NEWS FROM OFF CHARLESTON.

The Naval Brigade Disbanded,

&c. &c. &c.

Our Naval Correspondence.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 21, 1864.

OPERATIONS OF THE NAVY AT SAVANNAH.

During the last two weeks the weather has been almost continually unfavorable for naval operations. Thick fogs a part of the time and, heavy gales another part of the time, have rendered even the ordinary movements of our squadron unusually difficult. Hence the page of history which records the investment, evacuation and occupation of Savannah will present a less brilliant record for the navy than it would otherwise have done.

THE STEAMER FOX RUNS THE BLOCKADE AT CHARLESTON.

On the night of the 17th, within four hours after Colonel Mumford's flag of truce returned from under Fort Sumter, the blockade runner Fox again eluded the vigilance of our blockaders and ran out to Nassau.

MAJOR GENERAL SHERMAN VISITS HILTON HEAD.

On the 21st at daybreak Admiral Dahlgren returned from Fort McAllister, where he had been visiting General Sherman, on board the temporary flagship Harvest Moon, Acting Master J. K. Crosby commanding, bringing Major General Sherman with him as an honored guest. The General and the Admiral spent the day at Hilton Head, which, in the evening, was brilliantly illuminated in the General's honor.

OCCUPATION OF FORT BEULAH AND ROSEDEW BATTERY.

On Thursday morning, the 22d, instead of a general attack by both army and navy on all the defenses of Savannah, which all had expected, nothing remained to be done but to go forward and take possession of those defences.

Lieutenant Commander R. W. Scott, commanding the Seneca, took possession of Fort Beulah, with its nine guns and all the ordnance stores, giving to Acting Master H. N. Merrill, his executive officer, the honor of first unfurling the Stars and Stripes over this rebel stronghold.

Meanwhile Lieutenant Commander W. H. Dana, commanding the Winona, took possession of the Rosedew batteries, with their eight guns, stores, &c.

ASCENT OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER.

In the afternoon the Wissahickon, commanded by Lieutenant Commander A. W. Johnson, and the Winona, ascended the Savannah river as far as the lower line of obstructions, and lay there during the night, though fired upon frequently by sharpshooters on both banks.

ASCENT OF WILMINGTON RIVER.

On Friday Lieutenant Commander Jonathan Young, commanding the iron-clad Sangamon, and Lieutenant Commander T. S. Fillebrown, commanding the iron-clad Passaic, ascended the Wilmington river from Warsaw Sound, and secured the deserted rebel works on that channel, with their guns, stores, &c.

REMOVAL OF THE OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE SAVANNAH RIVER.

On the same day, the Admiral, having temporarily established his headquarters on board the steam sloop Pawnee, Commander George B. Balch, passed up the Savannah river to where the Winona and Wissahickon were lying, followed by the Oleander, Geranium, Jonquille, Larkspur, Iris and Petite. The work of removing the piles which obstruct the channel was at once begun; and while this was doing, Admiral Dahlgren, with a portion of his staff, advanced up the river in a steam tug to Savannah.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE OLD BLOCKADING FLEET.

The Flag, Commander J. C. Williamson, in Ossabaw Sound; the iron-clad Nantucket, Lieutenant Commander R. F. R. Lewis, and the South Carolina, Acting Master William Bailey commanding, in Tybee Roads, will now be sent to other stations, their services being no longer required at these points.

A NEW TORPEDO CATCHER.

Acting Master R. Price Walter, commanding the steamer Oleander, has constructed a torpedo catcher, which, fastened to the bows of his vessel, enables him with perfect ease and safety to pick up whatever torpedoes may have been planted in his path. Like other useful inventions, the wonder is that nobody thought of it before. The work of removing the obstructions will occupy some days.

The supply steamer Massachusetts, Acting Lieutenant Commander W. H. West, arrived in the river below Savannah yesterday morning, having resumed her regular trips after being laid up many weeks for repairs.

OFF CHARLESTON, Jan. 1, 1865.

THE NAVAL BRIGADE DISBANDED.

The gallant Naval Brigade of Commander George H. Preble, which has so brief but so brilliant a record, is dissolved. The officers, marines and bluejackets have been sent back to their respective vessels, except about sixty bluejackets who constitute the Naval battery on Morris Island, a part of whom are already at their nine-inch Dahlgrens, ready to co-operate with Sherman as he comes "marching on" to the Palmetto metropolis. The entire losses of the brigade in the late expedition are trifling, considering the amount of service performed, viz:—Killed, two; wounded, thirty-four; missing, three. The missing are prisoners.

PERSONAL.

Lieutenant Commander E. O. Matthews, having been relieved of the command of the Naval battery, is now on duty on the staff. Lieutenant G. W. Hayward is now in command of the Naval battery, assisted by Acting Ensigns Everdine and Edgerine. The latter is now lying sick in the hospital at Bay Point. Lieutenant James O'Kane has also been added to the Admiral's staff.

TWO LAUNCHES LOST.

The weather here has been unusually heavy for some days, and during the gale two of our largest launches were driven ashore on Sullivan's Island; their crews either being prisoners or lost.

A LAUNCH CAPURED IN SPORT.

A few nights ago, Captain Barret, of the Catskill, suspecting that some of our launch officers lacked vigilance, pushed off from his vessel in a boat, made for a launch as though he were a rebel, boarded her and captured her in fun, as he says. A court of inquiry has been convened to investigate this matter, and ascertain whether due vigilance is observed by those engaged in this hard and tedious duty.

ADMIRAL DAHLGREN,

according to his usual custom, visited the wounded of the Naval Brigade after each day's battle, offering a word of sympathy to each brave fellow who had had the misfortune to be hit. No press of other duties prevents the Admiral from performing this.

After the attempt on the Pocotaglio bridge the Admiral approached one brave wounded tar, and asked him how he felt. Thinking less of himself than of his duty, the tar replied, with earnestness, "Did we get the bridge?" On being answered in the negative, the countenance of the tar became sad, and he replied, "Then I am very sorry." We interrupted the use of the railroad, but we did not get the bridge at all.

THE REBEL RAMS

having been reported to Captain Scott, senior officer present, as preparing to come out and engage our iron-clads, the Admiral came here last night in the Harvest Moon, with the steamship Pawnee and the iron-clad Nantucket, to assist in any emergency; but it is believed that none will occur. The rams will be warmly welcomed if they come.

Letter from a Union Prisoner in Columbia, S. C.

The following is an extract from a letter written December 1 by a Union officer in the rebel Mill State Prison, Columbia, S. C.:—

I do not think strange at not receiving letters from home, for there is no system nor a will to accommodate a Union prisoner. In fact, every man able to bear arms is in the field, and the old men and women at home are detectives in their military despotism. Our subsistence is corn meal and sorghum. Consequently physic is plenty. Many are suffering from chronic diarrhœa. Ten have died from it, and many have been shot while trying to escape. One hundred escaped yesterday. I should have been along, but I had no shoes. At roll call this morning we had nine hundred and sixty-one officers present—there are sixty sick—making in all ten hundred and sixty-one. When we first came to this camp there were over fourteen hundred. They are escaping and being recaptured all the time. We live mostly in brush houses; but some live in holes in the ground. We have to carry our wood half a mile for cooking use. I have given a draft on a bank at home for fifty dollars, for which I received three hundred dollars in Confederate notes. In the Columbia market the following are the prices:—Flour, $210 per bbl.; beef, $3 per lb.; mutton, $5 per lb.; sweet potatoes, $20 per bushel; chickens, $24 per pair; butter, $12 per lb.; lard, $10 per lb.

Brooklyn City News.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—The democratic majority of the new Board of Aldermen have completed their nominations for officers of the Board and other appointments in their gift. The republicans being in the minority, it is understood, have made no selections. The organization will take place this evening. The principal officers nominated are as follows:—President, Daniel D. Whitney, of the First ward; Counsellor, John G. Schumaker; Keeper of the City Hall, John A. Flanagan; Assistant, Thos. McGuire; Messenger, Joseph McCann; Inspector of Pavements, Philip Clare. The Mayor will deliver his Message after the election of President.

SUICIDE AT THE NAVY YARD.—A marine, named Jeremiah F. Grove, committed suicide on Cobb dock, opposite the Navy Yard, yesterday morning. His lifeless body was discovered by the relief guard at a quarter past six A. M. It appears he drew off his right boot, and, placing his large toe on the trigger of the musket, put the muzzle under his chin and fired, blowing his brains completely out. The deceased was a native of Maryland, thirty-three years of age, and had been in the service ten months. He was supposed to be affected with insanity at times, and it is believed that he put an end to his existence while labouring under one of these fits. He had two hundred and fifty dollars to his credit, which is in the possession of the purser of the receiving ship North Carolina. An inquest was held by Coroner Lynch, and a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered by the jury.

THE PERUVIAN SITUATION.

Our Lima Correspondence.

LIMA, Dec. 12, 1864.

Action of the American Congress on the Spanish-Peruvian Question—Arrival of the New Spanish Admiral Pareja—He Relieves Admiral Pinzon—His Probable Course and Antecedents—Commercial Affairs, &c.

The homeward mail of the 28th ult. carried advices of the continued complication of affairs between Spain and Peru; nor does either country appear to have bettered its position during the interval. The same mystery, the same indecision, and the same reliance upon what "may come to pass," without any apparent effort on either side to solve the difficulty. "Chips of the same block," and reared with the shortcomings of bygone ages, they neither appear to understand the signs of the times, nor to be capable of practically carrying out the theories proposed. Spain, emerging slowly from the backward condition imposed upon her by the intolerance and insufficiency of her political and religious institutions, in virtue of the life and activity almost forced upon her by the advancement of her neighbors, instead of employing her means in upholding her credit, in developing her natural wealth, and in furthering the well being of the people, destroys her national prosperity by quarrelling with those who by ties of origin wish her well, and whose cordiality and good will she would do far better to cement. The disreputable intrigues of the cabinet and its foreign officials create the "imbroglio," and then the ignorance and simulated patriotism of the press inflame the passions of the multitude; and so the question drags its "slow length along" without the possibility of forming any probable conception of its final result. Both nations consider themselves offended, both arrogantly assert their own right and might, each seeks satisfaction from the other, and neither will treat before obtaining the reparation demanded. Nevertheless, Peru has sent a plenipotentiary to some of the European Powers, and he has been expected for some time past to make his appearance at Madrid; and Spain sent a personage by the steamer which arrived here on the 3d inst., and who left again with Admiral Pareja on the 5th inst., to join the Spanish squadron at the Chincha Islands; but, having been two days in Lima without making himself known, it is still undecided whether he comes in a diplomatic character or merely to relieve Admiral Pinzon. It is rumored, however, that he brings full powers to treat in some form, and it is hoped that, having been born in Lima before the independence, he will show a reasonable disposition to come to some peaceable understanding. Both Admirals, it is known, have thrown aside animosity, and one has even expressed his individual regret that the notorious 14th of April should ever have been registered in the catalogue of great events. Such being the case, it is to be desired that each may be induced to waive all exaggerated pretensions, and thus open a road to an honorable reconciliation—all the more to be appreciated from the fact that each Power has all to lose and nothing to gain; for while Spain has more ships, and would consequently blockade and damage her enemy's ports, she has also much more commerce on the seas which might be destroyed by that same enemy, without any equivalent on either side. Of course a descent on land with any favorable result is entirely out of the question. Then, again, neither party appear to be capable of carrying on a prolonged conflict—for they are both short of the "sinews of war"—originating in the same causes, improvidence, disorganization and maladministration, and yet one comes to teach the other probity, self-respect and common sense.

Both again have applied to patriotism to fill their treasuries, without effect, probably from the novelty of the demand, such financial measures being still ignored in these countries; and both have applied to Europe for the means of carrying out their projects, and with a resolute denial in both cases; Spain on account of her bad faith in former engagements of the same nature, and Peru on account of the sources of her wealth being at present in the hands of her aggressor. Yet both cling to the principle of "securing peace by being prepared for war," if we may judge from the fact that both are expecting reinforcements in ships; indeed, by last advices, three Spanish frigates had arrived at Lota, one of the Southern ports of Chile, so that they may soon be expected at the islands; but should Spain, in consequence, determine upon carrying things to extremes, or even to retain possession of the islands, she will have to make up her mind to war against the whole of the South American republics; for they are well aware that violence to one may soon be followed by violence to another; nor can they consent to the close proximity of so dangerous a neighbor, established in the very midst of themselves—and that such is the understanding is clear from the proceedings of the South American Congress, which, though laboring in silence, occasionally raises a small voice to remind us of its presence, as took place a few days since upon the occasion of the constitutional observations of the Executive upon the resolution of the Peruvian Congress ordering the attack of the enemy. The South American representatives then declared their opinion, in a note to the government, "that an attack would be inopportune, and that the adoption of any such measure would leave them unshackled, to consider only the individual interests of their respective governments," implying, virtually, that Peru could only count upon the united action of the alliance, by listening to the counsels and duly considering the interests of all concerned, but at the same time taking upon itself the responsibility of further injury to herself by constrained inaction.

Public indignation at the anomalous state of affairs, which had increased to such proportions that the vacancy of the Presidential dignity was freely discussed, has calmed, in consequence, to some extent; yet a certain uneasiness still exists, and the harmony between the "powers that be," so desirable in the presence of an unscrupulous enemy, still stands aloof and refuses a confidence which requires greater efforts to secure. The government has indeed shown itself unwise in the measures adopted to insure public order, and has thereby created against itself a bitterness of feeling which induces still further opposition and produces serious impediments to the wonted march of the administration.

On the 29th ult. three presses issuing newspapers were closed and the editors threatened with imprisonment, in the face of which—one of them having been previously named a juror in a suit demanded by the son of the President; the Mayor of the municipality gave notice to the effect that if the party sought for was imprisoned he himself would follow to the place of confinement. The jurymen, however, refused to act, on account of the coercion of the press, but protested against the election of others in their places. The administrator of one of the printing offices presented a petition to Congress, complaining of the violence to his property and the infraction of the constitutional liberty of the press. Again, one of the parties lately imprisoned by the government for alleged abuse of the press has presented to Congress an accusation against the Minister of the Interior for infraction of the constitution, and the debate on this subject caused the proposition to be negatived, only by a very small majority. Thus we see the same "family scenes" on a large as well as a small scale, and one might be tempted to ask if the fathership of a family is of so complicated a nature as to convert some heads of families into stepfathers. Has the race of the Washingtons and other patriotic nobilities died out? Is lasting esteem nothing in the scale with the power of the moment?

The Chile papers are pressing the government to get ready for any emergency, and some fears are entertained that the populace will compromise affairs, should any demonstration of hostilities be made by the expected Spanish ships-of-war.

The revolution of the republic of Uruguay still continues, and as Brazil has sent forces in aid of the revolutionary party the republic of Paraguay threatens to complicate matters still further by sending troops in aid of the government of Montevideo. The measures adopted by the Brazilian Admiral, have called forth a protest from the Ministers of England, France and Italy; and thus war appears to be the order of the day all through America.

The American ships loading at the Guano Islands testified their satisfaction at the re-election of President Lincoln with great enthusiasm.

A serious fire had occurred at the islands, and soon after a fire broke out on board the American ship Adelaide Bell and her total destruction ensued. It is supposed to have been caused by the discontent of the sailors. The old story repeated. But do not the continued disasters call for some inquiry and consequent redress?

During the past month of November eighty-two bars of silver, with an average of one hundred pounds each, have been transmitted to Lima from the mines of Cerro de Pasco. At present there are about nine vessels of all nations loading guano at the Chincha Islands. The produce of Peru, consisting principally of nitrate of soda, alpaca wool, bark, cotton, tin, copper and cochineal, continues to be shipped at about the usual ratio, though business in general has not improved under the present circumstances. Exchange on England 37 a 37½. The Chilean corvette Esmeralda left on the 10th for Valparaiso.

The only foreign ship-of-war in the port is the British ship Leander. Admiral Pinzon, of the Spanish squadron, has been relieved, and he leaves by this steamer for Spain, via Panama. The steamer Ibania, under the Chilean flag, arrived this morning from Valparaiso direct, and evidently brings important news, with reference perhaps to the Spanish ships-of-war arriving; and although there are divers rumors, it is yet uncertain what has actually brought her.

Police Intelligence.

A MAN SHOT IN A LIQUOR STORE.

Yesterday morning, about half-past one o'clock, an altercation occurred in the liquor store of Patrick Lysaught, No. 480 Pearl street, between Richard Geraghty and two unknown men, when Geraghty drew a pistol from his pocket, which exploded, the ball taking effect in the leg of one of the men, whereupon they both ran away. Geraghty immediately proceeded to the Sixth precinct station house and surrendered himself to Captain Jourdan, and Justice Dowling subsequently held him to bail to answer any complaint which may be preferred against him. Geraghty states that the discharge of the pistol was entirely accidental.

ANOTHER FATAL AFFRAY.

A Young Man Fatally Shot by One of His Own Friends While Attempting to Shoot a Saloon Keeper, &c.

The mystery attending the shooting of a young man named William Fitzgerald, otherwise known as William Beebe, who was found at No. 192 Bleecker street on the evening of the 5th inst., as previously reported in the HERALD, has been cleared up. Beebe was taken to Bellevue Hospital, where he died on Saturday. Coroner Collin yesterday held an inquest on the body, when it appeared that deceased had been shot in the lager beer saloon of Henry Eichhorn, No. 169 Hester street, by one of his own companions, who at the time was attempting to take the life of Mr. Eichhorn, who received two shots, one taking effect in his right side and the other in his left shoulder. The trouble grew out of the fact that one of deceased's friends offered a two dollar counterfeit bill to Mr. Eichhorn in payment for drinks, and when they were remonstrated with by an aged man present, they assaulted and knocked him down. Subjoined will be found the most important portions of the testimony elicited:—

Ellen Fitzgerald, being duly sworn, deposes and says:—I reside at No. 69 West Twenty-fifth street; I recognize the deceased, William Beebe, as my son, William Fitzgerald; the last time I saw him alive was in October last; he was in the army, and had then come home on furlough; he was in the Hospital in Philadelphia; I heard through my sister of his death; somebody informed my sister of it; I have no knowledge of the circumstances attending his death.

Mary McNamara being sworn, says:—I reside at No. 90 McKibben street, Brooklyn, E. D.; I am a sister of the previous witness; a gentleman called at my house last night and told me that William Beebe was dead; deceased lived formerly in Northport, with a gentleman by the name of Beebe, and deceased has since gone by that name.

Annie Beebe being duly sworn, deposes and says:—I reside at 192 Bleecker street; I am wife of deceased; I never knew him by any other name but that of Beebe; I was married to him under that name; I was married in Philadelphia nearly a year ago; he was a private in the army at the time of my marriage; deceased was in New York since November; I came on here about three weeks ago; he told me he was in the substitute business; last Tuesday evening, about half-past nine o'clock, he came home where I boarded; he came into the bedroom and sat down; he had his head bound up; I asked him what was the matter, and he said, "nothing;" he seemed faint; I undressed him and put him to bed, after which he commenced crying; he said if he was taken dangerously ill, so as not to know anything, or die, I should call in a physician and tell him he was shot; that he and three of his companions went into a lager beer saloon up town, and one of his companions was intoxicated, and that there were three Germans playing cards there, and the intoxicated one fell or bucked up against one of the Germans, and the German called him a name; then one of his other companions struck the German, and knocked him down, and a fight ensued, and one of the Germans pulled out a pistol and shot; shot him in the head, and another man through the shoulder and breast; he did not say who the other man was; and from that he was taken to a drug store and his wound dressed; he then said he had told me enough; he said the ball was taken out and the wound dressed; the next morning at nine o'clock he got up and went out; he was gone two hours; I don't know where he went; he had another man's coat on; his light coat has never been found; it was a drab overcoat, with quilted lining; I do not know who was with him; he came home in about two hours, and he fainted on the bed; he was not sensible since that time; I sent for a doctor, but no doctor came till the next day (Thursday); he was removed on Thursday to Bellevue Hospital; he died yesterday morning at nine o'clock; he was unconscious until he died; it was a man by the name of Charles Hurst who told the aunt of deceased's death.

Henry Eichhorn, being duly sworn, deposes and says:—I am proprietor of the saloon 169 Hester street; on Tuesday night last, about nine o'clock, four men came into my saloon; they had drinks; they offered me a bad two dollar bill; I would not take it; another one gave me twenty cents; an old gentleman told them they ought to be ashamed to give a bad bill; one of them then struck the old man; they then went out, and returned in about three-quarters of an hour; when they came back one of them got me by the back of the neck and whiskers, and two others of them stood at the door; one of them had a revolver and shot at me six times; one of the balls took effect in the right side of my neck, and the other in the left shoulder; the man who had hold of me got one shot in the head; he fell down; he told them at the door to stop; they then went out; two of my friends, Henry Kruger and Bernard Hagman, went up to the hospital yesterday, and recognized deceased as the one who had hold of me and got shot; I am unable to get out of bed in consequence of my wounds.

Henry Kruger, being duly sworn, deposes and says:—I reside at 185 Hester street; I came into Mr. Eichhorn's saloon, at 169 Hester street, about eight o'clock; about half an hour later three men came in and asked for a drink; one of them gave a bad two dollar bill to Mr. Eichhorn for the drinks; the boss would not take it, and another one of the party gave the boss twenty cents, and the boss gave him five cents back; an old gentleman named Schaffer, who stood by the bar, told them they ought to be ashamed to try and pass a bad bill; one of them then knocked the old gentleman down; the one who knocked him down was a nice looking man, with a moustache; I came up to Bellevue Hospital on Friday last, and I recognized the deceased as one of the party; it was not the deceased who struck the old man; after the old man was knocked down the three men went out; in about half an hour, when the saloon was all quiet, the three men came back again with another man; the landlord was coming out of the back room, and one of the men went up to the landlord and caught him by the back of the neck and the other by the whiskers; two of the men were standing by the door, and one of them fired a shot at the landlord; as soon as the first shot was fired the man who had hold of the landlord's whiskers let go and went by the other man; the deceased had hold of the landlord by the neck; I think it was deceased; he was one of two who had hold of the landlord; when the first shot was fired I went back into the saloon, and while I was going back there were at least five shots fired by the men at the door; I cannot say if one or two men at the door fired the shots; it was done very quick; in about two minutes it was all over; I went out to the back room; I saw deceased fall just as he was going out of the door; I did not know at that time whether he was shot or not; the landlord told me he was shot; I then went after a doctor; I could not find a doctor; I came back to the saloon and two other men started for a doctor; I went up to the station house and reported it, and they sent the police down there.

Bernard Hagamann, being sworn, says—I reside at 166 Hester street; I was at Mr. Eichhorn's saloon, 169 Hester street, about nine o'clock; I saw three men come in and take drinks, but before I knew what the matter was they went out; in about fifteen or twenty minutes four men came in; I cannot say if they were the same parties; I stood at the side door, near the entry; they came in with revolvers in their hands; two of them rushed up to the landlord; one of them caught him by the back of the neck and the other by the whiskers; they did not say anything; one of the men stepped up to me and shoved a revolver into my face; I then stepped back to the entry door; I told the man who held the pistol to my head I wanted to go out of the door, but he would not let me; after this one of them stepped aside and fired at the landlord; I don't know how many fired pistols; I could not say whether the two men had hold of the landlord when the shots were fired; the landlord did not fall; I did not know the landlord was shot till the men were out; the last one that went out fell just as he was going out of the door; when the men were out the landlord said "Bring some water—I'm shot;" the police asked me to come up to Bellevue Hospital to see if I could recognize the deceased as one of the parties; he was the one who pressed a pistol to my head; I never saw any of the parties before that night.

Other testimony to the same effect was introduced by witnesses who were in the saloon at the time of the shooting.

Dr. R. B. Brownell, house surgeon of Bellevue Hospital, made a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased, and testified to finding a fracture extending into the base of the cranium, and in his opinion deceased came to his death from the effects of injuries to the skull; the character of the wound indicated that it had been made by a blow from a club or something of that nature.

The case was then submitted, and the jury found "That the deceased came to his death by a pistol shot wound at the hands of some person or persons whose names are at present unknown."

Deceased was twenty-three years of age, and a native of Pennsylvania. He was in the army about fifteen months, and since his return he had occasionally been employed by a man named Jallorf, who keeps a recruiting office in the Park and another in Tryon row. The authorities as yet have been unable to learn the names or whereabouts of the men who were with the deceased at the time he received the fatal violence.

The Income Tax in Massachusetts.

[From the Boston Traveller.]

The amount of money paid by Massachusetts under the second tax levied on incomes of the year 1863, and now in course of collection at the rate of five per cent, is stated to be but little short of $3,400,000. At the same rate throughout the existing Union, and taking population as the basis of calculation, the entire yield ought to be hard upon $60,000,000, but it is estimated that it will not exceed $35,000,000, as population does not afford a sound basis for calculation. In old communities, such as Massachusetts and Rhode Island, New York and Pennsylvania—old after American reckoning, we mean, for we are all but of yesterday—it is easy to collect great sums of money under a well adjusted and rigidly enforced income tax, while it would be but to prepare the way for bitter disappointment to count upon any income tax being greatly productive in new communities which are mainly agricultural in their industrial modes. The newer the State, unless there be something peculiarly exceptional in its pursuits, the smaller will be its contribution to the income tax. Therefore we of the old States—of the Middle and the Eastern States that is—must contribute to this tax out of all proportion to our population.

All things considered, the amount obtained from the income tax is large, supposing it to be $35,000,000. It represents incomes of the amount of $700,000,000, on which more than $20,000,000 was paid last spring, being the regular tax, the second tax being of an extraordinary character. Then it is to be understood that all incomes of $600 and under are untaxed, that allowances are made for rent and local taxes, and that $600 are untaxed in the income of every one who is taxed under the law. Add all untaxed incomes, and all the sums deducted from taxable incomes, and the amount must be something prodigious, something that speaks well for the wealth of the country and the general prosperity of the people.

City Intelligence.

SUICIDE BY HANGING.—A man named John Sullivan, residing at No. 9 Jay street, committed suicide by hanging himself in his own room yesterday afternoon. Thus far no cause has been assigned for the commission of the deed. An inquest will be held this morning. Deceased was a native of Ireland, sixty years of age.

CANADA.

Opposition to the Confederate Scheme in Prince Edward Island and Halifax.

Ministerial Crisis in Prince Edward Island.

RESIGNATION OF THE PREMIER,

&c., &c., &c.

Dissensions on the Confederation Question in Prince Edward Island—Resignation of the Premier.

[Correspondence of the Toronto Leader.]

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Dec. 23, 1864.

The confederation question has led to the resignation of Colonel Gray, first minister, in this island. The causes which led to this step had for some time been apparent.

You will have seen by the papers how the union question is received here, and how the quarrel began. Mr. Palmer differed from Colonel Gray and Mr. W. Pope, two of his colleagues in the government and brother delegates, on the subject. Mr. Whelan and Mr. Coles, two of the opposition, are also opposed to one another. *I may fairly say that nine-tenths of the people of our island are strongly opposed to confederation.* In fact, we are so very differently situated as compared with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick that, while it may succeed and answer well with them, we have nothing to gain by it.

Mr. Pope went a little too far, and compelled Mr. Palmer to come out in print, as also did Colonel Gray. When Mr. Palmer spoke at their particular request at the Toronto *dejeuner*, they well knew, and so did all the Canadian ministers present, that he enunciated merely the sentiments of the majority of the island delegates. What they witnessed in his conduct at the conference sufficiently well assured them that he was opposed to the scheme as regarded our island. Indeed, while the conference sat in Charlottetown he declared he would never agree to the principle of representation by population, as it would give us merely a nominal representation; this he reiterated at the conference in Quebec. Besides, we were promised a much larger number in the Upper Chamber, which promise was forgotten when he got to Quebec.

Ministerial Crisis in Prince Edward Island.

[From the Toronto Globe, Jan. 6.]

The latest Charlottetown papers received bring news of a ministerial crisis in Prince Edward Island. Colonel John Hamilton Gray, Prime Minister, has resigned his seat in the Executive Council, and the Lieutenant Governor has accepted the resignation. Colonel Gray is at some pains to give his reason for retiring from office. The substance of his statement is that he could not continue to sit in council with Mr. Edward Palmer, the Attorney General of the province, after the conduct of that gentleman respecting the confederation scheme. At the Toronto *dejeuner* Mr. Palmer, speaking on behalf of his province, declared very strongly in favor of confederation, but on getting back to Prince Edward Island wrote a very long letter to the newspapers, condemning the scheme of the conference which he had endorsed at Toronto. It has since transpired that at the time the conference was sitting—before the occasion of the Toronto speech—he wrote a letter to one of the Charlottetown editors, in which, after expressing fears that his island was to be sacrificed, and pointing out some of his objections to the scheme, he said:—

In short, I am thoroughly disgusted at the course things have taken here, and would be disposed "to sit by the waters of Babylon and weep" for years, if I thought our island people would be taken in by the scheme.

Colonel Gray quotes also Mr. Palmer's subsequent justification of his Toronto speech, the value of which will be very well seen from the following sentence:—

I do not deem my consistency called in question by what may have fallen from me during an unstudied complimentary speech at a *dejeuner*, where controversy was neither invited nor expected, and would have been deemed out of place if introduced; and where it was invariably the good fashion, during the whole tour, for every one who was called on to return thanks for the princely hospitality shown us, to reciprocate, as far as possible, what was most pleasant and agreeable to their kind hosts.

This excuse Colonel Gray professes to regard as "further insult, not only to the gentlemen of Toronto, but particularly so to the delegates from the other provinces, and calculated to bring into contempt the people and the government of this island." He concludes by saying that were he to continue in a government of which Mr. Palmer is a member, he might be supposed to countenance "conduct so highly reprehensible," and that the duty he owes to himself and the people of the island obliges him to withdraw from the executive.

Anti-Confederation Meeting in Halifax—Powerful Opposition to the Scheme.

[From the Halifax Sun, Dec. 28.]

The meeting at Temperance Hall on Friday night, to hear the views of persons opposed to the confederation of the provinces, as proposed by the delegates, was *successful in every feature.* Notwithstanding the night was the coldest of the season the hall was filled to overflowing. The platform had a goodly array of our leading men on both sides. His Worship, on opening the meeting, succinctly laid down the order of proceeding, which prevented confusion, as at the previous meeting. The speakers were Messrs. A. M. Uniacke, W. J. Stairs, A. Jones, P. Power, W. Miller and W. Annand, Esqs. All of the speeches were much to the point, and were listened to attentively, as though they were particularly desirous of hearing something of the disadvantages of the scheme, as well as the advantages of it.

If one were to judge of the feelings of those present by the continued and prolonged applause which greeted each speaker, we should say *there is a most powerful opposition to this confederation scheme in Halifax.* That the question should not be brought to an issue without an appeal to the people seems to be the popular wish. Indeed, the unbounded applause given to that sentiment in Mr. Uniacke's speech well indicated that feeling.

In such voluminous statements of figures there may be some unintentional inaccuracies; but whatever is wrong there will no doubt be righted by the friends of the scheme. Meanwhile, upon what was advanced on Tuesday night, people are beginning to think that the new constitution *is not by any means what it is cracked up to be*, and that much good will result from free discussion in reference to it.

NEWS FROM NEW ORLEANS.

Capture of a Blockade Runner—Successful Expedition to Alabama—Destruction of Rebel Supplies, Railroads, Depots, &c.

CAIRO, Jan. 1, 1865.

The steamer Mollie Able, from New Orleans on the 26th ult., has arrived here. She has one hundred and thirty-seven bales of cotton for Cincinnati.

An English schooner, a blockade runner, with fifty bales of cotton, had arrived at New Orleans. She cleared from Galveston, and was captured by the gunboat Princess Royal.

On the 13th of December a force of about two thousand men, comprising detachments from the Second Maine cavalry, the First Alabama cavalry, the Fourteenth New York cavalry, three regiments of colored infantry and two pieces of artillery, under command of Colonel G. D. Robinson, of the Ninety-seventh colored infantry, left for a raid into Alabama to sever communications by telegraph and railroad at Pollard's and destroy such property and stores as might be found there. On reaching Pollard's, on the 16th, the place was found evacuated.

The railroad depot, a train of eight cars, mostly filled with grain, a railroad storehouse filled with grain and government property, quartermasters' and commissaries' storehouses filled with stores, an ordnance building with two thousand stand of arms, and the trestle work and a number of miles of the railroad, were destroyed by our troops.

This being accomplished, the expedition set out to return, but were met at Little Escubba by the enemy, under Colonel Armstead, who opposed their crossing a bridge.

The colored infantry made a successful charge, led by Colonel Robinson, who fell shot through the thigh when half way across the bridge. After Colonel Robinson was wounded the command devolved upon Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Spurling, of the Second Maine.

A second attack was made by the enemy, which was repulsed, and the rebels scattered through the woods with heavy loss, including Colonel Armstead killed. Seven rebel flags were captured. The expedition was not again molested. Our total loss during the expedition was seventy-five killed, wounded and missing.

The New Orleans cotton market was at a stand still. There was no inquiry, and no sales were reported. Sugar and molasses were in fair inquiry.

The steamer City of Cairo, from Memphis, arrived here, with one hundred and ninety-four bales of cotton for St. Louis.

MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Married.

RAY—WOODS.—At All Saints' church, in this city, on Sunday, January 1, by the Rev. Samuel J. Corneille, CHAS. A. RAY to LYDIA R. WOODS. No cards.

Boston papers please copy.

Died.

ALLEN.—At Ravenswood, L. I., on Sunday, January 8, TRISTRAM ALLEN, aged 47 years.

The friends of the family, and those of his brother-in-law, Willy Wallach, are invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock. Boat leaves James slip at twelve o'clock, and Thirty-fourth street every ten minutes, for Hunter's Point, where carriages will be in waiting to convey friends to the house.

BROWN.—On Sunday, January 8, MARY ELIZABETH, wife of Lewis Brown, aged 37 years, 4 months and 2 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral service, at her late residence, No. 425 West Thirty-fifth street, this (Monday) afternoon, at half-past three o'clock. Her remains will be taken to Unionville on Tuesday morning by the Hudson River Railroad, at nine o'clock, from Thirtieth street.

BAKER.—On Sunday, January 8, Mrs. SARAH BAKER, widow of Rev. Thomas Baker, of New York, in the 70th year of her age.

The funeral services will take place at the house of her son-in-law, Samuel Osborne, in Elizabeth, N. J., this (Monday) afternoon, at three o'clock. Her remains will be taken to Cypress Hills Cemetery on Tuesday morning for interment.

COMAN.—On Sunday, January 8, suddenly, while in the discharge of his duty as a member of the New York Fire Department, at the fire in Centre street, PATRICK COMAN, aged 24 years, 7 months and 24 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday. The remains will be taken from his late residence, No. 17 Vandewater street, to St. Andrew's church, where a solemn requiem mass will be celebrated for the repose of his soul, at half-past ten o'clock, and from thence to Calvary Cemetery for interment. The members of Eagle Engine Company, No. 13, and the Fire Department in general are invited to attend.

DALRYMPLE.—On Sunday, January 8, ELIZABETH, relict of James Dalrymple, in the 83d year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family, and of her sons, William, Alexander and John, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from her late residence, No. 23 Hammond street, on Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock. The remains will be taken to Greenwood for interment.

DOYLE.—On Sunday, January 8, JOHN DOYLE, aged 23 years.

The funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 128 West Twenty-seventh street, on Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock. The members and friends of Madison Hose Company, No. 37, are invited to attend.

GAY.—On Sunday morning, January 8, WILLIAM D., son of the late James Gay, aged 17 years, 8 months and 7 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock, from the residence of his mother, No. 81 King street.

GREEN.—In Brooklyn, on Sunday, January 8, at the residence of his brother, James H. Green, No. 118 Bridge street, CHARLES GREEN, aged 24 years, late of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Notice of the funeral in Tuesday morning's paper.

Bridgeport and New Haven papers please copy.

GUION.—At Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, on Thursday, January 5, THOMAS HOLMES, eldest son of Catharine E. and the late Rev. Dr. Thomas T. Guion, of Brooklyn, aged 21 years and 5 months.

The funeral will take place from St. John's church, corner of Washington and Johnson streets, Brooklyn, this (Monday) afternoon, at half-past one o'clock. The relatives and friends are invited to attend without further notice.

HOPPER.—In South Bergen, on Sunday evening, January 8, after a short illness, ROBERT A., youngest son of E. C. and B. T. Hopper, aged 2 years and 7 months.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his parents, South Bergen, on Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock.

HODGSON.—On Saturday, January 7, HELENA HODGSON, wife of Joshua Hodgson, in the 54th year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday morning, at eleven o'clock, from the residence of her husband, in First avenue, near Eighty-fifth street.

Montreal papers please copy.

LEECH.—On Saturday morning, January 7, Miss MARIA LEECH, in the 66th year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her brother, Charles Leech, No. 13 St. Felix street, Brooklyn, this (Monday) morning, at eleven o'clock. The remains will be taken to Jamaica, L. I., for interment. Services in the Methodist Episcopal church, in the village, at half-past two o'clock the same day.

MILLS.—At Smithtown, Long Island, on Friday, January 6, WILLIAM WICKHAM MILLS, in the 69th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday afternoon, at one o'clock, from his late residence.

MAGARY.—At the residence of her brother-in-law, 50 East Thirteenth street, CATHARINE MAGARY