THE EVENING STAR.

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The Evening Star.

VOL. 62—No. 9,570. WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1883. TWO CENTS.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

DR. PARSONS' OFFICE REMOVED FROM 721 11th street to 1216 H street northwest. Hours—12:30 to 2; 4:30 to 6 P.M. d4-1m*

AMUSEMENTS.

NATIONAL THEATER.
Washington Interests London, New York and Boston in prominence
IN THE RANKS
The Most Magnificent production of the Present Generation,
Illustrated by Brooks & Dickson's Superb Dramatic Company,
The Largest and Best Organization in America.
"IN THE RANKS."
Popular Tones, Prominent in Sentiment.
Magnificent Scenery and Costumes,
Marvelous Mechanical and Transformation Properties, Calcium and Electric Light Effects.
Pronounced by Press and Public the
GREATEST EXHIBITION OF SCENIC AND DRAMATIC EFFECTS
Ever Seen Upon Any Stage.
d14 Every Evening and Saturday Matinee.

ABNER'S HALL.
THURSDAY, December 27, at 8 p. m.
RECITATION BY HELENE WAGNER.
PART I.
From Hobbs.....R. Baumbach
PART II.
(Humorous)
Dialogue between Mrs. Partington and Ike.....O. Regnatio
Rarest specimens, from Mr. Bellamy's own inimitable collection.....J. Wolf
Admission, each month only.....50 cents.
Reserved seats.....75 cents.
Can be secured at Messrs. W. G. Metzerott & Co's and at Abner's Hall. d22-2t

NEW THEATER COMIQUE.
One Week, commencing Monday, December 24.
M. B. LEAVITT'S
ALL-STAR SPECIALTY COMPANY,
Consisting of
30—SPECIALTY ARTISTS—30
MATINEES TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY.
GRAND EXTRA MATINEE CHRISTMAS DAY. d24

DIME MUSEUM.
Pennsylvania Avenue, near 10th street.
THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH FOR THE MONEY.
ON EVERY CHRISTMAS WEEK.
THREE GRAND ENTERTAINMENTS COMBINED IN ONE.
ONLY 10 CENTS TO SEE ALL.
MUSEUM, ZOOLOGICAL AND STAGE PERFORMANCES.
The Wonderful Educated Lady,
Herr Vermilla Will Enter his Beast Tigers Every Performance.
Grand Stage Entertainment in which 22 First-class Artists Appear.
PERFORMANCE EVERY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT.

FORD'S. CHRISTMAS FUN.
EVERY NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS WEEK.
Matinees, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY.
The Inimitable Irish Comedians,
BARRY and FAY,
And their excellent Comedy Company, in William Carleton's Capital Comedy,
IRISH ARISTOCRACY.
Incidental to the play—
The Live Christmas Donkey,
The Christmas Four-Handed Reel, and
Muldoon and Mulcahy on Wheels.
NOTE THE THREE MATINEES, d2
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
Monday—Washington Souvenir Night—An Elegant and Costly Souvenir to Every Lady.
NEW YEAR'S WEEK,
Mestayer and Barton's
HIX'S FIX.
d22

IMMANUEL CHRISTMAS CANTATA,
By W. O. Cushing and W. Howard Doane, will be rendered by the Sunday School Choir and friends of the
METROPOLITAN M. E. CHURCH,
with Orchestra and Piano accompaniment at the Church 4½ and C streets n.w., on FRIDAY EVENING, December 28, at 7 o'clock. Prof. C. Barlow, Conductor. Tickets 25c. Proceeds for benefit of the Sunday School. d22-4t

COMPETITIVE DRILL — GONZAGA COLLEGE CADETS,
AT LINCOLN HALL,
Thursday Evening, December 27, 1883, at 8 o'clock.
Admission, 25 cents; reserved seats, 50 cents. d22-3t*

ART EXHIBITION, JUST FINISHED
AND ON PRIVATE VIEW AT 1409 NEW YORK AVENUE, BETWEEN 13TH AND 15TH STREETS. ADMISSION BY CARD MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 TO 5.
MONTAGUE'S LATEST AND CHOICEST $1,500 PICTURE IN CHIAROSCURO, HIS ONLY WORK UNSOLD OR OBTAINABLE ANYWHERE. d11-tu,th&s-3m

CHOICE SEATS FOR THE NATIONAL THEATER
for sale at Brentano's Book Store, 11th street and Pennsylvania ave. d17

DANCING.—PROF. PHIPPS, ST. JOSEPH'S HALL, corner 4½ and H streets northwest, informs those wishing private instructions can now have them at low rates. Class Tuesday, 449 Penna. ave. northwest. Class Sociables at the Hall every Tuesday and Friday, 8 to 12 o'clock p.m. d14-1m

MUSIC! MUSIC!! MUSIC!!!
PROF. LOUIS WEBER,
725 7th street northwest, Pianos and organs sold on easy terms or rented at low rates. n9-2m*

LECTURES.

MEMORY.—FREE LECTURE, BY PROF. A. S. BOYD, on the "ART OF ACQUIRING MEMORY," at M. A. Kelty's, 1005 New York avenue, THURSDAY EVENING, December 27, at 8 o'clock. Both sexes; in a few hours to equal the best. All invited. d26-3t*

MEMORY.—PROF. A. S. BOYD GIVES PUBLIC AND private instructions in the "Art of Acquiring Memory." The worst memory, in five hours, made to equal best. 1005 New York avenue. d13-2m*

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FLORIDA ANNUAL FOR 1884.
Contains an introduction by Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe; 200 pages of the most reliable information for the settler, tourist, and sportsman; statistical tables of the greatest value, and a large, new sectional map of Florida, in colors. Price, 50 cents. Map without book, 25 cents.
d22-s,t,th-2t 140 Nassau st., New York city.

BONER'S POEMS.
Cloth-bound copies of WHISPERING PINES, by John Henry Boner, the Southern Poet, now ready at BRENTANO'S.....$1.25
"Mr. Boner shows gifts which, even amid the crowd of verse-makers, whose work is often of great excellence, give him a distinctive place, and promise much to come."—*Our Continent.*
"These poems are the production of a true poet. In their flow they are like living rivulets of song—pure, limpid, delicious."—*Home Journal.*
"The book may be briefly summed up as the work of a poet—if much original force."—*Boston Advertiser.*
d20-8t

WE HAVE A LOT
OF
UNIQUE ARTICLES FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
SUCH AS
SCONCES, HAND-GLASSES, ASH TRAYS, CANDLESTICKS, LAMPS,
ORNAMENTS, &c., in Polished Antique and Repousse Brass; also Low's ART TILES and SKETCHES in Plush Frames.
HAYWARD & HUTCHINSON,
d14 424 9th street.

UNIVERSALLY PRESCRIBED BY THE FACULTY.
A LAXATIVE AND REFRESHING FRUIT LOZENGE
TAMAR For CONSTIPATION, HEMORRHOIDS, BILE, HEADACHE, CEREBRAL CONGESTION, &c.
INDIEN Prepared by GRILLON, *Sole Proprietor,* Pharmacien de 1re classe de la Faculte de Paris, 27 rue Rambuteau, Paris.
GRILLON Tamar—unlike Pills and the usual purgatives—is agreeable to take, and never produces irritation.
Sold by all Druggists. o4-1yr.i.w

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE ANNUAL MEETING
of the
UNITED STATES COMMERCIAL CO.
Will be held at the Riggs House, Washington, on WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of January next, at 12 o'clock, m. d.
WINFIELD S. HUTCHINSON, Secretary.

DESCRIBING TO MR. WM. RYAN, NO. 716 2d st., pocket book and contents lost by my wife, Dec. 24, he delivers to me the one found by him on the 24th, satisfied as to its ownership.
R. H. GILLIAM, 929 Mass av.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26, 1883.
At the meeting of the Board of Directors of this Bank, held this day, a dividend of four per cent upon the capital stock was declared, payable on and after TUESDAY, January 8d, 1884.
CHAS. S. BRADLEY, Cashier.
d26-d1d4

THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26, 1883.
The Stockholders of this Bank will meet on TUESDAY, January 8th, 1884, between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock, p.m., to elect nine Directors for the ensuing year.
CHAS. S. BRADLEY, Cashier.
d26-d1d8

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 1883.
The firm of WARWICK & BARTLETT (Solicitors of Patents) is hereby dissolved by mutual consent.
W. A. Bartlett has authority to close up existing business of the late firm.
JAMES H. WARWICK,
WALLACE A. BARTLETT.
The undersigned will continue the Patent Business at the former place and will be ready to receive business.
WALLACE A. BARTLETT.
d26-2t

THE MUTUAL DISTRICT MESSENGER CO. will make a supply of delivering gentlemen's New Year wedding cards by means of inexperienced uniformed messengers. Orders respectfully solicited as early as possible. Offices: Central 1351 Pennsylvania ave., Connecticut ave. and 14 street.
d26-5t

THE ELECTION FOR THE MEMBERS OF UNION LODGE, NO. 11, I. O. O. F., will be conducted to be presented TO-MORROW (Thursday) EVENING, December 26, as business of vital importance to every member will be considered. By order of the Lodge.
d26-1t* RICHARD EMMONS, Secretary.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HORTICULTURAL Society will hold its regular Monthly Meeting on the EVENING of December 27th, 1883, at German Hall, 636 Fifth street northwest, at 7½ o'clock. "An Essay on the Culture of the Chrysanthemum" will be delivered by the Acting Secretary. The public is cordially invited to attend.
d24-2t* JOHN B. C. CLARK, Secretary pro tem.

THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE FIREMEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY of Washington and Georgetown will meet at their office on MONDAY, January 7th, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 12 m., for the purpose of electing thirteen directors for the ensuing year.
d24-tjan6 C. W. HOWARD, Secretary.

FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
go to
MUNCASTER & HOWARD'S Pharmacy,
d22 Corner 4th and I streets northwest.

A MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE WASHINGTON AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD COMPANY, for the election of Directors, will be held at the office of the Company, Georgetown, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day of January, 1884.
The polls will be opened at 12 m. and closed at 2 p. m. Transfer books will be closed on the 2d of January, 1884, and opened on January 9th, 1884.
H. HURT, President.
C. M. KOONES, Sec'y. d22-14t

DR. WM. T. HARBAN,
DENTIST,
Has Removed his Office to Seminary Building, corner 20th and N streets, West Washington. d21-3t

V. G. FISCHER,
Foreign Bookseller and Stationer, | Librairie Etranger et Papetier,
529 15th street, opposite U. S. Treasury, Washington, D. C.
Almanack De Gotha, 1884, $2.50. d21-8t

W. S. TAPPAN,
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER,
Has removed to his new Store, 604 9th street, three doors above F street, where he has a fine stock of goods for the holidays at low prices. d20-1jl

BRASS ANDIRONS.
FIRE SETS.
FENDERS, &c., &c.
E. F. BROOKS.
GAS FIXTURES.
531 15TH STREET, CORCORAN BUILDING.
Full line of these Goods, also
Artistic and Fancy Colored Globes, Fancy Brass and Porcelain Lamps, Portables, &c.
Lowest Prices.
d15 E. F. BROOKS.

NOTICE.—MY STORE WILL BE OPEN until TEN O'CLOCK during the Holidays.
R. H. TAYLOR,
d15-10t 933 Pennsylvania avenue.

THE WASHINGTON BRICK MACHINE CO.,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18th, 1883.
The annual election for Trustees of the WASHINGTON BRICK MACHINE COMPANY will be held at the office of the company, Room 4, 1429 New York avenue, on SATURDAY, January 19th, 1884. Polls open from 12 m. to 1 p. m.
d19-law4w NATH'L WILSON, Secretary.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.—THE ANNUAL Meeting of the Stockholders of the Washington and Alexandria Turnpike Company is called for MONDAY, January 7, 1884, at 12 o'clock m., at the Railway Station, corner Cameron and Fayette streets, Alexandria, Va. Election for five directors and a clerk and treasurer, same day and place.
d12-law13t ALBERT HEWSON, Clerk.

TYPE WRITING PROMPTLY AND ACCURATELY done. TYPE WRITING Machines for sale and rent. CALIGRAPH and TYPE WRITER supplies supplied. SHORT-HAND WRITERS furnished at short notice. J. A. WHITCOMB.
d22-s&wtr 927 F street n.w.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
OFFICE OF THE MUTUAL FIRE INS. CO., D. C.,
WASHINGTON, December 12, 1883.
Policy holders are hereby notified to renew their insurance to be before the LAST MONDAY IN DECEMBER, 1883, for the year 1884.
The rate of interest on all renewals will be one (1) per cent on the premium notes. Please attend to your renewals before the last few days, and thus avoid the crowd.
J. WESLEY BOTELER, Secretary.
d13-14t

"BOGERT'S VEGETABLE COUGH SYRUP" for 20 years has proved to be the best remedy ever discovered for Whooping Cough, Croup and Colds, &c. Free from all drugs and narcotics. Try it. All druggists. Price as and 50c.
M. T. BRIDWELL,
d10-1m 351 M street southwest.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 3, 1883.—I TAKE this method of informing my customers that I do bottle Chr. Heurich's Lager Beer, and have for over three years, notwithstanding Mr. J. B. represents that he is the only bottler of Heurich's Lager Beer. I refer to Heurich and request that he will give a card to that effect.
M. T. BRIDWELL,
d4-1m 351 M street southwest.

TO MY FRIENDS, ARCHITECTS, ARTISTS and others. I would announce that I have opened this week a new enterprise at 504 9th, comprising supplies for Draughtsmen and artists. A call from you is respectfully invited.
d20-eo8t FR'D. A. SCHMIDT.

X-MAS CARDS, HOLIDAY BOOKS, PORTRAIT Scrap Pictures, Fine Stationery, and a good Circulating Library, with constant additions of new books and the best Magazines as soon as issued, at 1749 Pennsylvania avenue. d6

CIRO DE SUZZARRA—VERDI, M.D.
Office Hours:
From 9 to 11 a.m., 2 to 4 p.m., 7 to 9 p.m.
No. 1121 17th street northwest. o20-e3m*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17, 1883.
MR. M. T. BRIDWELL:
Dear Sir: In compliance with your request I beg to say that you, as well as others, have been bottling, and still are bottling, my beer, and I am at liberty to sell it to any one and every one.
Yours, truly,
d20-1m CHR. HEURICH.

HOLIDAY GOODS.
DUPLEX LAMPS. STUDENT LAMPS.
GAS GLOBES. GAS SHADES.
SCONCES. CANDLESTICKS.
GAS PORTABLE STANDS.
SAMUEL S. SHEDD,
d8 409 9th street northwest.

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING BY GRAY & CLARKSON,
Globe Office, 339 Pennsylvania avenue.
The facilities of our establishment are such that we can execute printing of all kinds neatly and correctly at reasonable figures. GRAY & CLARKSON. n21-3m

DRUGS.—C. S. PRICE, DRUGGIST, 426 7TH street southwest, the leading Pharmacy in South Washington. Physicians' Prescriptions a specialty. Patent Medicines, Perfumery and Toilet Articles in great variety. n12

THE ATTENTION OF VISITORS AND Residents is particularly called to PHOSVITÆ, the new and popular Brain and Nerve Tonic and Safeguard against Malaria. For sale aerated by the glass or in bottles by
W. C. MILBURN,
sep8 Sole Inventor and Manufacturer, 1420 Pennsylvania avenue.

DR. M. S. PARSONS, MEDICAL ELECTRICIAN, removed and now with E. A. Parsons & Co., No. 922½ F st. n.w.
See advt. under "City Item" column. n16-2m

DR. WILLIAM M. CATE
will be at his Washington office,
904 14TH STREET, FRANKLIN PARK,
on the 1st, 2d, 15th and 16th of each month.
Exclusive attention to Curvature of the Spine and Spinal Complaints in general.
New York office, Hotel Vendome. Hours 10 to 3. n23-2m

"BUILDING LUMBER," AND HARD WOODS of every description especially ordered to suit customers.
4-4, 5-4, 6-4, 8-4 Ash Counter Tops, prime and seasoned; Also Walnut, Mahogany, Cedar, Cherry, Poplar, Oak, Ash, White Pine, Georgia Pine and Virginia Pine, rough dressed, or manufactured into Partition, Ceiling, Wainscoting, Flooring and Mouldings, in lots to accommodate. All orders filled with dispatch and correctness, at less than current market prices.
WM. McLEAN & SON,
o2 Cor. 13th and B streets northwest.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 16th, 1883.
Having greatly increased our facilities by the introduction of an Electric Light Machine, together with other improvements, we are not subject to the condition of the weather, and are prepared to furnish with promptness, and at low prices, any work in the line of Photo Engraving, for either relief or plate-press printing.
Designs and Estimates furnished upon application.
THE LAUTEN ENGRAVING COMPANY,
n16 1425 New York avenue.

Washington News and Gossip.

GOVERNMENT RECEIPTS TO-DAY.—Internal revenue, $923,519.70; customs, $25,234.26.

SECRETARY FOLGER has entirely recovered from his recent indisposition, and resumed his duties at the Treasury department to-day.

AMONG THE CALLERS at the White House to-day were Senators Cameron, Wis., and Dolph, Representatives George, Brents and Steele, and Second Controller Upton.

GONE OFF WITH THE CARGO.—The Secretary of the Treasury has been informed that the schooner Theresa A. Kennedy, of New Orleans, departed from the port of San Andres, in the Canary Islands, without her papers, and that the master had absconded with the cargo, intending to take it to the United States.

MUST BE PROVIDED WITH BILLS OF HEALTH.—The Department of State has been informed of a recent regulation of the Peruvian authorities requiring that all vessels arriving in a Peruvian port must be provided with bills of health, certified to by the Peruvian consul at the port of departure, in default of which they will be subjected to quarantine and a fine.

THE U. S. S. TALLAPOOSA will leave the Washington navy yard next Wednesday for Norfolk with construction stores for the repair of the practice ships Constellation and Dale.

CHRISTMAS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.—The President gave his daughter yesterday a pair of diamond ear-rings, and his son, who is home for the holidays, a check for $150. To each employe of his household he gave $15 and a Christmas turkey. Alexander Powell, the President's private messenger, received from him a handsome gold watch and chain. It is said that the President received a half dozen gold headed canes and as many silk umbrellas, together with wines, cigars, &c. The President and his children attended the Christmas service at St. John's church in the morning. In the afternoon Miss Nellie and several of her playmates took possession of the mansion, and made the east room and the adjoining parlors ring with mirth.

THE retirement of Pay Director John S. Cunningham on Monday promoted Pay Inspector Edward May to pay director, and Paymaster Arthur J. Pritchard to pay inspector. Mr. Cunningham is a native of South Carolina, and was appointed to the service in 1855. Mr. Pritchard is a Marylander, and a resident of Baltimore.

REPORT ON THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD.—The navy yard commission in their report upon the Brooklyn yard recommend that the entire yard be not sold. A portion of the land lying to the eastward of the marine barracks and including a part of the hospital grounds they say might be advantageously disposed of. It comprises about fifty-eight acres, and is valued at $1,250,000. The report dwells upon the advantage of this yard as a depot for supplies, and for the work of ship building. It also enumerates the disadvantages, which are: Its nearness to the ocean within the range of guns of a hostile fleet, thus endangering the buildings of the neighboring cities; the danger from fire from its location in a mercantile community; the lack of good anchorage in the immediate vicinity, and the fog in the river. The report further states that there is a demand for this yard for mercantile purposes.

Capitol Notes.

MR. COX was at first disinclined to accept the chairmanship of the committee on naval affairs, but finally decided to do so and signified his acceptance of the place in a pleasant and complimentary dispatch to the Speaker.

THE DELIGHTS OF THE HOUSE DISTRICT COMMITTEE. Representative Cassidy, of Nevada, who was on the House District committee in the last Congress, congratulates himself that the Speaker did not give him a place again on that committee. In speaking of this he gave the following graphic description of his former experience: "The man who serves as chairman of the District committee is really the mayor of this city. He is chased morning, noon and night by the people here with all kinds of claims, bills and District matters that it never was intended that a Representative should have to attend to. I have had considerable experience on the District committee, and don't want any more of it. Whole troops of people are after you before you get up in the morning. They break up every meal you sit down to eat, and in the end you have to stand more censure than in any other position about the Capitol. I deeply sympathize with Mr. Barbour. He will have plenty to do, and will do a great deal, but he can never satisfy all the demands that are made upon him unless he is a much better man than I am."

SOCIETY NOTES.

The german given on Christmas eve by Mrs. Bonaparte to her two sons and daughter, Miss Constance Edgar, was one of the handsomest entertainments given in Washington this season. Mrs. Bonaparte received her guests in a costume of white damasse lace, wearing in her hair an aigrette of white ostrich tips. She was assisted by Miss Edgar, whose dress was white silk thickly covered with white beads and passementerie trimmings. Her hair was combed straight in the simplest style, with a knot of ribbons of the pompadour colors. The three debutantes present were Miss Coffey, who wore the white dress in which she was formally introduced to society about a week since; Miss Blaine, who came with her brother, and wore a Parisian garment of light blue, brought with her on her recent return from Europe, and Miss Beach, who was also handsomely dressed. The only young ladies present with the exception of Miss Edgar who were not already in society were Miss Daisy Ricketts and Miss Tillie Emory, granddaughter of Gen. Emory. The german was led by Mr. Frank Lee, the first couple being Miss Elsie McKeever, who wore white, and Mr. Edgar, Miss Katie Beach having as her partner Mr. Allen Arthur. Madam Von Eisendecker, who was present, danced with M. Bustamente. The favors had been sent from New York for the occasion, and many of them were very beautiful, and amongst the most admired were those representing fans, to which were attached bouquets of real flowers tied with different colored ribbons to match, having ivory gilt scent bottles and reins with jingling bells attached, these last being used in the "team" figure. Many members of the diplomatic corps were present, besides a large number of society people, although the affair is spoken of as being "quite a small german." Great disappointment was caused by the refusal of Capt. Ramsay, of the Naval Academy, to allow any of the cadets to leave Annapolis for that occasion in order to attend. Quite a number of West Point cadets came on for the occasion. A handsome supper was served at a late hour.

On Monday evening there was another large german given at the Soldiers' Home by Gen'l Sturgis to his son, Cadet Sturgis, who is adjutant of his corps, and his five companions, who came with him from West Point to spend the holidays.

The National Rifles' Cadets have issued cards for a complimentary soiree, to be held at the Rifles' Hall on Friday evening.

Miss Maggie L. Handley, of this city, and Mr. William J. Ryan, of Brooklyn, were quietly married yesterday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents, 1709 New Jersey avenue, Rev. Mr. Townsend officiating.

Miss Emilie Thom gives a german to members of the Ad Interim Club on Friday evening.

Mrs. Ream, a sister-in-law of Mrs. Vinnie Ream-Hoxie, is in Washington for the winter, staying with her friend, Mrs. Perry Fuller, of New York avenue. Mrs. Ream is from Indian Territory and is a daughter of a chief of the Indian tribe to which she belongs. She is not only handsome, but very cultivated, playing and singing in the most charming manner.

Mrs. C. C. Waite, with her two little children, who has been the guest of the Chief Justice and family for several weeks past, left for New York last night to spend some time with her sister, Mrs. H. J. Jewett, of New York, and other relatives in and near that city. Mr. Waite, who came on to spend Christmas with his own and his father's family, went with them.

Mr. H. M. Meade, after paying a brief visit to his sister, the wife of Commodore Sands, has returned to his home in Roanoke, Va.——The widow of the late Major Parry, accompanied by her little daughter, is here from Baltimore, passing the Christmas season with Mrs. Mack.——Miss Virginia Hopkins, of Wheeling, has come to spend the season with her aunt, the wife of Representative Hopkins, at his residence, 1324 18th street.——Mrs. and Miss Redfern will be at home on Wednesday evenings throughout the season.——Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Johnson leave town to-day, with their two little daughters, for Richmond, where they will remain until after New Year day.——Mrs. Laughton will receive throughout January on Wednesday evenings.——Rev. Dr. Wm. H. Roberts and family, of Princeton, N. J., are in the city for a few days, stopping at the residence of his wife's father, 1315 Rhode Island avenue.

District Government Affairs.

OF INTEREST TO TAX-PAYERS.

Tax-payers would do well to remember the fact that after Monday, December 31, 1883, tax bills will have added to them four per cent penalty, and that there will be a saving penalty by paying taxes before the 1st of next month.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A permit has been issued by Inspector Entwisle to F. A. Shrieve to repair brick house 819 7th street northwest at a cost of $800.

The District government buildings were opened to-day at the usual hour, but very little business appeared to be doing in any of the departments.

THE FEMALE VITRIOL THROWER RELEASED FROM JAIL.—Alice Pritchard, who was sentenced by Judge Snell to jail, over a month ago, for thirty days and to pay a fine of $500, for throwing vitriol on a young man named Ziegler, who, she claimed, betrayed her under promise of marriage, was on Monday released from jail by U. S. Commissioner Rowe, under the poor convicts' act. This act, provides that after serving thirty days' imprisonment the convict may be released from payment of the fine imposed, on making an affidavit as to inability to pay it.

THE PROTEUS INQUIRY.

Proceedings Before the Court To-day—Gen. Hazen's Telegrams

At the Proteus court of inquiry to-day Gen. Hazen submitted a series of telegrams sent by him from Washington Territory last September to Capt. Mills, then acting chief signal officer. The loss of the Proteus and the return of the Garlington party were then just made known, and the object of the telegrams was to have a sledging party sent from Upernavik with native food to meet Greely at Littleton Island.

The following are the most important of the series: "It may be necessary to send a man with money and authority to Upernavik to organize and send sledging parties with food north to meet Greely, who is now probably at Littleton island on his way south. See the Secretary about it, and, if the President can authorize the money, Congress will approve. It will have to be done by telegraph to St. Johns, Mallory sending man and money by small steamer. It will cost but a few thousand dollars. Give the subject careful study."

"Get orders from Danish legation for men going to Greenland for all Danish authorities to give all possible assistance it can. Telegraph it to St. Johns."

"It is very important to get a capable man with money as high up in Greenland as possible to send sledge parties with native food and clothing under pay and bounties to meet Greely. See the Secretary, and do it if possible by telegraph to Mallory."

The first reply received by Gen. Hazen stated in effect that the Secretary of War had considered the matter and would send the aid suggested. The second stated that the project had been abandoned.

No new witnesses were examined to-day. The court adjourned until to-morrow.

Admission to the Floors of Congress.

WHO ARE ENTITLED—THE NEW SENATE RULES—THE PRACTICE IN THE PAST—HOW THE HOUSE OF COMMONS REGULATES THE SEATING OF MEMBERS.

In connection with the proposed Senate rule excluding from the floor of the Senate all except members of the two houses of Congress and bona fide private secretaries of Senators a reference to the rules in respect to admittance of any outsiders to the floors of each house of Congress prior to the war becomes of interest.

In 1860 the doorkeeper of the Senate had a book in which every one applying for admission and claiming the privilege of the floor was required to write his name, together with the designation of the office or the title by virtue of which he claimed admission.

When the House of Representatives met in the old hall, correspondents and reporters of newspapers throughout the country were allowed to occupy seats upon the floor of the House. This was mentioned in a debate in the House in 1860 as having been a former practice. They had desks assigned them outside the bar of the House, "and when they passed that bar," said a Representative in the debate to which allusion is made, it was considered an intrusion, and that they had exceeded the privilege conferred upon them. When the House of Representatives removed to the new hall correspondents and reporters were assigned the gallery they now use.

EX-CONGRESSMEN ACTING AS CLAIM AGENTS.

There was an animated discussion in the House of Representatives in March, 1860, as to whether ex-members of Congress should be given the privilege of going on the floor of the House. One of the objections made to it was that ex-members of Congress became claim agents frequently, and took advantage of having the privilege of going upon the floor of the House to prosecute the claims of their clients more successfully than could other claim agents who were not permitted access to members while on the floor of the House. Mr. Valandigham said that if ex-Representatives who were prosecuting claims before the House or Senate were allowed the privilege of going upon the floor of either house of Congress, it would be a sort of compulsion upon those having claims to employ none but ex-members of Congress, and the result certainly would be, if there were no restriction, that none but ex-members would be retained to prosecute claims before Congress. It was remarked in the same debate that members of Congress, after passing two or four years in Washington, had a hankering for that city, and were therefore the more apt to return there when not reelected to Congress and act as claim agents. Mr. McQueen, of South Carolina, said it was the common talk of the House and the country that ex-members were crowding that hall, with a view of advancing, or engineering through, as the common expression is, private claims against the government.

DISREPUTABLE TO THE HOUSE.

For years it was complained of, and this practice on the part of ex-members was looked upon as disreputable to the body to which they had belonged. They were present in such numbers during the sessions of the House that finally they were excluded from the privileges of the floor of the House.

Last week reference was made in THE STAR to the contrast between the great style and dignity belonging to the office of Speaker of the English House of Commons, and the lack of any such ceremonies with regard to the Speaker of our House of Representatives. On the other hand, however, our Representatives themselves have much more done for their comfort when sitting in the House than do the members of the House of Commons.

HOW THEY MANAGE THESE THINGS ACROSS THE WATER.

As is well known the latter have no desks, but the only means each of them has of securing any seat he may prefer is not so generally known, nor how ludicrous the practice in force there sometimes becomes. In May's Parliamentary Practice it is said: "In the Commons no places are particularly allotted to members; but it is the custom for the front bench, on the right hand of the chair, to be appropriated for the members of the administration, which is called the Treasury, or privy councilors' bench. The front bench on the opposite side is also usually reserved for the leading members of the opposition who have served in high offices of state; but other members occasionally sit there, especially when they have any motion to offer to the house. And on the opening of a new Parliament, the members for the city of London claim, and generally exercise, the privilege of sitting on the Treasury, or privy councillors' bench. It is understood that members, who have received the thanks of the house in their places, are entitled, by courtesy, to keep the same places during the Parliament; and it is not uncommon for old members, who are constantly in the habit of attending in one place, to be allowed to occupy it without disturbance.

PREMIUM FOR ATTENDANCE AT PRAYERS.

All other members who enjoy no place by courtesy upon any of these grounds, can only secure a place for the debate by being present at prayers. On the back of each seat there is a brass plate, in which a member may put a card with his name, if he be at prayers; but by a standing order of the 6th April, 1835, 'No member's name may be affixed to any seat in the House before the hour of prayers.' (Cards with the words 'at prayers' printed on them are always put upon the table for the convenience of members.) Attempts having been made to evade the above order by placing cards on the seats before prayers, they were brought to the notice of the House 20th April, 1866, and the practice was discontinued by order of the Speaker to the sergeant. But another practice has since acquired recognition, by which members, being within the precincts of the House, are allowed to leave their hats upon particular seats, in order to retain them until they acquire a right to them by subsequent attendance at prayers.

Places secured at prayers may be retained until the rising of the house. Prior to 1835 the claim to a seat was superseded by a division, or by the members attending the speaker to the house of lords, when there was a commission for giving a royal assent to bills. Disputes sometimes arise when members leave their seats for a short time, and on returning find them occupied by others. On the 14th of April, 1842, Mr. Speaker thus explained the rule of the house on this point:

'A member having been present at prayers, and having put a card at the back of his seat, is entitled to it for the whole night. But should a member who had not been present at prayers leave his seat, there is no rule of the house which gives him a claim to return to it, but by courtesy it is usual to permit a member to secure it in his absence by a book, glove or hat.'"

SARATOGA STYLE.

All that reads, it seems to me, as if the English house of commons had derived the last rule quoted in respect to seats from the practices prevailing in the ball rooms and on the piazzas at American summer resorts, barring the title to seats conferred by attendance at prayers. MISS GRUNDY.

Some New Law Points.

QUESTIONING THE LEGALITY OF JUDGE SNELL'S APPOINTMENT.

In the case of George Fry, application for writ of habeas corpus, which has been granted by the Court in General term, a number of new points have been raised by the counsel, Mr. J. E. McNally. Fry was sentenced by Judge Snell, of the Police Court, on six informations for the larceny of shoes, and was sentenced to three months in each case, or aggregate of three years. The petition claims that the Police Court had no jurisdiction; that the prisoner is entitled to trial by jury, and that Judge Snell's appointment for six years is null and void, as he is a U. S. judge and should be appointed during good behavior.

THE PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL.—The annual report of the Providence hospital shows that the number of patients remaining Nov. 1, 1883, was 95; admitted during the year, 1,220; total number treated, 1,315, against 1,319 during 1882. Discharged cured, 804; discharged improved, 254; discharged unimproved, 38; died, 78; remaining in hospital Oct. 31, 1883, 96. Of the number remaining there were: white patients, 1,217, and colored patients, 98; number of prescriptions prepared, 10,968; number of surgical operations, 222; per cent of deaths 5; deaths occurring within 48 hours after admission, 18; average age of deceased in years, 44.

THE STAR ROUTE COUNSEL.

Mr. Ker Says He Has Not Yet Resigned.

THE REPORTED DISSENSIONS AMONG COUNSEL—THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S COURSE PRAISED—JUSTICE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—AN UNNAMED HIGH OFFICIAL POSING AS A REFORMER.

Mr. W. W. Ker, one of the special attorneys of the government in the star route cases, when asked by a Philadelphia *Press* reporter if he had resigned, referred to his two years' work for the government as the hardest of his life. "I was always hoping," he said, "that the cases would reach some such stage as would enable me to devote some time to my own affairs. They are now in the position that nothing is likely to be done with them before March, and I asked the Attorney General to allow me to return home. Whether or not I will again take any part in those cases is a matter entirely in the discretion of the Attorney General."

THE REPORTED DISSENSIONS OF COUNSEL.

"Have there been any dissensions between yourself and Col. George Bliss, the senior special counsel for the star route cases?" was asked.

"I understand from what I have seen in the papers and have heard outside that a committee of Congress will be appointed to investigate all those cases and the action of the counsel for the government relating thereto," Mr. Ker replied, not very responsively. "Pending such investigation," he continued, "and in the absence of the Attorney General and any instructions from him, it would be wrong for me to express any opinion or make any comment upon the cases. I have been treated with the greatest consideration by the gentlemen who have been associated with me in the prosecutions. I have the highest respect and esteem for the Attorney General. He has labored earnestly, faithfully, and with great zeal to punish the people who were shown to be guilty from the evidence brought before him. If any congressional investigation takes place the result will be greatly to the credit of Mr. Brewster."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL THREATENED AND ABUSED.

"Has he been subjected to any pressure of influence in behalf of the star route offenders?"

"Mr. Brewster has had many difficulties to encounter. He has been villified and abused beyond measure. His life has been threatened. Insulting anonymous letters have been sent to his family. Every act of his life has been hunted up, in the hope of finding something that might be used against him. Every effort that could be made has been made either to have him removed from the Cabinet or to compel him to resign. In spite of it all Mr. Brewster has made an able and efficient Attorney General. He has struggled manfully against all untoward influences, and when his conduct of those cases has been fully investigated his friends will have every reason to feel proud of him."

JUSTICE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

"What has been the greatest obstacle encountered in those prosecutions?"

"From what will be developed in an investigation members of Congress will plainly see that the great duty devolves upon them of furnishing proper laws and an efficient system for the administration of justice in the District of Columbia to protect the government and the Treasury. Under the present system my only wonder is that the educated and higher grade of criminals of the whole country do not flock to Washington and take possession of it. They would find it a thieves' paradise and will run little risk of punishment."

Mr. Ker is further reported as commenting upon Mr. Spencer's statement concerning the information he had given the government, saying that such a communication was no more privileged than that of a man who sees a murder and reports it to the police authorities. When the congressional investigation, which Mr. Spencer threatens, begins, he said, he hoped Mr. Spencer would not have important business in Europe.

WHO IS THE MAN?

"There is one other gentleman occupying a high position," Mr. Ker continued, "who is just now making himself prominent in his attacks upon the Attorney General, the Department of Justice, and the special counsel. He is posing as an indignant reformer. When the time comes it will be seen whether he will hurl his virtuous indignation from the platform of reform or will be found on his knees supplicating for mercy. That his name has not been mentioned before is no guarantee that it will not be mentioned when the proper time comes."

The Orphans' Christmas.

THE ANNUAL DINNER PROVIDED BY MR. CORCORAN—HOW THE LITTLE