...gested to the President that the Georgia State authorities have applied to come back into the Union, and that Secretary Stanton's visit to Savannah has doubtless some connection with this subject. It is also believed that Secretary Stanton's visit to Sherman will result in the inauguration of a new policy in Sherman's command in reference to treatment of negroes who may come into his lines hereafter. Such negroes will be armed and allowed to do effective service in the Union ranks.

NOMINATIONS.

The President to-day sent to the Senate upward of a thousand military nominations of various grades for confirmation. They were referred, in executive session, to the Military Committee, where they will undergo a thorough overhauling.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

Just before the adjournment of the Session of the Ways and Means Committee to-day, Secretary Fessenden sent them a letter, in which he recommends a reorganization of the Internal Revenue Department. He is of opinion that this important bureau of the Government, having assumed a permanent basis, should have a more complete organization, and advises an increase of salaries of officers of this Department.

THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.

Maj.-Gen. Franklin was examined to-day by the Committee on the Conduct of the War, in regard to the Red River Expedition. He gave a full statement of his connection with it.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

The vote on the Constitutional amendment abolishing Slavery, it is said by those who have canvassed the House, will be very close. Several Democrats are understood to be in favor of this important measure. In the event of its failure, the President is determined to call an extra session of Congress immediately after adjournment.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1865.

THE NEGROES ANXIOUS TO ACCOMPANY SHERMAN.

A letter received here from Gen. Sherman states that if he had been able to feed the negroes who desired to accompany him on his recent march through Georgia, he could have brought a hundred thousand away with him. Not being able to provide for them he was obliged to refuse most of them the desired permission, and for the present leaves them within the Rebel lines.

MR. DRAPER'S MISSION TO SAVANNAH.

Mr. Draper, Collector of New-York, does not go to Savannah as cotton agent, but on a special mission in regard to the large quantities of cotton and rice captured there, and to make arrangements for securing the rights of the Government in this respect.

HANCOCK'S CORPS.

The following appointments have been made in Gen. Hancock's First Veteran Corps, to date from December 29, 1864: Major, Elliot M. Curtis; Captains, George W. Whilford, John T. McCullough; First Lieutenants, Phineas W. Crawford, Ralph W. Buchanan, John W. Hogue, Elliott H. Benton, John W. Roney, John P. Kinney, Jacob Marty, George W. Shinn, William Burman; Second Lieutenants, Joseph Pearson, Almon L. Goss, late Tenth Maine Volunteers, J. F. Munson, Char es Sherman.

MOVEMENTS OF ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

Vice-Admiral Farragut visited the Navy Department to-day, and in company with Secretary Welles afterwards paid his respects to President Lincoln.

PERSONAL.

Maj.-Generals Burnside, Franklin and Miles and Brig.-Gen. Bartlett arrived in town to-day.

THE CASE OF MRS. HUTCHINS.

As extensive publicity has been given to the account of the arrest of Mrs. Hutchins, the following may prove of interest:

City of Fitchburg, County of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, ss.—I, Sarah L. Hutchins, of Baltimore City, in the County of Baltimore, State of Maryland, do hereby acknowledge that the act for which I have been tried, convicted, and on which sentence, was a wrongful and improper act on my part; and do give my word of honor that henceforth I will be of good behavior toward the Government of the United States, and do not act to aid or comfort its enemies, and will hold no intercourse with them, and will conduct myself as a loyal citizen of the United States; and I do solemnly swear that to the best of my knowledge and ability I will support the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully conduct myself as a good and loyal citizen of the United States—so help me God. SARAH L. HUTCHINS.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, ss.—Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 23d day of December, 1864.

GEORGE A. TOBEY, Justice of the Peace.

THE NATIONAL LOAN.

The subscriptions to the loans yesterday, as recorded at the Treasury Department, were as follows: To the Ten-Forties, $2,506,000, and to the Seven-Thirties $1,000,640.

WASHINGTON, January 8, 1865.

FROM THE POTOMAC.

A letter from the Army of the James, dated Friday, says: All is quiet in this Department. A severe rain storm has prevailed all day, making the roads almost impassable.

RECONSTRUCTION.

It is known that a bill is pending in the House of Representatives for the reconstruction of the States, the governments of which have been subverted or overthrown by Rebellion, thus establishing a rule applicable to them all. Representative Wilson has introduced a substitute for the bill, providing that no representatives shall be received from any such State until by act or joint resolution of Congress, approved by the President, or passed notwithstanding his objections, it shall be declared that the State has formed a just local Government, Republican in form, and entitled to representation in Congress. In other words, the substitute proposes to deal with each State separately on its own merits, without establishing a system of readmission applicable to them.

PRINTERS' CELEBRATION.

The Columbian Typographical Society last night celebrated by a supper, its fiftieth anniversary. Among the invited guests were Speaker Colfax, Representatives Baldwin of Massachusetts, Brooks, and Ambrose W. Clark; William Faxon, Chief Clerk of the Navy Department; J. G. Nicolay, the President's Private Secretary; ex-Postmaster-General Horatio King, Ben. Perley Poore, and other gentlemen, who, like themselves, have a practical knowledge of printing, who severally responded to the regular toasts, much to the delight of the large assemblies of the craft.

FROM REBEL PAPERS.

Richmond papers of the 6th, in addition to what was telegraphed last night, have the following:

A violent tornado passed over Middle Alabama on the 20th of December, killing fifteen persons, demolishing a large number of houses, and destroying the railroad bridge on the Montgomery and West Point Railroad, twenty miles east of Montgomery. The amount of damage done was immense.

At the battle of Franklin the Missouri Brigade went into the fight 668 strong, and had 199 killed, 242 wounded and 36 captured; making a loss of 477. Gen. Cockerell was wounded three times, but not seriously. Col. Gates was also wounded. Col. Garland and Major Parker, with a long list of captains and lieutenants, were among the killed.

The Examiner says: Yesterday a commission from Grant's lines arrived at Varina, under flag of truce, with 1,000 blankets for distribution among the Federal prisoners in Richmond, in addition to 1,000 received last week. Of the fifty odd thousand Yankee prisoners held in the South, not over 2,000 are confined in Richmond, and more than half of these are in the hospital. For a year past the great body of them have been shipping South. Richmond is hard pressed to feed its superabundant population, and the large armies depending its gates is relieved from the incubus of an overstocked prison pest in its midst.

The reports of Sherman's having crossed the Savannah are confirmed. He is believed to be moving on Grahamville.

THE LOANS.

The subscriptions to the 10-40 loan, yesterday, amounted to $4,169,000, and to the 7.30 loan, nearly $1,000,000.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—Second Session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1865.

THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. CHARLES O'NEILL, of Pennsylvania, (Union), introduced a bill to extend the boundaries of the port of Philadelphia, so as to include Richmond on the north and Greenwich on the south.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

THE DISTRICT INSANE ASYLUM.

Mr. SCHENCK, of Ohio, (Union,) from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill, which was passed, amending the law establishing an Insane Asylum in the District of Columbia, for Navy and Army Officers, so as to admit insane civilians in the Quartermaster and Subsistence Departments of the army on the order of the Secretary of War.

THE NEW REGIMENTS.

Mr. HOLMAN (Ind.) (Dem.) introduced a preamble reciting forth that the House in December last adopted a resolution directing the Secretary of War to furnish copies of the order issued in December, 1863, that recruits to fill up our organizations should be mustered out of the service with such regiment, and also directing him to furnish a copy of the letter addressed to Gov. Andrew, and asking the Secretary of War to say whether the principle therein contained has been applied to all soldiers mustered in to fill up old regiments; and whereas the resolution has not been complied with, that

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to inform the House why the information has not been furnished, and that he be directed to furnish the same.

The resolution was adopted.

RELATING TO EXPRESS COMPANIES.

Mr. MORRIS (Ohio,) (Union,) introduced a bill authorizing express and other transportation companies to sell unclaimed freight.

This was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

THE MOTHERS OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

Mr. GRIDER of Kentucky (Union) introduced a bill providing that the mothers of illegitimate children who die in the military service, or fall in battle, shall be entitled to receive arrearages of pay and bounty the same as other mothers.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

EXCLUDING INTERESTED TESTIMONY.

On motion of Mr. WILSON of Iowa (Union) a resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to exclude the testimony of parties in interest, in suits where administrators, executors and guardians are parties.

RELATING TO CONSCRIPTS.

Mr. GRINNELL of Iowa (Union) introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to report, at an early day, on the expediency of a law to confiscate so much of the property of conscripts who have failed to report for duty as will secure soldiers in their stead.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

The House then resumed the consideration of the Senate resolution proposing the amendment of the Constitution, so as to abolish Slavery throughout the United States.

Mr. BLISS of Ohio (Dem.) spoke of the impolicy and unconstitutionality of amending the Constitution in the manner designed. Changes, he contended, could be made only on the basis of compromise. The subjugation of the South and sway over it could be accomplished by no other means than by a standing army, and in his opinion we could not afford the blood and treasure which would be required for that purpose.

Mr. ROGERS of New-Jersey (Dem.) said that there was not power in the Government, by any act of legislation, to interfere with the domain of any State to control Slavery or any other institution, the control of which was not delegated to the General Government. The institution of Slavery, he repeated, belonged to the State, and no combination of men can by legislative enactment abolish it therein.

Mr. DAVIS of N. Y. (Union) said that the argument of Mr. Rogers was that civil liberty consisted in the right of one people to enslave another. So far from this being true, nature made all men free, and entitled them to all civil rights before the law, and on this principle the Government must stand, and sooner or later it will be the recognized principle throughout the world. Slavery should find no apologist and defender among those who represent the Free States, and Slavery should die, because it is incompatible with freedom, and has undertaken to destroy our Government and subvert our institutions. He would ask the South to come back with free institutions, because freedom only could make the Union perpetual.

Mr. HIGBEE of Cal. (Union) in his speech said that the people, by a majority of 400,000 votes, at the late Presidential election, had indorsed the emancipation policy. The Senate, at the last session, passed the joint resolution now under discussion by more than a three-fourths majority, and although a vote of two-thirds was not obtained for it in the House, there was a majority of thirty more than those who voted against it. He alluded to these and other facts to show that the duty of Congress was clear and well understood by the nation.

Mr. ASHLY of Ohio (Union) gave notice that he would, on Monday or Tuesday, ask a vote on the pending question. Adjourned.

Very Latest Southern News.

WASHINGTON, January 8, 1865.

Richmond papers of the 7th inst., contain the following items:

MOBILE, January 5.

A raid is reported advancing south toward Smithfield, 20 miles north of Aberdeen. The destruction of property is unknown. It is also reported that Gen. Hood's army has crossed the Tennessee River, and is moving on Tupelo, which will probably be the future base of operations. The Fort Gaines prisoners are expected to arrive in this city to-day.

"We learn," says *The Raleigh Confederate* of the 3d inst., "that on the 22d of December a fight took place at Shoemaker's Gap, between Capts. W. Price, Ross and Garbrell's companies, and some deserters, tories and robbers. They attacked our force from ambush, but were speedily routed and severely chastised. They lost fourteen killed and four wounded, and four were taken prisoners. We lost none in killed and wounded. The woods were fired during the engagement, which caused the discharge of a considerable number of guns which had been thrown away by the enemy. Capt. Price was in command of the battalion, and distinguished himself by coolness and bravery, as did his entire command."

The Columbia Carolinian says Gen. D. H. Hill passed down the South Carolina Railroad yesterday under orders to report to Gen. Beauregard at Charleston.

The Rebel notices the arrival at Selma, Alabama, on the 20th ult., of a detachment of four or five hundred "galvanized Yankees," under the charge of Capts. Clark and Rice and Adjutant Seymour of the 10th Tennessee, on their way to the front. They are, says *The Rebel*, strong, able-bodied soldiers, mostly foreigners, embracing almost every European nationality, with only a slight mixture of genuine Yankees. Capt. Clark informs us that almost any number could have been obtained, but that only those were accepted who had no families in the North and few ties to attach them to that section. They will be distributed through the Irish regiments of the Army of the Tennessee, and fill up their depleted ranks.

Gen. Sheridan's Army.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1865.

A letter from Loudon County, Va., dated the 3d inst., says:

A cavalry force from Gen. Sheridan's Army visited the neighborhood of Upperville and Middlebury on the 27th ult., and destroyed and carried away a considerable amount of property belonging to Secessionists of that neighborhood.

A few days ago another party of Union Cavalry entered the county from Fairfax, and made several arrests of disloyal residents.

A brigade of cavalry and artillery has been stationed near Lovettsville. Gen. Devin is in command of the brigade.

Winter quarters are being erected, and it is probable this force will remain in the neighborhood of Lovettsville during the winter.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Jan. 6, } via BALTIMORE, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1865. }

The exchange of prisoners has again been resumed.

Col. John E. Mulford arrived here from Washington yesterday afternoon, and left on the flag-of-truce steamer for Varnia on the James River, with about fifty Rebel officers, mostly surgeons.

A heavy north-east storm set in to-day, which promises to be a severe one.

Restriction Upon Trade Removed—Resolutions for the Immediate Abolition of Slavery—Gov. Bramlette's Message.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 7, 1865.

Gen. Burbridge has removed his restrictions upon trade in Kentucky.

Resolutions were introduced into both Houses of the Kentucky Legislature yesterday declaring for the immediate abolition of Slavery.

Gov. Bramlette in his message recommends the gradual emancipation and ultimate removal of the slaves; rejoices over and thanks Generals Sherman and Thomas for their victories; denounces the unwarrantable arrest of Col. Wolford and Lieut. Gov. Jacob; says that his object in attempting to regulate the enlistment of slaves was not to save the institution, but the people of Kentucky from an unnecessary burden in its accomplishment; and declares that Kentucky has furnished nearly 26,000 soldiers to the United States army.

The Missouri Legislature.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 8, 1864.

The State Senate yesterday passed a joint resolution for the appointment of a committee of eight to memorialize the Secretary of War to establish a garrison of protection near the south west corner of the State.

Both Houses have passed a bill authorizing the Board of Public Schools to provide for the education of colored children of this city, the present law forbidding the same.

The Missouri Constitutional Convention.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 8, 1865.

The Constitutional Convention effected a permanent organization yesterday by electing Col. Arnold Knetchell of St. Charles County, President; Chas. D. Drake of St. Louis, Vice-President; Major A. S. Fosher of Franklin County, Secretary.

Refugees from Arkansas.

CAIRO, Jan. 8, 1865.

The steamer Lockwood, from Little Rock, has arrived, with 500 refugees and 50 orphans, in a destitute condition. Many of them are sick, and several died on the way up. Three other boat-loads are coming.

The Distress at Savannah.

PHILADELPHIA, Sunday, Jan. 8.

A meeting of the citizens is called for Tuesday, to take measures to alleviate the distress of the people of Savannah.

Susquehanna River Navigation Retarded.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 8, 1864.

The ice in the Susquehanna has seriously obstructed the trains on the Philadelphia Railroad yesterday and to-day. The train which left New-York yesterday morning did not get through this till afternoon. The New-York papers of yesterday were not received till six o'clock this evening. The train from here yesterday afternoon had to return, and last evening's train did not go out. Trains, however, went out to-night, as usual, with a prospect of getting through in good season.

Arrest of a Newspaper Correspondent.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 8.

Henry M. Flint ("Druid"), the correspondent of *The New-York World*, has been arrested here by the military authorities, on the charge of disloyalty. He is now in custody.

Steamer Sunk on the Ohio River.

CAIRO, Friday, Jan. 6, 1865.

The steamer Odd Fellow was sunk by ice at Columbus to-day. She went down in one hundred feet of water, and will be a total loss. She was valued at from $15,000 to $20,000. No insurance.

Col. Isaac O. Barnes.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1865.

Col. Isaac O. Barnes, for many years United States Pension Agent, died this morning.

Fire.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1865.

The large stone building on the south-east corner of State and Washington sts., was badly gutted by fire early this morning. The lower floor was vacant. The second floor was occupied by Messrs. Brown Brothers, bankers, and the upper portions principally by offices. The occupants of the building do not lose much. The loss of its owner is heavy.

Marine Disaster.

BOSTON, Jan. 8, 1865.

The schooner Charleston, from Elizabethport with coal, sank on Railroad Bar during the storm Saturday night. The crew were saved. The wreck has been stripped of sails, and the hull will probably be raised.

The St. David Outward Bound.

PORTLAND, Jan. 8, 1865.

The steamship St. David sailed at 8:30 last night for Londonderry and Liverpool.

A Card.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: In your issue of yesterday was the following paragraph:

"The Rebel Gen. Page, captured near Fort Morgan, applied by letter, later, to his old classmate, Commodore Rogers, for assistance in getting exchanged. The reply was: 'I can do nothing for you. You neither defended your post like a man, nor surrendered like an officer.'"

It does me great injustice, and though a prisoner of war in the hands of your Government, I do not hesitate so far to presume on your sense of right as to solicit a correction of the mis-statements involved in the aforesaid paragraph. The facts of the case are just these: Some time ago, while ill and suffering, I sent a private note to Commodore John Rogers, an old comrade and former friend, requesting him, if he thought proper, to second an application I had addressed to the Union authorities for a parole, or a transfer to a warmer climate—which transfer, I may add in parenthesis, the Surgeon of the Fort had stated to be essential to my health. To this communication I have never received any reply—written or verbal—nor has any ever passed through the official channel of correspondence with the inmates of this prison.

As to whether the fort, of which I had command, was properly fought and defended—this is a question on which it becomes not me to speak. My own Government, and they with whom I shared the perils of the fight, are alone competent to pronounce on the matter. I am content to abide their opinion. Immediately after the capitulation of Fort Morgan, certain false and injurious reports were circulated, imputing some irregularity and unfairness on my part in the surrender of the work. By a council of war, ordered by Gen. Canby, and composed of officers of the Federal army and navy, I was, after a most searching and protracted investigation, promptly and entirely acquitted of all and every of these imputations. The opinion and findings of this council were officially published in the New-Orleans papers; and it would have been agreeable to my desire to have had the whole "proceedings" laid before the public, which I yet hope at some future day may be done. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. PAGE, Brig.-Gen. C. S. Army.

Fort Lafayette, Dec. 27, 1864.

Naval Intelligence.

THE SLOOP OF WAR CONSTELLATION.

This vessel, one of the few remaining representatives and relics of our early naval greatness and days of sailing vessels, is now riding at anchor in Hampton Roads. The Constellation was launched in 1798, and since then she has nobly upheld and defended her country's flag on the water, in nearly every part of the world, and now she has lately returned from a three years' cruise in the Mediterranean—probably the last active duty she will ever perform, although she is still seaworthy. She and her sister ship, the "Old Ironsides," are intimately interwoven in the naval history of this country for their numerous services in her behalf. The Constellation, during her last cruise, visited nearly every Mediterranean port, and was kindly welcomed at all of them. Everywhere her officers went they were met with the entire sympathies of persons high in authority for the welfare and success of the United States Government. Among the many incidents of her cruise is the princely entertainment given to the officers at Naples by the son of Victor Emmanuel, and the visit of Richard Cobden's daughter to the vessel while she lay at Spezzia. The officers were highly pleased with her delight at being on board an American war vessel, and the naive remark that, had she her choice, she would have been born in the United States. In all probability the Constellation will be converted into an ordnance or practice ship. It is understood that her commander, Captain Stellwagen, of Philadelphia, wishes to forego the leave of absence to which he is entitled after a three years' cruise, and has asked the Navy Department to give him immediate active service.

To Whom it May Concern.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: About two weeks ago there appeared in *The N. Y. Herald* an advertisement signed "Empire Lock Company of Sing Sing," advertising for agents to sell burglar proof locks. In answer a large number of letters have come to the post-office at this place, directed as above, and inquiries have been made to me personally and by letter asking for information respecting this "Company." One of the answers of this "Empire Lock Company," sent to the person applying for an agency, has been handed to me, which sets forth the requirement inside of him before entering upon his agency, and offers him $100 a month, to be increased according to merit. And concludes by asking the applicant to send them $3 for the locks, which they will send him. And as a pledge of his good faith, to also send them his photograph or a full description of his person and age. There is no such firm in Sing Sing. This is a bogus concern intended to swindle the unsuspecting. The party is known, and if he continues his notorious work will be exposed. R. QUIMBY, P. M.

Sing Sing, Jan. 3, 1865.

A VOTE FOR FREEDOM.—After the close of Gerrit Smith's address on Amending the Constitution and on Reconstruction, at the Cooper Institute on Wednesday night, the following resolution was offered, put to the meeting by Peter Cooper, and adopted without one dissenting voice:

"*Resolved*, That this meeting consider that the work of amending the Constitution will not be complete till that instrument shall forbid any State to make any distinction between its citizens on account of race."

The meeting also unanimously adopted the following message to the President, which was accordingly telegraphed to him yesterday:

COOPER INSTITUTE, N. Y., Jan 4, 1865.

"DEAR AND HONORED SIR: A thousand citizens of New-York send you this message: Let no negro's hand drop the musket till you have armed it with the ballot."

HOTEL PERSONAL.—Gens. B. B. Ayers and Lee, U. S. A., and M. Bryant, U. S. A., are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

The Hons. C. A. Dana and John Reese, Montreal, and C. M. Schoonmacker, U. S. A., are at the Clarendon.

T. Gonzales, Mexico; T. Allibone, New-Jersey, and W. Bispham, Philadelphia, are at the Brevoort House.

SUICIDE BY HANGING.—Last evening, John Sullivan, a native of Ireland, 60 years of age, committed suicide by hanging himself at his residence, No. 9 Jay st. The Coroner was notified to hold an inquest.

A Revision of the Quota.

Gen. Hayes has received instructions from Washington not to fix the quotas for the sub-districts in accordance with the order issued by Provost Marshal Gen. Fry, already published, and has been directed to report to the Department all the enlistments up to the 31st day of December. The object of this call for information is probably to arrange new quotas on the basis of the enlistments up to that date. It will be seen by the order which we print below, that the Government intends to have 300,000 men in the field as the proceeds of the last call in addition to all credits heretofore allowed. No credits will be allowed for officers, or invalids or men enlisted in the navy upon papers and assigned previous to the 19th of December, or for anything but able-bodied enlisted men, a very judicious determination on the part of the Government. The contemplated change in the quotas, it is to be hoped, will not deprive New-York of any of the credits which have been so justly awarded to her. Supervisor Blunt went to Washington last night to see that the interests of the County are protected and to make the proper representations to the Department. In view of this new order from the Department, and the uncertain position of districts it will be well for every man who can spare the amount necessary for a substitute, to deposit the money for that purpose at once with the Volunteer Committee. There are now plenty of substitutes offering, and no substitute money in the hands of the Committee.

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 2, 1865.

CIRCULAR No. 1.—The attention of Acting Assistant Provost-Marshals General of States, and Boards of Enrollment, is called to the fact, that the quotas assigned under the call of December 19, 1864, for 300,000 men, must not be reduced except by actual enlistments in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, since the 19th ultimo.

JAMES B. FRY, Provost Marshal General.

Father McKay's Letter.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: A word of explanation in relation to the position of the Rev. James McKay in Orange may cast some light upon the motive of the person who forged his name to the scandalous letter, copied from *The Dublin Nation*, purporting to have been written by him. Being the pastor of a large congregation, most of whom were active members of the Democratic party he, in the presence of a number of the leading Republicans of Orange, publicly declared his opinions in favor of the reelection of Mr. Lincoln, saying in the most emphatic manner that he did not consider McClellan capable for the high office of President—as he would be an easy tool in the hands of designing men, and could not be trusted—and therefore he hoped Mr. Lincoln would be reelected, and if he had a vote would give it to him. Having thus taken this high stand, it is thought this letter to *The Nation* has been written by some Copperhead, who true to the instincts of his defeated party, forged Father McKay's name to this infamous lie, merely to bring odium and reproach upon him for being identified with the Republican party. If *The Nation* would produce the original copy of the letter, its author might be discovered and exposed, for he certainly deserves the execration of all good and honorable men. R. J.

Orange, N. J., Jan. 2, 1865.

Low Against Niven.

A portion of the table of votes at the Senatorial Election in the IXth District, in 1863, was inadvertently omitted in our edition of the 7th inst. We therefore republish the whole.

RECAPITULATION.

Whole number of votes *returned* by the Board of County Canvassers in Orange County was 11,524.

For Archibald C. Niven	9,456	
For Henry R. Low	2,063	
For Blank	4	
For Low	1	
		11,524
In addition to these there was cast for Senator, one vote which was not counted or returned, for Low		1
Making the whole number of votes for State Senator in Orange County		11,525
Whole number of votes *returned* by the Board of County Canvassers in Sullivan county was 5,921.		
For Archibald C. Niven	3,120	
For Henry R. Low	2,776	
For H. R. Low	15	
For Low	1	
For Peter Scott	1	
For Samuel H. Soules	1	
For A. C. Niven	1	
		5,921
In addition to these there were *cast* eight State tickets, which were not counted or returned for Senator.		
For Archibald C. Niven, "German text"	1	
For H. R. Low	1	
For Jug Low	1	
For Henry R. Low in Judiciary box	1	
For Henry R. Low, "cut ticket"	1	
For Low	1	
For Blank (not returned or counted)	2	
		8
		5,929
Whole number in both counties		17,254
Archibald C. Niven was allowed by the boards of canvassers in Orange County	5,432	
In Sullivan County	3,120	
To these this report adds one vote for "A. C. Niven."	1	
One vote blurred in printing	1	
Making in all	8,623	
From these this report deducts:		
One ticket found in "judiciary box," in Fremont, and erroneously counted	1	
Two votes counted in Deerpark which were doubled with other ballots	2	
Votes of Aliens	4	
Votes of Minors	2	
Votes of Non Residents	11	
Voted twice	1	
		21
Leaving his correct vote		8,602
Henry R. Low was allowed by the boards of canvassers in Orange County	5,827	
In Sullivan County	3,176	
		9,003
To which, this report adds:		
Thirteen votes for H. R. Low in Sullivan county, (12 returned—1 in Fallsburgh not returned.)	13	
Five votes for Low,	5	
(2 returned—3 not returned.)		
One vote for Jug Low	1	
One vote on State ticket found in "judiciary box" 2d Dist. Liberty, Sullivan county, and not counted or returned	1	
One vote, known as the "cut ticket," rejected in 2d Dist. Liberty, and not counted or returned	1	
		21
		9,024
From which, this report deducts:		
Votes of Aliens	6	
Votes of Minor	1	
Votes of non residents	3	
Votes of Man of Color	1	
Votes of Convict	1	
		11
Leaving his correct number of votes		8,613
Henry R. Low's whole vote	5,613	
Archibald C. Niven's whole vote	5,602	
Low's majority over Niven		11

SKATING.—The lovers of this popular pastime will find the ice in magnificent condition to-day at the Fifth-ave. Pond and the Central Park. During the week, about Thursday, they are to be regaled with a grand fancy dress carnival on the Fifth-ave. Pond.

FITZ HUGH LUDLOW'S LECTURE.—Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, Dodworth Hall was tolerably well filled on Saturday night, to hear Fitz Hugh Ludlow's lecture on "The Overland Route" to the Pacific coast. The lecture bore indications of having been carefully prepared. It was long, sometimes witty, and, in the graphic passages, always eloquent. To speak well of it, this is all that can be said. It literally contained no novelty. Opening with the description of an event (*i. e.* the hanging of a bushwhacker at a town on the Upper Missouri) which we have seen better described by city newspaper correspondents during the war, Mr. Ludlow lingered long among the buffaloes, antelopes and red skins of the plains, in terms which have long been rendered trite by the numerous books which were born of the California gold excitement, and by any number of letters and sketches since. The lecturer would have been more successful with Utah and the Mormons had not Artemus Ward so recently preceded him. As it was, some of his descriptions of mountain scenery, more especially that of California, were vigorous and poetical—recalling, in their color and sweep, some of those glorious passages of the Hasheesh Eater's rhapsodies. The drift of Mr. Ludlow's remarks was a noble one—an argument in favor of the Pacific Railroad. He paid a glowing tribute to the State of California. In his opinion, her boundless vegetable and mineral resources would abundantly enable her to take care of herself as a separate nationality, and therefore no pains should be spared by the Atlantic States to strengthen the link—attenuated by the vast interval of wilderness—which binds her to the Union.

Mr. William H. Burleigh of this city, widely known as a public speaker, proposes, we understand, to deliver lectures during the Winter before Lyceums.

Amusements.

The most important musical incidents of the season, in an artistic sense, are the "Symphonie-Soirées" of Mr. Theodore Thomas. They carry out the purpose of illustrating, by the most liberal means that can here be employed, the various schools of old and new orchestral composition. The second of the series was given last Saturday evening, at Irving Hall, and was listened to with the strictest attention by a numerous audience. The performances of Schumann's Symphony in C, Bach's Toccata in F, (arranged for orchestra) and Weber's "Euryanthe" overture were as finished as the most devoted disciples of those composers could have wished for. It is a marvel how Mr. Thomas obtains such control over his large body of musicians in the short period which the conditions of modern concert giving allow him for rehearsal. Works which have even been repeatedly performed present sufficient trials to orchestras hastily collected, and not regularly organized; but Mr. Thomas attacks and necessarily overcomes in a week the difficulties of compositions which have never before been produced, and which would appear to require the laborious preparation of months to accurately interpret their meaning.

The concert on Saturday evening was less distinguished by novelty than that with which the series opened, some weeks ago. Amateurs are already acquainted with Schumann's symphony in G. It is a fine work, thoroughly and skillfully wrought out, but one which will never find its way to the highest rank among orchestral compositions. Like his other symphonies, in B flat and D minor, it has all the character that dexterous construction and ingenious elaboration can impart, with hardly a ray of inspiration to lift it, even as intervals, to the level of works of true genius. It is especially wanting in breadth and amplitude of design. It seems a mosaic, composed of fragments skillfully, if not always symmetrically, put together, but has little of the unity and perfect fluency which appear in the orchestral writings of the first standard—those of Mozart or Beethoven, or, in less degree, of Mendelssohn. There are originality and invention in Schumann's symphonies—more conspicuously shown, perhaps, in his first, in B flat, than in this—but we fail at all times to discover the comprehensiveness, the facility of free and bold development, or the genuine creative power by the assumed virtue of which his admirers have claimed for him a station beside the undisputed masters of his art. Bach's Toccata has more of the qualities of broad purpose and clear conception than the whole of Schumann's symphony possesses: although we are not aware that much needs to be said in other respects about this favorite organ piece of the old composer. Its production in an orchestral form is interesting to musicians, whose thanks are due Mr. Thomas for this opportunity of hearing it. The conjunction of Bach and Schumann in the same concert may have been accidental, but it is a pertinent coincidence that a cherished theory of the devotees of the latter unites the two names as those of composers who labored in the same field and with precisely the same artistic spirit,—according to the varying conditions of the times in which they lived,—toward the elevation of their art. That Schumann was accustomed to speak of Bach as the greatest of masters, we all are aware; but that anything existed in common between the two men, in an æsthetic view, we are altogether indisposed to admit.

Weber's spirited overture to "Euryanthe" closed the concert effectively. The soloists whose performances relieved the more serious part of the entertainment were Mrs. Jennie Van Zandt, a young lady with a good voice, but, at present, an imperfect method, and Mr. Carl Wolfsohn, a pianist of brilliant accuracy in execution, but without much apparent power of expression. He played the whole of Beethoven's concerto in E flat, and was liberally applauded at the end of each movement. The concerto is well known. As a composition—a musical creation—it has noble qualities; but it is a splendid example of the most illogical combination that great composers have ever sanctioned. Can anybody intelligently justify the union of the piano-forte with the orchestra, excepting in case of the former being used merely as an accessory? We think not. The effect of one performer upon an instrument whose function is never more than shadowy and suggestive, contending against the solid vigor of two score accompanists can only be to render the inferiority of the piano-forte doubly conspicuous. If the piano and orchestra play together, the former is unheard; so that the only possible expedient is to alternate the crash of the band with the tinkle of the soloist. Whatever value the piano forte may possess as a concert instrument is destroyed by this unfair contrast. As it feebly emerges from the mass of sound that ushers it along, there is nothing to be thought of in the way of parallel except the mountain laboring to bring forth the mouse. The great majority of piano-forte concertos with orchestral accompaniments have been written to afford their composers—mostly pianists—the opportunity of directly communicating with audiences. This single purpose they have doubtless appropriately served. The only positive artistic advantage to be derived from the combination is by the occasional employment of characteristic effects, precisely as the harp effects are introduced by "Berlioz" in his "Romeo and Juliet" symphony.

Mr. Thomas's next concert will be given toward the end of February.

The attempt to establish an Italian Opera Buffa at Niblo's Saloon has not succeeded. Two or three nights of violent storm, and the absence of any particular attraction in the company, seemed to the managers sufficient causes for the abrupt abandonment of the enterprise. We are sorry that it did not meet with better fortune. It represented a class of entertainment that ought to permanently exist in New-York, and which will yet be found remunerative, if conducted with proper liberality and spirit.

Few novelties are announced at the leading theaters this week, the old programmes having been found abundantly attractive. At the Winter Garden "Hamlet" enters upon the seventh week of its representations. At the Olympic "The Streets of New-York" begins the fifth week of its profitable "run." At the French Theater, on Tuesday evening, "La Cagnotte" will be produced. At Wallack's the bills will be changed nightly, this evening "Money" will be represented, and to-morrow, "Secrets Worth Knowing" will be given for the first time this season.

At Barnum's Museum the Fairy spectacle, "The Ring of Fate," has met with so much success that the proprietor announces its repetition for an unlimited time. A variety of agreeable human exaggerations are expected to make their first appearance to-day,—among them a lady who weighs 700 pounds, and her husband who weighs only seventy. They average 350 pounds each. Mr. Barnum has also secured Gen. Beauregard's monkey, recently captured at Savannah. For the complete list of his new attractions his advertisement must be consulted.

The new importations of animals for Van Amburgh's Menagerie are daily on exhibition at No. 688 Broadway. The Hippotheatron still successfully relies upon its comic pantomime, "Harlequin Blue Beard." Mr. Robert Heller, at his "Salle Diabolique," is equally fortunate with his pantomime, in which Miss Kate Pennoyer divides the honors with himself. Mr. Cosmanni continues his nightly illustrations of Oriental life at the Turkish Hall, No. 720 Broadway.

[Advertisement.]

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[Advertisement.]

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