brigades marched about eighteen miles, and the other brigade twenty miles. With the exception of one day, we had been marching since the night of the 14th of August, when we left Harrison's Landing. In the interim, one day and night were spent on transports. The night we left Falmouth we marched all night. He did not infer from Gen. Pope's order to march at 1 a. m. on the 28th of August that a battle was imminent. There was more or less fighting every day, and a likelihood of its being resumed any moment.

Col. Rurgles was next examined, and stated that he was Chief of Gen. Pope's staff. On the 2d of September he was present in a room when Gens. Pope and Porter had a conversation. He was writing at the time, but heard enough of the conversation to know that it related to the operations of the few days previous. In closing it, the two Generals rose, and Gen. Pope said to Gen. Porter that his explanations were satisfactory. Thinks he said entirely satisfactory, with the exception of the matter of the one brigade, which he knew, from what he heard before, to refer to Griffin's brigade. According to the best of his recollection, he reminded Gen. Pope a few days afterward of the remark which he (Gen. Pope) had made to Gen. Porter, expressing satisfaction with the conduct of his command.

In his cross-examination he stated that this reminder to Gen. Pope he had a sure recollection of, but could not swear positively as to it. Gen. Pope told him that he wished him to be the chief witness of the Government in Gen. Porter's trial. He told him he did not know the facts of the case sufficiently well for that purpose. He immediately reported the conversation between himself and Gen. Pope to the Adjutant-General and Chief-of-Staff of the General-in-Chief.

He was summoned as a witness by the Government, and afterward reported to the Judge-Advocate of this Court. Was telegraphed for on the 23d inst., at the instance of the accused. He could not say that his feelings toward Gen. Pope are friendly, because Gen. Pope had trouble with several members of his staff, and himself among them. He was on speaking terms with the General, and would call on him while he was in the city.

Gen. Porter submitted the following protest:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Friday, Dec. 26, 1862.

With all proper respect for the ruling of the Court of Wednesday, refusing the accused the right to give in evidence the telegrams and messages he offered, dated before and after the 29th of August—that is to say, from August 22 to September 1, 1862—he begs leave to enter on its proceedings this protest.

The accused is charged among other things with having disobeyed the several orders stated in the specifications of the 27th and 29th of August—4:30 p. m., and 29th of August—8:50 p. m.—and the prosecution has endeavored to prove that such disobedience was by design, and because of a fixed purpose on the part of the accused not only to cooperate with the General in the command in the existing campaign, but to fail in his duty in that regard. With this view, certain papers, being a part of the series of telegrams with those rejected, were offered by the Judge-Advocate, not objected to by the accused, when the purpose for which they were offered was stated, and received by the Court. And, with the same object, the opinions of the witnesses Roberts and Smith, founded, as they said, on what they represent to be the manner and conversation of the accused; and, also, on what the first said he had heard from another, that the accused would fail the Commander-in-Chief.

In the words of the Judge-Advocate this evidence was produced to show the *animus* of the accused toward his chief, and in that aspect was admitted by the Court. The accused respectfully maintains that if evidence of that description be admissible, as he concedes it is, it is equally admissible, and is his right to show by his conduct just before, at and after he came under the command of Gen. Pope, by what he did, and by what he said orally or in writing, that the asserted purpose, the alleged *animus*, is wholly untrue; but that, on the contrary, his real purpose, his real *animus*, from the first to the last, was to do his whole duty to the utmost of his ability, and render his general and his country all the aid in his power.

If the prosecution had contented itself with exhibiting the orders in the specifications, which he is said to have disobeyed, and in giving evidence of the fact of disobedience, the accused is advised that, even then, the proof which the Court has ruled out should have been received; but when, not content with that course, it has attempted to prove his mental purpose, to fathom his mind, to show that, from personal grudge to his general, or other cause, he designedly disobeyed such orders, he is advised that the evidence rejected is clearly admissible. The general rules of evidence are the same in courts-martial as in other courts. They are based on principles of universal application, and which, as experience has demonstrated, are best calculated to ascertain the truth. One of these—as well settled as any known to the law—is, that, where a mental intent with which an act is done is in issue, the acts and declarations of the party a few days before, or a few days after the time when the intent is charged to have existed bearing on such intent, may be given in evidence by either party.

This is a familiar rule in cases, among others, of acts of alleged bankruptcy or insolvency, of change of residence, and of many other acts of alleged fraud. In the first, whether the act charged as an act of bankruptcy is one or not, often depends upon the intent with which it is done, and whatever the party did before or after is constantly admitted as legitimately illustrating the actual intent. In the second, whether a man has changed his residence, often depends on intent. He may have removed to remain permanently or temporarily, and what he has done or said before and after removing is allowed to prove or disprove intent. In the third, whether the imputed fraud was perpetrated or not, often depends on intent: unexplained, the mere act itself may appear criminal or innocent. It is the purpose which gives it its actual character, and this purpose may be shown by either party by acts and declarations of the person charged before and after the period of the imputed act. This principle, I am advised, is fully settled, not only in all the elementary writers on evidence, but by the Supreme Court of the United States, in among other cases, that of Wood agt. the United States, 16 Peters, 362, and it is respectfully hoped that the Court will, on further consideration, see the justice of the rule. Its justice is strikingly illustrated in this instance.

The accused is charged with the dishonorable, traitorous purpose of having disregarded the orders of his chief, to gratify some supposed personal dissatisfaction with him, wholly reckless of its consequences to his country. He is charged with having caused the defeat of our arms, and hazarded the safety of the capital, under the same degrading impulse. One of the witnesses has sworn, without objection from the Judge-Advocate of the Court, that a deceased officer of chivalrous character and spotless patriotism had declared to him, before the date of either of the orders, that the accused would fail his chief. Another has stated, also without objection, that his conduct and manner in his presence were such that he was satisfied that he was a traitor, and that nothing but the fear of human laws prevented his killing the accused on the spot. This evidence was offered and received to show his animus, his intent.

Proudly conscious of his innocence, and knowing the baseness of the calumny, he did not object to its introduction, being perfectly willing to let it all go for what it is worth; but to deny him the right, after it is received by the Court, to meet it by proving what is wholly inconsistent with it, acts of duty about the same period, orders and messages having no possible purpose but a faithful discharge of duty to his chief and his country, it is submitted, is a violation of the rule of evidence, and is to deprive him of the very best and most persuasive proof that the nature of the accusation admits of; to show that he was not a traitor, he desired to establish constant acts of duty immediately preceding and succeeding the acts which he is charged to have done traitorously; to show faithfulness of duty to his chief, he desires to prove, as the rejected evidence does, that, to get to his command, and after he reached it, he did everything that diligence, zeal, valor, and all the skill and ability which he possessed enabled him to do, to assist his chief in every possible way and at every possible hazard, so as to render his campaign a successful one. Your ruling puts this out of his power, and respectfully protesting against it, he can do nothing further than submit it to your more mature consideration. F. J. PORTER, Major-Gen.

Adjourned to Monday.

AMUSEMENTS.

Concerts and Opera.

The musical statement for the week is slim owing to the absence of opera. The concert of Teresa Careño the remarkable child pianist was brilliantly attended at the Academy. It is a bad place for the piano, and worse when handled with little fingers. Madame D'Angri sang with spirit and was encored. The performance of the *Messiah* on Christmas night would have been much better if the orchestra had been a great deal larger, and adequate rehearsal with the choir. It is not sufficient that vocalists study—but the trainings with the orchestra should be ample—and not the least with old style fugue music. Such massive choresses as the *Hallelujah* particularly, require the fortification of a very grand orchestra—and are worthless in short—especially when there is not (as there ought now to be) a grand organ in the hall.

MUSIC ABROAD.

Miss Adeline Patti has added to her triumphs by appearing as Rosina in *The Barber*, of Rossini. Mario has left the Academy for the Italian Theatre and performed with her. A new opera by Mr. Wallace—Love's Triumph—a comic work, is very well spoken of in the London press. Those journals appear to have become more genial towards composers. Formerly they condemned the new works of Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi, etc.: Time has shown that the criticism was at fault.

Theaters, &c.

On Christmas day the public exercised its usual privileges, filling first itself, and afterward all convenient places of entertainment to such excess as had not before been witnessed this season—not even on Thanksgiving night. Otherwise, the week just past was undistinguished by any theatrical incident of importance. The various playhouses, it is satisfactory to know, thrived according to their merits. Those which presented poor "shows" languished before poor audiences. Those which dealt well by the public were duly and handsomely rewarded. It is getting to be a tolerably settled fact—the incredulity of sundry managers notwithstanding—that in the dramatic, as in other trades, a good ware gets the readiest market. And by a good ware we do not mean that sort which mendaciously assumes a virtue when it has it not; but the sound and hearty stock of the profession, with no false pretense about it. Mixed magnificence and muck do not constitute good theatrical stuff. A pound of brilliant paint does not sufficiently redeem a volume of rhetorical drivel to lift it to the standard of proper play-house material. The unwholesome precedents which led to present enterprises of this sort were delusions and snares, as managers begin to learn. The public may make a fool of itself once and twice, but not many times more in the same direction. Whoever shall invent new methods by which that intelligent monster may so beguile itself, may reap emoluments and adoration; but to follow an utterly exhausted track is neither politic nor ingenious, and now-a-days results in purses that ache with emptiness. The seventh-rate order of "show-piece" has run its course. The public is tired of it. It has no claim, now, even upon curiosity, and those who long for better things in theatrical art may console themselves with the reflection that its expiring breath is mingling with the blue fires that illuminate its last and cheapest devices.

The representation of trashy dramas at our best theaters is annoying in precisely the same way as the presence of a select group of bores would be at an otherwise agreeable dinner table. They offend not only by their own intrusion, but also because they exclude the betters who might fill their places. A dozen weeks cut out of the heart of a season, and given up to all that is contemptible, interferes in every way with theatrical progress. It lowers the prestige of the theaters, and renders them incapable of worthier achievements. A management which for half a season stimulates the worst instincts of the public cannot thereafter hopefully appeal to the best. The experiment has been tried. After two seasons of profitable degradation at one place of entertainment, the higher plane was momentarily attempted. Of course it was in vain. The audiences had been trained to low expectations, and would not be lifted above them. So the extreme plan was adopted of dropping below them. The last of unclean dramas appeared—

"Sinking from deep to deep, a vast profound,"

and it failed. We are very glad of it. Its failure is evidence that the vulgarest instincts of the public are not those to which all theatrical hopes cannot be trusted.

The element of scenic effect should always be a subordinate one at every theater. As such, too great attention cannot be paid to it. But to make it the sole feature of a dramatic entertainment is simply absurd. Otherwise we might better have puppets than actors, and let the movement pass in dumb show. So far as the two principal scenic pieces of the season are concerned, it would be a deal pleasanter if all did really pass in dumb show. There is nothing nice about the language or the sentiment of either of them. Something would seem to be due to the sensibilities of the decent among an audience. But this is a point studiously overlooked, not only at one or two, but at all of our theatres. A passion for loose jests and coarse repartee is a vice from which no stage in New-York is free. Upon what ground indelicacy is so liberally lavished we cannot imagine. Can the guffaws of the gallery have a weight in their favor which cannot be counteracted by the disgust of the better part of the house? On this account alone it is really a pity that hissing is a lost art in America. It should be cultivated once more,—never for the personal humiliation of man or woman, but for the prompt rebuke of those offences against taste and decency which, if more privately perpetrated, would be punished with merciless severity.

The Broadway theatrical announcements for the present week are sufficiently varied. At Wallack's a variety of comedies will be presented, beginning this evening with "The Invisible Husband," and continuing with "The School for Scandal," "The Clandestine Marriage," "The Invisible Husband" again for New-Year's Night," "Love and Money," and "A Bachelor of Arts." At the Winter Garden Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams will perform in "The Irish Embassador" and "The Lakes of Killarney," in the latter of which they were especially successful last week, attracting overflowing audiences. At Niblo's Garden "Faust and Marguerite" is announced for repetition every evening.

The Brooklyn Academy of Music will be opened next Wednesday and Thursday evenings by Miss Bateman, the termination of whose brilliant engagements in Boston and Providence affords her the opportunity of renewing her successes at the same house in the early part of the season. "The Hunchback" and "The Lady of Lyons" will be presented, in both of which Miss Bateman will be supported, as usual, by Mr. J. W. Wallack, jr., and Mr. Edwin Adams.

At the French Theater, Niblo's Saloon, "La Dame aux Camelias," the original play by Dumas, fils, with the translation of which by Matilda Heron the American public is familiar, will be produced. Miss Bouhelier will personate Camille, and Mr. Gravier Armand.

At Barnum's Museum, "The Colleen Bawn" will be repeated on the afternoons and evenings of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday, New-Year's Day, performances of a new drama, entitled "The Jewess of Frankfort, or the Vision of Fate," will be given every hour.

We heartily commend the exhibition at the Broadway Menagerie, situated near the corner of Houston street. The number of animals in the collection is large, and the specimens are the finest that have been seen here in a long time. The ushers, under the management of Mr. L. B. Lent, are scrupulously courteous and attentive to the comfort of visitors.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—DEC. 27.

7,000 U. S. 6s '81 Coup...	102¾	100 N. Y. Cent. R. R....	103½
1,000 U. S. 5s '74 Coup...	99½	34 do.....	103½
1,500 Tr. 7 3-10 p. c. N....	101½	1200 Erie Railway.....	62½
15,000 do.....	101½	100 do.....	s10 62½
50,000 U. S. 6s 1 Yr. Cert..	96	50 do.....	b30 62½
1,000 Mich. St. 6s '78.....	105	200 Erie Railway Pref....	94½
5,000 Missouri State 6s...	52¾	400 do.....	95
10,000 do.....	53	500 Hudson River R. R...	77
14,000 Missouri 6s 1s. to H. & St. Jo. ex July C..	52	100 do.....	76½
1,200 Buf. N.Y.&E. 1stm.	95	18 Mich. Central R. R...	91½
3,000 Hudson Riv. 1st m.	117	200 do.....	91½
3,000 Hud. Riv. 2d S. F..	101½	700 Harlem Railroad.....	22½
10,000 Hudson Riv. 3d m...	105	150 Mich. So. & N. I. RR.	40½
1,000 Hud. Riv. C. Bds...	93	100 do.....	41
20,000 Mich. C. 8s C. 1st m S. F. Bonds.....	117	100 do.....	b15 41½
1,000 Mich. So. 2d m.....	93¾	450 do., G. S.....	83
3,000 Ill. Cent. R. Bds....	112	50 Panama RR., ex div..	165
7,000 A. & T. H. 2dm. pf..	86	50 Ill. Cent. RR. Scrip...	78½
5,000 do.....	83¾	450 do.....	79
12,000 A. & T. H. I. Bds...	71½	2500 Cleve. & Pitts. RR...	49½
30,000 Chi. & N. W. A. Bs.	63	400 do.....	49½
20,000 Chi. & N. W. 2d m.	34½	500 do.....	s60 49½
10,000 Han. & St. Jo. Bs..	60	300 do.....	b30 50
15,000 Tol. & W. 2d Mtg...	81	300 do.....	49¾
4,000 Mil.&P. du C 1st M.	106	50 Galena & Chi. RR..	b30 83
2,000 P., Ft.W.&C. 1st M.	110	200 do.....	82½
5,000 do.....	2d M. 95	400 do.....	82½
1,500 do.....	3d M. 76½	800 do.....	73
10 Bk. State of N. Y.....	97	400 do.....	73½
20 Amer. Ex. Bank.....	95	60 Chi. & Rock I. RR....	82
100,000 American Gold...	131½	250 do.....	82½
69,000 do.....	132	100 Chi., Bur. & Qui. RR.	88
100 Penn. Coal Co.....	s60. 117	100 Mil. & P. Du Ch. RR..	34
50 do.....	118½	100 do. 2d Pref.....	82
50 Cum. Coal Pref.....	12½	10 Pitts., Ft. W. & Ch. RR	54
25 N. J. Zinc.....	95	150 Alton & T. Haute RR.	2½
100 Pac. Mail S. Co.....	135½	50 do.....	25½
50 do.....	135¾	71 do., 2d Pref.....	40½
100 do.....	s10. 135		

SECOND BOARD.

5,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Reg...	96½	125 Erie Railway	63½
17,000 U. S. 6s, 1 Yr. Cer..	96½	400 do.....	63½
35,000 do.....	96½	300 do.....	63½
5,000 U. S. Dem. Notes..	127	100 do.....	s15 63½
6,500 do.....	126½	600 do.....	s3 63½
3,000 T. 7 3-10 p.c. N., En.	100½	600 Hudson River R. R...	77½
500 do.....	101¾	500 do.....	77½
10,000 Missouri State 6s...	53½	500 do.....	b10 77½
2,000 do.....	53½	100 do.....	b30 77½
2,000 Tenn. State 6s, '90..	53½	100 do.....	b30 77½
3,000 A. & T. H. 1st M....	104	50 do.....	78
1,200 Buf. N.Y.&E. 1st M.	95	50 do.....	78
6,000 P., Ft. W.&C. 1st m..	110	1000 Harlem Railroad.....	23
5,000 P., Ft. W.&C. 2d m..	95½	500 Harlem R. R. Pref....	54
22,500 do.....	95	100 do.....	s62 54½
4,000 P., Ft. W. & C. 3d m..	71	250 Alton & T. Haute R.R.	27
10,000 A. & T. H. In. bs...	72½	300 Alton & T. Haute 2d Pref	49
1,000 do.....	72½	100 Reading RR.....	76½
5,000 Cl. & P. 4th m.....	73½	100 do.....	76
57,000 C. & N. W. 2d m....	34	425 Mich. Cen. RR.....	92½
2,000 Tol. & W. 1st m....	100	1,050 Mich. So. & N. I. RR	40
400 Erie Railway Pref....	95½	400 do.....	42½
300 do.....	95½	100 do.....	b10 42½
100 do.....	s10 95	500 do.....	42½
300 do.....	b3 95½	50 do.....	42½
59,000 American Gold....	132	100 do. Guar. S.....	83½
35,000 do.....	132½	50 do.....	82½
20,000 do.....	b30. 132	100 do.....	b10 83½
80 Pacific M. SS. Co....	s30. 135	200 R. Cen. RR. Scrip....	79½
100 do.....	b30. 136	350 do.....	79½
150 do.....	135½	500 Ill. Cen. Can. B. S....	69
50 do.....	b30. 135½	1,000 Clevel'd & Pittsb'gh R	56½
300 do.....	135½	50 do.....	56½
50 do.....	135¾	300 do.....	56½
200 New-York Cen. RR....	104½	350 G. & C. R. R. ex. div.	89½
50 do.....	s10. 104½	100 C. & T. R. R.....	73½
600 do.....	104½	100 do.....	73½
500 do.....	b30. 104½	600 do.....	b30 74
30 do.....	104½	500 do.....	74
300 do.....	s3. 104½	200 do.....	b10 74
50 P. Ft. W. & C. RR....	54½	200 C. & R. I. R. R.....	82½
250 do.....	54½	350 do.....	82½
50 M. & P. du C. 2d P....	82	100 do.....	b30 83

SALES AT THE PUBLIC BOARD AT 1 P. M.

5,000 American Gold.....	132½	1,200 New-York Central..	103¾
69,000 do.....	132½	300 Hudson River....	b10 73
25,000 U. S. Dem. Notes..	126½	800 do.....	73
250 Cumberl'd Coal Prf..	12½	100 Harlem.....	22½
100 Pacific Mail.....	s30. 135½	450 Michigan Central....	92½
50 do.....	135½	1,400 Michigan Southern.	42
200 do.....	135½	2,100 do.....	42½
75 do.....	135½	500 do.....	42½
500 do.....	135½	1,550 do.....	43
2,000 Erie.....	s30 63½	250 Clev. & Pittsb'g.....	50½
1,000 do.....	63	3,200 do.....	50½
500 do.....	s30 63	100 Galena and Chicago.	83½
1,100 do.....	s30 63½	100 Clev. and Toledo....	73½
800 do.....	63½	100 Chi. and Rock Isl'd..	82½
1,200 do.....	63½		

SALES AT THE PUBLIC BOARD—4 P. M.

10,000 American Gold....	132½	1500 Michigan So. Railr'd.	42½
10,000 do.....bnw.	132½	50 do.....	42½
30,000 do.....	132½	800 Mich. So. R. R. Gtd.	83½
25,000 do.....	132½	200 Illinois Central.....	79½
10,000 U.S. Demand Nt's	126½	100 do.....	79½
115,000 do.....	127	1100 Clev. & Pitts. R. R...	50½
2,000 Missouri 6s.....	53½	700 Gal. & Chic. R. R....	80½
250 Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	135½	650 Clev. & Toledo R. R.	74½
1150 Erie Railroad.....	63½	250 T. H. & Alton R. R..	27
150 Erie Railroad Pref...	95½	50 do.....	26½
200 Harlem Railroad.....	22½		

SATURDAY, Dec. 27—P. M.

The Stock market has been very strong during the day in railroad bonds and shares, but Government securities have been neglected. The bill to be presented by the Committee of Ways and Means, which was published in this journal, was considered to settle the question that we are to have a further large issue of legal-tender currency, and the bull movement was stimulated. The amount of transactions was restricted by the firmness of holders, but there was a general advance in quotations of ¼ to 1½ ⅌ cent in the speculative shares. Erie and Southern old were the favorite stocks at the Noon Board, and were again higher. At the Second Board the market was excited and unusually active, with an advance on the Morning Board for most descriptions. Central was ¼ ⅌ cent better, selling at 104¼. The Erie issue were also higher, the common shares touching 63¼, and the preferred, 95¾. Hudson River was very buoyant, advancing, with an active demand, to 78. The Western shares were generally strong. The movement in Toledo continued, and the quotations advanced to 74, and later in the day to 74¾. Terre Haute was in demand, the common stock selling at 27, and 50 bid for the preferred. The bonds of this Company continue to advance, the Income having sold to-day at 73. The rapid movement in these bonds has directed the attention of speculators and investers to other low-priced bonds, and to none more than to the Chicago and North-Western issues, of which the registered sales to-day reach $87,000, at 63 for the Assented, and 34 for the Second Mortgage. The road is now earning a large surplus over the interest on the Assented bonds. Governments were dull and weak at the Second Board, excepting One-Year Certificates, which were firmer, as it is proposed to receive them at par in payment for subscriptions to the bonds authorized by the new bill of the Ways and Means. At the Third Board the highest prices of the day were not fully sustained, and the marked closed dull. The following are the closing prices: United States 6s, 1881, 102¼; Treasury 7.30 Notes, 101½; United States C. H. Notes, 127; Gold Coin, 132½; New-York Central, 104; Erie, 63¼; Erie Preferred, 95¾; Hudson, 78; Pacific Mail, 135½; Harlem, 23; Harlem Preferred, 54; Michigan Central, 91¾; Michigan Southern, 42½; Michigan Guaranteed, 83½; Illinois Central, 79½; Pittsburgh, 50¾; Galena, ex. div., 80¼; Toledo, 74¾; Rock Island, 82½.

The market is dull to-day for foreign Exchange, but rates are unchanged. Sterling is 145@145¼, and Francs 3.90@3.88¾.

Freights are very quiet, but rates are without much change. To Liverpool the engagements are: 200 bbls. Flour at 1s. 9d.; 100 bbls. Beef at 4s.; 100 tcs. Lard at 20s.; 700 boxes Bacon at 20s.; 400 bbls. Chloride of Zinc at 2s., and per neutral vessel 200 boxes Bacon at 32s. 6d. To London: 30 tuns Tallow at 22s. 6d., and per neutral flag 100 boxes Bacon at 35s.; 100 bales Hair at 45s.; 40 tuns Bones at 30s. To Glasgow: 50 boxes Bacon at 35s. To Hamburg per neutral vessel: 15 tuns Lard at 35s.; 150 bags Seed Cloverseed at 35s.; 250 boxes Extracts at 30s., and 50 tuns Measurement Goods at 30s. The charters are a small British brig with grain to a direct Irish port on private terms.

The business of the Sub-Treasury was: Receipts $553,335 57—for Customs, $98,000; Payments, $818,019 44; Balance, $8,132,133 58.

The Chicago and Rock Island Road earned the third week in December:

1861.....$30,525 | 1862.....$36,429
Increase.....$5,898

In Gold there has been more movement to-day, and the market advanced to 132¾, closing at 132½, an improvement of ¼ on the closing price of Friday. The prospect of a further expansion of Government currency brought in some buyers to-day, partly to cover shorts. The quotation for Demand Notes has been firm at 126¾@127. In One-year Certificates there has been an increased business at better prices. At the close they could be bought at 96.

The Money market is abundantly easy on good collaterals at 5@6 ⅌ cent on call, although some of the small stock houses are paying 7 ⅌ cent. There is but little doing in paper, in consequence of the small supply. The rates for first-class signatures range from 5½ to 7 ⅌ cent.

The following dividends have been declared:

The Washington Marine Insurance Company a semi-annual interest dividend of 3½ ⅌ cent on its capital stock, on the 2d of January. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad a dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, payable January 2. The Terre Haute and Richmond Railroad a dividend of 7 ⅌ cent, free of Government tax, payable at the Farmers' Trust Company, January 2. The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company a dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, free of Government tax, payable January 5. The New-York, Providence, and Boston (Stonington) Railroad a dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, free of Government tax, payable January 2. The Grocers' Bank a dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, payable January 5. The Dime Savings Bank of Brooklyn a semi-annual dividend at the rate of 6 ⅌ cent ⅌ annum, free from Government tax, payable January 15. The Williamsburgh Savings Bank a semi-annual dividend at the rate of 6 ⅌ cent ⅌ annum, free from Government tax, payable January 19. The Mercantile Fire Insurance Company a semi-annual dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, free from Government tax, payable January 2. The Hamilton Fire Insurance Company a semi-annual dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, free from Government tax, payable January 5. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company a semi-annual dividend of 4 ⅌ cent, payable December 31. Holders of Coupons, due January 1, 1863, of the City of New-Orleans, are requested to present them for payment immediately at the Bank of America.

The exports of Specie from New York for the week ending December 27 are very small. They were:

Dec. 26—Steamship Edinburgh, Liverpool—	
American gold coin.....	$102,000 00
English gold coin.....	4,195 00
English Silver Coin.....	1,263 00
Sovereigns.....	34,766 00
Dec. 26—Steamship Borussia, Hamburg—	
Foreign Silver.....	1,890 00
American gold coin.....	43,494 23
U. S. Mint Bars.....	9,439 48
Sundry foreign coin.....	295 63
California Gold bars.....	48,906 91
Silver coin.....	50,500 00
Total.....	$296,890 65

The Exchanges at the Clearing-House this morning were $30,312,733 24. The Exchanges for the week ending to day were $166,111,790 80, being a daily average of $32,222,558 16, against $33,392,827 61 for the week ending on Saturday last.

The Terre Haute and Alton Railroad Company, having the money on hand, have decided to anticipate the Coupons due on their bonds in February and April. They advertise to pay the Coupons, of the First Mortgage Bonds due Jan. 1, 1863; also the Coupons of such bonds due April 1, 1863 (less three months' interest at 6 per cent on the latter), and the Coupons of the second mortgage bonds, due Feb. 1, 1863.

The payments are made at the Bank of North America on and after the 2d prox.

The interest due Jan. 1 on the bonds of the Evansville and Illinois Railro