WASHINGTON.

Effect of the Developments in the Potter Committee.

SECRETARY SHERMAN'S GUARDED DENIAL.

The Original of the Famous Letter To Be Produced.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES COLLATED.

Why Parties Accused of Frauds Were Appointed to Position.

THE PRESIDENT'S HUMANITARIAN VIEW.

Anderson in Explanation of His Search for Office.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, June 2, 1878.

THE POTTER INVESTIGATION—IMPRESSIONS CREATED BY ANDERSON'S TESTIMONY—HOW THE COURSE OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN APPOINTING TO OFFICE MEN CHARGED WITH FRAUD IS REGARDED.

The developments in the Potter Committee on Saturday have been the subject of eager discussion here to-day in all circles, but as the local newspapers published only very meagre reports of Anderson's testimony, and the New York Sunday papers do not get here until to-morrow, comparatively few persons were possessed of a complete knowledge of what Anderson brought out. The impression among those who have become thoroughly informed is that an important advance was made by Anderson's documents toward establishing the existence of a conspiracy among leading republican politicians in Louisiana to so manipulate the election there as to fraudulently give its electoral vote to the republican candidates. Prominent republicans here do not conceal, in private conversation, their feeling that if this can be conclusively established it will be a serious matter, and this whether any of their visiting statesmen are involved or not. Further evidence on this head is, therefore, waited with general anxiety. It is a fact also, that Secretary Sherman's uncertain reply as to whether or not he wrote the letter attributed to him has left an unpleasant impression. People friendly to him, as well as those opposed, ask why he did not answer at once, and decidedly, either yes or no. Some of his friends suggest that he wishes to commit all the witnesses the committee may have to the assertion that he did write it and then prosecute them criminally for perjury. But in that event, others object, he has weakened his own case by testifying he is himself uncertain whether he wrote it or not, and at the same time seems to have committed himself to doubts as to the propriety of the letter.

"If he had said, 'I did write it, and, under the circumstances, I maintain that it was a perfectly proper letter to write; that would have been firm and tenable ground," said a Representative not unfriendly to the Secretary. "But it is absurd to say that he was uncertain whether he wrote it or not."

As to the documents traced to Senator Matthews they make an extremely unpleasant impression, for people recall the notorious facts that the administration has been prodigal of office and favorable to every man conspicuously connected with the Returning Boards and prominent in office in Louisiana and Florida, and that Secretary Sherman, General Garfield, Senator Matthews and other of the visiting statesmen fell into an agony of fury about the trial of Anderson and made haste to write him foolish assurances of protection. It has been a stain on the administration that it favored the admission of Kellogg to the Senate, kept Madison Wells in office, gave Anderson a comfortable place, sent Stearns, of Florida, to the Hot Springs and Packard to Liverpool, and took care in other places of a multitude of men who were engaged in the election in ways which made them suspected and disreputable. It was said that, though this was not civil service reform, it was yet but the usual rewarding of partisan services; but in the light of Anderson's document regarding the agreement between him and Nash, to which other evidence seems to show that Kellogg, at least, was privy, and of the correspondence between Mr. Matthews and Anderson, this whole business assumes a more sinister look.

It is but just to the President to say that, in reply to the question how he could excuse or explain such appointments, he has said to your correspondent that most of these men were ruined in the community in which they lived by doing what he believed their honest duty; that their business perished, nobody would deal with them, and that under these circumstances he thought it only right that they should be provided for according to their abilities. Hence to the two colored men on the Louisiana Returning Board he gave $1,500 places in the Custom House—places they were able to fill; to McLin he gave a judgeship in New Mexico, and when he failed of confirmation for that place and asked for a better one, and one for which the President thought him unfit, he refused him, and when McLin wrote him a threatening letter he forbade him the White House and ordered that he should have nothing.

"No one," said the President, "has received any office which he has not the capacity to fill." But in spite of this his retention of Wells and Anderson in their places and other appointments of the same kind, though perhaps less offensive to public decency, have always been a reproach to him with the best men of his own party, and he and his Cabinet will have themselves to thank if such documents as Anderson has produced shall now place them in an embarrassing position. The investigation has only now begun, and there are other matters to come which may be worse for all concerned.

The democrats are naturally elated at the developments of Saturday and the promise of even more important testimony to come. They say that now it is shown that the investigation was proper and necessary and they very generally add that now, in the face of Anderson's testimony, they are ready to repeat that they have no intention to disturb the Presidential title. They are satisfied to show to the country the electoral frauds and their results, and intend no proceedings beyond this.

THE FISHERY AWARD—HOW GREAT BRITAIN HAS NEGLECTED TO COMPLY WITH A PROVISION OF THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

Mr. Blaine on Saturday brought out a curious and hitherto unknown fact in regard to the three rules in the Treaty of Washington, which, as has been stated in the despatches, the British government has for seven years refused to join ours in recommending to the adoption of the maritime Powers as the treaty requires. Mr. Blaine stated in his remarks on the fishery award that Mr. Fish advised Sir Edward Thornton two years ago that the two propositions about the three rules were considered by the government to be inadvisable, and that if Great Britain did not join the United States in recommending the three rules to the other maritime Powers the United States would not hold itself bound by these rules, but would be justified in treating them as a nullity. Even this threat seems to have had no effect.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, June 2, 1878.

THE SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE POTTER COMMITTEE—COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION.

The Florida sub-committee of the Electoral Investigating Committee went South to-night on the train known as the Florida Express. It consists of Mr. Hunton, of Virginia, chairman, and Messrs. Springer, of Illinois, and Hiscock, of New York. They will proceed direct to Jacksonville and will first take the testimony of Judge McLin. After getting through with him they will examine such other witnesses as may be available. Morton is believed to be down there hunting up the witnesses, accompanied by the Attorney General of the State. Just before leaving, Mr. Hunton said he could not tell whether the sub-committee would hold open sessions or not. That would be left for decision until they arrived at Jacksonville, but he thought it probable they would take the testimony in secret session and keep it secret until laid before the committee on their return. The sub-committee intend to return in time for the adjournment of the House. He thought they would not be away longer than ten days.

The Louisiana sub-committee has not been made up yet and will not be probably for several days at least. General Butler will be the republican member of this committee. Mr. Hunton thinks it will be necessary to go outside of Jacksonville.

The committee will not meet to-morrow, owing to the absence of Chairman Potter, who has gone to New York. Tuesday the direct examination of Anderson will be resumed, and Wednesday his cross-examination will probably begin. After Anderson, Stanley Matthews will take the stand.

A democratic member of the committee claimed to-night that the original of the Sherman letter is in their possession, and will be produced at the proper time.

UNHEALTHY CONDITION OF WASHINGTON—THE WIFE OF MAJOR M'DONALD FALLS DEAD ON HEARING THAT HER HUSBAND COULD NOT RECOVER FROM HIS ILLNESS.

The adjournment of Congress has probably been hastened by the unusually sickly condition of Washington and the apprehension of a worse condition of affairs as soon as the warm weather sets in. Many of the gingerbread sewers of the city have caved in, rendering necessary an exposure of great gaps in the earth in the work of rebuilding the broken sections which exhale miasmatic odors and gases. Again, the protracted cold and damp weather of the past week has saturated the malarial soil and aggravated its unsanitary condition. Hardly a family is without a case of sickness, more or less serious. One of the New York newspaper correspondents is dangerously ill with a bilious attack, another New York correspondent has lost one member of his family from typho-malarial fever, and another is prostrated with intermittent fever.

Major W. J. McDonald, Chief Clerk of the United States Senate and the oldest in service of the Senate clerical force, is at the point of death with an acute attack of Bright's disease of the kidneys. He has been suffering from the attack for a considerable time, but has been confined to his bed only about ten days. A most tragic interest attends his case. A council of physicians was held yesterday, and another to-day. When yesterday he was pronounced beyond recovery Mrs. McDonald, his wife, dropped dead of grief and shock. Her death, which happened last night, brought an added bereavement to the afflicted family and served to precipitate the malady that is slowly wearing away the life of the husband and father. The physicians report a slight improvement in his condition to-night, but hold out no hope whatever of his recovery.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, June 2, 1878.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATORIAL ELECTION.

The question of the right of the present Legislature of the State of New Hampshire to elect a Senator has been referred by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections to Senator McMillan as a sub-committee. His high reputation for legal ability and his long experience in dealing with questions of this character will probably make his report upon the subject decisive with a majority of the committee.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATORSHIP.

The arguments in the Corbin-Butler contest were closed before the committee yesterday, and the question of Corbin's right to the seat in the Senate now occupied by Butler was formally taken into consideration.

ANDERSON'S TESTIMONY.

THE WITNESS EXPLAINS HIS EFFORTS FOR A POSITION—INTERVIEWS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND STANLEY MATTHEWS—PROMISES THAT WERE NOT KEPT.

WASHINGTON, June 2, 1878.

James E. Anderson, the witness before the Potter Investigating Committee, yesterday, in explanation of some of the correspondence submitted, related interviews which he had with the President and with Stanley Matthews. He had been offered the Consulate to Funchal and had declined to accept it.

INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT.

He then went to the President, and the following is his account of the interview:—

The President said he had received a letter from Mr. Matthews requesting him to give me a place, and he said at the same time that he did not see exactly what he could do. I said:—

"Mr. President, I appreciate the difficulties under which you are laboring. I know that if you give me a place, that is, any prominent place, it will excite the attention of the country and will cause unfavorable comment. I will make a suggestion, which, if you will adopt, will relieve you and everybody else of all trouble in the matter. If you will appoint such a man as I shall designate to one of the New Orleans appraiserships, now held by Ringgold, who has no political backing except ex-Senator West, I will withdraw all my claims on your administration."

The President pondered over the matter a few minutes, and asked me when I was going to return to New Orleans. I told him I did not intend to return to New Orleans unless I had some definite promise made that I should be provided for. Then he said:—

"You go back home and write me this proposition which you have made, and send it to me under cover of Mr. Gustin, one of my private secretaries, so that I shall be sure to receive it, and I will attend to it."

AFTER STANLEY MATTHEWS.

The next day I wrote to Mr. Matthews. I thought the matter over, and I wrote to him and told him that in my telegram I did not mean to threaten him, because I thought he was doing what he could for me; but that they had worried me so in Washington that I thought it was about time that something should be done one way or the other. I went to Cincinnati on my road to New Orleans and stopped over there and saw Mr. Matthews. He told me to go back to Washington and he would follow me that night. I came back and we both arrived here on the same evening, Sunday evening, the 10th of June. I saw him three days after my arrival and asked him what had been done. He told me that he had not seen the President, but that he would see him that night. On Wednesday I called at his room at the Ebbitt House, and he told me to call upon Mr. McCormick, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. I went to the Treasury Department and found that Mr. McCormick was out of town and would not return for ten days. I returned to Mr. Matthews' room, and he wrote for me a note addressed to General Smith, Appointment Clerk. Mr. Smith said that he would take me over to the White House to see the President. We called at the White House and Mr. Smith had an interview with Mr. Hayes, at which I was not present. He came out and said the President had instructed him to give me some satisfactory position on political considerations. He took me to the Treasury Department, gave me the blue book, and told me to pick out such a position as I wanted. He then said that I should have something which would be satisfactory to me. I rode that day to Baltimore with Senator Matthews. He asked if I was satisfied, and I told him I was and referred him to General Smith's statement that it was all right.

PROMISES NOT KEPT.

A couple of days after that Mr. Smith informed me that the best position which he could give me was an inspectorship in some custom house—either Philadelphia, Baltimore or Boston, which was worth from $3 50 to $4 a day. I told him that that was not what had been promised me, and not what I had a right to expect, and that if I could not get a better position than that I would go back to my old duties as a journalist, and that I preferred going back to them anyhow. I said that I did not care personally; that the only feeling I had in the matter was that certain promises had been made to me which had not been fulfilled, and I proposed to see that they should be. Mr. Smith then wrote to Mr. Matthews to the effect that he had made me no definite promise excepting that I should be provided for in a satisfactory manner. After my interview with the President about the appraisership I stopped in Cincinnati, and in the first paper that I picked up I found a report of an interview of a colored deputation from Louisiana with the President, in which the President promised to retain Ringgold.

SOME TALL SWEARING.

Q. Did you say anything to Matthews about it? A. I did, some of the tallest specimens of swearing that Matthews ever heard in his office.

Q. What took place in reference to that letter from Mr. Matthews? A. I came on to Washington and I told Senator Matthews that I thought an effort was being made on the part of the democrats to get up an investigation, and that information was being furnished them by some of the boys in Louisiana, and that I thought the best manner to stop the arrangement was by Dr. Darrall's appointment as Collector of Customs in New Orleans. I told him that Darrall understood pretty thoroughly the men who ought to be provided for, and that he should do it. He requested me to have Darrall call upon him, which I did; Darrall wrote to me, and afterward told me personally—and so did Matthews—that they should work up a sentiment in Darrall's favor, get all the recommendations they could from Darrall's colleagues in the House, and that they would give Matthews the pretext for asking for Darrall's appointment as Collector of Customs at New Orleans.

Q. What part were you to play in that? A. Mr. Matthews asked me whether, in case Dr. Darrall was appointed, I would be satisfied, and whether I would be willing to deliver all the papers in my possession, and give up all my claims on the administration, which I agreed to do.

Q. What papers were referred to in any of your conversations with Mr. Matthews? A. He referred to all the papers in my possession; that evening I spoke of the Sherman letter.

Q. To whom? A. To Mr. Matthews.

Q. Who mentioned the Sherman letter first, you or he? A. I have no distinct recollection about the matter; it was after Mrs. Jenks had called on Senator Matthews in connection with it.

Q. Did she profess to hold the letter? A. She professed to hold the original letter.

Q. How do you know that she professed to hold the original letter? A. She told me herself, in the presence of other parties, that she had the original.

Q. Did she exhibit it to you? A. No; she claimed she had it at New Orleans, and offered to sell it for a certain consideration.

THE ELECTION FRAUDS.

THE INVESTIGATION AND ITS PROBABLE RESULTS CONSIDERED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Whether it is wise or proper to institute a Congressional inquiry into the election frauds of 1876 depends entirely upon the question whether evidence can be got without the authority of Congress; evidence, I mean, which a Congressional Committee, armed with its proper powers, can get. It is well understood here among democrats that there is such evidence, and that mere private inquiry could not obtain it. This is the real and I think sufficient excuse for a Congressional investigation. If it had been openly and plainly given in the House, and if the investigation had been suffered to cover also the ground they had a right to demand the republicans could not decently have refused it. Mr. Potter's mistake was in presenting a resolution prefaced by and on the plea of the absurd Maryland resolutions. This at once put him and the party in a false position, which, in the House debates and in his public letter, he has been ever since trying to get out of, and which the republican politicians, who had been at their wits' ends for an issue in the fall canvass, have made haste to jump on and are making the most of. In fact, they are making so much of it that they will get through with it before the canvass opens. It is a foolish and false issue, as the people already see.

ONE OF THE RESULTS.

As to the investigation, it must result in one of two ways. Either nothing will be discovered implicating prominent republicans, and conclusively showing that Mr. Hayes did receive a majority of the votes of the Electoral College, in which case Mr. Potter will have whitewashed the republican party, and the cry of fraud against its leaders will cease, with which they ought to be entirely satisfied and happy; or, on the other hand, the committee will demonstrate by conclusive evidence that republican frauds were committed sufficient to invalidate the election, and that Mr. Hayes did not rightly receive a majority of the electoral vote, as the constitution requires. What then?

Mr. Potter, as it seems to me, in a needlessly ambiguous manner suggests what is true in that case, there being no law covering such a case; and it being highly improbable that both houses of Congress will pass and the President will sign a bill to cover it, nothing can be done to change the result already attained or to unseat Mr. Hayes. He ought to have said plainly what he knows and meant; that when the committee has shown conclusively that Mr. Hayes is not entitled to the office he holds there its duty and the duty of the democratic party and of Congress ceases.

If Mr. Potter shall be able to prove conclusively that the majority of the electoral votes were not cast for Mr. Hayes, but were given to him by fraud, no honest man in the United States of either party can help but acknowledge that the inquiry was justifiable, and, even more, was necessary; but, when that is done, neither Mr. Potter nor his committee, nor the democratic party, nor Congress, will have anything more to do in the matter. Mr. Hayes sits in the White House by the decision of both houses of Congress made in the regular and constitutional manner. Had he been declared elected under the operation of the Twenty-second joint rule or of any of the rules which preceded that for "ascertaining and declaring the election of a President and Vice President," or under that bill of Senator Morton intended to be a substitute for the Twenty-second rule, which once passed the Senate and but for an accidental delay would have passed the House and become a law, no one, republican or democrat, would have thought of the folly of unseating him. But the Electoral Commission was only such another device or method for assisting in ascertaining the election as the Twenty-second joint rule, which had been abolished, or as Senator Morton's bill, which came so near passing. It was not the Electoral Commission which "ascertained and declared" the result, but the Congress; both houses assembled for that purpose and acting in accordance with the rule they had adopted in a strictly constitutional and legal manner. Having so done their work and declared Mr. Hayes President and Mr. Wheeler Vice President for the term of four years, from March 4, 1877, that is the end of the matter, and I venture to say there is not a lawyer in the country who, if he has taken the trouble to look into the question, will say that the action of the two houses was not constitutional, final and conclusive, and not to be reopened on any plea by a subsequent Congress or by any other authority, legal or otherwise.

A MATTER FOR MR. HAYES.

If Mr. Potter shall prove conclusively that Messrs. Hayes and Wheeler were not entitled to a majority of the electoral votes, but that the votes of certain States were given them by fraud, that will be a matter for Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wheeler to consider. It will be a discovery extremely interesting and important to them. It will, in that case, be for Mr. Hayes to determine whether he will retain possession of an office to which it is publicly and, in the case I have supposed, conclusively proved he is not entitled; to which, he will then know, and all men will know, the people did not intend to raise him, but another. No power on earth has legal or constitutional authority to put him out; he sits there by the regular and orderly decision of the two houses of Congress, as the constitution provides. It is for him, and him alone, to decide whether he will retain the place in which the whole nation will, in that case, know that he has no business. For my part, knowing him only as he is known to other men, and judging him as I would others, I do not believe that he could keep the place. I believe he would resign. He would know that if he did not he must wither away beneath the glare of a general and increasing contempt. He would feel himself in a perpetual pillory. Not only all decent men in his own party but all men who had the least hope of a political future would shrink away from him. No man with a character to lose would remain in his Cabinet; no man could accept office from him without losing caste among his fellows; no man would hold relations of any kind with him, except those strictly official ones needed to keep the public business going. He would resign or he would die of universal public contempt.

In either case the democratic party would not be responsible. Whenever Mr. Potter conclusively proves that Mr. Hayes did not rightfully receive a majority of the electoral votes the democratic party is done with this matter. It did not commit the frauds which in that case will have been shown. It has nothing to do except to hand the evidence over to the republican party, with its compliments, for any action that they may see fit to take, and for the rest it has its appeal to the country in 1880. It will be for the republican leaders to deal with the fraud brought home to them and to purge themselves of the wrong, if they can do so, or suffer its consequences if they cannot. For the democratic party to take another step in the matter would be a purblind folly of which the democrat who writes you this does not believe it capable.

PLANS SUGGESTED.

I am aware that there have been two plans for further action. One of these has for its author a republican Senator from a New England State, who sometimes offers the help of his ingenious mind to his democratic colleagues. It was his suggestion that, in case frauds invalidating the election were proved, the democrats, if in possession of both houses, might cease to recognize Mr. Hayes and receive communications only from Mr. Tilden. I have reason to know that this republican plan has never met with the consent or encouragement of any democrat who has even slight influence with his party. As to Mr. Montgomery Blair's bill—the "Kimmel bill" so called—it has received only contempt from the democrats. The Judiciary Committee to whom it was consigned have never reported it, and I doubt if your industrious correspondents here could find a dozen men in both houses of Congress to say that it was either constitutional or judicious. The republican cry of revolution will not hit. The democrats do not intend revolution. They do not mean to attack the Presidential title. They do not forget that it was they who, against the vehement opposition of most of the republicans of both houses, adopted the Electoral Commission after the republican Senators had, contrary to good faith, repealed the Twenty-second joint rule. The democrats have agreed, unwisely as many of them think, to make an attempt to expose the frauds of 1876. It is in my judgment a hazardous business. It is always difficult to prove election frauds even immediately after an election; to prove them now, nearly two years after the deeds were done, must be still harder. But Mr. Potter has undertaken to do it. If he succeeds the democratic party will rest content; their appeal will lie to the country. If he fails the republicans will be exculpated, and they, at least, will have no cause to complain. In either case there will be no "revolution" unless the republicans make it; there will be no attack on the Presidential title unless by republicans. They put in Mr. Hayes, and on them rests the responsibility. Yours respectfully,

A DEMOCRAT.

LETTER TO GENERAL BANNING.

GENERAL GIBBON CORRECTS SOME MISSTATEMENTS.

The following letter has been sent by General Gibbon to the chairman of the Military Committee:—

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 29, 1878.

DEAR GENERAL:—I have just finished reading your speech on the Army bill, and while conceding you the credit of very thoroughly investigating the subject of the organization of the army, I cannot fail to remark that you have carried the habits of a lawyer into the House of Representatives, and by stating only the facts which have a favorable bearing on your own side of the question have led yourself into erroneous statements which are liable to mislead others. I do not complain of this at all, because men in all professions are apt in time to run in "ruts," and as I am fully aware of the fact that my own profession has often laid itself open to the charge of running into "ruts," or as it is more popularly called, red tapism, I have no right to complain that a lawyer, finding himself a member of Congress, should experience a difficulty in getting out of his own particular rut, and should adhere strictly to the principle that every statement which strengthens the opposite side weakens his own.

In your general statement that our army is overofficered, you state the ratio at about one officer to eleven men, but in supporting your statement by referring to the muster rolls of the army you select special cases, and by means of them make the facts to appear even worse than they are, and then say that "this simple statement of the condition of our army under its present organization presents an unanswerable argument in favor of reorganization." To make the disproportion between officers and men the greater, you enumerate the non-commissioned officer with the officers, forgetting or ignoring the fact that every one of the former, and most of the latter, are soldiers with rifles in their hands, who perform exactly the same duty in an Indian fight as the private soldier.

In making your selection of special cases you unfortunately pitch upon my regiment, and cite company A as having five commissioned and non-commissioned officers to command four privates and one musician, forgetting or ignoring the fact that this company had, just previous to the muster which you quote, passed through a severe Indian fight (Big Hole), in which its captain was killed, its first lieutenant wounded three times, and five out of its nine privates killed and wounded, and that the musician which you cite with so much pertinacity carried in that fight not a drum, but a rifle.

Your next quotation from the muster roll is equally unfortunate, for you represent Company K as having eight commissioned and non-commissioned officers to command four privates and one bugler, adding the most unfair comment that it has "two officers for each private," forgetting or ignoring the fact again that this company too had just passed through the same fight with the loss of one officer (wounded three times) and seven men killed and wounded.

Your third selection was no better than the other two, for Company G was, as you say, "less fortunate in the matter of officers, for while it had one sergeant, two corporals, one bugler, one musician and six privates, a total of eleven present for duty, it was without any commissioned officer whatever." The reason why it had no commissioned officer present with it twenty-two days after the battle was purely accidental, for there were two present with it in the battle, and its scarcity of non-commissioned officers was due to the fact that it lost in the fight in Idaho and wounded four sergeants and two corporals, and, after a further loss of six privates, had not the necessary material in its six remaining privates to supply the places of its non-commissioned officers.

Now, General, if a gentleman like yourself, occupying the high and responsible position of chairman of the Military Committee of the United States House of Representatives, spreads broadcast over the country such partial statements as these, giving only one side of the question and representing the depleted condition of the Seventh Infantry as the result of our defective organization, instead of being, as it was, the immediate effect of a severe Indian battle, how is it possible for the people of the United States to gain a correct knowledge of the actual condition of the army? I know of no better way than for those who are cognizant of the real facts to adopt the same plan that you have made use of and make an appeal through the public press of the country, and every fair-minded man, I am sure, will see the absolute necessity for what is termed an "open letter," since, if I were to write you a closed one, it would never see the light, simply because it contains matter which as a lawyer you must condemn as not on your side of the question.

I write this simply for the purpose of placing before the public a more correct view of the condition of the army than you have given in the *Congressional Record*, and am yours very truly, JOHN GIBBON.

To General H. B. Banning, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—BENEFIT OF LEVY—A WONDERFUL EXPERIMENT WITH THE PHONOGRAPH.

Long before eight o'clock last evening the doors of the Grand Opera House were besieged by a great throng who had gathered to enjoy the concert given by Mr. Levy on the occasion of the benefit tendered to him by Messrs. Poole & Donnelly. The immense auditorium has never been more largely filled, and the spectacle presented by the thousands of faces was brilliant in the extreme. The programme was as follows, and every piece was warmly encored:—Piano solo, Signor C. Torriani; song, "Waiting," Millard, Master W. H. Lee; flute solo, "Melodie de Chopin," Demersman, Mr. J. S. Cox; aria, "Omio Fernando," Donizetti, Mme. Amina Biachi (her first appearance in New York); song, "Only to Love," Santley, Mr. James G. Peakes; air, with variations, Levy, Levy. Part 2—The Wonderful Speaking Phonograph, the Great Phenomenon of the Age, Mr. E. H. Johnson and Levy. Part 3—Aria, "Judith," Concone, Mme. Amina Biachi; song, "The Sunrup Cup," Arditi, Sig. A. Torriani; song, Master W. H. Lee; "The Pretty Girl Milking Her Cow," Crouch, Levy; piano solo, *a*, "The Brook," Pore; *b*, "First Grand Concert Polka," Wallace, Mr. Frank Gilder. The great feature of the evening, however, was the playing by Mr. Levy into one of Edison's phonographs and the reproduction by that wonderful instrument of every detail of the music with marvellous fidelity. As printed on the programme, it was a "recital" by Messrs. E. H. Johnson and Levy, and it proved at once curious and astonishing. The little insignificant machine rested on a table in the centre of the stage, and the soloist, under the direction of his coadjutor, proceeded to play into a funnel-shaped orifice (holding the cornet distant say about six inches) a series of airs and variations. First was "Yankee Doodle," then the "College Hornpipe," "Star-Spangled Banner," "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the Boys Are Marching," and "Old Folks at Home." Then a longer funnel was introduced in the cylinder, pointed at the audience, who were requested to keep the utmost quiet, and Mr. Johnson, turning a crank, ground out in rapid succession and in tones that could be distinctly heard in every portion of the house, the several tunes. The audience manifested the greatest delight at the success of the novel experiment, and especially at the multiplication of effects. As Mr. Johnson observed, Levy's notes were literally "bottled up." The hundreds of people who were turned away will probably induce the management to repeat the performance next Sunday night.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

Patti is in Paris.

The champion of modern ideas in music is Franz Liszt.

Barnum's circus recently took $98,000 in twenty-three days.

Annie Louise Cary's salary next season will be $3,000 a month.

Faure, the French baritone, recently realized 200,000 francs from the sale of a portion of his pictures.

Baltimore has been enjoying a great musical festival similar to that of Cincinnati, although smaller in proportions.

Miss Leona Moss will commence a brief dramatic season at the Union Square Theatre with the "Lady of Lyons" on Monday, June 10.

Miss Adelina Gasparini will make her appearance this evening at the Lyceum Theatre as Juliet. The lady is highly spoken of for talent and beauty.

The net profits divided among Gilmore's Band as the result of four days' performance in Dublin were £850. Miss Lillian Morton is said to be warmly received.

At Niblo's a new play, entitled "Love and Labor," will be produced this evening. The piece is of the sensational order, and the action is based on the events during the railroad riots at Pittsburg.

Miss Adelaide Lennox is announced to deliver a new monologue on "The New York Stage as It Is" at Chickering Hall, on Monday evening, June 17. The entertainment will comprise a series of dramatic recitals.

"Diplomacy" will probably end its dramatic career this season on the boards of Wallack's Theatre about the middle of the month. Few plays have been more popular or more successful, and those who have not witnessed it should not neglect the present opportunity.

Mr. Horace Wall, the dramatic agent, has secured the play of "Jane Shore," which has now been performed more than three hundred times in London, for Miss Ada Cavendish, a celebrated English actress, who will visit this country during the coming season. The play is a new adaptation by Willis, and is said to be very different from the gloomy production of past days.

Mr. Sothern will probably return to America this fall. He was under contract to play for an indefinite period at the Haymarket Theatre, London, but in consequence of the bankruptcy of Mr. Buckstone, the responsible lessee of the theatre, Mr. John S. Clarke, who sub-leases the house from Mr. Buckstone, is prevented from occupying the premises beyond the six weeks contracted for.

There will soon arrive from Europe a troupe of wonderfully trained dogs and monkeys, under engagement at the New York Aquarium. These animals are so well trained that they perform pantomimic plays, apparently without assistance. The characters assumed are generals, admirals, soldiers, sailors, servants, major domos, waiters and letter carriers. In such pieces as "The Deserter, or Death by Court Martial," "The African Dinner Party" and the "Indian Express Mail" the troupe are said to be very clever. Their performances also include ladder and barrel acts by Spanish monkeys, rope dancing, &c. This singular company includes ten monkeys, ten dogs and two remarkably handsome goats. The troupe will make its first appearance at the Aquarium on the 12th inst.

LITERATURE.

A VOYAGE IN THE SUNBEAM; OUR HOME ON THE OCEAN FOR ELEVEN MONTHS. By Mrs. Brassey. London: Longman & Co.

A brief summary of the cruise of the Sunbeam appeared a year ago in the London *Times*, over Mr. Brassey's signature, as the first public announcement of the return of the yacht after a voyage around the globe lasting eleven months. Soon afterward Mr. Brassey made a fuller *résumé* of the cruise in an interesting series of articles published in the *Nineteenth Century*. To Mrs. Brassey, however, it has been reserved to be the real historian of this excursion. It was the 1st of July, 1876, when this plucky lady, accompanied by her four children and their nurses, set out with her husband upon a voyage which would have appeared to the mariners of a couple of centuries ago a superhuman and incredible adventure. The party comprised, besides Mr. and Mrs. Brassey and family, and a couple of friends, two captains of the Royal Navy and a complement of hands, numbering forty-three in all. The yacht was something more than comfortably fitted out, and being equipped with engine and screw, was able to move independently of her sails when required either by calm or by stress of weather. Starting from Chatham the yacht steamed down to Sheerness, thence to Hastings, was becalmed off Brighton, when "we all—children included—availed ourselves to go overboard and have our first swim, which we thoroughly enjoyed." The final start from England was made from Torquay on the 8th of July. On the 16th land was again seen at Madeira. Thence to the Canaries, to Rio Janeiro, to Magellan's Straits, to the Society and Sandwich Islands, to Japan, China, India, through the Red Sea and Isthmus of Suez, to Malta, Gibraltar, and so coasting around Spain and Portugal back to England, where, at Cowes, the voyage of nearly a year came to a happy termination on the 26th of May, 1877. The story of this long excursion is told by Mrs. Brassey with charming freshness and simplicity. It is the keen observation of an intelligent woman with faculties sharpened by this exhilaration of the breezy ocean life, making no attempt at parade or ostentation of authorship, and arousing the attention and maintaining the interest of the reader simply by the perfect naturalness of the language and the absolute fidelity to nature of the descriptions. The cruise was not without startling adventures. A derelict vessel was found; a crew of despairing sailors rescued from a burning ship; the yacht caught fire; great seas washed her decks, stove her boats and carried away some spars. Moreover, her party passed through strange and exciting scenes on land. They journeyed up the peak of Teneriffe; they fraternized with the Fuegians; they traversed the burning crater of Kilauea; they dined with the Sandwich Islanders; viewed the hostile natives of Jatakotoroa from the masthead, not daring to approach or land; handled chop sticks with the Chinese, and ascended the Egyptian Pyramids. Through all these varied scenes and long months they passed without serious mishap. The trifling inconveniences and the minor misfortunes of the voyage are pictured by the authoress so graphically that they make the yacht life a reality to the reader, however much of a landlubber he may be. Mrs. Brassey has the genius of description in no small degree, and we can conscientiously recommend her journal of the Sunbeam's voyage as one of the most entertaining books of travel extant.

ST. PETER'S BRIDE. By Mrs. St. John (Eckel) Harper, author of "Maria Monk's Daughter." G. W. Carleton & Co.

A remarkable and a readable book—remarkable because a dry subject is ingeniously invested with an interest that does not usually attach to religious discussion, and readable because the pages sparkle with the sententious and argumentative utterances of a vivacious writer, who takes no pains to repress enthusiasm or hide under a bushel the light she warmly throws upon her theme. The story she has sought to illustrate is that of the Roman Catholic Church in connection with its antagonism to the various affairs of State. To this end she figuratively introduces the State as a courtesan who has been divorced from her spouse, the Pope; a woman full of beauty, pride and ambition; a character who is known by the name of Liberty, License and Anarchy; and, following her career, the author proceeds to assail the social and public evils which under the protection of law, she regards as inimical to the true advancement of mankind. In the language she gives to St. Peter her text is:—"The holy state of matrimony is a type of the union betwixt Christ and His Church. The body must be subordinate to the head. The Church can very well occupy the chair of State if necessary or expedient, but the State never can sit in the chair of St. Peter." The argument covers a broad field, and introduces in the shape of dialogue between St. Peter and Liberty, the allegorical heroine, her Minister of State, a Jesuit, and two or three Cardinals, the theory of modern Catholicism. The attitude of the Pope before the world; the conservative elements of political and religious society as observed from the standpoint of priest and layman; questions of theology in our colleges and education in our schools; our street processions; our secret societies, especially the Masonic; why they should not be tolerated; our divorce system; the prerogatives of government as contradistinguished from those of the Church—all these things pass in quick conversational review before the reader, and at times with a power of argument representing both sides of the controversy that lends a charm to the discussion, no matter to which side it may prove distasteful.

It must be confessed that the work bears evidence of a deeper insight into human nature, a larger familiarity with the dogmas of theology, and a knowledge of diplomatic phraseology and satire than is usually accredited to the possession of a woman; but whoever is really responsible for the venture has certainly fulfilled the task with ability and produced a result that is likely to elicit not a little comment among the intelligent observers of pending events. The book is not calculated to please all Roman Catholics, for it here and there speaks of the Pope with anything but a respectful voice, and members of other religious denominations will find equal fault for the manner in which much severity is hidden within a velvet glove.

LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

A history of the Royal Opera at Berlin, by Von Boen, has just appeared.

Those veteran writers, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall, have just ready a new guide to "Killarney and Glengariff."

"Lippincott's Encyclopædia of Chemistry" has reached its thirtieth number, and will be completed in ten more parts.

Professor H. Graetz's "History of the Jews," which fills eleven volumes in German, could be translated and condensed into three English volumes.

That industrious architectural writer, Mr. James Fergusson, has written a fine book on "The Temples of the Jews and Other Buildings at Jerusalem."

Mr. C. E. Pascoe has in press in London, "The Dramatic List," giving biographical sketches of the principal living actors and actresses, with critical opinions.

It is said that A. Bronson Alcott's "Commonplace Books" make seventy volumes of manuscript of about one thousand pages each. What a fearful account that man has to settle with posterity!

The inimitable Baedeker has added to his hand books for travellers, "London and Its Environs," which even the self-sufficient *Saturday Review* styles "carefully compiled, complete and useful."

The Messrs. Harper have just published a new, revised and augmented edition of Liddell & Scott's Greek-English Lexicon. The work is nearly as large as Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, contains about two thousand pages, and is as complete as a work of the kind could be. An abridgment of the same is also issued by the publishers.

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.

A Trip Up the Volga to the Fair of Nijni-Nevogorod. By H. A. Munro Butler-Johnstone, M. P. With thirteen illustrations. Published by Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

Stepping Stones; a Story of Our Inner Life. By Sarah Doudney, author of "Nothing But Leaves," &c. Anson D. F. Randolph & Co., publishers, New York.

St. Peter's Bride. By Mrs. St. John (Eckel) Harper, author of "Maria Monk's Daughter." G. W. Carlton & Co., publishers, New York.

A Greek-English Lexicon. Compiled by Henry George Liddell, D. D., Dean of Christ Church, and Robert Scott, D. D., Dean of Rochester, late Master of Balliol College. Sixth edition, revised and augmented. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

A Lexicon, Abridged from Liddell and Scott's Greek-English Lexicon. The seventeenth edition, carefully revised throughout. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

Child and Woman. From the German of Clementine Helm. By J. Zitkella Cooke. James A. Moore, publisher, Philadelphia.

The New West as Related to the Christain College. By E. P. Tenny. Third edition, illustrated. From the Riverside Press, Cambridge.

Studies from Luke. The Gospel according to St. Luke, containing the original Greek text, with an interlined word for word English translation, &c. By Benjamin Wilson. S. R. Wells & Co., publishers, New York.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

THE PEACE OF COLOMBIA THREATENED—BUSINESS IN PERU—CHILIAN NOTES—EARTHQUAKE AT GUAYAQUIL—THE COFFEE CROP IN COSTA RICA.

PANAMA, May 23, 1878.

Rumors are current that influences are at work in Colombia to interfere with the peace and permanence in authority of the Trujillo administration. The country is scarcely at peace after a most sanguinary civil war when the Church party again begins its intrigues. The disaffection exists principally in Cundinamarca, happily, where General Trujillo has it under his own eye, and will be able to control it.

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