EUROPE.

NEWS BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE TO DEC. 20.

FRANCE.

MAXIMILIAN'S ABDICATION.

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 20, 1866.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

Le Temps this morning announced its unqualified belief that the Emperor Napoleon has received official intelligence of the abdication of the Archduke Maximilian.

EFFECT OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S MESSAGE.

PARIS, Thursday Evening, Dec. 20, 1866.

Since the Message of President Johnson to Congress was received here in full by steamer, it has had a better effect on public opinion than the meager and imperfect synopsis which was previously received through the Atlantic Cable.

THE BUDGET.

The Budget of M. Fould, the French Minister of Finance, shows that the revenues and expenditures of France are in a state of equilibrium, and declares that the proposed scheme for the reorganization of the army will involve no increase of the taxes, but will prove a fresh guarantee of peace for the future.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

LONDON, Thursday Evening, Dec. 20, 1866.

The Bank of England has reduced its rate of discount to 3½ per cent.

ITALY.

RELATIONS WITH THE POPE.

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 20, 1866.

The *Moniteur*, in an editorial this morning, thinks there is no doubt that the relations between Italy and the Pope will be placed on a sound basis.

SPAIN.

LOAN TO THE GOVERNMENT.

PARIS, Thursday Evening, Dec. 20, 1866.

It is reported that M. Fould has lent 90,000,000 francs to the Government of Spain.

HUNGARY.

THE ADDRESS TO THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

PESTH, Thursday, Dec. 20, 1866.

The Upper House of the Hungarian Diet has agreed to the address to the Emperor of Austria recently adopted by the Lower Chamber.

THE CONSTITUTION TO BE RESTORED.

PESTH, Thursday, Dec. 20, 1866.

In the Hungarian Diet to-day, the Tavernicus [chief officer of administration] announced that the Emperor had resolved to restore the Constitution to Hungary.

THE AMERICAN NAVY.

LISBON, Thursday, Dec. 20, 1866.

The United States iron-clad Miantonomah, accompanied by other vessels of the American fleet, arrived at the Straits of Gibraltar on the 14th inst.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OUT.

LONDONDERRY, Dec. 20.—The steamship Belgian, from Quebec, touched here to-day, and after landing the London mails and passengers, proceeded to Liverpool.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 20—Noon.—The Cotton market to-day opened active at yesterday's closing rates, 14¼d. for Middling Uplands. The sales to-day promise to reach 13,000 bales.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 20—Evening.—The Cotton market continued steady all day, and prices closed firm at 14¾d. for Middling Uplands. The sales of the day amounted to 14,000 bales.

BREADSTUFFS MARKET.

The Breadstuffs market was dull, and prices closed unchanged from the last quotations.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.

LONDON, Dec. 20—11 o'clock a. m.—Before official hours, United States Five-Twenty bonds were offered at 71½ for the issue of 1862, being the closing rate of last evening. Erie shares are rather higher. Consols are quoted firmer.

LONDON, Dec. 20—Noon.—The money market is quiet and steady. Consols for money opened at 89½.

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 20—Evening. Consols closed firm and unchanged at 89½ for money.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Eries have advanced to 49; Illinois Centrals, 78½; Five-twenties, 1862, 71½.

American Securities closed at the following figures: United States Five-Twenties, 71½; Illinois Central Shares 78½; Erie Railway Shares, 48½.

PETROLEUM AT ANTWERP.

ANTWERP, Dec. 20.—Petroleum is steady at a slight decline; 53 francs is the current quotation for Prime Refined.

FIVE-TWENTIES AT FRANKFORT.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—United States bonds of 1862 are quoted at 75½ this morning at Frankfort, with quite an active demand.

BY STEAMSHIP.

The steamer Deutchland, from Southampton on Dec. 5, arrived here early on Thursday morning.

The R. M. steamship Java, Captain Moodie, which left Liverpool at 10 a. m. of December 8, and Queenstown the evening of the 9th inst., arrived at Halifax on Thursday, at 1 a. m., en route to Boston. She has 75 passengers for that city and 25 for Halifax. Purser Brown reports head gales during the entire passage. No ships to report.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE GRNAT REFORM DEMONSTRATION IN LONDON.

The Reform demonstration appointed to take place in London on Monday, the 3d inst., was a great success. The London papers contain full accounts of this imposing affair, which passed off with the greatest order and regularity, the proceedings eliciting the approbation of even *The London Times*.

THE PROCESSION.

The procession of the Trades' Societies began to move at 12 o'clock, and by ½ o'clock the last man had moved out of St. James's Park, which was the mustering ground of the procession. So admirably had the arrangements been made that, although the different societies did not all occupy exactly the places in the procession which had been assigned to them, there was not the slightest disorder or confusion. The marshals directed the movements of the several divisions, and as each division passed forward it was closely followed by its successor.

It is impossible, says *The Times*, to speak with anything like certainty as to the number of men who were collected in the Park, among whom, and the crowd that had collected to receive them, order was preserved with little or no assistance from the police, and who were thus, without military guidance, easily marshed out through a single gateway. To form an estimate which shall even approximate to the actual numbers is not easy, and we therefore hesitate to commit ourselves to any very decided statement upon the subject. Suffice it to say, that some calculations place the numbers at between 40,000 and 50,000, while others range as high as from 60,000 to 70,000. Probably the former of these estimates will be the nearer the mark.

It is stated that during the assembling and formation of the procession telegrams with reference to the aspect of affairs were dispatched at intervals from the authorities in the metropolis to the Queen at Windsor Castle.

The proceedings of the day closed with speeches from several leading members of the National Reform League.

THE PRESS ON THE DEMONSTRATION.

Commenting on the demonstration, *The Times* says:

The workingmen of London, on Monday expressed their opinion upon the Reform question. They did so in the best temper, and in the most orderly spirit. The aggregate assembled on Monday under the Reform banner has been outnumbered repeatedly in different parts of this kingdom. The day's proceedings showed what the sturdiest Conservative must be willing to admit, that the more intelligent mechanics are at least the equals, in all that constitutes good citizens, of the small shopkeepers who now possess the franchise. Any Englishman might feel proud of the bearing and demeanor of those men who walked to Beaufort House through pools of mud and under frequent showers, to vindicate a principle on which they felt strongly.

The Daily News remarks: The numbers who marched through the great thoroughfares of the Westend yesterday may not have been as large as some of the Tories appeared to fear they would be, and in this respect it is open to them to say that the demonstration was a failure. Perhaps we shall see that line taken by those upon whom numbers alone can make any impression. To those who look deeper, it will matter little whether there were 40,000 or 100,000. Upon them the moral effect of the orderly march of this fine representative body of British workingmen will not be lost, but will sink deep and bear fruit in the coming years. We are not passing—we have passed—into a new phase of political life, and the class so well represented yesterday must soon be formally admitted within the pale of the constitution.

GREAT INDOOR MEETING.

A great meeting in connection with the demonstration was held on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., in St. James's Hall, at which Mr. Bright delivered a powerful speech on the Reform question. The most forcible portion of his address was that in which he pointed out the change to the country from the obstructiveness of the House of Commons. The following is the passage:

"Go only as the last session of Parliament—we need not go back to the time before the passing of the Reform Act. Look at the last session of Parliament, and at the responsibilities and the sense of the responsibilities of the House of Commons. Look at the discussion of the bill brought in by the late Government. If anything was to be done at all, if the slightest step was to be taken to improve the representation of the people and to extend the franchise to the now unenfranchised, was it possible for the greatest moderation to have proposed a more moderate measure than that of the late Government? [No, no.] Well, but what happened? Why, the Parliament of the land were either wholly ignorant of or wholly despised that great national opinion which has been exhibited during the last three or four months, and they resisted that measure with a pertinacity never exceeded, and with an amount of intrigue and of unfairness to the Government which they dare not for one single night have attempted if they had felt any real responsibility to the people; [cheers] and they resist up to this moment, and I fear will resist when they meet at the beginning of February next, and they may possibly resist until the discontent now so general becomes universal, and that which is now only a great exhibition of opinion may become necessarily and inevitably a great and menacing exhibition of force. [Cheers.] These opponents of ours, many of them in Parliament openly, and many of them secretly in the press, charge us with being promoters of a dangerous excitement, and they say that we are a source of the danger which threatens, and they absolutely have the effrontery to charge me with being a friend to public disorder. I am one of the people—[loud cheers]—and surely if there be one thing in a free country more clear than another, it is that any one of the people may speak openly to the people. If I speak to the people of their rights, and indicate to them the way to secure them—if I speak to the monopolists of power of their danger, am I not a wise counselor both to the people and their rulers? [Cheers.] Suppose I stood at the foot of Vesuvius or of Etna, and I saw a hamlet or a homestead extending upon its slope, and I said to the dwellers of that hamlet or that homestead, "You see that vapor which ascends from the summit of the mountain; that vapor may become a dense black smoke that will obscure the sky—you see that trickling of lava from the crevice or fissure in the side of the mountain; that trickling of lava may become a river of fire—you hear that muttering in the bowels of the mountain; that muttering may become a bellowing thunder, the effect of a convulsion that may shake half the continent. You know that at your feet is the grave of great cities buried, for which there is no resurrection, as histories tell us that dynasties and aristocracies have passed away, to be known no more forever. [Cheers.] If I say this to these dwellers upon the slopes of this mountain, and if there come hereafter a catastrophe which makes the world to shudder, am I responsible for that catastrophe? ["No, no," and cheers.] I did not build that mountain, or fill it with explosive materials. I only warned the men that were there of their danger. [Loud and prolonged cheering.] So now it is not I who am stimulating men to a violent pursuit of their original constitutional rights. We are about our lawful business as citizens of a free country, but citizens to whom is denied the first right of the Constitution under which they live. If the truth must be told, the Tory party is the turbulent party in this country. I left the last session of Parliament just about the time when the present Ministers, succeeding in their intrigues, acceded to office. I left the Parliament with a feeling of sadness and of disgust, and of apprehension. I said to myself, I may as well judge of the future by the past. The Parliament of England will not do justice to the people until there happens something that will suddenly open their eyes.

Speaking of Lord Derby's party and the obstinacy in opposing reform, he said: And let me tell this party—I tell them nothing from this platform that I have not told them upon the floor of the House of Commons—let me tell them that this question will not sleep. Some months ago there assembled in Switzerland a convention of men of eminence and character, and by that convention a memorial or address was prepared and forwarded to the Government of the United States, congratulating them upon the close of their gigantic struggle, and upon the establishment of universal freedom throughout the wide bounds of the republic; and in that memorial there was a passage of true philosophy and of true statesmanship. It was this: "Unfinished questions have no pity for the repose of nations." It referred to the great question of negro slavery; but it is just as true when it is applied to the question before us, where from 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 of grown men in this United Kingdom, under a constitutional government, and with a representative system, are shut out directly and purposely from that constitution and that representation. This great question which we are debating to-night is an "unfinished question," and it will have no pity on the repose of this nation until it be a finished question. [Loud cheers.]

THE FENIANS.

The Times says: On Saturday, Stephen James Meaney, ex Senator of the Fenian Brotherhood, was arrested in the Strand, London.

A warrant for his apprehension, on the charge of conspiring to overthrow Her Majesty's Government in Ireland, was shown to him, and he was declared a prisoner. He said he was innocent, and that he had taken part in no conspiracy, and protested against his being arrested. He was taken to Bow-st., where he was formally charged, but he will not be dealt with in England. No documents of a treasonable character have been found on Meaney; his lodging will undergo a strict search.

It is reported that several of the Northern landlords have offered to arm their tenantry.

The excitement about Fenianism in Dublin is daily increased by fresh reports of arrests and the discovery of arms and ammunition. Three arrests were effected on Saturday, one of these is Cornelius O'Mahony. His capture is considered important, as it has placed in the hands of the authorities some documents revealing the Fenian plans.

On the arrival of the Liverpool steamer at Dundalk on Saturday, a box was discovered which contained 14,000 percussion caps, which were seized. A quantity of powder was also seized by the police at Athy while being conveyed from the railway station to a neighboring village.

Ex-Senator Meaney has arrived at Kingston in custody of Meagher and two of the London police. He was at once placed in the train for Dublin. He was brought up at the head office, and remanded until Thursday. Those who know something of his character and career before he went to America and became a Senator of the Irish Republic think it highly probable that he has turned his opportunities to account, and has come across the Atlantic prepared to give the Government valuable information.

Stephen J. Meaney, the Fenian Senator lately arrived from New-York, had been committed for trial in Dublin, on a charge of conspiracy.

The Dublin Orangemen had held meetings under the Presidency of Earl of Enniskillen, and had issued an address to the main body of Orangemen, calling on them to support the authorities.

The London Morning Post raises a question as to the loyalty of large numbers of Irishmen in the large towns of England, and urges that the Government should inquire how far they are committed to Fenianism, and to what extent they may be prepared to aid the movement.

Slight symptoms of alarm had been felt at Liverpool, where large numbers of Irish laborers were out of employment. Armed guards had been placed on duty at the various depots of arms belonging to the militia and volunteers in Liverpool. A house in Liverpool had been taken possession of by the police and searched upon information that Stephens was concealed in it, but the police were hoaxed.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S MESSAGE.

The Times in a leader says: We entirely agree with President Johnson that it is high time this vexatious dispute was set at rest, and we regret that Lord Russell did not hold out any hope of a compromise honorable to both parties. It ought to have been recognized from the first, that the circumstances attending the equipment and escape of the Alabama constituted a new case in International Law, and the discussion yet should have been deferred until the end of the year. The present Foreign Secretary is perfectly free to entertain any fresh proposals without prejudice, and it would be a great misfortune if he were to be embarrassed in dealing with them according to his own judgment by any reluctance to reverse the decision of his predecessor.

THE YELLOW FEVER.

The steamer Seine, from the West Indies, has arrived at Southampton with yellow fever. She had in all 19 cases during her passage; only two had proved fatal. She has been ordered into quarantine at the Motherbank.

A TESTIMONIAL TO A NAVAL OFFICER.

Staff Commander Moriarty, C. B., was on Saturday last presented with a very handsome and valuable service of plate, in recognition of his eminent and successful exertions in laying the Atlantic Cable.

FRANCE.

GOLD MEDAL FOR MRS. LINCOLN.

On December 1 the gold medal purchased in France by subscription for Mrs. Lincoln was delivered by the Committee into the hands of Mr. Bigelow, at the United States Legation. Mr. Bigelow was at the same time requested to take charge of the following letter:

TO MRS. LINCOLN.

MADAME: We are charged to present you with the medal struck in honor of the great man whose name you bear, at the desire of upward of 40,000 French citizens, who wish to manifest their sympathy for the American Union by a tribute of respect to the memory of one of its purest and most illustrious representatives. If France possessed the liberties that American enjoys it is not by thousands but by millions that the admirers of Lincoln would be counted.

Pray, accept, Madame, the homage of our profound respect.

The members of the Committee—Albert, ancien membre du gouvernement provisoire; Arago (Etienne), ancien representant du peuple; Barni (J.), professeur à l'Académie de Geneve; Blanc (Louis), ancien membre du gouvernement provisoire; Chassin (Ch.-L.), homme de lettres; Chauffour-Kestner (Victor), ancien representant du peuple; Delord (Taxile), redacteur de *l'Avenir National*; Despois (Eugène), professor litre; Greppo, ancien representant du peuple; Hugo (Victor), ancien representant du peuple; Joignaux (Pierre), ancien representant du peuple; Kneip (Louis), ouvrier en pianos; Laurent-Pichat (Ch., homme de lettres; Littré, membre de l'Institut; Mangin (Victor), redacteur chef du *Phare de la Loire*; Michelet (J.), membre de l'Institut; Pelletan (Eugène), deputé de la Seine; Quinet (Edgar) ancien representant du peuple; Schœlcher (Victor), ancien sous-secretaire d'etat au ministère de la marine, ancien representant; Thomas (A), ancien directeur du National.

In presenting the above letter and medal, M. Albert, the member of the Provisional Government of 1848, addressed Mr. Bigelow as follows:

"We thank you, Sir, for having taken upon yourself to transmit to Mrs. Lincoln the gold medal which French citizens desire to present to her. This medal is a homage rendered to the illustrious President for whom she mourns, a testimony of admiration for the man who immortalized himself in the service of the great Republic of the United States, and a thank-offering due to him from all defenders of liberal and democratic views throughout the world. We are happy to think, Sir, that Mrs. Lincoln will receive this medal from your hand, and we beg you to accept the expression of our warm sympathy for the great nation which you have the honor to represent.

Mr. Bigelow warmly thanked the Committee for their sympathy with the American Republic.

TURKEY.

GARIBALDI AND THE CRETAN INSURRECTION.

The Athens correspondent of *The Levant Herald*, writing on the 13th says: "Garibaldi and his disbanded legionaries are turning their attention to Crete. Beside the steamer *Arcadie* which reached Syra on their way to the Island, the nucleus of a larger detachment has landed at the Piræus, and Garibaldi has offered his sword to the Athens Committee, in the following letter addressed to Madame Dora d'Istria, the well known Greek authoress, who is agitating both at home and abroad in favor of the movement.

"CAPRERA, Oct. 17.—Madame, I have written to Delfi to see what arms we have; whatever they may be, they shall be placed at your disposal. Oh, how I wish to do something for those poor Cretans! I am in despair at being reduced to idleness. I belong to your cause. I shall be there if I am called—even though I come in a basket. As much as possible, foment dissidents on the mainland, and dispose of me always.

GARIBALDI.'

"The first result of this appeal to Delfi has been a gift of 600 rifles, which will, it is said, be speedily followed by a larger number. If, in addition to this help in arms, the General himself upon the scene, the worst of Mustapha Pasha's troubles may yet be to begin."

EGYPT.

CAIRO, Tuesday Evening.—The Viceroy, in his speech at the opening of the Egyptian Chamber, reminded the delegates that his grandfather had put an end to the disorder which prevailed in Egypt, restored public security, and founded institutions which secure to the country a prosperous future. "My father," he added, "continued the work which had thus been begun, aiming at the creation of an order of things in harmony with the state of modern society. Since my accession the constant object of my thoughts has been the development of public prosperity. I often thought of establishing a representative council to consider all important questions of an excusively internal character. Such an institution possesses great advantages, constituting a safeguard and a protection of interests. I have great satisfaction in now opening this Council, and thank Providence for having permitted me to perform so solemn an act. I confide in your wisdom and in your patriotic sentiments. May God assist our efforts. In Him let us place our trust."

CAIRO, Nov. 17.—Col. Stanton has arranged with the Egyptian Government for the exclusive passage through Egypt of the English troops going to and coming from India.

The Assembly of the Council of the Representative will be presided over by Rarbeh Pasha. Among the elected representatives are six Cophtes.

ITALY.

A dispatch from Florence says: After the examination of Admiral Persano before the commission of the Senate, the accused was placed under arrest and confined in the Senate House.

ROME.

On the 16th the Pope gave a farewell dinner to the officers of the French troops about to quit Rome. The evacuation was going forward.

The Paris *Patrie* says the scheme which is being concerted between the Catholic powers has no political meaning; it is simply an arrangement by which the Catholic Governments would contribute to the Pope's civil list.

GERMANY.

The new Parliament will be named Reichstag (Diet of the Empire.) It is confirmed that it will be presided over by M. de Savigny, who will assume the title of Reichsminister.

The Plenipotentiaries who will form the conference to be opened on the 15th of December will number 22.

The elections for the Reichstag will take place during the second half of January.

PORTUGAL.

The Queen of Portugal is rapidly recovering.

There is some probability of an early modification of the Ministry.

The Queen of Spain is expected at Lisbon on the 14th of December.

CROATIA.

A telegram from Agram says: The Croatian Diet demands the abolition of the military frontier and the incorporation of Dalmatia with the Croatian kingdom. A committee of 12 has been appointed by the Diet to draw up a resolution based on the negotiations that have been taken place between the deputations of the Hungarian and Croatian Diets relative to the future relations between Hungary and Croatia.

PRUSSIA.

A dispatch from Berlin says: Count Bismark has arrived here. The state of his health is satisfactory, and he has resumed his official duties.

THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

The Governments of all the States belonging to the North German Confederation, with the exception of Hesse Darmstadt, have accepted the invitation addressed to them by Prussia to send representatives to the Ministerial Conference which will be held at Berlin.

INDIA.

Peace has been concluded between Russia and Bokhara. Disorder and anarchy prevail at Cabul. The famine continues in Orissa. The crops in Central India are promising. The Bombay markets are quiet. The public health is good. Cotton declining. Exchange on London, 2/0¾. Freights to Liverpool 17/6. Calcutta—Exchange on London, 2/0¾. Freights to England, 37/6.

NEW-ZEALAND.

The New-Zealand tariff has come into operation. The duties are heavy.

SOUTHERN STATES.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

NORTH CAROLINA.

A FREEDMAN WHIPPED—INTERFERENCE OF UNITED STATES OFFICERS.

RALEIGH, Dec. 20.—Col. Bomford, commanding the United States military forces in this State, interfered and prevented the Sheriff from inflicting corporal punishment on the person of a negro this morning.

Judge Daniel D. Fowle ordered the indictment of all the military officers who were concerned in that transaction. The negro was returned after receiving eight lashes. The soldiers left the ground. Indictments will be issued against the officers. The negro will be whipped to-morrow. Judge Fowle has called on the Governor to carry out the laws of the State.

WILMINGTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION—EXECUTION FOR ROBBERY.

WILMINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Municipal election passed off to-day amid great excitement, but without serious disturbance. John Dawson was elected Mayor by 95 majority.

Two negroes, convicted of highway robbery, will be executed to-morrow.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

REJECTION OF THE AMENDMENT IN THE LOWER HOUSE.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 20.—The House rejected the Constitutional Amendment by a vote of 95 against 1.

LOUISIANA.

GEN. SHERMAN AT NEW-ORLEANS — MAIL CARRIER ARRESTED—THE TEST OATH.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The following special dispatch has just been received at this Bureau:

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 20.—Gen. Sherman and staff arrived here this evening, and have rooms at the St. Louis Hotel. They left the Susquehanna at the mouth of the river. Minister Campbell parted with Gen. Sherman at Brazos, and thence returns to Matamoros. Gen. Sherman will remain here until he receives instructions from Washington. Several officers of the Susquehanna accompany the party to the city.

For some time past malifable matter of various kinds has been lost on the route leading from Canton, Miss., eastward. A rigid system of espionage was instituted, which has resulted in the arrest of a young man named Arthur Willbanks, mail carrier on the above route, who confessed his guilt. The robberies were effected by means of keys procurred from agents of the late Confederate States Post Office Departments.

The Hon. Reverdy Johnson telegraphs from Washington, Dec. 19, to *The New-Orleans Times*, that he hopes and believes that the test oath will be administered in the Supreme Court but a short time longer.

MISSISSIPPI.

NEW-ORLEANS, Thursday, Dec. 20, 1866.

The Clarion, the official paper of Mississippi, states that there are no laws in force in that State which prohibit freedmen acquiring real estate; but, on the contrary, they purchase, and the courts declare the purchases valid; nor are they prevented bearing arms, no license being required.

ARKANSAS.

REJECTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

The Senate Committee, in reporting a resolution to reject the amendment, submitted the following reasons:

First: That the State of Arkansas does not know that the amendment was adopted by a Congress such as is provided for by the Constitution, as nearly one-third the States were not represented therein when the amendment was passed.

Second: It never was submitted to the President for his sanction, as should have been, according to the very letter of the Constitution under which Congress exists, and which it has sought to amend.

Third: The enormous power sought to be conferred by giving authority to Congress to enforce the provisions of the amendment, would take from the States all control over local and domestic concerns, and virtually abolish the States.

Fourth: The second section seems to be an effort to force negro suffrage on the States, whether intended or not, and gives Congress the power to bring this about, whether the States consent or not.

Fifth: The third section, as an act of disfranchisement of the wisest and best citizens of the State, must be rejected. The people, having performed all the conditions of the surrender and general amnesty, are entitled to restoration to the Union, as before the war.

There is no reason to believe that the adoption of the amendment would secure restoration, and, if it would, they recommend a quiet and dignified course of endurance, rather than to purchase it at the sacrifice of principle, dignity, and self-respect.

TEXAS.

GALVESTON, Dec. 20.—Gen. Kiddoo of the Freedmen's Bureau, has announced his intention to furnish transportation to negroes from States where there is a superfluity of labor to those where it is scarce. He will extend unusual facilities to planters desiring laborers.

VIRGINIA.

THE CASE OF DR. WATSON.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 20.—In the case of Dr. Watson new writ of habeas corpus has been applied for to the Supreme Court of the United States.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

THE NEW-YORK ASSOCIATED PRESS SUSTAINED.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A meeting of publishers of daily papers receiving dispatches over the wires of the Illinois and Mississippi Telegraph Co., was held at the Briggs House to-day. Twenty newspapers were represented. Propositions were submitted by representatives of both the news agencies. The discussions were entirely harmonious, and after a free interchange of views, it was unanimously voted to take the dispatches of the New-York Associated Press and no others, provided arrangements not less satisfactory than those heretofore enjoyed could be made.

It was voted to organize a North-Western Associated Press, which should have its own agent in Chicago and should complete arrangements for the exchange of Western local news. A committee was appointed to secure a special charter from the Illinois Legislature.

The Hon. Horace Greeley addressed a large and enthusiastic audience at the Opera House to-night.

THE FENIANS.

THE TRIALS AT SWEETSBURG.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

SWEETSBURG, Dec. 20.—The Court met at 9:30. The trial of Thomas Madden continued. Several witnesses were examined to establish the general circumstances of the Fenian invasion, as was done yesterday.

Anthony Sewall, a constable, said he was told on the afternoon of the 9th of June that there were a number of Fenians at Eccle's house, which had been their headquarters; went there in a buggy with Ass Rykert and Levi Trevor; at Eccle's house saw a number of them armed with sabers, carbines and rifles; jumped out of the buggy; one of them asked, "where in hell are you going?" He pulled out his revolver and said that was where he was going; one of them brought his rifle up to present, and they both fired at the same moment; just then he observed the prisoner Madden, who was armed with a saber and carbine, having his carbine up at the present.

Mr. Devlin objected to any evidence of the prisoner's alleged complicity with the Fenians, because there was no overt act stated in the indictment. After lengthy arguments by counsel on this point the judge overruled the objection.

Sewall continued: Could not say whether the prisoner fired or not. Witness shot him in the side. The mouth of his revolver being within a few inches of him, prisoner ran across the road; witness shot him again hitting him in the back between the shoulders. A fourth shot missed fire; prisoner ran toward the woods; witness followed, but falling, dislocated his knee. Gave his revolver then to Rykert who brought the prisoner back; got him into the buggy and as they drove off, several of the Fenians fired after them. In driving to Pigeon Hill met the "Royal Guides" going to Eccles. While in the buggy prisoner asked him to throw him out into the ditch and let him die.

Cross-examined—While Sewall was firing, all who had guns were striking at him; prisoner did as the rest. A number of witnesses were examined and corroborated the above.

Mr. Devlin then argued to show that when the grand jury returned the indictment against Madden, they had found bills against the other prisoners, and could not therefore say that he joined himself to divers persons unknown. After a good deal of discussion by counsel on this point, the Judge said it was a question for the jury to determine, but indicated his opinion that when the grand jury knew the names of only a few of the 700 or 800 persons who entered the Province, the expression in the indictment was quite correct.

Mr. O'Halloran, Q. C. M. P. P., then addressed the jury for the prisoner. He dwelt strongly on the impropriety of invoking a law passed late on the 8th of June to punish a man, who was entirely ignorant of it, for what he was doing early on the morning of the 9th. Mr. Devlin also addressed the jury, making an eloquent and powerful appeal on behalf of his client. He denied that there was any evidence of the levying of war on the 9th. The party at Eccle's House when Sewall came up were selling and destroying their arms, and preparing to leave the Province. The invasion by the Fenians from the neighboring country was a matter which concerned the honor and dignity of the British nation, and the relations between the British Empire and the Government of the United States, and it was a paltry way of satisfying the national dignity, to sacrifice a few lads picked up after the invaders had left. At 6 o'clock the Court adjourned till 9½ o'clock to-morrow.

FENIAN MEETING IN NASHVILLE.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 20.—A large and enthusiastic Fenian meeting was held here to-night, and a Circle organized at this point, with an accession of 80 new members. Gen. O'Neill presided.

A CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR THE FENIAN PRISONERS.—The following appeal has been issued:

HEADQUARTERS FENIAN BROTHERHOOD, New-York, Dec. 14, 1866. No. 706 Broadway.

To the Irishmen and Women of New-York City:

There are 40 men in Toronto prisons accused of loving Ireland. They are treated with that inhuman butchery for which British civilizers and Toronto Christians hold special dispensations.

Two of these prisoners, Father McMahon and R. B. Lynch, are supplied with food from a charitable Orphan Asylum, the rest receive diet unfit for human beings, and are in rags, never supplied with prison clothing.

I desire to make the hearts of these brave men glad on next Christmas day, and, therefore, I call upon my countrymen and women of this city to send in, before Saturday next, donations for supplying them with a good Christmas dinner, and such necessaries as they may require hereafter.

In the late war the American people sought donations to send to their soldiers in the field. Can you do less for your soldiers in prison? We will send them donations of shirts, socks, pants, coats, or anything else that will comfort or cheer the poor prisoners in their lonely cells. Come forward, now, and let them see that they are not forgotten or neglected. Cheer the bitterness of their captivity with the sweet consolations of love and friendship. Your countryman,

WILLIAM R. ROBERTS, President F. B.

Donations for prisoners received only at No. 706 Broadway, second floor.

CONNECTICUT.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION CALLED.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

HARTFORD, Dec. 19.—The Democratic State Committee of Connecticut have called a State Convention of ten delegates from each town, to meet at New-Haven January 8, to consider the revolutionary acts of the present Radical Congress, and the propriety of recommending a National Convention with reference to the same subject.

CRIMES.

THE THIRTY-THIRD-ST. HOMICIDE.

CONCLUSION OF THE INVESTIGATION.

Yesterday morning, at Bellevue Hospital, Coroner Gamble continued the investigation into the causes which led to the death of Dr. Wm. R. Massey, who was fatally beaten on the afternoon of the 4th inst., by two unknown ruffians, in Thirty-third-st., near Lexington-ave. Several witnesses were examined, but their testimony merely corroborated in some respects that of previous witnesses, which has already been published in THE TRIBUNE. The case was then given to the jury, who rendered a verdict that the said William R. Massey came to his death by injuries received at the hands of two or more unknown men, on the night of the 4th day of December, 1866. We further recommend that the Mayor be requested to offer a suitable reward for the apprehension and prosecution of said inhuman assailants, in order that justice may be done.

THE OTERO MURDER.

TRIAL OF FRANCISCO VILA—FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

At 10 o'clock yesterday morning, the cross-examination of Edward Fau was continued; no new facts, however were elicited. Several other witnesses were examined, with regard to minor matters connected with the arrest of Gonzales and Pellicier. The opening for the defense was then made by Sydney V. Lorell, esq., and the first witness was called. The testimony adduced was for the purpose of rebutting the evidence given by Edward Fau, several witnesses swearing positively that assertions were made by him to the effect that he would cause Vila to be hanged, he having sworn on Wednesday that he had never said anything of the same purport. Other witnesses were also called by the prosecution, who, in turn, gave testimony rebutting that given by Elita Moran, one of the principal witnesses in opposition to Fau. At 4 o'clock in the evening the case closed, and the counsel will proceed with the summing up to-day, when the case will most likely be given to the jury.

THE CITY DEPARTMENTS

MR. GEORGE W. M'LEAN NOT YET QUALIFIED AS STREET COMMISSIONER—THE CROTON AQUEDUCT DEPARTMENT.

Up to a late hour yesterday afternoon, Mr. George W. McLean, recently confirmed by the Board of Aldermen as Street Commissioner, under the Mayor's nomination, had not taken the oath of office nor filed his sureties for the faithful fulfilment of the office aforesaid. Mr. McLean has been engaged for the last two or three days in a general inspection of the various bureaus of the Street Commissioner's Department. It is understood that the necessary qualifications for the office will be entered into to-day.

THE CROTON AQUEDUCT CONTROVERSY.

Matters in the Croton Aqueduct Department relating to the removal of Messrs. Stephens and Darragh remain at a standstill, and Messrs. Stephens and Darragh continue masters of the situation. Throughout yesterday the inner office of the Croton Board was carefully guarded by six or seven policemen, and the impression seemed to prevail that the difficulty could not be adjusted except by an appeal to the Courts. In the mean time, however, the machinery of the Department will continue to move as heretofore.

It is generally understood that Mr. John J. Bradly, the new appointee to the Presidency of the Croton Board, will, in a few days seek to establish his claim to the office by a resort to the courts of law.

THE WHISKY FRAUDS—DECISION IN THE "BURNING FLUID" CASE.—Commissioner Newton, at the United States Court, Brooklyn, yesterday morning rendered his decision in the case of the United States agt. Angus, Roehme, Rowe and Schwabins, who were accused of distilling spirits under the name of "burning fluid," and thus defrauding the Internal Revenue Department. The decision was as follows: First—That the article produced by defendants in their distillery is not the article known to the law as "burning fluid." Second—That said article so produced was not and cannot be produced by distillation, but was produced by commingling a small per cent of turpentine with high wines. Third—That said defendants produced distilled spirits within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Law without paying the special tax as distillers thereon, and removed the same from their distillery to a place other than a bonded warehouse without paying the tax thereon as provided by law. In accordance with the above findings the defendants were held to await the action of the Grand Jury. The District-Attorney moved that the bail of the defendants be increased. Judge Bitteinhiser objected, and after some argument the Commissioner stated that he would fix the bail for the present at $20,000, and would hear any application from them for a decrease or from the Government for an increase of the amount. The bail had previously been merely nominal, and the surety had been shown to be an interested party; some change was therefore deemed necessary and it was made as stated.

SALES OF REAL ESTATE.—A. J. Bleecker, Son & Co., made the following sales of real estate at auction yesterday:

3d-ave.—1 Lot s. e. cor. 97th-st., 25.2x100	$1,100
3d-ave.—2 Lots adjoining, 25.2x100 ... each	2,250
3d-ave.—1 Lot adjoining, 25.2x100	2,375
44th-st.—2 Lots n. side No. 275 e. 3d-ave., 25x[illegible] ... }	3,200
45th-st.—2 Lots n. side No. 275 e. 3d-ave., 25x[illegible] ... }	
3d-ave.—3 Lots w. side 2d-st., 111th-st., 25.2x100 each	3,325
97th-st.—6 Lots s. side No. 200 e. 10th-ave., 25x100.11. each	1,200
100th-st.—1 Lot n. side No. 320 e. 5th-ave., 25x[illegible]	1,900
110th-st.—1 Lot adjoining, 25x[illegible]	2,000
111th-st.—1 Lot s. side No. 290 e. 5th-ave., 22.2x120	1,075
111th-st.—1 Lot adjoining, 5.7 and 40.8x[illegible] bl.	1,075
111th-st.—3 Lots adjoining, 25x[illegible] ... each	1,275
123d-st.—4 Lots n. side No. 175 e. 10th-ave., 25x100 each	925

DECISION OF JUDGE GILBERT IN REFERENCE TO A MANDAMUS AGAINST THE COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS.—Judge Gilbert of the Supreme Court yesterday gave a decision in reference to the application for a writ of mandamus to compel the Kings County Board of Canvassers to show cause why they should not give a certificate of election to Henry Corr, as Superintendent of the Poor in the IInd District. The ground of the Board's refusal was that *there was no contest*, and consequently could be no legal election. His Honor the Mayor refused to grant the writ, on the ground that it would be unavailing, and sustained his opinion by numerous quotations from recognized legal authorities.

THE STATE OF TRADE.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

OSWEGO, Dec. 20.—Flour is in active demand for the interior, Southern and Eastern trade; sales 1,200 bbls. at $11 75 for City brands from No. 1 Spring; $13 50@$15 75 from Red Winter; $15 from White, and $15 50@$15 75 for Double Extra from prime White Wheat. Rye Flour dull; sales at $6 50. Wheat quiet; sales 1,440 bush. No. 2 Milwaukee Club on private terms. Corn unchanged; sales 800 bush. No. 1 Illinois at $1 12 delivered to cars. Barley, Rye and Peas nominal. Shorts, @$20@$21; Shipstuff, @$22@$27; Middlings, $23@$25 per ton, delivered to cars. Railroad Freights on Flour to Boston, $1; to New-York, 80c.; to Albany, 80c.

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