The Sun.

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR. NEW YORK, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1871. PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE WORST THING YET!

GRANT A PARTNER WITH SCHENCK, SIEWARD & CO. IN THE LITTLE EMMA SPECULATION.

The History of the Utah Ring—Ben. Butler and Useless S. Grant in It—How the Mormons Defeated their Conspiracy—Discovery of the Little Emma Mine—Disputes Concerning the Same—The Settlement—Schenck Gets a Large Lot of the Stock—And Goes to London with Grant's Special Friends to Sell the British.

Correspondence of The Sun.

BOSTON, Dec. 2.—I want to tell you the story of the Little Emma Mine. It is a charming story, and in the hands of an accomplished penman would read like a romance. But I am not an accomplished penman; I am only a returned Californian out of pocket, out of health, and out of sorts generally. But I know all about the Little Emma Mine, and if you care for the naked facts they are at your service.

Along about the time an infatuated people made Useless S. Grant President, the discovery was made and reached certain sharp, shrewd, unprincipled men, that the Territory of Utah, where the few saints with many wives most do congregate, was very rich in mineral resources, and that gold and silver—especially the latter—did abound in large quantities. This important fact had long been known to the bloody Mormons. But that strange people, fearing the strangers such discoveries would bring in on them, kept the secret of their mines and mineral wealth to themselves.

As I said, however, it leaked out through the Gentiles in the Territory, and being conveyed to Washington, gave birth to a Ring. A Ring is the result of all modern discoveries having money in them. This Ring had at its head the famous Ben Butler—for Rings of this sort differ from all other circles, metallic or otherwise, in having a head and a tail. At the head of this stood Ben Butler, who managed, and plotted, and intrigued, while at the tail was Useless S. Grant, whose principal business was to obey orders and pocket the proceeds. The plan proposed by Benjamin was to persecute the stupid and bigoted Mormons until that bigamous people would rise up in revolt and give the tail of the Ring the right to order in his troops, drive out the rebels and so get possession of the mines. This, it was argued, the people of the United States would sustain upon the ground of its high morality, the Mormons being unpopular on account of their practice of polygamy, which the first National Convention of Republicans had pronounced a twin relic of barbarism, to be exterminated along with slavery. To this end Wilse Shaffer, formerly Ben Butler's confidential agent in New Orleans, was appointed Governor of Utah, and the other positions filled so as to make perfect what Gen. Grant considered the Governor's Staff—that is, the officers of the judiciary.

The programme gotten up in this way did not work smoothly. The Mormons, prosecuted under a violent construction of a territorial law, were first sent before a grand jury of Mormons, who declined to find bills of indictment; and if indicted, they would go before a petit jury made of the same material. To remedy this trouble, the judges boldly determined to rule out all Mormons—in a word, to pack both grand and petit juries. The question was put as a challenge, not did the proposed juror practise polygamy, but did he believe in the doctrine—thus making one's abstract opinions a sort of qualification. The press of the United States hastened to sustain this extraordinary violation of legal rights and the Government at Washington gave it an unqualified support.

The Mormons were indicted, tried, and sentenced to hard labor in the penitentiary. And yet the scheme proved a failure. It was hoped that the misguided followers of a sham prophet would rise up and resist this persecution. In anticipation of such rebellion troops were massed in the neighborhood of Salt Lake City, to the loss of the Indian-threatened frontier and the turbulent South. But to the astonishment and chagrin of the conspirators, the mean-spirited Mormons declined the fight and humbly submitted to the punishment.

The fact is, these Mormons have changed greatly since the day when, in the face of such persecution, they did resist, and finding resistance in vain, gathered up their household gods and made a pilgrimage through a vast wilderness, which remains almost without a parallel in history for hardy devotion and bigoted courage. Since then they have waxed rich and prosperous, and with these riches has grown up a love for worldlings inconsistent with the saintly profession of martyrs. They will not "pilgrimate" again. As their famous leader Brigham Young says, "they came to stay," and so there was no fight, no war. The troops hung idling in sight of the wicked city while the conspirators looked at each other as if they felt themselves ridiculous.

In the meantime one Bolivar Butler, a hickory Mormon, who devoted more of his intellect and zeal to accumulating the world's goods to be found in mines than to a title to a mansion in the skies, if that mansion was to be run by a quantity of thin bodied and sad-eyed wives, stumbled upon the Little Emma Mine. He investigated, did Bolivar, that rich deposit of silver, and said, "Here's my mine, but where's my money to run it?" And forthwith Bolivar went off in search of a capitalist. He found that article in one Warren Hussey, who, without loss of time, paid or agreed to pay one hundred thousand dollars in six months for the mine, if it proved to be anything like what Bolivar represented. He never did pay the hundred thousand, for his agents went out to open the rich deposit, sent him five hundred thousand dollars in ore, and Hussey found himself a double millionaire.

But nothing of value, save heaven, can be found on the Pacific slope that a dozen, yea hundreds of hungry people do not start up and claim it on the ground of original grant, original discovery, or some other equally plausible, equitable, and legal ground. Hussey found himself confronted by the Walkers (called in Utah the Walker boys), who claimed to be the original owners, and divers and sundry others with all sorts of claims, and the Department of the Interior refused to grant such a disputed patent. The Department of the Interior is a very cautious Department indeed. It never issues a patent until one of its own officials is ready to certify that it is all right. And this is proper. How can a Secretary of the Interior know, until one of his trusted agents certifies, and if necessary swears? And so Hussey found himself possessed of the Little Emma Mine and a handsome lawsuit.

The parties went into the courts of Utah, and Hussey, Stewart and Noe, both men of money, now found themselves face to face as attorneys for conflicting claimants. And then occurred a grave difficulty. Each party felt sure of his case, and each party was willing to submit it to a Mormon jury. Those stupid bigamists, through orders from the Lord, have a strange regard for an oath, so strange that one can trust his life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness to their care if he can trust their sense. But these backwoods knaves of rowdy adventurers, who had as much regard for an oath as a purse, looking on both as something to be broken, or cut, could not be trusted, and so the Judges were earnestly solicited to set aside the theological trials and let the claimants have a Mormon jury to try the more important matter of property in the Little Emma.

The Judges declined. Sensible men. They had an eye on Little Emma themselves or some of her rich deposits, and preferred their Gentile juries.

In the meantime all sorts of writs flew about, until Senator Stewart flew into a rage and preferred charges against the Judges. I saw a copy of these charges, and if one half are true these learned luminaries of the law ought to be breaking stone at this time and for some time to come.

Not only this, but failing to soften the hard hearts of the Judges, the contestants agreed to arbitrate. A bond was entered into, agreeing to submit the issue to one Curtis of this place (Boston), and to pay his expenses and a hundred thousand dollars in gold if he would go to Salt Lake and try this case.

While awaiting a response a few events served to change the current of affairs and put an end to litigation. A new claimant, "which his name is Lyons," appeared with a case that looked as if, like the rod of the prophet, it would turn to a serpent in the hands of the Judge, and swallow up both the other parties. It was believed that this was the Court's plaintiff, and no end of trouble was anticipated. It was suggested that the original parties should coalesce and take in the presidential Ring of Washington and so secure the patent.

This was done. The patent was secured. The Judges were admonished to let Little Emma alone, and the hot litigants, now happy, proceeded to realize.

And here is where diplomacy comes in. The Little Emma Mine was found to be rich beyond hope. The yield was counted at a million a year. It was the richest mine in the world. But there was one painful doubt. Experts learned in such matters, after a painful investigation, said this yield might continue a few years—it might continue a few months. The happy thought was suggested of organizing a company and selling its shares in Europe. To this end Robert C. Schenck, Envoy and Plenipotentiary, was present d some of the stock—some say fifty thousand, some a hundred thousand, and he and Senator Stewart and the Hon. Ed. Cook, Governor of Montana, all went to Europe to bull the stock of the Emma Company; and this is what they are now at, with the sanction of the President, who cannot see why a Minister Plenipotentiary may not hold stock in a silver mine and bull the same in Europe any more than he, the President—nor can I.

And this is the true story of the Little Emma Mine. Let it be recorded. POLTE.

AMUSEMENTS.

Grand Opera House—Three Guardsmen.

It would be difficult for any actor, except one of the highest rank, to satisfactorily represent the character of *D'Artagnan* as he appears in Dumas's series of superb novels, beginning with "The Three Guardsmen" and ending with "The Iron Mask." If that mercurial, wary, brave, adventurous Gascon was not a gentleman like his refined comrades of Treville's guards—*Athos* and *Porthos*, he was, to say the least, something better than a low comedian—robustious skipper-about and a persistent winker at those who were fortunate enough to be spectators of the deeds of derring-do. And when we say that Mr. Frank Mayo's ideal *D'Artagnan* was such a character, it may be inferred that Dumas could not have experienced anything but pleasure at witnessing the performance at the Grand Opera House last evening when the play in question was at its zenith. Mr. Mayo was warmly greeted in the most enthusiastic manner, and his numerous pistol shots sound their echoes away up under the eave. in the vociferous plaudits of the gods who there do congregate. He was also called before the curtain at the end of the second and third acts.

Hamlet at Booth's.

Mr. Booth's reappearance at his own theatre and in a character with which his name has now become so closely associated as *Hamlet*, claims to be considered the important event of the dramatic season. However frequently he may assume or lay aside the robes of the melancholy Dane, there is in each such return to the character an essential interest, heightened on each successive occasion by the way with which the critical spectator watches the modification enjoined by later study and riper thought.

Mr. Booth's delineation, as seen last night, has undergone considerable tempering and chastening from that of earlier years. It is, indeed, our fancy deems it, less Conglian, but yet passionate, more quiet and level in delivery, and action—less marked by sudden bursts of fury and spasmatic energy. With his central conception of the part, as with his elaboration in all main features, the most fastidious critic can find no room for cavil, and the correctness of the general plan is supplemented and developed by the sympathetic music of his voice and his singular grace and capacity in attitude and movement. Yet a fastidious ear can detect in his readings many relics of early control which, in his judgment, have been abandoned, and which only the iron force of early habit can fully expel. Such instances are not exceptional, but are scattered indeed through the text; and it is no little surprising to hear an artist of Mr. Booth's real power and taste sinking back so frequently into the cheap and illogical devices of the most traditional declamation. We are not quite resigned to his somewhat over-emphasized action and manner in the earlier scene of learning of the *Ghost's* appearance, and equally little to what appears to us the cardinal fault—a shade of tameness in the famous speech:

> Oh what a rogue and peasant slave am I!

which had not the bitter wrath and self-contempt we could hope to see. Mr. Booth, too, occasionally makes false points or rather loses points which might and should be made, as for instance where, in the closet scene, he draws his sword and rushes at his uncle, crying, "And now I'll do't, and so he goes to heaven!" as if that were the especial end he had in view, not pausing in perplexity and hesitation till *after* the last words quoted, instead of before them.

But all deductions made for faults of detail, Mr. Booth's *Hamlet* is still what it has been for years, the most perfect and thoroughly satisfying bit of dramatic work to be seen on this side of the water, and probably in England either. The setting of the play, it is hardly necessary to add, was in harmony with the dramatic rank of the work, as with Mr. Booth's undisputed preeminence in his art. The dresses, however, were in some instances a little more carefully realized than the scenery, and we occasionally hear a faint murmur of surprise that such very snaggy Norsemen should be so luxuriantly lodged. The supporting cast in no instance rose above mediocrity, and was often perceptibly below it; but we are so used, by a sad tradition,

> "More honored in the breach than the observance,"

to see the rest of the play sacrificed to the one part of *Hamlet*, that we note the circumstance more as a matter of routine than as calling for special comment.

Wanted, a Brown Stone House.

John C. Carpenter was married in August, 1868. For eight months the couple boarded at the house of her mother, in this city. Then he went to live at another place, for the reason, as he now alleges, that he discovered that his mother-in-law imported herself with doubtful propriety, and that her associations were not the most reputable. He sought to have his wife leave her mother, he says, and live with him at the place he had provided for her. She refused, because he didn't have the means to support her as she wanted; if he would provide a brown-stone house and two servants she would live with him. She sued in the Common Pleas for a limited divorce, on the ground of cruel treatment, but soon after abandoned it, and instituted proceedings in a Police Court, wherein it was decreed that the husband should pay her $5 a week. Carpenter has now sued his wife for a divorce, charging her with improper intimacy with other men. This she denies, and claims that in many instances for the past three years he has been unfaithful to his marriage vows. The case was recently argued before Referee [illegible] Carpenter for alimony and allowance for counsel fees pending the litigation. Decision reserved.

Animals for Barnum.

Yesterday a cargo of rare animals and birds arrived from Europe for Barnum. Among them are a monster black rhinoceros, a Malayan tapir, a pair of royal Babylonian lions, a horned horse from Tartary, a pair of South African ostriches, an Asiatic yak, two Japanese hogs, a den of monster reptiles, and a large number of minor animals, which are to be added to unnumbered caravan already quartered at the rink. Verily, Mr Barnum is in for a zoological institute in earnest.

LIFE IN WASHINGTON CITY.

THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL DEBATING SOCIETY.

Speaker Blaine's Committees—A Victory for Free Trade in the Make-up of the Ways and Means—The Senate Caucus to be Held on Wednesday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The announcement of the House Committees has given more than satisfaction. The great bone of contention was the Ways and Means Committee, and victory perches upon the banner of free trade. The Protectionists wanted Judge Kelley for chairman, the revenue reformers, so called, wanted Gen. Garfield. To get rid of them both, the Speaker appointed Mr. Dawes, who is not for free trade nor for the present tariff. He has always voted to put coal on the free list and to cut down the rates on iron and steel. Burchard and Finkelnburg are virtually freetraders, while Beck, Brooks, and Kean are the ablest champions of free trade in the House. They are opposed to even incidental protection. Roberts is for a tariff for revenue, and doesn't think we want much revenue. Maynard and Kelley are really the only protective tariff men on the Committee who are informed on the details of the tariff in all its bearings.

Mr. Dawes says he has had a barren sceptre placed in his hands, that there are five men of the Committee who can and will vote down any policy he desires to pursue. The fact is, the West has been studiously made to believe free trade, and so nearly three fourths of the members are free-traders, and so the tariff will have to be shorn. The manufacturing interests of the country have allowed Congress to pass into the hands of men indifferent to them, and they will now have plenty of leisure to review the situation. On coal the Committee stands five to two in favor of putting it on the tariff list. There is a majority for cutting pig iron down to $5 per ton and other things in proportion.

The final shake-up of the committees gave Gen Cobourn of Indiana the Chairmanship of the Military Committee, which Butler was looked for yesterday. This gives satisfaction to everybody but Butler. Coburn has always had the entire confidence of Vice President Wilson, who is himself in his place as head of the Committee on Commerce, as he had not the strength to undergo the labor of the Ways and Means. Blair will prove a conservative man at the front of the legion of claims which annually delude Congress.

Garfield is popular among the Departments. They want lots of money, and he will not be able to cut down the appropriations as low as Mr. Dawes, though his Committee is very conservative. He is not satisfied with protection; he wanted to remain on the Way and Means. The Postal Committee under Myers is a sober one; than the last, and the Judiciary is probably equal to any of its predecessors. The Postal Committee has a majority of old members, and begins its work to-morrow by taking up Farnsworth's Codification of the Postal Laws.

The Senate caucus is to be held on Wednesday. An effort is being made to postpone it, and let the committees stand as set up last Spring. This is done to prevent Mr. Sumner's friends making a direct issue for his restoration. As soon as a vote is reached on the question of electing a new Sergeant-at-Arms, A. H. Byington of Kentucky will be chosen by a large majority.

The recommendations to embark the Government in the telegraph business on a mammoth scale regardless of cost falls flat in Congress, and will probably die without a struggle.

Beginning the Routine Business.

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.

The Senate met at noon, with nearly a full attendance of Senators and well-filled galleries.

Mr. SUMNER (Rep., Mass.) presented petitions asking the passage of his Civil Rights Bill.

Mr. FENTON (Rep., N. Y.) asked leave to present the petition of Gen. Pleasonton, being, as he stated, somewhat in the nature of an appeal from the action of the President in suspending him. Mr. FENTON said he offered the petition by request, without expressing opinion as to its merits. Subsequently, on the suggestion that the matter belonged to the secret session, he withdrew the petition.

Mr. EDMUNDS (Rep., Vt.) introduced a bill to reform the civil service (Mr. Jencks's old bill).

SUBSTITUTE FOR LEGAL TENDER NOTES.

Mr. SUMNER introduced a bill to authorize compound interest notes as a substitute for legal tender notes to the amount of $10,000,000, to be convertible at the option of the holders at the end of two years into bonds of the United States not having less than one nor more than forty years to run, and bearing interest at the rate of five per cent. Whenever these notes or the bonds into which they may be converted can be sold at par in gold, the Secretary of the Treasury may sell them in such sums as may be deemed for the interest of the public, and apply the proceeds in gold to cancel the legal tender notes so they are paid into the Treasury.

Mr SUMNER—Compound interest notes have been already tried, so that their operation is known. It is their peculiar quality that at the time of issue they enter into the national currency as a very large part of the active circulation; but as the interest accumulates they are gradually withdrawn and held as securities so long as there is little appreciable accumulation of interest. These notes pass from hand to hand as ordinary greenbacks, but they increase with their increase in value. Now if there are made a substitute for greenbacks, the currency is gradually contracted according to the laws of trade until it is on a par with gold, and we arrive at specie payments. Until this is established

THE NATION IS BANKRUPT,

and its outstanding notes are no better than fallen paper. Beyond the stigma inflicted by this condition there is a derangement of affairs and consequent embarrassment in commercial relations abroad. Our business is out of gear with the business of the world, while at home a vicious speculation runs riot. This has been allowed to go on too long. During the war it could not have been prevented, but it should have ceased with the war. The suspension of specie payments was a war measure, like the suspension of the *habeas corpus* or the draft, and like those it should have discontinued at once. So long as it is allowed to prevail we have a war measure projected into a period of peace, and as such it is out of place and out of season. I am not insensible to the credit obtained by a swift payment of the national debt, but this is superficial only. It does not enable us to refund our debt without extraordinary and abnormal effort. Let there be specie payments and the debt will refund itself. The payment of the national debt is a leading in our path; but instead of taxing our people for the sake of this leather, I would reduce taxes and apply the irresistible energies of the Government to make paper equal to coin. Here is another equality before the law which I would establish.

The bill was tabled.

RELIEF FOR THE CHICAGO SUFFERERS.

Mr. LOGAN (Rep., Ill.) introduced a bill to provide for the relief of sufferers by the fire of Chicago; providing for the free importation of goods and merchandise contributed in foreign countries for the relief of Chicago sufferers, when consigned to the proper authorities for distribution; providing, also, for the payment of a drawback of the import duties on all materials to be actually used in buildings erected on the ground burned over by the fire of Oct. 9, if the said materials shall have been erected within one year from said date of the fire; and suspending the collection of internal revenue taxes until the close of the next regular session of Congress in favor of such persons owning property in said city of the internal revenue district of Illinois as have suffered material loss by said fire. Laid on the table.

Mr. BLAIR (Dem., Mo.) offered resolutions in reference to the President's declaration of martial law in South Carolina, but subsequently he moved to lay the House resolution offered by Mr. Campbell of Ohio.

The President's Message was then received and read and ordered printed.

The Senate then adjourned.

House of Representatives.

The House of Representatives was called to order at noon by the Speaker, Mr. BLAINE, in the presence of a very large assemblage of spectators.

The roll call showed that there were two hundred and one members present.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Garfield, Blair of Michigan, and Cox, was appointed to join a like committee on the part of the Senate, to wait on the President and inform him that both Houses were in session, and ready to receive any communication he might have to make.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

The SPEAKER announced the standing committees (printed on the third page of this morning's SUN).

ARRAIGNMENT OF THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. BECK (Dem., Ky.) asked leave to offer a resolution requesting the President to inform the House under what provision of the law of the 26th of April, 1871, or under what other law, he has caused the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of South Carolina to be set aside, and martial law declared, and the writ of *habeas corpus* suspended in the counties of Spartanburg, Union, and other counties in South Carolina, whereby the Courts and civil authorities are unable to afford protection to the lives, liberties, and rights of the people thereof, and whereby all of those are left to the mercies of such military subordinates as he has seen or may see fit to place over them. Also requested the President to lay

before the House all the acts of insurrection, resistance or opposition to the laws of the United States committed in each of such counties at any time from the 26th of April, 1871, up to the date of his proclamation of martial law, and the names of all citizens arrested or imprisoned under the authority of such proclamation with the specific offences charged against them; also to give the House full information as to all the statements of facts on which the act of issuing the proclamation was based, in order that the House may determine what steps are necessary to restore to the citizens of such counties, especially those not guilty of offences against the United States, equal protection of the laws.

Mr. DAWES (Rep., Mass.) objected to the introduction of the resolution.

Mr. BECK moved to suspend the rules, in order that the resolution might be offered.

The Speaker decided the motion out of order.

Mr. BUTLER (Rep., Mass.)—Is there any objection to its being referred?

Mr. DAWES—I do not object to its being referred.

The resolution was then, on motion of Mr. Maynard, referred to the Committee on Insurrectionary States.

THE NEW MEMBERS.

In addition to the members who were sworn in at the last session, the following named appeared and took the oath of office: Messrs. Kellogg of Connecticut, Houghton, Sargent, and Coughlan of California, Knapp and Beveridge of Illinois, Foster of Michigan, and Convor and Hancock of Texas. This made the number of members who took their seats to-day two hundred and ten. The credentials of Messrs. Herndon and Clark of Texas were referred to the Committee on Elections.

In addition to the delegates who were sworn in at last session, Messrs. Chapman for the District of Columbia and Clagett from Montana appeared and took the oath of office.

Mr. STEVENSON of Ohio asked leave to offer a resolution calling on the President for information as to the security of life, person, and property in the State of Kentucky.

Mr. BUTLER of Massachusetts objected.

The resolution was then referred to the Committee on Insurrectionary States.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Several bills were introduced and referred, including the following:

By Mr. KETCHAM (Rep., N. Y.)—To repeal the income tax.

By Mr. DUELL (Rep., N. Y.)—Bill granting lands to soldiers and sailors of the late war, their widows and children.

By Mr. LYNCH (Rep., Me.)—To revive the navigation and commerce interests of the United States; providing for the admission free of duty of all shipbuilding materials, and for the use of ship stores and coal free of duty; also, to provide for the resumption of specie payment.

TAXATION AND TARIFF.

Mr. CAMPBELL (Dem., Ohio), offered the following, which were referred to the Ways and Means:

Resolved, That, with a view to establish a more equitable system of taxation and a greater economy in the collection of internal revenue, the Constitution of the United States should be so amended as that all direct taxes shall be assessed on the basis of wealth instead of population, and the amount required by the Federal Government apportioned among the States accordingly, and that Congress be empowered to levy and pay over the amount so required of it through its own officers, in such manner as the State authorities may see fit to adopt.

Resolved further, That in the readjustment of the tariff with a view as well to equalize its burdens and its benefits among all classes of the people as to simplify and give permanence and stability to the system, and to reduce the expenses of collecting the customs, a bill should be reported providing,

First—That no specific rate of duty shall be imposed upon all duty paying articles imported, thereby giving to every department of American labor an equality of protection to the extent of the duty.

Second—A schedule of articles specifically named to be free from duties, consisting exclusively of such foreign products as cannot be profitably produced in the United States, and are necessary for the success of American industry.

Third—The specification of a gross or standard sum deemed necessary to be raised annually by the Treasury when at the end of any fiscal year it shall be found that the gross receipts are ten millions of dollars less than said standard amount, to increase the duties on all dutiable articles ten per cent. above the estimated necessary to raise the amount to such standard sum; and when at the expiration of any fiscal year it shall be found that the gross receipts are ten millions of dollars more than such standard amount, he shall in like manner cause the duties on all dutiable articles to be reduced such per cent. as may be estimated necessary to bring down the actual receipts to the gross sum contemplated by this bill.

ARRAIGNING SECRETARY BOUTWELL.

Mr. COX (Dem., N. Y.) offered the following, which were referred to the Ways and Means:

Whereas, It is alleged that the Secretary of the Treasury, in placing the newly authorized five per cent. bonds upon the market, has, in defiance of the law creating the office, issued to public bondholders and has exceeded the one-half of one per cent. allowed by the Funding act for all expenses in placing said loan, therefore

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be directed to investigate the said transactions, and have power to send for persons and papers, and to report the amount of such increase of debt, if any, the agents employed and paid by him for the service rendered, all contracts pertaining to the same, and the sums paid said agents.

Mr. COX also introduced a bill to provide judicial proceedings in all cases of assessment and collection of Federal taxes, to prevent seizure of books, &c., and to abolish mobbes to informers.

The President's message was then read, and the House at 2:40 P. M. adjourned.

FOUR IMPORTANT ERRORS.

Not a Cold-Blooded Murder but an Effective Temperance Lecture.

Correspondence of The Sun.

SOUTH OYSTER BAY, Dec. 4.—The press has it that Joseph Griffith, of this place, was found murdered in a swamp on Friday last, a statement which, but for the four errors it contains, might be accepted as true.

A man was found dead here on Saturday, but his name was not Griffith. He had not been murdered, nor was his body found in a swamp.

On Thanksgiving Day Joseph Gritman, a man of about 40, who for several years has been in a condition of chronic drunkenness, indulged immoderately in Long Island rum. All night, after having spent several tipsy hours at the South Oyster Bay Hotel, he started for his father's house, about half a mile away, and was last seen alive at a late hour reeling and staggering along the road to the village.

He was missed on Friday, and search was made for him, but his whereabouts were not discovered until Saturday afternoon, when his dead body, frozen stiff and fast to the earth, was found in a clump of bushes not twenty rods from his father's house. His hat and shoes were by his side, and his body had been partly stripped off, an evidence that the poor wretch, stupid with liquor, had attempted to undress himself while laboring under the vague impression that he was in his room, and that the hard and thorny couch on which he lay was his own accustomed bed. He had no money when he left home, and the story of his having been robbed was an invention, as was also that of a sensation-loving scribe who announced that the corpse was pinned to the ground with stakes.

The Coroner empaneled a jury on Saturday night, an inquest was held, a sensible verdict rendered, and yesterday the remains of the victim of a base appetite were consigned to the earth.

Joseph Gritman was the eldest son of Simon T. Gritman, a boat builder of this place, now about 68 years old, but strong and active. For several years Joseph had been a drunkard, and on account of his continued dissipation his wife left him about a year ago, since which time he had lived with his father, doing little for his own support except occasionally catching and selling fish. His two brothers and two sisters are industrious and reputable residents of the village.

The Grand Duke's Reception in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—At 10 o'clock this morning the Grand Duke, with Minister Catacazy, Gen. Meade, and Admiral Turner, left the Continental Hotel in an open carriage drawn by four horses, amid the cheers of the thousands occupying every available point. The suite of the Grand Duke, with the members of the Committee of Arrangements, followed in other carriages. A brief visit was paid to Girard College, after which the cortege proceeded to the Park, and at the Belmont Mansion sat down to breakfast in the new dining hall just completed. It was beautifully decorated with shrubbery and bouquets. On the central, in front of the Grand Duke, was a gorgeous specimen of floral devices, blending the Russian flag with the American eagle. Toasts were drunk to the Czar of Russia, the President of the United States, and the Duke. The party then passed through the Park and reviewed the militia, and then visited the Navy Yard, where a salute was fired. In the evening a grand ball was given in the Academy of Music, the Duke appearing on the floor in company with Gen. Meade. Miss Meade, the General's daughter, was his first partner. A banquet was partaken of about midnight, after which dancing was resumed, and continued until a late hour.

A Mining Superintendent Assassinated.

MAUCH CHUNK, Pa., Dec. 4.—Morgan Powell, Assistant Superintendent of the Lehigh Company's mines at Summit Hill, near here, was shot by a disguised assassin about 7 o'clock on Saturday evening while quietly walking in the streets of that place. He made a dying statement yesterday that gives a clue to the murderer and may possibly lead to his apprehension. The victim died this morning. The excitement in the neighborhood is intense, and it is feared that other lives will be sacrificed unless arrests have been made, but it is not unlikely they are innocent, and the guilty have escaped, as is too often the case in these parts. The Company offers $1,000 reward for the arrest of the assassin or his accomplices.

An Armistice in the Bible War.

The remarks of Father Crimmins on Sunday morning have partially allayed the Long Island City Bible excitement. Patrick Hunt and Luke Clark were the only children expelled yesterday. Clark is a brother of the man who was arrested for threatening Mr. Siebert. Father McGlynn will address the people on the Bible in the schools on Sunday, the 17th. Until then no further demonstrations are apprehended. On Wednesday the persons who are under arrest for entering the school and threatening the teacher if he dared to read the Bible, are to be tried before Recorder Paresis.

THE SAVAGES OF HAVANA.

PARTICULARS OF THE ASSASSINATION OF THE STUDENTS.

The Delivery of the whole into the Hands of the Volunteers—Slow Torture in the Chain-Gang for those not Massacred—American Official Impotence in Havana.

Correspondence of The Sun.

HAVANA, Nov. 28.—I presume that by this time the brutal massacre of eight young students of medicine of the University has been telegraphed to you. As, however, the cable connecting this city with the United States, although nominally the property of an American, is for all practical purposes a Spanish instrument, the account of the disgraceful massacre of these young men will doubtless have been reported as the murderers chose.

The facts of the case are that on Thursday last, there being no lecture to the first class of the medical students, mostly young men under eighteen years of age, some of them went to the cemetery, and in a frolic—foolish, of course, and highly reprehensible—broke the glass of the niche of Gonzalo Castañon's grave. The fact got to the ears of the volunteers that evening, and a number at once went to verify the fact. On ascertaining that the report that the glass had been broken was correct, the rage of the volunteers, or their apparent rage, was fearful. They ran to their armories, got possession of their guns, and roamed about the city like wild beasts. Most of the houses were shut up, and the city appeared deserted by all except the volunteers.

GEN. CRESPO'S COWARDICE.

On Saturday, Acting Captain-General Crespo, after a visit to the Medical College, and after having failed to discover the perpetrators of the glass breaking enormity, arrested the whole class, composed of 46 young men.

On Sunday a review of the home guard—the volunteers—took place. Some 5,600 troops were on the ground, and as soon as they were dismissed they broke into shouts and yells demanding the heads of the desecrators of Castañon's grave. As the tumult increased in the evening, Gen. Crespo, who probably intended to have the offenders tried by a civil court, seeing the serious and alarming turn the matter had taken, bowed to the will of the volunteers, and consented to having the whole class tried by drumhead court martial. The concession was in reality a delivery of the whole class, which numbers among its members sons of

THE BEST FAMILIES IN THE PLACE,

to their deaths. I say advisedly the whole class; for although eight only have so far been executed, the thirty-two others are condemned to the chain gang for periods varying from two to ten years, and in their positions it will be impossible for these young men to survive the fatigue and tortures to which they will be submitted. The eight victims are in reality by far the most mercifully treated. The names of these latter are Alonzo Alvarez de la Campa, José M. Liera, Carlos Augusto Laterre, Eladio Gonzalez Toledo, Pascual Rodriguez, Anastasio Bermudez, Angel Laborde, and Carlos Verdugo.

The fathers of some of the above are Spaniards, and bitter enemies of the Cubans, the mothers are all Cubans, and all eight victims were born on the Island.

The papers of this city were absolutely so afraid of the ill will of these brutal volunteers that they united in a manifesto demanding the blood of the young men.

A FORETASTE OF CRUELTIES TO COME.

As a sample of what the treatment the thirty-six students may expect who were not condemned to death, and whose only offence seems to be that they belonged to the same class—forty-one of them did not even go to the cemetery—they were yesterday escorted, together with the eight condemned to death, to the place of execution, and there, in the garb of convicts, with their hair cropped, and with balls and chains on their feet, forced to witness the massacre of their classmates.

It is almost impossible for your readers to picture to themselves the actual condition of this city; but if they will imagine New York in the hands of the worst class of its municipal foes, and that they will figure to themselves those low scum of foreign birth organized into regiments with arms in their hands, a police composed of the same element, every civil court closed, and no other tribunals but drum-head court martials, composed of members of their own regiments as judges—men who know that not only their favor but their very safety depends upon sentencing to death every Cuban brought before them—they will have some vague idea of the reign of terror and mob law in which we live. How long the officers of the United States will tamely submit to such a state of things, commercially, should be given up as a prey to these wild beasts, remains to be seen.

WHAT OUR CONSUL CANNOT DO.

A great source of trouble comes from the fear or regard for material interests of the foreign consuls here, which prevents them from rendering to their respective governments a true picture of the situation. The British Consul is the only one here not engaged in business; for although Mr. Biddle, United States Consul-General, has no business, he has been absent many months from his post, and Mr. Hall, who during his absence has been acting Consul-General, is engaged in commercial pursuits in Havana. It is absolutely impossible for a consul who has any interest here, be it in property or business, to do his duty. Our own State Department must long ago have seen that no representative of the United States can be expected to be a man-of-war in port, dares to lift his voice against the volunteers.

THE EXILED AMERICAN CITIZEN.

Dr. Phillips, a dentist at Santiago, held a large amount of property there. He reported to the State Department facts, for the suppression of which he would justly have earned censure, and deserve to be recalled. For which offence he was ignominiously kicked out. Mr. Nennigen, an American citizen, and Swedish Consul-General, is exiled from this city without any charge brought, simply on suspicion of complicity in the revolution, and because he is a holder of property here which would be seized if he disobeyed, *and*, because he knows that the American Government will not protect him, sneaks away, and will probably repair to Spain, as he is bid, simply to avoid adding beggary to disgrace.

THE LAST MOVE IN THE FIELD.

Meanwhile the revolution proves itself at least as formidable in the field as over the sea. Ignacio Agramonte is again close up to Puerto Principe, and defeated a Spanish force under Col. Bengel on the 19th inst., at Bonora, about three miles from the city. The Spanish account of the affair, which is published in to-day's *Voz de Cuba*, is closed as a "misfortune," although, according to it, the patriots were completely routed. Another affair, which the Spaniards treat as an insignificant one, took place at Las Minas, on the railroad between Puerto Principe and Nuevitas; the Spanish account confesses the loss of one sergeant and six soldiers; but we happened close to the station, it proves how closely the line is besieged.

From the Eastern Department I have nothing to communicate. Spanish dominion has ceased there long ago, except in the seaports, and in these there now reported officially to be over 2,000 Spaniards sick and wounded in the hospitals. The columns of the papers of this city teem with ladies' letters accompanying presents of cases of lint and bandages, for which the doctors have so piteously appealed through the press.

The King of Pickpockets Sent to Sing Sing.

The only trial of note in the General Sessions yesterday was that of the notorious pickpocket, Gen. Abraham Greenthal. He was charged with robbing A. C. Taylor, a clerk of A. S. Barnes & Co., of $25.

The willy thief dodged into a store in John street, but was followed by Taylor, and the coin of money were picked up behind a box, where Greenthal had purposely dropped them.

Greenthal's counsel made no defence, hoping for a reversal of the verdict—if guilty—on a point of law, that Judge Bedford had no legal right to extend the term of his Court, and that the prisoner had the right to be tried by the panel of jurors summoned for December.

Greenthal was found "guilty." Judge Bedford asked him how many times he had been in State prison. "Only once," he said, "for a term of three years." The Judge said he ought to have been for a much longer time there, and added that it was an official gratification to put out of society a man who for years had so openly defied all law. "I send you to Sing Sing for five years."

The Accident to Brignoli, the Tenor.

Suit was instituted to recover damage for injuries sustained by Pasquale Brignoli, the tenor, while travelling on the Chicago and Great Eastern Railroad in May, 1867. The plaintiff, with the members of the Parola-Brignoli troupe, under Strakosh, were travelling from Chicago to Cincinnati on the defendants' railroad, and when near Logansport the car in which he was sitting was overturned; he was thrown on his side and his collar bone was broken. He was unable to appear in opera that season. The case was tried before Judge Lurremore, and the jury gave Brignoli $7,253.33. An appeal was taken and argued before the General Term some months ago, when the judgment was reversed, Justices [illegible] and [illegible] dissenting, on the ground that the plaintiff was not entitled to recover, because he was a passenger on a pass. Judge Davies and Judge Barnard were for affirming the judgment, and Judge Daly, the Chief Justice, dissenting.

Christopher Johnson's Surprise.

The ladies of the Eighth Ward surprised the Hon. Christopher Johnson last night. They visited his club rooms in Prince street, gave the members of the club a grand banquet, and danced with them until morning. Among those present were Mrs. R. S. Hudson, Miss Jennie Reed, Mrs Wm. Meighan, Miss Anna Woodcy, Mrs. John Van Buren, Mrs. David Parker, and the charming wife of Christopher Johnson. The club house was formerly the residence of Police Superintendent Jourdan.

THE BALTIMORE BORGIA IN COURT.

Mrs. Wharton Arraigned for the Poisoning of Ketchum and Van Ness—An Accomplished Woman in a Prisoner's Box—Another Spectacular Trial.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 4.—The trial of Mrs. E. G. Wharton, widow of the late Major Henry Wharton, U. S. A., indicted for the murder of Gen. Scott Ketchum by poison on June 24, 1871, in this city, was begun to-day in the Circuit Court of Anne Arundel county, sitting at Annapolis. The indictments against Mrs. Wharton were made on the 14th of August last. On the 6th of October she was brought before the Criminal Court of this city, when, without a formal arraignment, the case was removed to the Circuit Court at Annapolis for trial. The prisoner was removed from Baltimore city jail on Saturday last to Annapolis.

The indictment charging the murder of Gen. Ketchum contains four counts, alleging the administration of tartar emetic, tincture of yellow jasmine, and an unknown poison, at different times between the 21th and 28th of June last, in lemonade and other beverages. The indictment charging an attempt to poison Mr. Van Ness contains twelve counts, charging the administration of the same poisons at various times between the 19th and 28th of June.

Long before the assembling of the Court this morning, the court room was densely crowded, and the streets leading thereto were filled with spectators. At ten minutes past 10 o'clock, Mrs. Wharton arrived in