THE STATE CAPITAL.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE HERALD.

Assembling of Members of the Legislature and Lobbyists—The Candidates for United States Senator and Officers of the House—Proposed Legislation for New York City—Petition for the Expulsion of Senator Charles G. Cornell, &c., &c.

ALBANY, Dec. 30, 1866.

The "bubble, bubble, toil and trouble" of a new legislative session is about to be inaugurated in this busy little seat of the State government, and already the mutterings, murmurings, whisperings, caucusings and bamboozlings, portending what is to occur, have commenced. The attendance of members of the Senate and of the Assembly is quite small as yet, as is always the case till the day preceding the opening of the New Year; but the outside pressure and mysterious power which rule both Senate and Assembly are already visible in considerable force in every part of the capital. This pressure and this power have decided what shall be done during the next one hundred and odd days following the first of January, and only await the advent of the legislative wisdom of the great Empire State to give the *coup de grace* to their pet schemes and projects. So the spirits of the lobby say, or at all events seem to say, as they flit through the spacious corridors of the Delevan, Stanwix, and other temporary abodes of Senators and Assemblymen with countenances radiant of hope, and locks of such persuasive power as might melt the virtue of an Aristides, a Socrates, a Joseph or a Jacob. Whether the aforesaid spirits are destined to triumph or defeat is a matter that still lies hidden in the future. I will not undertake at this early day to predict either the one result or the other, but leave time to tell its own story.

THE UNITED STATES SENATORSHIP.

The three most interesting topics engaging the attention of politicians and people in general about the capital are the contest for the Senatorial boots of the Hon. Ira Harris, the race for the no less honorable mantle of the Speakership, and the long talked of, but now seriously threatened wiping out of the municipal government of the Empire city. The Senatorial question is involved in great uncertainty. The candidates appear to be about the same as last mentioned weeks ago, but the partisans of each are working so vigorously that it is difficult to foretell who will be the fortunate winner. The principal men named are Ira Harris, Noah L. Davis of Orleans, Roscoe Conkling, Lyman Tremain, T. G. Alvord, Judge Smith, of Ontario; Horace Greeley, Congressman Sedgwick, Mr. Alberger, of Buffalo, Colonel McKean, of Saratoga; T. M. Pomeroy, of Auburn, and Hurlbut. On the surface the strongest men seem to be Conkling, Harris and Davis. Greeley appears to have few friends openly, but those who work for him hint that he will turn up at the head of the list when the serious work begins. They say that a reaction has taken place in regard to his amnesty letter and that he now has more strength than some people believe. On the first ballot indications are that Harris will have most votes, Conkling next and Davis next. Some of the Harris votes will be complimentary and will afterwards be transferred to Conkling or Davis, or somebody else. Judge Davis' friends are working energetically and seem confident that the Harris men will support their favorite after the first ballot. If this be true Davis has a fine chance. His chief strength lies among the Western members, while Conkling seems to be most formidable in the central regions. The Tremain forces are looking up, and Hurlbut shows some strength. It may be that some new man will come in at the eleventh hour and carry off the prize. Judge Smith is mentioned as a compromise candidate. There are to be general caucuses to-morrow night of republicans and democrats, and the trial of strength there will probably determine who is to be the man.

THE SPEAKERSHIP AND CLERKSHIP OF THE HOUSE.

I believe it is settled that Edmund L. Pitts, republican, of Orleans county, will be chosen as Speaker of the House. I have had two minutes and a half conversation with Mr. Pitts, and am just able to state that he is a small, little bit of a body, a trifle over five feet high, but with just as much animation as nature could well afford to entrust with so small a corpus. He speaks like a steam engine, has a sharp eye, a prompt way of doing things, and forms altogether a good specimen of a smart Yankee. He was a member before, and, I am informed, showed himself to be possessed of considerable ability as a debater and a man of action. He is said to be well versed in the complications of Parliamentary matters. His chief opponents are Messrs. Wood, of Onondaga, and Littlejohn, of Oswego. Among those aspiring to the position I may also mention Havens, of Essex; Ballard, of Cortland; Hiscock, of Onondaga; Oakey, of Kings, and Wilber, of Dutchess. These are all republicans; but none of them, except Messrs. Wood and Littlejohn, seem to have any backbone. Some think if a combination of the anti-Pitts forces occurred, the Lilliputian Orleanian might be defeated; but it looks anything but probable to say the least of it. The Wood men, nevertheless, show great strength and may eventually win.

Though the democrats enjoy their usual beautiful minority, they are not without making a show of fight over the Speakership, and there are many ambitious souls thirsting for the honor of a barren nomination. Among the names of persons I hear mentioned in connection with the Speakership on the democratic side, are those of Messrs. John E. Develin, Thomas J. Creamer, Millspaugh, of Orange; Weed, of Clinton; Jacobs, of Kings, and Williams, of Buffalo. Mr. Creamer seems to be the favorite, if one can judge at all with such imperfect opportunities of canvassing as are at present furnished.

While on the subject of the Speakership I may as well add there is to be also a contest about the Clerkship of the House. The republican candidates are Joseph B. Cushman, Clerk of the last House, Messrs. Caldwell, of Elmira, Potter, of Saratoga, Underwood, of Auburn, and Parker, of St. Lawrence.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR NEW YORK CITY.

If the plans of the reformers of the Citizens' Association and of the radicals from the rural districts succeed, the city of New York will become the subject of the most sweeping legislation during the session. Agents of the Citizens' Association are already here paving the way for their onslaught on municipal institutions. As well as I can make out, their plans include three new boards for the city of New York, to take the place of all the departments, legislative and administrative, of the existing metropolitan government. The Board of Public Works may be mentioned as the first of these schemes, and provides for the appointment by the Executive, with the consent of the Senate, of seven Commissioners, to hold office from two to twelve years respectively, and to be independent of the Supervisors and Common Council completely. This board will abolish the departments of the Street Commissioner and Croton Aqueduct Board, and will be entrusted with the erecting and repairing of all public buildings, Court Houses, public offices, markets, schools, water works, &c. It will also have control of the paving, flagging and repairing of streets, the keeping and working of roads, avenues, parks, squares, &c.; the furnishing of all supplies and materials for the public offices, the opening of streets and the levying and collecting of assessments, &c. It is proposed to make this board responsible at law for all its acts and subject to heavy penalties for dereliction of duty. It is intended to include Brooklyn in this scheme, and to give the Commissioners control over the same matters in the City of Churches as in the metropolis. In many points this is but a copy of the Board of Public Works of London, which has worked splendidly and saved large expenditures of money. The Citizens' Association anticipate from the working of this and other schemes a reduction of taxation in New York city to about one per cent, or about one-third of what it now is.

COMMISSION OF WHARVES AND PIERS.

This bill will give the whole government of wharves and piers to a board appointed by the Governor and Senate, composed of five members, who are to have, under severe restrictions as to expenditures and under heavy responsibilities for dereliction of duty, full charge of the city wharves and piers, with power to regulate a uniform system of stone or iron piers and to obtain from sales and leases of them a large revenue to the city, which will diminish the amount necessary to be raised by tax upon the people of New York city for carrying on the municipal government. This plan is considered better than that which would transfer the whole control of the wharves and piers to the hands of a private monopoly. The friends of the latter scheme, however, have strength in both Senate and Assembly among republicans and democrats.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

is the latest plan spoken of for the participation of the city councils. It is in an embryotic state as yet, but I am able to state that it proposes to abolish Aldermen, Councilmen and Supervisors, and intrust their powers and duties, largely curtailed, to a Board of Trustees, very limited in number.

If these schemes are carried out of course they will dispose of the Board of Control, which was to create seven new commissioners or superintendents over the city departments, which were to remain in existence pretty much as they are now. The members relied upon by the Citizens' Association to push these plans through are Senators Pierson, Thomas Murphy, Abraham Lent, Ezra Cornell, Sessions, Low, Kiene, Andrews, White, Stanford, La Rue, O'Donnell, Williams, Burnett, Folger, Hart and Chambers, besides a large force in the Lower House.

STREET COMMISSIONER CORNELL.

Charley Cornell has not seen the end of his troubles in connection with the Street Commissioner's office, which he vacated so hastily on the appointment of Judge Whiting as chief investigator of the "irregularities" of its administration. The investigation which his enemies say he avoided in New York promises to take place here, in spite of his cleverness and artful dodging. I have just been shown a letter signed by many respectable merchants doing business in New York, asking for the expulsion of Master Cornell from the Senate. The petition reads substantially as follows:—

TO THE HONORABLE THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK:—

We, the undersigned residents of the city of New York, respectfully present to your honorable body the following:—That on or about the 10th day of October, 1866, the Citizens' Association of New York presented to his Excellency Governor Fenton charges of official misconduct, fraudulent abuse of power, malfeasance and malversation in office against Charles G. Cornell, then Street Commissioner of the city of New York, and prayed his Excellency to investigate said charges, and, if found true, to remove said Cornell from said office, as is provided by law; that on the 11th of October, by the order of Governor Fenton, a copy of the charges was served upon Cornell, and he was required to answer the same; that on the 13th of October Cornell transmitted to the Governor his answer to the charges; that about the 14th of November Governor Fenton appointed James R. Whiting a commissioner to examine the charges and to take testimony in the said matter; that on November 17 the Attorney General of the State notified Cornell that the commissioner would commence the investigation at the City Hall on the 26th of November; that on the said November 17 Cornell resigned the position of Street Commissioner, which was accepted by the Board of Aldermen, whereby the investigation was brought to a sudden termination; that Cornell in thus resigning and preventing the investigation which an upright official would have courted, impliedly admitted the truth of the charges preferred against him, and that therefore he is unfit to be a member of the Senate of the State of New York, and should be expelled therefrom.

It is not probable that the movement will result in anything serious to Mr. Cornell; but the Senate has power suspend his functions during any investigation that body may see fit to order.

This morning and last night there arrived here John E. Develin, Waldo Hutchins, O. P. Stuart, T. J. Cremmer, Harry Genet, Colonel Murphy, B. Creaghan and others from New York. The principal men here now are R. L. Pitts, D. P. Wood, L. H. Hiscox, Judge Hilton, George Opdyke and Dana (to pitch into Greeley), and J. O. Gridley.

At half-past ten o'clock on Tuesday morning Governor Fenton and the members of government will be sworn in, and at eleven o'clock the Legislature will convene. The Governor will receive his friends and citizens at the Executive Chamber until one P. M.

ALBANY, Dec. 30—9 P. M.

Later developments indicate a coalition between friends of Wood and Littlejohn on the Speakership. It is said that a bargain has been made whereby Littlejohn may get the position if a certain condition of things prevails. The friends of Wood and Littlejohn are working with great energy.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

COLLECTORSHIP OF THE PORT.—The report current in this city for three or four days past that Collector Smythe had resigned his official position owing to some alleged irregularities in his department is wholly without foundation in truth. The Collector is absent from the city, but the operations of his department continue as usual.

THE ELIGIBLE FRANCHISE.—A petition, the text of which is subjoined, is now in circulation in this city. It is published in full that persons interested in the subject may clearly understand it. It is as follows:—

"TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK:—We, the undersigned petitioners, loyal citizens of the United States and of the State of New York, believing that the concession to the State Legislatures of the right to withhold the elective franchise from any class of its loyal citizens is anti-republican, subversive of the inalienable rights of the people and greatly endangers our national existence; and, finding this concession in the second section of the proposed amendment to the constitution, do therefore pray that your honorable body will refuse to ratify any alteration in our fundamental law so unjust and perilous.

SUDDEN DEATH—SINGULAR CASE.—On Thursday last Mrs. John Reilly, late of No. 79 Baxter street, died somewhat suddenly, and the day following Mr. Reilly made most of the preliminary arrangements for the funeral. Having a little leisure time, he improved it by going to the barber shop No. 6 Franklin street to get shaved. After the operation was over Reilly fainted, sank back in the barber's chair, and expired in a few moments afterwards. The body was removed to the Sixth precinct station house, and from thence to No. 79 Baxter street, where it was laid out beside that of his deceased wife. Coroner Wildey held an inquest, when it appeared, from a post mortem examination made by Woester Beach, Jr., M. D., that a rupture of an aneurism of the arch of the aorta was the cause of death. A verdict to that effect was rendered. Deceased was forty-nine years of age, and a native of Ireland.

A YOUNG LADY FATALLY BURNED.—Coroner Wildey held an inquest at the New York Hospital on the body of Miss Annette L. Ponten, a young lady sixteen years of age, late of No. 82 White street, whose death was the result of burns received two or three weeks since by her clothes taking fire from the kitchen range. The jury rendered a verdict of death from burns accidentally received.

STABBING AFFRAY.—Yesterday morning Robert Hamilton received several stabs in the face in an encounter with an unknown man at the corner of Marion and Spring streets. He was conveyed to the New York Hospital by officer Murray, of the Fourteenth precinct, where his wounds were dressed.

BURGLARY IN CHATHAM SQUARE.—Officer Buckley, of the Fourth precinct, discovered at an early hour yesterday morning that the store No. 5 Chatham square had been broken into by burglars and robbed. The thieves succeeded in forcing an entrance by breaking open the cellar door.

SINGULAR CASE OF ASSAULT.—Yesterday afternoon a policeman of the Twenty-ninth precinct was called into the saloon of Wm. Dimmond, corner of Fortieth street and Seventh avenue, where he found an unknown man lying in an insensible condition, with a severe cut on the head, evidently inflicted by some instrument. He was conveyed to Bellevue Hospital and placed in care of the attending physicians. It is alleged that the man had been assaulted, but nothing definite could be ascertained from the parties in the place.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

ANOTHER VICTIM TO THE CARELESS USE OF KEROSENE OIL.—Notwithstanding the daily warnings given by the publication of fatal accidents occurring from the careless handling of kerosene oil, but little heed is taken thereof by the masses, who are still criminally negligent, whether through ignorance of their personal risk in using the fluid, or from thoughtlessness, it is difficult to say. A young lady named Ellen Alcorn, aged sixteen years, residing with her parents at 35 Gold street, was engaged in lighting the fire at a very early hour yesterday morning, and in order to facilitate matters she undertook to pour a quantity of kerosene oil from a can which she held in her hand upon the material which she had already ignited in the grate. An immediate explosion took place, the girl being terribly burned about the head and face, from the effects of which injuries she died a few hours later.

PROBABLY FATAL CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.—A team of horses, owned by Dennis McCarty and driven by Timothy Sullivan, ran away on Third avenue last evening, smashing the carriage and throwing Sullivan out. He was picked up and taken to the Forty-eighth precinct station house, when it was found that his injuries were of a fatal character and he was then conveyed to the hospital. One of the horses was also very badly injured.

A BALL FOR THE BROOKLYN ORPHANS.—On the 9th of January next the twenty ninth annual ball in aid of the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum will be held at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn. This ball, which has always been so well patronized, promises to surpass in splendor, as well as in a pecuniary point of view, anything of the kind which has preceded it. A few evenings ago the Emerald Benevolent Association held a meeting at their rooms, No. 22 Court street, when it was stated that over one thousand tickets had been sold up to that time.

MUSICAL.

The eighteenth Sunday concert at Steinway Hall last night was attended by an immense audience. The programme consisted of selections for the orchestra from the works of Meyerbeer, Grimm, Wagner, Rossini, Schubert, Lanner and Jerome Hopkins. Messrs. Heinde and Schmitz (flute and French horn) were the soloists. The orchestra played with their accustomed brilliancy, precision, feeling and expression, and the want of vocalists was scarcely felt in the superior character of the programme and its admirable rendition.

A sacred concert took place last evening at the Church of the Holy Cross, Forty-second street, under the direction of Mr. Gleason, organist of the church. Madame Clara Brinkerhoff, Miss Matilda Toedt, and many other eminent artists, assisted by a large and efficient chorus, took part in the concert.

DRAMATIC RECITATION BY RISTORI.

Mr. Lafayette Harrison announces that Madame Ristori will give a dramatic recitation at Steinway Hall on Tuesday, January 8. The selections are of the most interesting kind, and among the best of the great tragedienne's extensive repertoire. A large orchestra will also be present.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THIRD REGIMENT ZOUAVES, COLONEL BENDIX.

The appeal of Captain Cox, against the election of Lieutenant George W. Hamilton as Major, has been overruled by Brigadier General Burger, commanding Second Brigade, and the election maintained in force. Captain Cox based his appeal on the grounds of ineligibility of certain officers, insufficiency of notice of election, and that the poll was not held in the regimental armory. Company B, Captain Murray, are very active in drilling in the bayonet exercise. On Wednesday evening last this efficient command had a very creditable skirmish drill under First Lieutenant Henry T. Allen. Colonel Bendix contemplates having several very thorough drills by division and battalion.

TWELFTH REGIMENT, INDEPENDENCE GUARD.

A parade of this regiment, under command of Major Ward, is announced for Wednesday evening, January 2, for the purpose of participating in a serenade to its late commander, Brigadier General William S. Ward. Line will be formed at a quarter-past eight o'clock. An election for Colonel, vice Ward promoted, will be ordered for January. Major John Ward, Jr., Lieutenant Colonel Satterlee, Captain Milnor Imlay, and Captain Raynor are candidates. The chances are that Major Ward will succeed to the command.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

Since the retirement of Colonel Minton the command of this efficient troop has devolved upon Lieutenant Colonel Knebel. An important meeting of the Board of officers is ordered for Wednesday evening, January 9. The regiment intend presenting ex-Colonel Minton with some suitable testimonial. An election for colonel will be held the latter part of January.

FIRST DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

In consequence of the decease of a member of General Aspinwall's family the custom heretofore observed by former commandants, of receiving the officers of the division on New Year's day, will be deferred. On such occasions the Major General takes the opportunity of consulting with the line, field and brigade officers regarding military discipline in their respective commands and improvements generally.

RECENT EVENTS IN ST. DOMINGO.

Ex-President Baez and the Dominican Republic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

In your widely circulated journal of the 24th instant I notice a correspondence from St. Domingo, in which the writer, referring to the condition of that country, presents some erroneous views relative to ex-President Baez, who was lately in this city. The General is now an exile from his native land; and it will therefore be but justice to briefly state the cause of his expatriation, and to show that so far from being an ambitious intriguer, his career has been a continual sacrifice of his own interests to those of his country.

The General, within the last twenty years, has been three times elected President of St. Domingo. His father was one of the leading actors in securing the independence of the island in 1808. A *résumé* of his connection with the politics of St. Domingo would show that he has never acted by partisan intrigue, but in assuming the Presidency of the republic has done so at the spontaneous call of his countrymen, and when its politics had become so disordered as to demand the presence of a man of recognized ability. On two of these occasions he was called to his high office from voluntary foreign retirement. In 1849, on his return from France, where he negotiated the first treaty recognizing the Dominican republic, he was invited by the unanimous voice of the public to the head of affairs, and was elected without opposition. He was President until 1853, and during these four years the republic advanced in national prosperity more than at any period in its history, as was testified by Mr. Chowbourg, the British Consul in San Domingo, in his statistical report to his government. Moderate and beneficent in his administration, and his judgment matured by an acquaintance with foreign institutions, he had every reason for aiding in the progress of a nation in which he was one of the largest landed proprietors. He retired in 1853, and resided abroad until 1856, when, owing to the renewed disturbances, he was again recalled, not only by the popular voice, but by the national Congress as a body, and by the wish of the foreign consuls and even by public men who had always been his political enemies, so universal was the recognition of his public services and good government.

After the expiration of his term President Baez revisited Europe, and was there during the Spanish occupation of St. Domingo. On the abandonment of that ill-fated expedition by the Spaniards, in 1864, Dominica was left in a deplorable condition. The various branches of industry by which the little republic had thrived were nearly ruined, and a condition of anarchy reigned in the island. Pimental, who had taken an active part in the expulsion of the Spaniards, was elected President, but was presently overthrown by Cabral, who, without ever having rendered any public services except to slaughter a convoy of sick Spanish soldiers at the close of the war, at La Canela, now usurped the supreme power. Between these and other contending factions Dominica was fast relapsing into just such a condition of anarchy as poor Mexico has attained after her long war for self-preservation.

It was then that all parties turned again towards Baez as the only man combining all the elements of popularity at home and friendly relations abroad for the restoration of public tranquillity. He was at the time in France, and for a third time the people called him from his retirement. Unwilling to re-enter the field, unless by the expressed wish of the whole population, he landed at Curacoa in November, 1865, where he was met by the principal public men of St. Domingo, including a commission of fourteen, especially deputized for the purpose, among whom were the Chief Vicar, Senor Pina, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, a deputation from the National Congress, and numerous military men, among them Generals Contreras and Cabral. His reception at St. Domingo, fully confirmed the promises of his friends. It was a scene of popular enthusiasm until then unknown in the island. He disembarked amid the cheers of thousands, who bore him in triumph to the cathedral. The Congress which had the power at that time to act in the matter proclaimed General Baez President of the republic, and he at once commenced to reorganize the shattered affairs of the country. He had hardly been in office five months when Cabral, who, as above shown, had been one of the deputation to recall him, having become dissatisfied with the refusal of the President to lend himself to certain schemes compromising the country with Geffrard in Hayti, raised a rebellion on the frontier, and threatened to again deluge the country in blood. This attempt, however, failed by the prompt action of the government in capturing San Juan and Las Matas. But soon after a second rebellion broke out in Santiago, and was said to have originated with Pimental.

Actuated by his usual care for the welfare of his country, the President preferred to retire from the arena, and having specified his reasons in a letter to Pimental, then Minister of Interior, he resigned his office in June last, and returned to Europe, where, until recently, he has lived in retirement in Italy, engaged in scientific pursuits, to which his studious habits and cultivated mind are eminently adapted.

Dominica was thus thrown again into a state of anarchy. Pimental seized the reins of government, but was soon ousted by the intrigues of Cabral, who held the supreme power until last September, when a general election was held for President. A large majority is known to have been given for Baez, particularly in the departments of Azua, Bani, Santo Domingo, Higuey, Moca, Macoris, San José de los Matas and Guallinvia; but Cabral had these votes thrown out on the ground that, being away from the country, Baez could not be considered as a candidate. Cabral, thus fraudulently elected, continues to hold tyrannical power. Seven hundred of the friends of Baez have been arbitrarily banished from the island, and are now destitute in Panama, Porto Rico, Colon, Chagres, along the Spanish Main and in the United States. One of the brothers of General Baez has been chained in a dungeon at St. Domingo since last June for fear of some attempt to reinstate his brother.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29, 1866. ANTILLES.

SOUTH AMERICA.

New Tariff in Buenos Ayres—Important to Traders on the Plate.

(Translated for THE NEW YORK HERALD from El Siglo, Oct. 9, 1866.)

The following revenue tariff has been officially promulgated by the Argentine government:—

The Senate and House of Deputies of the Argentine Nation, in Congress assembled, enact:—

CHAPTER I.—ENTRY FROM ABROAD.

ARTICLE 1. Gold and silver, stamped or in bullion; books, printers' paper, plants of every species, fresh fruits, ice, timber and stock for raising are free from all import duty. Likewise corn and corn flour brought into the country by land.

ART. 2. The Executive is empowered to grant free entry to seeds for agriculture, as also to such articles as he may judge to be intended for the Divine service exclusively and are needed by pastors in charge of parishes, or of superiors of confraternities in charge of said churches; to instruments or utensils for scientific purposes; to machinery for amalgamating the metals and for the establishment of new branches of industry; to the furniture and tools of immigrants, as well as to whatever articles they may need exclusively for their settlement in business.

ART. 3. Ten per centum ad valorem shall be paid by all silks; precious stones, unset gold and silver, worked or manufactured in connection with precious stones, or without them; all instruments or utensils mounted or ornamented with said metals, when the value is thereby increased by one-third.

ART. 4. Eighteen per centum ad valorem shall be levied on all articles not mentioned above.

ART. 5. The wastage to be allowed on wines, spirits, liqueurs, beer in casks, and vinegar shall be reckoned according to the distance of the port where the vessel shall have taken said wastage to be made up at the first port of this nation entered by said vessel. For this purpose ports north of the line shall entitle to ten per centum; south of the line to six per centum; and from Cabo Frio inland to three per centum. The leakage on wines, spirits, liqueurs, beer, vinegar and oil, in bottles, shall be five per centum.

CHAPTER II.—EXPORT BY SEA AND LAND.

ART. 6. Six per centum ad valorem shall be paid on exporting cow and horse hides of all descriptions, mule and sheep hides, skins in general, hoofs, lung or salt beef, pickled tongues, ostrich feathers, bones, bone ashes, horns, hair and wool, whether cleaned or not; animal oil, tallow and fat, melted or rough, cattle, horses, and also wool bearing and other stock.

ART. 7. All other products and manufactures not mentioned in the preceding article, as well as gold and silver, stamped or in bullion, are free of all export duty.

CHAPTER III.—HOW THE DUTIES ARE TO BE APPRAISED.

ART. 8. The duties shall be determined by appraisers, and must be reckoned on the market value in warehouse in the case of imports; but in the case of exports, on the market value at the place and time of shipment, except on such articles as, owing to their nature, require to be classified and appraised previously, and the duties thereon shall be reckoned according to a tariff based on a uniform scale of prices.

ART. 9. The executive shall designate and fix the valuation of the goods and products to be included in the tariff mentioned in the preceding article.

ART. 10. Export duties shall be paid in cash, and shall become due at the first point of shipment; all goods to be forwarded directly abroad, and none allowed to be transported by water from one point to another within the republic, unless the duties thereon shall have been paid, or bond have been given therefor in the form and manner to be prescribed by the executive. As to payment in cash, exception is made of such products as are extracted from unkilled animals. For the amount of duties on the latter kind of products, stamped paper money satisfactory to the Comptroller of the Revenue will be received, at four months' time.

CHAPTER IV.—GENERAL PROVISIONS.

ART. 11. The payment of duties, at all the Custom Houses of the republic, may be made in any of the coins allowed by the National law of October 5, 1863; or in the paper money of the province of Buenos Ayres; or in Bolivar silver coin, at its market rate as compared with gold; or in certificates of metallic deposit on the bank of this province. The national copper coin shall be receivable only in the proportion of two per centum on the amount due, and all bills of credit are declared not receivable in payment of customs dues.

ART. 12. At the Custom Houses of Corrientes, duties may be paid in paper money of that province, at its gold value, until such time as its liquidation or funding can be provided for.

ART. 13. Merchandise having liquidated its import dues at any of the custom houses of the republic may be transported freely throughout the whole territory of the same; but transit by land is prohibited to all merchandise on which the duties remain unpaid, except only such as arrive in transit for the port of Comordia and the Brazilian ports on the Rio Uruguay, via Federacion and Restauracion; except also goods from Paraguay in transit at Restauracion and Federacion and consigned to Brazil or the Oriental Republic.

ART. 14. This law shall be in force from January 1 to December, 31, 1867, &c.

Done in the Session Hall of the Congress, at Buenos Ayres, on the 24th of September, 1866.

VALENTINE ALSINA.

H. H. GOMES, Secretary of the Senate.
JOSE E. UNDIERO, } Secretaries of the House.
BEFINO VARELA, }
Officially promulgated by the Treasury on October 3, 1866.

AFFAIRS IN CINCINNATI.

The Will of Griffin Taylor Protested—Navigation in the Ohio Partially Suspended on Account of Ice, &c.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30, 1866.

The will of the late Griffin Taylor was protested yesterday. The total value of the property is estimated at $1,050,000. The legatees are his widow, daughter and grandchildren. Some small sums are donated to various charitable institutions.

The Louisville mailboats have been obliged to suspend on account of the ice, and the ferries are making but few trips with much difficulty. Navigation above here was suspended yesterday.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Bloomingdale Catholic Association—Luther and the Reformation.

The Rev. J. T. Hecker delivered a lecture last evening in Irving Hall, under the auspices of the Bloomingdale Catholic Association, on "Luther and the Reformation." Every available seat in the body of the hall was occupied; the gallery was crowded. Shortly after eight o'clock the reverend gentleman made his appearance, and proceeded to say that when they were searching after truth they should set aside all sectional feelings and prejudices. He was not there to discuss whether Martin Luther and Leo the Tenth were good men or bad men, or great and bad men. They were dead and buried, and he would not disturb their ashes. He was there to-night to investigate the principle which underlay the religious revolution of the sixteenth century; or, in other words, to discuss the cause which separated so many Christians from the Church in the sixteenth century, and still kept them divided from her. After speaking of the permanence, divine mission and universality of the Church, he said, looking on the divine side of the church, she was a holy church, a perfect church. Looking at her human side, the church had not her business among angels but among men, and therefore among sinners. Men were not saints because they belonged to the congregation of the church. Sanctity was a plant of very slow growth. There was great scandal, great crime among Catholics in this city. Was that the fault of the church? No, no. The church remonstrated with them, expostulated with them, and if they did not listen to her voice, she cut them off from her sacraments, but there her power ended. On the divine side, the church was perfect; on the human side she was imperfect, as she had to deal with sinners, the good and the bad. The church was a mixture of good and evil, according to Christ's idea of the church. The reverend gentleman spoke of the heresies that existed in the early times of the church, and having alluded to the passage in Holy Writ to the effect that teachers of false doctrines would arise, he said that the history of the church which was always militant against sin, was a history of struggle against corruption and heresies. He reviewed the Arian heresy at some length. So there were heresies in the sixteenth century. Guizot, a Protestant historian, said that abuses, properly so called, were not as numerous in the sixteenth century as they were at other times. When errors sprung up the church had, by her councils, the power to repress those errors; and here he might be permitted to say that from these councils sprang the system of representative government. Having dwelt upon the establishment of religious orders in the time of St Francis and St. Dominic, Father Hecker spoke of the Council of Trent, quoting the opinion of Mr. Hallam, an English Protestant writer, that that council was composed of learned, eminent men, who sought after the truth in the matters that came before them for examination; and he (the reverend gentleman) affirmed, without fear of contradiction, that all the abuses that existed at the time of that council had been wiped out by its decrees and now ceased to exist altogether. Luther attacked the sale of indulgences, and in doing so he did right; but while he made that attack he admitted the right of the Church to grant those indulgences. A century before Luther began his attack, a cry for the reform of abuses proceeded from the very centre of the church itself. Having dwelt upon the position Luther lost as a reformer by attacking the church which was divinely constituted, having within itself the means of correcting all errors and abuses, and combatted the notion that the Catholic church had kept the bible from its people, Mr. Hecker concluded by stating that Protestantism was founded on despotism. It was Luther proclaimed the divine right of kings—a principle always opposed by Catholic divines, who maintained the principle of reason and free will in man. Protestantism, in its principles, was opposed to light and liberty. If it had spread civilization, allow him to say that nations were civilized before Protestantism existed. It was not true that Protestantism, by means of its doctrines, was the means of spreading light and truth. The reverend gentleman spoke for nearly two hours.

Wine at New Year's—Sermon by Rev. Jas. B. Dunn.

A sermon was delivered yesterday evening at Lyric Hall, corner of Forty seventh street and Broadway, on "Wine at New Year's," by the Rev. James B. Dunn. He said it had been customary for many ages, throughout the whole civilized world, to devote the closing days of the old year and the opening days of the new one to festivity and social enjoyment. By the young especially this season was regarded as one in which the restraints which usually bound them might be freely cast aside, and in which they might indulge unrestrictedly in feasting and in Bacchanalian pleasures. It seemed to be generally considered that any little slips or errors or mistakes which, in the excitement of merrymaking, might be committed at this time were to be overlooked or pardoned. In view of this fact, he had always made it a practice, on the closing Sabbath of the departing year, to say a few words in reference to the proper course for Christians, earnest in the cause of their Master, to adopt as to the prevailing custom of offering wine and other intoxicating beverages to visitors on New Year's day. Mr. Dunn then presented in an eloquent manner the evils of intemperance, and earnestly implored his hearers by discountenancing in every way and upon all occasions the use of intoxicating liquors, to help on the cause of righteousness and virtue. A great deal had been stated in the press about the beneficial results that would occur from supplanting whiskey and heavy wines with the light wines of California and the West. That experiment however had been tried at the beginning of the temperance movement, and had proved an utter and melancholy failure. The use of the mildest intoxicating liquors created a taste for stronger ones, and had been the means of sending many a promising young man to a drunkard's grave. The only safe course was total abstinence, and no Christian zealous for the salvation of souls could hesitate one moment to make a trifling self-denial if by that means temptation might be removed from the path of an erring brother.

Hypocrisy in Churches and Infidelity in the Second Degree.

Rev. Charles B Smyth lectured to a large and very respectable congregation in the Everett Rooms yesterday afternoon, on "Hypocrisy in Churches and Infidelity in the Second Degree," &c., as previously announced. On the first part he chose for his text the fifth chapter of Matthew and twentieth verse, and on the second the fifth chapter of First Timothy and eighth verse. Quoting from different verses in the sixth and twenty-third chapters of Matthew, from the fourth chapter of First Timothy, and the third chapter of Second Timothy, he argued that the hypocrisy of ancient times was representative of such modern profession in churches as is seen in mere ostentation and show, to the neglect of the poor, and of such duties as otherwise might prevent intemperance, gambling and other immoralities which often arise from indigence and illiberality. He heartily approved of Judge McCunn's decision, and explained "infidelity in the second degree" as having no reference to any secret society, but as consisting in a practical neglect of Christian charity, of which the apostle says that one guilty of it is "worse than an infidel." He was listened to with the utmost attention and appreciation throughout, and, at the conclusion, announced that next Sunday afternoon he would lecture on "The Ocean Yacht Race."

The Legacy of a Dead Year.

The regular congregation of St. John's Methodist Episcopal church, of Fifty-third street and Eighth avenue, and a large number of strangers assembled at the usual evening service to hear the last Sabbath sermon of the year preached by the pastor, the Rev. G. C. Estey, on "The Legacy of a Dead Year." The preacher took for his text the fourth verse of the ninetieth Psalm, "For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night." The discourse opened with a series of pointed questions—the year is dying, what has it left us? Money? Poverty? Increasing care in business matters, family relations? Is it a legacy of gloom? Is it diminished powers, loss of religion, or is it strengthened character and a record of growth in grace? To those questions the reverend gentleman, in eloquent replies, deduced lessons in religion and morality, both powerfully and touchingly. He alluded to events that had transpired in our own nation and in Europe during the past year, and Africa, China and Japan; each had its share in the record, and each bore witness of progress towards that perfection promised alone through the gospel of Christ. After a brilliant but lengthy discussion of these questions Mr. Estey concluded in an impressive manner:—Time is passing on, with what a swift but noiseless tread; its messengers for good drop their benediction without a sound, its avenging deities are shod with wool. Hark! hear how the faint chime of six far off bells peals in the distant darkness; listen to the whispered talk of the spirits of the sky as they discuss the fate of nations and of men. Listen as the clods drop dully on the coffin lids of buried generations; and hark again as the seraphic chords escape through the crystal gates of Heaven.

The Uses and Abuses of the New Year.

The caption of this article was the subject chosen for a discourse by Rev. Henry Blanchard, pastor of the Church of the Restoration, Brooklyn, last evening. The reverend gentleman said the present was the time to look back over our acts of the past year and resolve to live a better life. He thought there was more or less hypocrisy in call making on New Year's Day, from the fact that many young men called upon people to whom they were entire strangers, and made a pretension of friendship when they had no such feeling in their hearts.

THE FREEDMEN.

General Howard Consults with the Episcopal Bishop of Louisiana on the Religious Welfare of the Negro—Their Views Coincide.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 29, 1866.

General Howard, Superintendent of the Freedmen's Bureau, has had two long interviews with Bishop Wilmer, the new Episcopal Bishop of Louisiana, respecting the religious care of the freedmen. The general says that Bishop Wilmer's views on this subject more nearly coincide with his own than any one with whom he has had communication. It is likely that a plan of operations for Louisiana will be developed which will benefit all classes greatly.

THE BUFFALO FENIANS.

BUFFALO, Dec. 30, 1866.

The Fenians are to have imposing ceremonies here on New Year's Day. There will be a grand procession of the civil and military organizations, the occasion being the funeral obsequies of Lieutenant E. R. Lounigan, killed at Ridgeway, June 2, when a splendid monument of Italian marble will be erected to his memory at the Cemetery of the Holy Cross, Limestone Hill.

THE GREAT STORM.

Resumption of Travel on the New York Central and Other Western Railroads.

SYRACUSE, Dec. 30, 1866.

The New York Central Railroad is clear of snow its entire length, and trains are running on time.

BUFFALO, Dec. 30, 1866.

Travel has been resumed on all the roads leading to and from the city, except on the Lake Shore road. The track on the Lake Shore road is clear of snow. A locomotive off the track near the city prevented the train leaving to-night. It will leave at half-past six o'clock to-morrow morning. Weather clear and calm.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 30, 1866.

The weather is cold and the snow blockade on the Lake Shore road continues. No trains have arrived from Buffalo for three days.

The Storm at the South.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 30, 1866.

Wind northeast. There are indications of a snow storm.

WILMINGTON, Dec. 30, 1866.

There was a heavy fall of snow last night; hailing rapidly since eight A. M.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 30, 1866.

Snow, hail and sleet for the last thirty-six hours, and still continues. Nothing like it has been experienced in many years. Snow to the depth of two inches has fallen.

THE MURDER IN HARTFORD.

Two Germans Arrested on Suspicion of Having Committed the Deed.

HARTFORD, Dec. 30, 1866.

Theodore Meister and Henry A. Smith, two Germans residing in West Hartford, were arrested at their residence on Friday last, on suspicion of being implicated in the murder of Luther G. Thompson, at Farmington, in October last. They were taken before a justice court in Farmington and their case adjourned to January 7, to give them an opportunity to procure counsel. The prisoners were then brought to this city and placed in jail. There are very strong suspicions that these