EUROPE.

Special Telegrams to the New York Herald.

NEWS TO NOVEMBER 21.

John H. Surratt, the Lincoln Assassin, Serving in the Papal Army.

HIS ARREST AND ESCAPE.

The King of Prussia to the Pope.

AN AUSTRIAN APPEAL TO HUNGARY.

&c., &c., &c

THE LINCOLN ASSASSINS.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

J. H. Surratt, the Lincoln Assassin, Arrested in the Zouaves.

ROME, Nov. 18, 1866.

John H. Surratt, the alleged accomplice in the assassination plot and murder of President Lincoln, has been found serving in the ranks of the Papal Zouaves. He was enrolled under the name of John Watson, and was arrested on demand of General King, the United States Minister.

When under arrest and being conveyed to prison, Surratt ran from the guard, leaped over a precipice, and escaped into the territory of the kingdom of Italy. The Italian authorities are on the alert to secure his recapture.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

The King of Prussia Offers to Protect the Pope.

MADRID, Nov. 21, 1866.

The *Standard* newspaper of this day's date says that the King of Prussia has written a letter to the Pope offering him protection.

ENGLAND.

The United States Naval Seizures.

LONDON, Nov. 21, 1866.

Lord Stanley, in reply to a letter in regard to the ships seized by the United States government, points out that no arrangement can be made to consider such claims.

A Sneer at United States Securities.

The London *Times*, in an editorial this morning, says that, although the federal Secretary of the Treasury believes that the bonds of the United States will be paid in gold, it would be better if Congress would secure such payment by law.

The Rappahannock Case.

LONDON, Nov. 21, 1866.

The Admiralty Court in the case of the Rappahannock has ordered the representatives of the United States government to give security in the suit where they are plaintiffs.

The Reform Agitation.

A grand reform banquet took place at Manchester last night, at which Mr. Bright made a powerful speech.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

The Termination of the Empire Reported in France.

PARIS, Nov. 21—Evening.

It is said that the French government has received news that the rule of Maximilian is virtually at an end, and it is further reported that the government has ordered the shipment of stores to Mexico to be stopped.

HUNGARY.

Imperial Austrian Message to the Diet.

PESTH, Nov. 21, 1866.

The Hungarian Diet met to-day.

The imperial rescript was received and read. It declares that if the Diet will remove the difficulties in the way of unity a Hungarian Ministry will be appointed, and the autonomy of Hungary will be re-established.

THE CANDIAN REVOLUTION.

No Submission to Turkey.

LONDON, Nov. 21, 1866.

Advices from Crete state that the Cretan Assembly deny the report that they have submitted to the Turks.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The London Money Market.

LONDON, Nov. 21, 1866.

Consols for money are quoted to-day at 90¾.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

The following are the current quotations of American bonds:—

United States five-twenties	70¾
Illinois Central shares	78¾
Erie Railway shares	50¾

LONDON, Nov. 21—Evening.

Consols closed to-day at 90¾, for money.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

United States five-twenties	70¾
Illinois Central shares	78¾
Erie Railway shares	50

The Liverpool Cotton Market.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 21, 1866.

The cotton market to-day is unchanged. Middling uplands are quoted at 14d. The sales to-day will probably reach 10,000 bales.

Liverpool Breadstuffs Market.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 21, 1866.

The breadstuffs market is firm, at an advance. Wheat is quoted at 10s. 9d.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 21—Evening.

The breadstuffs market closed firmer.

Liverpool Provisions Market.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 21, 1866.

The market for provisions is easier. Pork has a downward tendency.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 21—Evening.

Provisions have a declining tendency.

Lard inactive.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

Disaster at Sea.

ANTWERP, Nov. 21, 1866.

The schooner Island Home, Richmond (?), for the Rio Grande, was capsized, on Oct. 3. Her crew were taken off and brought to this port.

Arrivals Out.

QUEENSTOWN, Nov. 21—Evening.

The steamship City of Manchester, from New York November 7, touched at this port this afternoon and proceeded on her way to Liverpool.

SOUTHAMPTON, Nov. 21—Evening.

The steamship Deutschland, which left New York November 10, has arrived at this port.

FRENCH DIPLOMACY IN AMERICA.

Napoleon's Change of Minister in Washington.

By an imperial decree dated at St. Cloud, Oct. 28, 1866, the following changes, among others, are made in the French diplomatic corps:—

ARTICLE 2. The Marquis de Montholon, our Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the United States of America, is appointed as our Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near his Majesty the King of Portugal, in place of M. Bourée, appointed as our Ambassador near his Imperial Majesty the Sultan.

ART. 3. M. Berthemy, our Envoy Extraordinary, &c., near the Emperor of China, is appointed as our Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the United States of America, in place of M. le Marquis de Montholon, appointed as our Envoy Extraordinary, &c., near His Majesty the King of Portugal.

AMUSEMENTS.

Ristori's Benefit and Last Appearance in Brooklyn.

The announcement that Madame Ristori would make her last appearance in Brooklyn would in itself be sufficient inducative to draw a full house, but when to this was added that the performance was a benefit to the great tragedienne, it is not surprising that a magnificent audience assembled in the Academy of Music last evening. Madame Ristori, evidently anxious to compliment her host of friends in Brooklyn, selected for the occasion of her benefit and farewell performance Elizabeth, confessedly the piece in which she has gained her chief triumph. The doors of the Academy were thrown open a little before the usual time, no doubt to give admission at once from the cold and damp evening air to the warm interior of the building to numbers who so early arrived to make sure of such seats as were not already secured. The curtain subsequently rose before a most brilliant audience, the stalls, parquet and circle presenting a brilliant array of the wealth, fashion and beauty of Brooklyn—the ladies, notwithstanding the cold and threatening evening, appearing in the richest and most attractive toilets, as if anxious to present in this graceful manner a souvenir as gratifying to the fair beneficiary as that which marked their appreciation of her talent during her previous performance in giving the largest night's proceeds that ever went into her theatrical treasurer's coffers. With this accordance between the great actress and her audience the performance could not fail to be a success. Madame Ristori never looked or acted better, and as she was most ably supported throughout, the audience felt on leaving the building that they had enjoyed a rich intellectual treat. Ristori was called to the front at the close of each act to receive the acknowledgments of her delighted audience, and again after the closing scene, at which time the enthusiasm of the audience was manifested in a manner not often witnessed in Brooklyn.

RISTORI'S FAREWELL SPEECH.

When called in front of the curtain on the last occasion, all sweet smiles and graceful bows, expressive of the deepest gratification, Madame Ristori, amid breathless silence, spoke her farewell address in a few English words as follows:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen—I wish I could thank you. I have the will, but not the words."

This simple and touching sentiment was greeted in the warmest manner, all conceding that in manner and words nothing could exceed its appropriateness. Last evening was the seventh appearance of Madame Ristori, the administration receiving over $20,000 for the seven performances given since her *debut* to her last night's exit.

BENEFIT OF RISTORI IN NEW YORK TO-NIGHT.

No lover of dramatic art in its highest and grandest form should miss the last night of the great tragedienne, Ristori, in her celebrated character of Medea and the equally celebrated sleep-walking scene in Macbeth. Such attractions, added to the fact that it is her benefit, cannot fail to crowd the French theatre to-night. To-morrow the farewell matinée will take place. Mary Stuart will be given.

Broadway Theatre—Mr. Charles Dillon's Shylock.

The remarks made in respect to Mr. Dawison's Shylock, during his engagement at the Stadt theatre, are particularly applicable to Mr. Dillon's conception and representation. Mr. Dawison's rendering was fine and subtle. Mr. Dillon's is strong and, on the whole, the our mind, *trop prononcé*. Both fail, in our judgment, to appreciate or comprehend the character of the Jew as Shakspere drew him. They give too much prominence to his personal wrong and individual vindictiveness, leaving out of sight the hatred he felt for the Christians because of the persecutions his race had so long and patiently endured. They do not invest Shylock with sufficient dignity or poetry, especially Mr. Dillon, who omits almost entirely the latter element. In his hands the Jew appears merely a crafty, cruel, even savage usurer, whose only purpose in lending Antonio money was to gratify personal revenge by cutting the much-coveted pound of flesh from the unfortunate merchant's breast. Of the largeness, the generous wrath, the long-smouldering hatred inherited from his ancestors there is no trace in Mr. Dillon's Shylock. It is simply a fierce lust for blood; a wild, brutal craving to cut the life out of the man who had grossly insulted and spat upon him on the Rialto. No one would imagine his Jew had received other than a personal wrong, or that he had ought behind his own experiences to urge him to vengeance. One wonders almost why he does not take the offered ducats by Bassanio, so sordid and small and mean he makes him; instead of the life of his detested foe. There seems no part of Venice or of Shakspere in the character we saw last evening, unless the City of the Sea be bounded by Nassau street and Chatham square, and the great poet the opposite of what we have ever believed him. No critic has a right to quarrel with an artist's conception; and we do not with Mr. Dillon's. No doubt he has given it long and conscientious study, and has satisfied himself that he is correct in the understanding of it. Unquestionably he has reasons for the faith that is in him, as we have for that which is in us. But critics must be absolute for proper effect, and enact the intellectual Jove, unless they would lose all influence by being ranked with the lesser Gods, admitted only by courtesy to the loftiest places on Olympus.

Mr. Dillon's rendering was often extremly good, and his readings and "business" at times new and striking. He was very natural in certain scenes, and quite as artificial in others. In a word, his impersonation was made up of the excellencies and defects we have had occasion to mention in other of his *rôles*. Where we liked him least he sometimes gained the most applause; and generally his audience seemed satisfied with his playing of the very difficult part. Fine Shylocks are as rare as saturnine Hibernians. We tax our mind in vain for one supremely good, unless it be that of Macready, whom we remember gratefully in the fresh years, when neither the drama nor life had lost its illusions. Mr. Dillon's is superior to that of most actors we have seen. It is not at all stereotyped, though a trifle muscular, and bears no evidence of imitation. There is little question he is in the right path to a higher success than he has yet achieved. He lacks completeness and symmetry. He has carved one side of the statue to fair proportions, and is working industriously at the other. We wish him good speed, and the early gathering of all the laurels he has ambitiously and earnestly and most laudably sought to win. His facial expression and byplay in the trial scene, after the announcement of the forfeiture of his estate—indeed, all his acting from that time until his exit a disappointed, heart-broken old man—were worthy of all admiration. The bitter, spirit-crushed, singularly pathetic manner in which he gave the words, "I am contented," we shall long remember. Its vividness and effect were worthy of any living artist. It was one of those felicitous efforts of Mr. Dillon which make him seem the possessor of positive genius. He was called out and warmly applauded at the close of the play by an audience that was not half so large as his rendering of Shylock deserved.

Theatre Francais—Zampa.

The second performance of Herold's work drew a very large audience to the French theatre last night. Zampa is the heaviest and most taxing opera that Mr. Juignet's excellent company have attempted this season, and their shortcomings may be attributed only to the nature of the music, which approaches nearly the grand opera, and is therefore unsuited for Opéra Comique artists. Still the work was, with one exception, very creditably given, and both chorus and orchestra displayed unwonted powers. The orchestra was admirably led by M. Predigam. At times the dashing music of the score inspired the musicians to such an extent that they miscalculated the power of the voices and left them completely in the shade. The violins, in particular, worked with a *vim* that showed they caught the spirit of the composer, but unfortunately they forgot at the same time the calibre of the voices they accompanied. This was plainly discernible in the drinking song of the first act, the same subject that commences the overture, and in Alphonse's remonstrance with his betrothed in the second act. The voices were almost drowned by the orchestra. Of the choruses, *Au signal* and *Honneur! honneur!* were the best. The prayer for women's voices that commences the second act was monotonous and too loud. Coming from the Gothic chapel, we expected it to be sung with religious fervor and softened feeling instead of being bawled out at the top of the voice. The same fault was discernible in the serenade in the third act. Mlle. Naddie deserves much credit for her exquisite vocalization in the music of her *rôle*. She might as well, however, have the manzanilla tree death scene in *L'Africaine* or Lucrezia Borgia for her style of voice as Zampa. Mlle. Laurentis is always charming in voice and acting, and was particularly so last evening. De Surmont, in the duet between Camilla and Alphonse, sang with more *élan*, and even breadth as well as purity of tone, than we ever heard him before. Of the other characters we must commend M. Edgard as a capital buffo singer. The scene in which he first makes his appearance after his interview with the terrible unknown of his way back from Melazzo, was excellent. The fright of poor Dandolo and his incoherent explanations to Camilla and Rita are pictured by Herold in ludicrous but most charming music. To the trembling "*parles bas*" and "*ta frayeur*," repeated rapidly and in tones of real terror, are joined the other voices in a strange, mysterious discord, which produces a quaint and powerful effect. MM. Armand and Chol acted well but sang indifferently. There was, on the whole, a marked improvement in every respect over the first night, and we have no doubt but that at the third representation of Zampa many of the rough points will be smoothed down and the opera given in a manner worthy of it. It will be given at the Brooklyn Academy of Music this evening, and we would advise our friends over the water not to neglect this opportunity of hearing one of the most beautiful operas of the French school.

Stadt Theatre.

One of the most popular pieces of the German language was produced last night at this theatre, and was deservedly received with enthusiasm. It was "Die Maschinenbauer, by Weirauch, which abounds with songs and dances, just suited to excite a hearty laugh and afford a pleasant evening's entertainment. One medley chorus, closing with the celebrated Liberty chorus from Fidelio was particularly well executed, and well merited the hearty applause accorded to it. The cast was very large. Among the most prominent characters was Edward Thompson, a young American, impersonated by Mr. Fiske, who rendered it well, with the exception that he occasionally forget the English accents necessary to render it comic. Mr. Hengins sang several songs, in which he was encored, and the same compliment was paid to Madame Zerboni, who sang a medley very fairly, although her voice is not sufficiently powerful to fill the theatre.

Thalia Theatre.

Humoristische Studien was given at this theatre last night. The two most prominent characters in the piece are two students at a university, who were impersonated by Messrs. Lohmann and Penner. The former was quite in his element, as such a part must be given quite naturally. Mr. Penner, however, moved as if he were on wires; but grace never was his attribute. Miss Fellmann did her weeping well, and if an occasional smile interrupted the even tenor of her feelings, it must be ascribed to an overflow of amiability. Mr. Ahlfeldt, as Kalinsky, a college fag, played well and relieved the monotony of the piece by his comic conception of the *rôle*.

Hooley's Minstrels.

Notwithstanding a very unpromising and forbidding evening for enjoyment out of doors, Hooley's neat and attractive little Opera House and the well appreciated amusements to be enjoyed there brought together an audience that left no spare room. An excellent programme for the minstrels, interspersed with favorite songs by popular artists of the company, followed by the usual comic banjo solo, medley clog dance, was succeeded by the afterpiece, The Black Man with the Black Bag, which has become very popular and promises to have quite a run.

National Hall, Harlem.

The doors of this building were thrown open to the public last evening for the first time. The hall, which is capable of holding about six hundred persons, has a very chaste appearance, the coloring both of walls and ceiling being very neat and tasty. The only fault which can found with the room is the unusual lowness of its ceiling, owing to which its acoustic capabilities are of anything but first rate order. The inaugural concert given last evening was well attended. The programme was a very attractive one to all lovers of operatic music, containing, as it did, many gems of that peculiar class of harmony. Madame Gazzaniga sang with her usual brilliancy the aria "*Come a Bello*," from Lucrezia Borgia, and "*Ah! Mon Fils*" from Meyerbeer's Prophet. Both pieces were received with rapturous applause and secured encores. Madame Gazzaniga was in capital voice, her first song giving full play to its great compass, and the rendering displaying to the fullest extent this artiste's superior vocal power. Signor Limberti sang with considerable expression, but now and then fell into almost too vehement a style, at any rate, considering the smallness of the room and stage. Mr. J. R. Thomas gave "Beautiful Isle of the Sea" and "Simon, the Cellarer" in good style. The latter was, so far as the audience expressed themselves, decidedly the *pièce de résistance* of the evening. Messrs. Pease and Colby gained a well deserved encore to their duet for two pianos, as also did Signor Gariboldi to Heller's "Exile." The audience might have been larger, but could not certainly have been more appreciative and demonstrative.

MEXICO.

Departure of a Liberal Force from Chihuahua to Attack Durango, &c.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 22, 1866.

A letter from President Juarez to the Mexican Consul in this city, dated Chihuahua, October 15, says General Aranda left El Paso to form a junction with General Angeles and attack Durango, which was supposed to have been evacuated by the French and garrisoned by Mexican imperialists only. Little resistance was experienced.

Juarez pardoned two traitors named Enriquez and Alonzo, but had refused to pardon Corranza and Mendoza, who were executed. They were held responsible for crimes committed while Chihuahua was under imperial rule.

General Vega Reported Shot as a Traitor by Order of Corona.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 22, 1866.

It is rumored that General Vega, who went to Mexico ostensibly to assist Corona, was really employed by Ortega, and having disobeyed Juarez's orders was shot as a traitor by order of Corona.

AMERICAN FREEDMEN'S UNION.

Public Meeting in Philadelphia of the Pennsylvania Branch—Address of Chief Justice Chase.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 22, 1866.

This evening the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Freedmen's Union Commission held a public meeting at the Academy of Music.

Chief Justice Chase presided, and on taking the chair expressed his gratification at the opportunity to testify his hearty approval of the work. There is no interest in the land which can be in any way injured by the work of the Commission. There is no interest in the land which will not be promoted and aided by this movement. The speaker then traced the origin of the organization, commencing with the first agent sent by the Treasury Department to the Sea Islands, and continuing until Congress had established the Freedmen's Bureau, in order to assist the voluntary efforts of the people of the North, who had taken hold of the work. The part of true statesmanship is to connect as far as practicable the work of the government with the voluntary action of the people, and one of the most interesting features of this work, is the introduction of this principle. The speaker had always taken a deep interest in the cause. The Commission was endeavoring to carry on a work begun by the government, and striving to carry the blessings of education to every person in the South who is willing to receive them. Educated and skilled labor will be ten times more valuable to the community than the uneducated. The work will also assist us in the settlement of the difficulties which now agitate the country. Referring to the proposed amendment to the constitution Justice Chase said:—"A more generous, a more merciful proposition was never made to a people who have been in rebellion than the amendment proposed. Those who denounced it should give to the people another, and they will consider it, notwithstanding the passion of the hour, the speaker hoped for the best. They would pass away, and then everything connected with the great question of reconstruction will be calmly considered. But, he added, I trust too, that the people will never consent to any arrangement which does not insure a permanent peace, tranquillity, union and the prosperity of this land. The speaker was frequently applauded during his address. The Rev. Lyman Abbott was the next speaker, and referred to the necessity of educating the colored people of the South, in order to make them useful not only to themselves but to others. The schoolhouses must be erected throughout the South, and with intelligence will come an increasing demand for the products of the land; thus if any motive was needed to secure contributions towards the work, the selfish motive was present in the prospect of increasing the trade and commerce of the North. The Pennsylvania branch of the Commission has, during the past year, supported 301 schools, with an attendance of 5,000 scholars and over 700 teachers, and has distributed about a half a million of supplies. If the contributions are liberal the commission hope to increase the work. General Howard, who was present, made an address, commending the work and explaining the operations of the Freedmen's Bureau in connection with these voluntary associations for the education of the blacks.

NEWS FROM NEW ORLEANS AND TEXAS.

Probable Impeachment of Governor Wells—Treatment of the Prisoners at the Dry Tortugas.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 22, 1866.

It is rumored in conservative circles that on the assembling of the Legislature in January, an effort will be made to impeach Governor Wells for attempting to subvert the State government.

A gentleman just arrived from the Dry Tortugas reports that the prisoners are subject to severe treatment, and that Colonel St. Leger Greenfell, of Morgan's staff, late of the British army, is near death.

Flake's Galveston *Bulletin*, which supported Governors Hamilton, Pease and Bell, and which is still the organ of the Union party of Texas, comes out to-day in distinct opposition to universal or qualified negro suffrage.

The Texas stay law, approved by the Governor, requires payment on all judgments rendered before the 1st of January, 1867, to be made in four annual instalments of one-fourth each.

Senator Doolittle returned to-day from Texas, en route to Washington.

General Rousseau is in the city on a short visit.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IN THE NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

RALEIGH, Nov. 22, 1866.

The consideration of the constitutional amendment was to-day referred to a joint committee of both Houses. From the complexion of the Legislature it is evident that the ratification of the amendment will be rejected by a vote of at least one hundred and forty out of one hundred and seventy.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 22, 1866.

The Young Men's Christian Association Convention continued in session to-day. Resolutions were adopted declaring their disapproval of any relaxation of the existing legal sabbath, and pledging members of the association to exert their most earnest efforts to prevent any interference with the present Sunday law; urging Christian young men throughout the land to organize associations in villages, towns and cities where they do not now exist. They also passed resolutions urging all to exert their influence against the use of intoxicating liquors, and to discourage dancing, card and billiard playing, as having an evil tendency.

LOCOMOTIVE EXPLOSION.

AUGUSTA, Nov. 22, 1866.

A locomotive exploded on the Georgia Railroad to-day killing the fireman, named Martin, and wounding the engineer, named Berry.

THE AFRICA EN ROUTE TO BOSTON.

HALIFAX, Nov. 22, 1866.

The steamship Africa sailed at eight o'clock last evening for Boston, where she will be due early to-morrow morning.

NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

OUR FORTRESS MONROE CORRESPONDENCE.

Ex-Commissioner Robert Ould on a Visit to Jeff Davis—Catalogue of Inquiries About the State Prisoner—Opening Session of the Virginia Methodist Conference and the Business Awaiting Its Disposal.

FORTRESS MONROE, Nov. 21, 1866.

Each day continues to bring numerous visitors to Jeff Davis. Among the latest reported arrivals are ex-Commissioner Robert Ould and a niece of the state prisoner. It is a noticeable, although hardly to be considered a curious, fact that most of his visitors still speak of him as President Davis. Occasionally, however, the use of this titular rank of Confederate times calls out a sharp, as well as unexpected and amusing, rebuff. An instance occurred this morning, which I will relate:—

"I wish to see President Davis," asked a new arrival of a volunteer officer whose office is outside the post.

"Will you be kind enough to show me where to apply for permission to see him?"

"There is no such man here, sir," answered the officer, "as President Davis."

"Is it possible?" rejoined the stranger. "I have come a long way to see him."

"Well, sir, you will find no such person here now," was the grave response.

"Has he been released on bail?"

"No."

"Paroled?"

"No."

"Pardoned?"

"No."

"He is not dead, I hope," and this last question was most hesitatingly put and with a most anxious look on the stranger's countenance.

"Not that I am aware of," was the cool and unfeeling response.

"I can't understand you. I beg you will make yourself intelligible," implored rather than demanded the stranger.

"I will do so," replied the officer, and a gleam of hope began to light up the stranger's face. "There is a man named Jefferson Davis, a government prisoner, confined in the fort. You can see him by going"—

"Thank you, sir. You need go no further; I will make my remaining inquiries elsewhere," and he strode away with an intensely irate air, giving the officer a parting look that would have accomplished his immediate demolition if such power lay in looks.

VIRGINIA METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The annual session of the Virginia Methodist Conference was entered upon to-day at the Granby Methodist church, in Norfolk. Of the one hundred and more ministers constituting the conference seventy-three answered to their names at the opening of the session, and this number was largely increased by other arrivals during the day. Bishop Pierce was chosen the presiding officer, and there were also in attendance Bishops Early and Doggett. After the introductory exercises of calling the roll, electing officers, reading a portion of the Bible, prayer and singing, came the appointment of standing committees and listening to the reports touching elders. A good portion of the day's session was consumed in this last business. All the ministers, with one exception, gave their elders good characters, and highly complimented their Christian labors and zeal during the past year. The conduct of this exceptional elder was characterized as immoral, and the question was whether, having since expressed repentance for his immorality, he could be accepted as a private member. The presiding Bishop decided that he could, and thus ended the matter. Rev. Mr. Wills, of the Atlantic district, referred rather scrimoniously to the appearance in his district of a subcommittee from Philadelphia, and alleged that, through their dissemination of Northern views, disturbances and dissensions had occurred. As the committee had returned whence they came peace had been partially restored, and he hoped would continue so. The session lasted from nine A. M. till half-past one P. M., and it was arranged to hold the session daily between these hours till the business before it was finished. The sessions will probably last through the week. On every evening there is also to be preaching in the two Methodist churches in the city. The most important business expected to come up has reference to the admission of lay members, and changing the name from Methodist Episcopal Church South to plain Methodist Episcopal Church. It will be remembered that these recommendations were made at the last meeting of the General Conference. The addition of the word South to the name of the church organization, it will also be recollected occurred, in 1844, at the time of the division of the Northern and Southern churches, growing out of differences of views on the question of slavery. At the present time there are about one hundred and twenty churches in Virginia, but many of the ministers preach to as many as a dozen different congregations. Most are in flourishing condition. At the present session about one-half the ministers will be assigned to new circuits. During the past year there have been six deaths of ministers, Rev. Wm. S. Williams, Wm. C. Blunt, Wm. S. Daily, Allen R. Bernard, Robert Scott and John N. Mounycott. The war has not interfered with the annual meetings of this Conference. The worst result of the war has been its effects on the financial interests of the Church, in diminishing the distribution of Bibles, tracts and Sabbath-school books, and making more difficult payment of salaries to ministers.

CONVENTION OF LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

An Organization Effected—A Constitution and By-Laws Adopted—Election of Officers for the Ensuing Year, &c.

The Convention of Life Insurance Companies of the United States met again yesterday at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. In addition to the twenty-five companies represented day before yesterday the following were reported as in sympathy or represented yesterday:—Connecticut Mutual, Security, Globe and Mutual of New York, New York Life, Manhattan Life, Germania, Brooklyn Company and the editor of the *Insurance Journal*.

The following are the officers *pro tempore* of the Convention:—President, Benjamin F. Stevens, President of the New England Mutual, of Boston; Secretary, John Eadie, Secretary of the United States Life, New York; Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, Samuel H. White, secretary Charter Oak Life, Hartford.

Mr. WILLIAM BARNES reported that he had called upon nine of the companies not represented; that several of them had responded as above stated, and several expressed entire harmony and willingness to join an association of this nature, if they could be assured its objects were those in which they could concur and have united action. Some of them feared that the programme laid out at Hartford would be pursued, and preferred to wait and see what its action may be. He added that the most expedient action was to form an association on common points of agreement. The verbal report of Mr. Barnes was accepted.

Mr. SIMON BUCKLIN reported a basis for a constitution, which was referred to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Bucklin, Eadie and Morgan, appointed by the Chair.

After considerable discussion on the subject of legislation, Mr. N. D. MORGAN offered a resolution that a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the subject of national legislation, and, if advisable, to cooperate with a similar committee from the marine and fire insurance companies, with a view to inducing Congress to pass such a bill as may be acceptable to such a committee; also that a committee of five be appointed to take similar action respecting state legislation. After some discussion the resolution was laid on the table.

THE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. SIMON BUCKLIN, from the committee, reported the following constitution, which was adopted:—

1. This association shall be known as the Chamber of Life Assurance of the United States.

2. The the object of the Chamber shall be the procurement of national or uniform state legislation, collecting, collating and publishing vital and other statistics incident to life insurance and in general the question of the interests of life insurance in the United States.

3. Any company chartered in the United States to make insurance on human life, conforming to the rules of the Chamber, shall have the right to be represented in it by one vote.

4. The officers of the Chamber shall be a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and five directors, to be chosen by ballot, who shall together constitute an executive committee, which five shall be a quorum. They shall all be persons officially connected with the companies belonging to the Chamber, but no two of them with the same company.

5. The Chamber shall meet annually on the first Tuesday in November, for the choice of officers or to transact any other business of which one month's notice may have been given to each company by the executive committee; and it shall be the duty of the committee, at the request of any company, to give such notice of any proposition to be brought before the Chamber for its action.

6. Honorary members may be chosen at any meeting and shall be entitled to the floor in all debates, but they shall not be entitled to vote.

7. Superintendents of insurance departments and commissioners of insurance shall be ex-officio honorary members of this Chamber.

8. The executive committee at the annual meetings shall submit by-laws, rules and regulations for the government of the Chamber, and also appoint committees for special objects.

9. The expenses of the Chamber shall be apportioned by the executive committee among the several companies in proportion to every million of assets, counting a fraction of a million as a million.

10. That this constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of all members present, provided that the amendment be submitted to one meeting and acted upon at another.

OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

A formal ballot for officers or the organization for the ensuing year was then taken, resulting in the election of Benjamin F. Stevens for President; N. D. Morgan, of the North American Company, for Vice President; John Eadie for Secretary, and Samuel H. White for Treasurer. The Directors elected were—Messrs. Freeman, Batterson, Woodmansiff, Phelps and Kellogg.

On motion of Mr. WALKWAN the thanks of the Association were offered to the New York Chamber of Commerce for the use of their room, and on motion of Mr. CORNELIUS, of Pittsfield, a committee on resolutions was appointed by the Chair, composed of Messrs. Chickering, Kellogg, Beck and Wright.

The meeting then adjourned to assemble again this morning at ten o'clock.

WRECK OF THE TUG FEARLESS.

FORTRESS MONROE, Nov. 22, 1866.

The tug Fearless, from Charleston for Boston, went ashore on the 15th inst., on the outer reef off Beaufort, N. C., and was totally wrecked. She was afterwards sold for $100. She was partially insured.

NEW OVERLAND TELEGRAPH.—The Western Union Telegraph Company have just opened their newly completed line overland to California, via Denver City, Bridger's Pass and the overland stage route, as now travelled. This line is in addition to the old line, via Fort Laramie and the South Pass. The new line is constructed in a superior manner, and there will probably be little, if any, interruption in telegraphic communication with the Pacific. The Western Union Company have also opened their new line between Salt Lake City and Montana, thus bringing the mining districts of that territory into direct communication with the rest of the telegraphic world.

SANITARY.

The Cholera at Quarantine—Thirty-three Deaths on Board the Ship Mercury During Her Voyage from Havre to this Port—Action of the Quarantine Commission and Health Officer.

The ship Mercury, which arrived at this port on Wednesday last from Havre, consigned to Spofford, Tileston & Co., is now at the lower quarantine, where she is detained because of the presence of cholera on board. The Mercury left Havre October 21, with four hundred and fifty-two passengers, and it appears that this disease exhibited itself among them shortly after such departure, in its most virulent type, and continued its ravages during the entire passage, thirty-three passengers having died during that period.

Immediately upon the vessel's arrival here Dr. Swinburne, Health Officer, commenced preparations for the removal of the sick, of whom it is said there are quite a large number, to the hospital ship in the lower bay, where they will have the advantage of proper medical treatment under the care of Dr. Bissell. President Curtiss, of the Quarantine Commission, and Dr. Bissell have visited the vessel and arranged to give the officers of the ship such assistance as they may require for the proper care and comfort of those who remain on board. They have not however, as yet, published any official statement respecting the character or extent of the epidemic, either as to the number of the sick or whether any deaths had occurred since the vessels arrived at quarantine. According to the latest accounts received at the office of the agents in this city, it was understood that there were quite a number of the passengers suffering from the disease, and that all the symptoms indicated it to be Asiatic cholera. No apprehension, however, need be felt here in regard to this, as the cold weather which we are just beginning to experience will doubtless remove all danger of the epidemic being reintroduced to this city. The following is a list of those who died during the passage with the date of each death:—

Fred. Wurts died November 9, Carl Strehle, 9th; Alectina Stauble, 4th; N. E. Mangold, 3d; F. Klaurer, 11th; Johanna Blum, 3d; Johan Blum, 19th; Mendelia Diebold, 19th; E. Weitz, 11th; Catharine Shultz, 17th; Maria Eisel, 16th; J. U. Bech, 19th; Peter Protest, 4th; Maria Burrie, 19th; Philip Murkling, 19th; Ferd. Marold, 8th; John Bauer, 19th; Adam Spus, 6th; Emil Glasser, 6th; Emma Glasser, 12th; Ida Glasser, 15th; G. Ernst Glasser, 10th; B. Stobenmann, 13th; Anna Gerber, 19th; Carolina Kuppel, 12th; Anna Kuppel, 16th; John Levi, 9th; L. Walledecher, 8th; Catharine Sharff, 18th; Simeon Vettever, 9th; F. Vettever, 9th; Gottlieb Martz, 7th; George Irother, 19th; John Singer, a seaman, of Hanover, aged 22, died and was buried at sea.

Johann Hemdertyfungt died yesterday at quarantine.

The Board of Health in Secret Session—Weekly Report of the Sanitary Superintendent.

The Metropolitan Board of Health met at an early hour yesterday afternoon, and remained in secret session until nearly six o'clock. The business transacted is unknown, as the reporters were not allowed to be present. It was, however, made known that the report to the Governor was being read and discussed; but what the contents of the reports are, and what the purport of the discussion was, could not be ascertained. It was hinted that, when made public, the reports would excite quite a stir among the politicians of New York, reflecting, as they are reported to do, in the severest manner upon certain judicial officers and public institutions.

REPORT OF DR. DALTON.

In his weekly report the Sanitary Superintendent states that during the week ending November 22 two cases of cholera occurred, one being in the Sixth and one in the Fifteenth ward. The case in the Fifteenth ward proved fatal. Five houses where typhus and typhoid fevers occurred were properly disinfected.

THE WEATHER.

The First Snow of the Season.

A slight fall of snow occurred in this city yesterday, but on its reaching *terra firma* immediately melted, and, mixing with the uncleaned streets, rendered them muddy, slippery and unpleasant for the pedal extremities of pedestrians. At night the weather cleared off cool, and by midnight frost was visible. The winter season is close upon us, and the snow of yesterday is probably only a prelude to a heavy storm such as have been experienced in the Northern counties.

Snow Storms at Philadelphia, Poughkeepsie and Buffalo.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 22, 1866.

There was a slight fall of snow here this morning.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Nov. 22, 1866.

Snow is falling here this morning, the first of the season. The weather is chilly.

BUFFALO, Nov. 22, 1866.

Snow commenced falling here early this morning, and now covers the ground. The weather is cold. The snow extended West some distance.

CONVOCATION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

A Separate Diocese Discussed—Cheap Schools and Liberal Donations—Services at Grace Church, Brooklyn.

The Protestant Episcopal clergy of the portion of the diocese of New York embraced within Long Island, met in joint convocation yesterday at Grace church, Brooklyn, on matters pertaining to the interests of the Church in that particular field, together with the advancement of Christian education. At the last convention, held in New York city, Bishop Potter threw out a suggestion carrying the idea that the interests of the Church would be subserved by a division of the diocese, giving to Long Island a separate ecclesiastical jurisdiction. The idea thus conceived matured into a plan, upon which the clergy of the Island have been convoked for solemn consideration. The propositions discussed involved the present state of the Church on Long Island, and the means that should be employed to advance its interests.

CLERGYMEN PRESENT.

Kings County—A. N. Littlejohn, D. D., Holy Trinity, Montague street; James Thomson, St. Matthew's, Throop avenue; W. T. Webbe, St. Michael's, High street; J. W. Diller, St. Luke's, Clinton avenue; C. W. Homer, St. Luke's, Clinton avenue; D. V. M. Johnson, St. Mary's, Classon avenue; James Smith, St. Mary's, Classon avenue; I. R. Attwill, St. Paul's, Pacific street, near Marcy avenue, E. D.; R. S. Adams, St. Andrew's, Herkimer street; F. H. Greenleaf, D. D., Emanuel church, President street; F. Tripp, Church of the Redeemer, Pacific street; John A. Paddock, St. Peter's, State street; Edward Jessup, Church of the Redeemer, Pacific street; Alvah Guion, Grace church, Conselyea street, E. D.; E. A. Hoffman, D. D., Grace church, W. D.; G. W. Ferguson, Grace church, W. D.

Queens County—Dean W. H. Moore, St. George's, Hempstead; R. R. Betts, St. Saviour's, Maspeth; B. B. Abbott, Grace church, Whitestone; John Cornell, St. Thomas', Ravenswood; N. W. T. Root, St. James', Newtown; W. M. Carmichael, D. D., Hempstead; S. S. Stocking, South Oyster bay; John P. Appleton, St. John's, Long Island City; Thomas Mallaby, St. Paul's, Glen Cove.

Suffolk County—C. S. Williams, St. James', Smithtown; Ch. Douglass, St. John's, Islip, Sayville; F. M. Nell, Carolina, Setauket; Reuben Riley, St. Mark's, Islip; Thomas Cooke, Grace, Jamaica; Rev. Messrs. Stowell, Downie, Taylor, Goldsboro, Sterling, Syle and others; Dr. Cutler, of Trinity church, New York, presided at the organ.

The Right Rev. Horatio N. Potter, Bishop of the