suggest, however, the latter course as being the better. The Western States offer abundant chances for labor of this kind. The Lancashire workmen can find plenty of occupation there, and the more of them that go the better. They can not only cultivate farms, but establish factories, thus rendering the immense water power of the West most profitable, and they may in time build up little Manchesters and Birminghams and Lowells all over the great West. This would be but developing still more forcibly the prediction of Bishop Berkely that "Westward the star of Empire"—and the loom—"takes its way."

THE SILLY RELIGIOUS PAPERS AND THE WAR.—One of the religious papers suggests that the war against slavery must be prolonged for forty years or more if necessary, like the old wars against Popery; but the silly writer forgets that the age of waging war for religious opinions or philosophical abstract ideas is past. The present war is not a war against slavery, nor will the people of the United States ever permit it to be. The silly writer also forgets that as we progress in the science of war, the increased destructiveness of the agencies employed, and the enormous expense attending a campaign, combine to render all wars upon a large scale necessarily short; and ours is upon the largest and most expensive scale known in history since the birth of Christ.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

The Bill to Promote the Comfort and Efficiency of the Union Armies.

THE ADJUDICATION OF PRIZE CASES, &c., &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22, 1863.

SENATOR WILSON'S BILL TO PROMOTE THE COMFORT AND EFFICIENCY OF THE UNION ARMIES.

The bill reported by Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, to promote the health, comfort and efficiency of the armies of the United States, provides:—

First—That the Medical Department shall unite with the line officers of the army in supervising the cooking within the same, as an important sanitary measure; and it shall promulgate to its officers such regulations and instructions as may tend to ensure the proper preparation of rations to the soldier.

Second—That cooks shall be detailed in turn from the privates of each company of troops in the service of the United States, at the rate of one cook for each company numbering less than thirty men; and two cooks for each company numbering over thirty men, who shall serve ten days each.

Third—That the President of the United States be and he is authorized to cause to be enlisted for each cook two under cooks, of African descent, who shall receive for their full compensation ten dollars per month, and one ration a day. Three dollars of the monthly pay may be taken in clothing.

Fourth—That the army ration shall hereafter include pepper in proportion to four ounces to every hundred rations, and tobacco be furnished the enlisted men by the commissary department at his cost, and be charged against their pay, under such regulations as the Secretary of War may adopt for that purpose.

Fifth—That hereafter all the nurses in general hospitals shall be employed by the authority of the Surgeon General, and hospital matrons shall receive $10 per month and one ration a day in kind, provided the washing of hospitals may be given out by contract at a price not to exceed the cost of the number of matrons authorized by the regulations.

Sixth—That all instructions, documents and papers relating to the procurement of bounty land and other bounties, pensions and orders of pay by or for officers, soldiers and seamen, or their legal representatives, who have been or may be in the service of the United States, be, and the same are hereby, exempt from tax duty.

A BUSY TIME IN CONGRESS.

The next nine days of Congress will be very busy. All the unfinished legislation of three sessions is to be brought up and disposed of. Fortunately, politics appear to have been laid aside, and every one has apparently acted down to actual work.

ANXIETY IN THE CASE OF GEN. M'DOWELL.

Some anxiety is experienced by the friends of General McDowell in reference to the decision of the court of inquiry into his case. The General himself, however, is confident that the verdict will vindicate his course.

VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. Usher, Secretary of the Interior, has gone to Philadelphia to participate in the ceremony of opening the new Post Office there.

PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY TO BE GAINED BY CONDUCT ON THE BATTLE FIELD.

There is much anxiety here in regard to the nominations for general officers. It is still believed that few if any will be made, but that officers will be left to earn promotions by gallantry in the field. A register is kept here upon which every gallant action is credited to each officer above the rank of captain.

THE PROMOTION OF COLONEL MULLIGAN.

Representative Arnold and Father Dunn, of Chicago, visited the President yesterday, and urged the promotion of Colonel Mulligan to a brigadier generalship. Father Dunn has aided in raising two regiments for the war.

CAPITALISTS ANXIOUS TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE BANKING LAW.

Capitalists seem likely to avail themselves promptly of the advantages of the new Banking law. An application for the organization of a banking association in this city, with a capital of $50,000, was filed in the Treasury Department on Saturday.

PRIZE CASES.

Secretary Welles of the Navy reports the following prize cases, as adjudicated, in which decrees have been made:—

	Cases.	Proceeds.
Boston	8	$205,649
New York	50	519,121
Philadelphia	29	357,212
Key West	34	931,729
Total	111	$2,013,702

There are many other cases yet to be decided in New York. The whole number was one hundred and eighteen.

THE SOLDIERS INCENSED IN REGARD TO THE RESTRICTIONS ON NEWSPAPERS.

Parties constantly arriving from the army in front of Fredericksburg state that the soldiers are highly incensed at the restrictions lately placed upon the sale of newspapers in the camps.

ARRIVAL OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS.

Twenty one Indians of the Chippewa tribe arrived here to-day upon business with the government. They have failed to agree with our treaty agents, and come here to treat directly with their Father Abram.

A CALL TO BE MADE FOR SIX OR EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN.

It is understood that as soon as the Conscription bill shall have passed the House, there will be a call made for six or eight hundred thousand men. It is expected that the soldiers whose term of service is about expiring will offer themselves as substitutes for unwilling conscripts.

INCREASE OF PRINTER'S WAGES IN WASHINGTON.

The Columbia Typographical Society of this city held a meeting last evening, at which they resolved to increase the wages of compositors from twelve to fourteen dollars a week.

THE TAX ON WHISKEY.

There is no increased tax on whiskey proposed in the amendments of the Committee of Ways and Means to the Taxbill. The tax on ale and beer, however, has been reduced to sixty cents per barrel until April 1, 1864. The page question will hereafter be considered by the committee.

THE NAVY.

Acting Assistant Surgeon William Wilson, Jr., has been ordered to the United States steamer Sumter.

City Intelligence.

INVESTIGATION RELATIVE TO THE CENTRAL PARK.—The Aldermanic Committee on Finance, composed of Aldermen Boole, Farley and Ottiwell, are to hold a special meeting at ten o'clock to-morrow morning in room No. 8 City Hall. It is expected that an investigation relative to Central Park matters will occupy the attention of the committee.

LECTURES ON POLITICAL ECONOMY.—A course of lectures on "Political Economy" is to be delivered in the large hall of the Union, Cooper Institute, by Mr. Simon Stern, under the auspices of the trustees of the Cooper Union. One of the lectures will take place this evening. Subject—"Exchange, Supply and Demand." The lecture on next Monday evening will be devoted to the consideration of the importance of true principles of finance, and the emission of private and governmental notes as substitutes for money.

Sailing of the North American.

PORTLAND, Feb. 22, 1863.

The North American sailed at three A. M.

OPERATIC AND THEATRICAL.

Musical.

The Maretzek opera troupe has safely arrived, and we may now look forward to a sustained season at our Academy of Music. Impressario Maretzek promises us novelties the most seductive, while his artists are well known to fame. If report speaks true, we are to have one of the finest operatic seasons New York has ever known. We sincerely hope that in this instance report is right, and shall await with anxiety the opportunity of hearing the splendid works announced. While making this promise, however, report has it that Manager Maretzek, who intends to conduct his enterprise on a magnificent scale, will increase the prices for reserved seats. We think this would be a mistake on the part of the management, not only as regards the feeling it would produce among the *habitues* of the Academy of Music, but also in its results as a speculation. The prices paid now are remunerative if the house is well filled, which it certainly will be if the performances are good. We understand the opera of "Norma" will open the season. In this *role* Medora, the prima donna, has won great applause in Havana, from an audience proverbially critical and hard to please. Manager Maretzek and his artists will find New York eager to patronize them. We may safely predict a most successful season, should the management prove as liberal as is expected. Good operas, well performed, with ample choruses and orchestra, and a careful *mise en scene*, will be sure to attract crowded houses. The taste for opera has grown in New York, and if properly catered for will surely make liberal returns.

This week closes the short but brilliant season which Manager Anschutz has carried through so valiantly with his German Opera troupe. In Brooklyn they have won green laurels and greenbacks, the artists gaining in reputation, and Manager Anschutz also, as he has proved that an operatic season may be given in the suburbs of our great city with immense success. He understood that in Brooklyn the musical taste ranged under high prices; so he gave the good people first class operas—cheap at the highest prices—for the low figure they appreciate. The result has been houses crammed to the dome with a highly pleased audience, and thus Manager Anschutz made the speculation pleasing and profitable to all parties. Next week the German Opera troupe goes to Philadelphia, where their previous season was an overwhelming success. Last evening the benefit of Mr. Joseph Noll took place. Its success was somewhat marred by the detestable weather. Next Friday evening the last performance will be given here prior to the departure of the troupe. We heartily commend Manager Anschutz to the Philadelphians.

The Bostonians are in ecstacies over their operatic season. They shower compliments upon Manager Grau, to say nothing of more substantial proofs of their satisfaction, while they rave about the artists in the most extraordinary manner. The critics of some of the journals are delighted beyond measure at the fine *toilettes* displayed at their opera house, and make so much fuss about fine bonnets, rich opera cloaks—which, with a true New England appreciation of the beautiful, they deem "costly"—as to make ways for a "guess" that Boston is not accustomed to making such a show of *toillette* as we are familiar with in Gotham. The butterfly and humming bird style of headdress cause one critic paroxysms of envy. He says "they flutter over so much beauty, taste and skill." We are sorry to add that the same critic accuses the ladies of being "fully sensible to the admiration they excited." They seem to have animated headdresses in Boston, to judge from the following phrase, indulged in by the same person:—"Among the audience last evening were several of the new headdresses, which attracted all eyes and excited various comments."

Our favorite artists—Signora Lorini, Miss Kellogg, Mlle. Morensi, Mlle. Cordier, Brignoli, Amodio, Maccaferri and Susini—are all praised in the warmest terms. Miss Kellogg, who opened the season, is pronounced "charming, delightful, an accomplished *artiste*"—in fact, she is established as a favorite. Of Signora Lorini, she is said "to have taken her place in the front rank of *prime donne*." Morensi has become a favorite "by her spirited and decided vocalization, as well as by her fine acting."

Signor Brignoli was ever a favorite in Boston, and continues to win from the *habitues* of the Academy of Music great applause. While mentioning this artist it may not be amiss to state that we have seen a signed engagement sent to him by Manager Gye, of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, London. The terms were £320 a month for the first season, £360 for the second, and £400 per month for the third—the artist to make his debut in "La Favorita" or "Trovatore" this spring, and to sing during the season with Adelina Patti. The engagement stated Signor Brignoli was to be the "Premier tenor absolu"—first tenor. This attempt to capture our favorite failed from the foresight of Manager Grau, who long since secured Brignoli for the year. We understand that next season Signor Brignoli will accept the engagement; in fact he has signified this to the English impressario, who will, no doubt, conclude the arrangement by return of post. The artist has, we think, lost a magnificent occasion to make his debut in Europe under the most advantageous circumstances. What is his loss, however, is Manager Grau's gain, and we do not doubt that the latter considers the matter fully compensated thus.

The other artists—Maccaferri, Amodio and Susini—get their full share of the praise bestowed by the Boston critics upon the troupe. In fact, Maccaferri seems to be vastly successful in Boston, where his Ernani, has been accepted as almost pleasing performance. We suppose the unprecedented success of Manager Grau's Boston season will induce him to prolong it indefinitely. The patronage bestowed upon his enterprise is on the increase, and he may well continue there for a month to come. "La Juive" is to be performed in Boston this week with great *eclat*.

A concert was given at Irving Hall on Saturday evening, which attracted the *elite* of New York society. It was an "amateur musical entertainment," under the direction of Signor Rondenella, for the benefit of Mr. W. H. Cooke. The ladies and gentlemen who sang deserve great praise for their performances, which reflect much credit upon their professor, Signor Rondenella, the popular *maitre de chant*, whose pupils they mostly are. The programme was most varied and attractive. Mr. S. B. Mills was the pianist upon this occasion. He began the evening's performance by a solo on the piano, a "Fantasia Rigoletto," composed by Liszt. Then Miss Reed, Mr. Cook and Mr. Nash sang a trio from "I due Foscari" in such style as to cause us to forget that amateurs, and not renowned artists, were being heard. After this a duetto from "Don Pasquale" was given by Miss Smith and Mr. Berry with great *ensemble*. The audience were excited to great applause, and a reiterated demand for an encore by Miss Reed's splendid rendition of the "Ah! Mon Fils." She substituted for the encore demanded the "Valse d'Abella." It now became evident, from the agitation displayed by the ladies, that something eagerly expected was to take place. The programme announced a trio from "Ernani," and Mrs. Ronalds was the soprano. This lady—the star of the evening—has won applause in the *salons* of London and Paris. Her voice is one which rivals that of artists well known to fame. In London she created a furor in the *beau monde* by singing duets with Lady Otley. In Paris she sang with great effect at the private concerts given by the Empress Eugenie. The lady's beauty and *recherche toilette* added to the effect produced by her admirable singing in the trio we are now referring to. In the second part of the programme there were gems which we have not space here to mention. Miss Smith sang with great purity and expression a canzonetta composed by Signor Rondenella. The duetto between Mrs. Ronalds and Mr. Cook, from the "Ballo," was admirably rendered. But the great success of the evening was the "Ah! non Credea," sung with such purity and effect by Mrs. Ronalds. It was tumultuously encored; but the lady gave instead the cavatina from the opera "I Lombardi." After this the trio from "Falstaff" by the three sopranos—Mrs. Ronalds, Miss Reed and Miss Smith—was received with shouts of applause. The ladies sang with all the *aplomb* of professionals, and were as merry and arch as was required. To sum up, we doubt whether a more pleasing or artistic concert was ever given within the Irving Hall.

Grafulla's eighth promenade concert took place at the Seventh Regiment Armory on Saturday evening, last, and was a great success, the large audience present applauding most heartily the fine music. The ninth concert will take place on Saturday, March 7.

Busch's "Stabat Mater Dolorosa," and four other compositions of his, will be given by the choir of St. Ann's church, Eighth street, near Broadway, under the direction of Mr. R. Gonzalez, on Friday evening, February 27, to commence at eight o'clock precisely. A choral force of twenty select voices will assist. The solo parts will be sung by Mlle. Salembier, soprano; Mrs. Hiffert, contralto; M. de la Perriere, tenore; Mr. Gonzalez, baritone. Madame Gonzalez, the organist of the church, will preside at the organ.

MINSTRELS.

Bryants' Minstrel Hall is nightly filled by crowds of laughter-loving people, who get ample return there for their patronage. We heartily commend the establishment to those fond of fun.

Of Wood's Hall the same may be said. Each night it is crowded to repletion. The programmes are varied, while the instrumental and vocal music is certainly superior.

Hooley's, at Brooklyn, continue their successful performances to crowded houses.

FOREIGN.

Adelina Patti has become more and more of a favorite in Paris. The director of the Italiens has taken advantage of this furor and doubled the prices of admission to the theatre. This, however, does not keep out the crowd, the house being filled each performance. The Emperor and Empress have taken the fair *artiste* under their especial patronage, and shower upon her presents of great value. It has become the rage in Paris to have Patti at private houses, where she sings for fabulous remuneration. The reports as to her marriage are unfounded.

Theatrical.

The theatrical event of the past week was the discontinuance of Mr Edwin Booth's engagement at the Winter Garden, in consequence of the severe illness of his wife, who died on Saturday last, at Dorchester, Mass. We gave an obituary notice of Mrs. Booth yesterday, and refer to the subject here only to set at rest the prevalent reports prejudicial to Mr. Booth's reputation as an actor. It is very true that Mr. Booth's performances during his recent engagement have been far below his usual standard; but this resulted from his anxiety in regard to his wife's illness, which completely prostrated his nervous system and even affected his mind. We cannot excuse the Winter Garden management for allowing Mr. Booth to appear under such circumstances. It would have been better to disappoint the public by closing the theatre, or substituting some other performance, than to place Mr. Booth upon the stage when he was really unfit to act, and thus injure his reputation and disgust the audiences, who were, of course, ignorant of the real cause of Mr. Booth's trouble. Seldom have we seen Shakspere so murdered as at the Winter Garden during the past two weeks; and now, that the truth is known, we hold the management, and not Mr. Booth, responsible for the nightly repetition of this crime.

For want of space we have hitherto refrained from noticing the benefits which have recently taken place. Mrs. Hoey's benefit at Wallack's last Tuesday was very successful. "The Magic Marriage" was the play. Mr. Charles Fisher, one of the best actors in the country, had a benefit at the same theatre on Saturday last. "The Captain of the Watch" and "Masks and Faces" were played for the first time at Wallack's. The house was immense. Mr. Fisher's Triplet, in "Masks and Faces," is famous, and the rest of the cast was unusually strong. This bill will be repeated on Thursday evening, when we shall notice the performance more at length. On Friday evening Mr. G. L. Fox took a benefit at the Old Bowery, and closed his engagement on Saturday. Miss Bateman had a farewell benefit at Niblo's Garden on Saturday last, and will retire for a while to recover from her present illness. The Bateman, Wallack and Adams combination has been broken up, Mr. J. W. Wallack, Jr., having withdrawn from the concern. He was the strength of the combination, and has few equals as a melodramatic actor. The benefits at Wallack's theatre will be continued this week, Miss Mary Gannon's being announced for Tuesday. We trust this favorite, merry little actress, confessedly the first in her line, will have fair weather this year. Only a tremendous storm will prevent the public overcrowding the theatre on Tuesday to testify their appreciation of her talents. "The Little Treasure" and "Ernestine" will be performed for her benefit.

This evening Mr. E. G. P. Wilkins' charming comedy, "Henriette," will be repeated at Wallack's. This comedy has been most successful, and is now unanimously approved by the press and public. On Wednesday the French melodrama, "Pauline," will be performed for the last time. The remainder of the week's programme, as far as announced, we have already given.

Miss Mary Provost appears at the Winter Garden this evening as Parthenia, in "Ingomar." Miss Provost's last performance in this city was very successful, and since then she has achieved a great reputation in the provinces. It will be remembered that Miss Provost had a theatre of her own, on Broadway, a year or so ago, which she was obliged to close on account of her serious illness. "Nell Gwynne" is in rehearsal.

Mrs. John Wood continues her triumphs in "The Fair One with the Golden Locks," at Laura Keene's theatre, and will introduce this evening a new song, entitled "How are you, Greenbacks?" Mr. Walcott gives "particular notice" that, "in deference to the very general complaint of the press," he has altered the play a little, and "erased one of the best scenes of his own." That will improve the piece. More Planche and less Walcott is the unanimous demand. Walcott's "best scenes" are extremely bad; but his acting is now convalescent.

Mr. and Miss Richings begin an engagement at Niblo's Garden this evening, and produce the operatic spectacle "Satanella, or the Power of Love." Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shewell appear; Mlle. Annetta Galletti leads the ballet, assisted by Mons. and Madame Marzetti, and Messrs. Hayes and Selwyn have painted new scenery of the most gorgeous description. The Richingses created a furor during their last engagement here, and we have no doubt that they will repeat their former success.

On Thursday evening last Manager Jaignet gave a benefit performance at the Theatre Francais (Niblo's Saloon), inaugurating his new scenery and accessories. The play was Dumas' "La Dame aux Camelias." Mlle. Bonheller, as the frail but loving heroine, rendered her part artistically, and was such a Marguerite as the author wished to depict—a lady who had not lost her refinement with her virtue. M. Gravier, a careful and talented artist, as Armand Duval, roused the audience to tumultuous applause. The other parts were equally well sustained. On Thursday next, "Lucie Didier." On Saturday a matinee.

Mr. G. C. Boniface has been re-engaged at the New Bowery theatre. J. F. Poole's new drama, "Edgeworth Boss," is having a great run. General Michael Corcoran, escorted by the First company, Washington Continentals, will be present at the performance this evening, in celebration of Washington's birthday, and Mr. Boniface will represent General Washington in the drama "The Miller of New Jersey." There's patriotism for the multitude.

Mr. Joseph Proctor appears at the Old Bowery theatre to-night as Macbeth, supported by a very good company. This is Mr. Proctor's first appearance in this city since his return from Europe. Miss Fanny Herring plays the pantomimic part in "The French Spy," and she is one of the best stock stars in the city.

The fairy pantomime, "Cinderella," will be performed by a troupe of children and ponies at the Academy of Music this evening. Singing by Miss Allinson, dancing by Fouche and Sophie and drumming by Master Edward Daniels vary the performance, which is an excellent one for children.

Little Minnie Warren and Commodore Nutt draw crowds daily to Barnum's Museum. The living hippopotamus, the sea lion, the bears, and all the rest of Barnum's happy family may be seen as usual. In that religious theatre, the "lecture room," a new drama called "Raoul, the Wreck of a Life," will be produced for the first time. The stage management and scenery of this theatre are capital.

The elephants, ponies and monkeys at the Broadway Menagerie celebrate Washington's birthday by extra performances and by standing on their heads, "dying for their country," and all sorts of other patriotic tricks. The juveniles should be taken to see this menagerie; but the showmen should not be as gruff as the bears.

The public should positively refuse to purchase tickets for the theatres from speculators, and to patronize any theatre which allows speculators to buy up its seats. These are the only means of checking what has now become an intolerable nuisance, and we hope they will be adopted.

The profession came near losing one of its brightest ornaments last week. Mr. Barney Williams took large quantities of a medicine in which a druggist's clerk had substituted laudanum for paregoric, and was only saved by the stomach pump. Mr. Williams should henceforth "throw physic to the dogs."

Miss Lucille Western is now playing her drama, "East Lynne," at both Baltimore and Philadelphia—four nights a week at the former and two at the latter city. She will appear at the Winter Garden before long.

Miss Maggie Mitchell produced her new comedy, "Hermance, the Child of Fortune," at the Washington theatre last week, with a poor company, but great applause. Miss Mitchell plays this comedy at Boston this week.

Mr. Daniel E. Bandmann, the German tragedian, has been engaged by Mr. Wheatley for ten weeks, and will play four weeks at the new theatre, Philadelphia, and six weeks at Niblo's, beginning in March. "Hamlet" has been added to his repertoire.

Mr. Wm. C. Preston, of Louisville, died at Memphis on the 16th inst. Mr. Preston was formerly agent for Dan Rice's circus, Spaulding & Rogers' menagerie and other shows, and held an office under government at the time of his death. A telegram informs us that Mr. Winchell, the well known humorist, died at Lafayette on the 14th inst., after a short illness.

Mr. John Duff (late of the firm of Crook & Duff) has purchased Laura Keene's theatre in fee. Miss Keene's lease expires some time next fall, when we hope to see a revival of that "triple alliance"—Duff, Wood and Jefferson—which blazed so brilliantly in the summer of 1860.

Mr. W. Marshall has leased the Boston Academy of Music for a year and a half—commencing March 1—at a rental of ten thousand dollars a year.

Boucicault has brought out "Jennie Deans" at his new theatre, London. The critics highly praise both the play and Boucicault's impersonation of the advocate.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Arrival of Union Prisoners from Richmond—Interesting Extracts from Rebel Papers—Invasion of the Border Counties of Texas by Mexican Banditti—Deaths of Union Soldiers in the Richmond Hospitals, &c., &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 20, 1863.

While the recent fire was prevailing on Main street, Norfolk, the sloop Cornelia was discovered in Bell's dock, attempting to move out, which caused the suspicion of the guard. On examining her about $1,500 worth of goods were found on board, belonging to Mr. King, one of the sufferers. One of the parties suspicioned was arrested, and, it is understood, has turned State's evidence, implicating others. The affair is being investigated.

The old Norfolk Fire Department has been reorganized, and General Viele has sent for new hose, &c., which has long been needed.

The schooners Eliza and Rebecca, which went ashore on the Rip Rip shoals in the recent storm, was hauled off yesterday by the steamtug Freeborn.

The schooner was laden with coal for the Quartermaster's Department at Old Point.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 21, 1863.

The flag of truce boat State of Maine arrived here last evening, about six o'clock, and brought down between two and three hundred exchanged Union prisoners, in charge of Captain Rohly, Third New York infantry. The boat left with them immediately for Annapolis.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 20th says:—"There are rumors of an advance of the Yankee army upon Middle Tennessee. Cannonading was heard on Wednesday last in front. There were also artillery reports from the direction of Beech Grove, where General Buford, with his brigade of Kentucky cavalry, is stationed to ward off the blows that might descend in that direction. General Forrest has crossed Duck river, north of Columbia, with cavalry and artillery."

The Texas *Flag* of the 2d instant has accounts of an invasion of our (rebel) soil by Mexican banditti, who are stealing horses, cattle, &c. Captain Benevidas' company was attacked in Zapata county and all their horses stampeded. They also captured and hung Isadore Vella, Chief Justice of Zapata county. About five hundred Mexicans have been organized for the purpose of plundering our frontier, and their acts are approved by the Mexican authorities. The banditti, at last accounts, were on the Texas side of the Rio Grande, and some of them are under the United States flag.

The flag of truce boat New York brought from City Point eighty to ninety of the crew of the United States gunboat Isaac Smith, recently captured at Stono river; also nineteen United States officers, being the remainder of those captured previous to Jeff Davis's proclamation.

The following are the names of United States prisoners who have died in the military hospitals at Richmond since the last report:—

John Wright, sutler, of Washington, February 2, pneumonia.

J. B. Corey, private, Co. A, Twenty-first Wisconsin, February 3, pneumonia.

F. H. Caswell, private, Co. K, Seventy fourth Illinois, February 4, fever.

S. S. Marchoul, Captain, Co. H, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Pennsylvania, February 18, fever.

The foregoing list is respectfully forwarded by John Wilkins, Surgeon in charge.

Dr. R. Hunter on the Symptoms of Consumption.

[Continued.]

ON SPITTING OF BLOOD AND HEMORRHAGE FROM THE LUNGS.
LETTER NO. X.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

SIR—Of all the symptoms which indicate the approach of consumption, there is none of such fearful significance as the occurrence of "streaks of blood" in the mucus expectorated. This symptom does not tell us that tubercles are now actually deposited, it does tell us that the lungs are obstructed and congested, and in a very precarious condition. The quantity of blood brought up from the lungs may vary from a few streaks to one or more pints of pure blood, but the quantity does not increase the danger to the patient. The danger lies in the tubercles which this symptom tells us are now, or about to be, deposited in the delicate air tubes and cells of the lungs, and a few streaks of blood in the sputa are as strong a proof of this as a pint would be. It is very rare indeed that life is shortened by reason of the loss of blood from the lungs. The alarm which patients feel at the first sight of blood is natural enough, for they cannot know, what is the fact, that those who spit blood from time to time live longer and have a better chance of cure than those who do not lose a drop.

Spitting of blood is sometimes the first symptom of consumption apparent to the patient. More commonly it does not occur until the disease is fully established. Many consumptives never spit blood at all. Baron Louis found it in fifty-seven cases out of eighty-seven; Andral in five cases out of every six, and Dr. Walshe, of the London Consumption Hospital, in eighty one cases out of every hundred. So that we may set it down as a rule that the loss of more or less blood from the lungs occurs, during some period of the disease, in about four cases out of every five.

What is the cause of spitting of blood? It is caused by whatever obstructs the free passage of the blood through the pulmonary capillaries. Every pulsation of the heart pumps into the lungs, to be distributed over the air cells, a certain quantity of blood. As the heart never ceases its action, and could not without stopping the whole machinery of life, it will be understood that a steady stream of blood is flowing from the heart to the lungs. Now, if the lungs are healthy, this blood becomes purified and vitalized by exhaling its carbon into the air cells and absorbing oxygen from the air we breathe, and is then returned again to the heart, from whence it goes to nourish and sustain the system. But let us suppose the lungs obstructed by the presence of tubercles, or by what is quite as prejudicial, viz—sticky tenacious mucus in the air tubes. In the first case the vessels through which the blood must pass are obstructed, and in the second, the tubes through which the air passes. The consequence is that the impure blood flows with difficulty, and often stagnates in the delicate vessels of the obstructed part. We physicians say the lung is "congested," by which we mean that the vessels are full almost to bursting, like the vessels of the eye when it is "bloodshot." This condition may continue for a longer or shorter period, and then the vessels relax and allow the blood to ooze through their coats as fluids do through a filter, and the patient coughs it up. If the congestion was considerable the quantity of blood will be greater; but no matter how much or how little, it generally comes up in spots as unsteadily as a cough—in a word, that they are obstructed. It is the province and duty of the physician to discover the nature of the obstruction by a careful examination of the chest, and then to prescribe proper means for its removal.

It is one more belief that the blood comes from the breaking of a blood vessel, and this idea is entertained by many physicians. This is no more true than it would be to say that blood flowing from the nose comes from the breaking of a blood vessel. The blood merely oozes through the coats of the relaxed vessels—in medical phrase we say it is exhaled. Should a vessel of any size actually break, and such cases have occurred, though extremely rare, the patient necessarily bleeds to death, because neither medicine nor surgery affords us any means by which we can apply pressure to a cyptic, ligature or the healer. But as this unfortunate idea seems to cling to me in the treatment of many thousands of cases of consumptive disease, its danger is not worth considering.

From what I have said it will be understood that spitting of blood is an alarming symptom, as showing the progress of a treacherous and most fatal disease within the lungs. Either tubercles are already deposited in, or secure, or from this time the deposition will commence. The stopping of the blood gives no assurance of safety, for it seldom continues more than a few days, nor does its recurrence indicate any increased danger to the patient. Its cause lies deeply within the chest, and no remedy which does not go to the root of the evil and remove the obstructions within the lungs, is of the least value.

Physicians too often cheer their patients by the assurance that the blood "only comes from the throat." Let me warn the invalid against being deceived. The throat seldom bleeds—never unless it be struck by some hard substance and wounded. If blood is coughed up, however small the quantity, it comes from the lungs and delay is death. Fortunately it generally occurs before the disease is far advanced, and if proper treatment be employed no danger need be apprehended. The great error committed by physicians is in treating the symptom itself, while the cause which produces it is left in undisturbed possession of the lungs.

It will be asked if hemorrhage never occurs where the lungs are not diseased. Yes; there are three causes which may produce it—First, injury to the lungs, as from a violent blow; second, organic disease of the heart; and third, in females, it may occur every fourteen days instead of the usual periodic excretion. But if a person spits blood in whom none of these causes exist, set it down as a sure sign that the lungs are unsound. Bear in mind, too, that palpitation of the heart and monthly irregularity are far oftener the effect than the cause of spitting of blood. Patients will understand the partial import of this symptom when I tell them that Baron Louis, an eminent French authority on consumption, did not meet with a single instance out of twelve hundred cases in which the loss of blood was not preceded or followed by the development of tubercles.

With this I close my observations on the symptoms of consumption, and shall in my next letter describe the varieties of this disease.

Your obedient servant,
ROBERT HUNTER, M. D.,
Physician for Pulmonary Diseases, 832 Broadway.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21, 1863.

NOTE.—The writer of these letters, in association with his brother, Dr. Jas. J. Hunter, devotes his exclusive attention to the treatment of Bronchia and Pulmonary Diseases, and can be consulted, personally or by letter, at his office, No. 832 Broadway, from 9 A. M. to 4½ P. M.

Wigs, Toupees, Hair Dye, Hair Dyeing and Moleavia Cure, for beautifying the hair, 1 W. A. BATCHELOR'S, 16 Bond street.

W. A. Batchelor's Hair Dye—The Best in the world; instantaneous, harmless and reliable. Sold by all druggists and perfumers. Factory, 81 Barclay street.

Ladies, Try Laird's Bloom of Youth, and be convinced of its value for preserving and beautifying the complexion and skin. 439 Broadway.

Trusses.—Marsh's Radical Cure Truss. Office corner of Broadway and Ann street. No connection with any other office of the same name. A lady attendant.

Cristadoro's Hair Dye, Preservative and Wig Depot, wholesale and retail. No 6 Astor House. This Dye applied by skilful artists.

Doctor Hunter's Discovery Cures the very worst forms of Scrofula, obstinate Eruptions of the skin and old Ulcers. No 3 Division street, New York city, since 1836. His new work on diseases of the Nervous, Seminal, Urinary and Sexual systems, giving new and reliable treatment can be had gratis.

The Mother Finds a Faithful Friend in MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP.
Perfectly reliable and harmless. It relieves the child from pain;
Regulates the stomach and bowels.
Relieves griping in the bowels.
Cures wind colic.
By giving relief and health to the child, it gives rest to the mother.
Twenty five cents a bottle.

Diseases of the Nervous, Seminal, Urinary and Sexual Systems—New and reliable treatment, in reports of the Howard Association; sent in sealed letter envelopes, free of charge. Address Dr. J. SKILLIN HOUGHTON, Howard Association, Philadelphia, Pa.

Official Drawings of Murray, Eddy & Co.'s Kentucky and Missouri State Lotteries.
KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 89—February 21, 1863.
6f, 10, 42, 24, 6, 28, 60, 2, 69, 12, 13, 52.
KENTUCKY, CLASS 90—February 21, 1863.
14, 60, 37, 18, 33, 17, 66, 19, 65, 24, 40, 30, 36.
Circulars sent free of charge by addressing either to
MURRAY, EDDY & CO.
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

Official Drawings of the Delaware State Lotteries.—
DELAWARE, EXTRA CLASS 89—February 21, 1863.
56, 73, 24, 8, 26, 42, 64, 41, 48, 59, 71, 13.
DELAWARE, CLASS 90—February 21, 1863.
13, 2, 63, 28, 7, 9, 30, 23, 57, 21, 3, 62, 67.
Circulars sent by addressing
JOHN A. MORRIS & CO.,
Wilmington, Delaware.

Official Drawings of the Library Association Company's Lottery, of Kentucky.
CLASS 89—February 21, 1863.
61, 44, 63, 60, 20, 66, 69, 74, 50, 26, 65, 75, 4.
CLASS 90—February 21, 1863.
65, 34, 37, 21, 31, 40, 68, 13, 71, 1, 15, 48, 77.
For Circulars, &c., address
FRANCE, ELLIS & CO., Covington, Ky.

Royal Havana Lottery—25 Per Cent premium, paid for prizes. Information furnished. Highest price paid for Doubloons, American Gold and Silver.
TAYLOR & CO., Bankers, 16 Wall street.

Prizes Cashed in all Legalized Lotteries. Information given. JOSEPH BATES, Broker, No. 11 Wall street, room No. 1, New York.

Maison Maillard.
621 BROADWAY—CELEBRATED CHOCOLATE FOR FAMILY USE, from thirty cents to eighty cents per pound.

Eight Cartes de Visite for $1, of Unequalled style and finish, at TAIT'S, corner Cortlandt and Greenwich streets.

Grover & Baker's Celebrated Premium Sewing Machines. Office 495 Broadway, New York.

Rupture.—Trusses of the Most Approved make, from $2 and upward. Also, Silk Elastic Stockings for varicose veins, Female Supporters, Shoulder Braces, Suspensory Bandages and Instruments for physical deformities, by MARSH BROS. under Barnum's Museum, corner of Broadway and Ann street, New York. A lady attendant.

Married.

CHATTAWAY—BROWN.—In Brooklyn, E. D., on Wednesday, February 11, by Rev. Alfred H. Partridge, GEORGE T. CHATTAWAY to MARY A. BROWN. No cards.

FORTMEYER—DEAL.—At Union Hill, N. J., on Thursday, February 19, by Rev. William V. V. Mabon, Mr. GEO. W. FORTMEYER, of New York, to Miss PHEBE A. DEAL, of South Orange, N. J.

GURNEE—DAVIS.—At Monsey, Rockland county, on Tuesday, February 17, at the residence of Jonas Gurnee, Esq., by the Rev. Mr. Parsons, JOHN W. GURNEE, Esq., of the former place, to Miss HARRIET L. DAVIS, of Cornwall, Orange county, N. Y.

Newburg papers please copy.

Died.

AHRENS.—In Brooklyn, E. D., on Saturday, February 21, ANTON R. AHRENS, aged 36 years, 4 months and 19 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 49 South Seventh street, this (Monday) afternoon, at two o'clock, without further notice.

BOYCE.—In Brooklyn, on Sunday, February 22, CATHERINE EMILY BOYCE, daughter of James and Henrietta Boyce, aged 2 years, 7 months and 9 days.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her father, No. 39 Dean street, this (Monday) afternoon, at three o'clock.

BERRER.—On Friday, February 20, J. WATTS BERRER, in the 49th year of his age.

California papers please copy.

BASSFORD.—Of pneumonia, on Saturday evening, February 21, FLORINE E., daughter of Abram Bassford, Jr., aged 6 years, 3 months and 11 days.

The funeral will take place on Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock, from the residence of her grandfather, 26 Jones street.

BLACKWELL.—At Astoria, L. I., on Friday, February 20, ROBERT M. BLACKWELL, in the 68th year of his age.

The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this (Monday) afternoon, at half past two o'clock, at St. George's church, Astoria. The steamboat Sylvan Grove will leave Peck slip at half past one o'clock.

BOYLE.—Suddenly, on Saturday, February 21, JOHN A. BOYLE, aged 35 years.

The friends, and those of his brother, Harry Cannon, and of his brother-in-law, C. C. Abel, are invited to attend his funeral, at his late residence, 138 West Sixteenth street, this (Monday) afternoon, at half-past one o'clock.

CHARLTON