THE PLATE WAR.

THE ALLIED SUCCESSES.

Military Proclamation by the Emperor of Brazil.

Formalities of the Capitulation of Uruguayana.

SKETCH OF COLONEL ESTIGARRIBIA.

EMIGRATION OF SOUTHERNERS TO BRAZIL.

RAILROAD ENTERPRISE IN THE EMPIRE.

&c. &c. &c.

Our Rio Janeiro Correspondence.

RIO JANEIRO, Oct 10, 1865.

We have had a continuation of festivities since receiving the official news of the fall of Uruguayana. Colonel Estigarribia arrived here a few days ago, and considerable anxiety was manifested to see the bombastic colonel. He preferred coming to Rio to residing on the Plate. He has visited the arsenals and other places of interest, and given Van Nivel a sitting for his portrait, which sells readily at half a dollar. Duarte, the fanatic priest of whom so much has been said, has gone to reside in Buenos Ayres.

When called on by Flores to surrender Colonel Estigarribia made a show of resistance, but the Emperor sent word to delay the bombardment until his arrival at the front, when he sent his Minister of War, Ferraz, who treated with him on the outer lines; the only conditions granted being permission to the officers to retain their side arms and to reside anywhere except in Paraguay during the war.

The Emperor has issued the following proclamation:—

SOLDIERS—This province is again free, owing to the action of our forces and those of our allies. The invader has surrendered, but our mission is not yet completed; our national honor and dignity are not yet avenged; a part of the province of Matto Grosso and of the Argentine Confederation are yet occupied by the enemy. Forward, then, since from the justice of our cause Divine Providence thus crowns our efforts with success. Long live the Brazilian nation. DOM PEDRO II.

FERRAZ, Minister of War.

We have a good many Southerners here at present, some of whom represent themselves as the agents of families wishing to emigrate, and state that they are backed by millions of dollars. The most conspicuous is General Wood, formerly of the Vicksburg *Whig*. His friends managed to get up a serenade in front of the Exchange Hotel, and some prepared speeches were delivered, but they failed to get up a sensation. One, more enterprising than the rest, recently posted off to Petropolis and introduced himself to General Webb by means of several well gotten up counterfeit letters, representing him to be a persecuted Georgia Union man, and told of sleeping in the swamps, in trees, and of going without food for days together. The old gentleman was deeply moved, and gave him such a letter to the commander of the United States steamship Mohongo as induced him to take the rebel as his private secretary, at six hundred dollars per annum, and it was only after the departure of the vessel for the Pacific that the truth leaked out.

Parties have taken up land in the province of Parana, and are endeavoring to form a colony of Americans, which they will find to be a difficult task; but should an emigration society be formed on the model of the first one started in Philadelphia in 1819 many influential Brazilians would join in the scheme, and it would undoubtedly succeed.

A glance at the map will show that between Maranhao and Rio Grande no navigable river empties into the ocean, as the coast is bordered by a chain of mountains, which have not yet been surmounted by railroads, although the great tunnel on the Dom Pedro Railroad will be finished within six months, and the trade of Rio opened to the table land of the interior. This road extends to the valley of the St. Francisco, which river has an inland navigation of nearly six hundred miles. The government has offered a subsidy of one thousand dollars per month for two small steamers to run on one of the tributaries (Rio dos Vehos), and the Amazon Company are getting them built in England. They will be transported in sections.

This valley is destined to become the garden of Brazil. Cotton, coffee and sugar may be successfully cultivated there. In fact, the reports of the richness of the soil are almost fabulous. I quote the words of Ottoni in the House of Deputies:—"The third generation are cutting sugar cane from the roots planted by their grandfathers, and it is of a superior quality."

The Brazilians are aware that Americans are the best emigrants for this country, because they bring with them intelligence and energy to introduce agricultural implements, which are needed to take the place of the decreasing power—slavery.

After the opening of the Dom Pedro Railroad the Ledgerwoods will be able to reap the fruits of their patience and perseverance in introducing heavy machinery into this country. The Brazilians have shown their appreciation of their value by making Mr. William Ledgerwood a member of the Society for the Encouragement of Industry, which is always presided over by the Emperor in person.

Capitalists in the River Plate are awaiting the opening of the river Paraguay, when river boats will be in demand.

When Lopez succumbs, which will be pretty soon, one of the articles of the new treaty with Paraguay and the other Powers will be that Brazilian steamers may trade between Cuyaba and Buenos Ayres, and also Montevideo, and American built river boats of a light draught are most proper.

The coffee crop promises well, and we hear nothing more of the destructive caterpillar. Panic makers have been speculating in gold, and are trying to get it up, and some had hopes, until the surrender of Uruguayana undeceived them.

During the absence of Dom Pedro the Empress has received deputations and held levees as though the Emperor were here. She is an exception to the whole Neapolitan royal family, and is much beloved by the Brazilians.

The American squadron now here makes a very formidable appearance in the harbor among the men-of-war of different nations.

Newspaper Accounts.

DETAILS OF THE SURRENDER OF URUGUAYANA.

[From the River Plate Times, Sept. 29, 1865.]

On the morning of September 18, at six o'clock, every tent was struck, and at seven o'clock the whole of the allied forces were ready to advance.

A large quantity of gabions, poles and scaling ladders were carried by the men for the purpose of taking the town by assault. At eight o'clock A. M. the bugles sounded the advance.

There were about twenty thousand men under arms. The centre was occupied by the Argentines, the right by the Brazilians, and the left by the Orientals, who, though few in number, contained perhaps the most experienced troops. In passing the river between the camp and the town, General Flores, with his usual disregard of personal risk, advanced alone to find a pass, which he speedily accomplished, and at once crossed his command. The whole array followed, taking up the respective positions assigned to them. At midday the batteries were posted on an eminence within five hundred yards of the enemy's trenches. A last summons to surrender giving two hours' grace was then sent in to Estigarribia. Some of the troops, however, beginning to pitch their tents, General Mitre gave the order to advance, which was promptly obeyed, and both infantry and artillery neared the trenches within two hundred yards without a shot being fired. Some battalions were thrown out as skirmishers, but the enemy made no sign of resistance.

In this peculiar state of things some of the men advanced close to the trenches, when General Nicasio Borjes, who was among them, was addressed by Estigarribia himself, who said, "Give me at least time enough to answer, and do not be in such a hurry." In a few minutes the number of those who approached the trenches had rapidly increased, and in a quarter of an hour about a thousand men passed the trenches, and an earnest traffic immediately commenced between them and a part of the garrison, who offered for sale spirits, beer, cigars, &c., and were delighted to find that they were paid in coin. A general fraternization speedily ensued; lots of Paraguayans, being invited to visit the allies, might be seen mounted behind the cavalry approaching the lines, so that under such circumstances fighting was out of the question. At two P. M. an answer to the summons was brought to the Emperor; and then the Brazilian Minister of War, Senor Ferraz, entered the town to conclude the capitulation with Estigarribia. In front of the lines of the allies the troops were intermingled with the enemy in perfect harmony, and it appeared a farce to await the reply of Estigarribia. But the allied commanders decided to observe all formalities. Shortly after three P. M. Senor Ferraz sent a message to the Emperor "that all was arranged, and that Estigarribia and his army had surrendered."

The Generals, accompanied by their respective staffs, then advanced to the trenches, and the Brazilian Minister of War led forth Commandante Estigarribia, who surrendered his sword and revolver with an air of dignity which showed that he fully comprehended the importance of the act. He was followed by the wretched priest, Duarte, his colleague and monitor. This man trembled from head to foot, and, although leaning on General Cabral and an aid-de-camp, could hardly place one foot before the other. General Cabral was obliged to reassure him by delaring that he "had nothing to fear, that the Emperor guaranteed his safety." The two Salvadachs, Oriental officers, deserters in arms against their country, surrendered to the Brazilian flag.

Then followed the formal surrender of the troops, who defiled before the Emperor, with General Flores on his right and General Mitre on the left. The appearance of the Paraguayans excited feelings of pity mingled with disgust. Their filthy condition was indescribable. They were in rags and appeared like walking corpses. Hunger and misery were depicted in their countenances. As they marched out they were divided amongst the three armies, and the few officers who commanded them presented themselves without their arms. There were not [illegible] of the [illegible] men, all told. [illegible] gave immediate orders that the medical staff should attend to the sick prisoners. The whole of the arms, four field pieces and the correspondence were taken possession of by the allies.

MOVEMENTS OF THE PARAGUAYAN FORCES.

General Medina has received news up to September 17 of the movements of the Paraguayans under Robles, who had retired to their former positions. Their squadron had come down to Cuevas with the intention of acting on the offensive. If the allies move across the River Corrientes the Paraguayan General may be taken in the rear, with General Gelly y Obes and the main body of the Argentine army in front of him.

COLONEL ESTIGARRIBIA.

This Paraguayan chief, who, after comparing himself to Leonidas and other heroes of antiquity, surrendered himself and his division of 5,000 men as prisoners of war, arrived in Montevideo, by the British steamer Mersey, from Buenos Ayres on September 27, *en route* for Rio Janeiro. He is a tall, spare man, very dark in color, with straight chestnut hair and aquaiine features, completely Indian in appearance and showing no mixture of white blood—his dress and carriage not ungentlemanlike. His preference for the Guarani language as a means of communication confirms the surmises that his colleague, the Chaplain Duarte, was the editor of his bombastic despatches. This latter worthy remains in the allied camp by his own choice.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Nov 17, 1865.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

The five per cent one and two years Treasury notes falling due on and after the 1st proximo will be paid at the Treasury Department at their maturity.

The Treasury Department has just printed gold certificates to the amount of $37,000,000, which are to be sent to the proper offices as occasion may demand.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Navy is nearly all printed. It is always the first given to the public printer. Some of the reports of bureaus connected with the Treasury, Post Office and Interior Departments are also in print. The manuscript of the other reports is not yet completed.

OPERATIONS OF THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU IN THE SOUTH.

Telegrams were received last night by the President, General Fisk and the Freedmen's Bureau, signed by seven or eight of the leading influential men of Tennessee, which remonstrate against the anticipated removal of a supervising officer of the above bureau, now on duty in that State, and the appointment of a civilian of the State instead. The telegrams in question admit the entire equity of the Freedmen's system as at present administered in Tennessee, and desire that no change be made. Another communication has been received by the Bureau from a prominent citizen of the South, which warmly expresses the belief that the labor system of the South as now regulated and directed has been the only safeguard from complete worthlessness of negro labor by reason of the sudden relaxation of discipline and withdrawal of absolute authority to coerce industry among the blacks.

EXECUTIVE PARDON REVOKED.

It is reported that John Overton, well known in Tennessee as one of the most opulent of the rich men of the State, has had his pardon revoked by order of the President, who is said to have telegraphed Gov. Brownlow to that effect to-day. What has prevented Mr. Overton's contrition for his rebellious sins from being complete and satisfactory to the government does not definitely appear.

PERSONAL.

Chief Justice Chase will arrive in this city to-morrow.

Baron Gerolt, the Prussian Minister, has gone to New York on a short visit.

Dr. Rosing, the estimable Chargé d'Affaires of the Hanseatic republic, is at present at the capital, having returned from his recent visit to Europe, and has selected the city of New York as his residence.

Mr. Von Limbourg, the Minister of the Netherlands, has returned to Washington and taken a house on President square. He has recently resided in New York.

John A. Griswold, of New York, has engaged rooms at Willard's for the winter.

Rumors are on the street this evening that Judge Otto, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, will shortly vacate his position, and will be superseded by Jesse O. Norton, of Illinois.

APPLICATIONS FOR SITUATIONS IN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

There are more than five thousand applications on file for situations in the Treasury Department, and this number increases from day to day. Many of them are from discharged soldiers. The list for the past week contains thirteen applications from colored men lately in the military service. The number of women seeking employment in that Department is very large. Recommendations seem to be easily procured. The other departments are similarly besieged.

THE VIRGINIA CONGRESSMEN ELECT.

A Virginia correspondent of the *National Intelligencer* says: "Messrs. Custis, Chandler, Ridgway, Barbour, Davis and Hodge, elected to Congress from that State, will take the test oath without scruple." Of the other two, Messrs. Stuart and Conrad, he adds: "Whether able or not to take the oath, they present the best antecedents."

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN PETTIT AT ALEXANDRIA.

The trial of Captain Pettit is progressing before the Greene court martial at Alexandria. Captain Pettit is the officer who for a long time was in charge of the jail and provost guard house at Alexandria, and is charged with cruelties and extortions practised upon inmates of that institution during the later months of the war. The evidence so far fixes a great deal of abuse of power upon the accused. He is alleged to have been so active in the arrest and imprisonment of deserters that he did not confine himself to legitimate cases, but seized citizens of Alexandria and stray soldiers without passes, forcing them, by systematic cruelty, to confess they were deserters from some imaginary or remote regiment, when he would pocket the customary thirty dollars for their arrest. Men considerably higher in rank than Pettit are said to be implicated, and efforts will be made to keep the testimony from the public.

THE CASE OF COLONEL BINNEY.

Colonel Amos Binney, charged with illegal use of government funds intrusted to him as paymaster in the United States army, has elected to stand his trial for the alleged offences, instead of refunding the money.

NAVAL PRIZES.

The Fourth Auditor of the Treasury publishes a long list of additional naval prizes which are now payable.

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL EQUAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

The "National Equal Suffrage Association," organized in this city in August, 1865, met this evening at the Unitarian church to listen to addresses from ex-Governor Hahn, of Louisiana, and others. Several speeches were delivered and much earnestness manifested.

BREVET PROMOTIONS.

Brevet Major Osbourne Watson, Third Pennsylvania artillery, has been brevetted colonel. He is the first captain in the Volunteer artillery service who has received these brevet distinctions since the war began.

Captain George A. Kensel, of the Fifth United States artillery, formerly on General Butler's staff, has been brevetted Lieutenant Colonel United States Army and ordered to West Point as one of the military instructors.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following changes have been made in the Marine corps:—Colonel Wm. Dulany is removed from command of the Marine Barracks at Norfolk, Va., to be succeeded by Major John L. Broome, who has been detached from the Western Naval Station, at Mound City, Ill. First Lieutenant Thomas McElrath is detached from the Marine Barracks at Brooklyn, and ordered to command the Marine guard of the steam sloop Monongahela, at New York. The guard of this vessel started from Washington this morning in charge of First Lieutenant Cochrane. Captain J. F. Baker and Lieutenant F. T. Peet, of the Marine corps, late of the steamship Niagara, have been summoned as witnesses in the case of Commodore Craven, and when dismissed will report for duty at the Marine Barracks in Philadelphia.

SALES OF MEDICAL AND QUARTERMASTER'S STORES, FURNITURE, ETC.

Sales of medical stores and hospital furniture, under the direction of the Purveyor's Bureau, are continued from day to day, yet a vast amount of property remains to be disposed of. Six months will be required to clear out the stock, which comprises almost every article known to housekeepers for use from cellar to garret. Only moderate prices are demanded by the government for these articles. The Quartermaster's Department has realized twenty thousand dollars within a fortnight from sales of government buildings in the forts and batteries around Washington.

ASSIGNMENT OF GENERAL SULLY.

By special order of the War Department, Brevet Major General Sully has been assigned to the command of the Military District of Upper Missouri.

PAYMENT OF INDIAN ANNUITIES.

The Indian Bureau is notified by letter to-day from its Chippewa agency in Minnesota that the tribes have been nearly all paid of their annuities, and that the disbursement will be continued this week. The Indians of the agency are said to be entirely amicable toward each other and their white brethren.

OPERA IN THE WEST.

Grau's Opera Troupe at Chicago—Martha Given Last Night to a Brilliant and Enthusiastic House.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17, 1865.

Notwithstanding the immense assemblage last night, there was again a very large and particularly brilliant house this evening to hear Martha. The cast was very happy—Boschetti as Martha, Olgini as Nancy, Lotti as Lionel, and Pollini (his first appearance) as Plunkett. The opera was deliciously sung from beginning to end. All the leading *morceaux* were encored and the artists called out again and again. We have never seen two more beautiful *prime donne* on the stage together than Boschetti and Olgini. Their pure, fresh voices harmonized delightfully in all the concerted parts. Olgini's lower notes were heard to great advantage in the solo in the third act, and she made quite a sensation throughout. Boschetti's wonderfully varied talent was again manifested. It was hard to recognize the Marguerita or the Violetta in the Martha of this evening. It seems as though the *rôles* were personated by a different artist. Lotti sang his favorite part in his usual creditable manner. The exceedingly warm reception he received gave him courage and spirit. He was encored in all the solos, and was compelled by the furor of applause to repeat them. Anastasi was announced for the part of Lionel, in which he gained a wide reputation in Italy; but upon Lotti's arrival here yesterday, and learning that the latter artist sang that part here last year, Anastasi kindly requested the management to withdraw his name in favor of Lotti. Oh, happy Grau, whose *tenori di grazia* are so gracious! Plunkett was very well acted by the debutant, Pollini, who, we may add, is a pupil of Flotow, the author of the work. He has a soft, clear basso, not very profound; but he manages his voice judiciously. Colletti made an excellent Tristam. The choruses were in excellent training under Muzio's hand. The finale of the third act was especially well sung and called forth loud applause.

To-morrow the opera of *Ernani*, which was so successful on a previous occasion, will be given at a matinee, with the original cast.

Gazzaniga makes her second appearance on Monday in *Lucrezia Borgia*, with Olgini as Orsini, and Muziani as Genarro. The rest of the cast is equally strong.

There will be an opera every night next week without intermission, and on Saturday Mr. Crosby's new Opera House, Music Hall, will be inaugurated by the artists at a grand concert. During the week a portion of the company will also give concerts in Milwaukee. Public favor is gathering rapidly around Grau's splendid troupe.

Turner's New Opera House at Dayton, Ohio.

[From the Dayton (Ohio) Journal.]

In our own quiet and beautiful little city, the delightful home of not to exceed twenty-five or thirty thousand souls, we march steadily with the pace of progress. Our broad, cleanly streets illustrate taste, refinement and wealth, in a pleasant array of elegant homes, and our crowning excellence is a temple erected to the Muses which is at once the measure of our ambition, our public taste and the common progressiveness of our people. Individual enterprise projected it, but the inspiration was of popular intelligence. Those who contemplate

TURNER'S OPERA HOUSE

will yield tribute of praise to the liberality of Joseph M. and William Turner, in their lavish expenditure of wealth in the creation of their noble structure, but those who think will look for the inspiration which gave birth to such an enterprise; and they will find it in the spirit of the people of Dayton.

The edifice is simple, but elegant, massive in structure, stately in proportions, and, when completed, will be as rich in interior decorations as it is admirable in arrangements and appearance.

THE DESIGN.

It is a Norman-French design, rising one hundred feet from the street, and terminating in a richly decorated Mansard roof. It occupies an area of one hundred feet front on the east side of Main street by one hundred and twenty-five feet on the south side of First. In altitude it spans five lofty stories, with a deep basement, occupied by an elegant restaurant and saloon forty feet by one hundred and twenty five, and a corresponding cellar sixty feet by one hundred and twenty-five. The plan embraces the ideas of commerce and fine arts. The best skill of accomplished architects was required in harmonizing utility with architectural elegance. The street floor is appropriated to mercantile purposes. All the remainder constitutes the Opera House and its accessories.

THE FRONT.

The Main street front, with a return of twenty-two feet on First, is constructed of Buena Vista gray freestone, as smooth as glass. There are five beautiful business rooms with lofty ceilings, on Main street, with arched cellar way under the sidewalk. Double windows arched and columnated, and a large oriole on either wing of the Main street front, with a row of half windows arched and columned, impart a light, airy and elegant appearance to the face of the building. At the termination of the "return" on First street the wall is of fine brick, until you reach

THE GRAND ENTREE,

which is an elaborate piece of freestone work, twenty-five feet wide and thirty in height, crowned with a handsome projection of six feet from the face wall, forming the curtain of a street balcony for musicians. A grand staircase, twenty-five feet wide, subdividing into two stairways, at the first landing, connects at the head with a spacious sixteen feet corridor, which communicates with the auditorium, or Opera House proper, by two broad and lofty doorways, and also connects with sumptuous saloon parlors for guests, which are to be luxuriously furnished with the most elegant carpetings, mirrors and stylish furniture. The corridor is well lighted with fifteen ample windows.

THE AUDITORIUM

is a *chef-d'œuvre* of art—a model of proportion, structure and elegant adornment—not ostentatious, but rich and brilliant. A few large halls in the great cities excel it in dimensions, but few equal it in beauty and arrangement. In acoustic properties and radial lines we know of no dramatic temple that is its peer. There is no point in the parquet, dress circle, family circle or gallery from which every portion of the stage is not visible without effort on the part of auditors to see the performance in its most minute details. While not quite so large as Pike's Opera House, it is more graceful and tasteful, and is more artistically constructed for dramatic effects.

The first floor comprises the parquet and dress circle, or balcony, and the second consists of the family circle, and gallery, which rises from the front in the regular amphitheatrical form, and recedes until it terminates at the lobby above the main corridor. It embraces an area of seventy feet six inches in width by seventy feet from the stage to the corridor. Sittings of the most sumptuous character are provided for eighteen hundred persons, but it will accommodate over two thousand without discomfort. The family circle and gallery are supported by well proportioned iron columns, which art will transform into graceful supports. And ample ventilation is secured by windows on three sides, and an admirable arrangement of ventilation in a grand dome and the carved cornices of the ceiling.

THE FRESCOES.

The ceiling, seventy-six feet wide by ninety deep, and forty feet above the floor, is crowned with a graceful octagonal colonnaded dome, and finished with a richly bracketed and carved cornice, the whole surface frescoed in the best style of art. There are four large panels and four medallions surrounding the dome, representing Poetry, just above the orchestra box, and successively, as you follow the line of vision to the right, by Music, Tragedy, Flora, Glory, Fame and History. This work is very beautifully executed, and its brilliant effect is greatly enhanced by the papier mache decorations prepared from original designs, and which are admirable specimens of artistic mouldings. Light for the embellishment of the auditorium and for use will be supplied by twenty-two gaseliers, reinforced by accessory lights which have been carefully studied for the production of the most dazzling effects.

The seats in the family and dress circles will be upholstered sumptuously, with the finest crimson reps; the parquet supplied with deep cushioned, low-armed, high double backed chairs, especially designed for this Opera House, and the four proscenium boxes will be fitted up in the most complete style conducive to comfort and harmonious effects. For the present there will be no statuesque ornamentation of the pilasters, the richly finished entablatures and finely moulded cornices of the proscenium arch and pilastered columns requiring no foreign reliefs to set them off to advantage.

THE PROSCENIUM

has a depth of ten feet from the front of the stage, and is crowned with a noble arch, with a clear of thirty feet, and a curtain of thirty-five feet width. The stage is thirty-eight feet deep, with sunken footlights, which project three inches above the floor, arranged as a continuous reflector. All that modern art has invented, and all that mechanical skill can fabricate for the perfect appointment of a dramatic temple, in the way of flats, traps, machinery and scenery, is provided.

The green room is spacious, well lighted and ventilated, the painting room, over it, skilfully arranged, and the property and wardrobe rooms, on the right of the stage, are in *splendid* with all other appointments of this complete establishment.

TOUTE ENSEMBLE.

The general effect of Turner's beautiful Opera House is impressive, from every point of view. Its exterior is stately and graceful. It towers above all surrounding buildings, and is conspicuous from any point of the suburbs and surrounding amphitheatre of hills. The interior is chaste, elegant and brilliant, and is not slighted in any particular. Everything is expressive of the wealth and culture of the city, and eloquently suggestive of the liberality of its proprietors.

The builders of this noble temple of the drama, Messrs. Joseph M. and William Turner, are sons of the late Judge Turner, and natives of Randolph township, in this county. They are gentlemen of remarkable energy of character, and their enterprising spirit is demonstrated to the thorough admiration of their fellow-citizens.

The corner stone of the Opera House was laid by John Rouzer, Jr., the superintendent of construction, November 8, 1864, and the edifice will be dedicated by a festival about the 20th of December.

Fire at New Brunswick, N. J.

NEW BRUNSWICK, Nov. 17, 1865.

The large outbuildings of Mr. S. B. Hoffman, of New York, filled with hay and grain, opposite this city, were destroyed by fire this evening. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

THE CHOLERA.

Proposed Action as Regards the Detention of the Passengers on Board the Atalanta—Official Information on the Subject, &c.

Dr. Murphy yesterday made a verbal protest to the Mayor in reference to the detention of the cabin passengers on board the Atalanta. He held that no symptoms of Asiatic cholera had developed themselves among the cabin passengers since their departure from the port. If the malady had existed among them sufficient time had elapsed for incubation; and as up to the present time it had not appeared there was little probability now of its outbreak. He held that it was an inhuman act to keep those passengers who were in good health on board what was regarded as a plague ship. If cholera were not induced by the fact of this detention, ship fever, typhus or typhoid fever would assuredly break out, any of which would be as dangerous to them as the cholera. He recommended a thorough ablution on the part of each well passenger, that his clothes should be changed for others brought to him from the city, and that then Dr. Swinburne might land them in New York in his own tug.

The Mayor remarked that it was not in his power to act in the matter, but that if he could get the Commissioners of Health and Quarantine to agree he would raise no objection.

THE PASSENGERS STILL CONFINED ON BOARD THE ATALANTA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

STEAMSHIP ATALANTA, Lower Bay, Nov. 16, 1865.

Are we forgotten altogether? Are we to stay here to satisfy that eminent surgeon who wrote the report in your paper that he was correct in saying we had better stay here and die than chance to bring infection to the city? Does he not think that we have been experimented on enough? One month and a half have we been shut up with that bugbear cholera, and not a case yet. He also said we were a very cheerful party. Had he not better study the "human face divine" a little more ere he pronounces his hasty verdicts? Are there none to help us out of this? or do the authorities mean to let us stay here until despair and desperation drive us to seek by our own means that liberty which they prize so much (and which is the boast of all Americans) and deny to us? I am, sir, very respectfully,

A CABIN PASSENGER.

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT OF THE CHOLERA.

The undersigned, having been requested by the Commissioners of Health of the city of New York to publish such information as may be of use to the people at large, in view of the anticipated approach of an epidemic of cholera, would most earnestly call the attention of the public to the following statement of facts, and beg their careful consideration of the suggestions and advice:—

Whatever differences of opinion may exist in regard to the cause and mode of propagation of the cholera, all now agree in their observations in this acknowledged fact, that its greatest ravages and most fearful mortality are among the filthy, the vicious and the destitute; and, in fact, it is almost confined to the imprudent, the intemperate, and those who injure themselves by taking improper medicines.

Cleanliness, therefore, is of the first importance—both of your persons and of your houses—particularly your yards, sinks, privies and cesspools, where fresh chloride of lime should be daily sprinkled, and the adjoining walls and fences surrounding them repeatedly whitewashed.

Be careful that there is no stagnant water either in your cellars or yards, and if your basements are damp use fires in them frequently, to burn up the foul air and cause a more perfect ventilation.

Remove all garbage at least once a day, and twice if possible, and permit nothing to remain on the premises to undergo decomposition.

Keep your houses well ventilated.

Be temperate in all things—both in eating and drinking.

Be temperate in exercise, in labor, both physical and mental.

Keep good hours.

Take proper food, in reasonable quantities, at proper times.

Plainly cooked meats with boiled rice, bread and thoroughly cooked potatoes should form the ordinary base of diet.

Abstain from all unripe fruits and stale or partially decayed vegetables; but above all avoid excess in intoxicating drinks of every kind.

Wear flannel next the skin, and at all times maintain the natural temperature of the body by a sufficient amount of clothing. Avoid all exposure to sudden changes of temperature; and if accidentally exposed to a storm remove your wet boots and clothing as soon as possible.

The cholera is not the necessarily fatal disease which it is commonly believed to be, but is a disease that is both preventable and curable. It is always preceded by symptoms of languor and debility, with diarrhœa, and in this stage it is almost always curable; but if neglected at this period, and the diarrhœa permitted to continue until collapse comes on it is then almost always fatal.

At the very commencement of the disease go to bed, and stay there until you are well, with warm flannel around the body, warm bricks or bottles of hot water to the feet, if necessary; and, if there is a tendency to vomit, apply a mustard plaster over the stomach. If you have not got a bed lie down on the floor, and keep yourself warm; but by all means retain the horizontal position all the time, not even getting up to attend to the evacuations, but use a bed pan or other convenience for that purpose, and immediately send for some qualified physician for advice. But, above all things, abstain from taking any of the advertised nostrums that will flood the city, and swallow no medicines unless prescribed by a competent physician.

The Commissioners of Health are doing all in their power for the purification of this city and the protection of the people; but it must be evident to all that they cann ot do everything, and would therefore respectfully call upon their fellow citizens to co-operate with them in every possible way in their power.

Sources of filth and impurity may exist without the knowledge of the public authorities, and every citizen should feel the necessity of keeping a watchful supervision over his own premises, and when individual efforts are inadequate for their removal they should call upon the Board for aid and assistance.

Fear and despondency are the great sources of danger in all epidemics, but more particularly so in cholera than any other.

While, therefore, we would urge upon all our citizens the use of every prudential and precautionary measure, let them preserve a calm and composed state of mind, a cheerful heart, and dispel all fear, and by a confiding trust in an all-wise and merciful Providence we can reasonably hope to escape this scourge, if we implicitly obey His laws.

LEWIS A. SAYRE, M. D., Resident Physician.

THE POETRY OF THE WAR.

Lecture by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

The first of the annual course of lectures given before the Mercantile Library Association was delivered last evening in Irving Hall to a very large and intellectual audience by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. His subject was "The Poetry of the War." It must have been peculiarly gratifying to the genial and witty "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" to witness such an appreciative and numerous assemblage around the evening board desirous of hearing him discourse upon a topic so congenial to his tastes, and upon which he is so well qualified by genius and culture to treat. A number of distinguished citizens occupied seats on the platform.

Dr. Holmes, on presenting himself, was received with enthusiasm. He said that some might meet him with the assertion that there was no poetry in the recent war. He believed that a great deal of readable verse and some genuine poetry had been written during the past four years under the inspiration of the times through which we have been passing. He trusted they all felt kindly to those who, to the best of their ability, had spoken for our dear country in her time of need. If they had failed they had nothing to be ashamed of, and he (the lecturer) had a thousand times rather have written the worst stanzas the war brought forth, so that they were prompted by a hearty, loyal spirit, than have sneered at them ever so smartly for their want of artistic excellence. He was going through this poetic garden in search of flowers, not weeds and vermin. The present time required a standing army of moderately good poets, and he thought that if our boarding school misses spent as much time on their stanzas as on their pianos they might do up as good verse as is generally sent in. The poems of the war were written by soldiers' wives, sisters, parents, children and friends of soldiers, many of them trembling with emotion, and the paper on which they were written was blistered with tears. The lecturer criticised the first song produced by the war, "John Brown," which began in a noble and sublime strain and ended in doggerel. "His soul is marching on" were lines that thundered like the cry of doom in the ears of proud rebels. The attempt was made subsequently to shape a new song, but if the John Brown song had been finished nobly, instead of ignobly committing *felo de se* in the fourth stanza, it would have stood vivid, majestic, terrible—the "Marseillaise" of that great revolution which came under the aspect of revolution. "Maryland, My Maryland," was pronounced truly poetic; but the voice of the recreant author of it was drowned by the son of Maryland who penned the Star Spangled Banner. The battle songs of the South were soon exhausted, and the majority of them were common-place. The poem on Stonewall Jackson was a good one—he was one of the most respected of the rebel generals, and it was not impossible that a crop of Stonewall Jacksons, Joneses and Smiths was growing up in the North. Albert Pike was severely criticised for calling Yankees the offspring of canine ancestors, for he (Pike) happened to be the son of a Yankee artisan and himself a Yankee schoolmaster. "Beyond the Potomac" and "Hurrying On" were admitted to be worthy productions. Some of the squibs of *Punch* might be called rebel products; but *Punch* crawled out backwards so soon as he was quite sure he was on the losing side. The lecturer was pained to remark that during the war the poets of Great Britain were silent. The laureate, who was supposed to sympathize with civilization, lost his chance of winning the eternal gratitude of a great nation. The men of Britain who had spoken to American hearts were John Bright and John Stuart Mill. (Applause.) Among the poets of the war should be mentioned first those who had written sword in hand and who had fought with songs on their lips. No name could head them better than the hero General Lander. His lines, "Rhode Island to the South," and his "Tribute to the Massachusetts Twentieth" were full of the same feeling that led him to offer his services in the field. "Fitz James O'Brien" and "Miles O'Reilley" were highly spoken of. "The Countersign," written by a private soldier, was a beautiful production, and, in order to convince his hearers of his opinion, he quoted some of the verses. Nothing was more remarkable than the number of female poets. There were not less than fifty of them, among whom were Mrs. Howe, Mrs. Whitney, Miss Austin, Edna Dean Proctor and Rose Terry. A volume could be written on the songs of the camp. Out of thirty-three songs selected by popular song vendors, no less than fourteen found their inspiration in the sacred name of mother. Popular songs, such as "Who Will Care for Mother Now?" "Just Before the Battle" and "Tramp, Tramp" were dinned in our ears until they made our ears like spots on drumheads, and yet there was some genuine pathos in some of them. Dr. Holmes then spoke of the anonymous poetry of the war, and recited a number of verses of the mythical authors. He alluded to the well known poem, "To Canaan, to Canaan," and to the claims made by a lady and gentleman to its paternity, and naively let out the fact that it was written by himself, and published in the Boston *Traveller*. A long list of well known American poets, whose reputation had been established years ago, was regretted and their warlike productions missed, after which the lecturer proceeded to speak of the persons whose poetical reputations were made by the war. Out of that class he mentioned the names of Brownell, Cutler, Tilton, George A. Townsend and Forsyth Wilson. Dr. Holmes recited in an exquisite and feeling manner a poem entitled, "Orderly Sergeant Robert Burton," which was listened to with breathless attention. In conclusion he spoke of the poems of the war that took other shapes than that of verse—the poems of action which were written in the blood of patriots. The request to "tenderly forward to their Northern homes the bodies of the Union soldiers" was poetic, as was the sentiment uttered by Mr. Stetson, "The Astor House makes no charge for feeding Massachusetts troops."

The lecturer was loudly applauded at the close of his entertaining review of the poets and poetry of the war.

MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE.

Conclusion of the Trial of Wm. Keefe for the Homicide of John Abrams—Verdict of Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree, &c.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Before Judge Russel.

The trial of Wm. Keefe, indicted for the murder of John Abrams, was resumed yesterday. Assistant District Attorney Bedford stated that he would not call any more witnesses.

Mr. Edward H. Anderson then proceeded in an eloquent address to open the defence, stating his theory and affirming that the testimony on behalf of the prisoner would sustain it.

Robert Stewart (a boy), sworn and examined by Mr. Townsend, testified as follows:—Q. Robert, where do you live? A. 198 First avenue. Q. Where did you live on the 5th of June last? A. I lived at 259 East Twelfth street. Q. Which room did you occupy? A. First floor. Q. Did you live with your parents? A. Yes, sir. Q. Is Keefe, the prisoner, your father or stepfather? A. Stepfather. Q. Mrs. Keefe is your mother? A. Yes, sir. Q. Do yo remember whether your father was at home that evening to supper? A. Yes, sir. Q. At what time did you take supper? A. About half-past eight or nine o'clock. Q. Who were at supper at the time? A. The whole of us—father, mother, sister, brother and me. Q. What was your father's condition at that time, so far as intemperance or temperance are concerned? A. He was pretty tight. Q. Look at that knife and say whether you ever saw it before (knife shown). A. Yes, sir; I saw it in the house that night with father; he always carried it for a pocket knife. Q. Did you see it on that night in question? A. Yes, sir. Q. State where you first saw it, and all about what you saw in reference to this case? A. I saw it before we had our tea and after tea; he was cutting off the hard skin of the palm of the hand with it; he was sitting on a chair in his own room; my mother was not in at that time; she and little sister were at the Post Office; after mother went out he got up and went on the front stoop and took a knife with him, and sat out there picking around his hands and cutting a little skin off it and singing; this man (whom the witness did not know) hallooed to Keefe, "Go to bed;" so then he says, "I'll go to bed when I like;" I was in our own entry, about two or three feet from father; I was in the hall and father was leaning up against the banister on the stoop by the side of the house. Q. Did you hear him call out at all that night to that man who called out to him, or did he and the man have any conversation as he went down the street when your father was on the stoop? A. No, sir; when he (the man) went up the street he kept talking down to him; so he (Keefe) hallooed up to him, "Go to hell, you son of a bitch;" then Abrams (the deceased) stepped up and said, "If you don't go to bed, God damn you, I'll break your jaw for you;" my father said that he would not go to bed, and Abrams then said, "I'll make you go to bed, God damn you;" so then he makes a motion over at the stoop; he put one foot on the stoop, and he was going to put another, when his wife and another woman came and ran over and caught hold of him and pulled him back; Abrams' wife said to her husband, "I hope Keefe will blacken your eyes for you;" so then he says to her, "It is none of your business;" then he rushes over again at Keefe, and put his hand on Keefe's shoulder; I rushed in the house; I began to get scared; I stayed about two or three minutes, came out, and thought it was all over; I heard a little noise on the stoop; I saw a crowd around; Keefe was sitting in the same place where I left him when I went in the house; mother returned about five minutes before the policeman came; she caught hold of Keefe and tried to fetch him into the house; she asked him what the matter was, and he said, "Not much;" he had a knife in his hand, and she took the knife out of his hand; I saw it the next day. Q. Did you ever see him carry any other knives? A. No, sir; I do not swear that that is the knife he stabbed Abrams with. Q. Did you hear your stepfather make use of any insulting language except to the man who went by? A. No, sir. Q. You were there during the whole time up to the time you went into the room? A. Only the time I went