THE NEW ERA.

AT THE CAPITAL.

The Tax on Farmers as Produce Brokers. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has written a letter, in which he says that the ruling under which a person, who makes it his occupation to sell the produce of his own farm from a stall or stand, is required to pay a special tax as produce broker should be construed with the utmost liberality, giving the producer the benefit of all doubts respecting his liability; that it cannot ordinarily be said to be the occupation of a farmer to sell his products; that it is his business to raise them, and that the selling is an incident to the production; that it is only when he makes such selling his regular and constant business, that he should be required to pay this tax.

Collecting the Income Tax for 1870.—The Secretary of the Treasury has directed all disbursing officers of the Government to withhold the Internal Revenue tax on salaries of Government employees the present year, as heretofore.

Life insurance, known to be a judicious and profitable investment of funds, has also come to be regarded in the light of a moral obligation, by such persons as have given the subject investigation and reflection; and many of these men are about to take a policy in the National Life Insurance Company.

The National Council of the Union League of America will meet in this city on the 16th of February at 3 p. m. The National Executive Committee will meet at Willard's Hotel on the same day at noon.

Congressional Aid for Relief of the Poor.—The Senate Committee on the District of Columbia instructed their chairman (Mr. Hamlin) to report a bill appropriating $30,000 for the relief of the poor of this District, to be expended under the direction of the Mayors of Washington and Georgetown, and the President of the Levy Court, and Gen. O. O. Howard; also, authorizing, that condemned army clothing on hand be issued to the poor of the District. A portion of the appropriation will be expended for the Industrial Home School, and a portion by the Association for the relief of the Poor, or Provident Aid Society.

Advices received here from Tennessee are to the effect that the Committee on the Franchise, in the present Constitutional Convention, have reported a provision to be embodied in the Constitution, guaranteeing the right of suffrage to the colored man. A minority report will be presented submitting this provision to a separate vote of the people, but it is believed the Convention will adopt the report of the majority on this subject. There will be much discussion, and a strong effort will be made to defeat colored suffrage. The present Republican judiciary will be removed, but the effort to take the election of the judges from the people will fail if it is left to the people. East Tennessee will re-elect some of the present incumbents.—*Wash. Cor. N. Y. Tribune.*

The Washington Mail Steamboat Company. A bill was introduced in the Senate by Mr. Hamlin to incorporate the Washington Mail Steamboat Company. A number of our prominent citizens are among its incorporators, and fixes the capital at not less than $250,000, nor more than $500,000, in shares of $100 each. The company is authorized to run a line or lines of steamers between the cities of Washington and Norfolk. The bill was reported back to the Senate without amendments.

The question of ventilating the halls of Congress has engaged the attention of both branches, as the present atmosphere is considered dangerous to health, owing to the very deficient quantity of pure air supplied and the absence of sufficient moisture. Mr. Albin C. Stimers, of New York, a well-known engineer, has proposed to ventilate the entire building in the most thorough manner, with one apparatus. His blowing engine will be one thousand horse power. One system of blowers will drive the air in through the ceilings, and another will exhaust it from the halls through openings in the floors, producing what is known as "downward ventilation." The apparatus comprises the heating, moistening, cooling, and drying of the air as occasion may require, so that whatever may be the state of the outer atmosphere, it will uniformly be supplied to the halls in the condition of fine weather in summer.

M. Catacazy, the Russian Minister, and his accomplished lady, gave the first of a series of elegant dinner parties on Saturday evening, which are expected to continue throughout the season. The guests were General and Mrs. Sherman, Speaker Blaine and wife, Baron Oerolt and wife, Hon. J. Bancroft Davis and wife, Senora Garcia, General Banks, Hon. Fernando Wood, and Baron Lederer. A novel feature of the entertainment was the performance, while the guests were at the table, of operatic music by a fine string band. Prince Dolgorouky, who has recently arrived in this city from Russia, was present during the evening.

Gen. Terry has submitted to the Administration, for instructions, two questions in regard to the qualifications of members of the Legislature in Georgia. The first is whether he, as military commander, has authority to determine upon the qualifications of members, after they have taken the oath, when it is known they were not capable of taking it; and, second, whether, when a person having the certificate of election is denied admission under the fourteenth admendment, the person having the next highest number of votes should be admitted to the seat. Gen. Terry holds the affirmative of both propositions. The Attorney General has considered the question, and the President will instruct Gen. Terry to administer the law as he understands it.

Taxes on Lotteries.—Mr. Kellogg, of New York, presented a petition to the House last week, showing that the revenue gathered from the taxation on lotteries is a stigma upon our Government, and mortification to all good citizens. While Congress does not legalize them, the imposition of a special tax by the Government gives countenance to the business. The petition further asks that the revenue laws be so amended as to strike out all taxation on that class of business.

The Franking Privilege.—In the Senate last Friday a number of petitions numerously signed, were presented, in which the petitioners pray for an immediate abolition of the Franking privilege. Senators in presenting the same, hit at the Post-master General in rather an uncomplimentary manner. Mr. Cresswell placed the cost of the franking privilege at five million dollars annually, which the Senators could not see, the feeling of the people in regard to the matter is in favor of the abolition of the privilege.

The French Postal System.—Intelligence has been received at the State Department, that the French Government proposes to send to our Government, Mr. Berthemy, late French Minister, with a view to adjusting the international postal question, now at variance between the two Governments, also to settle the difficulties growing out of the French Cable controversy.

James Fisk Jr.—The Railroad King James Fisk jr. of the Erie Rail Road and Gold panic notoriety, was before Gen. Garfield's committee on Banking and Currency last Saturday, after his examination he occupied a seat on the floor of the House.

Universal Suffrage in the District.—The District Committee of the House and Senate held a joint meeting last Saturday, Senator Hamlin in the chair. Memorials were presented praying for universal suffrage. Mrs. E. C. Stanton addressed the committee. She said: "To say that woman shall not vote is despotism." Miss Susan B. Anthony said they had come to demand the right of suffrage, and the word "male" be stricken from the Constitution. The interview continued for some time, but a majority of the members of the committee seemed to be opposed to the scheme of universal suffrage.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

OUR AGENT.

Mr. Edward Crusor is our sole authorized agent to procure subscriptions for the New Era in the District of Columbia, and to receipt for the same.

Our citizens will be called upon by Mr. Crusor or his accredited representative within a short period, and we hope and expect to receive a liberal response from them.

TO THE FOUR HONORED ONES.

Dear Friends:

I felt somewhat burdened when I thought of the hard work that is laid upon you in your allegiance to the Church; but this morning I feel quite happy, for I have learned from the experience of another, although I had for a time forgotten it, that it is a bad sign when all the congregation depart with a smile on the lip and praise on the tongue. In a city where I dwelt, there lived a noble and good man, who preached to thousands every Sabbath, and so electrified them that he could, with them, do any good work; their enthusiasm was equal to accomplish anything, and great good was done. So thoroughly did he imbue them with himself, that their praise of him was continuous; and he seemed to live in them, and the city felt that a great work was being done, and the only sighs were from those breasts which said, O! if it were only orthodox. . He died, and his church was buried with him as fully as though there was no written word. Then those who sighed because he was not orthodox, said he was but an iconoclast. He broke down our images, and has not given them any rules of faith, and they are helpless. His own followers said: "Oh, no! we shall never see his like again." At your last meeting, the words of complaint and faultfinding showed deep wounds; sores of which they were ashamed, and that they could not bear the mortification of their being uncovered, or the pain of probing.

And when it was found, that a few had done their duty, and that for the talent given them, they brought other talents, those whose talent was folded in a napkin, made excuse; and not only said, that he who was set over us was a hard man, and exacted too much, but wished to rob you of your hard-earned talent, and beat you by casting contemptuous words and looks; mock pity for the embarrassment you must feel in being singled out from among them to be bidden God-speed, and mock honors offered you as a reward.

All this seems to me to show signs of vitality and of hope; if we were dead we could not turn, if wholly indifferent we could not feel; as it is, we feel, but cannot analyze our heart; but, our honored brothers and sisters, you will find among us some whose hearts will arouse them to apply the remedy, and I hope, humbly aid in upholding your hands in the work to be done.

One of the congregation of the
15th st. Presbyterian Church.

Lecture by Dr. Snodgrass.—Dr. T. E. Snodgrass will address the Sabbath School of Israel Church (A. M. E.) on Sunday morning next at 10 o'clock. Subject, the "Origin and Influence of the Sunday School."

Arrangements are in contemplation for a lecture on the "Old Era and the New" for the benefit of the same church at an early date, the trustees having been to considerable expense for recent repairs and improvements in this venerable church.

We trust that the objects in view, and Dr. Snodgrass' well-earned reputation, both as an effective speaker and as a philanthropist tried and true, will secure crowded audiences on each of the occasions above referred to.

LECTURE OF FRED. DOUGLASS.

A crowded, attentive, and enthusiastic audience assembled last evening at Lincoln Hall to listen to the lecture of Fred. Douglass, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. The speaker was introduced by General Ekin, and received with hearty applause.

Mr. Douglass said that a composite character of a people was always a broad advance from that of barbarism, and that our own nation was particularly and proudly distinguished in this respect. He considered our people and nation in three respects—what we are, what we will be, and what we ought to be.

Other nations have had their day; their destiny has culminated, and is on the wane. Not so ours. It is yet to come; to grow, and reach a greatness and power never before known.

He made an eloquent appeal in behalf of the Indians of this continent, who had been treated with great injustice. Our course toward them had been a reproach to our religion and civilization.

Now that slavery has been abolished and the negro vindicated and elevated, the Chinaman comes up for consideration, and is destined to be an element in our national composition.

He spoke of the Irishman—his prejudices and greatness and oppression.

He spoke of the Germans, and alluded to Senator Carl Schurtz as a truly Americanized citizen, as fully so as any one he knew.

Mr. Douglass said he liked the blue-eyed, fair-haired white race—he was akin to them—the Democrats called him a white man.

He said the fusing of the various races and nations in this country will result in the highest type of character and civilization the world has ever known, and closed with a thrilling strain of eloquence which elicited rapturous applause—as was frequently the case during the whole long lecture, which really adds to his already famous popularity.—*Republican.*

Lecture by Fred Douglass.—A large and and highly appreciative audience, last night, greeted the appearance of Mr. Douglass, and applauded his masterly effort on "Our Composite Nationality." There have been few lectures in Washington better deserving of extended notice, but the crowded state of our columns forbid. Mr. Douglass is undoubtedly the foremost man of his race. His eloquence and cogency of thoughl would adorn the legislative halls of any nation.—*Chronicle.*

Our Public Schools.—A meeting of the Committees from the Board of Public Schools of the District was held at the rooms of the School Board, for the purpose of determining upon a memorial to be presented to Congress.

Mr. Newton submitted the memorial. It sets forth: That numbers of families are drawn here for a temporary residence, who do not become owners of taxable property. A large portion of these non-paying residents are officers and employes of the government, and retain their citizenship in other States, and therefore do not contribute to the maintenance of the public schools, while their children require the benefits of the same. Thirty-four per cent. of the pupils (if not more) of the public schools are children of Government employes.

It goes on further to show that, the increase of the colored population, two hundred per cent., between the years of 1860 and 1867, which makes the proportion of the children to the colored schools the same. The General Government does not contribute to the public schools; their property, which is of a large amount is not taxable, and were the extensive possessions of the United States to contribute their proportionate share, there would be little call for aid. The General Government contributes to the aid of common schools in a good many States and Territories, why should they not contribute to the aid of this District, which is almost under their charge? Congress has been very liberal in supplying land to the different States and Territories, while the District has not received one acre.

Again, the memorial suggests that an appropriation be voted to them from the National Treasury, for the purpose of erecting school houses in the District, also an appropriation of one million acres of land for the benefit of the public schools in the District.

Mr. Richards also submitted a bill bearing principles similar to the above memorial. The memorial and bill were both approved and ordered to be laid before Congress.

Interview with President Grant.—A number of citizens of the District called at the Executive Mansion last Saturday, and had an interview with his excellency in regard to District matters. They spoke in relation to the avenues—the channel of the river, and the canal, and as a large portion of the laboring community are in need of employment, suggest that Congress would improve the streets and avenues in a corresponding degree as that accomplished by the city government—they referred to the great good which would arise by the action of the President in this matter.

The President, in reply, stated that he wished to see the seat of government made such as to arouse the pride of citizens of the Republic, and that he would help them out to the full extent of his power.

The interview was very pleasant. Everybody satisfied with the views entertained by the President.

Prince Arthur.—This distinguished Prince arrived on our shores at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the 23d of August, 1869. The Prince was received by Sir John Young, Governor General, with General Doyle, commander of Her Majesty's forces in Canada. There were present two full companies of the seventy-eighth Highlanders. His Royal Highness was the guest of the Governor General. He partook of the hospitalities of the people of Halifax till the following Saturday. At St. Johns, N. B., the customary salutes and address of welcome greeted the Prince. On the 15th the Prince started for Quebec, where he was received with the greatest enthusiasm. At Montreal he was received by General Wyndham, who drove him to Rosemont, received a good dinner, and next day left for London. At no place in his travels did the Prince receive such an ovation as at London. The houses were decked with flags. On the evening of the 28th of September the party left for Niagara Falls.

Prince Arthur left Montreal for the United States, and arrived at New York on Friday at 12.45 P. M. He was met at the depot by Mr. Thornton, the English Minister, Mr. French, private Secretary, and Mr. Archibald, British Consul at New York. As the Prince came out of the depot, he was the admired of all admirers, and fashionable dressed ladies eagerly pushed themselves foward to obtain a glimpse of Royalty. The Prince is quite a handsome youth—he was plainly dressed—carried a light walking cane, and wore a hat of the latest style. After being safely secured in a Carriage, he was drove to the Fifth Avenue Hotel, where a suite of handsome apartments was placed at his disposal. He attended the theatre in the evening—and on Saturday morning left for this city, where he arrived Saturday evening in a special car placed at his disposal, with his retinue. He is the guest of Minister Thornton, at whose residence an elegant suit of rooms has been fitted up. On Monday evening he was present at a dinner given for his reception, at which General Tate the Haytien Ambasador was present with his lady, and on Tuesday a dinner was given in his honor, both being given at the British Legation. On Wednesday the Prince dined with the President of the United States and attended Mrs. Grants reception.

Management of Colored Schools.—Mr. Syphax, President of the Board of Trustees of Colored Schools, was before the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia. Mr. Syphax spoke at some length, complaining that his fellow-trustees never consulted him in regard to matters concerning the Board, and that a proper consideration was not accorded to him, although he was chairman of the Board.

Legal Tender Notes.—Secretary Boutwell has approved of the order requiring all legal tender notes to be printed on large sheets. This order has been issued in order to show the silk fibre in the paper, as a protection against counterfeits.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Monopoly. Judge Fisher, in the Criminal Court, made the following sentence in the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad case: No. 6757. That the said defendants pay a fine of fifteen hundred dollars to the United States, and that the said defendants at their own proper costs remove the nuisance set forth in the first, second, fifth, sixth, and seventh counts of the indictments on or before the first day of April, 1870. No 6758. That the said defendants pay a fine of one thousand dollars to the United States, and that the said defendants at their own proper costs remove the nuisance set forth in the first, second, and third counts of the indictments on or before the first day of April, 1870. A motion for a writ of error has been made.

The Courts.—The Court in General term met and decided that the courts for this year shall be held by the respective Judges, as follows:

The January term of the Circuit and December term of the Criminal Court by Chief Justice Cartter.

The May term of the Circuit and the June term of the Criminal Court by Justice Olin.

The October term of the Circuit and March term of the Criminal Court by Justice Fisher.

The special terms by Justice Wylie.

Dinner at Mayor Bowens.—Last Thursday evening Hon. Sayles J. Bowen, Mayor of Washington, entertained the two Committees—of the Senate and House—on the District of Columbia, at his residence, 528 H. street. The guests were Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, chairman of the Senate Committee, and the following Senators, members of that committee: Hon. James W. Patterson, New Hampshire; Hon. Charles Sumner, Massachusetts; Hon. Benjamin F. Rice, Arkansas, and Hon. John S. Harris, Louisiana, Hon. Burton C. Cook, Illinois, chairman of the House Committee; Hon. Martin Welker, Ohio; Hon. William Williams, Indiana; Hon. Calvin W. Gilfillan, Pennsylvania; Hon. Thomas Boles, Arkansas; Hon. G. W. Cowles New York; Frederick Stone, Maryland, and Hon. J. Proctor Knot, Kentucky. There were also present General Crocker, President of the Board of Alderman; Joseph Williams, President of the Common Council; Mr. W. A Cook Corporation Attorney, and Mr. J. W. Forney, of the *Chronicle.* The dinner was elaborate and in excellent taste, and the conversation related almost exclusively to District matters, which were discussed. Mayor Bowen presided over the pleasant occassion with dignity, and gave a large amount of information to his guests in regard to the past and present condition of the city of Washington and its future prospects.

Memorial of the National Medical Society of the District of Columbia.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Whereas it has been stated in a published circular, that the persons endeavoring to form a medical society on the basis of "equality before the law," have maliciously and falsely attacked the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, we deem it but just to the public, as well as ourselves, to make the following statement of facts:

Within the past few years some colored physicians, regular graduates of medical colleges, and of untarnished character and reputation, having held positions as surgeons in the Union army during the rebellion, have settled in this city, and secured to themselves a large professional practice.

There being only one medical society in the District where all licenses to practice must be obtained, and all advantages flowing from medical and professional discussions were to be enjoyed, it became the duty of these colored physicians to obtain license and membership, in order to keep up their medical education, and derive all the advantages from weekly professional discussion.

The Medical Society of the District of Columbia has, on two different occasions, refused to elect these colored physicians to membership, acknowledging that the color of the candidates was the reason for so doing; and some of its members have refused to consult with them, because they were not members of the Society.

This was in June, 1869. Hoping that discussion of the subject would aid in securing justice, we were content to await the result.

January 3, 1870, by a vote of 26 to 10, the Society refused to consider a resolution offered by Dr. Reyburn, which read as follows, viz:

"*Resolved,* That no physician (who is otherwise eligible) should be excluded from membership in this Society on account of his race or color."

Some of the present officers of the Society have refused to consult with the colored physicians, but instead thereof, have taken charge of patients who were under their care, without giving them the customary notice of their dismissal, in direct violation of the ethics of the profession.

These colored physicians have applied to the Society for membership, but were rejected by a large majority, although the Board of Examiners reported favorably on them. At the last election of officers in the Society, held January 3, 1870, the chairman of this board was removed, and a gentleman, late of the Confederate army, well known for his opposition to the admission of colored physicians, was elected in his place, thus insuring their future defeat. Other gentlemen who served during the war in the Confederate army are now prominent in the control of its affairs.

At the same meeting, a white candidate, a gentleman of high professional standing, and occupying an important position, was objected to, solely on the ground that he was believed to be in favor of the admission of colored members.

Again, the circular published by the committee of the Society, states that their weekly meetings are "social reunions." These meetings are conducted under strictly parliamentary rules, from the opening to the adjournment, and only professional questions, essays, and papers, are brought forward for discussions, and gentlemen are even required to obtain permission of the President to retire from the meeting. If these meetings, held in compliance with the charter of the Society, are only social reunions, then the meetings of all bodies not strictly parliamentary are social reunions.

Other colored men will soon graduate from medical colleges in the United States and throughout the world, and their rights should be protected and guaranteed within this District.

It is a fact worthy of note, that this is the only country and the only profession in which such a distinction is now made. Science knows no race, color, or condition; and we protest against the Medical Society of the District of Columbia maintaining such a relic of barbarism.

We, for the reasons stated, and in accordance with the spirit of the times, ask Congress to grant a charter to a new Society, which will give all rights, privileges and immunities to all physicians, making only the presentation of a diploma from some college recognized by the American Medical Association, and good standing in the profession, the qualifications necessary for membership.

Robert Reyburn, M.D., *President.*

John G. Stephenson, M.D., Alex. T. Augusta, M.D., D. W. Bliss, M.D., Silas L. Loomis, M.D., W. G. H. Newman, M.D., R. J. Southworth, M. D., Jos. Taber Johnson, M D., John Edwin Mason, M.D., Committee.

C. Adams Gray, M.D., *Secretary.*

BUREAU ITEMS AND INCIDENTS.

One hundred thousand children in Alabama have never learned the alphabet, nor been inside a school-house.

One hundred and ninety-nine freedmen's schools in Georgia. The freedmen wholly support forty-one, and many others in part.

Freedmen's schools for six months, ending July 1, 1869, cost $190,000, (estimated.) Pay by freedmen, $365,000, (estimated.) Given by the benevolent through societies, $535,335—appropriated by the Bureau.

Sabbath Schools.—Sabbath schools are generally well sustained, as the reports of the teachers testify. Many who cannot attend a day school go to the Sabbath school to learn to read. A colored woman residing near Camp Nelson travels a distance of five miles, accompanied by her little daughter five years of age, to get a lesson on the Sabbath.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Sacrifices of Pupils.—It is quite a common thing for children to come to school without any breakfast. Living in white families, they are not able to get their breakfast till after school hours. One young man, working in the post office, had an hour given him for dinner, which he preferred to spend in school, and came regularly at that time. Others have worked for half wages, in order to obtain two or three hours for school. One of our most promising boys has clothed himself, earned his living in part, attended school, and saved a couple of hundred dollars to buy his mother a home. He is just twenty years of age, intends studying law, and is a fine speaker. Many of our older girls, who are fitting for teachers, support themselves, wholly or in part, by taking in washing and other work.

Johnson School.—The "Johnson School," of Raleigh, is one of four grades. In the primary department there are nearly one hundred pupils. At the beginning of the term one-fourth were in the alphabet. All are now reading, and the larger part are learning to write on the slate. There is a large class in the Second reader, who were in the First at the beginning of the term. In the first intermediate department nearly all have learned to write in copy books since the commencement of the term. Twenty-six who were reading in the Third Reader are now in the Fourth. Almost *all* study arithmetic and geography. In the second intermediate, with the exception of one class, all have been advanced from the Third to the Fourth Reader, and have taken up arithmetic and geography of a higher grade. One of the best scholars in this department was, a year ago, in the primary, just learning to read. In the higher department of the school many of the pupils have taken up grammar and the history of the United States, since the beginning of the term. There is a class of four in Latin. The older scholars in this department are fitting themselves for teachers, and hear classes in the different recitation rooms, under the supervision of the principal. The number of pupils in the entire school ranges from 275 to 300, and there are five teachers.

Old Uncle Ned, who has learned to read, says: "'Pears like when a man gets de letter it lifts him up, both body and soul. Before he had it, all he cared for was to eat and sleep after his day's work was done; now he can't sleep for much thinking, and he don't want half so much food."

A young man about 18 years of age entered my school last term, who had never before had given any attention to study. He was simply able to distinguish the letters of the alphabet, and that was all. In three week's time he commenced reading in the Testament, and at the end of the first month had made sufficient progress to enter a somewhat advanced class in Sanders's Third Reader. During 20 years' experience in some of the best schools in the north I have never witnessed so rapid a development of the intellectual faculties.

What one man can do.—Mr. Wm. Aaikman, of the Delaware Association, says: A striking instance of self-denial and energy in getting up a school may be seen in our neighboring town of Newport. Here a neat and convenient building has been erected, almost entirely by one colored man. Much of the material, as in other cases, was furnished by the bureau, and the work was under the efficient superintendence and continued encouragement of Mr. Woolman, but probably the building would never have had an existence but for the persistent endeavors of John Turner, whose name may be worthily put on record. I found this man on the day of my visit (whom I remembered often to have seen on our market days, with his little store of vegetables for sale) at work putting down the teacher's platform, himself the only workman in the building; and I was informed that all the carpenter work had been done by his own hands, unskilled as they were. The school-house is a monument of this quiet and very modest man's devotion to the good of his people in a community where he stands very much alone.

I am sure, if the story of the erection of all these school-houses, the payment of tuition, the purchase of books, and the exertions made to clothe children for attendance, could all be told, it would be found that out of their deep poverty these people have done well and even nobly.

Intemperance.—The use of intoxicating drinks is making most fearful inroads upon the freedmen. In the city of Vicksburg, during the holidays, 1868 one whiskey dealer alone retailed in quantities of from one pint to five gallons, over 1,500 gallons of whiskey to the freedmen of the city and vicinity. Two years ago 25 gallons would have covered the entire sale during Christmas week to the negroes of the city. The same is true in this particular, of all the principal towns in the State. I have made special efforts in this cause. Temperance societies have been organized in all the large towns, and the "Vanguard of Freedom," introduced into our schools. The attention of colored preachers has been specially called to this growing evil.

Temperance.—There are two very large and flourishing temperance societies connected with the schools in Chattanooga, Tenn. The "Band of Hope," for the youth, numbers over 100 active members. They meet every Sabbath morning. They promise to abstain from tobacco in every form, from all intoxicating drinks, and from all profane language. Their meetings are regular and well attended.—*Superintendent Education, Miss.*

Howard University—Its Aims and Needs.

The scope of this University is broad, and its aims must meet the approval and co-operation of the liberal minded everywhere. It aims to provide for students the training necessary for commencing any legitimate business, to fit them for teaching others in the schools and in the professions, or to fill with credit any position which duty, necessity, or inclination may lead them to undertake.

Many of the students at the Institution need a helping hand to enable them to pursue their course. Such aid has been extended to the most needy and deserving as the state of the fund raised for that purpose would allow. Great good has in this direction been accomplished by contributions from benevolent persons in this country and England. Among the number of these generous benefactors are Hon. David Clarke, of Hartford, Conn., (who alone has given $25,000,) Hon. Gerrit Smith, John Taylor, Esq., of London, England, the Freedmen's Union Commission of Great Britain and Ireland, and many others whose memory will ever be cherished and honored by those who are laboring to build up this University.

The financial condition of the University is satisfactory; no debt now exists to cripple its energies or retard its progress. The buildings and the land are paid for. What the Institution chiefly needs is the means of enlarging its operations into completeness according to its plan; the endowment of professorships and scholarships. It is believed that no better investment for the good of our youth can be made; none which will be more remunerative in good accomplished than the devotion of funds to these purposes. Every teacher trained is the nucleus of a school, more or less numerous; every school carries the lamp of civilization into the homes that make up a community; and every community thus blessed contributes largely to the general peace and welfare of the land. This Institution in connection with numerous others, has, it is believed by the Trustees, a work to accomplish that cannot be told in language or limited in time or space.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

THE SENATE.

State	Senator	Term exp's.
Alabama.	Willard Warner	1871
	George E. Spencer	1873
Arkansas.	Alex. McDonald	1871
	Benjamin F. Rice	1873
California.	Cornelius Cole	1873
	Eugene Casserly*	1875
Connecticut.	Orris S. Ferry	1873
	Wm. A. Buckingham	1875
Delaware.	Willard Saulsbury*	1871
	Thomas F. Bayard*	1875
Florida.	Thomas W. Osborn	1873
	Abijah Gilbert	1875
Georgia.	Homer V. M. Miller*	1871
	Joshua Hill	1873
Illinois.	Richard Yates	1871
	Lyman Trumbull	1873
Indiana.	Oliver P. Morton	1873
	Daniel D. Pratt	1875
Iowa.	(Vacant)	—
	James Harlan	1873
Kansas.	Edmund G. Ross	1871
	Samuel C. Pomeroy	1873
Kentucky.	Thomas C. McCreery*	1871
	Garrett Davis*	1873
Louisiana.	John S. Harris	1871
	Wm. Pitt Kellogg	1873
Maine.	Lot M. Morrill	1870
	Hannibal Hamlin	1875
Maryland.	George Vickers*	1873
	Wm. T. Hamilton*	1875
Massachusetts.	Henry Wilson	1871
	Charles Sumner	1875
Michigan.	Jacob M. Howard	1871
	Zachariah Chandler	1875
Minnesota.	Daniel S Norton*	1871
	Alexander Ramsey	1875
Mississippi.	(Vacant)	—
Missouri.	Charles D. Drake	1873
	Carl Schurz	1875
Nebraska.	John M. Thayer	1871
	Thomas W. Tipton	1875
Nevada.	James W. Nye	1873
	William M. Stewart	1875
New Hampshire.	Aaron H. Cragin	1871
	James W. Patterson	1873
New Jersey.	Alexander G. Cattell	1871
	John P. Stockton*	1875
New York.	Roscoe Conkling	1873
	Reuben E. Fenton	1875
North Carolina.	Joseph C. Abbott	1871
	John Pool	1873
Ohio.	John Sherman	1873
	Allen G. Thurman*	1875
Oregon.	Geo. H. Williams	1871
	Henry W. Corbett	1873
Pennsylvania.	Simon Cameron	1873
	John Scott	1875
Rhode Island.	Henry B. Anthony	1871
	William Sprague	1875
South Carolina.	Thos. J. Robertson	1871
	Fred'k A. Sawyer	1873
Tennessee.	Joseph S. Fowler	1871
	Wm. G. Brownlow	1875
Texas.	(Vacant)	—
Vermont.	Justin S. Morrill	1873
	Geo. F. Edmunds	1875
Virginia.	John F. Lewis	—
	John W. Johnston	—
West Virginia.	Waitman T. Willey	1871
	Arthur I. Boreman	1875
Wisconsin.	Timothy O. Howe	1873
	Matt. H. Carpenter	1875

Republicans, 59; *Democrats, 11. Vacancies, 4. A full Senate would contain 74 members.

The Senators elect from Georgia and Virginia have not been admitted to their seats.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Alabama.
1—Alfred E. Buck.
2—Charles W. Buckley.
3—Robert S. Heflin.
4—Charles Hayes
5——Cox.*
6——Sherman.*
[The Alabama members were elected in August, and consequently have not been admitted.]
Arkansas.
1—Logan H. Root.
2—Anthony A. C. Rogers.*
3—Thomas Boles.
California.
1—Samuel B. Axtel.*
2—Aaron A. Sargent.*
3—James A. Johnson.*
Connecticut.
1—Julius Strong.
2—Stephen W. Kellogg.
3—H. H. Starkweather.
4—William H. Barnum.*
Delaware.
Benjamin T. Biggs.*
Florida.
Charles M. Hamilton.
Georgia.
[Seven Districts. No election yet held for Members of the XLIst Congress. The Members of the last Congress were these:]
1—J. W. Clift.
2—Nelson Tift.*
3—William P. Edwards.
4—Samuel F. Gove.
5—Charles H. Prince.
6—[Vacancy]
7—P. M. B. Young.*
Illinois.
At Large—John A Logan.
1—Norman B. Judd.
2—John F. Farnsworth.
3—H. C. Burchard.
4—John B. Hawley.
5—Ebon C. Ingersoll.
6—Burton C. Cook.
7—Jesse A. Moore.
8—Shelby M. Cullom.
9—Thornton W. McNeely.*
10—Albert G. Burr.*
11—Samuel S. Marshall.*
12—John B. Hay.
13—John M. Crebs.*
Indiana.
1—Wm. E. Niblack.*
2—Michael C. Kerr.*
3—Wm. S. Holman.*
4—Geo. W. Julian.
5—John Coburn.
6—Daniel W. Voorhees.*
7—Godlove S. Orth.
8—Jas. N. Tyner.
9—John P. C. Shanks.
10—Wm. Williams.
11—Jasper Packard.
Iowa.
1—George W. McCrary.
2—William Smyth.
3—Wm. B. Allison.
4—Wm. Loughridge.
5—Francis Pomeroy.
6—Frank W. Palmer.
Kansas.
1—Sidney Clarke.
Kentucky
1—Lawrence S. Trimble.*
2—Wm. M. Sweeney.*
3—Jacob S. Golladay.*
4—J. Proctor Knott.*
5—Boyd Winchester.*
6—Thomas L. Jones.*
7—James B. Beck.*
8—George M. Adams.*
9—John M. Rice.*
Louisiana.
1—Louis St. Martin.*
2—Lewis A. Sheldon.
3—Adolphe Bailey.*
4—Michael Ryan.*
5—George W. McCranie.*
Maine.
1—John Lynch.
2—Samuel P. Morrill.
3—James G. Blaine.
4—John A. Peters.
5—Eugene Hale.
Maryland.
1—Samuel Hambleton.*
2—Stevenson Archer.*
3—Thomas Swann.*
4—Patrick Hamill.*
5—Frederick Stone.*
Massachusetts.
1—James Buffington.
2—Oakes Ames.
3—Ginery Twitchell.
4—Samuel Hooper.
5—Benjamin F. Butler.
6—Nathaniel P. Banks.
7—George M. Brooks.
8—George F. Hoar.
9—Wm. B. Washburn.
10—Henry L. Dawes.
Michigan.
1—Fernando C. Beaman.
2—Wm. L. Stoughton.
3—Austin Blair.
4—Thomas W. Ferry.
5—Omer D. Conger.
6—Randolph Strickland.
Minnesota
1—Morton S Wilkinson.
2—Eugene M. Wilson.*
Mississippi.
Missouri.
1—Erastus Wells.*
2—Gustavus A. Finkelburg.
3—James R. McCormick.*
4—Sempronius H. Boyd.
5—Samuel S. Burdett
6—Robert T. Van Horn.
7—Joel F. Asper.
8—John F. Benjamin.
9—David P. Dyer.
Nebraska.
1—John Taffe.
Nevada.
1—Thomas Fitch.
New Hampshire.
1—Jacob H Ela.
2—Aaron F. Stevens.
3—Jacob Benton.
New Jersey.
1—William Moore.
2—Charles Haight.*
3—John T. Bird.*
4—John Hill.
5—Orestes Cleveland.*
New York.
1—Henry A. Reeves.*
2—John G. Shumaker.*
3—Henry W. Slocum.*
4—John Fox.*
5—John Morrissey.*
6—Samuel S. Cox.*
7—Harvey C. Calkin.*
8—James Brooks.*
9—Fernando Wood.*
10—Clarkson N. Potter.*
11—George W. Greene.*
12—John H. Ketcham.
13—John A. Griswold.*
14—Stephen L. Mayhem.*
15—Adolphus H. Tanner.
16—Orange Ferriss.
17—William A. Wheeler.
18—Stephen Sanford.
19—Charles Knapp.
20—Addison H. Laflin.
21—Alex. H. Bailey
22—John C. Churchill.
23—Dennis McCarthy.
24—George W. Cowles.
25—William H. Kelsey.
26—Giles W. Hotchkiss.
27—Hamilton Ward.
28—Noah Davis, jr.
29—John Fisher.
30—David S. Bennett.
31—Porter Sheldon.
North Carolina.
1—Clinton L. Cobb.
2—David Heaton.
3—Oliver H. Dockery.
4—John T. Deweese.
5—Israel G. Lash.
6—Francis E. Shober.*
7—Plato Durham.*
Ohio.
1—Peter W. Strader.*
2—Job E. Stevenson.
3—Robert C. Schenck.
4—William Lawrence.
5—William Mungen.*
6—John A. Smith.
7—James J. Winans.
8—John Beatty.
9—Edw. F. Dickinson.*
10—Truman H. Hoag.*
11—John T. Wilson.
12—Phil. Van Trump.*
13—George W. Morgan.*
14—Martin Welker.
15—Eliakim H. Moore.
16—John A. Bingham.
17—Jacob A. Ambler.
18—William H. Upson.
19—James A. Garfield.
Oregon.
1—Joseph S. Smith.*
Pennsylvania.
1—Samuel J. Randall.*
2—Charles O'Neill.
3—John Moffet.*
4—William D. Kelley.
5—John R. Reading.*
6—John D. Stiles.*
7—Wash. Townsend.
8—J. Lawrence Getz.*
9—Oliver J. Dickey.
10—Henry L. Cake.
11—Daniel M. Van Auken.*
12—George W. Woodward.*
13—Ulysses Mercur.
14—John B. Packer.
15—Richard J. Haldeman.*
16—John Cessna.
17—Daniel J. Morrell.
18—Wm. H. Armstrong.
19—Glenni W. Scofield.
20—Calvin W. Gilfillan.
21—[Contested.]
22—James S. Negley.
23—Darwin Phelps.
24—Joseph B. Donley.
Rhode Island.
1—Thomas A. Jenckes.
2—Nathan F. Dixon.
South Carolina.
1—Benj. F. Whittemore.
2—C. C. Bowen.
3—Solomon L. Hoge.
4—W. D. Simpson.*
Tennessee.
At Large—John B. Rogers.
1—Roderick R. Butler.
2—Horace Maynard.
3—William B. Stokes.
4—Lewis Tillman.
5—William F. Prosser.
6—Samuel M. Arnell.
7—Isaac R. Hawkins.
8—William J. Smith.
Texas.
Vermont.
1—Chas. W. Willard.
2—Luke P. Poland.
3—Worthington C. Smith.
Virginia.
1—Richard S. Ayer.
2—James H. Platt.
3—Charles H. Porter.
4—George W. Booker.
5—Robert Ridgway.
6—William Milnes, jr.
7—Lewis McKenzie.
8—J. K. Gibson.
At Large—Joseph Segar.
[The Virginia members are divided into three Radical and six Conservative Republicans. They have not been admitted to Congress.]
West Virginia.
1—Isaac H. Duvall.
2—James C. McGrew.
3—John S. Witcher.
Wisconsin.
1—Halbert E. Paine.
2—Benj. F. Hopkins.
3—Amasa Cobb.
4—Chas. A. Eldridge.*
5—Philetus Sawyer.
6—Cad. C. Washburn.

Republicans, including Radicals and Conservatives, 157; *Democrats, 71. One seat, Covode's, in Pennsylvania is contested. Members not sworn in from Georgia, Mississippi, and Texas, make, with the contested seat, 17 vacancies. A full House would have 245 members.

Present form of the Virginia Bill.

The following is the Virginia bill as it passed the Senate:

An act to admit the State of Virginia to representation in the Congress of the United States.

Whereas the people of Virginia have framed and adopted a constitution of State government which is republican; and whereas the Legislature of Virginia elected under said constitution have ratified the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States; and whereas the performance of these several acts in good faith was a condition precedent to the representation of the State in Congress: Therefore,

Be it enacted, &c., That the said State of Virginia is entitled to representation in the Congress of the United States: *Provided,* That before any member of the Legislature of said State shall take or resume his seat, or any officer of said State shall enter upon the duties of his office, he shall take and subscribe, and file in the office of the Secretary of State of Virginia, for permanent preservation, an oath in the form following: "I, ——, do solemnly swear that I have never taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and afterward engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof, so help me God;" or such person shall, in like manner, take, subscribe, and file the following oath: "I, ——, do solemnly swear that I have, by act of Congress of the United States, been relieved from the disabilities imposed upon me by the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution of the United States, so help me God;" which oaths shall be taken before and certified by any officer lawfully authorized to administer oaths; and any person who shall knowingly swear falsely in taking either of such oaths shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and shall be punished therefor by imprisonment not less than one year and not more than ten years, and shall be fined not less than $1,000 and not more than $10,000; and in all trials for any violation of this act the certificate of the taking of either of said oaths, with proof of the signature of the party accused, shall be taken and held as conclusive evidence that such oath was lawfully and regularly administered by competent authority.

And provided, further, That every such person who shall neglect, for the period of thirty days next after the passage of this act, to take, subscribe and file such oath as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken, to all intents and purposes, to have vacated his office.

And provided, further, That the State of Virginia is entitled to representation in Congress upon the following fundamental conditions:

That the constitution of Virginia shall never be amended or changed as to deprive any class of citizens of the United States of the right to vote who are entitled to vote by the constitution herein recognized, except as a punishment for such crimes as are now felonies at common law, whereof they shall have been duly convicted under laws equally applicable to all the inhabitants of said State: *Provided,* That any alteration of said constitution prospective in its effects may be made in regard to the time and place of residence of voters: That it shall never be lawful for the said State to deprive any citizen of the United States, on account of his race, color, or previous condition of servitude, of the right to hold office under the constitution and laws of said State, or, upon any such ground, to require of him any other qualifications for office than such as required of all other citizens; that the constitution of Virginia shall never be so amended or changed as to deprive any citizen, or class of citizens of the United States of the school rights and privileges secured by the constitution of said State.

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PROSPECTUS

OF THE

NEW ERA!

A NATIONAL JOURNAL.

A new journal, to be called the New Era, devoted especially to the promotion of the Political, Educational, Industrial, and Economical interests of the Colored People of the United States, and to their Moral and Religious improvement, will be issued weekly in Washington City, D. C., commencing January 13, 1870.

Such a paper is regarded by those whose judgment is entitled to consideration as a necessity of the times, and is approved by prominent public men and philanthropists in every section of the Union. In response to these demand this paper is established.

The New Era will partake of a two-fold nature—that of an Advocate and an Educator. As an Advocate, it will assert and maintain every right pertaining to the American citizen, independent of race, color, or accident of birth It will demand the recognition of these rights wherever the Constitution extends or the national ensign waves. As an Educator, its colums will be an especial medium for the effective diffusion of right principles and much-needed instruction. For the inculcation of those habits of industry, economy, and self-reliance which conduce to independent manhood, and give vitality and energy to free government, insuring in return blessings to the governed.

While the editors of the New Era will be colored men, and the contributors will be mainly colored, yet the columns will be open for the discussion of all questions of vital importance to the country by any of its citizens. Communications suitable for publication in these columns, are solicited from our friends in all parts of the country, especially in the Southern States.

THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Upon all questions involving the especial interests of the colored American citizen, the simple rule of equal justice for all men will govern the policy of the New Era. It will demand the recognition of no right for one citizen which it will not freely accord to every other. It will oppose any attempt to confer privileges upon a class, that are withheld from the humblest citizen in the land. It will demand for every citizen equality before the law, and full protection of person and property in every State and Territory of the National Union.

The New Era will take high national ground upon all public questions, and labor to inspire a oneness of purpose and encourage unity of action, especially among the newly-enfranchised people of the Reconstructed States. Remembering the past history of the Republican party, and recognizing what it has done for the colored people of the nation, the New Era will give its hearty support to that party, reserving to ourselves, however, entire independence on political questions, and the right to go further than party platforms and party policy, whenever in our opinion the rights of humanity or the interests of any portion of the people require it at our hands.

THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

By education the people of a free Government, such as ours is intended to be, are better qualified to discharge their duties to the State, to one another, and to God. The nation will ever find its surest safeguard in the intelligence of its voting masses, and the journal which would promote the highest good of government and people must lend its energies and its power to the work of educating that people. Especially is the agency of the press needed by that portion of the people, colored and white, who, either in slavery or under the ban of its blighting influences, have been deprived of the opportunities enjoyed by their more favored brethren of the free States.

The Freedmen's Bureau had under its charge during the past year, as shown by the last annual report, 114,523 colored pupils in the day schools and 89,731 in the Sunday schools, employing 6,650 teachers. About 190,000 of these pupils were slaves at the commencement of the war. The educational department of this paper will contain regular contributions from the Freedmen's Bureau and other matter adapted to the capacities and needs of this large number of pupils and teachers, thereby making the New Era a valuable auxiliary in the scheme of education.

THE INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The industrial interests of the colored people will claim and receive a large share of our attention. We adopt the following extracts from the address promulgated by the Colored Labor Convention held in this city in December last, as indicating the views and policy of the New Era on this subject:

"With a voting power under our present and just system of reconstruction of seven hundred and fifty thousand electors, and an actual laboring force of three millions, out of four millions and a quarter of hardy sons and daughters of toil, native to the soil, inured to the climate, acquainted with the habits and customs of the people generally, and knowing by an experience more valuable, perhaps, than the learning of the books, the methods of agriculture, the different systems of mechanical labor, and the common and less complicated affairs of commerce, we are an element in the industry of the country of importance, value and power.

"But for our own good and the welfare of our country in all things pertaining to her material and moral well-being, we seek a better and broader opportunity to gain knowledge in the fields of agricultural, mechanical, commercial, artistic, and professional labor, and this knowledge we would energise, direct, and make more largely effective through the enlightening and sanctifying influence of education. Our mottoes are liberty and labor, enfranchisement and education! The spelling-book and the hoe, the hammer and the vote, the opportunity to work and to rise, a place on which to stand, and to be and to do, we ask for ourselves and children as the means in the use of which, under God, we are to compass these achievements which furnish the measure, the test, and justification of our claim to impartial treatment and fair dealing.

"That this end may be reached, we ask, first of all, that trades be opened to our children, and that they be given the benefit of a just and equitable system of apprenticeship; in the second place, that for every day's labor given we be paid full and fair remuneration, and that no avenue of honest industry be closed against us; and thirdly, since we believe that the intelligence, the elevation, and happiness of all people depends in no small degree upon the diversity of their indusdrial pursuits, we ask that we may work in the printing office, whether private or governmental, in the factory, the foundry, the workshop, upon the railroad, the canal, the river, the steamboat, in the warehouse, the store, wherever labor is to be done and an able and faithful workman is wanted we conceive that we may claim a place without distinction as to our color or former condition, since all that can be demanded by the employer is ability, faithful performances of the contract made, and the employee reasonable treatment and the compensation promised. Hence, while we condemn that spirit which in its proscriptive regulations denies us industrial opportunity and the fruits of honest toil, we rejoice in all those evidences of prospective good which we and other laboring classes see in the erection of factories and foundries in Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama, promising that our strong and labor-hardened hands, our intellectual powers, quickened by the influences of education, and our purposes made doubly earnest by considerate treatment and the prospect of just compensation, shall all be given to the development of the industrial resources of our several States in the interest of our employers.

"Recognizing ourselves as native Americans, and knowing ourselves as members of the great American body politic, while we ask the recognition and protection due any and all of like political condition, as in the past, so in all time to come, with unfettered limb and manly endeavor we shall labor with our white fellow-countrymen, native and naturalized, in mine, on farm, in workshop, in foundry, in factory, everywhere, to develop the material and industrial powers of our land, making wind, water, and earth to aid in the accomplishment of its mission of liberty and law, honor and justice, Christianity and civilization."

The New Era will be made a desirable visitor for the family and the fireside, and we earnestly appeal to our friends everywhere to aid us by their subscriptions and their influence.

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