UNITED ITALY.

American Celebration at the Academy of Music.

ITALIA FARA DA SE.

An Immense Gathering at the Academy—Extraordinary Enthusiasm—The Meeting Inside—Impromptu Meeting Outside.

No Union Between Church and State.

Addresses by General Dix, Henry Ward Beecher, William Cullen Bryant, Parke Godwin and Others.

Viva Italia!

The American celebration of the completion of the unity of Italy was held last evening at the Academy of Music, and it may be said, without fear of contradiction, that a larger or more enthusiastic gathering has never collected within those walls. A larger number could not be accomodated with even breathing room. The meeting was announced to take place at eight o'clock, and so great was the rush that at a quarter past seven not a seat or even standing room was available, and hundreds of people were sent away in disappointment. At half-past seven o'clock the scene outside was most exciting and almost indescribable. Gentlemen, with ladies on their arms, came rushing up to the principal entrance in Irving place, where some sixteen hundred people were standing, and presenting their tickets to the first policeman they could see, desired immediate admission. But the building was already crammed to its utmost, and consequently further admission was impossible. A rush was next made to the side entrances, but these were closely guarded by policemen to prevent any one going in who was not provided with a stage ticket. After waiting until eight o'clock the crowd, among whom were a number of clergymen, became extremely clamorous and crowded up to the side doors, threatening their guardians with rough treatment; but to avoid this unpleasantness the men retreated within the doors, and neither prayers nor entreaties could prevail upon them to admit any of the crowd, who stood knocking and growling without. After a short time the entire outside crowd gathered at the front entrance, and Horace Greeley and Chancellor Crosby addressed them on the same subject that was being discussed within doors. Inside the building the meeting was of the most enthusiastic character. Every corner was closely packed by the audience, who were apparently determined to make the utmost of the opportunity afforded them of expressing their sympathy for the cause of Italian unity.

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt called the meeting to order and the president, Major General Dix, was called to the chair. D. D. Lord acted as secretary of the meeting. The following gentlemen were named as

VICE PRESIDENTS:—

Charles P. Kirkland, Alexander Van Rensselaer, Charles N. Talbot, Hiram Barney, Cyrus W. Field, William Remsen, Le Grand B. Cannon, G. T. Olyphant, Alfred Post, W. B. Ogden, Gustav Schwab, George William Curtiss, James W. Beekman, Peter Cooper, S. B. Chittenden, Washington M. Vermilye, Horace Greeley, Frederick G. Foster, A. R. Wetmore, L. P. Morton, J. E. Williams, Robert Lenox Kennedy, Frederick J. De Peyster, Cortlandt Palmer, George T. Strong, Otis D. Swan, D. Willis James, F. W. Rhinelander, Theodore W. Riley, Robert J. Livingstone, W. A. Booth, George W. Lane, J. C. Havemeyer, C. V. S. Roosevelt, E. D. Morgan, S. Knapp, Stewart Brown, George P. Putnam, Theodore W. Dwight, Thomas Hall Faile, Nathan Bishop, R. Ogden Doremus, James Brown, William E. Dodge, Jonathan Sturges, Henry G. Stebbins, A. A. Low, Willard Parker, William Orton, Charles Butler, W. H. Aspinwall, W. C. Bryant, Marshall O. Roberts, Jackson S. Schultz, Samuel F. B. Morse, Francis Lieber, W. H. Webb.

The secretary read a large number of letters from prominent men from all parts of the State, expressing sympathy with the cause and excusing themselves from attending, several of which have already appeared in the HERALD; among others was the following from Mr. Hamilton Fish:—

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1871.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, New York:—

MY DEAR SIR—It will not be in my power to attend the meeting to celebrate the completion of Italian unity, &c., on the 12th inst. It may be questioned how far the restraints of the official position of one brought into relations with foreign Powers may allow him to take part in the proceedings of a meeting whose objects look to the internal relations of a government with which the United States are on the most friendly relations.

But nothing is more natural than that the people of the United States, who have so recently passed the ordeal of a distressing civil war in the defence and maintenance of their national unity should sympathize with Italy on the completion of that unity which has so long been the aspiration of her statesmen and patriots, and there can be no reason to restrain the expression of joy which every American feels in the advance made in other lands towards the incorporation with their institutions of the principles which we deem to underlie the welfare and the happiness of the great masses which constitute the several nations of the world; and we need not hesitate in giving expression to the gratification which we cannot fail to experience in the adoption, wherever it may be adopted, of liberal constitutional government, securing to the citizen the civil and religious liberty which we believe to be the natural right of man. With great respect, your obedient servant, HAMILTON FISH.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

Major General DIX next spoke as follows:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—FELLOW CITIZENS—Five hundred and seventy-five years before the Christian era the republic of Rome, after nearly five years of conflict, succeeded in extending its dominion over all Italy; and from that epoch may be dated the beginning of its triumphant march to universal empire. After the lapse of more than two thousand years modern Italy, the successor of the ancient, is celebrating a similar event—the union of its entire domain under one political government—and it must be the cordial wish of every one who is familiar with the ills that classic land has suffered during the last few centuries that this consolidation of its temporal power may be the beginning of a career worthy of the empire which it succeeds; not in conquest, but in literature and art and liberal institutions.

It is but a few years since the territory which now constitutes the kingdom of Italy was shared by a multiplicity of separate sovereignties. Sardinia, the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, the Two Sicilies, the States of the Church and several other minor divisions have disappeared, and all are united under one political head. This

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE POLITICAL ELEMENTS,

accomplished almost without bloodshed, has given the new State an honorable rank among the other nations of Europe; and out of this unity have grown the extirpation of jealousies and rivalry, a respectful consideration abroad, and the strength at home which is the fruit of a common sympathy in interest and feeling.

It is only in one quarter in Italy that its unity has encountered opposition and engendered hostile feeling. A small portion of the secular adherents of

THE CHURCH OF ROME

regard the separation of the temporal from the ecclesiastical power as a spoliation and a crime. But, fellow citizens, he who in the vicissitudes of human government has the exercise of temporal sovereignty cast upon him must take it with the responsibilities and hazards incident to it—with the danger of having it wrested from him by foreign conquest, or of being divested of it by the uprising of those who are subjected to it when they feel that their welfare or their freedom will be promoted by the change. It is to this larger popular sovereignty that the temporal power of the Church of Rome has given place. The people of the Papal States have changed their political ruler by an overwhelming majority of votes—I may say, with a unanimity unparalled in the annals of popular suffrage. At Rome, the seat of the temporal power of the Church, in 40,881 votes there were only forty-six in the negative, and the same unanimity was shown by the vote of the provinces. In all this the people have but exercised a right which we and the friends of free government throughout the world hold to be inalienable. It is needless to add, what all know, that there has been no period within the last quarter of a century when the people of Rome would not have asserted this right, if they had not been restrained by foreign bayonets. We, whose ancestors were borne down during their colonial dependence by the armed hirelings of Great Britain, well know how to appreciate the value of such a deliverance.

THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT AND THE PAPACY.

The Parliament of Italy is now busy with the measures of legislation, which have become necessary to fix the demarcations of power under the new political *régime*. I have seen a synopsis of the law under discussion. It surrounds the Church with all the safeguards essential to its perfect security and independence in the exercise of its ecclesiastical functions; and it provides for the personal comfort of the Pontiff with the tenderness due to a venerable prelate, who, in his private life, has given to the world an example of simplicity and purity worthy of universal applause. It could not well be otherwise, when the late Roman State has fifteen representatives in the Parliament, and when a vast majority of the body are of the Church's own religious creed.

One of the most striking illustrations of the beneficent influence of the union of the Italian States is the recognition of the right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. In every portion of the new State—in the capital as well as the provinces—Romanism and Protestantism may stand side by side, as here and in nearly every country in Europe, and labor to advance the cause of religion without danger of interference or collision. In a word, united Italy presents to us what we consider all that is most precious in human government—a free Church in a free State.

I have referred thus briefly to

THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE ITALIAN STATES

that the object of this meeting may be the better understood. It is to cheer them on in their new career of civil and religious freedom by an expression of our sympathy, in which I sincerely believe seven-eighths of all the people of the United States will concur; to re-echo the cry, which resounded throughout the Roman territory when the *plebiscitum* was in progress, "Viva Roma, capitale d'Italia!" to hail the union of the Italian States as the era of a larger and more diffusive charity, under the influence of which religious societies may be willing to give up something of their exclusiveness for the sake of coming into closer communion with each other, and which shall make every man who bears the name of Christian feel at home in any temple dedicated to the service of his Maker.

THE RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were next presented by the Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson:—

Whereas the temporal sovereignty of the Popes over the Roman people was the growth of the same circumstances and conditions from which other absolute governments arose during the feudal ages; and whereas this government, having the same origin, must be subject to the same conditions to which any other government subject, and the same obligations by which any other government is bound; and whereas, with the growth of intelligence and of the spirit of liberty, the Roman people, from age to age, have protested against the government of the Pope in civil affairs; now by the voice of heroic leaders, and again by popular revolutions, which have many times driven out the Pope from Rome; and whereas, in 1849, when the Pope had abandoned Rome, leaving the government without a head, a Constituent Assembly, elected by universal suffrage in the Roman States, declared the secular government of the Papacy abolished, and "proclaimed that portion of central Italy, which had hitherto been the patrimony of Popes, a free and independent republic," which was only overthrown, and the subsequent rule of the Pope restored and maintained, by foreign bayonets; therefore

Resolved, That in voting to unite themselves to the constitutional government of Italy the people of Rome have been true to the spirit of their history as manifested against the temporal power of the Popes since the beginning of its encroachment upon popular liberties and rights.

Whereas the temporal government of the Church of Rome had long made itself insupportable to its subjects by a system of policy which in 1815 and 1831 called forth remonstrances from the Powers that restored the Pope, and again, also, repeated and earnest entreaties from the late government of France, and which has been grievously deplored by eminent and saintly Roman Catholic clergymen, as Lacordaire, Rosmini, Gioberti, Dollinger and many others; therefore

Resolved, That we congratulate the Roman people upon their deliverance from this oppressive yoke, and that Austria and France having been led by the course of events to abandon intervention as impolitic and wrong, they now find in the government of Italy a pledge of the enjoyment of political and religious liberty under constitutional forms.

Resolved, That we congratulate them also that this great revolution has been accomplished at so little cost of life, and that they have refrained from any acts of violence towards the representatives of the late government, or the ecclesiastics who were identified with it, and from any disrespect or hindrance whatever to the Pope in his religious character and office.

Resolved, That the doctrine of the Declaration of Independence, that "governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, and are instituted to secure the rights of all to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," can admit of no exception in favor of an ecclesiastical government wielding the civil power.

Resolved, That the doctrine of the Declaration of Independence, that "whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness," finds, in the rejection of the Papal government by the Roman people and their choice of the free constitutional government of Italy an illustration that should receive the warm approval and admiration of the American people.

Resolved, That, inasmuch as religious liberty is absolutely essential to political liberty, and political liberty to religious liberty, and the separation of Church and State is necessary to the complete independence and the rightful and effective noministration of either, we rejoice that the example of the United States in abolishing all religious burdens and restraints has been followed in Austria, Italy and Ireland, and now at last in Rome; that we honor the jealous care with which the government of Italy has guarded the personal liberties and rights of the Pope, and are assured that by the substitution of freedom for force, and of popular rights for princely prerogatives, both State and Church will minister to the highest well being of a now emancipated and united nation.

Resolved, That the principle of national unity which the people of the United States have established at the cost of so much treasure and blood, which has been the aspiration of the sons of Italy as expressed in her literature from Dante to Alfieri and Nicolini, and in the policy of her greatest statesmen from King Arduino to Victor Emmanuel—a principle necessary to the development of the resources and culture of a nation in the higher civilization—gives to the Italian nation, of which the people of Rome are properly an integral part, the right to possess Rome as their capital, with an undivided sovereignty—(a measure acquiesced in by all the Powers of Europe)—and that the presence in that capital of an essentially hostile power, claiming independent sovereignty, would be incompatible with the independence of the nation and its position among the free peoples of the world.

The reverend doctor enlarged upon the resolutions forcibly and eloquently, and was frequently applauded. At the conclusion of his address the secretary, Mr. D. D. Lord, read the following:—

ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF ITALY.

We, citizens of the United States, who have long stood as the vanguard of civil and religious freedom, and whose own unity has been within a few years so gloriously consummated, hail with a peculiar pleasure the advent of Italy to freedom and unity. Having watched with the keenest sympathy and hope the patient struggle of the Italian people for their emancipation; having shared the admiration of the civilized world for the vigor, devotion and spirit of self-sacrifice by which that struggle has been animated, we now rejoice with them in the final fulfilment of their noble and patriotic desires

Italy is at last free! Italy is at last one! Her nationality is declared, her government consolidated, and her ancient capital, so long withheld from her grasp, is once more restored to her possession. The city of Rome, so dear to the Italian heart, no longer a rival sovereignty maintained alone by foreign arms, now stands the representative of the whole Italian people, upheld and supported by the free choice of the nation.

In this great achievement we discern not only a solace for the sorrows of the past and the fruition of many noble hopes but the pledge of the grandest developments in the future. With the rights and liberties of all men amply secured by guarantees of a constitutional government; with Church forever separated from the State as the condition of all political and religious progress; with the people in control of their own destinies; restless no longer within borders and among its own free and enterprising people assured that the people of the Peninsula will feel the quickening and beneficent impulse in all the elements of national prosperity. We know, from our own history, that national resources will be developed, national energies will be stimulated; how education will be enlarged and purified; how revolutionary ferments being [illegible] everywhere established, [illegible] of liberty and of faith [illegible] out a glorious redemption.

In this belief we [illegible] the peaceful triumphs [illegible] Godspeed in the [illegible]

After [illegible] by Mr. Parke [illegible] BEECHER was [illegible] course of [illegible] they had not [illegible] discussion of [illegible] expressing their [illegible] or did they attend [illegible] body, a public body, [illegible] sentiments as Americans, [illegible] they were. It was but right [illegible] institutions were looked upon [illegible] sense of envy, should raise

FREEDOM FOR ITALY,

[illegible] should be seen and recognized [illegible] ced, by all the countries of Europe. [illegible] governments, he said, the worst kind [illegible] nt was class government, and the gov- [illegible] Rome was notoriously a class govern- [illegible] was good for the American people that [illegible] d thus an opportunity of expressing them- [illegible] selves upon this subject. It was better that the voice of this great nation should be heard across the water. He did not object so much to the Roman Catholics governing Rome—there were many leading Catholics who did not care about that—but it was occupying Rome to the detriment of the people and the arbitrary government that he objected to so strongly. In conclusion, he thanked God for the occupation of Rome by the Italians.

He was followed by Judge Emott, Rev. H. W. Bellows and Rev. William Adams.

W. C. BRYANT'S SPECH.

Mr. WILLIAM C. BRYANT, on coming forward, said:—We are assembled, my friends, to celebrate a new and signal triumph of liberty and constitutional government—not a victory obtained by one religious denomination over another, but the successful assertion of rights which are the natural inheritance of every man born into the world—rights of which no man can divest himself and which no possible form of government should be allowed to deny its subjects. A great nation, the Italian nation, while yet acknowledging allegiance to the Latin Church, has been moved to strike the fetters of civil and religious thraldom from the inhabitants of the most interesting city of the world, in the midst of their exultant acclamations. We are assembled to re-echo the acclamations. And yet there are

THOSE WHO PROTEST AGAINST THIS CHANGE.

American citizens, and excellent people among them, who lend their names to a public remonstrance against admitting the people of Rome to the liberties which we enjoy. My friends, is there a single one of these liberties which is not as dear to you as the light of day and the free air of heaven? The liberty of public worship, would you give it up without a mortal struggle? The liberty of discussing openly, in conversation, or by means of the press, in books or in newspapers, every question which interests the welfare of our race—a liberty of which the poor Romans were not allowed even the shadow—this and the liberty of assembling as we now assemble in vast throngs, thousands upon thousands, to give an expression of public opinion the significance of which cannot be mistaken—are not these as dear to you as the crimson current that warms your hearts, and are they not worthy to be defended at the risk of your lives? How is it, then, that any citizen of our own country in the enjoyment of these blessings, and prizing them as he must, can protest against their being conferred upon the Roman people—a people nobly endowed by nature, and worthy of a better lot than the slavery they have endured for so many generations?

WHAT SORT OF PROTESTANTISM IS THIS?

Protestantism in its worst form of misapplication. I should as soon think of protesting against the glorious light of the sun, of protesting against admitting the sweet air of the outer world into a dungeon full of noisome damps and stifling exhalations. I should as soon think of remonstrating with Providence against the return of spring with its verdure and flowers and promise of harvests, after a long and dreary winter. Is it possible that those of our countrymen who lend their names to condemn this act of justice to the Roman people, are aware of what they do? It is now nearly two centuries and a half since Roger Williams established in Rhode Island a commonwealth on the basis of strict religious equality. That was a little light shining upon the world from a distance, and now has been the progress of the nations in taking that commonwealth for an example. Yet, though slow,

THE PROGRESS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

has been constant; the day of its triumph has arrived; to-night we celebrate its crowning conquest. It was but a little while since that Austria thrust out the priesthood from that partnership in the political power which it had held for centuries. It is not many years since that at Malaga, in Spain, when a heretic died, his corpse was conveyed to the sea beach, amid the hootings of the populace, and that the soil of Spain might not be polluted by his remains, it was buried in the sand at low water mark, where the waves sometimes uncovered it and swept it out to sea to become the prey of sharks. Now, the heretic may erect a temple and pay worship in any part of Spain. Not long since there was no part of Italy in which any worship save that of the Latin Church was permitted. Now, we owe to an eminent Italian statesman the glorious maxim, "A free Church in a free State," and we behold the religious conscience set free from its fetters even in the Eternal City. With the aid of popular education it will remain so forever.

At the conclusion of Mr. Bryant's address the audience became intoxicated, so to speak, with enthusiasm, stamping with their feet and clapping with their hands and cheering most vociferously for several minutes. The band struck up the Italian National Hymn, and the cheering again commenced. There was one thing that required a little better attention on the part of the managers—viz., with reference to the arrangements for the convenience of the press. Several reporters presented their tickets; but were rudely pushed from the doors by those in charge of them, so that they were unable to obtain reports for their respective papers.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the president and committee of vice presidents, &c.

THE NEW YORK STATE BANKS.

Report of Superintendent Howell to the Legislature—Banks Abandoning the National System—Suggestions and Information.

BANK DEPARTMENT, ALBANY, Dec. 31, 1870.

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

During the fiscal year ending September 30, 1870, the following banking associations have filed original certificates of organization and commenced business under the laws of this State:—Fulton Bank, Brooklyn; Security Bank, New York; Farmers' Bank, Fayetteville; Merchants' Bank, Watertown; German American Bank, New York; Murray Hill Bank, New York; State Bank of Olean; Carroll Park Bank, Brooklyn (since closed).

Also the following, originally State banks, converted into national banks, have, since the passage of the act authorizing the same, dissolved their connection with that system, and reorganized as banking associations under the laws of this State, sections one and two, chapter 475, Laws of 1867:—Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, Albany; Merchants and Mechanics' Bank, Troy; Bank of Lansingburg, Lansingburg; Bank of North America, New York; Pacific Bank, New York; Grocers' Bank, New York.

Since the close of the fiscal year the following certificates of organization have been filed:—Ninth Ward Bank, New York; Exchange Bank of Lansingburg.

It will thus be seen that the banking system of the State of New York still commends itself to the favorable consideration of the public.

None of these banks, of course, issue circulating notes, the United States tax on such issue being, as was doubtless intended, prohibitory.

From the general complaint of the stringency of the money market and the depressed state of the business interests of the country, and particularly of the rural districts, I think it will be conceded that the national banks have failed to take the place of our State banks in supplying currency and banking facilities generally to the business community. Our State system furnished money enough for the wants of trade and internal commerce, and at points where it was needed. The national system gives us a circulating medium sufficient in amount, but fails to supply it at many points where it is required.

The currency that should be paid out over a hundred bank counters in the interior of the State to assist in buying and sending to market the products of the country, accumulates largely in New York and is used, to a considerable extent, in transactions outside of legitimate business. Could Congress be induced to remove the tax from the circulation of State banks, and thus allow them to renew their former relations with the business interests of the country, such legislation would, I think, be attended with results very beneficial to the people of our State.

Regarding, as I do, the question of a reorganization of our State banks, upon their former footing, as one of great importance to our citizens generally, I respectfully suggest to your honorable body the adoption of such means as, in your judgment, may seem advisable to secure the repeal by Congress of the tax above mentioned.

Should an effort to repeal the prohibitory tax of Congress upon the circulation of State banks be attended with success, some changes in the present law might be found necessary to meet the revival of State banking under conditions somewhat novel; but these need not be anticipated, nor indeed can they be.

I would, however, suggest some slight modifications of the existing provisions of law relative to the organization of bank[illegible] lation, and which ar[illegible] partment $5,000, [illegible] pliance with the law [illegible]

Upon the incept[illegible] tem the evidence [illegible] always to be fou[illegible] to that amount to [illegible] the p[illegible] ordi[illegible] evid[illegible] re the [illegible] ca[illegible] at a[illegible]

[illegible] tion, to examine or cause to [illegible] ation of the proposed institu- [illegible] tisfactory evidence that the [illegible] legislature has been drawn, [illegible] rom this department, to [illegible] ct in the law, in that it fails [illegible] ventive means, beyond making [illegible] ive, against the reduction of the [illegible] nk in the discretion of its stock- [illegible] a common thing for banks, since their [illegible] has been cut off, to report a reduced [illegible] capital, sometimes even an amount not ex- [illegible] the few thousand dollars of circulation still [illegible] nding. If an old bank may do this with im- [illegible] nity, while a new organization must have [illegible] 100,000 of capital in order to begin business, there is certainly great injustice in such discrimination. Believing that it is not desirable nor expedient to relax the provision which requires $100,000 of capital for an association and $50,000 for an individual bank, and that there should be perfect equality before the law between banks of recent origin and those of long standing, I respectfully submit the subject to the Legislature for such action as will enable the Superintendent to require a full compliance with the law in both fact and form, or compel the bank neglecting or refusing to comply to close its affairs as a bank and become, what in fact it is when reporting a reduced capital, merely a private banking house.

With these modifications of the law to meet existing conditions, and such action as your honorable body shall see fit to take to secure a revival of our State banking interests, I shall regard the duty of the Legislature, so far as relates to this department, as faithfully accomplished.

The amount of bank notes returned to the department and cancelled during the year was $238,925, of which $212,140 had been issued by banking associations and individual bankers, and $76,785 by incorporated or safety fund banks.

The circulating notes outstanding on the 1st of October were, by the books of this department, $2,253,037, of which $1,471,840 was secured by deposits of bonds and mortgages, stocks and cash, and $779,297 was issued by incorporated or safety fund banks that are not required to make a deposit for the protection of their notes.

The securities of all kinds held by the Superintendent were, on the 1st day of October, $2,671,288, of which $2,145,909 were held for banks and $525,378 were held for trust companies.

The names and salaries of the clerks employed in the department at the date of this report will be found in table No. 10, the salaries being fixed at the amount named and without the additional legislative percentage allowed to deputies and clerks in other departments.

Respectfully submitted,

D. C. HOWELL, Superintendent.

"PATCHING" AND "DARNING."

A Goodly Exhibition of Patchwork—Over 1,300 Garments for the Destitute—Premiums Awarded—A Pair of Stockings With a Hundred Darned Holes.

An entirely novel mode for supplying the poor with warm garments has been brought into existence by Messrs. Orange Judd & Co., publishers of *American Agriculturist* and *Hearth and Home*, who have opened a patching and darning exhibition at their rooms, 245 Broadway. They have issued an appeal to the wives and daughters of the country to contribute patched cast-off clothes for the destitute of the city and have offered premiums to those who excel in the art of putting a patch on. More than 1,300 garments have been sent in for competition, and they represent the value of about $1,300. Nearly all the garments are of woollen fabric and comprise a great variety of clothes for male and female wear. Eighteen ladies have been appointed to award the prizes, which were fifteen dollars, ten dollars, five dollars and subscriptions to certain weekly journals. These were awarded to girls of any age under sixteen years. A second set of the same premiums were given to ladies of any age over sixteen years. The contributors number 458, and are from twenty-eight different States and Territories.

Several interesting specimens have been received, such as a pair of long stockings, with one hundred holes darned, and a very good cloak, marked as follows:—"This cloak is made of four pairs of old pants, one old vest and two old coat linings. It is composed of sixty-eight pieces. I made it in two days and it was worn for three years to public school, and I hope it will keep some other darling warm three years more. Mrs. McParker, Washington, Ind." It was awarded the first prize. The exhibition will be open to the public for three days, after which all the garments will be turned over to the Five Points Mission for distribution.

THE ICE BUSINESS IN NEW JERSEY.

Five ice companies are laying in ice by thousands of tons in Paterson, which would seem to predict a surplus of the article next summer and a great reduction in next year's rates for mint julops.

WASHINGTON.

Captivating Ways of the Dominicans.

Cabral Looking Out for the Yankee Commissioners.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF UTAH.

Assumption of the Alabama Claims by the Government.

Admiral Porter's Nomination Under Discussion.

Woman Suffragists Again in Council.

Fred Douglass Champion of the Sixteenth Amendment.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1871.

The St. Domingo Commission.

With all the statements that have been made about the St. Domingo commission being appointed while the resolution was pending in Congress, it appears that it is not yet completed. There is no doubt the President has offered positions on the commission to quite a number of prominent gentlemen, but most of them have declined. Among those who, it is said, have declined are Henry Ward Beecher, A. E. Borie, George H. Stuart, Bishop Simpson and Frederick Douglass. The President sent for Mr. Douglass yesterday, but that gentleman was in the Senate at the time listening to the debate on the St. Domingo resolution, and he sent word that he would visit the White House to-day, which he did. So far as is known the only persons who have been appointed, and who have accepted, are old Ben Wade and President White, of Cornell University. Wade was the first person selected. The President is now awaiting the reply of another gentleman who has been offered a position on the commission. His name will probably be announced to-morrow. It seems to be settled that General Franz Sigel will be the secretary of the commission. Sigel is well versed in the Spanish language and speaks English about as well as Senator Schurz. Ben Wade will be chairman of the commission.

The Tennessee will remain at New York, the order directing her to proceed to Norfolk having been revoked by the Secretary of the Navy to-day. It is expected that the commission will be read to sail Monday next.

Captivating Ways of the Dominicans—Cabral Waiting for the Yankee Commissioners.

There are rumors here to the effect that letters recently received from St. Domingo state that Cabral and his band of followers propose to make an attempt to capture the United States Commissioners about to visit St. Domingo. The story is that some of Cabral's band will lay in wait for the Commissioners in an unfrequented part of the country and make prisoners of them. As if something of this kind was anticipated, it is stated that a company of United States marines have been ordered to the Tennessee, and will form a sort of body guard for the Commissioners in their perambulations over the island. It is probable that Baez will also furnish a [illegible]

[illegible] sidered at length, but no conclusion was reached. It is probable that a bill will be reported for the appointment of three commissioners to receive and audit these claims.

Admiral Porter's Nomination Still Hangs Fire.

When the Senate went into executive session to-day the nomination of Admiral Porter was taken up, and a lively discussion followed, in the course of which there were some sharp encounters between the friends and the opponents of Porter. There was nothing new elicited in the discussion. The old stories against Porter were reiterated by those who opposed him. They advocated the passage of the bill to abolish the rank of admiral and vice admiral, and insisted that this was the best way to settle the business. Porter's friends were anxious to press the nomination to a vote, but the other side manifested a disposition to talk, and so no vote was reached. Porter's friends feel confident that whenever a vote is taken he will be confirmed. At all events, those who are opposing him have hitherto been afraid to let the matter come to a vote.

Gayeties of the National Capital—Receptions Among the Notables.

The social flower has now fairly bloomed. The receptions will be numerous and frequent through the winter season until the religious restrictions of Lent circumscribe the field of festivities. The levee at the White House on Tuesday acted as the opening wedge for festivities, and to-day the stream of callers at the several receptions of the principal dignitaries and citizens was unusually large. The diplomatic corps was out in force, although afternoon costumes were *en regle* and gold lace proscribed. Sir Edward and Lady Thornton have issued cards, the first under their new patent of nobility, for parties, the first of which was given this evening. The others are set for the 26th inst. and the 9th of February. There will be no dancing. The reception at the English Minister's to-night was a brilliant affair. It differed from those usually given by the Cabinet Ministers and other dignitaries in that the visiting friends only of the family were invited. Still there was a throng and the spacious parlors of the Legation were unusually crowded. Lady Thornton was elegantly attired in a white tulle dress, with an overdress of blue silk, and fairly sparkled with diamonds. The list of guests comprised nearly all of the distinguished residents of Washington and all of the Cabinet, except Secretaries Belknap and Boutwell. The rooms were profusely decorated with flowers, and in the centre of the main hall a magnificent silver candelabra, holding wax candles and festooned with flowers, was placed, which attracted universal admiration. The reception closed with a generous supper.

Mrs. Grant has been indisposed since the reception on Tuesday, and will not make her appearance for several days. The excessive fatigue of handshaking is attributed as the cause of her illness. The usual Tuesday afternoon receptions at the White House, it is announced, will continue until further notice. The evening levees at which the President is always present, are fixed for the 20th of January and the 3d and 20th of February. A rumor has gone abroad that the marine band, which has always been considered an inseparable adjunct of these occasions, will be dispensed with. In consequence, much disappointment has been manifested, and Mrs. Grant has been urgently entreated to continue the old time custom and retain the band.

General Sherman intends to hold but two receptions this winter. Instead of issuing special cards of invitation he will invite his friends generally, through the papers, to come without the formality of written cards. The days for the reception have not yet been announced.

The French Minister and Mme. Treilhard state that on account of the war in Europe they will hold no receptions this winter.

Mrs. Ross Ray, one of the leaders of fashion in this city, will give a fancy ball on the 14th of February. In the interim she has fixed upon Friday of each week as reception days.

The gentlemen of Washington who move in the upper circles of society will give a series of Germans at different houses once a week until the 18th of February, when a grand ball will be given at Masonic Hall.

Among the young ladies who will make their *entrée* into society this season are Miss Rhodes, Miss Annie Zeilin, Miss Blair, Miss Marian Ramsey, daughter of Senator Ramsey; Miss Kelsey, daughter of Judge Kelsey, of New York, and Miss Fannie Steele. The latter is one of the belles of Georgetown.

Mrs. Pendleton, daughter of William L. Marcy, formerly Secretary of State, will give a party shortly.

Professor Masson proposes giving a French play for the benefit of the French fair now being held at Masonic Hall. Among the ladies who will take part are Miss Minnie Radford, a daughter of Admiral Radford; Miss Kittie Cooke, a daughter of Henry D. Cooke, and Miss Fisher, a daughter of Judge Fisher.

Among the engagements announced are those of Miss Maggie Zeilin, a daughter of General Zeilin, commandant of the Marine corps, to Lieutenant Adams, of the United States Army; Miss Lizzie Pickerell, of Georgetown, to Mr. E. Robinson, of Baltimore; Miss Lizzie Poor, a daughter of Admiral Poor, to Lieutenant Commander Jewell, of the navy; Miss Blanche Kearney, of Georgetown, to Señor Franquelo, attaché of the Spanish Legation.

Woman Suffragists in Council—The Cause Progressing—Fred Douglass Championing the Movement.

The women suffragists continued their Universal Franchise Convention to-day at Lincoln Hall. Senator Warner presided at the morning session, and said he was fully satisfied that the demand of the women for the right of franchise was just, and should be accorded them. Then followed short and spicy addresses from Mrs. Davis, of Rhode Island; Miss Adelaide Murdock, Miss Hazlitt, of Michigan, and a half dozen lesser lights in the firmament of the sixteenth amendment. Wyoming was heard from through an epistle from Esther Morris, Justice of the Peace in that paradise of female voters, in which she pays a tribute to her husband and three sons, all of whom, she states, rendered her efficient service in the discharge of her official duties.

At the evening session the hall was crowded with eager listeners. Mrs. Hooker was as happy as ever in the manner in which she presided. A new and zealous convert to the cause was introduced and gave her name as Mrs. Ellis. She was somewhat confused in her manner, but managed to dish up a short speech on the glory of the approaching political millenium. Some half dozen delegates turned up from Chicago, accompanied by Fernando Jones, who rejoices in the honor of being treasurer of the Northwestern Franchise Association.

Rev. Olympia Brown, the theological adviser of the Convention, made a nervous speech, but Fred Douglass interrupted her and completely turned the tide of popular applause in his favor. Fred Douglass said he was in favor of every citizen enjoying the right to vote, but thought women were the best advocates of the cause themselves, and declined to make any extended remarks.

The evening session of the Convention was equally well attended, although a price of admission was charged. Mrs. Hooker introduced as president Senator Wilson, who, in a neat speech, supported the movement, and hoped the construction lately placed upon the fifteenth amendment would obviate the necessity of passing a sixteenth. The Senator was followed by Mrs. Cora Tappan, who reviewed the objections made against the cause, and said the only tenable one was that which showed women unfit for soldiers. By giving her the ballot warfare would cease. Miss Peckham, Miss Hazlett and the veteran soldier, Susan B. Anthony, came in for a few remarks. The last named lady appointed two assistants to then and there receive contributions, which came in rather slowly. Her announcement that Mrs. Victoria C. Woodhull had promised $10,000 in aid of the movement was received with great applause, and that lady during the rest of the [illegible] cynosure of all eyes. A meeting [illegible] women was called for to-morrow [illegible] uch of the sterner sex as were [illegible] use were invited to put in an ap- [illegible] Convention then adjourned.

[illegible]anker's Opinion of American Securities.

[illegible] of the English banking [illegible] sury to-day, dur[illegible] loan were fully c[illegible] assured the Se[illegible] his house, and [illegible] would be little [illegible] and a half and f[illegible] amounts is the [illegible]

Arrival of a [illegible] posed Indian Confederation.

The Cherokee delegates arrived here last night—namely, Principal Chief Downing, Colonel Adair, Colonel Vann, Captains Smith and Scraper. Their business is to secure the ratification of the treaty sent to the Senate by the President during the latter part of a former session of Congress, providing for the payment of $3,250,000, the price agreed upon under the treaty of 1868 for some twenty million acres of land lying in the southern part of Kansas and west of the ninety-sixth degree of longitude, Indian country. This treaty was favorably reported upon by the Committee on Indian Affairs prior to the expiration of the last session, and is now pending. These delegates also represent in part the new State Territorial government of Ocklohama, being a confederation of the various nations of the Indian territory—namely, the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles and others. It is understood that Commissioner Parker has brought with him the official copy of the new constitution adopted at Ockmulgee by the delegates of these nations, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of 1866, and that the President, in his interview with a delegation of Friends yesterday, expressed himself favorable to this new Territorial government and opposed to the projects of railroad and land speculators, whose interests are sought to be secured through other measures now pending before Congress.

Meeting of the Board of Inspectors of Steam Vessels.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Board of the United States Supervising Inspectors of Steam Vessels took place to-day in the parlors of Willard's Hotel, and organized by the election of A. S. Bemis, of Buffalo, N. Y., as President and William Rogers, of New Orleans, as Secretary. The Board is composed of the following named persons, representing the ten Supervising districts of the United States, with their places of residence, respectively:—

First District—Samuel Guthrie, San Francisco, Cal.
Second District—Edward A. Ferguson, New York.
Third District—John Menshaw, Baltimore, Md.
Fourth District—Franklin Burnett, St. Louis, Mo.
Fifth District—Charles L. Stephenson, Galena, Ill.
Sixth District—Samuel Houston, Louisville, Ky.
Seventh District—John S. Devenny, Pittsburg, Pa.
Eighth District—Absent.
Ninth District—Asapp S. Bemis, Buffalo, N. Y.
Tenth District—William Rogers, New Orleans, La.

The special business of this board at the annual meeting is to supervise the general details of inspection of steam vessels, their boilers and machinery, and the licensing of the pilots and engineers by the several local boards of inspectors throughout the United States, and to make such general rules and regulations in pursuance of the laws of the Congress for the safety of life and property on board of vessels propelled by steam as they shall deem proper, and report the results of the service for the year to the Secretary of the Treasury. The board will be in session about two weeks.

Duty on Imported Rum, Gin and Whiskey.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in a letter to the Collector of Customs of New York, relative to the proper rate of duty to be assessed on rum, gin and whiskey imported into the United States since January 1, 1871, says:—

The act of July 14, 1870, imposes a duty of two dollars per proof gallon on brandy and on other spirits manufactured and distilled from grain or other material and "not otherwise provided for." The question presented is as to what the words "not otherwise provided for," in this paragraph, include; and it is the opinion of the department that they apply only to the "other spirits" manufactured or distilled from grain and other material, and that, consequently, brandy of first proof is entitled to entry at two dollars a gallon; but that rum, gin and whiskey being specially provided for by name in the act of March 3, 1865, which imposes thereon fifty cents a gallon in addition to the duties imposed by the act of June 30, 1864, which were "on other spirits manufactured or distilled from grain or other materials for first proof two dollars per gallon," are excluded from the said act of July 14, 1870, and are liable to duty at the rate of $2 50 a gallon under the said acts of 1864 and 1865 before mentioned, and you will be governed accordingly in securing the duties at those rates on all