The Free Press.

GEO. W. & G. G. BENEDICT,
Editors and Proprietors.

BURLINGTON
FRIDAY MORNING DEC. 29, 1865.

Enlargement of Our Sheet.

With the new Year, the DAILY FREE PRESS will be enlarged by the addition of a column to each page, making it considerably the largest, as it is much the oldest Daily in Vermont. The increase will enable us to add noticeably to the amount and variety of our reading matter; to give increased space to our telegraphic news; to give more attention and additional room to local intelligence and State items, and to do far better justice to our advertisers, whose favors have so often during the past year been crowded into supplements if not crowded out altogether by the pressure on four columns. We propose also, with the enlargement, to make a new arrangement of the matter in our columns, which will greatly increase their value to advertisers. With which improvements, and with a larger circulation, both Daily and Weekly, than any other paper in this region, the FREE PRESS will be an unrivalled medium for advertisers.

In order to these changes, we have enlarged our establishment, by taking for our own business the lower floor of the Free Press Building, hitherto rented, and by adding an extension to the rear, thus giving us in front a convenient and accessible Counting room on the ground floor, and a light, spacious and commodious press room in the rear. In this, in addition to our former mechanical facilities, we have placed a new and large FAST CYLINDER STEAM PRESS, which will enable us to delay our forms later for telegraphic news, and at the same time give the sheets earlier to our subscribers.

The entire second floor of the building, will be devoted to our active and growing JOB PRINTING DEPARTMENT, which with improved arrangement, added space and fresh additions of new type and improved machinery, will be found equal to any demand upon it. The third floor will, as heretofore, be occupied with the editorial and newspaper composing rooms.

The improvements thus announced, we intend to be but the earnest of others, which will in due time be added, as they shall be warranted by our steadily increasing patronage, and the growth of our thriving city.

Identified with Burlington for so many years, and devoted so heartily to its interests; the advocate of true Republicanism and human rights, irrespective of race or color; of temperance and good order, and of whatever shall conduce to the credit, prosperity and best welfare of our State and County and City, the FREE PRESS will endeavor for the future, still better than in the past, to merit the support and approval of all whose opinion is worth having. And we ask the co-operation of our kind readers in town and country, in our efforts, by extending the circulation of the FREE PRESS to increase its usefulness and value to its readers.

Though the price of paper has lately advanced, and is now nearly treble its price before the war, and though the city papers which lowered their prices during the Summer are again advancing them the FREE PRESS will remain at the same price as heretofore:

TERMS OF THE DAILY FREE PRESS—per month, 70 cents; per quarter, $2; per year, $8, always in advance. Ten copies, by mail, to one address for one year, $75.

Restoration.

It suits some of the papers, and more especially the democratic papers, to assume that the President and Mr. Seward have settled for themselves and for the Country, the whole question of reconstruction. By the withdrawal of the Provisional Governors and the recognition of those elected by the people of the Southern States, say these journals, those States are brought fully back into the Union;—the matter of their representation in Congress is a small affair, and Congress will have to back down on that or fight the President.

But it is evident that while the theory of the President is that the rebel States were never out of the Union, he does not by any means take the ground that they are now restored to their old *status*. Mr. Seward in his letters to the new Southern Governors says: "I have the honor to tender you the co-operation of the Government of the United Strtes whenever it may be found necessary *in effecting the early restoration*, and the permanent prosperity and welfare of the State over which you have been called to preside.

The restoration of these States is, therefore, yet to come, and in effecting it, the Administration can only co-operate with Congress. And it is the duty of Congress not to permit such restoration except upon clear and definite guaranties of protection and equal rights to the freedmen, repudiation of the doctrines of State rights, of the secession heresy, and of the rebel war debts, and satisfactory assurance of future loyalty, on the part of the South.

The Jamaica Massacre.

When the first accounts of the disturbances in the island of Jamaica reached this country, the democratic papers, and among them the Burlington *Sentinel*, hastened to describe it as an out break of barbarism on the part of the blacks, a wanton massacre of the whites, and a fresh proof of the incapacity of the negro for civilization. But the truth concerning the whole of the horrible work which has been going on in Jamaica is coming to light, and should cover with shame these calumniators of an unfortunate, and in this case, as in so many others, abused and helpless race. It appears now that the bloodshed in Jamaica has been almostwholly the work, to use the language of *Harpers Weekly*, "of men of the same color as those who perpetrated the slaughter of St. Bartholomew: who worked the guillotine and supervised the September massacres and the *Noyades* of the French Revolution; who blew Sepoys from cannon and starved prisoners at Andersonville—in fine, of the white and not the black."

The simple facts of the case, as brought to light from English official sources, appear to be that there was a riot of the colored men to resist the execution of a warrant against some of their number. The military were called upon and fired into them, killing several. The infuriated rioters then closed with the soldiers, and seizing their muskets, slew some twenty of them in turn, and tore others in pieces. But Governor Eyre himself admits that woman and children were respected. Only one white man was subsequently killed, and the Governor further admits that there was no attempt at extending an insurrection. But panic instantly seized the British authorities. They surrounded with a military force the settlement in which the outbreak had occurred, summoned the Maroons, a tribe of wild mountaineers, descendants of the old Spanish slaves upon the island, and advancing upon the inhabitants slaughtered them indiscriminately.

The latest accounts through British channels confirm the statement that upwards of *two thousand* of the negroes have been executed, and from a report made by the officer in command it appears that many had been put to death without trial or investigation of any kind, there being, it is coolly added, "no time for such forms."

The Liberals of England have demanded a government investigation into these facts, and Lord John Russell has promised that it shall be made speedily and strictly. Mr. Bright in a recent speech said:

I fear that the name and the fame of England have never received a deeper wound or a darker stain than they have by the recent transactions in that island. I say if murder have not changed its name, if it be now a crime visited with punishment in this country, then I hold that the Governor of Jamaica and his accomplices will yet have to stand at the bar of justice.

And Goldwin Smith, in a letter to the Boston *Daily Advertiser*, writes:

"As the case at present stands there is nothing whatever to prove peculiar, much less indelible, ferocity in the negro race. But the whites of the island, the English officers who have been corrupted by the blandishments of that depraved society (for it is deeply depraved), and sad to say, the Governor himself, have committed such atrocities, that if the Home Government were to fail in its duty of vindicating the character of this country, it will be time for an Englishman who cares for the honor of his nation to look out for another home."

Vermont State Temperance Convention.

The Vermont State Temperance Society held its annual meeting at Randolph, December 20th and 21st. The attendance was unusually large, and the meeting was of more than ordinary interest.

Reports were made by delegates from various counties of the condition of the cause in their localities. It appears that in the Northeastern portion of the State the Society of Good Templars is in a flourishing condition, and is doing a great amount of good—nearly 1000 members meet weekly in Orleans County.

On Wednesday evening, J. S. Adams, Esq., of Burlington, delivered a forcible address on the practicability and duty of a thorough enforcement of our prohibitory law.

On Thursday, at 10 1-2 A. M., Rev. P. H. White, of Coventry, delivered an interesting address on the necessity of effective, working temperance organizations.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Convention:

Resolved, That we deem it practicable and incumbent upon us to raise the sum of $5,000, to be used under the direction of the executive committee, for the purpose of successfull prosecuting the temperance reform in this State the coming year.

Resolved, That we recommend that mass temperance meetings be held in all parts of the State the coming year, where the executive committee shall deem expedient.

Resolved, That the duties of temperance men will not be discharged till temperance organizations are established in every town and school district in the State.

Resolved, That the use of cider, domestic wines and other fermented liquors as a beverage by professional friends of temperance, is a serious obstacle to the progress of the cause.

Resolved, That it is the duty of every virtuous citizen to endeavor to secure the nomination and election of men of pure morals and temperance principles and habits for our political offices.

Resolved, That we are as fully as ever convinced of the necessity of our prohibitory law, and of the practicability of its enforcement; and believe it is demanded not only by temperance men as a temperance measure, but that as a measure of political economy, it is indispensable, and it is required for the protection of the interests of the State, and that no citizens can be justified in indifference, or neglecting to use all proper efforts to secure its full enforcement throughout the State.

Resolved, That the skill and earnestness of Mr W W Atwater, our general agent, in his labors during the past year, deserve our special commendation; and that so far as informed, we approve his course.

The Officers of the Society elected for the ensuing year, are as follows:

President—Rev. L. A. Dunn of Fairfax.

Vice Presidents—J. G. Stinson of Waterbury, John Howe, Jr., of Brandon, Rev. A. T. Bullard, of St. Johnsbury.

Recording and Corresponding Secretary—Rev. J. Torrey of Hardwick.

Statistical Secretary—Rev. P. H. White of Coventry.

Treasurer—G. W. Scott of Montpelier.

Executive Committee—Rev. B. F. Ray of Hartford, Dr. E. E. Phelps of Windsor, Rev. M. Kidder of Woodstock, Hon. W. M. Pingree of Weathersfield, Dea. N. Morris of Norwich, Rev. E. H. Byington of Windsor, and Rev. H. Worthen of Springfield.

Dr. L. Sheldon of Rutland, J. G. Stinson of Waterbury, Horace Fairbanks of St. Johnsbury, Deacon Morris of Norwich, Fabius Bancroft of Bellows Falls, and W. W. Atwater of Vergennes, were appointed a Finance Committee to make arrangements for raising the $5,000 fund recommended.

THE CONDITION OF THE SOUTH—REPORT OF GEN. SCHURZ.—Gen. Carl Schurz's official report of his recent tour through the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, laid before the President a few days ago, and sent to Congress, has been published. It is an elaborate and interesting document, giving a full account of the condition of the States lately in rebellion, and of the feeling of the people, white and black. Its great length precludes our giving it entire, but the following summary of his conclusions gives a very good general idea of its contents:

"I may sum up all I have said in a few words. If nothing were necessary but to restore the machinery of government in the States lately in rebellion in point of form, the movement made to that end by the people of the South might be considered satisfactory. But if it is required that the Southern people should also accommodate themselves to the results of the war in point of spirit, these movements fall far short of what must be insisted upon.

The loyalty of the masses and most of the leaders of the Southern people, consists in submission to necessity. There is, except in individual instances, an entire absence of that national spirit which forms the basis of true loyalty and patriotism.

The emancipation of the slaves is submitted too only in so far as chattel slavery in the old form could not be kept up. But although the freedman is no longer considered the property of the individual master, he is considered the slave of society, and all independent State legislation will show the tendency to make him such. The ordinances abolishing slavery, passed by the conventions under the pressure of circumstances will not be looked upon as barring the establishment of a new form of servitude.

Practical attempts on the part of the Southern people to deprive the negro of his rights as a freedman may result in bloody collisions, and will certainly plunge Southern society into restless fluctuations and anarchical confusion.

Such evils can be prevented only by continuing the control of the National Government in the States lately in rebellion until free labor is fully developed and firmly established, and the advantages and blessings of the new order of things have disclosed themselves. This desirable result will be hastened by a firm declaration on the part of the government that national control in the South will not cease until such results are secured.

Only in this way can that security be established in the South which will render numerous immigration possible, and such immigration would materially aid a favorable development of things. The solution of the problem will be very much facilitated by enabling all the loyal and free labor elements of the South to exercise a healthy influence upon legislation; it will hardly be possible to secure the freedmen against oppressive class legislation and private persecution unless he be endowed with a certain measure of political power.

As to the future peace and harmony of the Union, it is of the highest importance that the people of the States lately in rebellion, be not permitted to build up another 'peculiar institution' whose spirit is in conflict with the fundamental principles of our political system: for as long as they cherish interests peculiar to them in preference to those they have in common with the rest of the American people, their loyalty to the Union will always be doubtful.

I desire to be understood as not saying that there are no well meaning men among those who were compromised in the rebellion. They are many, but neither their number nor their influence is strong enough to control the manifest tendency of the popular spirit.

There are good reasons for hope that a determined policy on the part of the national government will produce innumerable and valuable conversions. This consideration counsels lenity as to persons, such as is demanded by the humane and enlightened spirit of our times, and vigor and firmness in carrying out of principles such as is demanded by the national sense of justice and the exigencies of our situation.

I have conscientiously endeavored to see things as they were, and to represent them as I saw them. I have been careful not to use language stronger than was warranted by the thoughts I intended to express. A comparison of the tenor of the annexed documents with that of my report, will convince you that I have studiously avoided over statements. Certain legislative attempts at present made in the South, and especially in South Carolina, seem to be more than justifying the apprehensions I have expressed.

Conscious though I am of having used my best endeavors to draw from what I saw and learned correct general conclusions, yet I am far from placing too great a trust in my own judgment, when interests of such magnitude are at stake. I know that this report is incomplete, although as complete as an observation of a few months would enable me to make it. Additional facts might be elicited, calculated to throw new light upon the subject. Although I see no reason for believing that things have changed for the better since I left the South, yet such may be the case. Admitting all these possibilities, still I would entreat you to take no irretraceable step toward relieving the States lately in rebellion from all national control, until such favorable changes are clearly and unmistakably ascertained.

To that end, and by virtue of the permission you honored me with when sending me out, to communicate to you my views as to measures of policy proper to be adopted, I would now respectfully suggest that you advise Congress to send one or more 'investigating committees' into the Southern States, to inquire for themselves into the actual condition of things before final action is taken upon the readmission of such States to their representation in the legislative branch of the government and the withdrawal of all national control from that section of the country."

RECONSTRUCTION.—Provisional Governor Holden of North Carolina, has been removed from duty, and the State turned over to the rule of Governor Worth. In like manner, the President has, through the Secretary of State, relieved Judge Sharkey as Provisional Governor of Mississippi, and recognized Governor Humphreys as his duly elected successor.

Only two Provisional Governors now remain in office, those of Florida and Texas.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVALS.—The Unitarian Society gave a pleasant festival to the Children of their Sabbath School, on Christmas evening. A Christmas tree, hung with presents for the children, an address by Rev. Mr. Ware, and singing by the choir and the children, were the principal features of the evening, which was highly enjoyed by the little ones as well as by a large number of their parents and adult friends who were present.

The Sabbath School of the Episcopal Church had their celebration on Thursday evening, with a notable Christmas tree in the Church, and suitable exercises and entertainments in the Sabbath School room.

THE NEW ORGAN for the Third Congregational Church was set up last week, and a few professional musicians and amateurs were present at the first trial of it; and all united in pronouncing it a fine instrument. Workmen are now busy putting up the screen for the front—there is no case, properly speaking—and we trust an early opportunity will be given for the Public to hear the organ.

The organ is from the manufactory of Messrs. Simmons & Co., of Boston, and will well sustain their reputation. It has the following stops:

GREAT ORGAN—Open Diapason, 8 feet pipes—Stopped Diapason Bass 8 feet—Dulciana 8 feet—Principal 4 feet—Twelfth, 2 2-3 feet Fifteenth, 2 feet—Flute 4 feet—Trumpet 8 feet—Hohl Flute, 8 feet—Mixture, 3 ranks.

SWELL ORGAN—Bourdon, 16 feet—Stopped Diapason Treble, 8 feet—Stopped Diapason Bass, 8 feet—Principal Treble, 4 feet—Principal Bass, 4 feet—Keraulophon, 8 feet—Hautboy, 8 feet—Mixture 2 ranks.

PEDAL ORGAN—Open Diapason, 16 feet.

MECHANICAL REGISTERS—Pedal and Swell Coupler—Swell and Great Coupler—Pedal and Coupler—Swell Tremulant—Pedal Check—Bellows Signal.

There are twenty-five stops and registers, and 1,069 pipes; two manuals with a compass of 56 notes from C C to G 3,—the pedal compass is 25 notes from C C C to C.

Those who are familiar with the construction of organs, will see that for the size the selection of stops is excellent; it was proposed to have another pedal stop, but the space allotted for the instrument proved not large enough, and the organ is abundantly large for the church as it is.

The warm weather of three days past has disposed very thoroughly of our sleighing, which at best was not first rate. Pouring rain with the thermometer at 50° as it was Wednesday forenoon, is curious weather for the last week of December in these parts.

THE CASE OF MR. HUBBELL.—The rumor that Mr. H. G. Hubbell had been seen in Toledo, Ohio, proves to have had no substantial foundation. Mr. Hull, a very competent man for the purpose, who went West immediately after Mr. Hubbell was seen in Detroit, to search for him, has returned home, having failed in his search, and without a trace to relieve the suspense of Mr. Hubbell's family and friends.

FATALITIES.—Wm. Mason of Brookfield aged 19, son of Geo. L. Mason, formerly of Burlington, was killed at White River Junction on Thursday last while getting off from a train.

Mr. John Dooley of Sandgate was lately found dead in the highway. It is supposed his team ran away with him in the night and that the wagon must have struck a rock and thrown him out. He leaves a wife and five children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.—We are under obligations to Hon. PORTUS BAXTER, M. C., for the valuable series of six bound volumes of the Congressional Globe for the last session of Congress; also to Gen. D. W. C. Clarke, clerk of the Senate, for a copy of the Congressional Directory of the present session; also to Messrs. Foot and Morrill for copies of the Globe containing the tributes to the memory of Senator Collamer—for which they will accept our thanks.

BURGLARY AT WINOOSKI.—The office of Edwards and Stevens at Winooski was broken into on Friday night, and the money drawer robbed of its contents, amounting to but a small sum. A much larger amount of money, which was in the office during the day, had been removed to a safer place of deposit, doubtless much to the disappointment of the thief, who as yet goes undiscovered.

VERMONT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—The State Teachers' Association will hold its annual meeting at Brattleboro, Jan. 30th. Interesting addresses and discussions on subjects pertaining to Education may be expected, of which a fuller announcement will be made in due season.

PORK IN PROSPECT.—They have been killing pigs in Jericho Centre lately, and have done well at it, eight of them—the pigs not the Jericho people,—weighing nearly 3000 lbs. as will appear by the following table:

One killed by Jas. S. Howland, age 8 month and 26 days,	334 lbs	
" " W. N. Pierce, age 8 months 20 days,	344	"
" " Hosea Spaulding age 8 months 20 days,	381	"
Two " E M Humphrey, age 8 months 20 days,	377, 388	"
One " L C Hall age 8 months 18 days,	349	"
" " Wm S Lee, age 8 months 14 days,	350	"
" " E H Lane, age 7 months 24 days,	352	"
One hog by L L Lane, age 20 months,	561	"
" " Augustus Wood, age 18 months,	481	"

The friend who sends us the above figures, adds "if any of our good friends from the city should see fit to call on us, we can promise them a dish of good pork at least."

NEW MUSIC.—H. L. Story, publisher, of this city, sends us several pieces of instrumental music by E. Louis. "Christmas and New Years Dances," "Mountain Nymph Polka," and "Waltz of the Water Nymphs;" also the "Waterfall Polka," a pretty one by E. M. R.—which look to us very much like the initials of our young friend Edwin Read. All are to be found at Story's.

Personal.

Rev. J. B. Perry has been dismissed, at his request, from the pastoral charge of the Congregational Church in Swanton, by a Council which met on the 5th inst. The Council expressed by resolution its "entire confidence in brother Perry as a faithful and able evangelical minister," and recommended him as such to Christian people and Christian Churches.

Capt. Ogden B Read has been nominated to a Lieutenancy in the regular army.

RUTLAND.—The gas works in Rutland took fire at one o'clock on Sunday morning and the building was destroyed,—a very inconvenient loss to the citizens. The Sunday evening exercises in the Episcopal Church had to be omitted in consequence, and a general raid was made on the stores for kerosene and lamps. Loss $2000, no insurance.

On Sunday night a female infant, apparently about a week old, was left at the house of Gen. F. W. Hopkins of Rutland. One of the young ladies heard the door bell, and on opening the door saw two men in a sleigh, who immediately drove off. She next found in the hall what she supposed to be a bundle of clothes lying upon the floor, but which proved to be a baby. The child was comfortably dressed. What to do with the unexpected Christmas present, was at last accounts a considerable problem in the family.

WESTERN VERMONT MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.—The next Convention of the Western Vermont Musical Association, will be holden at Academy Hall, St. Albans, Vermont, commencing January 2d, at 10 o'clock, A. M., and continuing four days, under the direction of Prof. L. O. Emerson, assisted by Mrs. Minnie Little, Soloist, and Prof. J. E. Perkins, Pianist, of Boston.

The Chorus Wreath, a collection of Oratorio Choruses, American and English Glees, and advanced sheets of Mr. Emerson's new book of psalmody, will be adopted for use.

The Officers of the Association take great pleasure in presenting the above array of talent which they feel sure will meet the hearty approval of all who may attend; and also in announcing that there will be two Grand Concerts given during the Convention, on Thursday and Friday evenings, Jan. 4th and 5th.

Tickets to the Convention, including Concerts, Gentlemen; $1.00. Ladies, 50 cts. Ticket to each Concert, 30 cts.

Arrangements have been made that members will be entertained in private families for 50 cts. per day, and at the Hotel, at $1.50.

Arrangements have been made with the Rutland and Burlington, Vermont Central and Canada, Rutland and Washington, and Ogdensburgh Railroads, to carry persons attending the Convention or Concerts for *fare one way*.

Return checks will be furnished by I. M. TRIPP, Secretary of the Association.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL.—The following appears in the Woodstock Standard:

At the last session of the General Assembly, a committee was appointed to average and equalize the real estate appraisals of the various counties, in accordance with sec. 31 of chap. 83 of the General Statutes, and as chairman of the said committee I have received several letters making enquiries in regard to their formal doings. A full report was made to the House of Representatives at the time, as required by said sec. 31, but as it does not appear to be understood by all listers, will you please publish the following for the benefit of all concerned.

Franklin County,	*increased*	5	per cent.
Orleans "	"	15	"
Washington "	"	10	"
Chittenden "	*reduced*	10	"
Grand Isle "	"	10	"
Rutland "	"	5	"
Windsor "	"	5	"

The remaining counties in the State were left without alteration. LEWIS PRATT.

The Montpelier taxpayers are growling because the county board raised them ten per cent and the State board having put ten more on Washington County, Montpelier goes up 20 per cent.

VERMONT POST-OFFICES.—Vermont is a creditor State, paying last year, $182,108 04 while the expenses in Vermont were, 170,914 62

Leaving a surplus of $12,193 42

Among the items for Vermont in the Postmaster General's report, we find letter postage $7,940 74, newspaper postage $12,191 68; stamps sold $169,059 38, so that our postage is greater than all the ordinary expenses of the State government previous to our war debt. It is worth noting that New Hampshire, with a larger population than Vermont, paid less than Vermont on each of the above items.

Mail routes in Vermont:

By Rail Road, 506 miles, cost	$62,910
Other routes, 1711 miles, cost	27,688
Total, 2217	$90,598
Compensation to postmasters,	83,167
Incidental expenses,	6,356

The number of Post-Offices in Vermont is 439.

FOREFATHERS' DAY.—The 22d, which was the 245th anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, was observed in Boston by a grand meeting of Massachusetts soldiers, and the delivery of their colors carried during the late war, to the State authorities.

Middlebury, which is the only place in Vermont that regularly celebrates the day, had its customary celebration with a public address, which was to be by Rev. Wm. T. Eustis, of New Haven, Conn., and a festive party in the evening.

[Correspondence of the Free Press.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1865.

Messrs. Editors of the Free Press:

Equal suffrage is the all-absorbing topic of discussion among the people of Washton just now. A fear that Congress might pass a law upon the subject at once, has been the cause of much excitement. In the Common Council, the matter was discussed in a manner that would have done credit to a Confederate Congress. The upshot of the matter is that a special election is to be held at once to obtain the sentiments of the people. It will not require a prophet to foretell the results of such an election. Hundreds will not go to the polls and the vote will be overwhelmingly against the colored man.

In the Circuit Court, we had a touch of the old-time Southern chivalry last week—in which Judge Olin was called "a liar and a scoundrel" by a Mr. Bradley, who has been a lawyer in this city for several years. He was allowed to complete the case which was then on the docket, but will be called to account for his ruffianism as soon as the suit is finished.

Our Mayor has written a long letter to the Secretary of the Interior, regarding the interests of the city. He gives plenty of advice to Mr. Harlan, and lectures Congress as though he was a pedagogue and they the unruly urchins of his flock. He gives two long weary columns to the market-house, while he disposes of the public schools in less than one-fifth of the space. No doubt the former is of vastly more consequence to his constituents than the latter. He has not a word to say on the suffrage question.

Gen. Banks addressed the the National Equal Suffrage Association on Thursday evening, and he will ably sustain the cause of the colored man in the House.

The recent annual report of the Chief of Police in the city, shows that during the year twenty-six thousand four hundred and seventy-eight arrests were made. It is sincerely to be hoped that Congress may do something to increase the police force of the District. It was organized for a city of fifty thousand people, and numbers about one hundred and sixty men. The population of the city has nearly doubled, and yet the force remains the same.

I should have stated in my last that the Rev. Dr. Boynton is pastor of the First Congregational Church of this city. The Sect y have services each Sabbath in the Capitol.

A. D. J.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23, 1865.

Messrs. Editors of the Free Press:

The proceedings of Congress, up to the time of adjournment for the holidays, have been chiefly preliminary.

On the great question of the session, no action can be had, until the reports of the committees having the matter in charge have been made.

It would be impossible that there should not, upon a question of such novelty and magnitude, be much original diversity of opinion; but with the spirit of toleration, cherished between the Executive and Congress, and by the members towards each other, there can be no doubt but that a harmonious result will be reached.

It may be regarded as settled, that no conflict between the President and Congress, or division in the great Union party, that carries the ark of the country's safety in its hands, will take place.

The view presented by Mr. Thaddeus Stevens in his speech, in which he took the ground that the rebel States are out of the Union, and therefore require Territorial governments, finds comparatively few supporters; the prevailing opinion being that of President Johnson and of President Lincoln, that the States have never been out of the Union. The prodigal son was not out of the family, though he was out of the household.

The great majority now appear to agree with Hon. John Sherman, that conditions should be prescribed for the admission of the States in question, in the form of amendments to the Constitution. Those States themselves could give no security against a change of sentiment in their people, when once the matters which have grown out of the rebellion should be remitted to the jurisdiction of local law, and the magnitude of the interests involved, it is thought, requires nothing less than Constitutional safeguards.

As to what amendments should be made, the views of members have been indicated in propositions which look to the entire abolition of privilege and inequality throughout the Union; to the empowering of Congress to enforce this provision, by fitting legislation for the rights of whites and blacks;—to the precluding the repudiation of our, or the assumption of the rebel debt,—to a change of the basis of representation from "Federal numbers" to actual voters—to the authorization of export duties, and provision for universal education.

Meanwhile there is a probability that negro suffrage will be satisfactorily disposed of by Congress, within the limits of its own "local" jurisdiction—that is, in this District. The City Government of Washington has shown that the *rights* of the colored people are not safe in its hands. Congress last year made provision for the education of the colored people in this District, and the Government of this City, by an adroit manouver, completely nullified the Act of Congress, and left the poor colored people as far out in the cold as ever. The colored man is not qualified to vote till he is educated, say they - and this is the way they educate him! So will it be everywhere. Admit this plea, and when will the colored man be educated, by those who do not wish him to vote?

During the past few weeks death has found victims among our most noted men. Thomas Corwin, Jacob Collamer, Preston King and Orlando Kellogg, were men who made their mark in our politics and history. Their places cannot easily be filled. But they lived to see our government emerge, purified and strengthened, from a fiery trial that would have dissolved any other fabric which politicians or statesmen have ever reared, and to close their eyes upon the prospect of its enduring peace, harmony and prosperity.

W. I. C.

THE SPIRIT OF THE SOUTH.—The correspondent of the Boston *Daily Advertiser* closes a letter from the South as follows:

"Freedom of speech and safety of person are very far from being assured in all sections of these States. I believe they have been won in the cities and large towns, and on the main lines of railway travel; but any northern man who goes into the country, whether for business or pleasure, whether as a resident or a traveler, must walk and talk circumspectly. He undertakes to maintain radical sentiments on the negro question, his friends will probably find him dead some morning—shot from behind, as is the custom of the country. The leading men of each of these States generally invite immigration from the north, and they are honest and sincere in their expression of desire for the influx of new life. They will, I am sure, do all they can to make the State safe and inviting for emigrants. In time even Georgia will be as free as New York; but at present, the masses of the people have little disposition of welcome for northerners. The ex-rebel soldiers are everywhere the best disposed class of citizens, and if they alone constituted an organized State, I should expect peace and order and freedom to freely abound at once. The bad classes are, all the women, most of the preachers, nearly all the young and middle aged men who did not go into the army, and many of the young rebel staff officers and officers who didn't see active service

Police Court.

Before Recorder Read Tuesday John Brooks was fined $10 and cost for selling liquor, also Calixt Limoge and Chas. Wolcott.

Thos. Baker for assault was fined $5 and cost.

Before Justice Hollenbeck Tuesday Michael Haley was fined $5 and cost for assault, and John Kelly for the same offense the same amount; Louis Martin Dan O'Brion and James Blinn were fined $5 and cost each for intoxication and William Clay for resisting an officer was bound in $500 bonds to await trial.

Leander Freeman, colored, was brought up Tuesday, charged with assaulting officer Clark and trying to bite his nose off. Investigation continued to Friday.

A prostitute namrd Brixley was fined $10 and costs for harlotry.

Merrie Christmas.

That it is fitting and right to observe with rejoicing the day of the birth of the Redeemer of mankind, should need no argument. And that, if there be a doubt as to the day, it is well to observe that which has come down to us through so many ages as Christ's natal day, and which was kept as a Sabbath by the primitive Church, would seem to be equally beyond question. The ancient Anglo-Saxons made the day the beginning of the year. With us, it is the herald of the New Year; and of what a glad new year is it not the herald? With Peace restored; with a new Country, purged as by fire; with Freedom to all proclaimed as the highest law of the land—we can this year with greater thankfulness than ever, re-echo the Angel's cry, "on Earth Peace, Goodwill to Men,"—and wish to all we meet, a merry Christmas.

RESTORATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—Secretary Seward has forwarded a communication to Provisional Gov. Perry, and to the Governor elect, Orr, of South Carolina, precisely similar to those sent to Alabama and Georgia.

CONGRESS has adjourned over the Holiday—to January 5th, when the real work of the session will begin. Thus far, resolutions and talk for Buncombe, have been the main order of the day.

RUN DID IT.—At Hydeville last Friday evening a tipsy Welch man named Ewings, sat down, to wait for the train, on the depot platform with his feet on the track. The cars came and cut one foot in two in the middle and the toes off the other. The unfortunate man afterwards walked into the depot and sat down in a chair, knowing nothing of what had happened to him. Amputation of one foot above the ankle was found to be necessary.

At Castleton on Monday, a man named Wilson, from Hampton, N. Y., while walking on the track, was struck and instantly killed by a train from Rutland. He had been drinking.

NEW SENATORS.—The Colorado Legislature, on the 19th elected John Evans and Jerome B. Chaffee United States Senators. Both are republicans.

The California Legislature on the 16th elected Cornelius Cole United States Senator, to succeed James A. McDougall.

FIRE AT PROCTORSVILLE.—Harrington's steam mill in Proctorsville, comprising a grist mill, saw mill, carriage factory, paint shop, and machinery for the manufacture of chair stock, was found to be in flames, on Sunday night, and was totally destroyed. The fire spread to a barn owned by Col. Redfield Proctor, and that too, with 40 tons of hay and a quantity of grain, was destroyed. The fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary. Loss on the mill about $6000—insured for $2,500.

THE TEST VOTE taken in Washington on Thursday, on the suffrage question, resulted in a vote of about 7000 against negro suffrage, to 75 in favor of extending the franchise. Of course none of the negroes were permitted to vote on the question, or it might have stood differently.

RELICS OF A PIGMY RACE IN TENNESSEE. Gen. Milroy, who has been spending much time in Smith county, in attending to some mining and oil operations, informs us that, while at Watertown a few days since, he saw some remarkable graves, which had been disclosed by the washing of a small creek in its passage through a low bottom. The graves were from eighteen inches to two feet in length, most of them of the smaller size, and were formed by an excavation about fifteen inches beneath the surface, in which were placed four undressed slabs of rock, one in the bottom of the pit, one on each side and one on top. Human skeletons, some with nearly an entire skull, and many with well defined bones, were found in them. The teeth were very diminutive, but evidently those of an adult. Earthen crocks were found also with the skeletons.

Gen. Milroy could find out nothing respecting these liliputian graves in conversation with the oldest inhabitants of the vicinity, except that there was a large number of similar graves, perhaps thousands, near Stateville, in the same county, and also a like burial ground at the mouth of Stone's river, near this city. They were examined about thirty years ago and excited a good of comment. These diminutive human skeletons seem to have belonged to an extinct pigmy race. Gen. Milroy has deposited some of the bones in the State Library.—*Nashville Press.*

Witticisms from the Saturday Press.

A radical in Congress proposes to introduce a bill abolishing all National Banks, except N. P.—who won't stay abolished.

A late sutler in the army called at our office, the other day, to solicit alms on the ground that he had sought the bubble reputation at the soldiers' mouth and lost everything he had in the world but his character. We were obliged to tell him that when he had lost that, too, he would be entitled to help—but not before.

Why are newly published songs like men bathing?

Because they are new ditties.

President Johnson has approved a bill to prevent the further importation of cattle into Washington. This may diminish the census of the city a little; but, otherwise, we should say the effect would be good.

The great sale of railroad iron in Alexandria has been postponed. All the great government sales of late, have turned out to be great government sells.

A correspondent who is curious in such matters writes to inqure whether Schuyler Colfax's name was not originally Schuylkill coal-fax.

The motto of all coins issued hereafter from the U. S. Mint is to be "In God we trust?" there is danger, however, that everybody will read it, "In Gold we trust"—which is much nearer the fact.

News Items.

Mr. Brown, the Canadian Finance Minister, has resigned on account of a difference of opinion about the Reciprocity Treaty.

A young gentleman and young lady skating hand in hand together on a pond in Maine, fell into an air hole and the lady was drowned.

Among a list of comparatives, a Philadelphia exchange gives us the following:—positive, pain; comparative, plane; superlative, peanuts.

In this month of December there will be *two* full moons in all parts of the United States west of Kansas. Next month, (January, 1866,) the reverse of this will take place, as there will be *two* full moons east of Colorado, and but one west of Kansas.

Since the close of the war emigration begins to go South, and during this year, up to the close of October, 8905 of the emigrants arriving at New York went to the reconstructed states, of whom the larger number, 3657, went to Missouri.

Mr. Ancona M. C., of Pennsylvania is of the opinion that the revenue laws ought to be revised in respect to the amount of income exempt from taxation. In view of the increased cost of living, &c., since the revenue laws were framed he thinks it proper that incomes up to one thousand dollars should be exempt from taxation.

The Court of Appeals at Quebec has decided in favor of the application of Wayne W. Blossom to be admitted to bail. This settles a long vexed question, which arose out of the alleged attempt to abduct George N. Sanders. Blossom belongs in Maine, and has been refused bail during several months, after a jury had failed to convict him on trial.

One of the largest apple dealers in the country, a Mr. Marshall of New York, has failed, and numerous persons in Western New York, farmers and agents, have lost heavily in consequence. The Rochester papers report that one of Marshall's agents, who was worth $30,000, has lost all, while many farmers have lost the price of their entire crops. So much for speculators in apples.

D. S. Warren, mail carrier from Iowa City to Washington, Iowa, was frozen to death a few nights since on his way to the latter place. He was seventy-eight years of age, and his horse being fast in a mud-hole, and the night being dark from a snow storm, the old man and his horse both perished.

A vessel, lately arrived at New York from China, reports having picked up about six weeks ago, midway between Africa and South America, an empty half barrel, painted with the name "Vision," and supposed to have belonged to the little shell which sailed for Europe eighteen months ago, with two men and a dog, and has never since been heard from.

A lady in Union Co., Ky., a short time since sold her land and received some eight hundred or a thousand dollars in cash. A night or two after a stranger called at her house and demanded lodging for the night. After some hesitation he was admitted. Later in the night he was aroused by the lady who told him that three or four men were trying to break into the house. The stranger arose, seized his pistol, told her to go down stairs and get behind the door and open it when he directed her. Placing himself in position he gave the word, she opened the door and in rushed a man who had no sooner placed his foot on the door-sill than he fell dead by a bullet from the stranger's pistol. A second man met the same fate. A third was wounded and ran away. The dead men were recognized as the lady's son-in-law and a near neighbor. The third man was her son.

Vermont Items.

The shop and stock of the Jamaica leather company at Jamaica was burned on the 12th; insured for $10,000.

The Black River paper mill and the American Stencil Tool Works at Springfield were burned on the 20th. The buildings burned belonged to A. J. Fullam, whose loss was $5000; insured for $1000. F. Cate & Co. lost $1500; insured for $800.

The store occupied by Roberts & Talmadge, in Wolcottville, was entirely burnt, on the 12th, with most of its contents. Loss $15,000; no insurance.

The store of D. A. Gilbert, in Morrisville, was broken open one night last week, and an attempt made to blow open the safe. The thief got $50 in scrip.

James Moore of Newport ran away with the wife of a negro barber there, to Canada, and finished by cutting his throat. As he was a notorious thief, the region feels easier

The oldest man in Vermont, is the Rev. Thos. Marvin, of Auburgh, who was born in the year 1772, and is therefore ninety-three years old. His father was a captain in the revolutionary war.

Z. E. Jameson of Irasburg, has raised from six pounds of seed, six and one-half bushels of potatoes. The seed is called the Goodrich seedling, and was obtained from Pennsylvania.

The Bank of Caledonia is closing, and persons having in their possession bills of said Bank are requested to present them for redemption.

S. L. Goodell has purchased the farm of Calvin Austin, of Brandon, for $25,000. There is a marble quarry on the