Political Assessments on Government Clerks.

Secretary Cox's Opposition to the System—His Refusal to Permit it in the Department of the Interior—Correspondence on the Subject.

We published yesterday the letter of resignation sent to the President by the late ex-Secretary of the Interior and the answer of the President accepting the same. In order that the circumstances which induced Mr. Cox to resign his position may be fully understood we publish the subjoined communications from him to various republican committees that undertook to make organized raids on the employés of the Interior Department. The first is to Mr. Clendenning, chairman of the National Republican Committee:—

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28, 1870.

DEAR SIR—In accordance with your request I forward herewith a roll of the officers and employes of this department. In doing so I beg to repeat what I said to yourself and Mr. Platt, viz., that in my efforts to bring about an improvement of the civil service in the department I hold it to be absolutely essential that it should be understood by the clerks and employés that they hold their places subject to removal for lack of efficiency or integrity, and that no subscriptions to political funds or show of political zeal will secure their retention if capacity or industry be lacking.

Mr. Platt assured me, and I understood you to agree with him, that the list was only desired in order to give your committee the opportunity to invite such as felt entirely free to do so to contribute to support the work your committee is undertaking, and not to impose any tax upon any one. Knowing as I do that many of our clerks have all they can do to make a bare existence out of their salaries, I should be entirely unwilling to have the application put on any other basis, even if I did not think, as I do, that any compulsory assessment would be a political immorality and productive of infinitely more mischief than benefit.

We can do more real service to the republican party by raising the standard of qualifications among civil employés and putting each clerk upon his merit alone for appointment or promotion than by the expenditure of many times the amount of money they could possibly afford to contribute. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX, Secretary.

His next communication is directed to the chairman of the Ohio Republican Committee, who applied to the Secretary for a list of the clerks in his department appointed from the State of Ohio. In the letter he says:—

After a careful consideration of the matter, with the strongest desire to second every right movement in behalf of the republican organization, in which we have so great a common interest, I am constrained to decline complying with your request, because I am convinced that it would not be right to do so, and therefore not for the advantage of the republican party, which can only exist by continuing to be the champion of the right.

The considerations which lead me to this conclusion may be summed up in two, namely:—First—That such assessments are directly antagonistic to the civil service reform, which I believe to be so imperative a necessity that the republican party, as the proper party of true reform, cannot longer delay to make it a part of their platform; and second, because the specific assessment you now propose to make, on behalf of the State Central Committee, is an innovation in a bad direction.

On the latter point permit me to say that, after a somewhat careful examination of the subject, I cannot learn that anything similar to an assessment for party purposes upon the clerks and employés of the department was ever made prior to the administration of Mr. Buchanan, and then only by a committee of the clerks themselves, waiting upon their fellows in person and requesting subscriptions for a Presidential contest.

This year, for the first time, the clerks have received a circular from the Congressional Committee fixing the amount each is assessed (one per cent on their incomes) and indicating the expectation of a response in an authoritative way. From two or three of the States similar assessments have been received, in one instance one and a half per cent, thus making an income tax of two and a half per cent, beside expecting these gentlemen to travel to their several States at their own expense for the purpose of voting. I have not heard of district and county assessments yet, but know of no reason why they should not follow if the others are recognized.

My own relations to the subordinates of this department are peculiar. I have been endeavoring to correct such of the evils as I could reach, and by a system of competitive examinations to test the capacity of applicants for place or promotion. I have assured them that favors would end with their going before the boards of examiners, and from that time their own character and efficiency would determinate their continuance in office or promotion. Under these circumstances the circular of the Congressional Committee, levying one per cent of their salaries, with an intimation as understood by those receiving the circular (though I am informed the committee disclaim such a purpose) that failures to pay would endanger their places, was the most demoralizing thing which could have been thrown into the department. The question was at once raised whether my position had been sincerely taken, and I would not remain in the department a day if my purpose could be reasonably impugned. The gentlemen of the departments have, as a rule, borne greater pecuniary burdens in proportion to their salaries than other men are usually willing to do for party purposes, and now would respond to the full extent of their ability to exortations addressed simply to their voluntary zeal, but the best officers and the best republicans are those who are most explicit in their opposition to the whole system of levied assessments.

As a mark of my own confidence in your purposes and sense of the value of your work I enclose a check for fifty dollars as my personal contribution to your fund, and should be most happy if my duties and my strength would permit me to take my accustomed place in the canvass of the State this fall.

Secretary Cox's letter to the chairman of the Pennsylvania Republican Committee, declining to allow the clerks appointed from that State to be called upon, is similar in tone to the two preceding ones, and declares the belief that the attempts made to levy such assessments have hurt the party more than the assessments, if collected, could help it.

THE MIGHT OF RIGHT.

A Fashionable School Ma'am Brought to Terms.

A novel case of attempted fraud just escaped the notoriety of our courts the other day by the sober second thought of the party most in interest. The mistress of a fashionable young ladies' boarding school up town had availed herself for a couple of years of the services of a lady housekeeper, when there came between them some misunderstanding. By way of enforcing her own view of equity in the case the mistress withheld from the housekeeper a large sum of money then due for services previously rendered, besides subjecting her to a considerable traveling expense and the disagreeable result of an abrupt dismissal from employment. Appeals and remonstrances were vain. The mistress would have her own way, and as a last resort the poor housekeeper placed her case in the hands of the Working Women's Protective Union, of 38 Bleecker street. For a time the requests for settlement made by the Union were disregarded; but when an appeal to the courts was prepared for and the evidence of the intended fraud had been collected, the case became more serious. The fashionable school ma-am sought the President of the Union on a bright Sunday morning and besought his intervention to prevent the threatened exposure. A thorough examination of the case and of all proceedings taken was made and resulted in the decision that nothing but the fullest and most prompt settlement of the claim would be listened to, and the fashionable school ma-am wilted. The housekeeper received her earned reward for services and the mistress learned a lesson which will prevent, it is to be hoped, the repetition of such an attempt.

WESTCHESTER COURT MATTERS.

Owing to the continued illness of District Attorney Dykeman, the October term of the Court of Sessions for Westchester county was finally adjourned yesterday, leaving a number of criminal cases untried, and which must necessarily remain over until the next sitting of the County Court. Previous to adjournment, however, Judge Cochran pronounced sentence on the following prisoners, who were convicted during the past week:—

George Stoke, a negro, for having burgliariously entered the country residence of Warren Leland and abstracting therefrom articles of wearing apparel, was sentenced to the State Prison for ten years.

An ex-convict and notorious horse thief, who passes under the name of J. Jerome Hays, and who, in the month of August, stole a valuable horse from a livery stable in Mount Vernon and subsequently offered the animal to one of his former keepers at Sing Sing Prison, was sent back to that institution for three years and six months.

William Van Wagner, a fast youth, whose criminal extravagances have already been depicted in the columns of the HERALD, for having forged checks on parties in Mount Vernon and New York, was consigned to Sing Sing Prison for two years and six months.

ARREST OF A MURDERER.—On Monday last a negro, named John Jackson, was arrested on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, near Fishersville, in Augusta county, charged with being an accomplice of Kitt Hubbard in the murder of Mr. James Anderson, of Pittsylvania county, some months since. Hubbard, it will be remembered, has been tried and found guilty of the murder, and sentenced to be hanged. During his trial evidence was elicited going to show Jackson's complicity in the foul deed, and since that time the police of this city have been not upon his trail.—*Lynchburg (Va.) News, October 26.*

PRESIDENT GRANT'S INDIAN POLICY.

Progress Thus Far Made—Addresses by Bishops Stevens and Clarkson, Rev. Dr. Howe and Others—A Very Interesting Occasion.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Oct. 31.]

Last night a most interesting missionary meeting was held in the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, Nineteenth and Walnut streets. It was held under the auspices of the "Indian Hope Association," and was for the purpose of considering the "Indian Policy" of his Excellency the President of the United States.

Bishop Rev. Bishop Stevens presided, and made a brief address, referring to the fact that the very name of the organization indicated its purpose, and could not but awaken a great and growing interest.

He alluded also to former attempts having been made to civilize the red man, and, after referring in glowing language to the policy of President Grant, he spoke of the fresh courage and encouragement which this movement would necessarily give to the enterprise and all connected with it.

The second annual report of the association was then read by Rev. M. A. De Wolfe Howe, D. D., and was listened to with much attention. It refers to the fact of the name, "Indian Hope Association," having been chosen because of the heretofore apparently almost desperate prospect of the Indian being rescued from the rapacity and machinations of unprincipled men, causing the poor untutored children of the forest to say truly, "I have no place to flee to, and no man cares for my soul." The organization principally owed its existence to the exertions of Rev. Samuel B. Hinman, who had been laboring among the tribe known as the Santee Sioux. The efforts of the organization had been blessed, a mission house, chapel, school and hospital having been erected at an expense of about $20,000. The spiritual work was also progressing with much success and Rev. Mr. Hinman had civilized at least 600 of the red men. In June, 1870, a tornado swept down the buildings above referred to, which was a sad calamity. They were being rebuilt, however, and about one-half the amount necessary had been already contributed, although the regular receipts had been short of what was expected. The excellent result of rescuing the affairs of the Indians from the machinations of the wily politicians, as proposed by the policy of President Grant, was commented on in complimentary terms, after which a tribute of respect was paid to J. D. Cox, late Secretary of the Interior, and his successor, Columbus Delano, the present Secretary, both of whom had shown the deepest concern for the poor Indian.

Mr. William Welsh then gave an account of his recent experience in the Indian country, which was full of interest and desirable information. He alluded to the reformation made by the Indians in the way of temperance, their gratitude for kindnesses shown them, and the unparalleled action of President Grant, who had been elected by a political party, in rising up above the demands of politicians, and for the good of the poor Indian, asking church organizations to provide for their spiritual welfare. The President invited said religious bodies to nominate suitable persons for agents and oversee their work. Politics was not to enter into the matter of the appointments, and the agents would be removed by the President only for cause or manifest want of success. The Protestant Episcopal Church would mainly have charge of the Dacotah or Sioux tribes in Dacotah Territory. This was a fine field for labor, as said tribe were among the most wild and bloodthirsty, although thus far much success had attended the efforts made.

The speaker explained the laws of the United States in relation to Indian matters in the Territories, and the villanous abstraction in the past of funds made for Indian purposes, which averaged from four-fifths to nine-tenths of the whole amount appropriated. The President asked the Christian Church, as the civilizing agency, to come and aid, and would that Church now refuse? He referred to the saying of an old Indian chief, to the effect that if the Church knew of a better way than the Indians had been walking in it was the duty of the Church to teach it. After alluding to the peculiarities of the Indian race, describing the "sun dance" and other heathen practices, the characteristics of Red Cloud and Spotted Tail, and their aversion to the whites, because of drugging their people with villanous whiskey, Mr. Welsh concluded eloquently and feelingly for aid in behalf of the good cause.

He was followed in an almost similar strain by the Right Rev. Bishop Clarkson, of Nebraska, after which the Rev. T. N. Jaggur, D. D., rector of the church, expressed his hearty approbation of the cause and urged his people to contribute liberally. A handsome collection was then taken up, after which prayer was offered and the benediction given by Bishop Clarkson.

THE CENSUS.

Indiana.

The following table shows the populations of the more important cities and towns in Indiana in the years 1860 and 1870, with the gain during the decade:—

	1860.	1870.	Gain.
Indianapolis	18,611	40,036	23,325
Evansville	11,484	21,830	10,346
Fort Wayne	10,388	17,156	6,758
Terre Haute	8,954	16,201	7,612
New Albany	10,893	15,442	4,549
Lafayette	9,387	14,312	4,925
Madison	8,130	10,709	2,579
Richmond	6,603	9,433	2,830
Logansport	2,979	8,950	5,971
Washington	1,000	3,220	2,220
Jeffersonville	4,020	7,200	3,189
South Bend	3,832	7,208	3,376
Vincennes	3,900	5,465	1,505
Connersville	2,119	3,707	1,588
Crawfordsville	1,922	3,701	1,779
Aurora	2,900	3,354	314
Elkhart	1,438	2,318	1,804
Greencastle	2,097	3,239	1,148
Lawrenceburg	3,599	3,237	—
Anderson	2,487	3,126	639
Michigan City	3,320	3,692	
Peru	2,506	2,617	111
Cannelton	2,155	2,560	405
Kokomo	1,040	2,117	1,437

Ohio.

The United States Marshal for the Southern district of Ohio has concluded the census of the forty-one counties embraced within his district, and reports their aggregate population at 1,407,792. Hamilton county has a population of 260,617. Montgomery ranks second, with 64,409, exceeding Franklin county, with its 63,524, but 885. In 1860 the population of Franklin county was 50,873, and of Montgomery 52,233, showing that our increase during the decade has been the largest. Still Montgomery remains the third county in the State in point of population.

We have published a table from the Marshal's office of the Northern district, giving the population of the thirty-six counties, reported at that time, at 954,047.

Eleven counties of the Northern district, embracing Crawford, Erie, Geauga, Hancock, Mahoning, Richland, Trumbull, Union, Williams, Wayne and Wood, were not included. These counties in 1860 had a population in round numbers of 260,000. The ratio of increase in the counties from which we have reports since 1860 is but fifteen per cent; in fact, lacks a small fraction of it. The figures show that while twenty-four counties made gains there was an absolute decrease in twelve. Adding this percentage of increase to the eleven counties not reported officially we are enabled to approximate very closely to the population of Ohio in 1870, as follows:—

Forty-one counties in the Southern district	1,407,792
Thirty-six counties in the Northern district	954,047
Estimate in eleven counties not heard from officially	299,000
Total population	2,660,839

A Columbus (Ohio) paper remarks upon the above as follows:—These figures will hardly come up to the expectations of the over-sanguine. A population of 2,660,839—and the official report will be under rather than over this—only shows an increase of 321,977 in ten years, as the population of Ohio in 1860 was 2,339,598. This is a year, however, of disappointments to ambitious towns, cities and States. The one consolation left is to swear at the marshal.

THE CENSUS IN CINCINNATI.

The census of Cincinnati proper for 1870 thus compares with previous ones:—

1850	115,436
1860	161,044
1870	218,900

The increase of population between 1850 and 1860 was about forty per cent. Between 1860 and 1870 the same per centage of growth would have given us 225,060 inhabitants. Notwithstanding all the talk about remaining stationary in the last decade, its growth has been only a trifle less than between 1850 and 1860. The *Enquirer* thinks a regular increase of forty per cent every ten years is certainly doing well.

Iowa.

The census of this State for 1870 is completed. The *State Register* prints the population for 1860 and 1870. From that it will be seen that the increase in ten years is 512,450. This will do. There is no reason to doubt that our increase for the coming decade will be equally encouraging.

Michigan.

The population of Michigan is 1,195,461, an increase of 443,348 since 1860.

Baltimore.

Complete census returns from Baltimore show the population of the city to be only 267,590. The local census of 1868 made a showing of 352,185, since which time there have been 8,000 new buildings erected. The total number of buildings in the city is 40,826. The Baltimore papers are terribly dissatisfied with the returns, claiming that they come short of doing the city justice. It is proposed to have a new census taken by the local authorities.

California.

The population of California is 550,060; of San Francisco, 150,000.

LONG ISLAND ITEMS.

The dead body of a man was found in Westcott's woods, at Islip. On his person was a paper which proved that his name was Caldron, and that he arrived in this country in May last.

The house of Mr. Rapalyea, at Woodside, was recently burglarized and robbed of $200 worth of goods.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

WALL STREET, MONDAY, Oct. 31—6 P. M.

On 'Change to-day wheat and cotton were heavy, with a lower tendency in prices. Operations in both markets are embarrassed by the lack of freighting facilities.

THE TREASURY PROGRAMME FOR NOVEMBER.

Considerable surprise and some disappointment are manifested at the change in the programme of Treasury operations for the ensuing month, by which the amount of bonds to be purchased is largely reduced. The programme was officially posted at the Sub-Treasury to-day, as follows:—

GOLD SALES.

Wednesday, November 2	$1,000,000
Wednesday, November 9	1,000,000
Wednesday, November 16	1,000,000
Wednesday, November 23	1,000,000
Wednesday, November 30	1,000,000
Total	$5,000,000

BOND PURCHASES.

Thursday, November 3	$1,000,000
Thursday, November 10	1,000,000
Thursday, November 17	1,000,000
Thursday, November 24	1,000,000
Total	$4,000,000

It will be seen that, owing to the last day of November falling on Wednesday, the gold sales exceed the bond purchases by a million, whereas in the programme for some time past the excess has been usually the other way. Again, a bond purchase is advertised for a holiday—November 24—but doubtless this oversight will be corrected by having the purchase take place simultaneously with the gold sale of the previous Wednesday. It would seem, from the change in the amount of bonds to be purchased, that the Secretary of the Treasury, who is known to be in favor of an easy money market, has become convinced that the causes which impelled him to disburse currency so freely during the fall months have ceased to exist, and that there is no longer any necessity for purchasing bonds to so great an extent as during the past season, when money has been usually stringent at this centre. Besides, should he have miscalculated the matter he is at liberty on any occasion to increase his bond purchases correspondingly with the needs of the market and of business. That we have not had active money the past few months is due in a great measure to the liberal disbursements of the government, though many doubt whether there could have been any greater demand than could have been satisfied at seven per cent, the active season having been discounted as early as July and August, while the Southern and Western merchants were unusually early in buying their goods this year, and hence obviated the necessity of extensive shipments of currency to the wheat and cotton regions this fall. The important point is, however, the semi-official declaration thus conveyed that the Treasury Department at Washington believe the question of the money market settled for another season. It is now the period of the year when our exports are heaviest, so that a foreign drain of gold is no longer to be dreaded. The total export of specie last week was only $300,000, and the previous week $500,000—mostly in silver; so that the gold which is coming from the Treasury November 1 and January 1—a total of about $60,000,000—will find its way into the banks, at least to the extent to which these instalments of interest belong in this country. The coin belonging in Europe and constituting, perhaps, a third of the $60,000,000, will go there in great part in cotton, produce and five-twenties; so that the prospect of extremely favorable bank statements the balance of the winter is highly flattering. It was doubtless in view of these facts that Mr. Boutwell took the important step of altering his programme. Should the money market drift as it promises into such relaxation that the rate on call will fall to two or three per cent it is only a confirmation of the views which the public will remember the HERALD has endeavored to impress them with for the past month or two.

GOLD WEAK—111¼ A 111⅜.

The gold market was weak under the promise of a sale of five millions of government gold during the coming month, and after hovering at 111¼ and 111⅜ in the forenoon declined to 111¼. Here, however, the Canadian banks, whether truly or falsely, were reported to be withdrawing their gold, and as the borrowing rate for the cash gold advanced at the same time from 3 and 6 per cent and 1-64 to 3-64 and 1-16, there was a demand from the "shorts" to cover, which elicited an advance to 111¾, at which the closing sales were made this evening. As to what the Canada banks are or are not doing, it is of little moment just now. They are trading on the speculative dealers, who are operating for a decline, and who cause an unnecessary demand for gold. Did not the clashing of these two speculative interests (the Canadian bank agents being well known speculators) interfere with the general interests of the public their transactions would merit no attention. The evil is one, however, which will correct itself. As soon as the sellers of "short" gold learn that they are getting in their own way by overselling the market they will abandon their project and leave the market to drift downward under the momentum given it by the increasing prosperity of the country and the unswerving progress of our finances to a specie basis. As to the Canadian banks, they are doubtless preparing for a graceful retreat, convinced that their occupation will be gone within the next sixty days—during which time the government will disburse $60,000,000 of gold, and thus leave them without a market for their Canadian shekels. It is true they loaned us gold in our necessities, but they received their pay for it, and liberally, too. They brought their gold from the desolate and inactive regions of North America, where investments are fortunate if they produce three or four per cent, and employed it here at ten to one hundred per cent per annum. The obligation is fairly cancelled. The course of the market is shown in the table:—

10 A. M.	111⅜	2:15 P. M.	111⅜
10:30 A. M.	111½	2:50 P. M.	111⅛
11 A. M.	111⅜	3 P. M.	111¼
12 M.	111¼	4 P. M.	111⅜
1 P. M.	111⅛	5:30 P. M.	111¼ a 111⅜
2 P. M.	111⅛		

In the gold loan market the rates for borrowing were 3 and 6 per cent per annum and 1-64, 1-32, 3-64 and 1-16 per cent per diem. The operations of the Gold Exchange Bank were as follows:—

Gold cleared	$32,147,000
Gold balances	1,127,843
Currency balances	1,266,058

The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $313,912 on account of the November interest, making the total to date $4,186,298.

THE SPECIE MOVEMENT.

The imports of specie at this port during the past week have been as follows:—

October 24—Steamer Morro Castle, Havana—Silver	$1,310
Gold	4,360
October 25—Brig Curacoa, Curacoa—Gold	1,147
October 27—Schooner A. B. Patterson, Laguayra—Silver	1,000
Gold	4,340
October 28—Steamer Arizona, Aspinwall—Silver	75,726
Gold	750
Gold dust	10,920
October 29—Steamer Columbia, Havana—Gold	34,175
Total for the week	$133,668
Previously reported	8,493,710
Total since Jan. 1, 1870	$8,627,378
Same time, 1869	14,771,836
Same time, 1868	6,326,932
Same time, 1867	2,848,204
Same time, 1866	8,461,788

GOVERNMENTS LOWER.

As might naturally be inferred, the government list was weakened by the proposed curtailment of bond purchases in the November programme, and prices fell off an eighth to a quarter per cent. The undertone of the market was steady, however; for the prospect of low rates on call this winter is diverting a great deal of capital into these securities for the sake of the six per cent interest, which will doubtless be about twice what money will command from day to day in the open market. The closing street quotations this evening were as follows:—United States currency sixes, 111 a 111¼; do., 1881, registered, 113½ a 113¾; do. do., coupon, 113½ a 113¾; do. five-twenties, registered, May and November, 108 a 108¼; do. do., 1862, coupon, do., 112½ a 112¾; do. do., 1864, do. do., 111¼ a 111½; do. do., 1865, do. do., 111½ a 111¾; do. do., registered, January and July, 110¼ a 110¾; do. do., 1865, coupon, do., 110¼ a 110¾; do. do., 1867, do. do., 110¼ a 110¾; do. do., 1868, do. do., 110¼ a 110¾; do. ten-forties, registered, 106¼ a 106¾; do. do., coupon, 106¾ a 106¾.

SOUTHERN STATE BONDS QUIET.

The Southern list is still devoid of speculative interest, but prices are steady, with a strong undertone. The latest street quotations this evening are:—Tennessee, ex coupon, 62¼ a 62½; do., new, 60¾ a 60¾; Virginia, ex coupon, 63 a 64¼; do., new, 63 a 64; do. registered stock, old, 49¾ a 50¼; Georgia sixes, 80 a 82; do. sevens, 90 a 91; do. sevens, old, 90 a 92; North Carolina, ex coupon, 48 a 48¾; do. funding, 1866, 38 a 40; do. do., 1868, 30 a 32; do. new, 27 a 28; do., special tax, 22 a 22¾; Missouri sixes, 91¼ a 91½; do., Hannibal and St. Joseph, 91 a 92; Louisiana sixes, 70 a 72; do. new, 68 a 70; do., levee sixes, 75 a 77; do. do. eights, 88 a 90; do. penitentiary sevens, 74 a 76; do. railroad eights, 78 a 81; Alabama fives, 70 a 72; do. eights, 101 a 102; do. railroad eights, 95 a 100; South Carolina sixes, 82 a 88; do., new, January and July, 67 a 69; do. do., April and October, 65 a 67; do. registered stock, old, 70 a 72; Arkansas sixes, 61 a 63; do. sevens, 65 a 68.

MONEY EASY.

In the early portion of the day, under an apprehension that the change in the Treasury programme would produce activity, there were some loans on call made at six per cent, but the bulk of the business was at five per cent, with frequent and large exceptions at four per cent on miscellaneous collaterals. The government dealers were, as a general thing, supplied at the last mentioned rate. A prominent Broad street house, said to be lending currency for account of the Canadian banks, placed several heavy amounts at 6 and 6¾ per cent for sixty days. Commercial paper was still quoted 7 a 8¾ per cent for prime double names.

Foreign exchange was dull but steady on the basis of 109¾ a 109⅞ for prime bankers' sixty day bills, and 109¾ a 109⅞ for sight sterling.

THE STOCK MARKET STRONG.

The stock market was unsettled in the forenoon under the apprehension that Secretary Boutwell's change of programme would interfere with the ease of the money market, and prices went off during and just after the morning call. But as the signs of the money market pointed to continued ease despite this alteration, and as it began to be rumored that the late opposing cliques had compromised their differences, and that the "bears" had been suffered to cover their contracts, and get on the other side of the market, to effect which manœuvre they had been assisted by the "bulls," who, it will be remembered, exhibited so inexplicable an indifference to the recent downward movement, there was a sharp upward turn in the afternoon, and prices, in some instances, advanced a half to three-quarters per cent over the lowest of the forenoon. In this reaction Western Union Telegraph took the lead, and rose from 39 to 40¾, and was followed more or less closely by the more prominent railways. Here again rumor is busy with the causes which have influenced the advance in this particular stock. It is said that the whole object of the party now controlling it is to prepare for an absolute sale of the line to the government next winter at the rate of fifty cents on the dollar for the present share capital. As a means to this end the new directors have been chosen with reference both to their influence with the members of Congress and to their business capacity as managers of corporations. The new board comprises gentlemen of social and political importance in every section of the country, whose efforts will be directed to secure the co-operation of the members of Congress from their respective districts in favor of the plan of a government telegraph. It is not intended that the project shall be at all questionable or suffer from any suspicion of jobbery, for the line has been remodelled under its new managers and a great system of economical administration introduced. The senseless quarrels with the press—the best patrons of the telegraph—have been settled and an amicable tariff of rates adopted. The last annual report brought the affairs of the company down to July 1—the year so embraced including the depression and dulness of trade which followed the great panic of 1869, and one of unfavorable results, consequently, to the telegraph business. Since July 1, however, the larger tolls, in connection with the more active trade of the country, and with the voluminous press reports of the European war, combined with an economical administration, the details of which have been suggested by financiers who doubled the capital of the New York Central Railway, afford reason for believing that the enterprise can be rendered one capable of paying without intermission or interruption a semi-annual dividend of not less than 2½ or 3 per cent. On this ground the agitation for its purchase by the government may be honorably conducted and enlist the efforts of sincere men in every section of the country, the movement being justified, moreover, by the precedent of the English government, which bought the lines it now controls by paying such a *pro rata* to the average annual dividends as would authorize the purchase of the Western Union line at 50 per cent of its capital stock. The postal telegraph issue will be one of the most important questions that will occupy the attention of Congress next winter. The public will sanction any honest means which will place at their disposal facilities for more rapidly interchanging communication with each other. As the locomotive supplanted the mail coach, the telegraph is destined to supplant the mail bag as the means of business intercourse. The following were the closing prices at the last session of the Stock Exchange:—Canton Company, 66¾ a 67¼; Consolidation Coal, 26; Cumberland Iron, 33; Western Union, 39¾ bid; Quicksilver, 4½ a 5¼; Mariposa, 4½ a 5; do. preferred, 9 a 11; Boston Water Power, 15 bid; Adams Express, 66¾ a 67; Wells-Fargo Express, 37 a 37¾; do. scrip, 2½ a 3; American Express, 43½ a 43¾; United States Express, 33¾ a 34; Pacific Mail, 42 a 42¼; New York Central consolidated, 91¾ a 91½; New York Central scrip, 86½ a 86¾; Erie, 22⅞ a 23; Harlem, 132¾ a 135; Reading, 100½ bid; Michigan Central, 120¾ bid; Lake Shore, 92¾ a 92¾; Union Pacific, 23¾ a 24¼; Illinois Central, 135 a 137; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 104 a 105; Chicago and Northwestern, 79¾ a 80; do. preferred, 88 a 88½; Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis, 80¾ bid; New Jersey Central, 108¼ a 109; Rock Island, 110 a 110¼; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 61¼ a 61¾; do. preferred, 80 a 80¾; Toledo, Wabash and Western, 51¾ a 52; do. preferred, 74 bid; Fort Wayne, 93¾ a 93¾; Chicago and Alton, 115¼ a 115; do. preferred, 116¼ a 117¼; Ohio and Mississippi, 32¾ a 32¾; St. Louis and Iron Mountain, 47 a 48; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 109¼ a 109¾; Morris and Essex, 91½ a 92; Boston, Hartford and Erie, 3¾ a 4; Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, 17½ a 17¾.

HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES OF STOCKS.

The highest and lowest prices of the leading speculative shares are shown in the following table:—

	Highest.	Lowest.
New York Central consolidated	92¼	91¾
New York Central scrip	87⅛	86⅝
Erie	23⅛	22¾
Reading	101	100¾
Lake Shore	93¾	92¾
Wabash	52⅝	51¾
Northwestern	80¼	79¾
Northwestern preferred	88¼	88
Rock Island	110½	110
Milwaukee and St. Paul	61¾	61
Milwaukee and St. Paul preferred	80¼	80
Ohio and Mississippi	32⅝	32¼
Western Union Telegraph	40¼	39
Pacific Mail	42¾	42

COMPARISON OF THE EXPORTS.

The following shows the foreign imports at New York during the past week and since the beginning of the year:—

	1868.	1869.	1870.
Dry goods	$1,072,811	$1,630,309	$1,913,931
General mdse.	2,537,855	2,422,111	3,358,149
Total for week	$3,611,663	$4,052,420	$5,272,080
Prev. reported	208,055,771	248,480,380	249,689,700
Since Jan. 1,	$211,667,434	$252,532,800	$254,961,780

THE SUB-TREASURY REPORT.

The following was to-day's business at the office of the Assistant United States Treasurer:—

Gold receipts	$540,422
Gold payments	56,293
Gold balance	65,666,862
Currency receipts	416,983
Currency payments	536,572
Currency balance	6,469,401
Customs	502,000

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Monday, Oct. 31—10:15 A. M.

$5500 US 6's, '81, coup. 113¾ | 2 shs Pac M SS Co. 42½
5000 US 5-20, r, '64 117⅞ | 300 do b call 42¾
2500 US 5-20, c, '62 113¾ | 80 Adams Ex 67
5000 US 5-20, c, '64 113¾ | 500 N Y Cen & H RR 91⅝
1400 do small 113⅝ | 52 do 91⅝
1000 US 5-20, c, '65 111¼ | 200 shs NY C&H RR b c 91⅝
5000 US 5-20, r, '65, n 110⅞ | 100 do 91¾
500 do 110 | 10000 N Y C & H R Rcts 88⅝
10000 US 5-20, c, '65, n 110⅝ | 500 do 88⅝
40000 do b3 110¾ | 300 Harlem RR b c 134
15000 US 5-20, c, '67 b3 110¾ | 100 Reading RR b c 106¼
10000 do 110¾ | 200 do b3 100⅞
40000 do b3 110¾ | 700 do b3 100⅞
50000 do b c 110¾ | 100 do 100⅞
10000 US 6's, currency b c 111 | 600 L S & M S RR 92¾
500 US 5's, 10-40, c 106⅛ | 100 do b3 92¾
1000 Brooklyn 6's, w i 98 | 100 do s3 92¾
20 Mo 6's 91⅛ | 300 Chic & NW 80¾
1000 Erie 4th m 80⅛ | 300 Chi & NW pf 88¾
11000 Cen Pac gold bds 91 | 500 do b c 88¾
5000 do b call 90⅞ | 200 do c 88¾
3000 Chic & NW 1st m 94¼ | 100 N J Cen RR 108⅞
1000 Mich S & P bds 101⅛ | 100 do 108⅞
8000 C & R I & P 7's 97⅞ | 30 Chic & R I RR 110
4000 Chic & Alt 1st 102 | 100 do s3 110⅛
5000 Mil & St P 1st m 93⅛ | 100 Mil & St P RR 61⅞
1000 do 93⅛ | 100 Mil & St P pref s30 89⅞
10 shs Cent Nat Bk 104½ | 100 Tol, Wab & W 42
10 Fourth Nat Bk 106 | 25 Pitts, Ft W & Chi gt 98½
400 West U Tel 89⅞ | 100 Del, Lack & W RR 138⅞
500 do b3 89⅞ | 100 do 109
500 do bet call 89⅞ | 100 do 109⅞
100 Boston W P 15 | 100 do 109⅞
100 Mariposa Min pf 9¼ | 500 Chic & Miss RR 82⅞
64 Chic, Bur & Qy RR 151

12 o'Clock M. and 2:15 P. M.

$2500 US 6's, '81, c 113¾ | $15000 US 5-20, c, '65 b3 110⅛
45000 US 5's, '74, r 107¾ | 8000 do 110⅛
1000 U S 5-20, c, '62 110⅛ | 3000 US 5-20, c, '67 110⅛
17000 US 5-20, r, '62 109 | 11000 do 110⅛
5000 U S 5-20, r, '64 107¾ | 35000 do b3 110⅛
5000 U S 5-20, c, '64 111¼ | 11000 US 5's, 10-40, r 106⅞
1000 US 5-20, c, '65, n 110⅛ | 20000 do 106⅞
2500 US 5-20, r, '66 110⅛ | 5000 US 5's, 10-40, c 106⅞
10000 do 110⅛ | 9000 do 106⅞

One o'Clock P. M.

$500 B'klyn 6's, w i 94 | 200 shs NY C & H R b o 91⅝
2000 Va 6's, reg old 50¼ | 600 do 91⅝
1000 Erie 4th mtg 80¾ | 100 do b3 91⅝
3000 Great West 1st, '88 69 | 2000 Reading RR 100⅞
3000 Pac R of Mo 91 | 200 do b3 100⅞
4000 Cen Pac RR g bds 91 | 50 Michigan Cen 120
1000 C & R I & P 7's 97¾ | 50 do 120
2000 N Y & N H 6's, bds 97 | 500 L S & M S RR 92⅞
125 shs Bk of Commerce 132¼ | 200 Cleve & Pitts 105
200 Canton Co s60 67¾ | 100 Chic & NW RR pf 93⅛
100 Mariposa Min 4⅛ | 500 Chic & Rk I RR 110
100 Mariposa pref 9¼ | 200 do 110⅛
500 West U Tel bet call 83¾ | 100 Mil & St Paul RR 61⅞
100 do b3 89⅞ | 50 do 61⅞
200 Pac M SS Co b o 42⅞ | 300 Mil & St Paul pf 89⅞
50 Am Mer Union Ex 43½ | 62 P, Ft W & C gtd 95⅞
20 N Y C & H R 91⅝ | 300 Bost, Hart & Erie 4

STREET QUOTATIONS.

Half-past Five o'Clock P. M.

West Un Tel	40¼ a 40⅜	N Western pref.	88¾ a 88¾
Pacific Mail	42¾ a 42⅞	N. Jersey Cen	108⅞ a 109
N Y Cen con	92 a 92½	Rock Island	110¼ a 110¾
N Y Cen scrip	87 a 87¼	St. Paul	61⅞ a 61¾
Erie	23 a 23¼	St Paul, pref	89⅞ a 90
Reading	101 a 101½	Wabash	52¾ a 52¾
Lake Shore	93⅛ a 92¾	Ohio & Miss	32¼ a 32¾
Northwestern	79¾ a 80	Bost, Hart & Erie	3¾ a 4

Receipts and Disbursements at the Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States, New York, for the Month Ending October 31, 1870.

September 30, 1870, by balance		$70,772,745
Receipts during the month—		
Customs	$11,724,401	
Gold notes	4,934,500	
Internal revenue	678,552	
Three per cent certificates	20,000	
Post Office Department	757,540	
Transfers	12,751,859	
Patent fees	2,879	
Miscellaneous	5,952,957	
Disbursing accounts	12,863,984	
Assay Office	240,400	
Interest accounts, in coin	1,003,793	
		51,530,869
Total		$122,303,615
Payments—		
Treasury drafts	$34,638,296	
Post Office drafts	701,458	
Disb