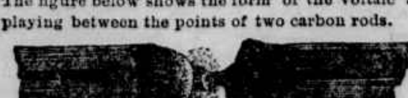
substance. Substances which readily convey electricity, or, in other words, which offer but little resistance to the passage of the electric current, such as copper, silver or iron, are unsuitable for exhibiting the heating power of electricity, while substances which offer much resistance to the passage of the current, such as platinum or carbon, show this heating power quite strongly. Either of the latter substances becomes heated to incandescence the moment a strong current of electricity is passed through it, which incandescence gives out a beautiful and pleasant light. This method of obtaining light from electricity has been known for many years, and is called the incandescent method.

A second method known as the voltaic arc method, from Volta, an eminent electrician, is the passing of a powerful electric current between the points of two sticks or rods of carbon slightly separated from each other. The passage of the current between the two causes an intensely brilliant light, many times more intense than that produced by incandescence. It is estimated to be of about one-half the intensity of sunlight on a clear day. The figure below shows the form of the voltaic arc playing between the points of two carbon rods.



When carefully studied on a screen, for the brilliancy of the light prevents continued observation by the naked eye, there will be seen hosts of little jets of carbon constantly passing in the form of an arc between the two carbon points. The problem, then, of utilizing electricity for purposes of illumination presents two avenues of attack—one by way of the voltaic arc or intense light, and the other by way of incandescence or milder light.

THE VOLTAIC ARC LIGHTS.

Considering first the voltaic arc system we find that as early as 1840 it began to attract the attention of inventors. Probably its first use outside the laboratory and class room was in the year 1845, when it was employed at the opera in Paris to produce the effects of the rising sun. Its success in this *rôle* of "Apollo" was so satisfactory that before long enterprising managers had extended its field of usefulness by means of lenses and prisms to the production of luminous fountains, artificial rainbows and lightning. At this period, however, facilities for obtaining steadiness and uniformity of the light were exceeding crude, and some mechanical device to keep the carbons at the same relative distance from each other was indispensable. The first contrivance or regulator, as it was called, for this purpose was made in 1845 by Wright, of London, and consisted of disks of carbon having their circumference cut to a V shape and receiving motion from well known mechanism. The following year Staite and Edwards, in London, patented several regulators, the principle underlying them being the enclosing of the carbons in small cases, which made the carbon points meet obliquely. In 1848 Foucault, in France, and Petrie, in England, made further improvements by which the adjustment of the carbons was made quite reliable. Then followed numerous others, extending to the present time, of more or less perfection. Among them may be mentioned Archereau's, Lacasagne's, Thiers', Serrin's, Dubosequ's, Farmer's, Brush's, Maxim's and Fuller's.

THE JABLOCHKOFF CANDLE.

In the year 1876 a new departure in the form of regulators was made by M. Jablochkoff, a Russian engineer, who, instead of placing the carbon rods vertically to each other, placed them side by side, with a thin insulating substance between them. In this form the voltaic arc, playing between the extremities of the carbons, gradually consumed them downward, like a flame consumes a candle. Indeed, so analogous was the invention to a candle that it soon became known as the Jablochkoff candle—a name it still bears.

INCANDESCENCE.

The incandescent method of electric lighting was first successfully shown by King in 1845. He placed a rod of carbon in a globe of glass from which the air had been extracted, and passing a current of electricity through the rod caused it to become heated to such a degree that one could read large print a considerable distance away by the light emitted. His labors, however, were productive of no practical results, and while his theory for producing light was regarded as a pretty one, few were so bold as to predict that it would ever develop into an economical and efficient method of illumination. The following year Greene and Staite filed a patent for a lamp analogous to that of King, pointing out that they freed the carbon before use from impurities by treating it with nitro-muriatic acid.

PETRIE'S IRIDIUM LIGHT.

In 1849 Petrie obtained patents for the same purpose, concerning which he wrote as follows:—

"A light may be produced by passing an electric current through a short and thin conductor, which heats and becomes luminous; but the majority of substances fuse and burn rapidly. However, I obtain a good light by using iridium or one of its alloys. Iridium may be fused so as to produce an ingot while it is submitted to the heat of the voltaic arc; afterward it may be decarbonized and rendered more malleable. It can be cut into small pieces, that can be fixed upon two insulated metallic supports which are in connection with the two wires of a battery. Then there is produced a beautiful light."

LODYGUINE'S LIGHT.

From this time until 1873 electric lighting by incandescence made but little progress, inventors regarding the incandescent method as much inferior to that of the voltaic arc. In the latter year, however, interest in the incandescent method was a little revived by an invention of M. Lodyguine, who made a lamp that overcame many of the difficulties previously deemed insurmountable. Concerning this invention the report to the Imperial Observatory of Paris said:—

"The sole inconvenience of the use of carbon instead of platinum consists in the fact that in the combustion the carbon combines with the oxygen of the air and is thus gradually consumed. M. Lodyguine has avoided this inconvenience by enclosing the carbon heated to whiteness by the electric current in a glass vacuum hermetically sealed, and from the interior of which the oxygen is expelled by a most simple process."

But improved as was this arrangement over those that had gone before, practice demonstrated that there were still many serious difficulties it did not meet. Among other things carbons presented obscure spots indicative of non-homogeneity; minute cracks also occurred in the carbon and rapidly disintegrated the same. The vacuum likewise was very imperfect, and there was produced within the glass globe a kind of evaporation that tended slowly to destroy the carbon rods. This evaporation also left a pulverized deposit of sublimated carbon on the inside of the glass globe. Within the past few years various English and American inventors have overcome many of these difficulties, but there still remained enough to render incandescent electric lighting impracticable.

ELECTRIC GENERATORS.

While inventors were busy both on the voltaic arc and incandescent methods, progress was far from slow on the means for producing or generating the electric current. At an early day it was evident to experimenters that to produce either the voltaic arc or incandescence with any degree of economy a different method of generating the electricity than that afforded by the chemical batteries in use was necessary. An important discovery by Ampère in 1820, developed almost simultaneously by Oersted and Arago and later by Faraday, to the effect that powerful currents of electricity could be produced by the rotation of magnets near each other, opened an opportune field for purposes of electric lighting. Pixii, a manufacturer of physical instruments in Paris, in 1832, was the first practically to apply the discovery. He constructed a machine consisting of an electro-magnet and a permanent magnet, with mechanism for revolving one directly in front of the other, which revolution induced strong currents of electricity that could be carried off by wires and made to give light. The invention of Pixii was followed by improvements by Niandet, Holmes, Ladd, Wilde and Siemens, and in late years by Gramme, Fuller, Brush, Maxim and others. The invention of Gramme, owned and used extensively in this country for the voltaic arc system by the Fuller Electrical Company, involved several important new principles that gave a marked impetus to the system and made possible the production of torrents of electricity at comparatively small cost.

EDISON'S ASSISTANTS.

Before concluding this article it is only proper that due credit should be given to those whose untiring energy and skilled handicraft made possible the perfection of the great inventor's system—viz., his chief laboratory assistants; for, although Edison's was the mind that originated all, theirs were the hands that deftly carried out his wishes. Principal among his assistants, and so intimately associated with him in his work that his absence from the laboratory is invariably a signal for Mr. Edison to suspend labor, is Mr. Charles Batchelor. For the past eight years Mr. Batchelor has worked side by side with the inventor, carrying out his plans with rare ability, and to his energy and skill is due not a little. Next come Messrs. Upton and Kruzs, both heads of departments, the one attending to the fine electrical work and the other to the mechanical details of the machine department. Among the others whose ability has helped to contribute to the inventor's great success, each in his particular sphere, are Mr. Griffin, Mr. Carman, Mr. Jehl, Mr. Force and Mr. Baum.

NICARAGUA CANAL

Civil Engineer Menocal Settles Some Important Points.

GRANT HEADS THE COMPANY.

A Commission of Corporators Ready to Start for Nicaragua.

IMMENSELY VALUABLE CONCESSIONS.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1879.

Mr. A. G. Menocal, civil engineer at the Washington Navy Yard, whose name is as closely connected with the Nicaragua Interoceanic Canal project as that of Real Admiral Ammen, returned to Washington yesterday, having been absent some days in New York and Philadelphia on matters connected with the canal. On Thursday last he was in Philadelphia and saw General Grant upon the subject which now bewilders very many people in this country, especially as to what is to be the future of the ex-President. In conversation with Mr. Menocal this evening, as to what impression he derived from his interview with General Grant, he replied (smilingly) that Admiral Ammen and Señor de Franco had already communicated all that could be said on the subject to the correspondent of the HERALD in Philadelphia.

"There are some additional points I have no doubt which you can communicate that did not occur to those gentlemen that would be of interest to the HERALD?"

IMPORTANT LETTERS.

"Perhaps so. One of the objects I had in stopping in Philadelphia was to show General Grant several letters I had just received from Nicaragua relative to granting liberal concessions to an American company in the event one should be organized and apply for the right of way through Nicaragua for an interoceanic canal route. I had just received a letter from Mr. Elyzondo, the Minister of Public Works, one from the President of Nicaragua, Mr. Zavula; another from Mr. Runnell, the agent of the Pacific Mail Company and United States commercial agent in Nicaragua, and a fourth from Mr. Ramirez, a Senator of Nicaragua, and these four letters set forth that the design of the government is to grant the most liberal concessions for a canal to an American company with General Grant at its head. From Mr. Norris, also an American engineer, and under contract to build a line of railroad in Nicaragua, whom I met in New York during my recent visit, I learned that the Nicaraguans were daily expecting the commission to arrive from the United States, with credentials, asking for the concessions necessary for the route of the canal. I thought this information would counteract any attempts on the part of jealous persons or meddlers to create the impression that Nicaragua was not favorably disposed toward the United States or a private company formed of its prominent citizens to build the proposed canal."

GENERAL GRANT'S OWN PROJECT.

"Did you succeed in convincing General Grant that the road to fame and fortune was via Nicaragua?"

"Of that I am sure he has long since been convinced. This is not a new subject to him. Why, the idea appears to have got abroad that we are begging General Grant to accept the presidency of the proposed canal company, while the fact is—and I do not see any harm in its being published—General Grant is the pioneer of the Nicaragua Canal project. You certainly remember the remark attributed to him, and which is strictly true, that it was a specialty with him during the eight years he was President, and he says himself that during that time he tried very hard to get others to take the same interest in the project that he did. Yet with all his advantages he did not succeed in making it an administration measure. It is within my recollection that before General Grant's term of office expired Admiral Ammen and several others suggested that it would be a good enterprise for him to embark in immediately upon his leaving the Executive Mansion. He thought so too, but as he had had nearly sixteen years of constant strain in the army and in the White House he made up his mind to take a trip round the world. He is back now just where his inclination and business ambition would have guided him nearly three years ago.

THE GENERAL WAITING FOR OTHERS.

"The statement, then, recently published that General Grant had said that he had not accepted the presidency of the Nicaragua Canal Company is not true?"

"I have no doubt General Grant said it, and it is strictly true, and those who know what is going on in Philadelphia can afford to laugh at the great efforts being made to discover the hidden secrets of General Grant's mind on this and other subjects. I have no objection to your saying that General Grant leads the project to establish the Nicaragua Canal Company. He is not waiting for capital or promises; he is to-day the most active of the promoters of the enterprise, and I presume it is not saying too much to say that General Grant is waiting for others; they are not waiting for him."

"This will be news to the country. Why, the impression has certainly got abroad that the friends of the scheme were engaged in Philadelphia in coaxing General Grant to become the head of the company."

"In a business enterprise of the magnitude of the Interoceanic Canal Company, with parties striving to ascertain just what the advocates of the Nicaragua route are doing, I presume a little business secrecy might be tolerated. It would certainly be observed by parties in private life. I understand that the people of the country have a sort of claim upon General Grant that would seem to entitle them to know the details of his daily life—in other words, that whatever he thinks or does is public property. That is not true, and no one thinks so more decidedly than General Grant. Now, I have no objection to saying to you that it will be several months before General Grant can accept the presidency of the canal company; certainly not before the 1st of March next. You see, therefore, that his statement is literally true.

A POINT WELL MADE.

"'But,' you will ask, 'how do you reconcile this with the declarations made by Admiral Ammen and Mr. De Franco?' I think the trouble with the interviewers in Philadelphia has been that they wanted to find out more than legitimately belongs to the canal company's project. They wanted to ascertain if General Grant would be or could be a candidate for the Presidency and yet retain his position as head of the company when it is organized; whether if he accepted this position it would not preclude him from accepting any other. I am going to answer that question for you in the most explicit manner. The subscriptions which the French capitalists have offered to make to the stock of the company depend upon General Grant being either the active or honorary president of the company. If he is not elected President of the United States again he will be free to serve as the active president. If he should be, then what is there to prevent his remaining as the honorary president? On the other hand, the concession which the Nicaraguan government is ready to make depends upon General Grant being at the head of the company. If by reason of the demands of his countrymen General Grant should again be elected President of the United States the Nicaraguan government would most willingly exchange his active for his moral support, which his position as President would certainly enable him to give. If the capitalists of the country making the concession are satisfied who else is to be consulted?"

DEFINING THE GENERAL'S POSITION.

"I have said it will be several months before General Grant could formally accept the presidency of the company. At present he is on an equality with the gentlemen selected to be the corporators when the concession is granted. His name simply heads the list. In this capacity, with others, he will ask, through a commisssion about to be organized and which will proceed to Nicaragua at once, and ask of that government that a concession may be granted to enable an American company to build an interoceanic canal through their territory. That concession will consist of the exclusive right of way, with a land grant of alternate sections of territory three miles square on either side of the river between the lake and San Juan del Norte, and as much public land on the Pacific slope as it is in the power of the government to grant, and the territory necessary for the canal route owned by private parties to be sold at its present appraised value. Also a land grant of 400 square miles, the location to be selected by the company from the public lands. The property and lands of the company are to be forever exempt from taxes, and the company is to have all the land that is necessary along the route for the construction of the canal. During its construction the tools, machinery and all other means imported for the use of the canal are to be exempted from payment of duties as well as the subsistence stores and clothing purchased for the laborers and employers of the company or the contractors. Of course these are not the details of the agreement, but what I mentioned covers substantially what the corporators will ask and which the government of Nicaragua is ready to grant. On the arrival of the Commission in Nicaragua Congress will be called together in extra session and the concession ratified. The Commission will then return to New York, and upon the basis of the concession the act of incorporation will be drawn, the leading features of which have already been published in the HERALD. I have calculated the time pretty closely, and I should say that by the 1st of March, or by the middle of that month, the act would be ready to be introduced in Congress. That act will enumerate the same gentlemen as is included in the petition for the concession to be asked of Nicaragua, headed by General Grant. When the act is passed and the corporators are empowered to organize, then General Grant will be chosen president. He is now, to all intents, the president, inasmuch as he is at the head of the enterprise. More than that, he is doing to-day all that lies in his power to promote the enterprise, and all that is lacking are some details such as business prudence naturally suggests."

"You speak of a commission visiting Nicaragua. Will you please give me the names of the parties selected?"

THE VISITING AMERICAN COMMISSION.

"I do not feel at liberty to mention but one, and that is Señor de Franco, who is anxious to leave on the steamer next Monday and leave the other members to follow in the steamer of the 30th inst."

"What is the reason of the haste?"

"The letters received from Nicaragua urge prompt action on the part of the American company. As Mr. De Franco is a prominent member of the Nicaraguan government his presence at home would enable the President of Nicaragua to anticipate the arrival of the main body of the commission and convene Congress without delay, so that upon the arrival of the other members they would find, perhaps, that Congress awaited their coming. You see, the object is not so much to gain time as it is to head off the attempts of European agents to intrigue against the United States. The presence of Mr. De Franco will do this effectually."

"What is he now waiting for?"

"Simply for the perfection of the preliminaries, which will be completed, I trust, in time for him to leave New York on next Monday. You can judge for yourself whether any time has been lost since General Grant arrived in Philadelphia or not."

"And the remainder of the members follow him with the perfected details of the petition and guarantees?"

"That is the understanding."

THE COPORATORS AND CAPITALISTS.

"Will you please give me the names of the gentlemen associated with General Grant in this enterprise?"

"I am not at liberty to do so. They are ten or twelve in number, gentlemen of such prominence in the United States that their names will be a sufficient guarantee of the solidity of the company. Of course they are not all the corporators. More will be added, I understand, so as to include the names of prominent bankers in England and France; but the names I refer to are those who have agreed to inaugurate the work."

"Will it be necessary to make any more preliminary surveys?"

"No, sir; those already made are considered amply sufficient, and the projectors are confident that the detailed surveys will diminish the estimates for the construction of the canal instead of increasing them. No, as soon as the act passes Congress we will be ready to begin practical operations all along the line of the proposed route. There are many details I might tell you, but they would be uninteresting at this time. What the HERALD is most anxious to know is whether General Grant is in earnest. I think there will be no doubt on that point within the next ten days."

WHY THE GENERAL'S TRIP IS DELAYED.

"In speaking of the concession the commission will ask for, are the points you have named those determined upon in Philadelphia, or are they such as the government of Nicaragua stands ready to grant?"

"Mainly such as the officials of that country have proposed to incorporate in the treaty or concession granting the right of way. Of course the practical details of such a demand will have to be drawn up with great care, and those can only be determined by the parties asking for the concession. Nicaragua has indicated what she is ready to do, and the land grant alone ought to be as valuable as the canal property itself." Mr. Menocal said that there were still some minor matters to be fixed, and that all could be arranged by the last of the month. This will explain the reason why General Grant delays his departure for Cuba.

IMPORTANT LAND SUIT DECIDED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 20, 1879.

A case of great importance to the Reading Coal and Iron Company (another name for the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company) was decided in its favor to-day in the Dauphin County Court. This decision establishes the validity of their title to about twenty-nine thousand six hundred acres of land in Dauphin and Schuylkill counties. In 1794 James Wilson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and subsequently a judge of the United States Supreme Court, purchased from the State seventy-four tracts of land containing 29,600 acres. Much of it has become very valuable because of the discovery of large quantities of coal on it. James Wilson paid the State £28,500 for the land. The purchaser soon became involved, and in 1802 the property was sold at Sheriff's sale in this county, Wilson's mortgagees buying it in to secure themselves. They afterward sold it to several parties. In 1853 the Dauphin and Schuylkill Railroad Company came into the possession of 10,000 acres of the land, and subsequently by an act of the Legislature they were empowered to acquire and did acquire all the property. About twelve years ago the Reading Coal and Iron Company became the owner of the 29,600 acres and 12,000 besides. About fifty years ago, by a title which the Court has just decided was defective, Edward Gratz took possession of about five hundred acres of the land, and his heirs have claimed it since his death. For the possession of this tract the Reading Coal and Iron Company brought the present suit. The company established a clear title to the entire Wilson tract of 29,600 acres.

SIR FRANCIS HINCKS ACQUITTED.

MONTREAL, Dec. 20, 1879.

In the Court of Appeals to-day, the following judges being on the bench:—Chief Justice Dorion and Justices Monk, Ramsay, Tessier and Cross—Mr. Justice Ramsay delivered the judgment, which was unanimous, in the case of Sir Francis Hincks, found guilty of signing a false and fraudulent return of the Consolidated Bank. The Court held that the government form upon which the return was made was defective, and that the act of Parliament did not define distinctly enough the headings under which the statements should be made; that there was no fraudulent intention on the part of the defendant, who had complied so far as he could with the act. All the judges present, including Justice Monk, who presided at the trial of Sir Francis Hincks, expressed their concurrence. Mr. Justice Routhier, who was prevented from attending from illness, also concurred in finding Sir Francis not guilty. Sir Francis was warmly congratulated by his friends, but there was no demonstration.

GRANT AND THE CHILDREN.

REVIEWING THE FUTURE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE NATION AT PHILADELPHIA—EDUCATION THE SAFEGUARD OF FREEDOM—COMING EVENTS—MAYOR STOKLEY'S LOYAL ZEAL.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20, 1879.

In the programme for General Grant's week's entertainment, to-day was known as "School Day," because of the parade of pupils of the public schools. The General began this, his fifth day here, by attending, with his wife, a luncheon at Mr. Childs', at which there were present to meet him Secretary Evarts, ex-Minister Welsh, L. P. Morton, member of Congress, of New York; General A. T. Goshorn, of Centennial notoriety; Rev. Dr. Morton, rector of St. James' Protestant Episcopal Church (of which Mr. Childs has lately become a vestryman), and others.

ADDRESSING THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

After lunch General Grant, with Mr. Childs and his guests, accompanied by ladies, took carriages to the Academy of Music, which was filled with the girls of the public schools awaiting his arrival.

At half-past two o'clock General Grant appeared upon the stage accompanied by Governor Hoyt and Mr. J. P. Wickersham, Mayor Stokley, Bishop Simpson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the present United States Cabinet officers and members of General Grant's Cabinet; Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the United States courts, the Court of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts of Philadelphia; president, trustees and professors of the universities and colleges; Messrs. George W. Childs, A. J. Drexel, Thomas Nast and James W. Harper, Jr.; Presidents of Select and Common Councils; Committee of Arrangements of the Board of Public Education; Joint Committee of Arrangements of City Councils; members of the Board of Public Education; officers of the army and navy; former officers of the army and navy; editors of the various newspapers and the State Senators from the Senatorial districts of Philadelphia. On the *entrée* of the distinguished guest there was long and loud applause from the youth in the audience, and then the 1,200 voices burst out in one grand chorus of "See, the Conquering Hero Comes." When this had concluded Mr. Edward Steel, the president of the Board of Education, delivered the address of welcome. At the conclusion of his remarks General Grant, in a quiet tone, said that he thanked the President of the Board of Education for their kind welcome. He said:—"The safeguard of all power in a free republic is a wide diffusion of knowledge. Most of the States have not been so fortunate in that regard as Pennsylvania, but I doubt not that the country will progress in this direction until a common school education shall be within the reach of all. These children," he added, "have good reason to thank the gentlemen of the educational department of this city for the privileges accorded them." In conclusion the General reiterated his thanks, bowed to President Steel and the school girls and then took his seat amid a round of applause.

Next on the programme came the "American Hymn," by Keller—a chorus in two parts—which was excellently sung. "Down in the Dewy Dell," by Smart, was next sung by the pupils of the Girls' Normal School. This was followed by an address by Mr. J. P. Wickersham, Superintendent of Public Instruction in Pennsylvania.

REVIEWING THE BOYS.

All the boys' schools were marshalled at Fairmount avenue and Broad street, in the northern section of the city, and the scene was an exceedingly animated one. Each section bore a banner, having on it a particular device, as well as small flags. In the line of march the boys passed down Broad street, up Walnut to Twenty-second, countermarching to Broad, and then passing in review before General Grant at the Academy of Music, and down Chestnut, passing the Mayor at Fifth street, where they were dismissed. The lowering aspect of the weather and the prospect of a long, muddy tramp over such pavements as would make the most fastidious New Yorker feel perfectly at home, did not dampen the ardor of the boys, who had turned out in good spirits and in large numbers. Along the route of the parade crowds of men and women cheered them.

THE CITY'S BANQUET.

General Grant was driven to the Academy of Fine Arts, where the city's reception took place. This lasted from five to nine P. M., during which time 12,000 persons entered and paid their respects to the ex-President. The Academy was decorated in the most elaborate style. There was a profusion of bunting and a magnificent floral display. The doorways and galleries were handsomely festooned with laurel, looped in the middle with a rustic basket suspended from each loop. The flags of all nations were arranged at the eastern end of the hall in the front of the gallery, while in the gallery proper was a mass of exotic plants, in the midst of which was a bust of the General. The ex-President, with Mayor Stokley, occupied a position on the platform, the rear of which formed a grand garden scene. When the doors were closed at nine o'clock there was a line, four deep, extending four blocks. From the Academy the General was driven to St. George's Hall, at the corner of Thirteenth and Arch streets, where the banquet tendered by the city of Philadelphia was given, commencing at half-past nine P. M. There were about five hundred invitations issued, which included the members of Congress from the city, members of the Legislature, Judges of the courts, heads of the city departments and members of the City Councils. General Grant occupied a seat at a table on the platform reserved for the Mayor, who presided, Judges of the courts and members of the reception committee. The General remained only about ten minutes, having an engagement to fill elsewhere.

GIVING THE BOOM ANOTHER PUSH.

Mayor Stokely, in calling the company to order, said that they had met two years and a half ago under similar circumstances. Then they were called together to say goodby to their illustrious guest, who was starting on his tour of the world. The General had made that tour, having visited all the princes and potentates of Europe, and being cordially received by all. He now returned in good bodily health, ready to be called to any future service. The General, Mayor Stokely said, regretted that he had a pressing engagement which he was obliged to keep.

In response to calls General Grant arose and said:—"I have nothing more to say, but to bid you good night and to thank you for the courtesies I have always received in this good city of Philadelphia."

General Grant then departed, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to social enjoyment.

THE LAST GREAT EVENT.

The only important event yet in prospect is the grand reception of General Grant on Tuesday evening next by the Union League Club. A manager active on the Committee of Arrangements said:—"Nearly five hundred invitations have been sent out to distinguished people. We have now, from information just received, every reason to believe the President and Mrs. Hayes and the members of his Cabinet and their wives will be present. In addition all the members of Grant's old Cabinet, all the Governors, the entire Congressional delegation of Pennsylvania, the United States Senate, all the United States naval and army officials of note, representatives of foreign Powers, bishops of all denominations, the United States and State and City Judiciary and all civic dignitaries. We think that fully twenty-five hundred ladies and gentlemen will be gathered at the League on this occasion, and our accommodations are based upon a scale to meet at least this number. The League has charge of the General on that day, but it will give him a needed rest until eight o'clock in the evening. The pavilion is to be used for dancing, the whole second floor for banqueting rooms; the first floor will be devoted to the reception, and the billiard hall will be used as a cloak room. In the dancing hall the music will be furnished by the Germania orchestra, under the baton of Charles M. Schmitz, while the First Regiment Band, under Bandmaster Beck, will be stationed on the second floor. The front of the building will be covered with an awning so arranged as to make an addition room on the pavement, and it will be magnificently decorated with evergreens, flags, corps badges and other emblems, under the supervion of Mrs. Taylor. The interior of the building will present a most brilliant spectacle. James L. Claghorn will escort General Grant from the hall to the League, where the address of welcome will be delivered by Mr. George H. Boker. The reception will be from eight to nine, and then will follow the dancing."

GENERAL GRANT'S APPROACHING VISIT TO HIS MOTHER IN JERSEY CITY.

Mrs. Grant, the mother of the General, resides on Jersey City Heights, at the house of Mr. Corbin. She is now past her eighty-second year and is yet possessed of a vigor and activity rarely enjoyed at such an advanced age. A reporter of the HERALD called at the house last evening and ascertained from Mr. Corbin, who is at present partially an invalid, that the General is expected in a few days to spend a short time with his venerable mother, whom he has not seen since his return from his long tour. The wish of the General, in connection with this visit, is entire privacy, and therefore Mr. Corbin could not state the precise time of his expected arrival. The advanced age of Mrs. Grant and her natural aversion to noise and publicity will readily account for the desire of her son to make his visit to her as quiet a matter as possible.

RAILROAD REORGANIZATION.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 20, 1879.

A syndicate of New York capitalists has purchased the Columbus and Sandy Creek Valley Railroad by taking the entire stock of the same and all the bonded interest. This syndicate has also purchased the road bed of the old Atlantic and Lake Erie road, known as the Central Ohio Railroad, and the two lines were consolidated last night, and the articles of incorporation, under the name of Ohio Central Railroad Company, are ready to be filed with the Secretary of State. The directors of the company are George J. Seney, Walston H. Brown, George F. Stone, E. H. R. Lyman and John T. Martin, of New York; Daniel P. Eells, of Cleveland; C. R. Cumming, of Chicago; Charles Foster, of Fostoria, Ohio; Samuel Thomas and D. W. Caldwell, of this city, and Calvin L. Bryce, of Lima, Ohio. It is proposed to put the road in operation at once, if local assistance is offered. The north terminus of the road is at Toledo. The capital stock is $4,000,000. The finished portion of the Columbus and Sandy Creek Valley road will be equipped immediately, and it will cost about $1,000 per mile to complete the road bed of the old Atlantic and Lake Erie line.

THE WINNEBAGOES' GRIEVANCES.

CHARGES AGAINST THEIR QUAKER AGENT—ALLEGED FRAUDULENT DISTRIBUTION OF THEIR ANNUITIES—HALF BREED INTRUDERS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 20, 1879.

Headdress, President of the Winnebago Indians, and Joe Monigah, of the same tribe, have arrived here to consult with leading citizens concerning their alleged grievances against Agent Howard White, a Quaker, and to ask General Crook to write to the War Department on the same subject. The Indians allege that the agent fails to give them more than the merest fraction of what the treaty with the government stipulates. They say that no hats, trousers, shoes or shirts are issued to them and that all that they receive in the way of clothing are coats or overcoats. They allege that when White succeeded Major Brightly, four years ago, he began to cut off their supplies and that from that time the half-breeds, who were not entitled to rank as members of the tribe, began to come upon the reservation. The Winnebago half-breeds, according to Headdress, were made citizens by the government many years ago and received each $1,000 and a quarter section of land at Prairie Du Chien, Wis. They gradually deserted their farms and returned to the tribe in order to draw annuities of money, provisions and clothing. This fact was unknown to the government, and a second time, in Blue Earth county, Minn., these Indians received citizenship, with a farm and $570 17 each.

ALLEGED NEGLECT OF THE AGENT.

Since then they have again returned to the tribe in large numbers, and of the annuities due to the tribe the Indians receive hardly anything, while the half breeds are given a superfluity of clothing, provisions, horses and wagons and farming implements. The Indians becoming incensed at this state of affairs requested the half breeds to leave, but refused to let them take with them anything belonging to the government. The attention of the agent has been repeatedly directed to this injustice, but it has received no attention from him. On December 1 a council of three hundred heads of Winnebago families was called and decided to complain to the government, and appointed Headdress and Monigah to make the complaint. White learned of this and securing a statement from the half breeds that the agency was managed efficiently, hastened to Washington. Headdress states that not many full bloods are left on the reservation, as some have gone to other tribes and others have hired out to farmers to cut wood or perform menial services. The charge is also made that the agent issues ploughs, cultivators and wagons regularly to half breeds, who sell them to white farmers and receive others at the next issue. General Crook has inclosed a copy of their statement to the Secretary of War, and men here, familiar with affairs at the Winnebago agency, state that they believe the statement to be true.

A CHEROKEE THREAT.

INDIGNATION OF THE CIVILIZED INDIAN TRIBES AT THE ATTEMPTS OF SCHEMERS AND SPECULATORS TO CHANGE THEIR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT—ARMED OPPOSITION NOT IMPROBABLE.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 20, 1879.

Colonel W. P. Adair, assistant principal chief of the Cherokee Indians, arrived here yesterday with a delegation from his nation en route to Washington. The Colonel says the delegation is instructed by the council of the nation to oppose any change of government over them, and to collect from the government a very large sum of money due the Cherokees for their lands in the Indian Territory west of the Arkansas River. They also expect to arrange with the government to prevent any depreciation in the principal and interest of their invested funds, to fix the status of the colored people in the nation and to expel the intruders from their country, of whom, he says, there are thousands. He also says that there are not ten Indians in the entire nation who favor the establishment of territorial government over them, and that his people are in as good or better condition than those in adjoining States. Owing to a severe drouth last summer, however, his people failed to raise any grain, and he says that he will have to arrange for a loan of money from the government to purchase breadstuffs.

Speaking of the establishment of territorial government over the Indian Territory, he says it will be opposed by all the civilized tribes, even to the employment of physical force. These tribes, including the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, Seminoles, Osages, Wyandottes, Senecas, Delawares, Shawnees and several others, can raise, he says, some fifteen thousand soldiers, good fighting men, most of whom fought on both sides in the late war. There are thirty-eight nations and tribes and parts of tribes in the Indian Territory, all of whom would join in opposition to the proposed change of government. He says the opposition throughout the Territory is not only strong, but bitter and determined, and that in case of a conflict he doubts the ability of the United States army to subdue the Indians. He also says that in case of a rupture there would be a terrible scene of bloodshed on the borders adjoining the States, and he shudders to contemplate the result.

A NEW PARTY IN TENNESSEE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 20, 1879.

The "low tax democrats" have held two caucuses and determined that they would bolt from the democratic party, and to that end will meet again in caucus next Monday night to perfect the organization of the new party by appointing State executive committees and arranging for appointment of committees in the different counties. They assert that the entire press, with two exceptions, merchants and bankers, the railroads and moneyed men generally, are opposed to them, and that they have a tough battle before them, and that they would be forced to establish a "low tax" daily paper in Nashville. The "low tax" democrats favor the payment of mileage, capital and agricultural bonds, amounting to over $2,000,000, and the repudiation of the remaining $2,000,000 of the State debt.

DEATH OF WILLIAM M'KEE.

RECALLING THE FAMOUS "WHISKEY FRAUDS"—THE TRIAL, CONVICTION AND PARDON OF THE DECEASED.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 20, 1879.

William McKee, senior proprietor of the *Globe-Democrat*, died very suddenly of heart disease at about one o'clock this morning, aged sixty-four years.

M'KEE AND THE "WHISKEY RING."

Mr. William McKee, although the senior proprietor of a prominent newspaper, never himself became conspicuous until the great excitement over the famous "whiskey frauds" which began in 1875, when he, Colonel Babcock (President Grant's military secretary) and several others holding political positions were accused of being members of a powerful cabal, leagued together for the purpose of carrying on a systematic embezzlement of the government tax on spirituous liquors. The raid upon this gigantic conspiracy was conceived and directed by Mr. B. H. Bristow, Secretary of the Treasury, and a singular phase of it was that it was supposed by many persons to have some relation, so far as Mr. McKee was concerned, to the former's aspiration to the Presidency. About 1871 McKee asked of General Grant the appointment of Colonel Maguire as Collector of St. Louis, but was met with a refusal. His wishes were also ignored in the appointment of McDonald as Supervisor of Internal Revenue. McKee used the *Democrat* to help divide the republican vote of Missouri in the contest of 1870. In 1871, however, the bitter opposition to Grant which he had carried on ceased with great suddenness, and it was one of the coincidences made most of in the subsequent "whiskey trials" that the great "ring" was formed at this identical time. It is unnecessary to give a history of its transactions. It was alleged that McKee derived an income from it of from $500 to $1,000 a week. During the Presidential compaign of 1872 the distillers of St. Louis were assessed immense sums ostensibly for political purposes, and the *Democrat* newspaper supported Grant. It was, however, sold early in the year, under a judicial order for a dissolution of partnership, and Mr. McKee soon afterward helped to found the *Globe*. This also sounded zealously the praises of the President until 1873, when a quarrel in the "ring" was alleged to have caused its loyalty to cool. Soon after, however, it resumed its former tone, owing, it was said, to a restoration of harmony among the men of whom it was the organ. In 1875 the lightning of exposure struck the "ring" and the *Democrat*, then owned by Mr. Fishback, was among the foremost to swell the hue and cry. Negotiations had been pending for two months for the sale of the *Democrat* to Mr. McKee. The purchase was now speedily accomplished, and that journal was quite as speedily consolidated with the *Globe*. This measure, however, did not delay the work of investigating the alleged "ring." Mr. McKee was tried in the next year, and was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for two years and to the payment of a fine of $10,000. Great efforts were made and monster petitions were obtained to secure his pardon, which was granted by the President on the 26th of April, 1876, with remission of the fine.

TWO MEN SHOT.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 20, 1879.

A despatch to the Galveston *News*, from Sherman, says that a party of fifteen rowdies came there from Montague county and the Indian Territory, to attend a disreputable dance, with the avowed determination not to be molested by police officers. Officer Bond and Deputy Sheriff Parrot raided the party as they were leaving the dance. Pistols were drawn, and in the *mêlée* two men, Mitchell and Elliott, were shot. The former will die.

ACCIDENT TO THE HENRIETTE.

THE STEAM YACHT ADRIFT IN THE GULF STREAM—SUDDEN TERMINATION OF THE VOYAGE AROUND THE WORLD—M. HENRI SAY AND FAMILY RESCUED BY A NORWEGIAN VESSEL.

A very distinguished party were assembled on Wednesday afternoon, December 10, on the pier of the Transatlantic Steamship Company to bid *bon voyage* to M. Henri Say and his family, who were starting on a voyage around the world. The beautiful steam yacht, Henriette, which was expected to be the floating home of the voyagers for more than two years, was in exceptionally handsome trim, and her snow white decks, burnished brass work, faultless tidiness and fine looking crew attracted the admiration of all the lookers on. There was abundant handshaking and enthusiastic cheering as the Henriette moved into the stream, the French tricolor waving in the breeze, and her steam tender, Le Follet, following in her wake. On her forward deck stood M. Say and Mme. Say, who waved an adieu to her friends on the pier, M. Glaenzer and the Count De Monselly. A comely nurse held up in her arms M. Say *fils*, who crowed lustily and tossed his arms as if a voyage around the world was eminently the proper thing for any well regulated baby to do. The brass cannon on the Henriette bellowed forth an adieu, which was re-echoed in deeper tones by the huge liner Labrador, which was just then starting for Havre.

M. Henri Say, the owner, is a nephew of M. Leon Say, the Minister of Finance of the French Republic, and a devoted yatchsman. He has been for years one of the most active members of the Cherbourg Yacht Club, and the treacherous seas of the English Channel are as familiar to him as Chantilly, where he has also carried off abundant turf honors. He devoted much time, care and money in preparing for his cruise around the world, and looked forward to a season of unalloyed enjoyment. Mme. Say is a very charming lady, well known in the highest circles of Parisian society. M. Glaenzer and the Count de Monselly accompanied M. Say as his guests. The route laid down for the voyage, which was intended to extend over two years and a half was as follows:—New York to Philadelphia, Washington, Charleston, New Orleans, Havana, Kingston, Porto Rico, Martinique, Trinidad and the other West Indian ports; Rio Janeiro, Buenos Ayres, around Cape Horn, Valparaiso, Callao, Panama, San Francisco, Honolulu, Yokohama, Chinese ports, perhaps Australia and New Zealand, Calcutta, Bombay, Suez Canal, Mediterranean, Cherbourg and back to New York.

DISABLED AT SEA.

The following despatch was received at this office last night:—

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1879.

The Signal Corps station at Cape Henry reports to Chief Signal Officer at five P. M. as follows:—"Captain Thomas Cunningham, of the pilot boat Starkey, reports to this office as follows:—The French steam yacht Henriette, bound to Charleston, S. C., became disabled at a point about one hundred miles southeast of Cape Henry. The owner, M. Say and family were taken aboard the Norwegian brig Asbine, Master A. B. Lix, which passed this station bound to Baltimore at three P. M. The yacht Henriette is supposed to be in a helpless condition, drifting about in the Gulf Stream. Her owner has telegraphed for assistance from Norfolk, Va.'"

A despatch from Norfolk, Va., says:—"The steam yacht Henrietta was not wrecked but simply disabled, and the owner left her to obtain a steamer to tow her in. She is in no immediate danger."

DESCRIPTION OF THE YACHT.

The Henriette was built for Mr. Boucicault over a year ago and was first christened the Shaughraun. She is the largest steam yacht ever built in this country with the single exception of the America, which was sold to the government as a despatch boat about the time of the Virginius trouble. The Henriette is 205 feet over all, 164 feet at the water line and 26 feet beam, drawing 12 feet of water; measurement, 500 tons. The usual arrangement of quarter deck and forecastle were reversed in her case. The quarters of the crew were placed aft, those of the officers being separated from them by a bulkhead. In the centre of the yacht was the main saloon, and forward of this eight staterooms, five on the port and three on the starboard side. Bath and toilet rooms were provided on both sides. The engines were of the most approved and novel pattern, and it was expected that a speed of sixteen knots an hour might be attained in a smooth sea. The smoking or lounging saloon, a circular cabin on the upper deck, just forward of the wheelhouse, was sumptuous and luxurious enough for even a Turkish pacha of the olden time. All the cabins and staterooms were furnished in Eastlake joinery and Queen Anne style. The chintz pattern prevailed in the upholstery, and every accessory to ease and enjoyment was brought into requisition. Over the carpets at the entrances to the staterooms and in the centre of the main saloon were flung tiger and leopard skins in profusion. On every side were Louis Quatorze clocks, large pier glasses and graceful brass lamps swinging in their gimbals from the niches near the bulkheads, magnificent pianoforte of the upright style, rich curtains and hangings, heavy velvet carpets, costly oil paintings, rare statuettes and groups in bronze and marble and artistic carvings in wood.

THE OFFICERS AND CREW.

The chief officer and commander of the Henriette is M. Lafond, formerly commander of one of the Transatlantic steamships in the Mediterranean service. He is considered a naval officer of great experience, cool judgment and undoubted skill. His immediate subordinate is M. Voitoux, who has also had a great deal of experience in the French marine service, although quite young in years. The only exceptions to the Gallic nationality of the officers and crew were the chief engineer, John L. G. Cooke, and his assistants, David Fraser and Murphy. The discipline of the French service was maintained on board, the crew, numbering thirty men, being all recruited from that quarter. There are two quartermasters, a boatswain, carpenter, sailmaker and coxswain, besides the mess cooks and stewards. The Henriette was well supplied with coal and provisions, having sixty tons of coal on board when she left this port and stores of all descriptions for two months. She carried a small steam launch and three other boats. She was accompanied by a steam tender called Le Follet, an English built craft, 114 feet in length at the water line and 18 feet breadth of beam. This tender is commanded by Captain Frequer, formerly a subcommander in the French navy, and has a crew of ten men. It was the intention of M. Say when starting from New York on his long voyage to have the tender precede the Henriette until they got down into the tropics, and therefore it is probable that the Follet started for Charleston a few days before the Henriette.

THE NEW STATE ADMINISTRATION.

ALBANY, Dec. 20, 1879.

Comptroller-elect Wadsworth has made the following appointments:—Deputy Comptroller, Henry Gallien, of Albany; Accountant, George Seely, of Oswego; Warrant Clerk, Willis E. Merriman, of Albany; Entry Clerk, Thomas H. Schuyler, of Schenectady; General Clerk, Legrand Benedict, of Rensselaer; Stationery Clerk, F. N. Chase, of Broome; Chief Tax Clerk, Sidney W. Park, of Rensselaer. Tax Clerks—Marcus B. Williams, of Delaware; William H. Van Allen, of Albany; George W. Bliss, of Albany; William H. Sanger, of Westchester; Allen Comstock, of Washington; T. H. Davis, of Steuben; Edward Pond, of Monroe, and Almerin Cartwright, of Delaware; Assistant Agent to Examine Auctioneers' Accounts, Thomas H. Wiles, of Albany.

THE MILWAUKEE HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 20, 1879.

The State Board of Charities and Reform submitted a report on the management of the Milwaukee House of Correction to Governor Smith to-day. It says:—"After eliminating all testimony of a criminal class there remains ample proof of brutal treatment by McGarry, Kennedy, Haze and some of their subordinates. Medical testimony proved that confinement in dark cells for any length of time would develop disease that might end in death." These black holes were in common use, and the Board gives its opinion that confinement in these cells had permanently impaired the health of some persons, and that others had contracted diseases that had resulted in death. The Board says some of the meat furnished to prisoners was unfit for use and should have been thrown to the dogs, and condemned the practice of contracting for "prisoners' meat." The report concludes that the character of the House of Correction should be changed; that prisoners convicted of grave crimes should be sent to Waupun to serve unexpired terms and those remaining should be classified. The female inmates should be cared for exclusively by women attendants and juvenile offenders taught rudimentary branches of education, and all made to understand that they are still regarded as human beings.

The report is unanimous.

HEAVY SHIPMENTS.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 20, 1879.

Fifteen seagoing vessels cleared from here to-day, including eight steamships, laden with cotton grain, &c. The amount of cotton shipped is 46,300 bales, being the largest quantity on record from this port in one day, and embracing 32,000 bales for Liverpool, 8,800 for Havre, 2,200 for Bremen, 1,100 for Spain and 2,200 for New York. There were also quantities of bulk grain, sugar, molasses, &c. The total value of the shipments is $3,000,000.

TELEGRAPH LITIGATION.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 20, 1879.

The recent attempt of the American Union Telegraph Company in the Appellate Court of this district to secure possession of the lines of the Great Western Telegraph Company has failed. The motion to set aside the supersedeas procured by the Western Union Company was denied by the Court after full argument. This decision continues the supersedeas and these lines will remain in possession of the Western Union Telegraph Company until its claim against them is paid.